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\* T H E N E W S \*  
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No. 25

13th October, 1950

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

NEWS SUB-COMMITTEE:

Fay Pitt (XB5736)  
Margaret Dark (LA4171-bus)  
Gordon Coutts (WX3910)

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 (XB5736)  
8 Railway Avenue,  
BRIGHTON S.5

With membership now over 150, we can claim to be a healthy and flourishing club. This rapid increase means that there are many newcomers among us, and we hope that they are already feeling at home with us on walks and in the Clubroom, and will join in all Club activities.

As the October Committee meeting was postponed for a week because of the Federation Ball we cannot announce the names of newly accepted members, but the list will be put on the notice board tonight.

Several new members were presented with their badges at the September General Meeting.

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Norm Richards had an interested and attentive audience for his talk at the last meeting. It was both informal and informative and packed in lots of helpful ideas for both new and experienced walkers. As a reminder for those present and for the information of those who weren't, here are a few of the points he mentioned:

Choose gear that is simple and reliable, and be careful not to sacrifice strength in the quest for lightness. Basic equipment needed will be a cape-ground-sheet, boots (with ample toe-room) pack, sleeping-bag (down-filled), and tent, acquired in that order. Always carry a map of the area, compass, and water-proof matches.

Be proud of the Club, and by your behaviour and appearance in public maintain its good name. Leave camp spots tidy. Cross fences at straining posts, and one person at a time. Keep to the right in road walking. Keep with the party. In any point of dispute, accept the leader's verdict.

P.S. He considered the growing of beards during long walks a ticklish problem - we'd say it's a ticklish problem any time!

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The Brisbane Bushwalkers wrote to us recently, after receiving a copy of "Walk". They say their club has been in existence for nearly two years now, and that a University Bushwalking Club and a Climbing Club have also been formed in Brisbane recently. They offer us their cordial good wishes, and extend an invitation to all our members who may be in Brisbane to become Honorary Members of the Brisbane Bushwalkers during their stay.

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"THE NEWS", DISTRIBUTION OF

Pam Abbott will be carrying out the distribution of "THE NEWS" tonight and we hope everyone will give her their co-operation. We're grateful for your help, Pam. We were very pleased, too, that so many volunteered to help with the folding & addressing of wrappers, and thank them for their good work - we can guarantee them full employment!

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WALKS NOTES

CHRISTMAS WALKS LISTS HAVE BEEN ON THE NOTICE BOARD FOR SEVERAL WEEKS NOW, and all those intending to join one of these are advised to add their names without delay. They are also reminded that they must do three weekend walks before Christmas and test out the suitability and reliability of their equipment, in plenty of time to replace or adjust anything faulty. Leaders of trips are asked to help wherever possible.

FEDERATION ANNUAL DAY WALK, October 22nd.

Most members will have received an information sheet on which full details of this are given. The route will be Upper Ferntree Gully - Lysterfield - Mt. Morton - Belgrave, about 10 1/2 miles. Take Ferntree Gully train from Flinders Street at 8.48 or 8.55 am. This will be a most enjoyable day, with pleasant walking and good views, and we look forward to seeing a good roll-up of Bushwalkers and their friends. Egon wants helpers to organise a game of two's and three's).

CUP DAY WALK - Horst Eisfelder wants to remind those who are going on his walk that there will be no water at the lunch place. So, unless you want a dry lunch, remember to take a water bucket or billy to fill.

WALKS NOTES(cont.)

THE ANNUAL FIELD WEEKEND, one of the year's big events, is almost here again, and we expect there'll be a record gathering around the camp-fire this year. In fact, we're really not sure whether to order a sheep or a bullock for the barbecue! We have a good site on private property on the Stringybark Creek (a mile or so from Wandin station.) and the nearby hills give fine views of the ranges.

Van transport will be used - fare 10/- - and booking should be made as soon as possible. Parties will leave on Saturday morning and afternoon - see notice-board for final details of exact times, etc.

This is always a most enjoyable weekend for everyone, and a great opportunity for those who have never tried it before to camp out under ideal conditions. So, shall we see YOU at the camp-fire?

ALONG THE TRACK

Warren Olle's trip from Yarra Glen to the Pinnacles and back along Paul's Range to Healesville took the eighteen members of his party through an area new to most of them, and provided a succession of fine views. Walking was varied, over every thing from main road to thick scrub. Passing through one paddock the party greatly alarmed some peacefully grazing cows - Betty wonders if their calves will be born with packs on their backs! On Saturday one of the party found a Weather Bureau "Radiosonde" recording apparatus, which all took turns in carrying, and which Warren and Betty returned to the Weather Bureau on Sunday night. They learnt that one of these is released each day, on a parachute which keeps it floating through the atmosphere for some time, and automatically records certain data. This was the first to be returned directly to the Bureau, although others had been handed in at Post Offices.

Marie's walk on the Sunday was led by Pam Abbott, owing to Marie's knee injury, and was a delightful walk in perfect weather, with fine views from John's Hill and other ridges.

Les Scott's Hurstbridge - Queenstown walk proved to be quite a marathon, as, arriving at Queenstown earlier than planned, it was decided to walk back to Hurstbridge instead of waiting for the bus, making the day's walk 17 miles.

Egon's Saturday walk was very select, with a party of three - we'd hardly call three a crowd in this case!

A party of 35 went with Pam Abbott from Clarkefield to Sunbury, and had a most enjoyable walk through open, restful country very different from our usual walking areas, and sunny weather tempered by a cool breeze was ideal for it.

It was also ideal for Fay Pitt's trip to Burke's Lookout, when a party of twelve enjoyed the wonderful panoramic views westward to the Bay and east to the Warburton Ranges and beyond - it was agreed that these views were worth a certain amount of road walking.

Eight people spent Show Day with Paul Lederer, and apparently were feeling energetic, for they extended the nine miles to about thirteen.

There were twenty five away for the weekend when Norm Richards took one party along the Cathedral Range and Fred Soutter another from St. Fillans to Buxton. The weather was good, except for a thunderstorm on Saturday night, which tested out the tents pretty thoroughly.

Felix Harding took over the leadership of the St. Helena walk, with a party of thirteen. There was a variety of orchids and other wildflowers blooming plentifully, and some of the party saw a large fox.

Last Sunday there were 58 out for the day - quite a record! An indication, too, that the activity of members is keeping pace with the growing membership. Eight had a most enjoyable walk and splendid views on Willie Baxter's walk to the Silvan Dam and Mt. Dandenong. The You Yongs trip was very popular - no less than 50 were there! We'd like to thank Victor Jacoby, who took three of the party in his car as the van was full. The Ranger was very helpful in providing water for a dozen of the party who had not filled their billies at Werribee. The party explored the full length of the range, and with such clear weather had extensive views. There was one menace - MOSQUITOES in millions! We can only conclude that there was a world rally of mosquitoes in progress there.

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A map of the "Green Mountains" (border between N.S.W. and Queensland) has been incorporated in our map collection. Paul Lederer has brought it back after his short holidays at O'Reilly's guest house. He can recommend both O'Reilly's and Binnaburra to any Bushwalker who wants to spend his holidays outside Victoria. Marvellous evenly-graded tracks through dense rain forests with abundant sub-tropical vegetation and many waterfalls and creeks make the area accessible even to not-so-tough walkers.

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FEDERATION OF VICTORIAN WALKING CLUBS

THE ANNUAL MEETING will be held in the second week in November - exact date and place of meeting are still to be arranged. Business will be a report on the past year's work, election of office-bearers, and probably on certain changes in the Constitution, and there will be a lecture or films and supper afterwards. The Federation, as a body, can do most valuable work in bringing the aims and interests of all walkers before Government Departments and public bodies, as well as in mapping, search and rescue organization etc., and we are confident that the Bushwalkers will show their enthusiastic support by a large attendance at this Annual Meeting. It is also a good opportunity to learn first hand just what is going on, and to further acquaintanceship with members of other Clubs.

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SOCIAL NOTES

Marie has planned two more theatre nights before Christmas - on October 6, "Don't Listen, Ladies", and on November 2, "Worm's Eye View", the great London comedy success at the Comedy Theatre. Tickets for each will probably be about 5/-.

The theatre night for "The Two Mrs. Carrolls" was the most successful the Club has had, not only in that the record number of 104 tickets were sold - which meant a big job for Marie - but in the spirit of enthusiasm aroused by Elizabeth Bergner's wonderful performance.

THE FEDERATION BALL was very successful, with 190 present representing most of the clubs in the Federation. There were 44 Bushwalkers. It was generally agreed to have been even more enjoyable than last year's ball.

By the way, make a note now of our less formal but very happy function, the Club dance at Jerram Hall on December 7th. We'll be able to let you know full details in the November "NEWS".

We're planning some entertainment for the Field Weekend camp-fire -  
What can YOU do ?

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PERSONAL

\*\*\* We'll be saying goodbye to three of our members very soon. Bill Horton, who has given the Club able service on the Committee and as Librarian, has been transferred to Bath, England, and will be leaving us in about a fortnight. Thanks for your work with us, Bill. We wish you all the best while you are away, and hope you will let us know of your walking and other activities over there.

Helen Ross, one of our earliest members, who has also given service on the Committee, will be leaving for a European tour next Monday (October 16th). Bon voyage, Helen. We hope you have a wonderful trip, and that you'll be able to spare time to let us know of some of the highlights of your journeyings.

Joan Vincent will be moving to the Foster district at the end of this month, as her people have bought a dairying property there. Sorry you have to leave us, Joan, but hope we'll see you back from time to time. Perhaps you'll be able to explore the local hills and introduce some of our members to their beauties.

\*\*\* Noeline Henderson and Ruth Hart are off next week for a month's adventuring in Queensland. Best of luck, girls - we'll be most anxious to hear all about it when you return. Perhaps you'll be the first to accept the Brisbane Bushwalkers' invitation.

\*\*\* We were pleased to see Ken Grant at the Ball - he had just returned from Mildura that morning. He had spent a fortnight of his time in the Base Hospital with pneumonia. Nothing like seeing the place from the inside!

\*\*\* We were very glad to have a letter from Jack and Lyddie Widmer, in Perth. They send their kindest regards to all members, and say they miss us quite a lot. Lyddie is feeling the benefit of the warmer climate, and although it is becoming rather hot for walking, they have their motor cycle and are able to visit the lovely beaches often.

\*\*\* We were pleased to see Ada Schulz back in the Clubroom one night recently, and looking very well. Baby Max is six months old now.

\*\*\* Keith Craig, a former trustee of the Club and well-known by older members, and his wife, June (also a former member), went to England about 18 months ago. They both found employment to their liking in the Oxford district, and after trips to the Lakes District and north and south Wales they decided to use their annual holidays for mountaineering in the Austrian Alps. Some friends of Paul Lederer met them in the heart of the Salzburg Alps, and armed with ice axes and "crampons" they experienced their first crossing of a glacier, with the aid of a rope. They climbed the summit of the snow-capped Grossvenediger (12,000') in fine weather and spent a few unforgettable days in the range of the Hohentavern. We hope to see them in our Club after their return to Melbourne early next year and to hear more about their first Alpine experience.

LIBRARY

In this month's "WILD LIFE" is an interesting article for those Bushwalkers who are taking an increasing interest in our wild flowers - Daisies of Keilor, with many photographs of the little flowers with which most of us are familiar, but whose names very few of us would know. And there is a delightful and amusing account of Rastus the wild wombat. In "WALKABOUT" there is an article by Alan Marshall, "The Mellow Note of the Bullock Bell", and some splendid aerial photographs of Ayers Rock. Lorraine Richey will be acting as Librarian after Bill Horton's departure.

A VISIT TO A GARDEN OF NATIVE PLANTS IN TOORAK

Following the Club's working party at the Field Naturalist's Club's Native Plants Preservation Group's reserve at Sydenham, Miss Winifred Waddell, the Convenor of the group, invited Club members to visit her home, where in a comparatively few years she has established a really inspiring and comprehensive collection of native plants. Eight members availed themselves of this opportunity, and spent a most instructive and pleasant afternoon - though none of them would claim to remember all the plants by name now! However, it has provided a basis of knowledge, and will make walking trips more interesting as more and more of the plants are recognised and remembered. By the way, in this month's "WILD LIFE" Miss Waddell has an interesting account of the Group's first wildflower sanctuary, at Tallarook. The Field Naturalists will be holding an outing to this sanctuary in a few weeks, and Miss Waddell has issued an invitation for any interested Bushwalkers (with 18/- to spare for the journey by parlor coach) to join them.

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"WILD FLOWERS OF VICTORIA"

The "SUN" will shortly be publishing a very fine volume, fully illustrated with photographs, and containing comprehensive and reliable information of the Wild flowers of Victoria. We have seen an advance copy of this, and can recommend it as good value at 12/6.

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CHRISTMAS CARDS

The printer has assured us that these will be ready shortly, and a sample will be put on the notice board as soon as they are received. Have a look at it next Friday. Fay Pitt will accept orders for these immediately.

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No one has yet claimed the 127 Ilford film which was left in the van after a trip. If not claimed soon, Marie (who has it now) will sell it for Club funds.

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\* kinds of japara, prices of some \*  
\* goods will have to rise by about 15%.\*  
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Club members may insert advertisements in the "NEWS", and fees paid help to defray running expenses. For rates intending advertisers see Fay Pitt.