



JULY 1999



Social Scene

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Included with this Issue

- *Members List 1999*
- *1999 Spring Program*

Movie Night

At the Jam Factory, South Yarra on Friday 30 July. Maybe "The Mummy" or "Never Been Kissed", depending on which movie is still showing.

Talk to Fiona in the Clubrooms or phone her on . Tickets \$8.50.



Warm up your winter with a raunchy, hot, 'Nicole and Tom' as you've never seen them before in

"Eyes Wide Shut"

Showing late August (details in next News).

Advance Notice

Northern NSW National Parks

18 September to 2 October (School Holidays)

There are some great National Parks in the North of NSW that I'm just itching to get back to. Volcanic areas, waterfalls, gorges, rainforest, granite formations and superb views. The itinerary has not yet been decided but I'm full of ideas. The details will be worked out at a planning night to be held on Tuesday 17 August at Sylvia Ford's home in Kew. We will also work out transport arrangements, decide when everyone wants to get back home and have a fun night to boot. This will be a great trip, definitely not to be missed. Wangle things so that you can come if it's at all possible. Interested? Then ring me on after the 20th July (cos I won't be back in Vic till then) but before the planning night on August 17.

Leader: Jopie Bodegraven

From the President

So where's all the white stuff? Not present in abundance just yet, it seems. Some of the proposed ski trips are being cancelled but hopefully we'll be able to put them back on the programme when we get the dumps. So those of you wanting to try out cross-country skiing or improve your skills had better stay in touch as the trips may re-appear on the programme at very short notice! In the meantime it's lovely walking weather so I hope that you're making the most of it.

I'm just back from a two-week walk in Kakadu, which was a wonderful experience. Perhaps the most striking memory is that for fifteen days our group saw not one other person, nor any sign of human existence, apart from aboriginal rock art. Not a piece of litter, a cigarette end, a beer can, no man-made object...nothing apart from nature's handiwork. There can't be many places in the world where one could say that. Yet at this time of the year it is high season in the top end - there are many visitors to the National Parks. Fortunately for me and our group, they all prefer travel by car and to remain in hotels, motels and campsites with facilities. They haven't discovered the

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NOTE !!! Rod Novak will be editing the **August** and **September** editions of **News** while I am learning to yodel in the Austrian Alps and touring around parts of the U.K. Please get copy to Rod, preferably by email, well before the closing date for **News**, see Rod in the clubrooms or contact by him phone on H .Email:

Who's Who in the Melbourne Bushies

Athol Schafer began walking with the Club in 1952. Athol has led numerous day walks, weekend trips, extended tours and historical walks around Melbourne. Athol had a 14 year stint on the committee from 1958 to 1971, plus 1982. He was Editor of *Walk* from 1965 to 1971 (excluding 1970) and *News* convenor for four years.



Athol Schafer

Athol's deep commitment to the Melbourne Bushwalkers is clearly reflected in his long service in official Committee roles and in his contribution as a leader of many, many walks for the club.

The Committee regretfully accepted Athol's resignation as Club Federation Representative in 1998 and wrote him the following letter:

"The Committee have noted with regret that you have tendered your resignation as Club Federation representative. We understand your reasons for doing this and we hope that your condition is temporary.

You have put in a truly exceptional effort over the years in all sorts of Bushie activities. You have been a Federation representative for many years and the President and Committee have been most appreciative of your prompt written reports that have arrived with unfailing regularity.

Athol, the Bushies really appreciate your energy and input. Thank you from all of us."

Athol was awarded life membership to the Melbourne Bushwalkers in 1969.

Clare Lonergan

The **News** is the official newsletter of the Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc. and is published monthly.

Edited by **Clare Lonergan**.

Articles, walk reports, poems, snippets of news, photographs of club events, 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 sent to Clare Lonergan by:

- ◆ Placing article in the Red Box in the clubrooms
- ◆ Mailing to:
- ◆ Fax:
- ◆ E-mail:

Advertising Rates:

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

½ Page 1 Issue - \$30; 3 Issues - \$75; 12 Issues (1 year) \$270

Full Page 1 Issue - \$50; 3 Issues - \$125; 12 Issues (1year) \$450

Only advertisements directly relating to bushwalking will be accepted (e.g. gear, maps, trips, tours, etc);

Members Ads - FREE

**Closing date for August News is
28 July, 1999**

Adapted in part from Weiss, B. (Ed). 1994. *The Melbourne Bushies: Fifty years along the track*. Melbourne Bushwalkers Incorporated. Melbourne.

Meetings are held in the Clubrooms, MacKenzie Street, 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

Day Walks for July & August, 1999

Saturday 24 July **Gembrook**
Easy

Leader Debra Berner
Transport Private
Location Dandenongs – Kirth Kiln
Map reference Melway Map 189 H 11
Distance: 10 km

We will meet at Gembrook Park off Redwood Road at 10.30 am. After a short car shuffle to the Kirth Kiln area we will commence a walk which is extremely interesting and takes place along well defined tracks. We will be visiting the spectacular Ship Rock Falls area, but be sure to wear suitable foot wear as it could be wet and muddy.
After the walk please join me for afternoon tea at a lovely little café I have in mind.

Sunday 1 August **Wombat State forest –**
E/Medium & Medium **Jim Crow Range**

Leaders Janet Norman & Jerry Karbownik
Transport Bus from South Bank Boulevard at 9am



Please see the leaders in the Club Rooms for more details with respect to this walk.

Sunday 8 August **Mt. William –**
Easy & E/Medium **Mollisons Creek**

Leaders Jean Woodger & John Kittson
Map reference Goldie North 7823-1-3 Scale 1:25 000
Area Pyalong (Northern Highway)
Transport Bus from South Bank Boulevard at 9am
Approximate distance 15 & 17 km
Expected time of return 7.30pm
Approximate distance from Melbourne 90 km

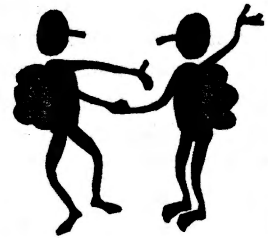
Both walks are across rolling open countryside, with wonderful views from grassy peaks strewn with huge granite boulders. Often wedge-tailed eagles are seen soaring above. The easy/medium group will climb to the trig point on Mt. William (alt 807) before heading north to follow Mollisons Creek and Mollisons Gorge. The easy group will take a more gently undulating route to arrive at Mollisons Creek.

Bus fares

The bus fares for the Sunday walks are as follows :
Members \$15.00,
Concession \$10,
Visitors \$20
Late fee of \$2.00 (for both members & visitors who attend on Sunday without having booked on the walk).

Thank You

to everyone
who has
agreed to lead
a walk on the Spring
Program – it has certainly
made the Walks Secretary
and Asst. Walks Secretary
lives a lot easier!!



We shall be walking on private farmland, so there will be several fences to negotiate.

The whole area is exposed, and can get quite cold and sometimes foggy in the winter. Be prepared with warm clothing just in case.

Saturday 14 August **Mt. Hickey (Tallarook)**
Medium

Leader Alan Ide
Transport Private



Please see the leader in the Club Rooms for more details with respect to this walk or telephone Alan on

For Sale

Cross Country Skis FISCHER Size: 210 cm – metal edges
Boots Alpina Size: 41

The lot \$50

Call George Zamora on

Sunday 15 August E/Medium & Medium	Conglomerate Creek– Mt Teneriffe
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Leaders	Brian Crouch & Stuart Mann
Map Reference	Riddells Creek 1:25 000
Approximate distance	14 & 17 km
Transport	Bus from South Bank Boulevard at 9am
Area	Lower Macedon Ranges
Expected time of return	7pm

This is an "oldie but a goodie" with a mix of off track and on track walking through forest and open farmland. The heath, wattles and hakea should be coming into bloom by mid August which will make for great walking.

There are great views from a number of high points that we will reach after passing through some grazing properties. The medium walk will involve a challenging bush bash up to the summit of Mt. Charlie as part of a 4km extra loop. The easy medium group has some easier options for the less energetic. Both walks will be enjoyable and varied.

Wednesday 18 August E/Medium	Mt Franklin Gorge – Tarilta Creek
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Leader	Trevor Thomson
Map reference	Daylesford, Guildford 1:25,000
Area	Daylesford
Transport	Private
Expected time of return	6pm
Approximate distance:	14 km

Meet 9am Westgate Park carpark, or 10.20 am Daylesford, on Castlemaine Rd, just north of the Trentham/Woodend turnoff.

Tarilta Creek rises in the vicinity of Mt Franklin, and for the approximately 6 km it passes through the Upper Lodden State Forest, provides a pleasant walking route through a steep sided small gorge, with many grassy flats. With recent rains, the rock pools have partially filled, and the grass turned green. The return section will be along ridges above the creek with an occasional view.

Duty Roster

14 July – Deb & Fiona
 21 July – David & Alan*
 28 July – Anne & Gina
 4 August – Pearson & Peter*

Date of next committee meeting:
 2 August 1990

Sunday 22 August Easy & E/Medium	Long Forest Flora Reserve – Djerriwarrah Creek
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Leaders	Peter McGrath & William Cone
Area	Bacchus Marsh
Transport	Bus from South Bank Boulevard at 9am
Expected time of return	7pm
Approximate length of walks	15 & 17 km
Map reference	Lerderderg 1:25,000, Dept of Conservation & Natural Resources; Melton 1:25,000, Dept of Conservation & Natural Resources;

This is the second time the club has included this walk in the programme. I had the pleasure of leading the club's first visit to the area. Then, I observed that both creek valleys, the Pyrites and the Djerriwarrah, were resplendent and we enjoyed a really pretty day in the bush.

As not much attention was paid to Djerriwarrah Creek on the previous occasion, it is our intention to explore this area at greater length. This is the only area south of the Great Dividing Range where mallee vegetation occurs naturally. I suspect it has to do with the ridge-top topography and the sandy soil to be found in the area as Mallee vegetation predominates in drier regions such as North West Victoria. There is also a small area of Mallee vegetation just south of Bacchus Marsh.

As previewing is not yet complete, it is recommended that you check with the leader in the Club rooms the type of tracks that we will be walking on and the appropriate footwear required.
 Reference: "The Mallee at Our Back Door", Friends of Long Forest Mallee.

Saturday 28 August Easy	Dandenongs Explorer
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Leader	Michael Humphrey
Transport	Private



Please phone leader on _____ or see him
 in club rooms for further information

Sunday 29 August Easy & E/Medium	Andersons Hill – Kilcunda
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Leaders	Peter Havlicek & Jill Dawson
Transport	Bus from Southbank Boulevard at 9.00 am



Please see the leaders in the Club Rooms for
 more details with respect to this walk.

Weekend Walks for July & August

6-8 August **Rawson Lodge Weekend: Ski & Walk**

Leaders Pearson Cresswell & Rod Novak
 Transport Private

It's on again – our annual winter weekend at the steamy fleshpots of Rawson!

For those who don't know, this is a reasonably comfortable lodging near Erica. For the skiers there is Mt. St. Gwinear and the Baw Baw Plateau while walkers can explore the Thompson Valley and Walhalla area (Rod Novak is organising the walks).

Cost is \$29 per head per night (bed and breakfast). Dinner is at the Pub beside the roaring fire. Please book early so I can organise enough beds.

13-15 August **Ski Trip: Razorback – Feathertop**

Leader Bill Metzthen
 Transport Private
 Maps 1:50k Outdoor Leisure Map : Bogong Alpine Area
 Distance About 25 km
 Limit 12

This is another of the classic ski trips on the club programme almost every year.

The trip starts at Diamantina Hut on the slopes of Mt Hotham. We ski along The Razorback, usually to the top of the Champion Spur where camp is established. Then a side trip is made to Mt Feathertop and other features of interest. There should be opportunity to sample one or two of the numerous gullies which slide off the ridge.

Sunday can be spent exploring more of the gullies while returning to the cars.

This trip depends upon weather and snow conditions. The ridge is quite exposed and not pleasant in blizzard conditions. It can also be very hazardous if the snow is icy. If conditions dictate, the trip will be changed to another area.

This being a ridge trip, don't expect to find water unless you descend for quite a long way. In other words bring enough fuel to melt snow for your needs. Campfires are banned in this area.

20-22 August **Ski Trip: Mt. Buffalo**
Easy

Leader Trish Elmore
 Transport Private



Please see the leader in the Club Rooms for more details with respect to this walk or telephone Trish on

20-22 August **Wilsons Prom: Lighthouse Circuit**

Leader Cameron McMillan
 Transport Private
 Map reference Wilsons Promontory Outdoor Leisure Map
 Area Gippsland – South of Foster
 Expected time of return 7.30pm Sunday
 Approximate distance 25 km
 Limit 12

At the time of writing this preview I am not 100% sure of the route we will take, but promise to be for the trip. I have booked only one of the two cottages available as I am not sure how many people will want to come on this walk and the \$162 deposit I have paid is not refundable.

Please see me in the Club rooms or ring me on at home for more details about this walk.



The latest, greatest version of Anne Wilkins' Muesli Bars

Ingredients:

- 2 cups rolled oats
- 2 cups plain flour
- ½ cup coconut
- 1 cup chopped fruit e.g. dates and apricots, prunes and apricots
- ¼ cup sugar
- ½ teaspoon cinnamon
- 1 teaspoon bicarb of soda dissolved in
- 3 tablespoons of boiling water
- 100 gr butter melted together with
- 2 tablespoons golden syrup
- 1 teaspoon vanilla essence.

Method:

Combine dry stuff, wet stuff then everything together. The mixture may need a little more water to form a moistish mix. Press into rectangle (about 15mm thick) on a board, then cut into bars. Makes 6 jumbo bars. Bake at 180C for about 20 minutes until lightly golden.

Nuts can be substituted instead of coconut and honey instead of golden syrup.

A Walk for Art Lovers – Sandringham to Beaumaris



The Bayside Coastal Art Trail, constructed by the Bayside City Council to celebrate the Heidelberg School Artists, “features twelve works of the Heidelberg School members completed during summer artist camps along the coast in the years between 1886 and 1907. The works are of an Australian Impressionist style that capture the moving hues of gold and blue, the earthy tones of the coastal cliffs and the shimmering light on the water.

The trail signboards have been located in the exact locations in which the artists stood over one hundred years ago. The trail offers visitors the opportunity to note various changes that have taken place over time and experience the works ‘come to life’ as the light changes throughout the day.” There are works by Tom Roberts, Arthur Streeton and Frederick McCubbin, to name a few.

Finding the trail signboards (which have a copy of the painting and information about the artist) combines a paper chase and a very pleasant walk with lovely coastal views. However you will need to exercise your imagination at some of the sites. You can discover the hidden jetty overlooked by artists at their easels or relax on secluded beaches. The walk takes about three hours, dependent upon the time spent at frequent rest stops and ‘watering holes’ along the way.

The walk can be commenced at either Sandringham Yacht Club or Charman Road, Beaumaris. Melway references Trail Sign 1: Map 76 E8, Trail Sign 12: Map 86 H7.

TRAIN Sandringham Line – Hampton or Sandringham Stations.

BUS Catch the 660 or 823 buses from Sandringham Station to Beaumaris.

PARKING AVAILABLE on Beach Road and various locations within Beach Park.

For a copy of the Coastal Art Trail brochure contact: Bayside City Council on 9599 4444 or visit their website www.bayside.vic.gov.au

Reference:

Bayside City Council (1999) Coastal Art Trail: Celebrating the Heidelberg School Artists brochure.

Robyn Gray

Lerderberg Exploration

Saturday 5th June

Once upon a time I met a fellow who said he had been on an overnight walk down the Lerderberg Gorge from Blackwood to Darley Ford. He said most of it was fine, except for the bit between Whisky Creek and Long Point, which was a bit rough?. I have always had this trip in mind when leading walks in this area and have been keen to see what this section of the gorge

was like - hence this trip.

A hardy band of bushies responded to my ad for an exploratory walk. We gathered under threatening skies and soon it was raining as predicted. By 11:30 we were down at the river near Whisky Creek. So far, so good! We headed off down the river, pushing through the kind of spiky vegetation that this area is famous for. Pam spotted a koala in a tree and we found the ruins of some gold diggings. Then the going got tough! Whichever way we went there was just more thorn scrub. Eventually I decided we would have to walk in the river itself. “Follow me” I cried, and fell 10m down the slope in a tangled heap.

We slipped and slid down the river for another few hundred meters before it became apparent that in the three hours since we left Whisky creek we had moved about 1km. Only 8km to go before Long Point and the start of the track again! At this stage some of my compatriots were sharpening their umbrellas and were in for the kill, so I decided to give up and climb out along a spectacular spur to Strachan Hill and back along the track to the cars.

It looks like I will have to find an alternative route for my overnight walk down the river.

The team: Pam, Peter & Marg, Lloyd, Lynda, Susan & Stewart, Ed, Fran, Andrew & Gisela.)

Alan Ide

A LATE ENTRY

Sunday 18 July	Pyrites Creek – Mt Sugarloaf
E/Medium & Medium	

Leaders	Darryl Weinert & Anne Wilkins
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Area	Pyalong (Northern Highway)
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Transport	Bus from South Bank Boulevard at 9am
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Approximate distance	12 & 20 km
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A team of ambitious adventurers have discovered a new route in the southern reaches of the Pyrites Creek state forest, which leads up to Mt. Sugarloaf. It will be this route that the easy/medium group will be following, which will take the group up a wide dry creek bed and then a spur climb to the summit, a nice walk along a descending track will lead back to the bus. It will be an excellent chance for those easy walkers who want to make the transition to medium walks to get a taste of off track walking, for this reason we believe the walk is more on the medium side of easy.

The longer medium walk will be mainly track based but there will be occasions where travel along dry creek beds is required. It is unlikely that there will be much water in these creek systems but rain does make the rocks quite slippery so they require slow movement. The medium group starts in the north of the forest and makes its way south to Mt. Sugarloaf and then south again to the bus. Both leaders look forward to seeing you all there.

An Incidental Walk

You only climb as fast as you can while you don't have to stop to catch your breath. Its a trick learnt from some old Tibetan women. Just keep on plodding on at a steady pace, and you'll get there. I was repeating this mantra as we made our way up a very steep slope of several hundred metres, in the Switzerland Ranges, north west of Yea, recently.

We rested at a tiny grassy shelf about three parts of the way up, which afforded us a view of the Goulburn Valley now well below us. A bit more effort, and we were at the top joining the easy group for lunch. Rested, we followed the gentler northern slopes across the paddocks and into the bush again. The gradient steepened and we found ourselves ambling down a sheltered grassy incline. Suddenly, a loose rock, a tumble, and we gathered around Ilsa as she gathered her wits and sat waiting for the pain to subside. It didn't.

A local version of the fireman's lift was employed and before too long we had her back up the slope by a track. It was clear we had to get help for Ilsa. One member went off across the fields seeking aid from a family group that had been seen having a picnic. Several other members sought to catch up with the easy group and the remaining members decided to construct a stretcher.

- The family came to our aid. One was on a motorbike and at his suggestion, Marissa very quickly mounted the bike and was last seen disappearing down the

track, hair streaming behind. Marissa, queen of the bush!

The rest of the family reached the group with Ilsa just as the stretcher was completed, and kindly offered to take Ilsa to Seymour Hospital for medical attention. After Ilsa left we conducted an impromptu stretcher-making lesson with our now redundant construction. Fortunately the stretcher passed the crucial test when a volunteer was lifted in it, otherwise one of us would not have been able to hold his head up at a Federation Search and Rescue Exercise ever again!

For the rest of us there was a short and pleasant walk to the arranged new pick-up spot, collecting a rather exhilarated Marissa on the way. As we waited by the road it got dark, and then cold. We lit a roaring fire around which we all stood until the bus appeared to a chorus of cheers.

The aftermath? Ilsa had a broken leg which will unfortunately see her out of action for a while. She says it was just one of those things and thanks everyone who helped.

The family, who went out of their way to help, have been sent a letter of thanks by the Committee on behalf of the Club Members.

Ultimately, when bushwalking such an incident is always a possibility and this was one that we all learned from. Thanks to leader, Stuart, who kept everything under control and well done to all those who co-operated in the activities and picked up the remaining pieces of the walk.

Alan Clarke

Walk without the weight!



Our light-pack trips are on again this year.

The 1998 trips went so well that we have added the Red Centre to our 1999 light-pack program.

If you are reading this ad, you almost certainly know someone who has been on one or more of our trips. Now you can experience something similar without having to carry a full pack.

These trips are limited!

At the time this ad was being written, you had a good chance to get on the September-October Kakadu and Red Centre trips, much less of a chance to get on the other 1999 light-pack trips.

Find out what makes these trips so different - and so enjoyable. Ask for our brochure.

Willis's Walkabouts
12 Carrington St Millner NT 0810
Email: walkabout@ais.net.au



Phone: (08) 8985 2134

Fax: (08) 8985 2355



Conservation Forum

From the Federation Conservation Committee (23/6/99)

Croajingolong National Park - The ranger is seeking assistance from experienced bushwalkers to help survey and eradicate the coastal weed - SeaSpurge - Euphorbia paralias, especially in the Sandpatch and Cape Howe wilderness areas. If you are interested, then telephone the ranger - Cathy Zwick on 03 51586351. See also July VicWalk News, p. 6.

Wilson's Prom - There will be an upgrade of the water and sewerage works at Tidal River. The Lighthouse is now attracting over 5,000 walkers on an annual basis. There is speculation that Parks Victoria will increase the number of beds at the Lighthouse cottages from 20 to 40 to help offset the high costs of maintaining the lighthouse and surrounds.

Alpine - A new underground electricity cable to Mt Hotham will be constructed via Springs Saddle and the Red Robin Mine. There may be restrictions to walkers during the construction and ground rehabilitation works. The airport at Dinner Plain is nearing completion. There are concerns with the airport being fogged in, the helicopter shuttle, noise, etc.

Wongungurra - Public submissions closed on 28/5/99. Thank you to all the bushies who sent a letter in. The Technical Consultative Group will announce their decision and call for public submissions in September/October 1999. G.T. has challenged Wilson Tuckey for a bushwalk in the Wongungurra (see his letter to The Age on the Conservation Noticeboard in the clubrooms).

Bunyip State Park - There are concerns with the lack of "Walkers only" tracks in this park, with nearly all tracks open to four wheel drives, motor-bikes and horse-riders.

Mallee Parks - A new consultative committee for all the mallee parks has been established with the first meeting held in May. New long distance walks (3-8 days) are planned for the Murray-Sunset National Park.

Port Campbell - after the public outcry, the management plan has now been revised. The kiosk and new car park will be located on private land opposite the 12 Apostles.

The Great Ocean Walk - 40 kms of track along the cliff-tops.

Mt Eccles - Park is suffering from a koala population surge. There are over 10,000 koalas in the park. Parks Victoria is examining population control measures.

RAMSAR sites - e.g. Lake Corangamite is suffering from blue-green algae, salinity and a decline in the water level.

Rod Novak

GT invites PM and MP's to come with the Bushies down the Wongungurra

Newspapers and TV news for Wed 23/6/99 carried items about the redevelopment of the historic Erskine House at Lorne. The Erskine House developer, BCR Asset Management, has allegedly attempted to bypass local planning authorities by seeking planning permission directly from the Minister for Planning and Local Government, Rob Maclellan. BCR Asset Management are also the proponents of the Mt McKay ski-field developments. I wrote to the minister in February asking why he did not call for an environmental effects statement for Mt McKay. He has not replied. I have just written again on the Club's behalf.

Also asked minister Maclellan whether the developer has a tacit agreement for the development of Mt McKay given that there is an enormous amount of advertising in the press for a facility which hasn't been publicly approved - BCR Asset Management may again be attempting to bypass due process. I will report on the minister's response next month.

The Club might facilitate a visit to the Wongungurra wilderness by a couple of federal MP's. I've invited the Minister for Forestry and Conservation, Wilson Tuckey (who's comments started it all); the Minister for Conservation and Heritage, Senator Robert Hill and the Prime Minister to come with the Bushies down the Wongungurra to see why it's recommended for a special protection zone. Senator Hill's office has replied nominating Bruce Billson (MHR for Dunkley) as the Senator's delegate. Mr Billson is keen to see the area. I'm still making arrangements to try and meet Mr Tuckey. Prime Minister Howard declined the invitation. A trip date is to be arranged, but it is likely it will be a couple of days in late Oct - mid Nov during a parliamentary recess.

This is a good opportunity for the Club to help get conservation onto the federal government agenda. I think it important to assist Minister Tuckey see the Wongungurra first hand as a balance for the Forestry part of his portfolio. We will need volunteers to help with the logistics nearer the time.

Graeme Thornton
Conservation Convenor

Letter to Editor

To my good friends in the "Bushies" who have perhaps (or worse, perhaps haven't!) wondered why yours truly has been out of circulation for a little while. I have been working in Argentina since December. I will try and put pen to paper and write an article as I have been down south to Patagonia (Lago Argentina), and out north-west to the desert reserve of Talampaya (in La Rioja), with the local ornithological association. Fortunately I brought all my walking/camping gear with me, which has been a great help and incentive to get out and 'just do it'. I am also planning to go with the same group to Peru and the Matto Grosso (Brazil) later this year. I have met wonderful people, seen some wonderful sights and taken a few interesting photographs along the way which I will send.

Australians are seen here as pretty reasonable people, so we get on well with the locals. With the direct Qantas flight to Buenos Aires it is now easier for Australians to visit this part of the world, and vice versa for the locals. They tell me there is some great walking/camping opportunities over the Andes in southern Chile, which I also want to check out. There is a great travel book/guide on South America put out by Aussies *The Lonely Planet*, so there are no excuses for not getting out and about.

Best wishes
Douglas Menon
2/6/'99

PS My mail address does not need amending as all my local mail in Australia gets forwarded.

Bushies Good Food Guide

Ararat – the *Commercial Hotel* (next to the Town Hall). Anne, Bernie and Lyn reckon this is a goer.

Avoca – the *Bakehouse* (in the old bank building). Highly recommended by Cameron. Try the coffee (it comes in a Bodum) and sausage rolls. Ideal for Kara Kara State Park and Pyrenees trips.

Dimboola – *The Dimboola Hotel*. Debbie, Marisa and Rod stopped here for desert on the final approach to the Little Desert National Park. Chocolate Mud Cake at \$4 is top value. Mains are in the \$14 to \$16 range. Complimentary tea and coffee with meals.

Dixon's Creek – The *Berry* restaurant on the Melba Highway between Yarra Glen and Yea. The old general store has been revamped and yuppified. Bill, Marilyn and Rod stopped here on the way back from a Mt Spec trip. It's at the higher end of the price scale but they successfully promote the locally grown Yarra Valley food and wine. Go for the soup and pasta of the day combo. Yarra Valley wines at \$6 per glass. The home



made lemonade is interesting!!

Horsham – The *Exchange Hotel*. In town just past the Edenhope Road turn-off. Warm and cosy on a cold winter's night. Deb and Marisa feasted on huge country steaks. Mains at \$12 to \$16. House wine is cask!! Percolated Coffee available.

Mansfield – The *Canopy St Café* (top end of town). We had a snack attack on the way home from Bill and Marilyn's Mt. Spec. trip. Reasonable coffee and cakes.

Rod Novak

Ireland

Walk through Connemara, The Burren,
Dingle Peninsula, Ring of Kerry,
The Aran Islands.

France

Walking tours in the Alps,
Loire Valley, Dordogne,
Pyrenees.

All tours fully escorted
Staying in small hotels/guest houses
Day Pack only, Small Groups

ECOTREK
BOGONG JACK ADVENTURES
P.O. BOX 4 • KANGARILLA • SA 5157
Phone 08/8383 7198 • Fax 08/8383 7377

For Sale

Water bottles, water bladders, with cases, new butane/propane bottle, Karrimoor proofed nylon knee length gaiters, ski gloves, day pack, Optimus 199 shellite stove, Outgear map case, Pair XC ski safety straps, new Hollofill jacket.

Bottles of 1947 Para Liquor Port, 1947, to be sold singly or as a lot.

Full price list in club rooms or contact Stephen Lake on

Wilkie Update

You might have heard about a recent discovery that Tilley mantles made in China were toxic (can't remember what exactly). Anyway, I checked up with T.W. Sands and our Wilkie mantles are in fact made by Tilley in the U.K. Sands have been e.mailing and faxing Tilley for confirmation that these were entirely all right, but had not heard back yet. Meanwhile back on the ranch when new mantles are being "burned off" perhaps this should be done outside the hut as a precaution until we hear for sure.

Should you be in the city twiddling your thumbs a trip to Sands is an amazing experience. 440 Elizabeth Street. I do recommend it.

Sylvia Ford

A revised edition of *Discovering the Prom* by Philip Ingamells and published by the Victorian National Parks Association is now available. This is a must have for the bushwalker's library. It is a handy size of 175 X 125 mm and has sections on the history of the Prom, short bird and flower hikes, marine life, and walks to discover the Prom on foot. RRP is \$9.95.

Equipment for Hire

The club has invested in a fantastic food dryer which is now available for hire. Don't just hibernate this winter. Hire the food dryer to prepare tasty snack attacks and meals for the fast approaching spring and summer trips. At only \$5 per fortnight (with a \$15 deposit) this certainly represents great value.

The food dryer kit comes with an instructional video to help you get started. We have included a notebook in the box and would encourage you to write up your recipes (and mistakes!!) and helpful hints. This will help the apprentice cooks and you will be guaranteed a place in club history with that favourite gob-smacking delish recipe.

For help with borrowing the club's food dryer or our bushwalking equipment, then see me at clubnight or ring me on AH

Rod Novak

Book Review

'One Step Beyond' by Warren Macdonald (1999).

Earlier this year our Treasurer, Jan Palich, organised a discount buying night for our club at the city Bogong Store. This included an extremely interesting talk and slide show of Federation Peak, Tasmania. At first I was amazed to see that the person organising the slides was a legless young man in a wheelchair. Then the story emerged that Warren Macdonald, a fit bushwalker and passionate conservationist activist, had been injured by a rock fall during a walk to Mt. Bowen, Hinchinbrook Island. His legs were trapped under a rock for nearly two days before rescue. As a result both legs had to be amputated.

However such is Warren's determination that 10 months later he completed the Lorne "Pier to Pub" swim of 1.2 km. More amazingly a few weeks later he dragged himself up Cradle Mountain, which is not an easy climb for a person with legs.

The book "One Step Beyond" is told mostly through Warren's eyes and from his memories. He does not hold back from revealing his innermost feelings during the time under the rock, the rescue, hospital and rehabilitation. He finds now that children are frightened of him - something he will never get used to. He also reminisces on his conversion to bushwalking on his first trip - up Mt. Bogong and across to the High Plains, an area familiar to many of us. Later he joins the Tarkine Tigers in their attempts to preserve the Tarkine Wilderness.

There are contributions to the book from his walking companion, Dutchman Geert, who walked out to get help and who for some time after suffered violent headaches attributed to "survivors guilt".

During the story we learn of seemingly small things that lead to Warren's survival, such as the backrest that Geert improvised before he left to get help. Also during the first night the two of them vainly tried to release Warren's legs by using improvised levers to move the rock. However, had they succeeded the rush of toxins from the injured tissue, without medication, would probably have killed Warren.

After leaving hospital Warren's main aim is to walk again and he achieves this with artificial legs. However, we see his aims change from "how" he will move to "what" he wants to achieve. He wants to get out into the bush, sleep under the stars and climb a mountain. In fact he climbs Cradle Mountain using a wheelchair on the approach and upper body strength for the final climb.

Currently he lives in Melbourne and works as a climbing instructor.

We have an autographed copy of this book in our library. It is a book you might give as a present to a bushwalking friend.

Definitely recommended.

Max Casley

delights of getting out into the real bush. This experience accentuates the importance to me of preserving our National Parks (you'll be aware of the controversy over mining in Kakadu NP), and of the contribution that clubs like ours make in helping people to appreciate the joys of bushwalking.

Derrick Brown

Advance Notice

Half Yearly General Meeting of the Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc. to be held in the club rooms on Wednesday 25 August, 1999 at 8pm.

New members:

DAVID DURAD
JILLIAN ANN GRIFFIN
MILLICENT HENRY
KRISTINE HOLMES

FIONA LINDSAY
MICHAEL C LOW
RITA MAHONY
HELEN M PARKER
IRENE E THOMAS

Life Members 11
Honorary Members 9
Single memberships 330
Family memberships 94 (= 2x 47)
Total membership 444

Committee notes – from meeting of 31 May 1999

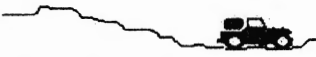


We've decided to renew this feature where we provide notes of the monthly Committee meetings. The meetings last for several hours – we'll only report anything of special significance!

Training – a discussion paper was circulated on training policy. When agreed, this will provide the structure and purpose of any training that we organise.

60 year anniversary – Fiona is collecting suggestions for celebrations. We are considering having several events – a special event for daywalkers, a party for everyone, a mountain-top dinner for weekenders, etc. A sub-committee was formed to pursue the ideas.

Donation – a sub-committee reported back after investigating a proposal to make a donation of \$1,400 to the Wilderness Adventure Programme for Adolescents for the purchase of thermal clothing. The programme supports adolescents with psychological problems by organising bushwalking, camping and other outdoor activities. It was felt that this came within our policy and was an excellent way of providing support to a programme now being starved of government support. The motion to donate \$1,400 was approved.

Derrick Brown

<div data-bbox="188 1019 415 1265"> </div> <h2 data-bbox="404 1019 740 1086">Fraser Island</h2> <p data-bbox="580 1093 736 1120">Depart Brisbane</p>  <p data-bbox="446 1209 744 1523">The most extensive hiking and walking tour of world Heritage listed Fraser Island. Two great National Park campsites. Experienced Eco-guide/driver and first class equipment. Delicious meals (including wine) and secure outdoor living with comfortable 4WD transport. We'll look after you!</p> <p data-bbox="196 1288 415 1512">Explore 8 different lakes • Walk in a rainforest & eerie sandblows • See dingoes, turtles, wild dolphins and humpback whales (in season) • Birdwatching</p> <p data-bbox="266 1523 415 1601">All inclusive \$700</p> <p data-bbox="196 1624 697 1691">Address: 1 Eversleigh Road, Scarborough, Qld. 4020 Phone/fax (07) 3203 4241</p> <p data-bbox="360 1702 744 1758">Quote "Bushy" for 10% discount in 1999 Group (5 or more) discount 15%</p>	<h2 data-bbox="870 1019 1277 1086">Carnarvon Gorge</h2> <h3 data-bbox="807 1131 1348 1198">6 Day Outback Explorer</h3> <p data-bbox="1191 1209 1356 1243">Depart Brisbane</p> <p data-bbox="1011 1243 1356 1377">Camped in Carnarvon National Park under a palm and cycad forest: native animals abound, platypus in Carnarvon Creek, birds galore.</p> <div data-bbox="791 1288 1011 1601"> </div> <p data-bbox="1027 1400 1309 1489"><i>This is Queensland's Outback Oasis</i></p> <p data-bbox="1027 1512 1356 1680">And more – from the campsite depart magical walking and hiking trails to the moss garden, hell hole gorge, the amphitheatre, cathedral cave, aboriginal rock art, and on and on..... For the best walking in Outback.</p> <p data-bbox="799 1646 948 1724">All inclusive \$770</p> <p data-bbox="964 1724 1356 1758">Quote "Bushy" for 10% discount in 1999</p>
<p data-bbox="431 1803 1105 1836">For registration or a brochure please contact Terry Howard</p> <h2 data-bbox="603 1848 932 1892">Sunover Expeditions</h2> <p data-bbox="650 1892 885 1926">10 years touring service</p>  	

August 1999

1 Sun	WOMBAT STATE FOREST – JIM CROW RANGE	Bus	E/M & M	Janet Norman & Jerry Karbownik	#
6-8	RAWSON LODGE WEEKEND: SKI & WALK	Private	E	Pearson Cresswell & Rod Novak	
8 Sun	MT. WILLIAM – MOLLISONS CREEK	Bus	E & E/M	Jean Woodger & Brian Crouch	#
13-15	SKI TRIP: RAZORBACK – FEATHERTOP	Private	M	Bill Metzenthien	
14 Sat	MT. HICKEY (TALLAROOK)	Private	M	Alan Ide	
15 Sun	CONGLOMERATE CREEK – MT. TENERIFFE (MACEDON)	Bus	E/M & M	Brian Crouch & Stuart Mann	#
18 Wed	MT FRANKLIN – TARILTA CREEK (DAYLESFORD)	Private	E/M	Trevor Thomson	
20-22	SKI TRIP: MT BUFFALO	Private	E	Trish Elmore	
20-22	WILSONS PROM: LIGHTHOUSE CIRCUIT	Private	M	Cameron McMillan	
22 Sun	LONG FOREST FLORA RESERVE – DJERRIWARRH CREEK	Bus	E & E/M	Peter McGrath & William Cone	#
28 Sat	DANDENONGS EXPLORER	Private	E	Michael Humphrey	
29 Sun	ANDERSONS HILL – KILCUNDA	Bus	E & E/M	Peter Havlicek & Jill Dawson	#

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