



THE NEWS

OF THE
MELBOURNE BUSHWALKERS INCORPORATED

EDITION 510

AUGUST 1993

PRICE 60 C

Registered by Australia Post

Publication No. VBH 1297

***** **HALF-YEARLY GENERAL MEETING** *****

Wednesday night 8 p.m. 25 August 1993

The half-yearly general meeting of the Melbourne Bushwalkers (Inc) will be held in the Clubrooms.

All members are welcome to attend.

SOCIAL EVENTS

"TWO REGULAR SOCIAL EVENTS"

WEDNESDAYS

DINE AT TOTOS
(101 Lygon St)

Before our meeting, join the regulars who have been meeting here for years.

SUNDAY NIGHTS

After the walk, wind down with a bite to eat at one of the inner city eateries.
(Exact locality decided on the day)

Saves cooking/dishes etc
NEVER TOO EXPENSIVE!

(If your attire worries you, bring a change of clothes!!)

WEDNESDAY 11 AUGUST 8.00 p.m.

Geoff Butcher will speak of his two trips to
PATAGONIA

(Slides and Light Supper included)

This entertaining and informative evening will be held in the Clubrooms.
A \$2 charge will be made to cover costs.

SATURDAY 11 SEPTEMBER

BIKE RIDE

Laverton/Point Cook/Werribee Park
(take the 9.02 a.m. train from Flinders St, arrives Laverton 9.41)

BRING: Pump, spare tube, tools, etc

Non-geared bikes OK for this trip

Andrew Low, Social Secretary

Correspondence should be directed to: The Secretary
Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc.
PO Box 1751Q
MELBOURNE 3001

Meetings are held in the clubrooms, MacKenzie St Melbourne (rear of the Horticultural Society building) every Wednesday night 7.00-9.00 p.m. Visitors are always welcome.

Please note that articles for "The News" may be faxed to the News Editor on

Closing date for the September edition is Wednesday 1 September 1993.

PRESIDENT'S PAGE

I have just returned from six wonderful weeks in the West, two in Perth with my family, and four in the Pilbara and Kimberley with a bunch of bushwalkers, giving an occasional thought of you all enduring the woes of winter in Melbourne. Retirement is terrible!

An invitation from Bushie members Jenny Flood and Jopie Bodegraven to join them in an exploratory trip, BYO everything except transport and being met at Port Hedland airport, found me accepting with alacrity. Ex Pres. Bob Steel also joined the party of nine. Jenny and Jopie were having a holiday as well as sussing out the best places to take their clients on a Happy Walker Adventure Tour of the Kimberley next year.

Everyone who has ever been walking with Jopie as leader, or was with the Club during his years as Walks Secretary, will know how he loves gorges. Well, we reaped the benefit on this trip. We scrambled into, walked up, liloed down and through so many spectacular gorges and canyons, each one a different experience. Some were peaceful and shaded by huge melaleucas or Livistonia palms reflected in still pools; others had waterfalls plunging into deep blue pools surrounded by 100-200 m sheer cliffs of brilliant reds and oranges. Some were of sandstone, some limestone or conglomerate or brightly coloured layers of sedimentary rock. Then there were the unique Bungle Bungles, the gorges off the Gibb River Road, and special falls and pools off the Mitchell Plateau. I mustn't rave on!

Ask Bob to show you his pictures, or, better still, book with J & J for their trip next year.

* * * * *

I haven't caught up with all that's been happening whilst I've been away but I have heard about -

- John Kittson's slide into second childhood with a dose of chicken pox - not funny at all I understand John.
- Keith Langham laid flat on his back - hope you're getting better Keith.
- Sally Bouvier winning a TV quiz with the help of a question about leeches (can we claim a "shout" because of the experiences of leeches freely offered in the Club activities?)
- Ed Little walking in Malaysia - we've received a card from the Cameron Highlands.
- Unhappy skiers slipping around in the ice and rocks and deciding to go on weekend walks instead.

* * * * *

Booking by mail on Sunday walks -

Members may secure a place on the bus for Sunday walk by mailing their cheque to the leader of the walk to reach her/him before the Wednesday prior to the walk. It is better to post to the leader's home address as it is possible that by the time the Club mail is collected from our GPO box on Wednesday night, the walk could be full. Also, if a letter arrives in our box after Wednesday it may not be collected until after the weekend.

All members are entitled to have a copy of the Club's membership list, which includes address and phone numbers of all members, except those who have indicated they do not wish their address to appear. If you do not have one, ask Peter Havlicek, the Membership Secretary.

* * * * *

Remember the **half yearly general meeting** on Weds 25 August.

Jean Giese, President

CLUB LIBRARY

The library is jammed full of interesting books that are just waiting to be borrowed. You only need to fill in the borrowing book that sits on the cupboard, or see one of the Committee for assistance. Some of the books available include:

Park Walks Near Melbourne	Sandra Bardwell
Bush Battlers	Jeff Carter
What Bird is That?	Neville Cayley
Explore Melbourne's Wetlands	Sid Cowling
Bushwalking in the Budawang	Ron Doughton
Discovering Flinders Island	Jean Edgecombe
Bushwalking in the Victorian Ranges	Fred Halls
Safety in the Bush	Hobart Walking Club
The Story of the Flinders Ranges	Hans Mincham
Wonnangatta Moroka N. P.	John Siseman
Melbourne's Mountains	John & Marion Siseman
Cradle Mountain National Park	John Siseman/ John Chapman
How to See the Blue Mountains	Jim Smith
50 Walks in the Grampians	Tyrone Thomas
100 Walks in New South Wales	Tyrone Thomas
120 Walks in Victoria	Tyrone Thomas
100 Walks in Tasmania	Tyrone Thomas
The Scroggin Eaters	Graeme Wheeler
Walk the Timeless Land	Graeme Wheeler
Coastal Vegetation of Anglesea	Mary White
Flowers of Anglesea River Valley	Mary White
1993 YHA Handbook	
Bushwalking Leadership	
Car Touring & Bushwalking in East Gippsland	
Cradle Mountain / Lake St Clare National Park	
Equipment for Mountaineering - MUMC	
Family Walkabouts near Melbourne	
Fitzroy Falls & Beyond - A Guide to Shoalhaven	
Pigeon House & Beyond - A Guide to Budawang	
Snowy Mountain Walks - The Geehi Club	
Ski Touring in Australia	

Mary Leonard / Elizabeth Spriggs

OPERA LA BOHEME

Weds 18 August

HURRY! Only 4 tickets left!

Ron Garrett

CLUB'S ACCUMULATED FUNDS

Seeing that we have all this spare money, why not use some of it to help that much maligned species, the Trip leader, without whom there would be no Club.

Unless you have led trips yourself you may be unaware of the work involved. Many trips have to be checked several times. There often is not enough hours in one day, especially if it is a new trip or permission has to be sought from local farmers, either in person or by phone if outside National or State parks.

We all do it for the good of the Club, but it would be nice to get some help towards our petrol money and phone calls. At the moment our only concession is not having to pay our bus fare for the trip we are leading.

Brian Kilner

A lot of weekend walks take place in the north east of Victoria, and in the past we have been able to find suitable places to camp on Friday nights just off the road, in picnic shelters, etc. Nowadays the local rangers are much more active, and it is hard to find a place to stop.

I have often wondered why the Club has not already hunted out a suitable, legal overnight spot - such as one of the many local halls around Tawonga, Mt Beauty, Bogong Village etc. Surely it would be possible to negotiate some long-term arrangement whereby we could use such a facility as our Friday night staging area.

Would it be worth considering a block of land or cottage in one of those small towns which could be used for Friday night stopovers, as well as by Bushies' families and groups wanting to use the facility as a base for local holidays?

Noel Tolley

FIRST AID FOR LEADERS

As you may have read in the last edition of News, the response for the First Aid course has been positive, and it will commence on Thursday 14 October, for Bushies only.

The Club will subsidise \$20 for those who are prepared to lead future walks. There are a few vacancies left so if there are interested members who have not yet put their name down, they should contact me to do so.

For logistical reasons we have booked in with the Red Cross rather than St John. Details as follows.

Course: Senior First Aid, including:

- Wounds & haemorrhage
- Shock
- Altered conscious states
- Breathing emergencies (expired air resuscitation)
- Cardiac emergencies (cardio pulmonary resusc.)
- Care of unconscious casualty
- Burns
- Soft tissue injuries
- Fractures (bandaging)

A Certificate will be issued at the completion of the course and is valid for 3 years.

Time: 6.30 p.m. - 9.00 p.m. Thursdays

Dates: 14, 21, 28 October;
4, 11, 18, 25 November;
2 December

Venue: Red Cross, 171 City Rd South Melbourne

Duration: 8 weeks

Cost: \$95 per person (\$62 concession)

Elizabeth Spriggs

BARBEQUE

Sunday, 22 August after 2.30 p.m.

**17 Gladstone Street, Prahran
Melways 58 C7**

All Bushies are invited.

Rick Chater

ABORIGINAL ROCK ART

*Yam
Figure*

The rock paintings of Kakadu and the Kimberley, with their distinct sequence of styles, reflect a cultural tradition spanning tens of thousands of years.

A few major galleries are accessible by vehicle. Hundreds of others are accessible only on bushwalks of three days or more. We offer trips which visit many such sites, inaccessible to the average tourist, throughout these wilderness areas.



Willis's Walkabouts
12 Carrington Street
MILLNER NT 0810
Ph: (089) 85 2134
Fax: (089) 85 2355



WED 15 SEP 93 BRITANNIA RANGE - BRITANNIA FALLS**EASY/MEDIUM**

LEADER : JEAN GIESE
 TRANSPORT : BUS FROM SOUTH BANK BLVD. AT 9.00 A.M.
 MEETING PLACE : 8.30 A.M. JEAN'S, 9 ALBERT CRES, SURREY HILLS, OR
 RING FOR OTHER MEETING PLACE
 EXPECTED RETURN : 5.00 P.M.
 MAP REFERENCE : GLADYSDALE 1:25,000
 APPROX DISTANCE : 16 KM

The Wednesday walkers did this walk in August 1989 soon after the mid-week walks began. The features then were wonderful views and riotous colour from the wattles in full bloom. August 1993 should hold the same joys.

SUN 19 SEP 93 KALATHA VALLEY - MT KLONDYKE**EASY & MEDIUM**

LEADERS : FRED HALLS & JOHN KITTSON
 TRANSPORT : BUS FROM SOUTH BANK BLVD. AT 9.00 A.M.
 EXPECTED RETURN : 7.00 P.M.

For details of this walk, please see leaders in the Club rooms.

THU 23 SEP 93 BAYSIDE: GREEN POINT - CATANI GARDENS**EASY**

LEADER : ATHOL SCHAFER
 TRANSPORT : TRAIN/TRAM
 MEETING PLACE : UNDER THE CLOCKS, FLINDERS STREET STATION
 IN TIME TO CATCH 10.20 A.M. TRAIN TO BRIGHTON BEACH
 EXPECTED RETURN : 4.00 P.M.
 MAP REFERENCE : MELWAYS MAP 76,67,58,57
 APPROX DISTANCE : 9 KM

This is something for Show Day, the 9 km popular bayside walk beginning at Green Point and finishing at Carlo Cantani's gardens which he modelled as a Mediterranean-style sea front.

Those who wish to do so may care to continue on the the City by way of Lakeside and the Domain.

SAT 25 SEP 93 DANDENONGS EXPLORER: SHERBROOKE FOREST-KALLISTA**EASY**

LEADER : MICHAEL HUMPHREY
 TRANSPORT : PRIVATE OR TRAIN
 EXPECTED RETURN : 4.00 P.M.
 MAP REFERENCE : MELWAYS MAP 75 & 124
 APPROX DISTANCE : 12 KM

We will meet at 10.30 a.m. (sharp) at Grants Picnic Ground (Melway 75 K4). If you are coming by public transport, please ring me on (after 7.00 p.m.) and I will arrange for you to be picked up at Belgrave Station. (Train departs Flinders St at 8.49 a.m. and arrives at Belgrave Station at 10.03 a.m.)

This is an easy and very relaxed walk in the peak of the daffodil season. We call into a daffodil farm shortly after lunch where you can admire the huge range of daffodils and perhaps buy some if the urge takes you.

To make the walk a little more interesting I have made a few changes - so come along and join me on the walk and perhaps for a devonshire tea afterwards. See you all there.

SUN 26 SEP 93 LITTLE BULLENGAROOK - PYRITES CREEK EASY & MEDIUM

LEADERS : PETER MCGRATH & NIGEL HOLMES
 TRANSPORT : BUS FROM SOUTH BANK BLVD. AT 9.00 A.M.
 EXPECTED RETURN : 7.00 P.M.
 MAP REFERENCE : BULLENGAROOK & TOOLERN VALE 1:25,000
 APPROX DISTANCE : 13& 16 KM

This walk offers excellent views from Mt Bullengarook and Mt Gisborne. The walk is through a variety of terrain - both farmland and bushland. The walk will start at Mt Bullengarook and then skirt Mt Little Bullengarook. We will then proceed down to Pyrites Creek via an old fire track through the Wombat State Forest. Finally we will go to Mt Gisborne where fine views are to be enjoyed.

WEEKEND WALKS - SEPTEMBER 1993**3-5 SEP 93 BEGINNERS SKI WEEKEND - MT ST GWINEAR EASY/MEDIUM**

LEADER : GRAHAM BREEN
 TRANSPORT : PRIVATE
 EXPECTED RETURN : SUNDAY NIGHT

For details of this trip, please see leader in the Club rooms.

3-5 SEP 93 MT FEATHERTOP - RAZORBACK SKIING MEDIUM/HARD

LEADER : MERILYN WHIMPEY
 TRANSPORT : PRIVATE
 EXPECTED RETURN : 9.00 P.M. SUNDAY NIGHT

The Razorback is one of my favourite ski tours. A ridge with views all the way, ups and downs, some of it open country and some snowgum forest. There are steep gullies off the sides for cross-country downhill.

On Saturday I would like to ski with packs to a suitable camping spot along the Razorback, set up camp and then do a return trip to the summit of Mt Feathertop. Sunday we can ski the slopes and gullies and return to our cars at Diamantina Hut.

Fitness and skiing ability are required, as are good snow camping equipment and enough fuel to melt snow for water. If conditions aren't suitable for a ridge-top trip we will ski somewhere else around Mt Hotham.

10-12 SEP 93 STRATHBOGIES - FAITHFUL CREEK EASY-EASY/MEDIUM

LEADER : JEAN GIESE
 TRANSPORT : PRIVATE
 EXPECTED RETURN : 6.00 P.M. SUNDAY EVENING
 MAP REFERENCE : VIOLET TOWN & MT WOMBAT 1:25,000
 APPROX DISTANCE : 26 KM (SOME WITHOUT PACKS)

The highlights of this trip are the views as we walk along the ridges, and the cascades and falls on Faithful Creek. There are two 250 m climbs but the pace will be easy.

The walk will begin on Saturday at 9.00 a.m. from a private property where the cars can be left safely. For those wishing to camp out Friday night, we do have a campsite.

10-12 SEP 93 SEARCH & RESCUE PRACTICE - MT STIRLING MEDIUM/HARD

LEADER : STEPHEN DOWN
 TRANSPORT : PRIVATE
 EXPECTED RETURN : 6.00 P.M. SUNDAY EVENING
 MAP REFERENCE : BULLER-STIRLING OUTDOOR LEISURE MAP

The aim of this practice is to practise search and rescue techniques in snow conditions. The practice is not appropriate for novice skiers/snowshoers or walkers. Members who are interested in becoming a Search and Rescue member should contact the leader to find out what experience and equipment they need.

17-19 SEP 93 HEATHY SPUR - SPION KOPJE SKIING EASY/MEDIUM

LEADER : LES SOUTHWELL
 TRANSPORT : PRIVATE

For details of this skiing trip, please see leader in the Club rooms.

22-26 SEP 93 GRAMPIANS BASE CAMP - WANNON EASY & MEDIUM

LEADERS : ROB & SYLVIA HARRIS
 TRANSPORT : PRIVATE
 EXPECTED RETURN : SUNDAY EVENING
 MAP REFERENCE : SOUTHERN GRAMPIANS 1:50,000
 APPROX DISTANCE : VARIOUS

The Grampians (Gariwerd) are a wonderful place for camping and walking in the spring, with wildflowers, rock formations and good weather (well, nearly always). This will be a base camp so you can bring some extra luxuries along. We will aim to have two walks each day of different length. This trip is a good way for new members to get started on overnight camping trips.

22-26 SEP 93 GRAMPIANS VICTORIA RANGE MEDIUM/HARD

LEADER : PETER CHALKLEY
 TRANSPORT : PRIVATE
 EXPECTED RETURN : SUNDAY NIGHT
 MAP REFERENCE : SOUTHERN GRAMPIANS 1:50,000

A three day walk in the Southern Grampians. Starting from the Chimney Pots picnic ground we will climb past the rocky outcrops of the Chimney Pots to the Victoria Range Track. The second day will be spent walking and exploring the Fortress (a popular rock climbing venue) and on the third day we will descend to the Glenelg River Road from Mt Thackeray.

23-26 SEP 93 MUNGO NATIONAL PARK - NSW EASY/MEDIUM

LEADER : DAVID VINCENT
 TRANSPORT : LIGHT AIRCRAFT
 EXPECTED RETURN : 6.00 P.M. SUNDAY EVENING

Mungo National Park lies 110 km north-east of Mildura and covers most of an ancient dry lakebed on the plains of western NSW. It lies within the Willandra Lakes World Heritage Region, inscribed in 1981 because of the significant record of both Aboriginal heritage and past climates preserved in the landscape. During the ice ages Lank Mungo was one of a chain of enormous freshwater lakes strung along Willandra Creek, then the main channel of the Lachlan River. When the lake was full (about 40,000 years ago), Aboriginal people lived along its shores. Today, a great crescent-shaped dune, the "Walls of China", stretches along the eastern shore of Lake Mungo.

The vegetation of the park is typical of the plains of western NSW. Red kangaroos, western grey kangaroos, echidnas, native mice and bats occur at Mungo. Resident lizards include shinglebacks, bearded dragons and geckos, while native birds such as emus, pink cockatoos and orange and white-fronted chats, can also be seen.

We will depart Melbourne on Thursday morning (Show Day 23 Sept) and arrive back on Sunday evening (26 Sept). For a group of six, including myself, the estimated cost of aircraft private hire is \$145 each. For further details and to book a place on this walk, contact David Vincent at home on phone:

23-26 SEP 93 NIGGERHEADS - MT FAINTER SKIING MEDIUM

LEADER : PEARSON CRESSWELL
 TRANSPORT : PRIVATE
 EXPECTED RETURN : SUNDAY NIGHT
 MAP REFERENCE : BOGONG ALPINE AREA OUTDOOR LEISURE SERIES
 APPROX DISTANCE : 30-40 KM

Skiing the Fainters at Show Day is something of a tradition. This area offers some of the best skiing on the High Plains and the long weekend (for those as can get it) allows time to enjoy it to the full. We will meet at Falls Creek on the Thursday morning and the pack carry to camp at Tawonga Huts will occupy most of the day. Friday and Saturday will be day trips from there to the peaks and valleys of the Niggerheads and Mt Fainter. Great telemarking!

Participants should have some previous experience of snow camping.

NEW MEMBERS

The Club would like to welcome the following new members: _

Brenda Shanahan	Tony Conway	Carolyn Johnstone
Des Keleher	Judith Forsyth	Ann Granat
Silvana Cavalcante	Michael Rusten	

CHANGES OF INFORMATION

Geoff Harrison	Jean Woodger	Ralph Blake
Cheryl Cooksey	Gill Sumner	Noel Tolley

WILKY - 10 YEARS ON

After 10 years I returned to Wilky for the snow. My intrepid leader - Doug - took me on and our group was initiated into Wilky 1993 with howling winds, driving rain and some foot slogging. Janet was very pleased to have missed this day. She joined the group on Monday.

Sunday saw us to attempt to reach Rovers Hut. We tackled the ice and paid our respects to the South Australian contingent in Rovers. Back to Wilky and sustenance. In the afternoon Doug said "Tally Ho" up to Wallaces. I had to give in with frustration. My skis don't handle ice well at all. Yes, the ice stayed with us all day.

Monday saw 4 of us off to Fitzgeralds Hut. Once again I was defeated by the ice. I walked a lot that day. A day of rest for me on Tuesday. An attempt to Cope Hut on Wednesday. Rain came down. Thursday the jolly group set off for Mt Cope. A

memorable day on which Liz broke a stock whilst scrub bashing up a slope. Doug lashed the stock and homeward bound we went. Friday was to be Mt Jim but most of us gave up when the weather closed in - very windy up top with driving snow/rain. The snow turned to powder and after lunch, a good read to finish the book, it was out to enjoy the last day. My skis loved this powder.

On Saturday Liz and I were escorted out by Gareth - we both had injured hands. Jan, Doug, Martin and Janet cleaned up and followed us out, getting to Windy Corner before us.

It was a mixed bag week weather wise, but the company was good. My merit points go to Doug's boys, Gareth and Martin, and I look forward to Wilky in winter next year.

Robyn Andersson

HIKING WITH THE SIERRA CLUB IN UTAH

While touring the US recently I was fortunate to be able to join a hiking trip in southern Utah run by the Sierra Club. The Sierra Club is an outdoor activities cum environmental organization with Chapters in most states of the US. The Club also runs a very extensive "Outings" program. Outings are extended trips of usually 6 or 7 days which may be hiking, base camp, cycling, canoeing or even burros.

The trip that I joined was around Navajo Mountain, a 3000 m snow-capped mountain near the Arizona-Utah border. The country around the mountain, which is in a Navajo Indian reservation, is semi-desert with spectacular cliffs and gorges. For much of the trip we were hiking in canyons with walls 300 or 400 foot high. The hike was done during spring time so the weather was sunny without being too hot and wildflowers were abundant.

The group consisted of 20 people who came from all parts of the US, apart from myself and a Canadian. The leader, Nancy, was a retired nurse. All the group members were environmentally conscious, friendly and good company. It was a great way to meet some very nice Americans.

The first day we walked about 14 km, climbing 300 m and then descending 460 m. As we had to carry all the food for the trip, plus 3 litres of water, it was a hard day's walking but the compensation was some magnificent views of the surrounding country and the brightly coloured wildflowers. I had to

restrain myself from taking too many photos so I didn't run out of film.

The rest of the trip was less strenuous. On the third day we did a side trip with day packs down to Rainbow Bridge. This is a spectacular natural rock arch over 300 ft high. It is close to Lake Powell and is popular with day trippers arriving by boat. After a leisurely lunch we had time to explore or take a dip in one of the rock pools.

Camp sites were generally on sheltered, tree covered areas by streams. Although they were clear running streams we were advised to boil the water or use purification tablets as the Indians sometimes grazed sheep and goats in the area. Meals were eaten communally, with each person taking a turn at cooking duty, helping to prepare one dinner and one breakfast. The menus had been worked out by Nancy, who had brought all the food and cooking gear (commissary as the Americans call it). Nancy divided the commissary into small bags each day for group members to carry. Meals were varied and interesting and usually sufficient.

The trip was well led and apart from the first day not too strenuous. The leader had a good knowledge of the area and I was able to learn much about its flora, fauna, geology and history. Bushies who intend going to the US are welcome to contact me on 489 4087 for further details. To join an Outing you would need to plan well ahead.

Peter Hogan

COMMITTEE NOTES - 2 AUGUST 1993**CORRESPONDENCE IN:**

Noel Tolley - Club funds
 Art Terry
 Federation - minutes and newsletter

CORRESPONDENCE OUT:

Art Terry

TREASURER'S REPORT AT 31 JULY 1993:

	\$	\$
JULY RECEIPTS:	3,226	
JULY PAYMENTS:	3,484	
BALANCE:		
Current Account	12,774	
Reserves Account	52,000	
Postage float	<u>500</u>	<u>65,274</u>

WALKS REPORT FOR MAY:

Total	Day walkers	W/E walkers	Members	Visitors	Fees
203	174	29	149	39	\$1704

GENERAL BUSINESS:

A new backpack is to be purchased for weekend hire.
 Much discussion on suggestions received on the use of the Club's accumulated funds.

DUTY ROSTER:

Aug	11	Jean & Doug
Aug	18	Mary & Janet (?)
Aug	25	Peter H & Merilyn
Sep	1	Gina & Derrick
Sep	8	Liz & Peter D

NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING: 6 September 1993 at 7.00pm

Registered Publication No. VBH 1297

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