

Issued Monthly by the Melbourne Bushwalkers
(for men and women walkers).

HON. SECRETARY:

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

CLUBROOM:

Room 110 (Right next to Dance
Hall), 3rd Floor, V.R.I.,
Flinders St., Melbourne.

Open Every Friday : 7.50 - 11 p.m.

The Annual General meeting and election of officers - Friday, 17TH FEBRUARY, 1950,
8 p.m. sharp. PLACE: Room 56, 2nd Floor, V.R.I. Buildings.

The present office bearers are - President: Norm Richards. Vice Presidents: Fay Pitt and Egon Donath. Secretary: Frank Pitt; Treasurer: Emil Slade. Walks Secretary: Ken Grant. Social Secretary: Marie Gillepsie. Committee Members: Nancy Morgan, Tass Maddison, Margaret Dark, Bill Horton, Ted Kirk and Ken Middleton. Trustees: Les. Scott, Paul Lederer and Ramsay Craigen. Federation Delegate: Gordon Coutts. Auditors: Fred Heilpen and Mr. Palmer.

Be sure to come along and help elect the best possible team for 1950/51 which will be our 10th Anniversary year, and we hope a year of great activity and progress.

The Cradle Mt. tragedy underlines the necessity of all walkers being properly prepared and equipped for any trip which they may decide to undertake. Too much care cannot be given to the adequacy and serviceability of equipment, and to its not being abused so that it is rendered unfit for its proper purpose. If you lose any article on a trip it usually cannot be replaced until the trip is over, so continually check through your gear to see that nothing is left behind at any halt. Remember the story of the loose nail that lost a battle!! Make sure that you know as much as possible about the country you intend traversing, and of weather conditions, etc., likely to be encountered. Recognise the fact that no information or map is entirely accurate, and in fact may be grossly in error; and be prepared, materially and mentally, to face any adjustments or difficulties which may arise as a consequence.

Adequate preparation, as outlined above, will ensure as pleasant and comfortable a trip as possible for you and your companions; but even more important, it will help to avoid those charges of civic irresponsibility which some publicists are only too quick to make against walking and walkers whenever the chance arises. If your own resources are insufficient to complete your planned itinerary despite any foreseeable difficulties, then you are a potential nuisance to others, and justify their resentment. This applies to every walker from afternoon stroller to extended tripper. If you have to botrow matches or billy, or go without first-aid kit on a day walk, you are just as blameworthy as the person who goes away for a week without map and compass. You are doing a serious disservice to your fellow walkers.

XMAS TRIPS:

A number of members were away over the Xmas period in both official and unofficial trips. Here is a brief summary:

Cobbler	...	6
Mt. Buffalo	...	9
Wonthaggi, Cape Paterson		9
Bogong High Plains		8
Kosciusko	...	6
Mt. Hotham	...	5
Grampians	...	5
Woods Point, Walhalla		2
and a little later Mt. Wills, Bogong - 4		

Bogong High Plains - Frank Pitt says "the main feature of the whole trip was the excellent weather - it was clear and warm most days, of course tempered by the altitude and we had only a little rain in a thunderstorm one night. We had to dash into the hut to dry off though! Our spare day was not necessary.

This walk is very easy and in good weather all the Bogong High Plains area and surrounding mountains can be covered easily in 10 days. The party enjoyed themselves and there were no "incidents" more serious than blisters and sunburn. Ask Emil about the Seymour pies and beer."

Mt. Buffalo - Xmas & New Year 1949-50. In reporting his trip Fred Schoenfeld writes "that the remarkable thing about Mt. Buffalo Plateau is that when you climb 200 yards you are up 5,000 odd feet - which is very convenient.

Once up 5,000 ft. one can't miss seeing the most glorious views imaginable. Add to this, steady, fine weather, a good crowd and lovely tracks through wildflowers in full bloom and you'll not find it hard to understand why we thought Mt. Buffalo one of the leveliest spots we had ever put our feet on before."

Wonthaggi - Cape Paterson, 24/27th December, 1949. The 9 who visited this new area for the Bushwalkers, were sorry that the time was all too short, a good campsite and beach walking were features of the trip, and even Father Xmas found us in the sand dunes. Half the party remained till New Year and thereby got some swimming in. Did Willi win the baby competition at Inverloch or not?

Twelve members availed themselves of the opportunity of visiting Anglesea over the A.N.A. weekend, where walking and swimming were indulged in, and an extra coating of tan acquired.

Twenty-four participated in the Baw Baw trip over A.N.A. weekend.

The next programme will be out at the Annual Meeting. Watch for some surprises. The Annual Cream hunt may be earlier so as to give some time for "fun" after the "feast"

FEDERATION NOTES:

Here are some advance dates for Federation activities - Weekend, 25-26th March; Track Clearing weekend, 6-7th May, and looking a long way ahead, Federation Day Walk 22nd October, 1950.

SOCIAL:

Marie Gillespie has tickets for "Pinafore" on 7th February, and "Mikado" 1st March.

Our best wishes go to Nellie Stewart who recently became engaged.

To Gwen Cato we extend our good wishes, she has been a most consistent walker with the Club, and at 11 a.m. on Saturday, 4th February, in the Methodist Church, Croydon, S.A. becomes Mrs. Wilson Hancock. Gwen's address will then be Tea Tree Gully, S.A.

It's in the air all right. Tom Lees is the most recent we have heard of, who has become engaged. Congratulations Tom.

In a recent issue of "WILD LIFE" was an excellent critique on "Walk".

Arnold Shaw has promised to come along to one of our Monthly General meetings and give us a talk, he is a guide and lecturer at the National Gallery.

Florence Fenwick has a baby son.

Mr. and Mrs. Ken Tolhurst and Barbara have returned to Melbourne after several years on the Continent.

Miss N. Gubbins recently appeared in a film depicting scenes at the Melbourne Zoo.

Fred and Rosa Schoenfeld have both passed their St. John's First Aid exam, others in the Club studied First Aid last year too, and have won their spurs, but don't you leave it to the other fellow when it comes to an emergency, familiarise yourself with the treatment for snake bite and burns, to mention a couple of items, where time is the essence of the contract.

Did you read Heinz Marcuse's article in the Novemner 1949, "Walkabout"?

The Melbourne Women's Walking Club have sent along some copies of their recent issue of "Wayfaring" which embodies articles of interest to the walking community.

Emil in his capacity as Treasurer reminds you that your Subs. are now due.

It is pleasing to see that some have availed themselves of Mira's instructions for knitting the Club badge.

ANNUAL MEETING: 17th February, 2nd Floor, Room 56, V.R.I. Buildings.

Just a reminder, patronise our advertisers,

The bathing box has been popular again this year and you will be well advised to make the most of it, while the sun shines.

Prevent bush fires - a match may be down, but not OUT.

Things happen so quickly in the Club, it is advisable to keep your eyes on the Notice Board for "current news".

~~When you bring a guest into the Clubrooms or to any Club function please introduce him or her to the President, and if possible to other members of the Committee this is a matter of courtesy and also helps to maintain our tradition of friendliness and good fellowship.~~

Copies of "WALK" are still available, and Fred Soutter will be pleased to exchange a copy for 1/6d.

Our Visitors Book is becoming very interesting with all the names being added. With such lovely weather over the last Xmas holidays, lots of additions can be made to the Club Photo Album, and we hope you will co-operate in this regard.

Gizel Heilpen wishes to dispose of a rucksack. See Gizel.

Membership fees are due for 1950 at the Annual Meeting (17th Feb.) and must be paid within 2 months. So keep Emil busy, he thrives on it.

At the last General Meeting (27th January), the usual business was carried out, and despite the fact that one trip left on Friday night, 40 members were present. Several interesting discussions took place. During an exchange of ideas on the ideal ~~number for a trip, contributions were made by members and it was ascertained that 12~~ members was the most desirable number. Have you any ideas on the subject?

SPECTACLES

FROM -

WERNER GRAFF

The Optical Specialist,
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READ -

"WILD LIFE"

Australia's Leading Nature Magazine.