

Registered at G.P.O., Melbourne for transmission by post as a periodical

CANCELLATION OF WALKS

Your Committee has expressed concern over the falling off of walk attendances. This was found, in a large measure, due to unofficial functions and private trips which offered counter attractions to the programmed walks often resulting in the cancellation of the latter and disappointing those members listed as starters.

People have a perfect right to go where and when they like, but should realise, being members of a club, that their first loyalties should be in support of their fellow club members.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

will be held in Clubroom on Friday, 28th February, 1964 at 8.15 p.m. punctually.

MOOMBA WALKABOUT

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MARCH 1st, 1964.

MOOMBA WALKABOUT

(Federation Day Walk) is an interesting walk of about 10 miles and features the MOORABOOL GORGE which is 3 miles long and 400 ft. deep. Lunch is at a spot on the river close to pools for swimming.

TICKETS will be 17/- each (half fare under 16). Available from club secretaries. Excess tickets will be sold at Spencer St. subway until 9 a.m. on March 1st. Enquiries about tickets: Ralph Alger FB 1276, FB 1255.

SPECIAL TRAIN departs Spencer St. station 9.05 a.m. Returning city 8.40 p.m.

BRING food for two meals, bathers and towel.

TO BE PROVIDED: Tea and hot water (if conditions permit.) However, it is advised that those with billies will be able to use fires and should do so where possible. Cold drinks, biscuits can be bought at Lethbridge on return.

Come along and meet members of other clubs on this easy day outing.

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

ABSON, Maxwell Ernest - 37 Davis St., Kew (p) 80 4822 (b) 32 3007

EBBELS, Lesley Isobel - 26 Park Rd., Surrey Hills (p) 28 1718 (b) 61 2041

KEARIN, Roger Michael - C/- 57 High St., Kew. (b) Govt. A/crft. Fcty. Ext.424.

SHARPE, Kenneth Charles - 113 Bowes Av., Airport West, W.6.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Please note that the following members have registered new addresses which will be found in the new members' list:--

Peter and Margaret Ingram, Betty Emslie, Charles and Anne Weiling,

AUSKI

AUSKI

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Paddy Pallin has produced a new light-weight F-Frame Pack, slightly smaller than existing models. Cheaper too, at \$11.10.0d.

Need a new pack? Then call in at AUSKI'S and inspect his range which includes models of the celebrated Bergen Rucksack imported from Europe

AUSKI has instant mash potato in bulk

CALL AND INSPECT see LOIS, TONI, JOHN and CHARLES at AUSKI HOUSE, 9 HARDWARE STREET, CITY. (Near Bourke Street)

TO BE MARRIED SOON:-- Frank Baker and Joan Brackstone. Best wishes to these members on their recent engagement. (And better map reading.)

Another member married some time back but who escaped the notice of our chronicler is Mrs. Julie Hall formerly known to us as Julie Monks, remembered as the Tom Piper Girl.

DAY WALKS PROGRAM

- 8 March Kilmore East - Monument Hill - Wallan 12 medium miles. Come to Wallan with Warren for good views in the Hume Range area. Train departs Spencer St. Station 9 am. Ticket: 2nd Excursion Kilmore East. Warren Olle (p) 93 5056.
- 15 March Gisborne - Mt. Robertson - Macedon 10 easy miles. Autumnal tints in deciduous and coniferous vegetation. Train departs Spencer St. Station 9 am. Ticket: 2nd Excursion Macedon (13/-) Bring two meals. Athol Schafer (p) 211 2849.
- 22 March Stony Creek - Narbethong Plantation - Quo Vadis. 10 medium miles. Van leaves Batman Avenue 8.55 am. (14/-) Darrell Sullivan XF 5713

OVERNIGHT WALKS

- 7 - 9 March (Labour Day Long Weekend) Mt. Buangor - Wallaby Caves 26 medium miles. Van leaves Batman Av. 6.30 pm. Camp overnight Ferny Ck, Reserve near Beaufort. On Saturday will climb Mt. Buangor then descend to the Ararat reservoir for lunch and maybe trout fishing. Camping in one of the best stands of Messmate. Plenty of game: deer, koalas, wallabys. Good water at campsites. Peter van der Duys (p) 86 6454.

- 14-15 March Wesburn - Yelland's No.4 - Yarra Junction 21 miles

NOTE CHANGE OF ROUTE - now starting from Wesburn, not Warburton as marked on Program.

Saturday: From Wesburn we will take the Mt. Little Joe fireline to the Mt. Bride road leading in 1 mile to the Mt. Tugwell track which goes over those peaks and down to Britannia Ck. saddle (Yelland's No.4 mill site) and camp. Approx. 9 miles and some climb.

Sunday: Starting from the saddle we will traverse the Britannia Range to Britannia Ck. Falls and then to Yarra Junction. (11½ miles).

Everyone should bring steak, sausages or chops to grill Saturday. "Steak-o-ree!" No water shortage but it will be cold.

Train departs Flinders St. Station No.1 platform 8.25 am. Ticket: return Wesburn (13/6).

Robin Mitchell (p) XF 6082

EASTER WALKS - March 26-30 1964

Once again we will have three parties - two medium and one easy - in the same area and using the same transport. All parties will travel via Bright and Harrierville, to Mt. St. Bernard where one medium party under Bill Thompson will set off along the Barry Range. The other medium party leader Joan Skurrie and easy party leader, Barbara Muir, will leave the van at points these leaders decide upon.

As it has already been necessary to order the van for this trip, and as usual, we have ordered the big van with the doors to assure maximum comfort for the long journey, your support for these walks on Victoria's highest mountain ridges is desired:-

Details:- Mt. St. Bernard - Barry Range - Buckland Valley 25 medium miles.

Bill Thompson (p) 89 8240

Mt. Hotham - Mt. Feathertop - Razorback - Snowy Creek 30 medium miles.

Joan Skurrie

Mt. Hotham - Mt. Feathertop - Bungalow Spur - Harrierville 16 easy miles

Barbara Muir (p) 88 1834

PLEASE COLLECT, whoever is the owner, a pair of boots left in the van either on the 27th Oct. or 3rd Nov. In cupboard, Clubroom.

FOR SALE:- One pair of size 6 New Zealand "Sherpa" Commando type boots. Slightly worn. Available Clubroom. Worth £10, will sell £5. Miss J. Anderson. 16 Brooke St., Eaglemont. Phone 49 2108.

WANTED URGENTLY: Copies "WALK" 1961. Have you any spares? Ring Val Goldsmith. (p) 56 2288

WILKINSON LODGE

"Australia Day Weekend saw 18 enthusiastic workers at 'Wilky' painting, carpentery, plumbing, labouring and cooking. The lodge is now gleaming with a silver roof and orange walls with white and green trim. A handbasin was installed and the shower and toilet relocated. Plumbing for the hot water service is also under control.

"Thanks to all who made a successful work party" --Graham Errey, Lodge Manager.

PHOTOFLORA, 1964 COMPETITION. Public screenings, with commentary, of award-winning and other slides will be held at St. Peter's Hall, East Melb. on Wed., Thurs., & Fri., 18th, 19th & 20th March, at 8 pm. Admission 3/- Entries close 24 Feb. Details at Clubroom.

"WILDLIFE IN AUSTRALIA" is a quarterly magazine under the auspices of the Wild Life Preservation Society of Qld. Single copies 4/-, annual subscription 16/-. A copy is available for inspection in the Clubroom.

The reports of the several sub-committees are as follows:-

Walks Report

Jim Hester

Your walks sub-committee for the year just completed was Joan Skurrie, Fred Halls and Peter van der Duys with myself as Secretary. Equipment hiring was in charge of Barry Short with Robert Steele as his assistant. My thanks to them all for their help throughout the year.

PROGRAMMES -

The policy on programming has been the same as last year, all members of the sub-committee combining their knowledge of different areas to produce each programme. Criticism from members has been insufficient, what we received was appreciated and where possible acted upon. We are grateful to those who supplied all the details of particular walks they enjoy and have tried to include such walks on suitable programmes. Any still outstanding will be passed on to the incoming Walks Secretary.

LEADERS -

Thanks to all those who lead walks during the year. Once again we tried to spread the leadership amongst as many members as possible, and introduce at least two new leaders per programme. To this extent, our 67 walks for the year were lead by 44 different members, 12 ladies and 32 men. New leaders numbered 12, while 3 lead their first weekend walk and 2 their first extended walk. Our high standard of leadership was maintained, occasions when a party was delayed being rare.

Because of the increase in the number of keen young people in the Club, and their willingness to take on the responsibilities of leadership, our more experienced leaders have not been asked to lead as frequently as in the past. Unfortunately, this has, in many cases, resulted in their coming out on very few walks. To them I say we still need your active participation and look forward to your company on more outings in the future.

To the credit of our 44 leaders it gives me great pleasure to report that, possibly for the first time in the history of our club, all walk reports from the year have been received. On the other hand, it is obvious from the figures that some leaders have omitted to collect visitors fees.

VISITORS ON WALKS -

During the year 154 visitors joined us for a total of 332 visitor/walk outings. Of this number 36 became members, 8 more qualified for membership but did not apply. Other details are - 88 visitors did one walk only, 27 did 2 walks, 13 did 3 walks and 30 did 4 or more walks.

NAVIGATION EXERCISE.-

This put into effect some of the suggestions received after the October 1962 Map Reading Exercise and once again participants and organizers benefited from the outing. Further suggestions arising from the October 1962 exercise will be used on an exercise to be held in May.

CHRISTMAS WALKS -

Very little interest was shown in the Club's extended walks this Christmas and possibly for the first time since our club was formed, no women participated. Early in the year I asked for members suggestions as to where they wanted to go for their Christmas Walks. The leader of the 10 day walk responded with full details of his proposed trip, but this was the only response. From all the members contacted, only one was prepared to lead a club walk and then lack of support whittled this from 9 days duration to 5 days. Leaders were not available for other proposed walks even

though groups of members did private walks in approximately the same areas.

Extended walks were once regarded by Club members as a fitting climax to their year's activities, and looked forward to with a lot of anticipation and discussion. If the present trend of small parties on private trips continues then it is my opinion that our overall activities will suffer.

EQUIPMENT -

With the purchase of new equipment to replace that sold at the June auction, we now have a good range of basic items for newcomers to try out. A deposit of £1. 0. 0 is now required from the hirer and the use of a receipt book, rubber stamp and cash box by the Equipment Officer has helped to safeguard both his and the Club's interests. Charges for equipment hire have not been altered but the maximum charges have been abolished. Penalties for the late return of equipment were applied only four times during the year, This compares favourably with eight times during the 2/3rds of last year that this system operated. Details of hirings are -

Framed Packs	23	hirings	returning	£5. 18. 9
Unframed Packs	6	"	"	19. 0
Tents	16	"	"	2. 13. 3
Sleeping Bags	17	"	"	3. 15. 6
Groundsheet	10	"	"	16. 0
Total of	72	"	"	£14. 2. 6

Details of individual items are available if required.

During the year we also purchased 2 machettes and 1 axe, adding this to the 4 slashers already held for track clearing. A first aid kit is also available for leaders of Club Walks, but rarely used.

BOOKING OFFICER -

A system where all van bookings are made, and deposits paid, to one person acting as Booking Officer each Friday night, was introduced for a trial period after the August 1963 General Meeting and will be further discussed at the April 1964 General Meeting.

DETAILS OF WALKS

Year	Day			Weekend			Extended			Overall		
	No.	Tot.	Av.	No.	Tot.	Av.	No.	Tot.	Av.	No.	Tot.	Av.
1960/61	43	878	20	11	194	18	8	95	12	62	1167	19
1961/62	44	887	20	20	316	16	9	157	18	73	1360	19
1962/63	45	754	17	24	392	16	7	73	10	76	1219	16
1963/64	42	731	17	21	387	18	4	50	12	67	1168	17

DETAILS OF TRANSPORT 1963/64

Type of Walk	Van	Public	Kombi or Private	Total
Day	23	18	1	42
Weekend	14	3	4	21
Extended	1	1	2	4
Total	38	22	7	67

DETAILS OF WALKS CANCELLED 1963/64

Type of Walk	No.	Transport Programmed	
		Van	Public
Day	6	4	2
Weekend	2	-	2
Extended	1	-	-

MAPPING REPORT -

Val Goldsmith

A three drawer lock-up filing cabinet was bought and has been given space in Room 110 by the V.R.I. Anne Weiling has been map custodian and has also done an excellent job in setting up the maps in this filing cabinet. The file has been brought up to date by the purchase of many of the missing areas and should once again be a satisfactory reference in the Club room.

Club maps remain in steady demand and are kept up-to-date by Robin Mitchell. The only one drawn during the year was a provisional of Mt. Margaret and the Cathedral Range. As well as having maps available for sale in the Club room it was decided to sell through Auski. However, as this would have taken more volunteer time than was available, these were produced commercially and hence the profit margin was small.

Three maps are at present in preparation: the Mt. Kent area, Southern Central Highlands, and the Limestone-Benambra-Nariel Area.

SOCIAL REPORT -

Doug Pocock

As can be seen by "Club Comment" in Walk, the past year has been very sociable apart from organized club fixtures. The Barn Dance at Toolern Vale attracted a crowd of 70, a good time being had by all well into the "wee small hours". The attendance at the Christmas Dance was rather disappointing but the members and friends there really enjoyed it.

During the year Theatre nights were arranged for "East Lynne", "Showboat", "And The Big Men Fly" and Pete Seeger, the folk-song man.

Events in the Clubroom were "Tupperware", Rex Filson and John Freeman - "A Year in Antarctica", South East Asia with Val and Betna and "Winter at Wilky" by the ski-ing party. Slide nights were held for members and Club trips, also a night of Cradle Mt. - Lake St. Clair Reserve slides.

This year the Club purchased a small projector to encourage small informal slide showings for members on non-organized nights.

The President's weekend was held at the Upwey Scout Hut at Gilderoy. The weather was somewhat drier than the previous year so the shelter was not needed.

The rather large financial loss on social functions was mainly due to over estimation of the attendance for the Christmas Dance.

The Social Committee consisting of Joan Skurrie, Barbara Muir, Anne Badger and Doug Pocock, wish to thank very much those members of the Club who supported our social functions.

NEWS REPORT -

Athol Schafer

"News" was compiled by Athol Schafer and produced by Fay Chesterfield, Warren Olle looked after previews. Also thanks to those Third Friday helpers in the Clubroom with their wrapping and writing.

MAGAZINE REPORT -

Val. Goldsmith

Thanks to the co-operation of Club members and the earlier decision on publication, WALK 1964 was being distributed by Barbara Muir in mid-November -- we hope that this will set a pattern. However it is still too early to say how sales of this issue have been affected by the extra weeks before Christmas. As happens in the first three months, stocks in hand have run out, but these become available again when the returns come in from Gordon & Gotch. We were pleased with the good selection of black and white photographs available, but disappointed to find that the block quality was not up to the standard provided when we had the personal attention of John Brownlie. Bob Bittner handled the advertising in his usual competent manner.

The statement which follows shows the financial position for 1963 -- happily there is a profit -- in fact the issue is almost sold out of unsoiled copies.

There is still a demand for back copies -- these netted us an income of £60. 0. 0, largely due to sales by Auski. 34 sets have also been

The idea mentioned in last year's report, of publishing a book of walks around Melbourne, is being investigated by the Federation

Financial Statement of WALK No. 14 (1963)		1962
Cost of printing 1600 copies	£188. 5. 0	£160. 0. 0
Sales: Gordon & Gotch (627 at 1/8 ea.)	£43.10.11	40. 5. 6
Members & Other		
Clubs (336 at 2/6 ea.)	42. 0. 0	} 70.13. 1
Retailers (448 at 2/- ea.)	44. 8. 0	
Copies 1411	£129.18.11	£110.18. 7
Advertising	94.10. 0	81.18. 0
<u>Total receipts</u>	<u>£224. 8.11</u>	<u>£192.16. 7</u>
PROFIT	£ 36. 3.11	£32.16. 7

WALK No. 15 (1964)

Cost of printing 1600 copies	£213. 0. 0
Less advertising receipts (estimated)	110. 5. 0
	£102.15. 0
Sales to 30th January 1964	£34. 7. 6

WILKINSON LODGE ANNUAL REPORT 1963-1964

Graham Errey

A record number of 67 visitors have been to the Lodge this year. A party of 11 spent a week at the Lodge in Winter for the first time since we have had the Lodge, thus pioneering further trips there in Winter. Several improvements have been made with include the removal of two internal walls, one in the living room and one in the kitchen. Both to provide more space in these rooms. The Lodge was painted externally on Australia Day Weekend and the installation of a Briquette Hot water service and shower are well under way, the material for which has already been purchased from the Wilkinson Lodge Account. Existing stretchers have been repaired and new ones bought, making a total of 7 stretchers. The Insurance Policy has been transferred from the Ski Club of Victoria to us.

I would like to thank those few persons who have done so much in regard to the improvements to Wilkinson Lodge this year.

FEDERATION REPORT

Delegate Rob. Taylor

General Council

At the Annual General Meeting Bill Thompson of the M.B.W. was elected President and the Offices of Secretary and Treasurer filled by Eric Quinlan of Y.H.A. and Tom Buyck of C.W.C. respectively. John Landy gave an interesting illustrated lecture on New Guinea and the evening was brought to a close with supper.

General business throughout the year was largely uneventful and no new policies were implemented. A sub committee produced a long and thoughtful letter on the question of alienation of National Parks, particularly Wilsons Promontory and this was duly sent to Mr. Bolte and other Members of Parliament. A letter of protest was sent to the Minister of Lands over the intrusion of the Snowy Mountains Authority into the Kosciusko primitive area but unfortunately, nothing could be done.

The Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme will soon be active in Victoria and the Federation felt it imperative that it should be represented on this scheme particularly from the point of view of Search & Rescue. Bill Bewsher and Eric Quinlan were chosen as delegates to the scheme.

Finally, it was decided to revive the combined Federation weekend so as to bring clubs closer together socially. The weekend will be held in Winter so as to deter all but the genuine bushwalker from attending.

TRACK CLEARING

Delegate & Convenor: Rbt. Taylor

This year saw the revival of the combined Federation track clearing weekend. The weekend was held on 20/22 September in the Baw Baws and was attended by 41 people of whom 19 were from the Melbourne Bushwalkers.

The track was well marked from Stronach's Mill to Mt. Whitelaw, three metal sign posts were erected, and, with the assistance of two chain saws, the section up to the Rocky Nob was almost completely cleared of fallen logs.

No party should now experience any difficulty in either navigating or negotiating the track between Stronach's Mill and Mt. Whitelaw.

There is little doubt that much more can be achieved in these combined weekends than in individual club efforts and it is hoped that more clubs will actively participate in future combined weekends.

Search & Rescue

Delegate W.I. Thompson
Observer Fred Halls

Activities in the Search & Rescue field have reached an all time low. It is pleasing to report that there were no alerts on actual searches during the year. It is not so pleasing to report that for the annual practice weekend 18-19 May only two of our members attended. Departing from its usual practice the Search & Rescue sub-committee will again be holding a full weekend practice during April 1964 at which it is hoped we will be better represented. Members desirous of enlisting for this work should see their delegate Bill Thompson or Observer, Fred Halls.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Rob Taylor

The year has generally been a successful one for the Club and this is reflected in the increased membership. Thirty six new members were welcomed to the club and membership now stands at 154 financial, 3 life, 6 News subscribers and 14 honorary members; a total of 177 as compared with 161 last year.

The club continues to receive many enquiries by both mail and telephone and in the coming year an additional telephone directory entry will be placed in the pink pages under Clubs. Programmes and information sheets were sent to all enquirers and the Club exchanged programmes etc., with many other clubs both local and interstate.

The club and bushwalking in general has been publicized by the donation of 34 sets of WALK to various schools and youth organizations.

The Walks sub-committee has continued to be active in implementing new schemes for increasing efficiency and there are some schemes still under consideration. Unfortunately, there has been a dropping off in members on extended trips. This is regrettable because extended walks can be the climax to a year of walking and it is hoped that the coming year will see us active in this field.

Facilities available to members, particularly new members were considerably improved by the purchase of much new equipment and a four drawer filing cabinet. The maps, for so long incomplete and not readily available due to storage problems are now being added to and improved. In addition our own club maps have sold so well that some of them have been printed commercially.

Social fixtures were generally well attended and informal slide showings in the clubroom greatly facilitated by the purchase of a small projector.

The year saw some intense activity at Wilkinson Lodge and many improvements and repairs have been made. For the first time a party visited Wilkinson in winter and indications are that more will follow in the year to come.

Another first was the publication of WALK before the Melbourne Walker. The club was also proud to assist in the formation of a walking club in Moe, The Moe Youth Club Bushwalkers, and we extend to them our best wishes.

Finally, congratulations to all those married, engaged, or who became parents during the year, our best wishes to all who set off for far distant green fields and my thanks to those who have ably assisted me during the year.

FROM THE PRESIDENT -

My thanks also go to the Secretary, the Committee and all who have given generously of their time and effort to keep the Club running. --W.I. THOMPSON

MELBOURNE BUSHWALKERSTreasurer's Report for the Year ended 31st January,
1964

The activities of the Club over the past year have resulted in a profit of £104. 1. 10, and the present financial position is sound.

A study of the Profit and Loss Statement reveals several items deserving of comment:-

"Walk" Magazine. - The 1963 edition has been popular and has shown a profit of £36. 0. 0, whilst sales of back issues have totalled £60. 0. 0. This is some £50. 0. 0 greater than sales of back issues in the previous year, but it is considered that sales of this magnitude will not be repeated in future years, as stock of some issues are now running low.

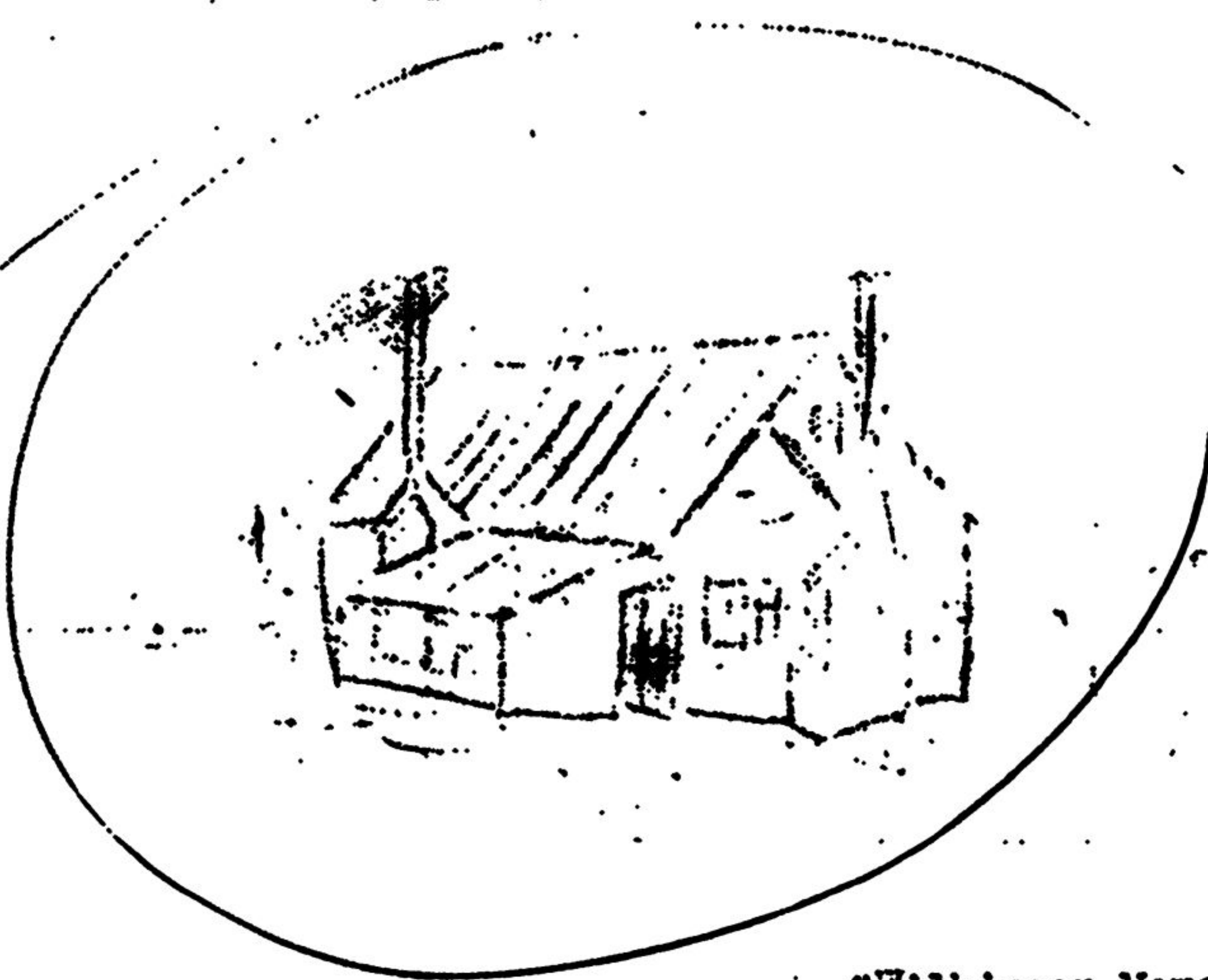
Van Fares. - The profit of £19. 0. 0 is considerably less than the previous year, but this is more in line with Club Policy in that it is considered undesirable to finance other Club activities from van trips.

Sale of Maps. - There has been a ready market for maps produced by the Club, and sale of these resulted in a profit of £19. 0. 0.

Wilkinson Memorial Lodge. - An amount of £20. 0. 0 was transferred from General Funds to the Wilkinson Lodge Account and this has materially assisted the financing of extensive improvements currently being carried out at the Lodge.

Generally speaking, the year has been quite successful, but were it not for the fact that "Walk" magazine proved to be so popular, the position might not be so bright.

A.F. Whyte
Hon. Treasurer



"Wilkinson Memorial Lodge"