

Circular

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: THE NEWS :
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No.21

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

HON. SECRETARY

CLUB ROOM

NEWS SUB-COMMITTEE:

Frank Pitt (XB 5736) Room 110 (Right next to Dance
8 Railway Avenue, Hall) 3rd Floor, V.R.I., Flinders
BRIGHTON S.5. Street. Open every Friday, 7.50p.m.
to 11 p.m.

Fay Pitt (XB 5736)
Margaret Dark
(LA 4171 - bus)
Gordon Coutts
(WX 3910)

THE WINTER WALKS PROGRAM came out on May 26th, and the Walks sub-committee, especially Warren Ollie who compiles the programs, deserves congratulations on a well-planned, varied program which includes several walks in new areas. On three weekends it has been arranged to have two trips in the same area so that one van will provide transport for both. One Saturday walk has also been included. (June 24, Leader Egon Donath). YOU can share the success of the next program, which Warren is already working on, by offering to lead a trip - either working out a new trip or going over one already suggested - so let him know immediately if you have a walk for the Spring Program. Gordon still has a supply of Suggested Walks Forms, on which you can give details of trips as far ahead as August, 1951. You are reminded that EXTENDED WALKS FOR THE CHRISTMAS - NEW YEAR PERIOD are being planned NOW.

BOOKING FOR VAN TRIPS MUST BE MADE A FORTNIGHT BEFORE DATE OF TRIP - Most members are co-operating well in booking for van trips, but for the sake of new-comers (and others who ought to know already) we repeat this instruction. All who have booked and paid their deposit by the due date will be accommodated except in special cases where a limit has been placed on size of party) but late comers will be accepted only if the van is not fully booked. They must realize that if the van is full the leader cannot accept them, however hard they plead. They may add their names to the list and if possible include 'phone number; then if a vacancy occurs the leader can contact additional applicants in the order listed.

ATTENTION! KING'S BIRTHDAY WEEKEND WALKERS! Have you found out from the Walks Sec. who is the contact for your trips? If not, do it immediately and leave a note of it at home so that your family will know where to enquire in case you are delayed. All who participate in van or long trips should also remember this - e.g. Healesville trip on June 18th, Warramite Hills June 25th, Kinglake trips July 1-2nd.

EVELYN-SILVAN-BELGRAVE TRIP - Five girls defied the forecast of rain and spent a hilarious and most enjoyable weekend, although heavy fog spoilt the views on Sunday. Who was it tried to keep the leader warm by setting fire to the log where she was sitting?

MT.DOM DOM TRIP - Thirty three set out to scale Mt. Dom Dom, and by all reports had an enjoyable time doing it, although heavy fog once more robbed them of the reward of a good view. The climb was found to be quite strenuous, so the party was divided into Tough and Even Tougher, the latter supposed to be covering the longer distance. However, they arrived back at the van first and were wondering what had happened to the others when a messenger arrived to say that the other party had taken the wrong track and were waiting some four miles away - please send the van! We will not mention which party the leader was with, nor shall we comment on the strange fact that the wrong track led to scones and cream at the Hermitage!

As 48 booked for this trip and only 33 turned up, we want to know what happened to the other fifteen - surely they weren't all put off by the cold morning? Only three of them notified the leader that they would not be coming, so there was no chance of filling their places; furthermore the van was delayed in leaving as the leader kind-heartedly kept waiting "just another few minutes" until they should come. As two vans had been booked, this small attendance would have caused the Club a big loss if Mr. Gronow had not generously allowed us a concession in the price and so reduced it to a small loss. Had these defaulting members notified the leader in time, it may have been possible to cancel one van and so reduce it still further.

.....ELECTION OF AUDITOR.....

At the next General Meeting an Auditor is to be elected to replace Fred Heilpern. Please have nominations ready and carry out the election without loss of time.

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NEW MEMBERS - This month we welcome - Mary, Gibson, Vera Holan, Carolyn Kemp, Kitty Mitchell, Mollie Moorey, Colin Robbins, and Ruth Stamp.

We are pleased to have you in the Club, and hope you will take an active part in Club life.

ONE OF THE MOST FREQUENT QUESTIONS asked by those contemplating their first walk with the Club is "What should I wear and what should I take?", so it may help newcomers if we give brief answers here. Footwear is most important - wear comfortable, flat-heeled shoes (or boots) and woollen socks, remembering to take a spare pair of socks. A ground-sheet cape is the best protection against rain, and the first item of equipment you should obtain - one of oiled japara is the most satisfactory. Experienced walkers find shorts most comfortable for walking - yes, even in Winter! - and slacks and wind-proof jacket complete the basic wardrobe, to be adapted as experience shows your own special needs. On day walks (for which these notes are intended) you should have a small billy (with billy-bag) for your lunch-time drink, matches, mug, first-aid kit, food for the midday meal, and a small emergency ration in case of unexpected delay. To carry these have a small pack such as a military pack (obtainable for a few shillings) rather than a shoulder bag. Experienced members are always willing to help with advice and we strongly advise you to take heed of it especially before purchasing new equipment. Those intending to join weekend walks may borrow equipment from the Club (see Program) and should consult the leader about preparations to be made.

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SOCIAL

On June 30th we will have Mr. John Bechervaise to show his films of Wilson's Promontory, one of the National Parks he discusses in his most interesting article in the June "Walkabout" and an area fascinating to walkers. Mr. Bechervaise is a vivid and forceful speaker, as those who heard his lecture on Federation Peak in the Club last year will agree, and we are looking forward eagerly to his next appearance.

Following the July Monthly Meeting Mr. E. Charles, of the Astronomical Society, will give a lecture illustrated by slides and including information on direction-finding by the stars - useful knowledge for Bushwalkers.

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10TH ANNIVERSARY DANCE - With the record number of 103 present this was a most enjoyable event, and thanks are due to Marie and her sub-committee. Cutting the Birthday Cake was the focal point of the evening. The cake, a double decker iced with pale green icing, and decorated with an appropriate tableau of tent, bushwalker, etc., was made and presented by Marie, and Norm called on Egon to perform the cutting ceremony. Several photos were taken, and if you want a memento of the occasion you can choose from those. We should add that the cake was every bit as good to eat as to look at! (Marie brought the upper tier into the Clubroom last Friday so that those who were not at the dance would have a chance to share it.) Prizes for the dances were donated by Lorrie Brown and Margaret Dark - thank you girls. The flowers which decorated the room were later given to the Girls' Friendly Society for their 50th Anniversary celebrations.

Frank Halls' colour film of Central Australia was a splendid record of his six weeks' trip through the western part of Central Australia, and showed it to be a surprisingly attractive and interesting area, with rugged ranges approaching 5000' in height. More than a few of his audience were inspired with an urge to visit this country themselves. Mr. Halls spoke highly of the kindness, co-operation, and many other good qualities of the aborigines and deplored their exploitation by whites. Many attractive shots of aboriginal children were included in the film. By the way, there is a display of some of Mr. Halls' photos of this trip in Kodak's window.

Ten members were at Horst's to see themselves and other Bushwalkers as film stars in Ken Hewitt's latest films, and enjoyed recalling old times, too, in some of his earlier films. Coming back to the present, they found the reality of supper extra good! Thanks for a happy evening, Ken and Horst.

(It was disappointing that six people who had listed their names did not come. It would have saved uncertainty if they had rung Horst when they found they were unable to come.)

"WALK". Editor Norm Richards, informs us that all copy will be in the printer's hands within a day or two. Publication date will be September. More advertisers are required - if you can suggest a possible advertiser, let Egon Donath know. (JA 4394).

PERSONAL

...Gisela and Fred Heilpern sailed from Sydney on June 1st. At the dance the signed boots were presented to Fred (in Gisela's absence) with our hearty good wishes, and a number of Bushwalkers were at Spencer Street to see them off on May 13th.

...Jack and Lyddie Widmer left for Perth on May 19th. Unfortunately the sailing of the "Chitral", on which they were travelling, was postponed and some who had planned to see them off were unable to do so. We'll be sending their boot to them next week and with it our very best wishes for their happiness.

...We're sorry to be losing Lorrie Brown, who is going to live in Sydney shortly. Lorrie has been a very welcome and active member since she joined the Club last year, and we wish her all the best. Let's have news of walking activities in Sydney, Lorrie.

...During the last few weeks we've been pleased to have with us Pat Lindbeck and Audrey Chaplin of the Coast and Mountain Walkers! Pat and Audrey have had a great time working their way here from Sydney - they've had all sorts of jobs, from being housemaids at Kosciusko to driving cattle a couple of hundred miles through the Eastern Highlands - and we hope that the rest of their travels will be just as interesting.

...Ada and Bill Schulz have a son, Max, born on May 9th. He hasn't been doing much bushwalking yet, we believe.

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LIBRARY NOTES

In June "WILD LIFE" is an article with the intriguing title "Rocks With Human Names" - two great boulders deposited by glacial action in the open plain. In the same issue is an interesting account of how the koala was saved from extinction in South Australia. This and other magazines to which the Club subscribes may be borrowed on application to the Librarian, Bill Horton.

PHOTOGRAPHS FOR THE CLUB ALBUM - Most of you have had a look through the Club Album and admired the many good shots. Have you noticed that there are practically no recent ones? We have an enthusiastic and capable Librarian to look after the album, so help him build up a representative collection of current photos by giving him yours to select from.

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DOES THIS INTEREST YOU ???

...ABANDONED PROPERTY... On the Notice Board is a list of belongings left in the cupboard, where there just isn't room for them. If not claimed they will be sold. Is YOUR mug, spoon etc., among them?

...FOR SALE - 2 pairs boots, sizes 3 & 4 $\frac{1}{2}$. (Worn only a few times.)
1 light-weight wind-proof jacket, grey. Size 36 (man's). New.
(If interested, see a member of News Sub-committee.)

...BUSHWALKING AND CAMPING, 2/-, is still available from Librarian, Bill Horton.

...SHOWER-PROOFING LIQUID. Bring your own bottle or tin. Obtainable from Gerda Schwerin.

...CHANGE OF ADDRESS - The Secretary has placed a list of names and addresses on the board. If your address or phone number is listed incorrectly, let him know. In future please notify him of any change immediately.

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LEAVE THE CLUBROOM TIDY

A gentle reminder to smokers - NO BUTTS OR MATCHES ON THE FLOOR, PLEASE! Would the last few people in the Clubroom have a glance round before they leave and gather up any papers etc. left lying about?

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

- June 9th - Booking closes for Warramite Hills Trip.
- " 16th - " " " Kinglake trips.
- " 30th - General Meeting. Films of Wilson's Promontory.
- " " - Booking closes for Drouin-Brandy Creek trip.
- July 14th - " " " Mt. Wallace Mt. Anakie trips.
- " 28th - General Meeting. Lecture Direction-Finding by Stars.

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