

CIRCULAR

THE NEWS

of

No.71

- THE MELBOURNE BUSHWALKERS -

20th August,
1954.

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

NEW MEMBERS

We are very pleased to welcome the following new members to the Club and wish them "Good walking" in our midst:-

VICKERS, Joan, Flat 22, 562 St. Kilda Rd., Melbourne.
Phone: (P) LA2125. (Bus.) MXY130, ext. 6333
MULLICE, Robert Edward, 175 Victoria Parade, Fitzroy.

HONORARY MEMBER

At the August Committee Meeting, Ann Scullion, who is at present overseas, was made an honorary member of the Club.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

PAINE, Noble, 193 Wickham Terrace, Brisbane
TERSCH, R, 39 Russell Pl., Williamstown.

COMING EVENTS

- August 21/22 - Mt. Donna Buang area - Snow walking, hut accommodation.
Edna Richards. Phone WX5450.
This is a van trip and at least we hope there will be some snow.
- August 22nd. Narre Warren Nt. - Heany Park - Fern Tree Gully.
Karl Bing. Phone UY6708.
Buy a 2nd return to Dandenong and be on the 8.50 a.m. train.
- August 27th. - Half yearly General Meeting.
- and of course you will be there.
- August 29th - Belgrave - Silvan Dam - Lilydale. Lothar Kottek.
The leader maintains this is not going to be an easy walk, so we'll see all you tough eggs on the 8.55 train furnished with a 2nd return to Fern Tree Gully.
- Sept. 5th - Gisborne - Cherokee - Mt. Robertson - Gisborne.
Bill Kirkpatrick. WF7246.
Get a 2nd return to Gisborne, and present yourself at the Spencer St. station just before 9 a.m.
- Sept. 11/12th - Barn Dance weekend at Sunbury. Watch the noticeboard for further details on the social and walks sides of this event, then put your name down on the van list and come along and enjoy the hop.
- Sept. 19th - Wesburn - Britannia Falls - Mt. Lt. Joe - Warburton.
Willie Baxter. UY4948.
- Sept. 19th - Federation Search and Rescue Training Day - Will all S. & R. members please note this date.

SOCIAL NOTES.

Visit of Mr. Wakefield.

At our meeting on the last Friday in July, we again had the pleasure of a visit from Mr. N. Wakefield. His talk on the early history of Gippsland was very interesting to us as it brought to life the early pioneers who settled the remoter areas and made their way through country which even to-day is far from accessible. Mr. Wakefield has devoted a great deal of energy to the unravelling of this story and we are very grateful to him for bringing to us the results of his studies.

Mr. Wakefield has very kindly sent us copies of the special "Fauna" issue of the Victorian Naturalist, which several Bushwalkers said they would like to buy. These will be obtainable from the Secretary at the next two or three Club nights. So if you are interested, do not delay - especially if you have weak spot for koalas! The price of the magazine is 2/6d.

Federation Ball.

On Friday, August 6th, 37 Bushwalkers and friends formed part of the jolly band of 148 at the Federation of Victorian Walking Clubs' Ball held this year at Tudor Court.

There were glamour, soft lights, high spirits, spirits and dancing at the Ball and we might be excused if we did not always recognize the well groomed people who formed the party. We know that it is customary in reporting such functions to describe the various garments worn and this we are not capable of doing but feel it is worth mentioning that the girls did wear frocks and the men suits as our members are not often seen in such garb. We also feel that it should be noted that a tie formed part of the ensemble of one well known member

and this took our eye so much that we could describe it, if necessary, to all unbelievers.

The supper was great and the Bushwalkers were saved from disgrace because the powers that be put them in a room all by themselves and away from the more genteel eaters. We need not add that full justice was done to the laid out before us.

It was "Auld Lang Syne" before we were ready for it and the Ball was over. We are all convinced that you folk who didn't make it this year really missed something worthwhile and as we are all hoping to go next year we'll expect to see you there too.

Slide Night - Last Friday in September.

Members who have Kodachrome slides of general interest are asked to contact Betna Dryden if they would like to show them on that night. Each member will be allowed approximately 15 minutes and the slides should be around one area or on one topic.

NATIONAL PARKS ASSOCIATION.

Are you a member of the National Parks Association? This is a body which has the inherent support of all walkers - it must be an oversight if you have not yet made your support more effective by becoming a financial member. The annual subscription is only 5/- (payable to Norm Richards at any time), so what about it? We all realise that the greater the number of individual members the more effective will the Association's representations be in all matters regarding the preservation of our dearly beloved bush.

The Annual General Meeting of the Association will be held in the Museum Theatre, Latrobe St., on Thursday, Sept. 23rd, at 8 p.m. After the business part of the meeting, slides will be shown.

CHRISTMAS WALKS

Eighteen weeks to Christmas. Have you made your plans yet? Time is flying - especially if you are thinking of an extended trip which involves long distance planning. Details of the long walks are now on the noticeboard, so if you are able to get time off, see the leaders as soon as you can. Anyone who would like to lead a 4 day walk in the Christmas period should see Horst Eisfelder as arrangements for these shorter walks are not yet complete.

WALK

Do you remember that time when you got all enthusiastic about writing an article for your Club's very own magazine - maybe you even got a pencil out and had a vague preliminary scribble - well - "the time has come, the editor says. The need is now pressing, time is short, in fact it's so short you had better put the pencil down and pick up a pen, the pen is a much more final sort of weapon, it really gets things done, whereas the pencil only thinks about them, chews things over. We feel we should set you a time limit, of, say, a few days, but then we don't want to frighten you off altogether, so you just get on with the job and present the Editor with your masterpiece pronto - Think of the excitement of seeing your name in print!!!!

FEDERATION

First Aid Class for Women. The Federation of Victorian Walking Clubs are organising a course of First Aid lectures for women. The course will comprise 13 lectures, the first of which will be on the 6th September, at 7.30 pm, in the National Fitness Club rooms, 161 Flinders Lane. If you are interested please give your name to Jock Low.

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PERSONAL NOTES

Congratulations to Evelyn Moscowitz and her husband on the birth of daughter on July 11th.

Also to Mr. and Mrs. Robert Les, who now live in Morwell, who on July 11th, also increased the population of the bushwalking community by one.

We are sorry to hear that our News Editor, Margaret Edwards, is in hospital, and hope that she will be well on the road to recovery by the time this news emerges into the light of day.

We have news of Helen Whitton, who is now enjoying life in Brisbane. So far she has been seeing the countryside around by car but is looking forward to resuming walking activities by sampling the walks of the Brisbane Bushwalkers.

ON THE TRACK

July 10th/11th. Whittlesea - Running Ck.-Strathewan - Hurstbridge.

John Gubrin.

Although only three hardy walkers turned out on a raw, foggy Saturday morning, this was a most successful and enjoyable trip. From the sunny hills all weekend, we watched the bank of fog sitting on Melbourne and thought of the unfortunates and their cold feet. There were no incidents to report except a late start on Sunday morning after a most comfortable night on the spoils of haystack and the quite remarkable number of fences we climbed over.

July 18th. Yarra Glen to St. Andrews.

Bill Horton.

Bushwalkers must have anticipated a fine, sunny day for Sunday 18th for the 9.15 train to Yarra Glen was positively swarming with them, drawn from three clubs, and two of which disembarked at Yarra Glen. From the horde at the peaceful little station the M.B.W. leader finally extracted a party of 25, including a far visitor from the Brisbane Bushwalkers, out to stretch her legs after the rigours of a week's training in the ways of airline passengers. After the usual introductory circle, the leader issued a warning (or was it an ultimatum) that to arrive home at all that evening we had to catch the one and only bus from St. Andrews to Hurstbridge at 5.15, and St. Andrews was a short time but quite a distance away. However, it was too lovely a day to worry about this small item and everyone ambled off towards the Christmas Hills, over the aqueduct and up the steep slope to the Big Hill to enjoy the sunshine and pleasant views out over the Yarra flats to the hills (St. Leonard, Dandenongs, Etc.) beyond. From the Big Hill to St. Andrews the route was a mixture of a couple of scrub covered ridges, open hills, a few paddocks and a couple of old roads, with Jacksons Creek, One Tree Hill (a welcome ingredient as it was the lunch spot) and two crossings of Smiths Gully Creek thrown in for good measure. Views were often small but were in all directions and were very pleasant.

Due to the anxiety of the leader to make sure that his party arrived at St. Andrews in time to catch the bus, and also because few stops were made and then only brief ones, the party reached St. Andrews with a whole hour to spare and rather than sit idly down to wait for the bus all decided to start walking towards Hurstbridge, fully expecting the bus to catch them up at any tick of the clock. However, on arriving at Pantom Hill, we were much dismayed to find a couple of buses, mechanic and driver must disentangling themselves on the side of the road. At 12 minutes to 6, with the train due to leave Hurstbridge at 6.7, the driver's offer of a little extra ride back with him to start the run met with anything but enthusiasm and a little judicious pointing out of the circumstances by the leader resulted in the driver running us straight down to Hurstbridge where we thankfully boarded the train, thus pleasantly rounding off a pleasant trip and a pleasant day.

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ON THE TRACK (contd.)

July 25th. Tallarook - Breech Peak - Darymring Ck. Jock Low.
Seventeen venturesome souls turned up at Spencer St. Station to try some comparatively new ground and were rewarded with some very good views and a walk in the lovely valley of Mill Creek. The creek was so intriguing it was followed most of the afternoon until the clock began to beat us so we returned to Tallarook and the cafe where hot soups etc. finished off a lovely day.

Some of the party (the quieter and less talkative ones) saw some rare glimpses of fauna such as a white rabbit and a fox slinking around. A new member finished up with sore feet yet promised to come again! Proof enough it must have been good!!!

August 8th. Garfield - Mt. Cannibal - Bunyip Aqueduct - Tynong
Felix Harding.

The hike was rather disappointing. - No cannibals on Mt. Cannibal, no bunyip in the Bunyip aqueduct. Of course, there might have been on hidden in the murky waters. On the other hand the earth excavators were in full swing (on a Sunday!) depositing layer after layer of clay on the path so that our boots were soon covered with layers of mud.

The leader, however, was up to the occasion. He made straight for the only jungle available for miles where unsuspecting females fell right into the Cannibal River, cunningly covered up with leaves. It was sheer ingratitude if they did not appreciate this ingenious method of getting their boots clean.

The walk ended - rather early - when we reached the van near Tynong at 4.15, as scheduled.

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