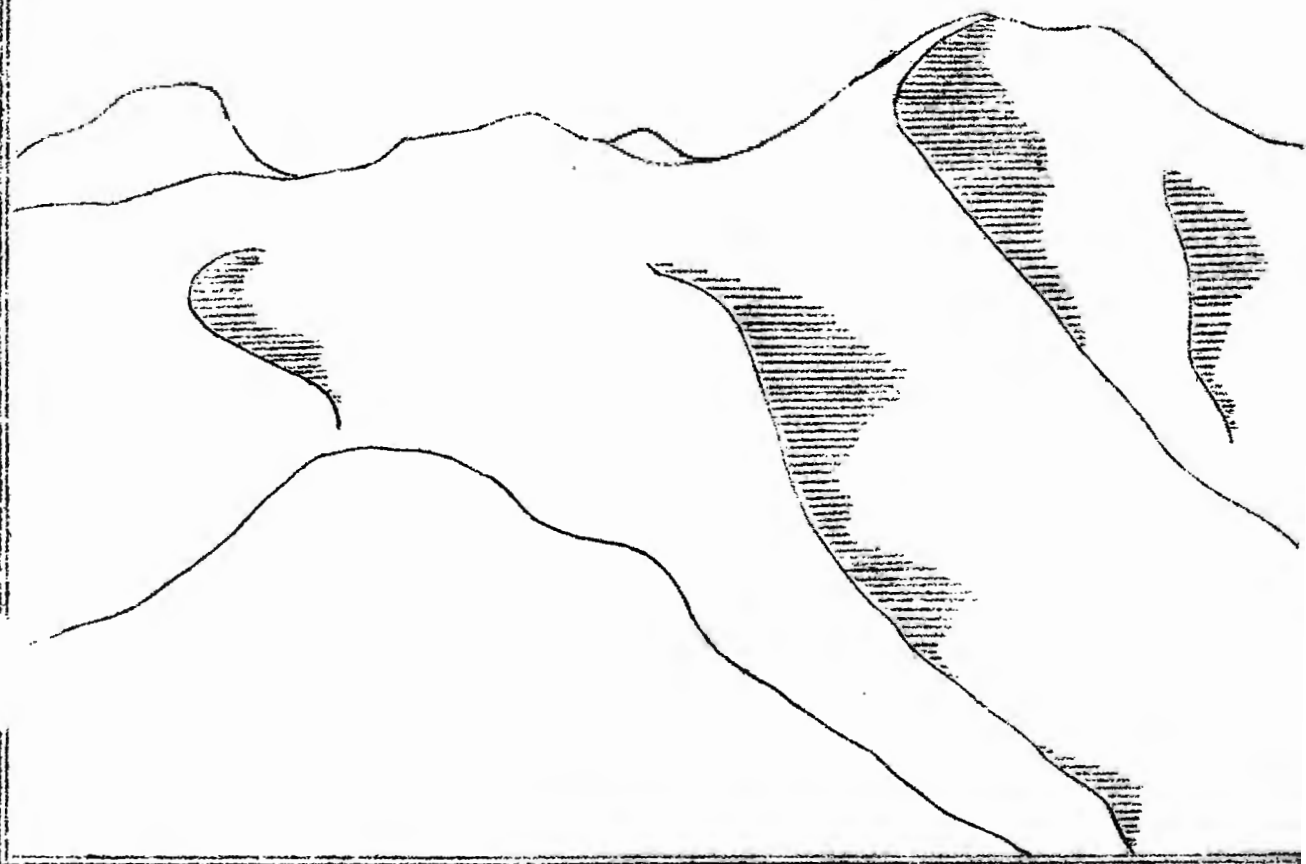


THE  
MELBOURNE BUSH WALKERS

WINTER

1945



CLUB ROOM

Room 110 (Right next to Dance Hall)  
Victorian Railways Institute.  
Flinders Street.  
MELBOURNE

Our room in the Institute is now available every  
Friday.

Over the past few months our idea of getting together every Friday for a gossip has proved very successful but in future it will be even more of a success, as we are arranging a series of lectures.

Lectures will cover a very wide range of subjects which will be of interest to all Bush Lovers; some subjects to be covered are "Metrology Applied to Bush Walking" "Canoeing Some N.S.W. Rivers". "A Bush Walker's Trip to America", "Greenland", "Map Reading", etc, etc. Some of our friends have been good enough to offer to give these lectures and we believe that most of them will be illustrated by slides and movies so let's make them really successful ---

WATCH NOTICE BOARD FOR DATES OR LECTURES.

By collecting a silver coin from each person we just cover, the cost of the Room and Coffee so don't go without dropping one in the jar.

OFFICE BEARERS

President: Percy Woodman W.L. 2221  
27 Woolcock Av. East Kew.  
Secretary Bill Buchanan J. 2136  
17 Chapham St. Balwyn.  
Treasurer Alan Patching MXY 770 Ext 338

WALKS SECRETARY : Stuart Brookes MXY770.E. 338  
Social " : Felix Fürstenberg. FO484. E. 340  
Note: The Executive is comprised of the above office bearers.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Noel Law  
Marjorie Brown  
Egon Donath  
~~Stefan Zanderbocker~~

The following members are assisting the committee:  
Mrs. Edna Richards.

LEARN TO USE YOUR MAP & COMPASS

Mrs Val Reid,  
Les Booth.

Joining Fee: Nil

Annual Subscription:- Five shillings  
Visitors: 6d per Walk.

### DAY WALKS

Don't forget to make your own arrangements for a cup of tea at lunch time, you cant expect the leader to do it for you. When you stop for lunch scout around and get some dry wood for the fires and then when you've finished  
CLEAN UP & PUT THE FIRE OUT

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As announced in the Autumn Programme members will receive their programmes by post, extra copies may be obtained at the Club Room at 3 pence each.

A number of programmes is available for distribution free of charge amongst interested prospective members.

We are endeavouring to organise a DANCE for late June or July so if you know where there is a Hall available in fact if you have any ideas at all- get in touch with your Social Secretary. WATCH YOUR NOTICE BOARD FOR FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS RE DANCE-THEATRE NIGHTS ETC..

Percy's musical evening was a great success so if any members have the facilities for this type of evening let's get going and organise it.

A few of our members have been particularly busy making TENTS, SLEEPING BAGS, FOOD CONTAINERS etc. and we now make this available to any member who unfortunately cannot procure this equipment due to war conditions.

The following is a list of some of the equipment available with hire costs:-

TENTS. 6d per person per night  
SLEEPING BAGS 1/- per night first 3 nights and then  
6d per night.

LEAVE A CAMP-SITE YOU'LL NOT BE ASHAMED  
TO SEE AGAIN.

GROUND SHEETS : 6d per day.

PACKS & RUCKSACKS: 1/- one day, 1/6 2 or 3. days  
2/- 4 days or more.

FOR SALE: Food Bags 6d each  
Billy Bags 8d " (To measure)  
"Bushwalking & Camping" Paddy Pallin's  
Hand Book of Australia Bushcraft.

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Bushwalking is inevitably associated with long distances. It is only by increasing one's walking capabilities that the remote places can be reached. We are not satisfied with frequent visits to a small area, no matter how picturesque it may be. Some spirit of adventure perhaps a small measure of that possessed by Ulysses, of whom Tennyson wrote, "To strive, to seek, to find, and not to yield" drives us on to greater achievements in endurance. Rain and hail appear, to the uninitiated, the most serious obstacles to a night of sleep, but experience points to the searching chill of heavy frost. We can recall swinging back a stiff tent flap, as though it were a door, to allow the morning sun to help thaw out the frozen campers the same sun which we had so often cursed for its blistering heat when we sweated up the dry ridges.

From "Bushwalking" - And Hardship" B.W. Kenyon "THE BUSH-  
WALKER 1945 No 8"

A Word from your Walks Secretary:-

Leaders are reminded that an approved First Aid Kit must be carried on Walks. Club First Aid Outfit may be obtained from Secretary, if leaders do not possess one.

Bush walkers MUST contact leader well in advance regarding weekend walks, as tent space cannot be guaranteed at very short notice.

We need more leaders for day & weekend walk so if you know of any nice spots worth visiting or a different track to one of our usual haunts please let us know.

Leaders are expected to be at the stated meetingplace HAIL, RAIN or SHINE or must appoint a deputy to act instead.

If you happen to know any bushwalkers, or potential ones, who might be interested in our club, please see your Secretary for an extra programme.

BURN & BURY ALL RUBBISH

EASTER 1945

Edna Richards.

BAN BAN PLATEAU----MT. ERICA----THOMPSON RIVER  
WE CAME ----- WE SAW -----THEY CONQUERED

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Can there be any higher praise of this walk than we hope to return soon along the same track.

Les Booth Stuart Brooks Norm Richards and myself arrived Walhalla 2.30pm Thursday hours could be spent there explaining the old shafts and relics of the mining days but we were heading for the Ban Baws.

Camped first night at Happy Jacks creek, and even after hard work with the "spade" and axe there was room only for the two tents. Friday followed a track along the side of the mountains. It was raining steadily but we were compensated by splendid glimpses of the Thompson River down below us and mountains towering above on either side. We decided to leave the track and go up the side of the mountain and connect with a road that the map showed ran along the top of the ridge. This climb was stiff going and neither the pain nor the leeches helped to make it any easier. (Beware "Brookes" He shows a fiendish delight in extracting leeches with his pocket-knife) Sight of the road so raised our spirits that despite wet clothes and scuffling boots we sang as we tramped along.

Eventually we came upon a hut and decided to dry our clothes and have lunch. Second night we camped in a hut at Izyards Mill. Our main desire at this stage was that the rain would clear and we would see Mt Erica the end of our next stage, patches of blue gave us hope. A fine mist was falling when we awoke; Breakfast, then up the mountain and we mean up. Mud, rocks and hard climbing brought us out to "The Rocks" at 10.40 am.

From now on our compass came in very handy. The mist lifted and in the distance the "NBW hut was sighted. We settled in and this was our Base for the next two days. Visibility was bad but the mist cleared for a while and the splendour that was unfolded before us had a very gratifying effect.

CONT'D OVER  
2 PAGES

DATE	FROM & TO	PLACES.	ORIGIN	LEADER
16.17. 18 June	Bacchus Marsh Lerderberg. Werribee George.	Bacchus Marsh Rct.	1-50 p.m. Spenc St.	Perc Woodman Literally georgeous Tuff.
24th June	Heidelberg Yarra River	Heid Return	11-5	Egon Donath pleasant stroll along the Yarra. Easy.
4th June	Boronia Belgrave	Gully Return	8-53 a.m.	Felix Furstenberg A good one for the winter. Medium
30 Jn 1 July	Healesville Warramite Hills Lily- dale	Heals Return	1-50 p.m.	Perc Woodman Views. Medium
1st July	Lilydale Dandenongs Gully	Lilydale Return	9-15	Bill Buchanan Medium
8th July	Mooroolbark Warrandyte	Moorool Return	9-15	Felix Furstenberg Easy
15th July		Greens- borough Return	9-15	Egon Donath. Gyn usual to the village pump. Easy
21st 23 July	Whittlesea Bruces Ck. Mt Dissapoint ment.	Whittle- sea. Return.	1-25 p.m. Spenc St.	Perc Woodman Arrive in town 7-10 am Monday. Medium
nd ly	Greensborough St. Helena Diamond Ck.	Diam Ck. Rt.	10-40	Stuart Brookes. A stroll of hist- oric interest. Easy

WALKERS!!  
A. R. BROAD  
ELIZABETH ST.

Gear for walkers is hard to get but Andy is carrying on the repair section of his business and has a few lines not affected by the war.

Dehydrated Potatoes are also available so stock up for your week end walks NOW. Limited quantities of new equipment are sometimes available to order.

SO REMEMBER DRIED SPUDS - DUBBIN (WINTER IS THE TIME FOR WET FEET) BOOT LACES ETC. ETC.

DATE	FROM & TO	TICKET	TRAIN	LEADER
29th July	Clematis-Fairy Dell Belgrave	Gully Return	8-53	Mrs. Joy Scott Some of the best spots in the "Dande's" Medium
5th Aug	Frankston Baxter-Red Hill	Frankston- Return	8-50	Les Booth. We haven't seen this district mentioned in our programme before. Medium
11.12 Aug.	Tynong Cannibal Ck Gembrook	Tynong Single	1-30 p.m.	Perc Woodman untrodgen. Tuff.
12 Aug	Mitcham Pinemont	Mitcham Return	12-45	Egon Donath A real afternoon walk for everybody. Easy

Our usual meeting place is "under the clocks" at the main entrance Flinders St, Station except where noted in Programme.

Be in plenty of time for the train. By the way it is advisable for both Leader and intending walkers to check the train time beforehand, as they are still subject to alteration at short notice.

FOR YOUR WALKING GEAR SEE THE WALKS SECRETARY.

NOTE FOR NEXT PROGRAMME  
 PUT APPROX RETURN TIMES ?  
 LEADERS PHONE NOTES.

~~The atmosphere was very exhilarating but cold when you were standing still.~~  
"Black Sallies" were in themselves worth seeing the atmosphere was very exhilarating but cold when you were standing still.

4th Day out: it was no feat getting up this morning the thermometer read 2°C. Made an excursion to the rocks in the afternoon and left a note for Bill and Emerson in case they came through from Mc. Veighs.

Sunday night was made hideous by the efforts both choral and solo of the occupants of N. B. W. It must be admitted that Stuart was the cause of many of the gyrations in the musicians Walhalla.

Many people want to know why Les had to administer Sal-volatile to a certain person Sunday night and also why Les went to bed early Saturday night, could it have had anything to do with the previous occupant of his bunk leaning toward art. ?.

Monday morning Erica to Walhalla before lunch and then home.

The success of a walk of this type is dependent largely on your companions and this Easter 1945 trip was eminently successfull.

Edna "How I'm Doing" Richards

#### A NOTE FROM YOUR SECRETARY

Before you attempt going walks make sure you have a good sturdy pair of boots well broken in. Study your food list carefully put the doubtful items & luxuries back in cupboard, In other words "look after the ounces and the pounds will look after themselves.



## THE EASTER TRIP

Daylesford at last: Bacchus Marsh 45 miles away as the walker treads, most of it utter wilderness, and 10 alarmingly voluminous packs.

We had a very ill-behaved engine for some of our train journey this "Reluctant Dragon" even sulked in a siding at Gisborne, refusing to eat his coal while very well behaved engines galloped by not forgetting to make very rude noises at our Dragon and showing their disdain by blowing smoke in his face.

Daylesford like many another spot is not quite itself these days but the Jubilee Lake provided a most glutinous but charming camp site on it's shore.

Up and away to find elusive Blackwood through a country of friendly forests, most fertile uplands but especially gloriously lonely wildernesses in the lowlands. Luscious blackberries all manner of dogs even some dogs that seemed to swear at us and gates with fastenings of very varied ingenuity, finally give way to a tumbled and rugged glen far from the haunts of men. Our second camp on the Lerderderg River (then only a series of pools) found us particularly exhausted.

Pushing on Easter Day with a new vigour 5 miles of bush walking through quite unihabited country brought us very suddenly to Blackwood a very citadel of charming circumspect dignity and proper content.

Leaving behind all settlement another 8 miles delivered us at M"Blackwood set at the edge of the Lerderderg Gorge a place of wholly primeval beauty. Not a trace of civilization can be detected while looking over the tumbled country of the Gorge which stretches to the horizon. An inland sunset of the utmost clarity and brilliance terminated at the divide with a startling suddenness to be replaced by heavy clouds streching in a marked contrast in the opposite direction over many miles of tilled fields to the very coast mistily far away. One could almost "feel" the curve in the earth.

At our third camp below the mount Isby again treated us to something new in camp cooking while our astonishing Vilma could always produce the unprocurable and the very distant and bobbing city lights quietly beckoned us here.

On the morrow the gorge provided a hair-raising descent so much so that our famed vegetable being so overcome actually ordered and ate steak and eggs in Bacchi's Marsh. Retiring to the station to recover from our astonishment accompanied by curious glances from some locals, the winking headlight of the Ballarat Melbourne appearing from the gloom on schedule with its "Gilling Dragon" announced to us the conclusion of a wonderful and memorable trip.

Perc. Woodman.

"So, good luck to you, fellow hikers, wherever you go. May you never run out of tobacco or songs; may the trees be great and old, and the girls young and comely. May the sun shine upon your cheek and the shade lie upon the back of your neck. May you find wood and strawberries and sassafras. But he who flingeth away the bottle and hindereth not the picnic paper he that carryeth the beech bole and she that expects others to carry her coat, camera and pack-may their socks be lumpy and farm dogs bite their calves. "From The Joy Of Walking" D.C. Peattie. New York Times Magazine April 5th. 1942.

Two walks were organised for V.E. Day and both proved to be very successful. One party went out to the now well known spot hunting cream-wonder if they were successful?? The others rose early and boarded the early train to Greensborough and set out to investigate the Plenty Gorge. This is ideal contry for day walks once the river is reached but the "No Trespass" notices between the road and river are rather forbidding. This didn't dampen the spirit of this party, they took the risk and went thru and from then on it was really enjoyable walking.