



The NEWS

of the

MELBOURNE BUSHWALKERS INC.

JANUARY 1997

EDITION 551

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PRICE 60 cents

ATTENTION ALL BUSHIES

What better way of celebrating the NEW YEAR than having Dinner together !!

Friday 17th January

7.15 pm

THANH THANH HOUSE

"Traditional Vietnamese Cuisine"

323 Victoria St

Richmond

* Fully Licenced & BYO

* Set Menu \$19.90

RSVP by Wednesday evening 15th January

Please see Marisa or phone

Sunday 1 March 1997

SPIT ROAST

Tough

Al's Place in Cockatoo

Leaders: Marisa Rizzuto, Alan Ide
Transport: Private
Area: 19 Caroline Avenue, Cockatoo
Map Reference: Melways 188 H6
RSVP: Marisa by 14th Feb ()
Cost: \$8.00
BYO: Salad/Desert, Drinks, Sleeping Bag(?)
Time: 4.00 pm till whenever you leave

All Bushies are cordially invited to attend the above social at my place up in the hills. When you RSVP Marisa she will tell you whether to bring a Salad or Desert. Meat is provided. If you don't want to drive back late and/or intoxicated bring a sleeping bag and book some space on the floor. Bring CD's to play if you wish. Badminton and dodgy pool table also available. (Lloyd please note: I have a spa and will fill it with ice cold water especially for you!)

Notice

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc

will be held on

**Wednesday 26 February 1997 at 8.00 pm,
in the Horticultural Hall, Victoria Street,
(enter from the Clubrooms, Mackenzie Street)
for tabling of Annual Reports and Election of
Office Bearers**

All Welcome. Only Members can vote.
There may be a change of venue - see next edition of
News

Walhalla Weekend 24-26th January

There are still places available.

Please make your bookings to Brian Crouch direct, by phone or fax. Phone anytime, within reason, on , or Mobile or send him a fax on

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From the Editor

Happy New Year to everyone. Summer this year has certainly made an impression with the weather last weekend.

The Club year is drawing to a close, with the Annual General meeting occurring on the 26th February. Some members of the committee plan to step down this year and if you feel you could or would like to make a contribution to the Club talk to a Committee member for information and advice and consider "having a go". Detailed 'job specifications' are available.

The committee have now located a couple of venues which look like suitable locations for new clubrooms. The renovations on the current clubrooms have yet to start but we will let all members know when any change of venue is likely to happen.

Judy Gipps

From Doug Pocock

I recently visited Fred Halls at the Kingston Centre, Cheltenham. Fred is impaired by his stroke that he cannot walk and is very slow in processing information. However he knew me and was pleased to see me, he remembered most of the people I mentioned to him. O spoke to the nurse afterwards who said Fred did not receive many visitors and she thought that more visitors may simulate Fred and aid some recovery. It struck me afterwards that perhaps visitors could take Fred out for walks in the hospital grounds in a wheel chair.

Anyway if people could see their way to visit I'm sure this would be excellent for one of our special Life Members.

Doug Pocock

The NEWS is the official newsletter of the Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc. and is published monthly.
Edited by **Judy Gipps**.

Articles, walk reports, poems, snippets of news, reports of new gear, book reviews, letters "to the Editor", advertisements, etc are always welcome. The Editor reserves the right to edit articles, letters or other contributions, where space, clarity or propriety dictate. and to maintain editorial consistency

Please note that articles for **The NEWS** may be :
placed in the Red Box in the clubrooms or
mailed to Judy Gipps,
or
faxed to me on

Advertising Rates

¼ Page 1 Issue-\$20; 3 Issues-\$50; 12 Issues (1 year)-\$180

½ Page 1 Issue-\$30; 3 Issues-\$75; 12 issues-\$270

Full Page 1 issues-\$50; 3 issues-\$125; 12 issues-\$450

Only advertisements directly relating to bushwalking will be accepted (eg gear, maps, trips, tours)

Members Ads - FREE

Closing Date for **FEBRUARY 97 News** is **29th January 97**

Internet Home Page

After attempts over a protracted period, I have arranged for the Club to have web pages on VicNet. If you have access to the web, have a look at

<http://www.vicnet.net.au/~bushwalk/>

VicNet is a project of the State Library and RMIT and will hopefully provide us with a long term (whatever that may mean on the Internet!) site for our pages. Unlike other arrangements we have used, VicNet gives us direct access (via ftp) for updating our pages. VicNet provides web services to organisations such as ours for free.

Bill Metzthen

Federation

As mentioned in the last News, a representative from the insurance brokers which provide our insurance answered questions at the November meeting of Federation Council. The following was omitted from the December News:

A very important issue was raised in passing, but which I believe deserves the attention of every walker. This concerns the ethics of making claims of negligence. The idea is that if someone slips and breaks a leg (or some other injury) on a walk then the leader, the Club, and others can be sued for negligence. The insurance broker pointed out that the amount you can get from the insurance company by this means will often be greater than that obtainable under our personal injury policy.

If we are short-sighted, this might sound to be great; here is a way to get more at the expense of the insurance companies! Unfortunately, this isn't true - as they say, there is no such thing as a free lunch. In fact, it is in the long term interests of the insurance companies to have us suing each other. They structure their charges so that they take a percentage of the turnover. They can increase their profits if they can increase their turnover. Each time someone successfully sues, the insurance companies can (and will need to) increase their premiums and we will have no choice but to pay them. If bushwalkers adopt a habit suing each other, insurance turnover increases and the insurance companies "laugh all the way to the bank". Who becomes poorer if this happens? (no prizes for the correct answer)

Bill Metzthen

Meetings are held in the Clubrooms, MacKenzie St., Melbourne (rear of the Royal Horticultural Society building) on **WEDNESDAY** Evenings between 7.00 pm and 9.00 pm.

Visitors are always welcome.

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

Previews for February Day Walks and one for January

Sunday 26 January 1997 **Cumberland River & Falls**
Easy & Easy/Medium

Leaders: **John Kittson & Faye Pratt**
Transport: **Bus from Southbank Boulevard at 8.30 am**
Area: **Near Lorne**
Expected time of return: **7.00 pm**
Approximate length of walk: **14 & 17 km**
Map Reference: **Lorne 1:25,000**

Please note change of location from Walks Program.

Both walks start at the Cumberland River Reserve and finish at the Sheoak Creek car park at the ocean. If the weather is good then maybe a swim. The two groups will have many creek crossings; the Cumberland River should be fairly shallow this time of year, so don't expect there will be a problem. Don't forget that change of clothes and maybe a flask of coffee can be left on the bus during the day.

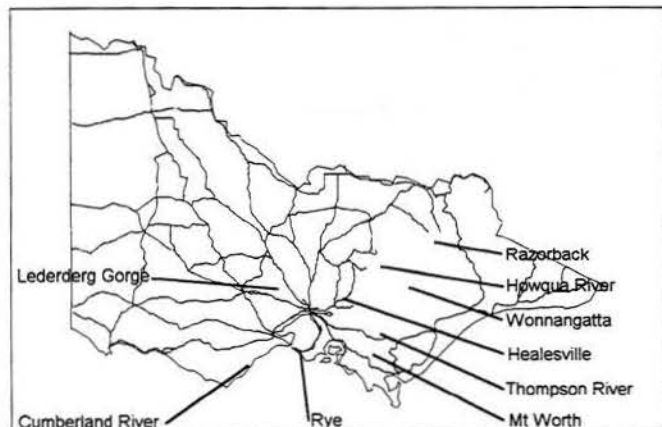
Saturday 1st February **Healesville-Toolangi**
Easy/Medium **Cycling**

Leaders: **Peter Gipps**
Transport: **Private**
Area: **Healesville**
Expected time of return: **7.00 pm**
Approximate length of ride: **60 km**

Meet at corner of Maroondah Highway and Mt St Leonard Rd at 10 am.

The ride starts from Healesville and heads north towards Toolangi along the Meyers Creek Road until the opportunity arises to get off the bitumen and explore some of the gravel access roads north and east of Mt St Leonard. Many of the tracks will be familiar to those who have walked in the area, but this represents an unprecedented opportunity to see them in one glorious overdose.

Having started with a major climb, the finale of the day is a long descent back to Healesville.



Sunday 2nd February 1997 **Lerderderg Gorge**
Easy/Medium & Medium/Hard **Old River**

Leaders: **Cameron Macmillan & Nigel Holmes**
Transport: **Bus from Southbank Boulevard at 9.00 am**
Expected time of return: **7.00 pm**
Approximate length of walk: **E/Med 11 km & Med/Hard 16 km**
Map Reference: **Bullengarook 1:25,000**
 Lerderderg Forest Park 1:25,000
 (FCV 1974)

Both walks will be approached from Gisborne. Med/hard walkers will start on O'Brien's road at Lerderderg Tk (GR702464) and will walk generally south/south-east to the Old River. Then we will walk to the Lerderderg River for a welcome (but optional) swim before ascending Bear's Head Range and walking to Loh's lane to meet the bus. The leader promises not to swim naked - he will leave his boots on ...

The area traversed will be steep, dry sclerophyll forest and walkers will need to be nearly as fit as the feral goats and not as sleepy as the koalas we will see in the area. Off track walking will be the order of the day wherever possible. Choice elevated views into the Lerderderg Gorge will be a highlight of the final climb. This will be a walk for one's cardiovascular system.

The easy/medium walk will follow a circuit down Bear's Head to the Lerderderg River, do a short return trip up the Old River and then splash upstream to Ah Kow Tk to climb up to the bus. Some off-track walking will be required along with some steep bits with excellent views, but probably less wildlife than the other walk.

Time and energy permitting all walkers can climb Mt Blackwood from the bus, to take in the splendid late afternoon views.

The Old River is usually dry and the weather could be ferociously hot so all walkers must carry (and consume!) ample drinking water. Two litres per person would not be too much. The Lerderderg's water has been very good for drinking in the recent past so it could OK on this walk. Protection from the Sun should be used - hats & blockout as required.

Sunday 9th February 1997 **Mt Worth State Park**
Easy & Medium

Leaders: **Stuart Mann & Margaret Borden**
Transport: **Bus from Southbank Boulevard at 8.30 am**
Area: **South of Warragul**
Approximate length of walk: **12 & 17 km**
Map Reference: **Mt Worth State or Allambee 1:25,000**

Both walks will be circuits starting from the Mt Worth Park Office (now closed) and both will cover the beautiful Moonlight Creek track with its lovely tree ferns and young mountain ash. The medium group will go up this track to meet the bus at the finish and the easy group will take the easier downhill option at the start. Both walks will also visit the large old mountain ash (*Eucalyptus regnans*) in the Giant's Circuit.

The medium group will follow tracks and old 4WD roads to the south of the park with some views to Westenport, and then head NE to the Moonlight Creek picnic area. After lunch there will be the Giant's Circuit, then a detour to an old mill and finally along the Moonlight Creek track.

The Easy group will spend some time around the Picnic ground after the Giant's Circuit in the farm area, and then head back along the Moonlight Divide Track with some good views of Mt Worth and hills as far away as the Baw Baws. There should be plenty of birds to see and hear and maybe the occasional wallaby or echidna.

Sunday 16th February 1997 **Rye-Sorrento**
Easy & Easy/Medium

Leaders: Peter McGrath & Jenny Gregory
Transport: Bus from Southbank Boulevard at 9.00 am
Area: Mornington Peninsula National Park
Expected time of return: 7.00 pm
Approximate length of walk: 14 & 18 Km
Map Reference: Melways 20th Ed, Map ref 156,166,167&251

Feel the need to escape Melbourne's heat? This is just the best way to do it. Come and explore the most beautiful scenery that the Mornington Peninsula has to offer.

Both walks will finish at London Bridge. The easy walk will commence at No 16. The easy/medium group will commence at Rye Ocean Beach.

The walks are very flat. The views are very picturesque. The beaches visited are very beautiful.

Wednesday 19th February 1997 **Cumberland River**
Easy/Medium

Leaders: Margaret Borden
Transport: Private
Area: Near Lorne
Expected time of return: 7.00 pm
Approximate length of walk: 15 km
Map Reference: Lorne 1:25,000

Meet at Westgate Park car park at 8 am (Melways 56 F1) or Sheoak Creek car park (on Great Ocean Rd approx 2½k past Lorne pier) at approx 10 am.

This is a beautiful walk with shade if it is a hot day and time for a swim at the finish. We will cross and re-cross the Cumberland River several times along a lovely tree shaded track, then climb out of the gorge up approx 180m steep ascent. From there to the pretty Upper and Lower Kalima Falls and follow Kalima Creek to Sheoak Creek and Swallow Cave and Sheoak Falls. Then back to the ocean along an easy track with superb views.

Maybe we'll have a meal in Lorne before returning home depending on inclinations and weather.

Saturday 22 February 1997 **Dandenongs Explorer**
Easy **Sassafras - Sherbrooke Forest**

Leaders: Michael Humphrey
Transport: Private
Area: Dandenongs
Approximate length of walk: 12 kms
Expected Time of return 4.00 pm
Map Reference: Melways maps 66 & 75

Come along and join me in this very beautiful part of the Dandenong's. Beginning at Grants Picnic Ground (Melways map 74 K4) we make our way to Beagleys Bridge where we pick up the walking track which skirts Sassafras Creek to Olinda.

We will lunch at Ferny Creek Reserve after which we make our way into Sherbrooke Forest for the return journey. I have chosen this area for its cool and shady surrounds as this time of year can be very hot.

We will commence the walk promptly at 10.30am at Grants Picnic Ground. If you are coming by public transport, the train arrives at 10.03am at Belgrave station. Please phone me at home on _____ if you need to be picked up. See you there !!

Sunday 23rd February 1997 **Labertouche Caves**
Easy/Medium & Medium

Leaders: Doug & Gareth Pocock
Transport: Bus from Southbank Boulevard at 8.30 am
Approximate length of walk: 12 km

Labertouche caves were formed by a creek cutting through a land slide. While not very extensive they are nevertheless big enough to give a real caving experience. Bring old clothes (boiler suit is ideal), torch with spare batteries and helmet. We hope to have some spare helmets available. Both of us have "done" this cave several times so you will be in safe hands and will really enjoy the experience. For anyone unsure about claustrophobia we can arrange to take you in just a short way.

We also hope to organise a walk for those who don't want to descend to the same depths as everyone else.

For Sale

Lowe Alpamayo Pack

70 Litres Volume

As new condition, hardly been used. Owner no longer able to pack carry.

For details please contact Chris: Ph _____

Previews for February Weekend & Pack-Carry Walks and one in January

24 - 27 January 1997 **Walhalla Hostel Base Camp**
Easy & Easy/Medium

Leaders: Brian Crouch
Transport: Private
Area: Gippsland
Expected time of return: Late Monday 27th Jan
Approximate length of walk: Various
Map Reference: Walhalla 8127-2-2 1:25,000

There are still places available on this trip.

The very popular Australia Day base camp at Walhalla will be on for the third time over the weekend of January 24 - 27 1997.

This is a beautiful part of Victoria about 2 1/2 hours drive from Melbourne which combines rugged mountain scenery and gold mining history. I plan on being at Walhalla from 2 pm Friday 24th until lunchtime Monday 27th, and will arrange various walks around Walhalla and possibly in the Baw Baw Alpine Area as well. There will be walks on Saturday, Sunday and Monday.

Monbulk Secondary College Tisdall Camp provides comfortable dormitory accommodation; you only need to bring sleeping bags, pillows and food. All cooking utensils and crockery are provided. The Hostel provides accommodation for 32 people and Ian Richardson, a mate of mine, has again offered overflow accommodation for 2 or 3 couples. Thanks for your hospitality Ian.

Please make your bookings to me direct, by phone or fax. Phone anytime, within reason, on _____, or Mobile _____ or send me a fax on _____

31st Jan- 2nd Feb 1997 **Lower Howqua River**
Medium

Leaders: Lloyd Young
Transport: Private

Please see the leader Lloyd Young in the clubrooms about arrangements for this walk as the proposed route will probably change.

7th -9th February 1997 **Moroka - Wonnangatta**
Medium/Hard

Leaders: Ralph Blake
Transport: Private
Area: North of Licola
Expected time of return: Late Sunday
Approximate length of walk: 35 km
Map Reference: Howitt-Selwyn and Tamboritha-Moroka

On Saturday morning we will start by descending to the Dry River via the Bicentennial National Trail. We will continue along the valley to the Wonnangatta River and then to Conglomerate Creek for Saturday night camp.

On Sunday we will walk up Conglomerate Creek and ascend steeply to Mt Darling. From Mt Darling we will follow the walking and 4WD tracks to Dimmick Lookout where the walk will end

14th-16th February 1997 **Thompson River Lilo Trip**
Easy/Medium

Leaders: Geoff Kelly
Transport: Private
Expected time of return: Sunday 8 pm

The Upper Thompson has good 1 to 2 rapids so some liloing experience is required. Saturday will be a long day starting just below the Thompson Dam Wall and ending at Aberfeldy Junction. There will be a small portage at Waterfall Rapid. Sunday will be a shorter day finishing at Walhalla Bridge. If time permits a short visit to Walhalla will be included.

Meeting Point - Erica Store 8 am Saturday

Equipment: Helmet, Safety Vests, Box Lilo & Kayak Style Paddle are compulsory..

21st-23rd February 1997 **Razorback-Feathertop**
Easy/Medium **Bungalow Spur**

Leaders: Deborah Henry
Transport: Private
Area: Vic Alpine Area-Mt Feathertop
Expected time of return: Late Sunday Evening
Approximate length of walk: 22 km
Map Reference: Bogong Area 1:50,000 Vic Map

Like all trips to a classic peak this one starts at the bottom. We begin at Harrierville and ascend the gently sloping Bungalow Spur to Federation Hut. Here we will drop packs and then make a triumphant dash to the top of Mt Feathertop. Camp will be made at Federation Hut. Next morning we will have plenty of time for a side trip to MUMC hut before crossing the spectacular Razorback ridge to Mt Hotham.

As the trip begins and ends in two different spots we will need to leave cars, at both Harrierville and Mt Hotham. Don't forget your camera - Phone _____

28th Feb - 2nd March 1997 **Mt Wills - The Lanes**
Hard

Leaders: Bill Metzthen
Transport: Private
Approximate length of walk: About 23+26KM
Map Reference: Bogong Alpine Area Outdoor Leisure Map

After Gina's walk last year I changed my opinions on the attractions of Mt Wills.

A highlight of this walk will be a traverse of Mt Wills, stopping at the top for Sunday night's camp.

Like Gina's walk, we will start and finish at Watchbed Creek. We'll go via Kelly's Hut and the Mittagundi Track to descend to Big River. Then the ascent is via the 4WD tracks and walking track to the summit of Mt Wills. Hopefully there will be water at the hut.

On Sunday, our route takes us over Wills South and down to Glen Valley. Then we find our way to the 4WD track which leads up to the Lanes. After that we make our way past Kelly's hut and back to the cars.

Our time off-track should be mostly while descending. The rest will be mostly on tracks and possibly on (horrors) bitumen.

28th Feb - 2nd March 1997	Murray River Canoeing
Easy	

Leaders:	George Zamora
Transport:	Private
Area:	Echuca
Location:	Barmah to Echuca
Approx Distance from Melbourne	238 km
Map Reference:	River Murray Charts - Maureen Wright

I propose to start at Barmah next to the Barmah Bridge and paddle downstream to the Port of Echuca. We will camp on the river on Saturday night and should arrive at Echuca Wharf on Sunday afternoon. The distance is 50 km and it is smooth water paddling all the way. You will see magnificent river red gums, sandy beaches, no people, the chance to catch a fish, beautiful camping sites - in short a trip to remember. It will be an easy trip with lots of swim stops.

Echuca holds a place in history as Australia's busiest inland port during the late 1800s, handling cargo from hundreds of river boats annually. It is the centre of steamboat activity. The old wharf and restored port of Echuca add to the historic atmosphere.

Now a word of warning - it will be hot - old pyjamas and plenty of 15+ and a hat! A car shuffle will be necessary.

For those people who don't know the area of Echuca [THIS TRIP IS A MUST](#)

JEAN DOES IT AGAIN

On December 27 three years ago Bill and I waited in cold and fog at Diamantina Hut for Jean and the rest of the group. Nobody turned up and we later learned that the road had been closed by snow when they had first arrived. This time we didn't wait long before people started arriving - Jean with Sylvia and Dave, Ralph and Liz, Michelle, Anita and Alan, and finally Peter and Judy.

The fog had cleared by the time we set off along The Razorback. Bill went down to the Diamantina River to see the spot where the body of a lost snowboarder had been found. The rest of us had lunch in the sun at the top of Champion Spur. Michelle was having hip trouble and Alan had hidden her pack and went back for it at lunch time. Soon after lunch we were at our campsite for the next two nights - below High Knob. Ralph went back for Michelle's pack which had been left near the lunch spot. Bill arrived, and we all hiked to the spring below Mt Feathertop for our water.

Day two was sunny with a cool breeze and we visited Federation Hut, Mt Feathertop and MUMC hut. Later,

many of us climbed up onto Razorback to see the sunset in a perfectly clear sky. So we were surprised to be woken up during the night by a thunderstorm that kept raging until the morning of day three. Michelle left us to walk back to her car and Bill went along as her porter. Not long after they left there was a bright flash of lightning followed immediately by a loud, long thunderclap. Had Bill and Michelle been struck? They would have been just about on top of the ridge. The party left to go down Diamantina Spur and I stayed behind, watching the ridge with binoculars. Eventually I went out along the Razorback and was relieved to see Bill. He said that the lightning had been between two clouds nearby but the storm had then moved further away. We all lunched at Blair's Hut and then climbed the track to Weston's where we camped in sunshine.

The morning of day four was clear and sunny and it felt great to be alive and in the mountains. The party split into two, with some people going over Mt Jim to camp in High Plains Creek at a site made less than ideal only by cow pats and their bush flies. The rest of us dropped packs and walked to Mt Niggerhead and Tawonga Huts. We all met at the campsite and went to High Plains Creek Falls where the water was several degrees warmer than usual and wonderful for swimming and washing. An eerie mist came in that night.

Day five: the mist dissipated as we climbed out of High Plains Creek and headed towards the Alpine Walking Track. The ground was covered in flowers and *The Book (The Alps in Flower)* was in constant use. Half of the party did a side trip to Young's Hut. There they met two people who were going to Dinner Plain to be met by a car the next day. Ralph informed them that there were two places called Dinner Plain and the one they were headed for was not the one you could drive to. I wonder how they got on! We camped the night at Cobungra Gap. It was noticeable that there were far fewer flies when you got away from the areas where cattle still graze. Bill and I visited the Red Robin Battery. There was no one about, but we saw a new stone house and lots of children's toys around.

On day six we walked up Swindlers Spur to near Charlie Derrick hut, visiting the Quintex Mine huts on the way. After lunch Bill took us to Spargo's Hut which was pretty grotty, but the country we went through was wonderful. After dinner we had a fire and welcomed in the New Year at 9 pm, by which time a thick mist had fallen.

The first morning of 1997 was sunny, clear, cold and frosty. The views were spectacular as we walked out, climbing Mt Loch on the way. Some of us slid on a snow drift. We saw where the planned new ski lifts are to go, with towers that will be visible from just about everywhere. The walk finished at Mt Loch car park.

Thank you Jean - you've done it again. Another wonderful walk. Fantastic weather when it wasn't thundering. Marvellous views when it wasn't misty. Great company all the time. Sign up early for next year's walk, folks.

Merilyn Whimpey

The Christmas Spirit At Mount St. Leonards

Sunday 22/12/96

Just three days prior to Christmas,
the spirit said to me,
Mount St. Leonard beckons,
'tis a mighty climb,
But you'll thoroughly enjoy the scenery.

From the road we ventured onward
through private property,
gaily stepping out
with second wind inside,
'til a count of heads and some anxiety.

Three walkers went a' strolling,
they missed the turn you see,
but Brian's mobile phone
and Ian's solo deed,
saved three walkers from a near calamity.

"The Retreat" was surely welcomed,
t'was quite a revelry,
swimming pool awaited,
Patricia we thank you,
for a very yummy afternoon tea !

Jill Dawson

Conservation

The Mount Stirling issue remains unresolved.

The Club has made a submission on the draft management plans for Wilsons Promontory. In addition, many Club members have signed the petition to parliament being organized by the VNPA. I can't say how many signatures were gathered because there have been independent uncoordinated efforts. Please don't sign a petition more than once, sometimes some checks are made and detected multiple signings reduce the impact of a petition.

Our submission was along the lines indicated in the December News, except your Committee has decided that the Club opposes a new coastal track around the southern part of the Prom.

On behalf of the Federation, I attended a one-day consultative meeting held in Bright, organized by consultants for proposed developments on or related to Mt Hotham. The proposed developments include new ski lifts for the upper Swindlers Creek area, development of the Mt Hotham village, development of Dinner Plain (including a golf course and polo field), and an airport at Horse Hair Plain to take commercial jet aircraft.

Planning on some of these is well advanced. I had just three days to prepare a submission on the proposed ski lifts and present it in person to the development approval hearing (on the day before I left for my Christmas holidays). The lift company had already placed major equipment orders for the lifts

Bill Metzenthien

Macedon Cycling Trip

7th December 1996

At 10 am on a fine Saturday Morning six energetic souls got together near The Macedon Railway Station to begin a good days ride (60 km) around the Macedon district.

After leaving Macedon we proceeded at a leisurely pace through quiet country back roads before disaster struck when Mary came off going downhill on a gravel track. Fortunately no bones were broken so we proceeded uphill to a pleasant lunch spot in a cool breeze overlooking a flock of sheep.

I must confess to hooning downhill myself which on gravel is dangerous so after lunch I made more use of my bakes and brain.

In the afternoon we cycled around Mt Charlie, 721 metres getting great views of the surrounding countryside.

I do most of my cycling around the Market Gardens of Werribee South and Lara which is all flat country, so on a couple of Hill climbs I found myself walking my bike while the two Elite cyclists Pearson and John took them in their stride at ease.

As the afternoon wore on we cycled past Hanging Rock on our right and the more imposing Camel's Hump 1011 metres on our left before following the Railway Line back to Macedon.

Thank you Pearson for a great days Ride where I used all 21 of gears for the first time.

Party (Head cyclist) Pearson, Peter, Mary, John, Joseph and myself.

Cameron McMillan



Chris, Patricia, Lou and Joy at the Christmas Party

WALK ALSACE

Enjoy the gastronomic delights and superb wines of Alsace, France on a 7 day self-guided walking tour through vineyards, medieval villages and the forests of the Vosges Mountains. With a map and instructions provided by the local walking club and your picnic lunch you set off at your own pace for the next hotel (about 15 km) as your luggage is transported ahead.

\$900 per person twin share including excellent accommodation and all meals.

PH: 9415 1588 FAX: 9415 1590

This is a private advertisement and is accepted as a service to Members only. These are NOT official Club trips.

New members

IAN BEASLEY

MATTHEW BRITTAN

JIM FOSTER

JOHN LISTER

ANITA RANGOE

ANDREW STEVENS

Add to Membership List

KEN BAIRD

Altered Address/Phone

STELLA Y Y WONG

Doug Pocock, Graeth Pocock, Martin Pocock & Jan Llewelyn Home phone no is

Sylvia Wilson has reverted to Sylvia Ford
Her change of address to 24th Feb is



Sylvia, Claire, Alan, Marisa, Peter and Fay at the Christmas Party

Committee Reports

Treasurer:

Accounts for December, 1996

Opening Balance	\$58,394.86
Receipts	\$1,826.50
Payments	\$4,454.54
Closing Balance	\$55,766.82

Walks Secretary:

Attendances for November

	Trips	No	1995
Sunday Bus	4	42	42%
Pack Carry	5	8	10
Wed, Hist, Dandenong	2	10	6.67
Base Camp	2	14	13
Other	1	4	7

Membership:

Life Members	11
Honorary Members	11
Single Memberships	368
Family Memberships (2x 46 =)	96
Total membership	482

Duty Roster

15th January	Bill & Ralph
22nd January	Lloyd & Doug
29th January	Jean & Judy
5th February	Peter & Derrick

Next committee meeting 3rd February, 1997

We recently heard of the death of Debbie Collie and Susan Chenoweths mother. The club sends its sympathies to you both and Sue's Family.

Form of Appointment of Proxy

I..... of..... being a member of Melbourne Bushwalkers (Inc), hereby appoint

..... of..... being a member of Melbourne Bushwalkers (Inc). as my proxy to vote on my behalf at the annual general meeting to be held on Wednesday 26th February, 1997 and at any adjournment of that meeting.

+ My proxy is authorised to vote (in favour of / against) the following resolution(s):

.....
.....
.....

Signed:

Date:

- + Delete if not applicable
* Delete as appropriate

WATER! WATER! WATER!
Cyclone Rachel has been and gone. Water is everywhere. This is shaping up to be one of the best wet seasons I've seen in my 22 years in Darwin. Come see why we call it the "Wonderful Wet".
Discount Airfares
From now through 31 March. Prices begin at \$579 for a return Melbourne-Darwin airfare plus a night's accommodation.
Nitmiluk National Park No 1: February 2-25
Three sections: a weed mapping walk, two days with Aboriginal guides combined with an end to end walk along Katherine Gorge and a ten day walk through an incredible variety of landscapes. Discount price: \$1525 for one, \$1275 each for two or more.
Kakadu Circle No 1: February 27-March 15
A major expedition. The only way you can get close to Jim Jim and Twin Falls when they actually look like the photos that have made them the tourist icons of Kakadu. Discount price: \$1080 for one, \$945 each for two or more.
Kakadu Highlights No 4: March 9-22
Experience the delights of the tropical summer without having to carry a week's food. Four sections: two walks in southern Kakadu, one along Katherine Gorge and one onto private Aboriginal land. Discount price: \$975 for one, \$850 each for two or more.
WILLIS'S WALKABOUTS
KAKADU RED CENTRE KIMBERLEY
12 Carrington St, Millner NT 0810
Phone: (08) 8985 2134 Fax: (08) 8985 2355

Form of nomination of Officers and Members of the Committee of the Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc.

Nomination for.....
Enter President, Vice-president, Treasurer, Secretary, Walks Secretary, Social Secretary, News Editor, Wilky Manager, General Committee, as appropriate.

Name of Nominee

Proposed by

Seconded by

Acceptance of Nomination.

I agree to stand for this position

.....
Signature of Nominee

.....
Date

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