

CIRCULAR

"THE NEWS"

NO. 62.

20th November, 1953.

- THE MELBOURNE BUSHWALKERS -

Address: Room 110, 3rd Floor, Victorian Railways Institute,
Flinders Street, Melbourne.

GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING, 30 October.

This, our first meeting devoted entirely to business matters, was a great success, since there was a lot of lively discussion on the many topics raised. As a result, we now have a new policy with regard to the Bathing Box at Sandringham. Since there was plenty of interest in retaining this box, it was decided to keep it for the Club during this season.

For members who are not familiar with the location of the box: Take the train to Sandringham, follow Beach Road towards Half Moon Bay to Southey Street, (about 8 minutes walk), then walk down the steps to the beach. The box bears the number 799 and is marked with "MBW" which means Melbourne Bushwalkers (not Metropolitan Board of Works, as frequently assumed). This part of the beach is particularly nice, comparatively near to the city and not too overcrowded.

Charges: Subscription for the whole season: 5/- plus 2/6 deposit for key; married couples (1 key) 7/6 plus 2/6 deposit.

Otherwise 6d. per day, and children under 14, free.

Keys are available from Karl Bing (UY 6708), Val Adams (FU.1576) or Allan Bates.

Perhaps you would appreciate the convenience of a bathing box this summer! Come along, and try it out! If the box proves popular, it will be retained after this season.

The Club also expressed its interest in supporting the formation of an Australia-wide Secretariat of Bushwalking Clubs. This development, although still in the formative stage, has been proposed by the N.S.W. Federation, so that the various Federations may be formed into a very strong body. This organisation would have many advantages, such as the pooling of information for compiling maps of areas lying on both sides of a State boundary, such as the Kosciusko area, - the exchange of information and maps in connection with interstate walking trips.

SOCIAL EVENTS

27th Nov. Mr. Bill Wannan, a noted Australian author and historian will speak on "Australian Folklore". Please be in time so as not to disturb the lecturer.

2nd Dec. Bushwalkers' Xmas Dance at Jerram Hall, Little Flinders Lane. Tickets at 7/6 are available this Friday from Ruth Hart. Come along and make this evening a success. You are sure to enjoy yourself. Supper, of course, is provided.

HAS ANYONE LOST A MUG? (enamel, of course!)

The Secretary, Helen Horton, has a mug which was left in the Ben Cairn Hut during the Barbecue Weekend. Would the owner please contact Helen?

XMAS CARDS: XMAS CARDS: XMAS CARDS

A reminder to those who still have Xmas cards to buy: Frank Pitt has plain and decorated cards at 3d. and 6d. If you are unable to collect cards from the clubroom, write or ring Frank at WX.6554 (address, 51 Birdwood Street, Box Hill, E.11), and orders over 2/- will be posted.

SOCIAL NOTES

Congratulations to Joyce Edgecumbe and David Barclay on their engagement recently. The Club also extends best wishes to Kath Ward who has become engaged. Her fiancé at present is at Mt. Gambier.

Best wishes also to Kitty Mitchell, whose engagement to Mervyn Lia of the Victorian Mountain Trampers' Club, has just been announced.

We are interested to hear that Fred Soutter is now in Cloncurry, and will remain there for some years. Bobby is to join him early next year.

Kevin and Joyce Foley, writing from Birmingham, send their greetings to the Club. Jill and Fred Heilpern send news of their travels in America.

CHANGE OF PHONE NUMBER: Heinz Wolff (p) UY.2678 (instead of U.2678)
(b) MU.7631 (unchanged)

NEW MEMBER: The following new member has been approved at the last Committee Meeting, and we welcome him to the Club:-

WILLIAM JAMES STEPHEN KIRKPATRICK, 18 Margaret Street, BALWYN, E.8.
Phone No. (p) WF.7246. (b) MU.2340.

LEADERS PLEASE NOTE.

There are at least six applications for membership which cannot be approved, because some leaders of recent walks have not yet handed in their reports. The Committee would appreciate receiving these reports as early as possible.

NEW MAP OF WARBURTON AREA.

It has been reported in the "Age" that an aerial survey by the Government has recently been made of the Donna Buang-Warburton area, and that a small but detailed map will shortly be available for the public.

COMING EVENTS

- 21-22 Nov. - Yarra Junction-McCrea's Falls. Yarra Junction 2nd Single. 8.25 am.
Leader, Lorraine Richey.
- 22 Nov - MOOROOLBARK-Mr. Dandenong-Kallista. M'bark-FTG Hiker's Ticket, 9.12 am.
Leader, Eric Sculthorpe.
- 28-29 Nov - Black Spur-Mt. Monda-Myer's Creek. See Notice Board or ring Leader,
Graeme Rae, XM.2394.
- 29 Nov - Avonsleigh-Shepherd's Creek. FTG 8.55 am 2nd Ret. Joyce Edgecumbe.MW1341.
- 5-6 Dec - Mirboo North-Moc. Hiker's Ticket 8.35 am. Leader, Lesloy Kurth.
MBO33 Ext. 532 (b)
- 6 Dec - Robin Hood-Brancy Creek-Camp Hill. Van 8.55 am. John Ball, MU.7888 (b)
- 12-13 Dec - Emerald-Bunyip. FTG-Bunyip Hiker's Tckt. 9.18 am. Felix Harding.
- 13 Dec - Tarrawarra-Aqueduct-Healesville. H'ville 2nd Ret. 9.12 am.
Leader, Joan Stephens.
- Xmas Walks. See previous "News".
- 10 Jan - Sassafrass-Lyre Bird Gully-Mt. Evelyn. FTG-Lilydale Hiker's Ticket. 8.55 am.
Leader, Neil McDonald, FM.2632.
- 17 Jan - Frankston-Canadian Bay (Swimming). Frankston Ret. 8.53 am.
Leader, Val Adams FU.1576.
- 24 Jan - Moe-Yallourn Area, Moe 2nd Return. 9.05 am. Peter Salmon.
- 30 Jan-1 Feb - PHILLIP ISLAND See Notice Board or ring Horst Eisfelder, LA.4632.
- 30 Jan-1 Feb - KENNET RIVER-BENWERRIN TRACK-MT. SABINE-APPOLLO BAY. See Notice
Board or ring leader, Ron Abbott, MW.1826 (b).
- 31 Jan - Packenham-Toomuc Valley-Emerald. PCK'HAM-Emerald Hiker's Tckt. 9.05 a.
Leader, Bob Bittner. U.3129.

WATCH THAT CAMPFIRE! Light only small fires, see that they completely out before you leave them; if there is no water near at hand, cover them with earth. Do not light your fire close to or beside a log or stump.

"ON THE TRACK"

GISBORNE-PYRETT'S CREEK-BULLENGAROOK-TRENTHAM. (Bill Horton - 12-13 September)

Nine people followed the leader through Gisborne up Mt. Gisborne to admire the panoramic view, then went down the other side to the Gisborne-Melton Road. After a couple of miles, we left the road to strike down a deep gully and when the colour of the water in the creek was a little more acceptable, we lunched. We followed this creek down to Pyrett's Creek and continued along this until a sharp, steep ridge rose on our right. This was too good for the leader to miss and we meekly followed him up, feeling rather like Jack climbing the beanstalk. A pleasant ramble along a rambling ridge brought us to Little Bullengarook and then Bullengarook itself, where another fine view was had, though slightly shadowed by the late afternoon haze. We camped that night in the midst of old mine shafts on Goodman's Creek and spent Sunday morning coming up the pleasant, rocky bedded creek, to the top of the Divide, lunching by Salt Water Creek. Here we met an old road and this led us over the last eleven miles into Trentham.

MACEDON-BLACK FOREST-WOODEND. (Helen Horton - 11 October)

The party of thirteen went west from Macedon to the top of the ridge then dropped down to a tributary of Gisborne Creek. After a short scrub bash down the creek, we left the gully for the clearer side of the spur and sent on with the intention of lunching by Gisborne Creek. However, a threat of mutiny at about one o'clock resulted in lunch by one of the larger creeks going in to Gisborne Creek, and marred only by a little rain.

After lunch a good ridge was followed in a generally north direction to meet the Macedon-Trentham Road. This ridge was pleasantly timbered and wattle covered. We then followed the Trentham Road as far as its junction with the new road from Gisborne and the rain chose this moment on the open road to pour down. At the junction we left the road and followed a course a little east of north striking a track which led to the road only a mile or so before Woodend. A burst of sunshine was too good to miss, so we boiled the billy and enjoyed it just before the road was met. Most of the party had a hot meal or snack in Woodend before catching the 7.20 train home.

MALMSBURY-CASTLEMAINE. (Heinz Wolff - 24-25 October)

This walk proved one of the pleasantest weekends that the Club has yet experienced this year. Glorious sunshine, a variety of wildflowers and orchids made walking very enjoyable through the undulating hills near Malmsbury and a soft, green, flat bank by the flume made a comfortable campsite. This quiet retreat was disturbed, we regret to say, by the "domestic disruption" between Emil's "harem" who quarrelled and lectured the poor chap all the evening. Three new members were intrigued with Emil's Turkish Cap, and even more so, by his reminiscences, round the campfire, of his nightgown - the wearing of which is now, alas, only a memory! Two young ladies were fiercely attacked by a lean, grey Wolff who rushed without warning upon them - can it be said, that this was a desperate measure of self-defence!

On Sunday, those with the foresight to bring togs, enjoyed a swim in a waterhole, while others lingered in a garden of wildflowers near the Lookout Tower. The magnificent spectacle of stretches of red grevillea, fully out in bloom, was a sight to remember. Sometime in the afternoon was spent inspecting two disused goldmines, after boiling the billy, after which we descended upon Castlemaine and its milkbars and the Cumberland Hotel, for further refreshment, before catching the train upon which we had a very sleepy journey that hot night, to Melbourne.

NARRE WARREN NTH-LYSTERFIELD RESERVOIR-HENY PARK-DANDENONG. (Nich Geroe-1 November)

The trouble started as the walk commenced. We should have gone by bus to Narre Warren North, but we left it at Narre Warren. This added an extra $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles roadbashing to the pleasure of the walk. Anyway, we saved sixpence on the fares!

As we got to the power line, we followed it, for it led almost straight to the Reservoir. But at noon we left the power line in spite of the protesting of the party, to get a chance of getting lost! Soon we did not know where we were, so we started a vain search for the reservoir, or any other desirable water; one member organised a revolution against the leader, but the movement was soon suppressed.

It was almost 2 pm when a girl, who had no breakfast that morning, started a sit-down strike. We hoped to find the Lysterfield Reservoir, but it was not to be! Instead, it was the Heny Park Lake. So we could have our lunch, after all - at 2. pm. After this we headed for Dandenong. Just for fun we went through the thick scrub, about 20 yards from the track. After an hour of pleasant scrub-bashing, we got to the road. There a sound hailstorm refreshed our bodies and souls. We caught the train back to the city at 5.45 pm. This was the only thing on the whole walk, which went according to plan.

" CURE YOUR OPTICAL ILLUSIONS CURE YOUR OPTICAL ILLUSIONS "

" CURE YOUR OPTICAL ILLUSIONS CURE YOUR OPTICAL ILLUSIONS "

" AND PAY A VISIT to "

" WERNER GRAF WERNER GRAF "

" WERNER GRAF WERNER GRAF "

" OPTICIAN "

" 2nd Floor, 80 Swanston Street, Melbourne. C.3186 "

" ALICE SPIERER ALICE SPIERER ALICE SPIERER "

" ALICE SPIERER ALICE SPIERER ALICE SPIERER "

" has resumed dressmaking at 4 Ivy Street, PRAHRAN "

" YOUR OWN MATERIAL MADE UP also NEW MODEL BRIDAL GOWNS "

" FOR HIRE "

" M O D E R A T E P R I C E S "

" For appointment Ring W.A.2436 "

VISIT "AUSKI" FOR YOUR WALKING SUPPLIES AND
UP-TO-DATE EQUIPMENT FOR EXPERIENCED WALKERS

Frameless Packs (Paddy Pallin)

Busyip: £1. 12. 9.
Junior: £1. 15. 0.
Senior: £2. 4. 6.
Bushman £2. 9. 6. (2 pkt)
" £2.17. 9. (3 pkt)
Pioneer: £3. 7. 3. (4 pkt)

Hatchets: "Hytest" (Australian)
"Banko" (Swedish)

Canteen Set: containing cup, plate, two
frying pans (removable handles) deep plate.
£1. 2. 6.

Waist Bags: £1. 6. 0.

"Drumstick" proofing Compound (Paddy Pallin) 2/-
Tricounis and Clinkers available.

PRESIDENT'S WEEKEND (BEN CAIRN) 7-8 November.

It takes a lot to dampen the spirits of Bushwalkers, so despite the fact that some of the worst November weather on record adversely affected this year's " President's Weekend" better known as our annual barbecue, 39 Bushwalkers and friends braved the elements to attend this traditional outing. The morning party visited the Healesville Wild Life Sanctuary, where we noticed a striking resemblance between our members and the equally wet and miserable-looking emus.

Since the rain continued to pour down heavily, it was decided to shift the site of the barbecue from Panton's Gap to Ben Cairn, 5 miles further along the Don Road, where a small hut would provide some shelter, and within this confined space, the party had tea. Eleven people helped to put up a large marquee tent, loaned by Don Smellie. A big fire was got going with logs and wood, cut by the strenuous efforts of Don Smellie and Graeme McKinney with an axe. Altogether, the evening now looked quite promising! But the rain never abated sufficiently, and for the first time in Club history, the sheep could not be roasted.

After tea everybody came into the hut - a hut which is famous for its wall murals (in the manner of modern French impressionism!) where warmed by a large fire, they enjoyed a sing-song and much hot cocoa.

On Sunday morning everyone was in good spirits and some went for a short walk to Ben Cairn for the view. The weather cleared about midday, resulting in a pleasant afternoon's walk to Donna Buang, (although it nearly snowed on the way). Occasionally we caught lovely glimpses of the Warburton valley below, while the road to the summit was shrouded in mist, giving the dark, green beech glades an ethereal mysteriousness.

Everyone agreed that it had really been a pleasant weekend after all - made so, by the good humour of all who came along, but then, this is just the typical Bushwalker outlook, whatever the weather!