

16th July, '54

CIRCULAR
No. 70.

of

- THE MELBOURNE BUSHWALKERS -

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

BI-MONTHLY MEETING - June.

The June meeting followed in the example of the previous two meetings and remained calm and tranquil throughout. The President asked for suggestions for a site for the annual President's weekend, a Barbecue, and Jock Low asked for a gramophone &/or records for the Barn Dance.

Marjorie Knight, Faye Galletly, Margaret Ruston, John Yates, John Brownlee and Joe Culell were officially welcomed to the club, and were presented with their badges. The meeting came to a close early.

LIBRARY

Frank is still asking for back copies of the "News" to complete the Library file. Can you help? A list of the missing copies was printed in the May issue of the News. Also, there are some copies of Walkabout gone "walkabout." If you have them at home, would you return same please?

NO MAGAZINES should be taken from the cupboard without notifying the Librarian, Frank Pitt!!

NEW MEMBER

We have one fair member to welcome this month and we all hope she has a happy time with us, her name is :-

Enid Bertha LODINGTON, C/- 63 Carlisle Street, St. Kilda. S.2.

HONORARY MEMBER

Lois Parkinson has been made an Honorary Member whilst she is overseas.

NATIONAL PARKS ASSOCIATION.

The Annual General Meeting of the National Parks Association will be held in late September. This will be a very interesting, educational night. Slides will be screened. Everyone is welcome.

WATCH FOR MORE DETAILS !!

CHANGE OF ADDRESS & PHONE NUMBERS

Address - McDonald - Neil,
10 William Street, GREENSBOROUGH.

Adjust your address list, and keep it up to date.

XMAS WALKS.

If you intend to go away with the Club at Xmas, let the Walks Secretary know of what you would like to do, and where you would like to go. Remember that Xmas trips require extensive organising, so give the Walks Committee your co-operation NOW.

MAPS.

A new index box for the Club's Maps has been made, and will be in the Club room every Friday night from now on. Make use of it, look up the map you require with the aid of the key map which will be always kept in the box. The following is on the front of the key map, and will explain the use thereof :-

/KEY MAP OF VICTORIA/

Use this map to help you find the particular area you want.

P.T.O.

cont.

This large map of Victoria is divided into a number of rectangles the four sides of which represent the boundaries of each Military 1" - mile map. The name of each map in the rectangle represents the particular file in the box.

To find your map- Look on the Key Map for the area you require, & then look for the corresponding name in the file. When you find the file containing the same name as on the Key Map you will find an index card inside showing the contents of the file.

See? Easy isn't it? Do make use of this excellent aid, look up the area of your next walk. Don't forget to look at the Key Map first, will you?

APS cont.

The file is not yet complete, but maps will be added as they become available. Please do not remove the Maps from the Clubroom. Maps can be bought on application to Gordon Coutts or Jock Low.

SOCIAL NOTES.

History of the Penetration of East Gippsland.

Last Friday in July --- Mr. Wakefield, the well known historian and walker, already known to us, has kindly consented to come along & give us an interesting talk on the history of the penetration of East Gippsland. Everyone is asked to please be on time and save unnecessary disturbance to others. 8'pm, sharp, please.

Annual Federation of Bushwalkers Ball.

The Annual Federation Ball will be held on the 6th August at "Tudor Court", 141 Kooyong Road, Caulfield. Dancing from 8.30pm to 12.55am. Tickets are priced at £1, each. Make sure of your tickets now, ring Etna Dryden at WX1069.

Barn Dance

The Annual Barn Dance will be held ON the Saturday night of the weekend 11th & 12th September, AT Sunbury, IN "Hollgreen", the oldest house in Victoria (see "On the Track")!! Excellent camp sites along the banks of a very pleasant creek. This is a very interesting area. VISIT THE ABORIGINAL BURIAL GROUND AT MIDNIGHT !! Come and join the fun, wear tracks, jeans, shorts, anything, (Anything?) and tartan shirts, roll-neck sweaters, (they won't stay on long) in other words anything (Anything?) that is comfortable and Barn Dance-ish, but not your hob-nail boots. Bring the children, pony rides, 6d. PUT YOUR NAME, YOUR SISTERS NAME, BROTHERS, MOTHERS & FATHERS NAME ON THE LIST ON THE NOTICE BOARD NOW.

PERSONAL NOTES

CONGRATULATIONS to Win and Max Downes on the birth of a son, Gregory - on the 5th July.

We are all sorry to hear of Ted Kirks recent stay in hospital, and hope he is soon 100% again. Ted is home now - minus appendix- and seems to have thrived on the treatment he received whilst in hospital. Hope to see you back in the clubroom soon, Ted.

Another member on the sick list - Brendan has the measles!! We do hope that the spots soon leave you Brendan, and that you are up and about again soon.

THIS MONTH'S RECIPE

The following three Fruit-Rice recipes were tried out recently by the three members who went on the weekend walk to Mt. Pickey. All three returned from the walk, and up to now seem to still be in excellent health, so it seems fairly safe to print the recipes for general use. Try at your own risk, No responsibility taken for any adverse effects felt after eating.

APPLE RICE HOBDEN.

Boil rice in plenty of water, when cooked do not strain off the excess water, but add finely sliced fresh apple. Return to the fire & cook until the apple is soft. Add sugar to taste.

MILK RICE WOLFF.

Boil rice on a slow fire until nearly dry. While the rice is

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boiling, mix powdered milk, (one spoonful to two of rice) with as little water as possible to a smooth paste. When the rice is dry, pour the milk paste over it and let it simmer slowly for a couple of minutes. Add sultanas to the mixture and sugar to taste.

APRICOT RICE McGINNEY.

Put rice and dried apricots into a billy of water and bring to the boil. Let it boil for at least 4 hours, until the contents of the billy are a gluey mass. By then all the flavour of the rice and apricots has boiled away, but the burnt taste of the contents and if necessary some ashes, sand and other matter which has fallen into the billy will provide a suitable substitute for it. (If you doubt such food could be enjoyed, just watch Graeme eat it)

DATES TO REMEMBER.

July 18th - Yarra Glen - Watson's Creek - St. Andrews.

Bill Horton. M X Y 130, ext. 6062.

You will need to buy a Fikers Ticket - (Yarra Glen - Furst-bridge)-and the train leaves at 8.15am.

JULY 24th-25th - Lancefield - The Jim Jim - Hanging Rock - Woodend.

Graeme Rae. A M 2394.

This is a day and a half" trip. The train leaves at 12.45pm on the Saturday, from the Spencer Street Station. Buy a Special ticket for Lancefield/ Woodend.

JULY 25th - Tallarook - Breech Peak - Dabyming Creek.

Jock Low, F U 7497

Buy a 2nd Return Ticket to Tallarook, catch the 9.20am train from Spencer Street Station, and COME on this interesting walk. The distance will be approximately 10 miles.

AUGUST 1st. - Belgrave - Mt. Morton.

Earl Lavender. F U 5304.

This is a popular area for day-walking. You will need to buy a 2nd Return ticket to Fern Tree Gully, and catch the 8.55 am train from the Flinders Street Station. The distance of the walk will be approx. 11 miles.

AUGUST 6th. - Federation Ball.

To be held at "Tudor Court", Caulfield. Tickets £1 single. Dancing from 8.30pm until 12.55am. Ring Betna Dryden at W A 1069.

AUGUST 8th. - Bunyip Aqueduct - Mt. Cannibal.

Felix Harding.

This is a van trip, put your name on the list on the notice board now, if you intend going. The van will leave Satman Avenue at 8.55am.

AUGUST 15th - Seville - Silvan Dam - Mt. Evelyn.

Brendan O'Connell. J W 5716.

Catch the 9.15 am EXPRESS train from the city. The ticket needed is a 2nd return to Seville.

AUGUST 21st-22nd - Mt. Donna Wang Area.

Edna Richards. W A 5450

This is a van trip. Is your name on the list on the notice board yet ? Come and enjoy the snow, but accommodation is available.

ON THE TRACK.

Toolern Vale - Coimadai. June 6th. Norm Richards.

The combination of a little known area, and a well known leader proved so popular that a bulging van load of 32 walkers left Satman Avenue, and after turning North at Melton continued about 4 miles towards Toolern Vale. The first part of the walk was through pleasant patch of timber and here we surprised several kangaroos, which took to flight. (Who wouldn't be surprised at some of the members of the Club, and anyway, what self respecting kangaroo would want to share any spot with 32 of them?) After lunch at Ojerriwarrah creek, we followed this attractive little stream for some time, then through lightly timbered country. A brisk walk along the road through Coimadai with dairy farms and green sheep paddocks on either side, brought us to our van, after a fine, though cold, day and an enjoyable walk.

Mt. Avoca - Ben Nevis - Buangor. June 12th, 13th & 14th. Alf Cole.

While not actually describing our enterprises warlike, one could say that they have many aspects which, to say the least, flavour of military objectioners, so much so that if a war correspondent saw us on Queens Birthday Weekend, he would probably be moved to write, under the heading of "The Fall of Glenpatrick" or "The Flight of the Hungry Seventeen", the following account :-

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"At an early hour on Saturday morning, an expeditionary force of fifteen arrived at the forward battle station of Maryborough and were quartered for the night, some in the camping reserve, others in the grandstand of the football ground. Later that morning, after some hours rest and recreation at the children's playground, they were transported to the front line.

It is not known for sure, when they contacted the "enemy", but they advanced toward the Ghost town of Glenpatrick with such deliberation that neither the stiff ascent of Mt. Avoca, nor the absence of a recognizable summit there, nor the dry-lunch could sway them from their purpose. The indirect approach from Mt. Avoca (though by mistake) no doubt surprised the defenders of Glen Patrick, whose fall was the most spectacular phase of the whole campaign, and will live in Military history.

Throughout the afternoon, the onslaught raged down the valley and nothing which was eatable, drinkable, touchable, and in any other way worthy of investigation, remained undisturbed by the ruthlessly thorough invaders. Along the road, past silent ruins they swaggered, laden with the plunder of fallen orchards. Soon the tiny old hall hove in sight. Through one door and out the other they swarmed, finding an organ without bellows, and a piano without tune, but no official acknowledgement of defeat.

Sunday morning saw the combat taken to the open country between the Pyrenees and Ben Nevis and expected reinforcements which arrived by impromptu transport were met. The afternoon saw them bypassing Ben Nevis, whose value was lessened by the conditions, and advancing directly upon Mt. Cole.

Further gains were made in fraternizing with the local scenery, but fraternization among themselves with the aid of misletoe was discouraged. They suffered their first setback on reaching the ridge and finding neither water or camp site and in the twilight they were forced to descend a mile and a half to camp on Mt. Cole creek, a poorly strategic position.

The campaign had reached a critical stage. By four o'clock the following afternoon they had to complete their mission and evacuate the area and the alternatives facing them were on one hand, twelve miles of road which could not be friendly territory, and on the other, the ridge and Mt. Buangor with probably more effective, if not unpleasant opposition. These factors combined with the displeasure of making camp after dark produced a certain amount of dissention, and open revolt may have been expected. The morale decreased further with the decision of a dawn attack.

Two hours before dawn, the light of several fires stabbed into the darkness accompanied by an unobtrusive murmur of activity and two hours later, with strengthened resolve, they struck out toward Mt. Buangor. The move was successful, gains were made, success was not long in coming their way, a good track and views, information for further offensives, and negligible opposition. By late in the morning they had reached the ridge and had swept on over Mt. Buangor carrying all before them. From the summit they saw their goal, Buangor, some five miles out on the plain, and they began to descend.

It was here, in the hour of victory, that disaster almost overtook them, a deep chasm which took more than an hour to descend had intervened, and the army became scattered. The first group to reach the bottom had begun a hasty lunch when it was decided to move on to intercept the others who were not following. Martial law was invoked to quell the consequent resentment, and the force re-grouped.

The position was hastily analysed, and action followed. Without waiting for lunch, they hastened to cover the last four miles, and not till they had arrived in triumphant safety did they relax.

No bells rang, and only the pub had open doors - but not in vain. Orderly withdrawal was effected on the 5.45pm to Melbourne, and the combatants relaxed in a dreamy state conscious of the glory of conquest, but not yet of the imminence of rehabilitation. Thoughts may have returned to Mt. Buangor or Glen Patrick with the discovery that it was not they that had conquered.

allarook - Mt. Hickey - Broadford. June - 26th & 27th. Heinz Wolff.

At 7.50am Saturday, 26th June, anyone ? enough to have been about at that hour might have seen a worried leader walking platform 9 Spencer St. Station in search of a walking party. His searching was not in vain, at approx. 7.52am, the "party" consisting of two bushwalkers whose names are by-words for "cutting it fine" arrived at the barrier.

cont. Leaving the train at Tallarook, the party set out across green fields towards Breech Peak. From the top of this they enjoyed a very delightful view of wooded slopes and grassy valleys, with pleasant glimpses of the Goulburn River. Leaving the view behind them they passed through open forest and grassy slopes, stopping for lunch beside a creek, just at the lower end of a small gorge. After lunch the creek was followed through the gorge. This was an extremely pretty stretch, the creek fell in small cascades from one rock pool to another. At the upper end of the gorge, the rocky sides gave way to steep grassy slopes and the stream flowed between ferny banks. At this point the party left the creek, and after a short while found themselves in the State forest walking almost on bare ground beneath tall gums. That night they camped in the forest on the side of Mt. Hickey.

By the campfire that night an interesting experiment was performed. All three members were cooking their favourite rice dishes, and it was decided to compare the results. - See "Recipe of the Month".

The next morning the party climbed to the top of Mt. Hickey and enjoyed the view from the lookout tower. The mist was still in the valleys although it was bright sunlight on the ridges, which looked like green islands in a white sea. A map was produced and lined up, & the more prominent mountain peaks recognised. From the top of the mountain the party set out through forest and bracken down to the lower hills. Lunch was eaten beside a pleasant creek, and the afternoon walk brought them to the Broadford Paper Mills at sunset. The party were able to enjoy the sight of Mt. Piper bathed in the glow of the setting sun, before making their way into Broadford and thence back to civilization.

Pakenham - Beaconsfield Reservoir - Berwick. June 27th. Val Adams.

Nine walkers set out from Pakenham on a sunny morning, heading for the transmission lines, a never failing land mark. A short scrub-bush brought us to these and from there it was an easy walk to the water channel running into Beaconsfield Reservoir. Lunch was enjoyed by a creek. Some excellent feats of ballance were observed at this point, when all had to walk along a channel wall, with a rocky drop to the left and rushing water to the right!! Once more we found transmission lines, then left them to walk the last few miles to Berwick. We are all interested in the fate of the "Golden Goddess" statuette found along this last lap.

Clarkefield - Aboriginal Burial Ground - Sunbury. July 4th. Marg. Low.

Despite the leaders' reputation for wet weather walks, twenty-seven bushwalkers, left Melbourne for Clarkefield. After crossing Jacksons's Creek the party enjoyed a pleasant walk along a nearby ridge till the lunch spot was reached at noon, thus forestalling the usual cry of "When do we lunch?".

The highlight of the walk was the afternoon visit to Holly Green, said to be the oldest house in Victoria. Built in 1836 by Thomas Evans one of the early settlers. Mr. Webb, the present owner kindly outlined the history of the homestead before showing the party through.

After a brief visit to the Aboriginal Burial Ground nearby, the party continued on to Sunbury and the van. The return trip to Melbourne was uneventful except for Casanova Dale's farewell to one of our fair members. Note again ---- No rain!!!

DID YOU KNOW??

that, "Hikers Tickets" sometimes mentioned on the Walks Programme are available on application to the Government Tourist Bureau.

that, the person to be contacted in case of delay or emergency is one of the following, in order shown, according to availability. Please see that those at home have a list of these names and phone numbers - 1. Norm and Edna Richards. WX 5450. 2. Frank and Fay Pitt. WA 6554. 3. Jock and Margaret Low. FU 7497.

that, equipment is available for hire from the club. See John Muir.

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