

HISS ! HISS ! HISS ! Yes, very much alive now the sun starts its springtime strengthening. Members are reminded to carry some kind of snake-bite kit on their person, to know what to do in any emergency, and to take care when in the country.

If you are not very much up in such matters, then don't hesitate to ask an older member or inquire from the Secretary for notes.

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

LEWIS, Robyn Jeanette, 162 Blackburn Rd., South Blackburn (p) 89 7886
(b) 67 7831
MUDGE, John Edward, 312 Alma Rd., Caulfield, (p) 50 8152 (b) 87 7964
STAFFORD, Joseph H., 312 Alma Rd., Caulfield (p) 50 8152

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

COFFEY, Jack, 37 Wrixon St., Kew E.4
TERSCH, Ralph, 39 Russell Place, Williamstown
VAN DER DUYS, Peter and Mrs. Anne, Flat 5, 58 Chestnut St., Richmond E.1

NEWS ABOUT MEMBERS!

A bright postcard tells that Felix and Kath are spending a delightfully lazy time in North Queensland, and will be arriving back about November.

There have been a couple of engagements in the club over the past couple of months. Dick Hughes announced his engagement to Noel Taylor early in August, and John Mudge, who as you will see above has only just been admitted as a member, announced his engagement to Rosemary Jeffery. He certainly did not waste much time surveying the field of eligible females in the club!

SOCIAL JOTTINGS:-

On 25th September, members had an entertaining and instructive evening when Mr. Roger Seacombe screened his colorful and artistic movie films of his walks from Den of Nargun, Tali Karng, Walhalla to the Warrumbungles, N.S.W.

FOR SALE:

Paddy Pallin A-frame pack (Federation Model) in good order. Canvas, leather straps, buckles all O.K. £5 or reasonable offer. Contact D. Allison at 10 Denman Street, Brunswick N.10 (phone 36 3221) or during business hours at 51 0271 ext. 24.

FEDERATION TRACK CLEARING - Wilson's Promontory

It was interesting to note that the largest group of any one club was represented on this trip was the Melbourne Bushwalkers. The van left on the Friday night, and we camped at Tidal River. The next morning the plans were altered and we were told we were going to clear the lighthouse track after all. This meant a seven mile walk before starting work, and as most people had extra heavy packs, it was certainly a long seven miles. Half the party camped at the Half Way Hut while the remainder went on to Raring Meg. Quite a bit of work was done, considering the short time we had actually clearing the track.

DAY WALKS PROGRAM

- 25th Oct. Mt. William Aboriginal Quarries - High Camp (Easy 10 miles)
Leader: See Walks Secretary Map: "Pyelong" military
Van leaves Batman Avenue 8.55 a.m. (12/-)
- 1st Nov. Labertouche Caves (Easy 6 miles) Led by Doug Pocock (54 1986)
Van leaves Batman Ave. 8.55 a.m. Map: "Drouin" military.
A description of these caves will be found in "Walk" Vol. 10
Bring torch, old clothes, sperialogical equipment etc.
Returning to city early.
- 3rd Nov. (CUP DAY) Wesburn - Mt. Little Joe - La La Falls - Warburton
(easy 10 miles) Led by John Siseman. Map: "Part A & B
Gembrook" - Scouts. Ticket return Warburton. Train departs
No. 1 platform Flinders St. Station 8.25 a.m.
Pleasant walk through hills south of Warburton with a visit
to La La Falls.
- 8th Nov. Break O'Day - Middle Station Ck. - Rocky Ck. - Glenburn
(easy 10 miles) Led by Helen White (p) 93 6351
Map: "Glenburn". Van leaves Batman Ave. 8.55 a.m. (14/-)
Easy going thru the Hume Ranges.
- 15th Nov. Starlings Gap - Big Pat's Ck. - Monetts Road (10 medium miles)
Led by Kaye Murphy (p) 92 5253) Map: "Mt. Bride Area" -
Scouts. Van leaves Batman Ave. 8.55 a.m. (14/-)
Following the tram track from Starlings Gap for a couple
miles to Ezards, then continuing for the remainder of the
trip along jeep tracks.

OVERNIGHT WALKS

- 23-25 Oct. Seven Creeks Gorge - Mt. Wombat - Charman Falls (20 medium
miles) Led by Joan Skurrie. Map: "Wangaratta" 1" - 4 miles
Van leaves Batman Ave. 6.30 p.m. Friday (36/-)
Note: Creeks, not oaks as was printed on program, and the
falls are quite spectacular. Described in "Walk" Vols. 6 & 13.
- 6 - 8 Nov. Wagg's Range - Mt. Stewart - Mt. Broughton (24 medium miles)
Led by Rex Filson. Map: "Yea" (new series) or "Tallarook"
Van leaves Batman Ave. 6.30 p.m. Friday (30/-)
- 21-22 Nov. President's Weekend: Fryerstown - Crocodile Reservoir
Van leaves Batman Ave. 1.30 p.m. (20/-) There will be a ½
day walk on Saturday without packs, and a day walk on Sunday
also without packs. For those wishing to take private
transport, a notice will be put up on the notice board in
the club room. For further information please see Walks Sec.
- 27-29 Nov. Otway Ranges: Benwerrin - Erskine Falls (20 medium miles)
Led by Felix Harding. Van leaves Batman Ave. 6.30 p.m.
Friday night (34/-) The Otway Ranges and the falls are
described in an article published in "Walk" Vol. 9

BOOKING OFFICER ROSTER

October 23rd	Rex Filson, Helen White
October 30th	Kaye Murphy
November 6th	Alan Bennett
November 13th	Felix Harding, Nick Cole
November 20th	John Bach

ALONG THE TRACK

13th Sept. 1964

BALD HILL - MT. HOPE - WERRIBEE RV.

There were 17 of us on the walk and our leader was Sue Errey. The van stopped in the middle of some open paddocks. It was very cold, windy and rainy, and when we started, I remember someone saying that we were mad!

We splashed and slogged through the mud and water, with cold wind whistling about our ears as we turned right towards Bald Hill, skirting it and into the bush. After a while we came to our lunch spot, on the way, spying two white cockatoos. After lunch we walked along a road for a while, then took to the bush again where we almost got lost, but we found a track, then crossed a creek where some of the brave waded straight through. The rest of us, not wanting wet feet, went along the bank until we were able to cross. We followed the track to a road where the leader picked up her bearings.

The road led to a 'ghost town' with deserted buildings scattered here and there. We saw some 'live ghosts' in the shape of a farmer whose tractor had bogged by the side of the road, and a second farmer trying to pull him out with a truck. We took off our packs and pushed him out.

A little further on we took to the bush again. Walking along a muddy track we came to a creek. Some crossed it by a log, while others jumped across, a couple landing in the water. After climbing steep Mt. Hope, the leader said, "five minutes rest". After descending to a road we arrived at the van and woke the sleeping driver and waited for the stragglers to arrive before going back to town. Everyone agreed that it was a good walk

--- Robin Bliss

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Paddy Pallin has produced a new light-weight H. Frame pack, slightly smaller than existing models. Cheaper too, at £11.10. Od.

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, HARDWARE STREET - CITY (Near Bourke Street)

THE BRISBANE RANGE DOES IT AGAIN

The van dropped a large party of 32 at the bridge over the Little River just north of Staughton Vale. After the usual introductory procedures we started to follow the river upstream. We pushed through a tangle of bushes and headed across a cleared paddock to where the river emerges from the ranges. Here, there was a discussion as to whether we should cross or keep to this side. The leader said 'keep to this side as we have to take the first creek to the left' ('south' and actually I don't think that he knew). So being true to our leader we climbed up the side of the gorge, pushing through scrub and sideling along steep cliff faces. Finally it was decided that we had reached the creek and the party closed in (I must say that it was some time before the full number were all together again) and we started up the creek. (Just by way of a comment, though the leader thought that this was the creek I was not sure, we seemed to have come too far into the gorge). We followed this creek along for some time before we climbed up on to the ridge to the south. Here the leader made the discovery that we should have been on the plateau and not on a razorback ridge like this. (I felt like saying I told you so!) Here the leader spent some time looking at his map and checking his compass and making remarks about mistakes in the map etc. (and the rest of the party kept asking if he previewed this walk). We started to follow the ridge westward for a while and then southward and then we had to retrace our steps and head westward again. Completely baffled the leader said 'let's have lunch' so we dropped down onto a creek which was flowing northwards. Here the leader announced that there was no creek on the map flowing

northwards (actually I had a look over his shoulder and the map that he was using was BARRINGTON TOPS). After lunch we set off southwestwards crossing a forestry road and then walking through pleasant bushland to another forestry road where Fidel once more joined our party. We continued on to the Mt. Anakie - Durdidwarrah road. Just after leaving this road it started to rain heavily so instead of skirting the creek running northwards from Steiglitz we headed once more for the road and followed it to the Van.

Once on the van we thought that our troubles were over as we speeded off towards Geelong, but as the Geelong road came into sight we took a wrong turn and found ourselves headed northwards - lost again and this time with a van. We stopped at a town for refreshments and found it to be Bacchus Marsh. Oh dear - it looked as if we would be in this van all night so I had a sleep and was woken up in Batman Avenue. I do not know what the time was, but I do know it was too late to have a Chinese.

ARCHERON GAP TO STEAVENSON RIVER

A promising Saturday morning saw thirteen cheerful souls being driven out along Whitehorse Road by a new driver. No it's not! It's MAX with a hat on! The van followed its nose to Warburton, then proceeded to climb along the Acheron Way to Acheron Gap, then down the other side to Acheron River. Here 12 members alighted and waited while the leader finished packing. Then, after the usual circle, the party commenced the climb up a rough jeep track to the range above, passing the venue of some entertainment two weeks previously.

After climbing for 40 minutes, during which complaints were heard about the steepness of the ascent, we reached the top of the ridge, and here turned north along the fire-break. A short way along this fire-break we came to a slight saddle with a crystal-clear pool of water (with tadpoles) and, being used to having lunch at midday, the leader announced that as it was 12 o'clock, this would be the spot for lunch. Here, somebody discovered that her hard-boiled egg wasn't hard-boiled.

After lunch, we climbed slowly up to the huts on top of Mt. Richie, arriving there early in the afternoon. There were fairly extensive patches of snow up there, but this was all we saw on the whole trip, which made it much easier than expected. A fire tower with a rickety ladder provided a good view of the Cathedral, Baw Baws, etc.

While climbing this ladder a couple of the girls got rather damp, due to being bombarded with snow balls. While all this was going on, another group were out looking for lichens and the mysterious Myrtle Beech. After about an hour of looking, the evasive Myrtle Beech still remained unfound, so it was moved, and seconded, that we adjourn to the huts and prepare tea.

One group was lucky and had the only hut with a fireplace. Another group persevered outside and eventually got a fire going with the help of some kerosene. That night, the lucky five were sitting around the fire in their hut, talking, when they slowly became aware of smoke gradually filling the room. It soon became apparent that the chimney was blocked, but when some pieces of board were removed from the top of the chimney, the smoke soon cleared. Now I wonder how those boards got there?

Next day we rose early and proceeded down the fire-break to a jeep track then climbed slowly till we reached the hut on top of Mt. Strickland. As many people as possible squeezed into the hut, and here we had an early lunch, (11.00 a.m. actually), followed by a rather difficult scramble amongst fallen timber to a point at the top of a steep timber tramway.

There were three huts and the remains of old winch gear. We dropped rapidly down the tramway to a road, descending 1200 feet in about a $\frac{1}{4}$ mile. We followed the road to an old mill settlement and spent $\frac{1}{2}$ hour exploring the abandoned houses. Some people had a rather hilarious wash from the old reticulated water system.

We finally arrived at the pick up point an hour and a half early. Some members proceeded to walk into Marysville, while the rest waited for the van. The van, with the day walkers and those who had walked on finally picked up the remainder of the party, and we sped home after an enjoyable weekend.

... R.F.S.