

Circular

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* T H E N E W S *
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11th August, 1950.

No. 23

Issued Monthly by the Melbourne Bushwalkers
(For Men and Women Walkers)

NEWS SUB-COMMITTEE:

Fay Pitt (XB 5736)
Margaret Dark (LA4171-bus.)
Gordon Coutts (WX 3910)

CLUB ROOM

Room 110 (next to Dance Hall)
3rd Floor, V.R.I., Flinders St.
Open every Friday, 7.50-11pm.

HON. SECRETARY:

Frank Pitt (XB 5736)
8, Railway Avenue,
BRIGHTON, S.5.

HALF-YEARLY

AUGUST 18TH
(NEXT FRIDAY)

G E N E R A L M E E T I N G

ROOM 56 (2nd Flr.)
8 pm SHARP!

AGENDA:

1. Minutes of previous meeting.
2. Correspondence.
3. Treasurer's Report and Presentation of Balance Sheet.
4. Reports of Sub-committees.
5. Welcome to new members and presentation of badges.
6. GENERAL BUSINESS.

This is the opportunity for all members to voice their own ideas about the running of the Club, and to hear the suggestions of fellow-members, as well as to hear their Committee's report on what has been carried out and what has been planned for the future. As there is no lecture to follow, ample time will be allowed for discussion, and we look forward to a lively and interesting meeting.

AUDITOR At the July General Meeting LEN BARR was elected as an auditor in place of Fred Heilpern, who is now living in U.S.A.

NEW MEMBERS We are pleased to welcome Valerio Darcy and John Marshall to our ranks this month. At the last General Meeting a new custom was inaugurated when President Norm Richards formally presented a Club badge to Frances Bloom, who had been accepted as a member at the previous Committee Meeting. We hope to welcome all new members in this way from now on, and ask those newly accepted to be present at the following General Meeting.

It is possible that we may be seeing new members from among British migrants arriving from time to time, as representatives of the Club have been invited by the State Immigration Department's Good Neighbour Council to be present at the receptions held following the arrival of migrant ships. Egon Donath, who attended a reception last Friday, reports that during a most enjoyable afternoon ten people approached him for information about the Bushwalkers, and two have already come in. He found that the Club was already well-known and recommended by Miss Elizabeth Sharpe, the Welfare Officer of the Department.

CLUB BADGES have been in keen demand in the few weeks since they became available again, 36 having been distributed already. See the Secretary if you wish to obtain one (or another one) - deposit 4/-.
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WALKS NOTES

THE SPRING PROGRAM will be ready on August 18th, and promises a variety of good walking. The Walks sub-committee has made an effort to plan a program to fill all the Club's growing needs, and deserves congratulations on the result. Your co-operation will help ensure its fullest success - book in early on van trips, and notify the leader immediately if you find you are unable to go on any trip for which you have booked; inform the leader if you intend joining any weekend trip; and if you lead a walk make out a full report so that the information may be used in future planning, and hand it in promptly. You can help to provide varied programs in future by offering yourself as a leader, and giving details of your proposed walk to the Walks sub-committee in plenty of time. (You can even plan a year ahead.)

CHRISTMAS WALKS are being planned, but are not yet finalised. Start getting your equipment ready now if you intend going away at Christmas. New members are strongly recommended to seek and accept the advice of more experienced members who will always be willing to help with the choice of the most suitable equipment for successful trips. Remember that your comfort certainly will, and your safety may depend on the quality of your equipment.

ALONG THE TRACK IN JULY

We have had an unusually large amount of sunshine for walks during the last few weeks, and well believe that this has been the sunniest July for over ten years. Twenty eight took part in the weekend trips to Mt. Anakie, and all agreed that they were very fortunate to have such sunny days and a mild night for camping. They noticed that the wild flowers were coming on well, and Geoff Christensen collected and pressed some specimens to be identified. Three of the boys who were left behind when Warren's party moved off on Sunday morning allege that Warren and Emil whizzed off with the seven girls while they weren't looking, and they didn't see them again all day! According to reports of the delightful camp spot by the aqueduct that Norm's party had, it's a wonder they ever left it at all! The size of parties on day walks has been fairly constant - twenty six on the Drouin trip had a good walk in a new area. Twenty five on the Reservoir -Diamond Creek walk found plenty of mud along the aqueduct and plenty of mud in the Plenty River, by which they boiled the lunch-time billy; however all enjoyed basking in the sunshine afterwards, with a few of the more energetic playing two's and three's. Willie made an appropriate presentation to the leader, Egon Donath - two doughnuts! Again on the Cockatoo trip there were twenty five - they were disappointed to find that the Emerald Lake had been drainedwonder if anyone really intended swimming? Last Sunday there were twenty seven on the Lilydale trip, including two members of the Ramblers - unfortunately our letter of invitation to their Club went astray, and only a few were informed in time.

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THE FEDERATION ANNUAL BALL will be held at Tudor Court on October 6th, and tickets will be 10/5 each. Marie tells us that preparations are well in hand, and further details will be available soon. MAKE IT A DATE NOW!

SONG OF NORWAY . The Federation is holding THEATRE NIGHTS on August 17th and Sept. 12th. Tickets (4/6) are still available for the second, and there may be a few for the first. As the Federation of Victorian Walking Clubs is serving the interests of all walkers, especially in matters where a combined body carries more weight than an individual club, but has limited means of raising money, it merits our financial support. Our own night for this show was very successful, with forty present, and all recommend it as most enjoyable. See Marie for tickets.

THE TWO MRS. CARROLLS (ELIZABETH BERGNER) Although it is unlikely that the Princess Theatre will allow us any concessions in price, Marie is hopeful that they will give us block bookings, so that any of our members who want to go would not need to queue for tickets. See notice board for dates to be arranged.

ON JULY 28TH, MR. E. CHARLES, of the Astronomical Society, visited the Club. He showed a great many slides, including a series on the phases of the moon, planets of the solar system, meteors, star-clusters, etc., and finally described a method of finding south by reference to the Southern Cross and other stars. His projectionist, Mr. Byrt, did a good job, and both he and Mr. Charles would be willing to give advice to anyone who wishes to study the stars. We are grateful to Victor Jacoby for his help in transporting the projector from the Society's rooms in South Yarra to the Club. N.B. For those who care to trace the constellations as they sit round the camp-fire, a very useful and inexpensive companion is "A GUIDE TO SOUTHERN STARS" by Orr. (3/6)

Those who applied to attend a public demonstration on the astronomical telescope have been invited to be the guests of the Astronomical Society at their meeting on 22nd August. At that time, we are informed, a particularly interesting and unusual view of the moon is to be obtained.

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"WALK"

Although we cannot yet report the publication date, "WALK" is well under way, and the Editor, Norm Richards, assures us that the quality of contributions is well up to last year's high standard. Copies of this, our No. 1 issue, are still available, so new members have the chance of finding out just how good it was. And in years to come, when "WALK" is an old-established magazine, they will be very glad to have a complete set from No. 1 onwards. Fred Soutter is our Sales Manager, and will be pleased to sell you a copy at any time.

PERSONAL

- *** Congratulations to Heather Stubbings and Bill Thackray, who announced their engagement recently. We thought there was something in the air!
- *** Very best wishes for future happiness to Kath Short and Hew Ridge, who are to be married on August 17th. We believe they have been lucky enough to obtain a flat to live in until their own home is built.
- *** Young Peter Baker is quite a seasoned air-traveller now, having flown to Brisbane and back in the course of a visit to his grand-parents there. How can we ever expect him to come down to earth and take to walking after that! By the way, he took his mother, Maureen, with him for the holiday.
- *** Last news we have heard of Tess Maddison is that she was in Scotland, and had been staying with Jock Low's people in Glasgow. Incidentally, travelling north she happened to get a lift, and in chatting to the driver found that he had been a friend of Jock's!
- *** We hear that Betty Campbell became engaged recently. Congratulations, Betty!
- *** We were pleased to hear from Mollie Moorey, who came here from overseas some months ago and became a member, and at time of writing was at Mt. Beauty. Along with her subscription and money for a badge she sent us a generous donation for equipment. We appreciate this very much, Mollie and thank you - we have purchased a much-needed groundsheet-cape. We are glad that you enjoyed being out with us, and hope that you will be able to fit in further trips with us when you are in Melbourne.
- *** Ken Grant will be missing from Club activities for a while, as he will be leaving on August 18th for two months in Mildura. (Work not holiday!) You'll be hard put to it for mountaineering there, Ken!
- *** We won't be seeing much of Harold Williams for a while as he is working in the country, travelling from place to place. We hope it proves as interesting as it sounds, Harold.

LIBRARY NOTES

~~Frogs and snakes: the ordinary garden frogs and the not-so-ordinary venomous copperhead snakes! Everyone knows that the snakes eat the frogs, but did you know that the frogs, quite often, eat the snakes? Young snakes, admittedly, but even so, longer than the frogs themselves. This phenomenon was noted some years ago in the Melbourne Zoological Gardens, and confirmed by further observations since and in a recent "WALKABOUT" there is a most interesting article based on these findings. This is just one example to illustrate how interesting and readable are the articles to be found in this and other magazines to which the Club subscribes in case you were under the impression that they are all too specialised. Anyhow, borrow them and see for yourself. Librarian Bill Horton will be pleased to help you.~~

GENERAL

Egon still has the groundsheet which was left in the van on the Dom-Dom trip. If it is not claimed soon we shall raffle it! We are glad to report that some of the other lost property which has been crowding our cupboard has been claimed - the remainder stands in danger of being auctioned, so take warning!

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A note from the dish-washers: give your coffee a good stir so that you won't leave that thick deposit of sugar in the bottom of the cup!

-----KEEP THESE DATES IN MIND-----

- Aug. 11 - Booking closes Donna Buang trip.
 " 17 - "Song of Norway" - Federation Theatre Night.
 " 18 - HALF-YEARLY GENERAL MEETING, 8pm SHARP.
 " 18 - Booking closes Beaconsfield - Officer trip
 " 22 - Astronomical Society Meeting.
 Sept. 8 - Booking closes Sunbury-Clarkefield trip.
 " 12 - "Song of Norway" - 2nd Federation Theatre Night.
 " 29 - General Meeting
 Oct. 6. - Federation of Victorian Walking Clubs Annual Ball.
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