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\* T H E N E W S \*  
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No. 20

May, 1950

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

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

We are pleased that several members have given us comment and suggestions (polite, too!) about THE NEWS, and thank them for their practical interest. We are also especially grateful to Brenda Schache who has offered to type the stencils each month. Would you all help by making sure your name is ticked off as soon as you receive your copy of the NEWS in the Club room, so that we won't have unnecessary postage.

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Older members, especially, learnt with great regret of the death of Charlie Greenhill recently. Charlie was a dependable and welcome member of any walking party, and an esteemed Club member, and all will join with Paul Lederer and Norm Richards in their tributes to his memory last meeting.

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A HEARTY WELCOME TO

Alice Busse, Dorothy Douch, Fred Douch, Ted Field, Walter Marks, Peter Matters, Beryl Reagan, Ruth Hart, Jean Miller, Margaret Milne, and Lee Munday.

Some of these will feel like old members already, as they were accepted at the April Committee Meeting (held too late for inclusion in April NEWS). We hope you will all add to the happiness and good work of the Club. Financial membership is now 118.

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BE PREPARED FOR YOUR TRIP - You will ensure your own comfort, and the good spirits of the party by being properly equipped for your trip. Always carry some warm clothing (woollen) with you, even on day walks, however promising the weather may look - don't leave it behind in the van. Recent experience proved this point - the party reached the van after sunset, and some would have been much happier if they had had pullover and slacks with them instead of having to wait for them until they reached the van. Another point is to carry a little extra food - a compact emergency ration of high food value, such as chocolate, nuts and raisins. Other advice well worth considering when getting your equipment together is contained in Paddy Pallin's "Bushwalking and Camping", obtainable from the Librarian. (2/-)

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MYSTERY WALK (Anzac Day) - And what a mystery - even the leader was in the dark! The secret of the route was well kept, and there was much speculation about our destination as the van left the city that fine sunny morning, but no one guessed it would be 10.45 pm before it was back again. The route was Strathewen, Sugarloaf, Running Creek, Howat's Lookout, and the trouble started when the van missed the turn-off to Strathewen, giving the party of 39 an extra four miles' walking. This meant extra time taken, so that after an afternoon of climbing and scrub-pushing, dusk found the party still at Howat's Lookout. After that, moonlight was very welcome in the five or six miles to the van. In spite of weariness after the 18 miles' walk, there were no complaints, and everyone remained in very good spirits.

10TH ANNIVERSARY WALK - (Ferntree Gully, Mt. Morton, Belgrave) 53 Bushwalkers celebrated this great occasion on April 30th. The weather was unco-operative, but even rain at lunch-time, although it spoilt the view from Mt. Morton, didn't damp our spirits too much. Egon has promised to prepare a speech for our Twentieth Anniversary Walk - I wonder how many will be there for that? Did you notice the pars. in the AGE, ARGUS and HERALD the next week?

WESBURN - HEALESVILLE WEEKEND. A happy party of thirteen enjoyed the fine weather and varied walking on this trip, as well as pleasant views down the Don Valley, and later of country on the Healesville side of the range. Even hitch-hiking to Lilydale when we found the bus booked out added to the variety of experiences during the weekend.

A SATURDAY WALK, to be led by Egon Donath towards the end of June, will be on the Winter Program. If there is enough interest among members for Saturday walks, more will be included in future programs. Let the Walks sub-committee have your opinion.

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CLEAR UP BEFORE YOU CLEAR OUT!!!

Burn all scrap paper, fruit peel, etc. before you put your fire out. Burn, bash and bury tins.

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**CONTACTS.** To avoid unnecessary worry in case a party is delayed, the Walks Sec. arranges for some person who will be at home to act as a contact for each trip. Then in case of any breakdown or accident, the leader will get news through to this contact as soon as possible. Always remember to find out who the contact for your trip is, and leave a note of his name and phone number at home, so that your family will know where to enquire if you are unduly late in returning from a trip.

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### FEDERATION NOTES

**THE TRACK-CLEARING WEEKEND WAS WELL ATTENDED**, and in spite of bad weather, the work planned was successfully carried out. Our party of 30 Bushwalkers camped at the Turntable below Donna Buang, and about the same number from other clubs were at the Ben Cairn hut. Marie and Edna organised the cooking, and, assisted by Lorraine and Margaret and the other girls, provided a tasty and satisfying three course meal on Saturday night, a breakfast well worth getting up for on Sunday - both these meals were served in the van, the only dry place - and a salad lunch to be eaten on the track. Thus fortified, the men worked with good spirit in rain and thick cloud, clearing the very steep, overgrown and muddy track - the leeches meanwhile having a whacko time! They finished the job early in the afternoon, and the weekend was rounded off with tea and biscuits round the camp-fire by the Yarra near Millgrove. Everyone concerned deserves congratulations for the good work cheerfully carried out under unpleasant conditions.

**THE SEARCH AND RESCUE SECTION** organised twelve months ago, was called on to assist the police on April 25th in the search for an old lady lost at Warrandyte. 48 Federation members (including 3 Bushwalkers) joined in the search, but although they picked up several clues, the search was unsuccessful, and the police subsequently abandoned it.

**THE FEDERATION ANNUAL BALL** will be held on October 6th. Don't say we didn't give you plenty of notice!

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### SOCIAL

On May 26th (General Meeting) Mr. Frank Halls will show colour films taken during his visit to Central Australia last August. These films have been highly praised by other groups to whom he has shown them recently, and Bushwalkers can look forward to a most interesting evening. (Please be early so that we can finish the meeting and start the films by 8.30.)

On June 30th Mr. John Bechervaise will show his films of Wilson's Promontory.

On May 27th Ken Hewitt will be screening some of his latest films at Horst Eisfelder's home. (The list put on the notice board on Apr. 28th is already full). Those going are reminded to be there at 8 pm sharp.

Marie will be arranging theatre nights for "SONG OF NORWAY", the revival of "ANNIE GET YOUR GUN", and the FRENCH BALLET, as soon as the booking opens.

Speaking at our April meeting, Mr. Arnold Shore, of the National Gallery, had a most attentive and interested audience when, using coloured slides of various paintings as illustration he outlined the development of Australian landscape painting. The Club will be arranging for Mr. Shore to conduct a small group through the Gallery shortly. If you wish to be included, add your name to the list on the notice-board.

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### PERSONAL

\*Yes, it's happened again! and again! We heard at the end of April that Paddy Mallet and Keith Murray were engaged, and then, just a week later, Kath Short and Hew Ridge announced their engagement. Congratulations and our best wishes!

\*Kath and Ramsay had a perfect day for their wedding on April 29th - we hope their life together will be just as sunny.

\*We are sorry to have to say goodbye to four of our members this week. Giselle and Fred Heilpern, who were among the Club's earliest members, are leaving for Sydney on May 13th, on their way to U.S.A., where they will rejoin other members of their family living near Seattle. Lydia and Jack Widmer, who have been in the Club over three years, are leaving on the "Chitral" on May 17th for Perth, their former home. We are sorry to lose these four old friends, but wish them every happiness and look forward to hearing from them often.

\*Nellie Snowden-Stewart was married recently.

\*Two more of our members will be off the walking list for a while owing to appendicitis. Kath Ward is just recovering from an operation, and Lorrie Pullen is about to have one. We were glad to see Gerry Harant in the Clubroom and looking fit only a few weeks after his operation, and hope Kath and Lorrie will be back just as soon.

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LIBRARY NOTES

Do you know the Macadamia Nut? Most Bushwalkers recognise the food value of nuts, and include them in their walking diet, but very few are familiar with what the Americans regard as "the finest nut in the world" - the Macadamia or Queensland Nut. In this month's "Walk-about" John Bechervaise(our June lecturer) writes a most interesting article, telling us that they were introduced into Hawai in 1922, and since then have developed into a thriving industry there. The photographs show how they are grown in a few places in their native country, Australia. In "WILD LIFE" are two articles of particluar interest to us: one about the numerous native flowers to be found in "Walking Up and Down the Railway Lines", the other about "Feathers" - how would you like your sleeping bag filled with "inch-long body down from the tail of an owl"? Both articles are well illustrated with photographs. The Club subscribes to both of these magazines, as well as to the National Geographic and Geographical Magazines, and all members may borrow them from the Librarian,Bill Horton.

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THE SHOWER-PROOFING LIQUID MENTIONED IN LAST MONTH'S NEWS can be applied to both cotton and woollen materials, so that tents, wind-jackets, ski-ing pants,etc. can be successfully treated. Application is easy;the liquid is poured into warm water and the garment steeped in the solution for about an hour, hung to dry, and ironed. If you are interested, see Gerda Schwerin, who will also give further advice on use and application.

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BADGES Many members have been enquiring when new Club badges would be available. We are arranging to have a number made,and it will be announced in the NEWS when they are available.

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Malcolm Lodwick, of Brisbane, a member of the Queensland National Parks Association, was a welcome member of the party on the Wesburn-Healesville trip. From him we learnt that the Q.N.P.A., with a membership of about 300, is doing a good job in having the Government set aside an increasing number of areas as National Parks, The Queensland Govt. also gives considerable financial support in maintaining some of the Parks, such as the Lamington Plateau, and in cutting tracks through many others. He also mentioned that a Brisbane Bushwalkers Club was formed about a year ago.

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Ask Frank Pitt for his recipe for mead! His latest brew blew the corks out of the bottles within a fortnight - how will it be by October 6th!

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TWO'S AND THREE'S Do you like playing this and similar games to fill in spare time on walks, or do you think it's too childish, too energetic, or what? Egon is one who would like to know what you think about it, so give him your views sometime.

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DATES TO KEEP IN MIND

- May 26. General Meeting. Frank Halls' colour films of Central Australia.
- May 27. Ken Hewitt's films to be shown at Horst Eisfelder's.
- June 30. General Meeting. John Bechervaise and films of Wilson's Prom.

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\* SEE FRANK PITT \*  
\* for \*  
\* Packs, Cane Pack-frames, Groundsheet-capes, \*  
\* Tents, Water-buckets, Foodbags, Etc. to order. \*  
\* \*  
\* Repairs and Alterations. Reproofing. \*  
\* Rivets, Press-studs, Eyelets, Boot studs. \*  
\* Buckles, Straps, etc. \*  
\* (Groundsheet-capes ready early in June. ) \*  
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\* For SPECTACLES \*  
\* \*  
\* See \*  
\* WERNER GRAFF \*  
\* \*  
\* The Optical Specialist, \*  
\* of 80 Swanston Street, \*  
\* Cent. 3186 MELBOURNE. \*  
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\* READ \*  
\* \*  
\* "WILD LIFE" \*  
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\* Australia's \*  
\* Leading \*  
\* Nature Magazine. \*  
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ADVERTISEMENTS - Members may insert advertisements in the NEWS.  
For rates see Fay Pitt. Fees paid help defray running costs.