

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

ATTENTION ALL MEMBERS :

NOTICE is hereby given of an

EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING

To be held at Clubroom, Friday, 26th June at 8.15 pm.

Business: to elect and fill the position of secretary which has fallen vacant on the resignation of the present officeholder, Loch Wilson.

EDITORIAL COMMENT:

The reason for Loch's retirement is that he has joined National Mapping, an organisation which has claimed a few of our members, and is being sent into nether-nether country. Now we are casting about for someone who will take on the job - if anyone feels they'd give it a go, don't wait for the night of the meeting for nominations, but let the president or any other office-bearer know beforehand.

Agenda scheduled for the ordinary bi-monthly meeting which is supplanted by the Extraordinary Meeting will remain. Have you got down your ideas on the surplus funds, yet? Another item of interest will be the report of our delegate (Rex Filson) to the Conservation Conference (30th May) who attended all three sessions. Reports that a number of our members were seen at the conference highlights the future of our national parks, a future in jeopardy since the handing over of choice slices of 'the peoples heritage' to private interests.

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Got that article ready for "Walk" '65? No? Then make a new half-year's resolution and start writing at once - and let Val have your manuscripts.

PERSONAL NOTES:

Who should walk into the clubroom the other night, but Sam Larsen, looking fit and able after his 2½ years abroad. He is back at his home address and will be out walking soon. ++ Want to hire some ski gear - then perhaps you'd be interested to learn that John Bach is in the business, having taken over the management of Alpine Ski Rental Service which he conducts at 154 Bay Road, Sandringham. +++ John Houghton and Isaac Pressburger seem to have had a wow of a time on their bus and camping trip to the Centre - about the only males in a big crowd of girls - seen their slides yet?

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WELCOME TO A NEW MEMBER:

Mr. BERT CROOK - 40 Holmes Road, Moonee Ponds.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS = Neil Ham:

A111173,

Cpl. Ham. M. S.,

R.A.A.F. Contingent, Thailand.

C/o G.P.O., Sydney, NSW.

ALTERATIONS TO WINTER PROGRAM

Kindly note that the leader for the walk on 14 June will be Athol Schafer. A new leader will be named for the Snow walk 25-26 July.

Change of Dates of Social Fixtures: Rex Filson's lecture on Antarctica will be transferred from the 19th June to 3rd July - Clubroom 8.30 pm.

Personality slide night from July 19 to July 24, 9 pm. Please see that slides are numbered and named before handing to Social Committee. The lecture by Mr. Ros Garnet to have been held in August is now cancelled.

BOOKING OFFICERS' ROSTER

19th June John Siseman

26th June Fred Halls & Graham Errey.

3rd July Kay Murphy.

10th July Loch Wilson,

Darrell Sullivan &

Lindsay Crawford.

17th July Barbara Aldridge.

DAY WALKS PROGRAM

This Sunday 14th June - Kilmore East - Monument Hill - Wallan (12 medium miles) Train departs Spencer Street Station 9 am. Ticket: 2nd excursion return Kilmore East 12/-. Maps: Lancefield & Kinglake military. Bring something for tea, returning city 9 pm. This walk is along the Great Dividing Range north of Melbourne featuring good views to the west. Athol Schafer (p) 211 2649.

21 June - Lyrebird walk - Sherbrooke Forest (Easy) Train departs Flinders St. Station 9 am. Ticket 2nd return Belgrave 4/-. Bring Cameras, warm clothing. Maps: "Monbulk" military; Broadbent's Card No. 200E. Leader Betty Emslie.

28 June - Toolangi - Paul's Range - Schoolhouse Ridge (10 easy miles) Van leaves Batman Avenue 8.55 am. (14/-) Map: "Yan Yean" military. Carry a water flask for this ridge walk. Led by Helen White.

12 July - Loddon Falls - Dyer's Falls - Belltopper Hill - Malmsbury (11 medium miles) Van leaves Batman Avenue 8.55 am. (16/-) Map: "Castlemaine" military. Led by Graham Errey (p) 88 4385.

19 July - Beer's Hill - Casey's - Gembrook (11 easy miles) Train departs Flinders Street station 9 am. Ticket Return Belgrave 4/- (+ bus fares) Returning city 6 pm. Led by Athol Schafer (p) 211 2649

OVERNIGHT TRIPS

4 - 5 JULY FEDERATION WEEKEND (easy) This is the first time the function has been held for a number of years, and will be located at the Toolern Vale Hall. Refer to Sunbury Military map. Transport - train or car. Train leaves Spencer St. station 9.10 am Saturday, arrives Melton 10 am. Transport has been arranged to meet this train and carry weekenders the 5 road miles to the hall. Program: After lunch a treasure hunt and in the evening a barn dance, music by professional band. Sunday: an easy walk in the Gisborne area of about 8 miles, and commencing at 9.30 am. In the afternoon a sing-song, tea, then catching 7.27 pm return train, arriving city. 8.20 pm.

There will be a charge of 10/- for those using the hall. Bring own food and usual bushwalking gear. No boots on dance floor. Lots of campsites nearby.

Note: Members unable to leave Saturday morning could catch the afternoon trains leaving 12.25 and 1.30 respectively. Of course they's have to foot it to the hall. Please place names on booking list early.

11 - 12 July Fryerstown Tower - Glenluce Springs - Loddon Falls (medium 19 mls.)

Van leaves Batman Avenue 8.30 am. Saturday (28/-) Map: "Castlemaine" military.

"The area in which we shall be walking through is very similar to that of the Fryerstown Historic Ramble of a few years ago. At the Tower, we'll turn in a southerly direction instead of north as before. Fairly level going, mineral springs, sheltered campsites and the remains and ruins of the gold seeking era". - Fred Hall's, leader (p) 97 3724.

BIRD OBITUARY

Other birds sighted within his territory confirm the disappearance and end of Spotty, the renowned Lyrebird of Sherbrooke Forest.

Over 20 years of age, it was one of the most photographed and tape-recorded birds; countless slides and snaps must be in existence; --many press, magazine and other publications have featured the bird which was also the star of a number of nature films, both amateur and professional; and seen on T.V.

"THE GRAPEVINE"

During the recent hue and cry of the missing girls on the Dargo road, it's said the telephone wires ran hot with television people striving (vainly) for some of our worthies to make extempore homilies on "getting lost".

Bootwear for month of June - "Beatlecrushers".

EXCERPTS FROM FEDERATION OF VICTORIAN WALKING CLUBS ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1963-64.

COUNCIL now meets Room 9, V.R.I.

WEEAPROINAH RAILWAY: The dismantling Bill for this line has passed through Parliament. However there is still a body of persons interested in keeping the line operative. Some dismantling of structures has taken place.

WILSON'S PROMONTORY & MT. BUFFALO NATIONAL PARKS: Council noted with regret the decisions made by the Government to grant leases to private individuals to erect luxury type accommodation in each of these parks in spite of widespread public opposition. The lease at Wilson's Prom. was issued to a Mr. Unger. At date of writing no visible action had been taken to or at the premises. Even more undesirable was the decision to grant a lease at Mt. Buffalo to Sir Rupert Clarke and a Mr. Polesek permitting the erection of accommodation facilities in the area lying between the Cresta run and the Horn. It is understood this plan is now well advanced. No justification exists for this action, particularly as a well-run Chalet operated by the V.R. Dept. already makes adequate provision for accommodation needs within the Park.

AYER'S ROCK: The promoter of the scheme to build a chair lift at the Rock has abandoned his plans, at least for the present. The reasons for this apparently were based on economic considerations and not on the representations of those who desire to keep the area as unspoilt as possible.

KOSCIUSKO STATE PARK: The decision of the Committee of Management to ban works in the Primitive Area of the Park has been over-ridden by the N.S.W. Govt., and the S.M.H.E.A. has been allowed to go ahead with its plans. There is some small consolation in knowing that the Authority must dispose of all spoil and leave the area looking as untouched as possible.

GRAMPians PLANTS: A large area near Billwong is now being planted with Pinus Radiata. Enquiries indicate that the F.O.V. have no plans for planting in other areas at present.

NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION LEAGUE: Towards the end of 1963 the Federation was accepted as a member of the League.

As representative of the Federation, Iris Quinlan attended the Annual General Meeting of the League held at Bendigo on Thursday 12th Feb. On May 6th a field day to the Hopedale Reservoir and its catchments was arranged for the benefit of delegates attending the meeting.

It is urged that the affiliated Clubs of the Federation will keep before their members the ideas of conservation and preservation of our natural resources from damage and destruction.

MONASH UNIVERSITY BUSHWALKING CLUB: During the current year this new and active Club applied for membership of the Federation. This was approved by Council and confirmed by the A.G.M.

'GOING HIKING' BOOKLET: A sub-committee under the chairmanship of Robert Taylor investigated this proposal and has recommended that such a publication would be of value and should be produced. It should include details of week-end and longer walks as well as of day walks. The question of whether we should produce and print such a book has been referred back to the Clubs for further comment.

YOUTH COUNCIL OF VICTORIA AND NATIONAL FITNESS COUNCIL: Close liason has been maintained with these bodies again this year. Our president is on the Executive Council and Bob Taylor is Federation rep. on the Y.C.V. Bob gave a short talk on the Federation to the Y.C.V. at its meeting on 19/9/63. Bill Thompson attended the 21st Birthday Dinner of N.F.C. on behalf of the Federation. During the dinner he discussed the question of shelter huts with Mr. M. Harkins of the Tourist Development Authority but this body is still not anxious to assist this project in any way. In June-July the Federation is co-operating with N.F.C. in running courses in light-weight bushwalking and camping (see last "News").

MOOMBA NATURE SHOW: Consequent on the cessation of this activity a substantial distribution of funds was made to all bodies that had assisted in running it. This has meant a welcome addition to the Federation's Funds, although it is very much regretted that the Nature show has had to be discontinued.

MAP INDEX: 70 copies were printed and distributed during the year. At first it appeared that 40 copies would suffice to meet demand, but enquiries and orders for further copies indicate that it may be necessary to print at least another 500. The plan is in abeyance pending Roy Buby's recovery from an accident.

"ALONG THE TRACK""THE BARRY'S AT EASTER"

Bill's ambulative eight left the van at the Mt.St.Bernard comfort station, which building stands guard at the Barry Mountain turn-off somewhat with the grand air of a frontier hill fort, and in about one hour were at campsite - and before lunch! After that repast a scramble up flowery banks led to the top of The Twins. As the sun declined, their backs reclined for a drowsy hour or so before returning to an early tea. After the going down of the sun, Bill, drinking tea, nearly choked on his fly-net, forgetting its storage spot in the mug.

Saturday again saw lunch-time camp-time. The side trip was the long climb to Mt.Murray's views, which included distant puffs from beyond the blue horizon of the forestry million dollar fire. Bill was so enamoured with the peak that he paid a second visit, immediately after returning to camp and finding a plausible excuse, to snap the sunset.

Memorable occasion of Sunday was when half the party sank winded on way up Mt. Selwyn. But on the breeze-kissed top lunch revived spirits which had sagged after a morning of long, bucketing ridges. An afternoon's search found a decent camp-site sufficiently removed from the depressing starkness of a logging tractor station.

On Monday morn, the last lops of a downhill run of about eight miles eased to a leafy track cut by a shady stream in which waters, finally, eight gymnotes, the lone female of the species properly isolated, splashed away the dust and grime of four days in the Barry Mountains.

AUSKIAUSKIAUSKI

Paddy Pallin has produced a new light-weight H-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 Knacksack imported from Europe.

AUSKI has instant hash potato in bulk.

CALL AND INSPECT ... see LOIS? TOM, JOHN and CHARLES
at AUSKI HOUSE, HARDWART STREET - CITY.....(Near Bourke Street)

"ALONG THE TRACK"MT. RIDDELL - CORRAMUELL CREEK

10th May, 1964

THE Van dropped us a few miles out of Healesville and we set off along the aqueduct to Graceburn Weir, Thence we followed a recently bulldozed road sidling Mt. Riddell; this we swapped for an underground pipeline, which, at one point, was hot and spouting forth a strong jet of water, rather like a burst fire hydrant. Soon we gave up this easy progress and started to climb Mt. Riddell, a long way to the top which is rather unrewarding being one of those tree clad summits from which is seen so very little.

After lunch we lost all the height we had so labouriously gained, but this had its compensations, for we descended through a most delightful fern gully, tho' the going was pretty steep in places. Judging by the hilarity, some of the party were thoroughly enjoying themselves, even though the girl tripped and tried to strangle herself with wire grass; she bore the marks on her neck and face for the next week. At the bottom we followed another underground pipeline, and then a series of roads until we arrived at our pick-up point, the Sir Colin McKenzie Sanctuary, where a large and rather smelly goat attached itself to a couple of members. When the van arrived, these people, for some unknown reason, were the first on board.

-----Barry Short

END OF A SNOW WALKER

An upcoming young walker named Beere
Always carried a gallon of beer
When caught in a blizzard
He drank like a lizard
And now he's laid out in his BIER.