



The NEWS

of the

MELBOURNE BUSHWALKERS INC.

SEPTEMBER 1998

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

EDITION 571

Print Post Approved. P.P. No. 338888/00016

PRICE 60 cents

Movie Night

Friday 25th September 1998

AMY

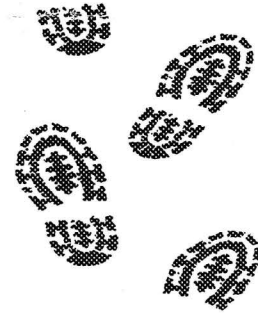
7.00 ish

at the Rivoli
Camberwell

Contact Fiona

(Price to be advised depending on numbers attending
- \$11.50 or less)

Advance notice...of the



Really Great Prom Walk'

November 15 - 29, 1998

Although some 3,800 public submissions and 45,000 signatures on petitions have been submitted to Parks Victoria and the Government regarding the developments on the Prom, the Government is basically ignoring them and going ahead with its plans. To focus the public's attention and to ensure that our voice is really heard, a coalition including the Victorian National Parks Association, the Federation of Victorian Walking Clubs, Gippsland-based conservation groups and walking clubs are working together. A two-week walk is planned from the Prom, to finish on Sunday 29 November at Parliament House.

More details will follow, but rest assured that we shall be participating. We shall be asking for your active support. If you would like to help on the organising, please contact a committee member. More news next month.

Derrick Brown

Slide Night France and UK

- Don Weston

Wednesday 16th September

8pm Clubrooms

Two weeks were spent in France and England, rambling around Paris, cycling in the Loire and Dordogne regions, and exploring old towns such as Brantom, Chinon, Roque Gageac, Sarlat, and Rocamadour. We then caught the Eurostar to London, and headed off into the Cotswolds. We ranged from Chipping Norton, Upper Slaughter, and Broadway to the "black and white" towns of Weobly and Leominster, then headed South through Tintern Abbey to Dunster, Polperro, and Clovelly. Two weeks of fine weather yielded some great photos!

Remember this Sunday 13th September

Celebrate the 100,000th Walker

with a lunch for the Veteran Walkers at the Balwyn
Community Centre

412 Whitehouse Road, Surrey Hills 3127
at midday till 4pm
Contact Sylvia Ford

**Update on Northern Wilsons Prom walk,
19th & 20th of September**

Please see page 8

From the President

You will have noticed that conservation matters are receiving more focus from us of late. Please take note of the issues and give your support to the activities. It seems that as each month goes by we hear of some new outrage. Certainly I found it depressing at Mt Hotham recently to hear that the resort is being built up and that tenders are now being invited for the construction of the airport there with a runway of 1.8 km length, capable of taking the Bae 146 70-seater jet. 700 additional car parking places, more ski lifts and many more developments are planned. Cross-country skiing in that area is going to be considerably less of a cross-country experience.

In order to focus the general public attention to conservation, a two-week protest walk is planned, from Wilsons Prom to the city, on November 15 - 29. An advance notice is included elsewhere; please take note of the dates as I anticipate that we shall be asking members for strong support for this.

A reminder for the veterans of the 1940's, 1950's and 1960's that on Sunday 13 September we have the Veteran's lunch to celebrate the 100,000 walker. If you know of any veterans that may not have heard, please tell them.

I'm off to Wilky for a week, I just hope that there's some snow left! I'll try not to lose a boot or a ski...

Derrick Brown

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
emailed to

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 **OCTOBER 1998 News** is 1st October 98

Please tell the leader...

If you have any medical condition such as asthma please tell the leader even if the condition is not a problem to you. Sometimes problems do flair up on walks and it is useful if the leader is aware of this contingency.

Federation Cards

The Federation of Walking Clubs has produced cards which will identify you as a member of the Melbourne Bushwalkers and thus a member of Federation. These are available in the clubrooms or if you cannot make it into the clubrooms please send a stamped self addressed envelope and we will send it to you. These cards are useful proof that you are a member and may attract discounts at the Bushwalking shops.

Remember the club has equipment for hire.

The club hires out tents, sleeping bags, packs and we even have a food drier. These are all available for rent at a reasonable cost. If you are thinking about having a try at weekend walks or base camps and are worried that you don't have the equipment then hire it and try it, you may become hooked. This equipment is very expensive to purchase outright and as there are numerous types and brands on the market, renting is a good way of trying the options.

For Sale

**Mountain Designs
Down Sleeping Bag
Mummy Shape - 1.5 kg**

Good Condition

New \$439 will sell for \$130

**Phone (H)
Cameron McMillan**

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

Visitors are always welcome.

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

Previews for October Day Walks and a couple for September

Saturday 26th Sept 1998 Monbulk - Emerald Lake
Easy Dandenongs Explorer

Leaders: Betty Spencer
Transport: Private
Area: Emerald
Expected time of return: 3.30-4.00 pm
Approximate length of walk: 13 Km
Map Reference: Melways Maps 124,125 and 127

We will meet at Emerald Reserve (Melway Map 127 G3) at 10.00am sharp. The walk follows Sassafras and Menzies Creek and lunch is at Butterfield Reserve. After lunch we make our way onto Telopea Road and encounter a climb before we proceed to Emerald Lake park.

Please note this is not a circuit walk so a car shuffle will be organised so please ensure that you give me a call at home on to book on this walk.

Afternoon tea will be provided in the very picturesque Emerald Lake Park - it is only a short walk from the Park back to the cars.

Saturday 3rd October 1998 Kinglake
Medium

Leaders: John Kittson
Transport: Private
Area: Kinglake

Please see John in the Clubrooms about this walk. It will be in the Kinglake region and will be a good solid Medium walk in a very pleasant area. And what could be a better way of spending election day.

Sunday 4th October, 1998 Lerderderg Gorge
Easy/Medium & Medium Bacchus Marsh

Leaders: David Laing & Nigel Holmes
Transport: Bus from Southbank Boulevard at 9.00 am
Expected time of return: 7.00pm

These walks will be in the Lerderderg Gorge region and area south of Bacchus Marsh and relatively close to Melbourne. The gorge is quite spectacular and provides some very interesting walking. At this time of the year there will be wildflowers everywhere.

Sunday 11th October 1998 Mt Gordon Range
Easy & Easy/Medium

Leaders: Peter McGrath & Jan Palich
Transport: Bus from Southbank Boulevard at 8.30 am
Area: Marysville
Approximate length of walk: 15 & 17 km
Expected time of return: 7.00pm
Map Reference: VicMap Marysville
- Lake Mountain 1:30,000

Note the 8.30 start

Both walks traverse up Mount Gordon Range at the back of Marysville. From this, one gains a clear view of the Acheron Valley and probably one of the finest vistas to be seen on a bushwalk - the romantic profile of Mt Sugarloaf.

From there both walks will return to do walks on various tracks around Marysville town. The only difference between the walks will be distance. That is how we plan it at present. Due to a lack of previous walk information, the precise details of the walk may change. This is a very pleasant area and a very pleasant walk can be expected.

Sunday 18th October 1998 Bunyip Forest
Easy & Easy/Medium Boronia & Grevillea reserve

Leaders: Peter Havlicek & Margo McNamara
Transport: Bus from Southbank Boulevard at 9.00 am
Area: Longwarry North - Labertouche
Approximate length of walk: 14+ & 17 km
Expected time of return: 6.30 - 7.00pm
Map Reference: Spion Kopje 1:25000 (8022-2-3)

Both walks are circular, starting at the Brighton GS camp. The longer walk goes to South Hells Gate before returning to Forest Road, then along Lawson Creek Nature trail, up Discovery Track and back to the bus along Tea Tree Firebreak Track.

The easier walk omits the South Hells Gate loop, but may do a short loop up towards Gentle Annie (without actually climbing it).

The area abounds in Australian wild flowers (depending on season) and wallabies and lyre birds are also present in the forest. The Lawson Creek Nature walk is also interesting with remnants of past events in the area (tin mining, bushfires, etc).

Wednesday 21st October 1998
Easy/Medium

Pyrites Creek

Leaders: Max Casley
Transport: Private
Map Reference: Toolern Vale 1:25,000
Area: Gisborne
Expected Time of return: 6.00pm
Approx Distance: 15 km

This area is about 5km south of Gisborne in native forest. The walking is mainly on tracks which are fairly steep in places with at least two climbs over 150 metres. We will probably walk along Pyrites Creek for about a kilometre. However, I will check the water level closer to the day of the walk.

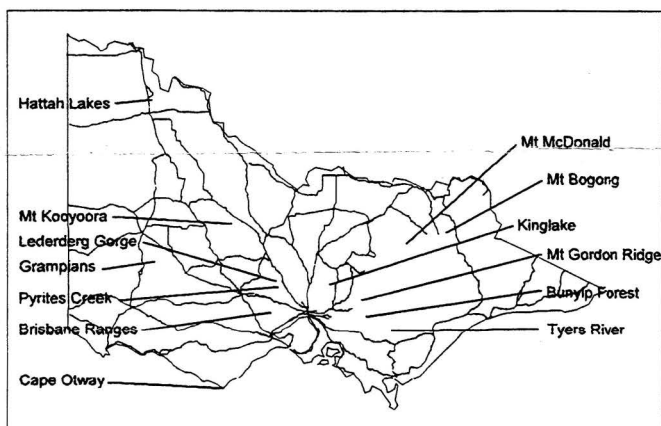
Meet 9am Westgate Bridge Park or the area of Hobbs Road and the Gisborne-Melton Road about 5km south of Gisborne.

Sunday 25th October 1998
Easy & Medium

Northern Brisbane Ranges

Leaders: Alan Miller & Darryl Weinert
Transport: Bus from Southbank Boulevard at 9.00 am
Area: South of Bacchus Marsh
Expected time of return: 7.00 pm
Approximate length of walk: 14 & 18 kms
Map Reference: Ingliston & Staughton Vale 1:25,000

This is a good area for wildflowers, and there are extensive views at several points. Most of the walking is along old forestry tracks, though there is a descent into Spring Creek and scramble out on the northern side. We plan to put a more detailed preview in the October newsletter



Report from Jen & Jopie
Escapades in the Alps & the Pyrenes

We've been nearly five weeks in France and have been bowled over by the stunning mountain scenery; glaciers, peaks, waterfalls and lakes. Most of our walks have been day walks but we have spent four nights in Alpine refuges which they manage to put in the most stupendous settings. Most areas can be done as day walks from a trailhead unless you want a 3 a.m. start to climb a glacier before the midday sun softens the snow!

We have discovered 'Via Ferratas'. They are routes in spectacular cliffy places that use artificial aids such as metal steps, hand holds, ladders and bridges and you are at all times attached to a security cable by a harness and carabiners. We knew about them in the Italian Dolomites and intend to do some there but as they also have them here in the French Alps we have 'cut our teeth' on them. They are great fun!

What we miss most is native English-speaking voices. We have not met a single Aussie in France, only American and very few English. If we want to speak English we listen for Dutch voices, of which there are hordes - they all speak English. French caravan parks are peopled by French and Dutch - no Germans, no Italians, no Spanish. We've decided that the Dutch are planning to take over Europe by first infiltrating all the caravans parks. The other day in the Pyrenes we even saw them peering over the border at 2200 metres into Spain planning strategy!

Camping and driving around France is not too expensive. For the two of us we spend on average \$14 per night on camp fees and \$21 on food. We steer well clear of restaurants and take our own food to refuges where a cup of tea costs \$4. Fuel costs \$1.70 per litre but our Renault hire car only uses 6 litres /100 km. The car is costing us under \$20 per day for 3½ months. A magnum icecream costs \$4 (we haven't had one and don't intend to), cheese cost 50% more. Fruit and vegies cost slightly more. There's no place like Australia for food really.

We're getting used to the narrow winding mountain roads. They haven't heard of road shoulders here. It call for precision driving to avoid scaping the stone walls or driving into the ditch on one side and missing the crazy French drivers screaming around blind corners from the opposite direction. It's great stuff for honing defensive driving techniques!

Today we head into Spain clutching our Spanish phrase book to explore their side of the Pyrenes and some great-sounding canyons. Then it's back to the French Alps, the Italian Dolomites, Austrian Alps, Holland and Nepal before heading home to catch the Australian summer. We hope that this year's ski season is a good one for you in Oz and that Pauline Hanson hasn't wreaked too much political havoc.

Best wishes to everyone -
Jopie Bodegraven and Jenny Flood

Previews for October Weekend /Pack-Carry/Base Camps/Ski Trips

9-11th October 1998 **Mt Kooyoora**
Easy **Melville Caves Base Camp**

Leaders: Judy Gipps
Transport: Private
Area: Mt Kooyoora State Park
Expected time of return: Sunday evening
Map Reference: Natural Resource Systems 1997
Approx Distance 12 + 12 kms

Kooyoora State Park is about 220 km north west of Melbourne, lying west of the Calder Highway between Inglewood and Wedderburn not far from Bendigo. We will camp at the Melville Caves camping ground which is on a ridge and not far from viewpoints of the surrounding area. The area has many strange rock formations, giant granite slabs and balancing rocks and at the time we are visiting should have extensive displays of wildflowers.

The area was inhabited by Koories and it is thought that a local tribe may have sheltered in fissures formed by the splitting of weathered granite. The shelters - called caves- are also reputed to have been used a hideout by "Captain Melville", a bushranger active during the goldrush days.

Come along and enjoy a relaxing weekend walking in this scenic and historic area.

9-11th October 1998 **Mt McDonald -Low Saddle**
Medium **The Nobs**

Leaders: Gina Hopkins
Transport: Private
Area: Tamboritha
Expected time of return: Sunday evening
Map Reference: Skene North 1:25,000,
 Tamboritha-Moroka 1:50,000
Approx Distance 28kms

The starting point for this walk will be just off Brocks Road on the Clear Creek Road. There are a few spaces for camping here on Friday night, or you may prefer to camp near Sheeppark Flat and do the drive in the morning. The roads in this area are pretty rough and 4WD's (or Subarus!) are recommended.

The walk begins with a hefty climb - no gentle warm-up! This is a bush-bash straight up a spur, but apart from a few odd patches the vegetation is fairly light. We will eventually reach the Australian Alps Walking Track en route for the summit of Mt McDonald. It is many years since I have been there and the previous time was in pouring rain, so I'm hoping for some grand views this time. We will continue to follow the Alpine Walking Track south as it descends towards The Low Saddle, then we turn off on to a 4WD track

and camp somewhere near the Barkly River West Branch. The next day we cross the Barkly River (both branches) and head for the Nobs Spur which we climb until we reach the top of the Nobs. This route may be steep and rocky. The descent from the Nobs back to the cars will be down a long, steep track. I suggest this walk is only suitable for experienced and fit walkers.

16-18th October 1998 **Blanket Bay - Cape Otway**
Easy/Medium **Pack Carry**

Leader: Sylvia Ford
Transport: Private
Area: The Otways S.W. of Melbourne
Distance: 28km
Map Reference: The Otways and Shipwreck Coast

This walk was originally billed as an easy walk for beginner pack carriers. However the distances each day are 14 km so making an easy/medium walk, but the walking is gentle and the o'night camp at Blanket Bay very civilised (e.g. loos and water !). We will start from Shelley Beach at 9.30 having shuffled cars to Cape Otway (beyond Apollo Bay) lighthouse beforehand. Then we'll walk down the east side of Cape Otway through tall forests, along beaches, over rocks and with lovely views especially of Parker River. Maybe with flowers out and interesting birds and with the wind in your hair and sun on your back.....Trust me, trust me.

23-25th October 1998 **Mt Difficult-Briggs Bluff**
Medium **Pack Carry**

Leader: Alan Clarke
Area: Grampians
Transport: Private
Map Reference: Mt Difficult & Mt Stapylton 1:25,000
 or Northern Grampians
Expected Time of return: Sunday evening
Approx Distance 30km

This is one of the best walks in one of the best areas in Victoria. It includes two of the best views in the range, as well as some of the spectacular rock features. The walk has only one climb of any significance each day and is mostly on walking tracks. It is suitable for relatively inexperienced overnight walkers.

30th Oct -3rd Nov, 1998
Easy/Medium

Hattah Lakes
Pack Carry

Leader: Max Casley
Area: Mallee, near Ouyen
Transport: Private
Map Reference: Hattah Lakes 1:25,000,
Colinan Sth & Nth, Algonia Map
Expected Time of return: Late Tuesday
Approximate Distance 55km

This walk will be through mallee scrub country, native pine woodland, going past some permanent lakes (across dry ones). There should be plenty of kangaroos, emus and other bird life. We will camp Friday night at Lake Hattah, the next two nights beside the Murray and the last night at Lake Mournspoul finishing back at Lake Hattah on Tuesday. If the weather is warm enough we might spend some time swimming. Walking will be partly beside the river but mainly across country. This is flat country so it is a good chance to practice compass navigation. Bring a pedometer if you have one ! Bring water in the car for Friday night and Saturday. We will drink water from the Murray River.

NOISE AND LIGHT POLLUTION IN THE ALPINE ENVIRONMENT

Dear fellow skiers and bushwalkers,

Falls Creek has sought a permit to extend the number of nights on which they can hold night skiing. Along with the skiing goes extra lighting and amplified music. Mt Hotham may well follow suit with Falls Creek. Additionally is also the existing shuttle helicopter service between Mt Hotham and Falls Creek, not to mention the proposed airport near Mt Hotham. All of these activities can potentially create severe noise and light pollution.

It is important that there be registers of noise and/or light pollution so that the permit issuing authorities can determine appropriate controls and restrictions. The Melbourne Bushwalkers are seeking your help in determining how wide-spread a problem the noise/light disturbances are.

If at any time you notice annoying noise pollution or light pollution (from say, night skiing activities or machinery) would you please make a note of...

- **Where you were when you noticed it along with the time, date and duration of the disturbance.**

- **The cause of the disturbance (if it can be determined).**
 - **How severe it was, eg, in the case of noise, how loud was it in comparison with the natural background. A level relative to normal conversation at the point of observation would be a good guide.**
 - **How far around the area the disturbance was noticeable.**
 - **What the weather conditions were, eg, clear, rain, snow, the temperature, the wind direction & strength.**
- and then;

1. **contact the Victorian Environment Protection Authority on their pollution hotline, 03 9628 5777 or 1800 444 004 (both 24 hrs) and ask them to record it on the EPA "pollution register".**
2. **advise the responsible Alpine Resort Management Board (Falls Creek 03 5758 3224, Mt Hotham 03 5759 3525, Mt Buller 03 5777 6052, Mt Baw Baw 03 5165 1136) also asking them to record your complaint.**
3. **if possible, please send me a copy of your observations. Alternatively, the Victorian National Parks Association have kindly offered to be a contact point for us and to keep an independent register of reports on our behalf. They may be an easier and more reliable contact at; VNPA, 10 Parliament Place, East Melbourne, 3002; phone 03 9650 8296; e-mail vnpa@vicnet.net.au.**
4. **pass this request on to your kindred fellow skiers and walkers.**

Thanks for your assistance,

*Graeme Thornton
Conservation Convenor,
Melbourne Bushwalkers,
PO Box 1751Q,
Melbourne 3001
August 1998*

CONSERVATION FORUM

Falls Creek has sought a permit to extend the number of nights on which they can hold night skiing. Along with the skiing goes extra lighting and, of course, amplified "music". Hotham may follow suit. Some of you will have already experienced Fall's night skiing and its associated noise. I have. The proposed airport to be built near Mt Hotham will also add significant light/noise pollution.

The Environment Protection Authority controls the issuing of such permits within Victoria. As part of this the EPA keeps a "pollution register" and excessive noise and/or light is regarded as "pollution". The EPA says that they have had no complaints about Falls Creek's sound/light.

The *NEWS* has carried items in the past (Stephen Lake last month and Bill Menzenth then earlier) about the noise caused by the helicopter shuttle between Hotham and Falls and the difficulty in getting the civil aviation authorities to take note.

We (MBW) are sponsoring a skier/bushwalker survey of noise/light pollution in the alps. We are asking people to complain to the EPA about such incidents and ask them to put it on their pollution register. This register can then be accessed later to determine whether there is a history of complains. **The EPA pollution hotline is 9628 5777 or 1800 444 004 (both 24 hrs).** They would like as much detail as you can supply, eg, time, place, degree of noise/light, the size of the area affected, weather conditions including wind strength/direction.

You might also consider registering complaints with the various Alpine Resort Management Boards (Falls Creek 03 5758 3224, Mt Hotham 03 5759 3525, Mt Buller 03 5777 6052, Mt Baw Baw 03 5165 1136. I would appreciate a copy of any complaint you lodge, or, alternatively the Vic. National Parks Assoc. have kindly offered to set up an independent register on our behalf (VNPA 9650 8296, 10 Parliament Place, East Melbourne 3002, e-mail vnpa@vicnet.net.au).

It's important that complaints be formally registered as an absence of public complaints is taken as an indication that the activity isn't causing concern to the public. The EPA pollution register might also be worth considering for other sources of pollution that we come across on our bushwalks and in our daily lives.

More on helicopters in national parks; they are required to "fly neighbourly". A partial extract of the operational requirement for Zauril Aviation (the flight operator) reads; "... The park contains sensitive areas. Pilots undertaking sightseeing flights should

obtain details of the areas to be avoided and the preferred scenic routes in the Falls Creek and Mt Hotham areas from the Chief Ranger. ... Except when operating on preferred scenic routes, pilots are requested to maintain a minimum altitude of 1500 feet above the surface of the park unless operation at this altitude would jeopardise the safe conduct of the flight. ...". Last June Falls Creek Ski Lifts advised the Alpine Planning section of the Dept. of Infrastructure that the preferred flight path has been determined in consultation with the Chief Ranger at Bright. It all sounds very vague stuff to me. Please report the full details any activities you consider excessive as per the above pollution "hotlines" and/or to me directly.

Well, it has happened! Natural Resources and Environment have renewed the alpine grazing licences in the Alpine National Park for another 7 years. The NR&E media release of 13/8/98 notes that the grazing fees were increased by 25% but doesn't mention that the 25% was only from \$4 to \$5 per head of cattle. It does say that 7747 cattle will graze in about 47% (sic) of the park during summer (Dec-April). This will raise about \$39,000 but NR&E doesn't mention that it cost Parks more than that to administer the leases and that figure doesn't include any public costs put toward restoration of the damage done by the cattle. The media release also doesn't mention the fact the NR&E were offered, but rejected, an amount of \$16 per head, for the same nominal cattle numbers, **not to graze** any cattle in the park. This offer would have raised more money and had zero administration costs and zero environmental damage. Not a fair dinkum "user pays" is it?

The renewal of the licences went against all technical advice (other than that commissioned on behalf of the cattle-men), and in particular, against a very strong and damning report issued by the CSIRO Div. of Plant Industry. I'll try and give a short summary of the report findings in a later *Forum*.

Just one last thing - I'm concerned that I can only cover a limited number of environmental issues. My personal interest is in the alpine areas; so I'm wondering whether people would like to help me with contributions to environmental issues in other areas, either in this *Forum* or separately as per Stephen and Bill. It need only be the occasional paragraph. Any volunteers for an "adopt an environmental area scheme"? Give me a call on . Thanks.

Graeme Thornton

Kamerooka 21-23 August 1998

With the whirakee wattle in full golden bloom, crisp sunny days, and starry nights, Jean organised us fifteen walkers for a fantastic circuit of the Kamerooka State Park (north of Bendigo). We set out from Millwood Dam on Saturday morning, then lunched at an abandoned eucalyptus distillery (full of old buildings and rusty machinery) and reached our campsite in the early afternoon. Jean had arranged for a water drop with the ranger, but alas it was not there. The nearby "muddy dam water" flavoured our afternoon tea and dinner that night. Hooray for Jan and Doug (who were doing a slide night at Bendigo Field Nats.) who spotted the water container, well hidden in the wrong location!!, as they drove in to the campsite on Sat. night.

The sunrise and birdsong at dawn on Sunday was simply superb, and yes the Birdos had a great weekend, flying off in all directions to catch a glimpse of a wing and a prayer. Sylvia and Dave were awarded the prize for the best breakfasts - fried tomatoes on toast, eggs and flame grilled bacon, certainly looked scrumptious and smelled delicious. My meusli was not up to this culinary standard. We walked through open forest of Yellow Gum, Grey Box and mallee scrub (blue and green mallee - famous for their oil content), and on the lookout for orchids and eastern grey kangaroos. An early rise on Sunday allowed us time to visit Hartland's Distillery, one of the last of their kind. After a tour of the old homestead, machinery and an explanation of how it all works, we then headed home with a bottle of the good stuff - true blue mallee oil.

Thank you Jean for a fun weekend.

Party: Jean (intrepid leader), Sylvia, Dave, Derrick, Gina, Peter, Judy, Klaus (an exchange student from Germany), Rosemary, Barbara, Janet, Keith, and Les & Kathleen from Albury, with Doug and Jan driving in to meet us.

Rod Novak

Update on Northern Wilsons Prom walk, 19th & 20th of September.

Up until a week ago I had this all organised with permits for the group in hand and the ferry operator booked. However, the ferry man Frank Roberts has called back to say that he can no longer operate due to changes in the regulations. Basically these changes mean that not only must he have liability cover for while we are on his boat (which he has already) but he

must also have it for the entire time we are ashore! He has given me another operator's number but no one ever answers. And the National Park people don't know of anyone else.

If I can come up with some way of getting to Tin Mine Cove for a reasonable cost, we will continue as planned. If not I intend to try to book campsites to go down to the Lighthouse instead. Please call me for further information. ()

Alan Ide

New members

JOHN BERKERS

KLAAS BOLLHOEFER

JANE MILLER

KAREN LOUISE PARRY

ANGELA VALLANCE

ELIZABETH WAILE (NEWS subscriber)

Add to membership list:

JAN MC ELROY

KON ZAGORITIS

Altered Address/Phone:

ALAN & DAWN T FORTINGTON (NEWS subscriber)

STEPHEN JAMES

JEAN WOODGER
Ph W)

Committee Reports

Membership:

Life Members		12
Honorary Members		10
Single Memberships		350
Family Memberships	(2x 48)	96
Total membership		468

Walks Secretary: Attendances for July 98

	Trips	Av	1997
Sunday Bus	4	41.5	43.3
Pack Carry	3	5.7	-
Base camp	1	3	-
Other Day	4	18.8	20

Duty Roster

16 th Sept	Fiona & Jan
23 rd Sept	Jean W & Peter C
30 th Sept	Stuart & Jenny
Oct 7 th	Peter H & Sylvia

Next committee meeting 5th October 1998

Amendments to the By-laws

By-law 4.2

The Walks Secretary or deputy shall place a Booking Form for each trip on the Clubroom notice board at least two Wednesdays before the date of the trip.

By-law 5.6

If a person pays a Walks fee or a Visitors Fee and does not participate in the trip, a refund will only be made if he/she can satisfy the Walks Secretary or Assistant Walks Secretary that his/her non-participation was due to illness or other unavoidable circumstances, and that he/she notified, or made reasonable efforts before the walk to notify the Leader. Subject to the preceding, payments may be transferred from one trip to another.

The Patagonian Andes

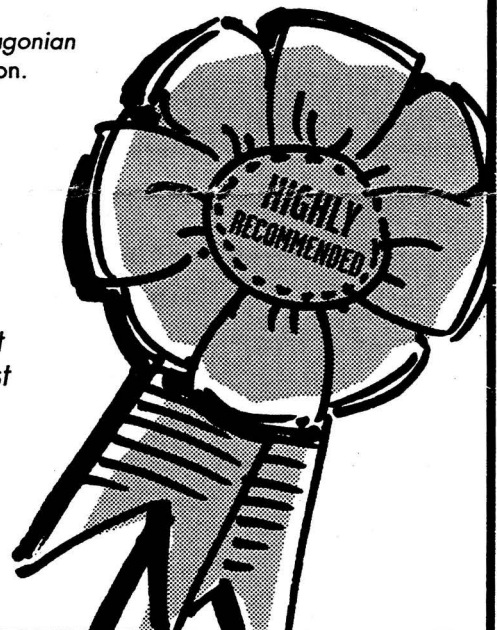
The new edition of the Lonely Planet guide, *Trekking in the Patagonian Andes* lists nine companies which offer guided treks in the region. Willis's Walkabouts is the only one described as **"highly recommended"**.

Here's your chance to find out why.

Our December-January trip will include three major walks: one in the region near Mt Fitzroy in southern Argentina, one in Torres del Paine National Park in southern Chile and one on Navarino Island which the Lonely Planet book describes as *"a superb subantarctic wilderness of windswept ranges and alpine moors (which) offers the most southerly trekking in the world."*

Ask for our brochure and trip notes.

Willis's Walkabouts
 12 Carrington St Millner NT 0810
 walkabout@ais.com.au



Phone: (08) 8985 2134

Fax: (08) 8985 2355

Walks in September/October 1998

Date	Location		Stand	Leader
11-13 Sept	WARBY RANGES	Private	E/M	Rod Novak
13 Sun	THREE SISTERS - FLOWERDALE	Bus	E/M & M	Janet Norman & Keith White
16 Wed	CHURCHILL PARK - LYSTERFIELD	Private	E/M	Jean Giese
18-20	RAZORBACK - FEATHERTOP (SKI)	Private	M	Bill Metzenthien
18-20	NORTHERN WILSONS PROM	Private	E/M	Alan Ide
20 Sun	COLIBAN FALLS - GRANITE CREEK FALLS (8.30 START)	Bus	E & E/M	John Kittson & Brian Crouch
25-27	GRAMPIAN WILDFLOWER BASE CAMP	Private	E	Pearson Cresswell
26 Sat	DANDENONGS EXPLORER	Private	E	Betty Spencer
26-3 rd Oct	SNOWY PLAINS BASE CAMP	Private	E/M	Lance Mobbs
27 th Sun	ARTHURS SEET - BUSHRANGER BAY	Bus	E & E/M	Peter McGrath & Joan Haigh
2-4	MT BOGONG (SKI)	Private	M	Peter Chalkley
2-4	TYERS RIVER	Private	E	Carole Petterson
3 Sat	KINGLAKE	Private	M	John Kittson
4 Sun	LERDERDERG GORGE (BACCHUS MARSH)	Bus	E/M & M	Davis Laing & Nigel Holmes

The NEWS of the Melbourne Bushwalkers

Print Post Approved. PP No 338888/00016

If Undelivered, please return to:

MELBOURNE BUSHWALKERS INC.
GPO BOX 1751Q, MELBOURNE, 3001

SURFACE
MAIL

POSTAGE
PAID
AUSTRALIA



Change of Address and/or Phone Numbers

NAME

OLD ADDRESS

NEW ADDRESS

OLD PHONE (h).....(w).....

NEW PHONE (h).....(w).....

Make cheques or money order payable to "Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc" and post to
Membership Secretary, GPO Box 1751Q, MELBOURNE, 3001