

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

HON. SECRETARY:
Frank Pitt (XB5736)
8, Railway Avenue,
BRIGHTON, S.5.

CLUB ROOM
Room 116 (Right next to Dance Hall)
3rd Floor, V.R.I. Flinders Street.
Open every Friday - 7:50 to 11pm.

NEWS SUB-COMMITTEE
Fay Pitt (XB5736)
Margaret Dark (LA4171 Bus)
Gordon Coutts (WX3910)

THANKYOU, EGON!

Among other changes brought by the new official year is that Egon has passed on the management of "THE NEWS". The Club's gratitude is due to him for establishing and developing this important side of our activities, so before going further we would like to thank him for his enthusiastic work.

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AT OUR ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

on February 17th there was an interested and lively gathering of about 75, and many points of interest were brought before members. The President again stressed the need for new leaders, and commented on the disappointing show of interest in instruction for leaders during 1949. The Club is now able to do more than just walk - there should be allied activities such as botany, geology and photography, and particularly mapping. Everyone can add information to existing maps and track notes and help to explore new areas. He also exhorted members to take adequate safety precautions on walking trips for the protection of themselves and others, and for the reputation of the Club. Report on the growth of interest of the Press in walking was mentioned. This can be of value in fostering organized walking, but, to avoid wrong impressions, only official information should be given the Press. There were about 45 new members (including many from overseas) out of 1949's total membership of about 120. There was a great number and variety of walks plenty of social activity, and the Club was always well represented at Federation functions.

During general discussion of various matters it was good to find so many voicing their ideas. The old question of non-active membership was vigorously debated, and finally settled. (See Constitution). The proposal to raise subscriptions for the coming year was strongly supported by many, but after considerable debate was defeated on the vote.

THE FOLLOWING WERE ELECTED TO OFFICE FOR 1950

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| <u>President:</u> NORM RICHARDS | <u>Vice-Presidents:</u> FAY PITT, EGON DONATH. |
| <u>Treasurer:</u> EMIL SLADE | <u>Secretary:</u> FRANK PITT |
| <u>Walks Secretary:</u> GORDON COUTTS | <u>Social Secretary:</u> MARIE GILLESPIE |
| <u>Committee Members:</u> MARGARET DARK, LORRAINE RICHEY, GERDA SCHWERIN | |
| BILL HORTON, WARREN OLLE, FRED SOUTTER | |
| <u>Auditors:</u> FRED HEILPERN, KEN MIDDLETON | <u>Trustee:</u> BILL KIRK |

Congratulations to these members, and a special welcome to those who are new to office. We wish also to sincerely thank retiring members of the COMMITTEE for their valuable work during the past year.

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The following appointments were made by the Committee:

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| <u>Social Sub-Committee:</u> MARIE GILLESPIE, LORRAINE RICHEY, MARGARET DARK |
| <u>Editorial:</u> NORM RICHARDS (Editor), FRED SOUTTER (S-les), EGON DONATH (Advertising) |
| <u>News:</u> FAY PITT, MARGARET DARK, GORDON COUTTS |
| <u>Federation Delegate:</u> GORDON COUTTS |
| <u>Librarian:</u> BILL HORTON |
| <u>Equipment Officer:</u> DON SMELLIE |

We are fortunate to have such enthusiastic and capable executives - support them with your suggestions and practical help. To give you a lead:-

* EGON, as Advertising Manager of "WALK", would appreciate information about likely advertisers. If you knew of anyone he could approach, please let him know details - he will do the rest!

PAY EMIL! 1950 subs. were due at the Annual Meeting, and must be paid within two months of it. Don't be the last to pay.

SAVE TIME AT GENERAL MEETINGS by approaching the appropriate member of the Committee about questions you wish to raise, or ideas you wish to suggest. They can then be given preliminary consideration and any general discussion will have a more definite basis.

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COPIES OF THE CONSTITUTION are now available to financial members and those applying for membership. Those who were in the Clubroom last Friday received their copy - others may obtain one from the Secretary. Keep this copy for reference. We draw your attention to paragraph 6b.

NEW MEMBER: Alan Robins was accepted as a new member at the last Committee Meeting. Congratulations and welcome, Alan!

WALKS NOTES

WHAT ! A Walking Club without walks on its program? Don't leave it to your friends - lead a walk yourself. See Gordon Coutts (WX 3910) by April 21st.

EASTER There will be an extra day walk during the Easter period. Watch the Notice Board for details. There are still vacancies for the Pyrenees trip.

10TH ANNIVERSARY WALK - MT. MORTON - April 30th. We expect there will be a really big muster for this historical occasion, with more than a few of our original members in reunion, and reminiscences mingling with future plans. Keep April 30 clear for this.

ATTENTION WALKS LEADERS: In future will leaders who wish to place lists on the Notice Board please consult the Walks Secretary first.

PROGRAM CORRECTIONS :

May 21 should read Montrose, Mt. Evelyn, Lilydale. Lilydale 2nd ret. 9.15 am. Willie Baxter (No phone number) 10 miles, medium.

Equipment Officer - Don Smellie LF 7995 only. (No business number)

CONTACTS are needed for all week-end and van trips. If you will be at home on any of these days, give your name and phone number to Gordon.

OUR THANKS TO KEN GRANT, whom other duties have claimed this year, for the good work he did during his term as Walks Secretary.

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SOCIAL

COMING EVENTS - March 22 Theatre Party for "IS YOUR HONEYMOON REALLY NECESSARY?" See Marie without delay for tickets.

March 28 Bill Kirk again invites members to spend the evening listening to records of light classical music at his home. Add your name to the list on the Board if you would like to come, but as there is only accommodation for thirty, don't delay.

March 31 (General Meeting) Screening of colour slides taken by Geoff Christensen and Ken Grant.

April 2 - THE CREAM HUNT THE CREAM HUNT THE CREAM HUNT THE CREAM HUNT
Quantities of cream astronomical
Provide a treat gastronomical.

May 10th - FIFTH BUSHWALKER DANCE to be held at Jerram Hall. We'll be making this a special dance in celebration of our Tenth Anniversary - for instance we've heard rumours of a birthday cake - so this should be an even gayer event than the other famous dances. Full details will be available later from Social Secretary, Marie Gillespie, but make it a date now.

A record party of 58 was present at last week's Theatre Night for the Mikado - our last Gilbert & Sullivan evening for this season.

PERSONAL

Not content with the onerous job of Walks Secretary, Gordon Coutts went the day after his election and took on another even more important one - this time for life - and became engaged to May Cole. Congratulations. Gordon & May.

Gwen Cato - now Mrs. Hancock - may be returning for a visit to Melbourne soon, and we are looking forward to giving her our good wishes personally.

Noel Law - one of the first members of the Club - who was married in Sydney last November, was in the Clubroom several times during a recent visit to Melbourne.

Tess Maddison will be leaving in April to spend a year or two in England. Bon voyage, Tess, and a safe return - don't forget to write to us.

A wedding presentation was made to Henry and Suzy Cymbalist at the Annual Meeting.

We are very sorry to hear that Charlie Greenhill has not yet recovered from his long illness, and will not be able to show us his films as we had hoped.

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FEDERATION NOTES

THE FEDERATION WEEKEND, March 25th-26th, will again be held near the Silvan Dam those who were there before will remember the pleasant camp-site at the junction of the two creeks. The program is as follows:

Saturday Morning - 9.18 am F.T.G. train. Got Boronia-Lilydale Special ticket (3/1) from Tourist Bureau during preceding week - please avoid going at busy times if possible.

This trip will be led by Y.H.A. from Boronia.

Saturday Afternoon - 1.1 pm Lilydale train. 2nd Weekend Ret, Lilydale. (Walking Club of V.)

N.B. The Club may arrange to get a block of tickets for these trips, so see Notice Board before getting your own ticket. Watch, too, for any alteration in these plans.

A feature of the Weekend will be the Camp-fire on Saturday night. Incidentally, suggestions for items for the Concert will be very acceptable. Let Marie or Fay know your ideas or have your offers..... We have one really super item which you shouldn't miss hearing.

On Sunday morning you will have the opportunity of inspecting the Silvan Dam, with the Overseer, Mr. Wallis, as guide. You'll hear the cameras clicking at this time, for it's a most attractive sight.

The University Mountaineers will lead us back to Lilydale on Sunday afternoon.

COME EARLY, COME LATER, BUT COME !!!

FEDERATION NOTES (Cont.)

TRACK-CLEARING WEEKEND, May 6th and 7th - We are reminding you of this well ahead so that you will be sure to keep the date free. The track to be cleared is the old Millgrove timber-tram track. This is a really big job, but as the track will be a most interesting and valuable one to open up again, a job well worth doing. The University Mountaineers are doing some preliminary reconnaissance and marking, and the final plans will be based on their report. Full details will be published in next month's "NEWS". Remember - we need all hands on the job for this - even if you can't swing an axe, you can all help in some way.

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GENERAL

COUNCIL OF ADULT EDUCATION LECTURES - We would like to draw your attention to a series of ten lectures being given by Mr. Crosbie Morrison. These, entitled NATURE IN AUSTRALIA - SAVING WHAT IS LEFT will be based on the theme of conservation, and will deal with our flora, fauna and soil - topics of direct interest to Bushwalkers. The first of the ten lectures - which are to be held in the Emily McPherson College on Wednesdays at 8 pm - will be on April 19th. The C.A.E. informs us that there are still vacancies, but we recommend you book fairly soon as this will be a popular class. The fee for the series is 7/6. For details of lectures, see extract from 1950 C.A.E. Syllabus on Notice Board. We will arrange enrolment through the Club for those interested.

NATIVE PLANTS PRESERVATION GROUP, FIELD NATURALISTS' CLUB OF VICTORIA

The present policy of this group, of which the Club is now a group associate, is to preserve samples of the country in its natural state by the formation of sanctuaries such as the Tallarook Flower Sanctuary. It is hoped to develop such a small sanctuary near Melbourne - perhaps near Warrandyte. Any ideas or comments from other observers are eagerly sought, and it is hoped that interested members of our Club will attend meetings of the Group. The next meeting will be held at the home of the Chairman, Winifred Waddell, 3, Denham Place, Toorak. (UY 6676) on Tuesday April 4th, at 8 pm.

TELESCOPIC DISPLAYS - The Trustees of the Museum of Applied Science in conjunction with the Astronomical Society of Victoria are conducting demonstrations on the 8" refractor telescope at the old Observatory, South Yarra, on three nights a month. Twelve persons only can be invited to the same demonstration. Would any members interested please contact the Secretary immediately so that a night can be arranged.

ANY TIME YOU'RE IN CANBERRA you should read a most interesting journal available there. Yes, "WALK" is now in the National Library. However, don't make your friends go all that way for it - 1/6 is cheaper than a fare, so persuade them to buy a copy. We're pleased to give you advance news that John Bechervaise who described to us so vividly last year their successful but rigorous trip to Federation Peak, will be back at our June monthly meeting with films of Wilson's Promontory.

IN THIS MONTH'S "WILD LIFE" is an article of special interest to walkers about old huts - many of them well-known to us. Borrow the Club's copy from Bill Horton.

GOOD ADVICE FOR THE LONG WEEKEND

If you're not away walking, spend a day at the bathing box while the good weather lasts - but don't forget your sun-glasses. If you don't already possess a pair, see our advertiser. At home, check over your first-aid kit and other equipment in readiness for future walks. Write that article you've been pondering over for "Walk", or go through your photos for any suitable for publication.- at the same time you'll probably find some the Club would be glad to have in the photo album.

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* SUN GLASSES *
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* From - *
* WERNER GRAFF *
* The Optical Specialist. *
* 80. Swanston Street,*
* Cent. 3186 MELBOURNE.*
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* READ - *
* * * * *
* "WILD LIFE" *
* * * * *
* Australia's Leading *
* Nature Magazine. *
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