

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

COME TO THE BARN DANCE

1-2 May

Our annual Barn Dance is to be held at the Labertouche Hall on 1 May at 8 p.m.

Roy Taylor and his energetic band will be playing for us. Cool drinks will be available during the evening and supper will be served.

HOW TO GET THERE

The van will be leaving at 2.30 p.m. from Batman Avenue on Saturday, 1 May. We should arrive back in Melbourne early on Sunday evening, 2 May.

If you want to come by private car, or if you only make the dance, then please do so.

WHAT TO WEAR

Whatever you feel most comfortable in. No boots to be worn in the hall though.

WHAT TO BRING

Bushwalking gear. Bring your own meals. If you wish to sleep in the hall, there is plenty of room there. Otherwise you can pitch your tents outside.

Van fare - approximately £1.

Donation for dance - Gentlemen 6/-

Ladies - a plate of food.

There will be a short walk in the Labertouche area on the Sunday.

See the Social Secretary, Helen Mitchell, or any other members of the Social Committee for more details.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Those members who have not yet paid their annual subscriptions are asked to give them to the Treasurer, Maitland Vertigan, as soon as possible. Please note Maitland's new address (43 Woolcock Avenue, North Kew, b. 60 1671)

Subscriptions:-	Member (over 21)	30/-
	Junior member (16-21)	15/-
	Husband and wife	40/-

CHANGES TO ADDRESS LIST

Coltman, Marjorie - add p. 83 9547

O'Donnell, Ray - "Mackay Court", Mackay Avenue, Glenhuntly, p. 58 6475,
b. 42 1511, ext. 288

Schafer, Geof - c/- Electrical Branch, P.W.D., 959 Hay Street, Perth, W.A.

Short, Barry - correct b. 60 0701, ext. 220

Vertigan, Maitland - 43 Woolcock Avenue, North Kew, b. 60 1671.

SLIDE EVENING

A slide evening covering trips from Christmas to Easter (excluding Easter) will be held in the clubroom on 7 May at 8.30 p.m. Members are asked to give their slides to Helen Mitchell by 30 April.

In future informal slide shows will be held in the clubroom on the first Friday of every month. We would like to see more of the results of all the camera clicking which is a feature of most walks, so bring your slides in and let's see them.

DAY WALKS PROGRAMME

- 25 April Woodend - Camel's Hump - Mount Macedon
 Leader - Robert Steel
 Train leaves Spencer Street at 9 a.m.
 Fare - 2nd return Woodend - 17/-
 Distance - 12 miles (medium)
 Map - Military survey map No. 828 Lancefield (1 mile to 1 inch)
 A medium walk in fairly open country with good views. Bring water for lunch and enough food for tea. Returning 9.30 p.m.
- 9 May Moorabool Falls - Lal Lal Falls - Borhoney Ghurk Common
 Leader - Harold Petersen
 Van leaves Batman Avenue at 8.55 a.m.
 Fare - 16/- Distance - 12 miles (easy)
 Map - Military survey map No. 837 Ballan (1 mile to 1 inch)
- 16 May Dowey's Spur Road - High Lead - Big Creek
 Leader - Joan Baker
 Van leaves Batman Avenue at 8.55 a.m.
 Fare - 16/- Distance - 10 miles (medium)
 Maps - Gembrook B, No. 850B, Lands Department (2" to 1 mile)
 Mount Bride Area (Scout map)
 Warburton - Powelltown area (MBW)
 Federal and High Lead (MBW)
 This is what you've all been waiting for! Ten easy miles, guaranteed to be all downhill. A short stroll along Dowey's Spur Road, the scene a few years ago of the historic bogging of Gronow's van, leads to the now-disused timber tramway. This still retains its wooden sleepers and old trestle bridges skirt ravines at several points. Deer hunters frequent the area with large packs of Beagle dogs. The van rendezvous is on the road leading to Powelltown. This is quite a short distance from the end of the tramway.
- 23 May Masons Falls - Running Creek Gorge - Strathewan
 Leader - Dora Hester
 Van leaves Batman Avenue at 8.55 a.m.
 Fare - 12/- Distance - 10 miles (easy)
 Maps - Military survey maps No. 829 Kinglake and No. 839 Yan Yean
 Expected time of return - 7 p.m.

OVERNIGHT WALKS

- 24-25 April Federation of Victorian Walking Clubs Search and Rescue Practice
 The practice search will take place at Starlings Gap. All S & R personnel taking part should be there by 9.45 a.m. on Saturday. (Travelling time from the city is approximately 2 hours.)
 Directions:- Yarra Junction - Powelltown - 4 miles towards Noojee, then turn left at Deep Creek road - 7 miles to the Gap. (See Broadbents "100 miles around Melbourne".) All members should be prepared to camp out and have full gear accordingly. (Some searching may be done on a daily basis.) The maps covering the area are: (1) Mount Bride - Boy Scouts, 1 mile to 1 inch (out of print), (2) Gembrook A - Lands Department, 1/2 mile to 1 inch (only available as a dyeline, ordered in advance), (3) Warburton - Powelltown area - MBW, 1/2 mile to 1 inch. (It is hoped to have a limited number of dyeline maps of the search area for those who have not a copy of one of these - but it would be better to have your own.)
 For further details, see Fred Halls, S & R delegate.
- 1-2 May Barn Dance
 For details, see page 1.
- 15-16 May Big Pats Creek - Ada Valley - High Lead
 Leader - Richard Hughes
 Van leaves Batman Avenue 8.30 a.m.
 Fare - 24/- Distance - 24 miles (medium)
 Maps - as for day walk on 16 May (see above)

BOOKING OFFICER ROSTER

23 April	Harold Petersen	7 May	Dora Hester
30 April	Richard Hughes, Joan Baker	14 May	Darrell Sullivan, Athol Schafer

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION

The following amendment to the constitution has been proposed under the section MEMBERSHIP 5A:-

A full member is one who fulfils all the following requirements:

1. Qualifies by completing to the satisfaction of the Committee 3 programmed day walks, each of at least 10 miles, or 2 week-end walks* necessitating camping out.

*at present reads "1 week-end walk"

ADDITION TO RULES AND BY-LAWS

Will members please note the following addition to the Rules and By-Laws under GENERAL:-

3. The proposer and seconder of an applicant for membership must have accompanied the applicant on at least one of his or her qualifying walks.

24-HOUR WALK

If 2 or 3 of our members are keen enough, we'll enter a team for the M.U.M.C. 24-hour walk to be held on 15-16 May. Would anyone interested please let the Walks Secretary, John Siseman, know.

NATIONAL FITNESS COUNCIL

Bushwalking and lightweight camping course

Practical	Sunday	6 June
	Weekend	12-14 June (Residential week-end optional)
	Weekend	26-27 June
Theory	Tuesday	1 June
		17 June
		22 June
		29 June
Course fee	15/- plus transport, food and accommodation for practical sessions.	
Applications to:	National Fitness Council of Victoria 147 Collins Street, Melbourne, C. 1	

WALKERS GUIDE

A limited number of a well-produced booklet "A Walkers Guide to the Scenic Rim" of S.E. Queensland are available in the clubroom, price 11/6d. The book was published by the Brisbane Bushwalkers. Additional copies may be ordered through the Secretary, Harold Petersen.

NATURE CONSERVATION IN VICTORIA

On 4 March a special meeting of the Victorian National Parks Association was held to consider a proposal to conduct a scientific survey of Victoria, with a view to preservation of areas which contain features of botanical, zoological, geological or scenic interest. Bill Thompson attended the meeting as a guest representative of the Club.

The President of the V.N.P.A. pointed out that the total area of existing National Parks was only 0.6% of the land area of Victoria. It has been stated that no significant opportunities for preservation will remain anywhere in the world by the year 2000. The present generation therefore has a tremendous obligation to posterity to decide now what is going to be preserved.

Dr. Specht of the University of Melbourne spoke of the need to make a survey of what is preserved and what is not, then to pinpoint the deficiencies and form a master plan for National Parks. He spoke also of a senior research student in the Botany Department who would be able and suitable to carry out such a survey. The survey would probably take about 2 years and would cost up to £4,000.

It was pointed out that similar surveys have been carried out in other States and that the West Australian Government is about to gazette a national park of 1,000,000 acres as a result of a survey conducted in that State.

All interested individuals and organisations are being asked to support the plan. Here is a chance for all who are concerned about nature conservation in Victoria to do something really constructive. The Committee has already approved a donation on behalf of the Melbourne Bushwalkers and encourages all members to support the project. Any members wishing to make a personal contribution (large or small) are asked to see the Secretary, Harold Petersen, for further details.

MAPS

Additions to the map file:-

7/815 COBBERAS

Cobberas

FCV

8/474 WELLESLEY

Wellesley C

FCV

7/824 OMEO

Omeo

FCV 1/2"

TASMANIA

Omeo

FCV

Flinders Island - Southern
Portion (Rex Filson)

1/2"

7/840 JULIETWEST AUSTRALIA

Juliet 1:50,000 (Juliet West)

A 1 1/4"

Stirling Range National Park RACWA 1/3"

McMahons Creek 1:50,000

Hyden Rock Tour

RACWA ?

(Juliet East)

A 1 1/4"

ABBREVIATIONS

RACWA Royal Automobile Club of West Australia

ALONG THE TRACKTALLAROOK TO BROADFORD - HILL AND DALE

Thirteen of us - many visitors - enjoyed this walk in pleasant grazing country. Two reasonably high and lightly-timbered ridges - Breech Peak and Brown Range - gave extensive views (though somewhat spoilt by the rain which fell almost all day) over farmland and granite hills. A pile of granite boulders offered lunch shelter from the rain though not the wind, so this repast, though dry, was a somewhat frozen affair.

The leader, so it was said, kindly arranged for two nature displays - one, a pair of magpies noisily discouraging an eagle's interest in their nest, the other, a kangaroo display. Of two 'roos surprised in a patch of bracken, one hopped over a fence and away, and the other, smaller, spent several minutes frantically trying unsuccessfully to jump the fence before blindly charging towards us, then away into the bracken.

We nearly lost five members in a mist on the Brown Range and we later were split into two groups in the failing light near Broadford, but nevertheless managed to all meet on the station in plenty of time for the train.

M.H.

MOUNT BULLER - MOUNT STIRLING

Due to the bushfires raging in Gippsland, our plan to visit the Crinoline and Mt. Tamboritha had to be abandoned. Instead we drove to the Mt. Buller area and camped in a shelter a few miles below the summit of that mountain.

Shortly after midnight, a ski enthusiast, unaware of our presence in the shed, was about to back his car in and had to be dissuaded by our combined vocal efforts. Gale force winds, a nip in the air and the hard ground contributed to our early departure to Buller Village. This is a hive of activity during the week-ends as skiers prepare for the winter. A cool drink was very welcome after the steep climb from our camp. We then continued without packs to the summit of Mt. Buller where the views of distant peaks brought back fond memories of previous trips.

Returning to pick up our packs, we followed the jeep track along the main ridge to Woollybutt Saddle and camped there. We were glad to see that the signs of "civilisation" as evidenced a few years ago by hundreds of felled logs, had nearly disappeared with new growth vigorously covering the slopes of this once devastated valley.

On Sunday we walked without packs (three cheers for the leader) to the summit of Mt. Stirling. Here we stayed for nearly an hour to admire the views of Mts. Cobbler, Buffalo and Bogong, the Howqua Valley with its mountains adjoining, and the Eildon Reservoir to the west.

We had our lunch, supplemented with a few wild raspberries near two huts on the ringroad. A hot road bash soon took us back to Woollybutt Saddle and tea. A few items on the piccolo, contrasting somewhat with earlier efforts on a blade of grass, a few yarns about the stars and everything under the sun ended the day.

Next day we retraced our steps to Buller Village where cool drinks refreshed us once more on this "strenuous" trip. A steep descent and a cold shower under a sparkling waterfall concluded this very enjoyable walk.

F.R.

MELBOURNE BUSHWALKERSGUIDE FOR NEW MEMBERS1. EQUIPMENT

Even if you intend to enter the bush for only a couple of hours you should always carry these essential items:-

Map, matches (in waterproof container), compass, knife, elementary First Aid kit, clothing, food.

Clothing - Carry a spare jacket and/or pullover, also light cape or sheet of waterproof material. Wear boots and thick socks if possible.

Food - Include an additional emergency ration of concentrated foods such as chocolate, dried fruits, etc.

2. CONDUCT

Members and visitors on Club Walks shall at all times recognise the authority of the leader and carry out any reasonable request made by him.

Members shall at all times refrain from unseemly and disorderly conduct or any actions likely to reflect on the Club.

Members shall always endeavour to be ready to leave at the appointed time.

The Club does not encourage solo walking trips.

2. HOW NOT TO GET LOST

Make sure you know the route of the walk beforehand, taking note of all access roads.

Keep with the party and within range of the leader.

Listen carefully to any instructions given by the leader.

If you have to leave the party, make certain you obtain the leader's permission.

If you want to "chase rabbits", tell someone.

4. IF SEPARATED FROM PARTY OR LOST

Don't panic - sit down and reason things out.

If, after consideration, you decide to move in a certain direction, don't forget to leave signs behind you: broken twigs, arrows marked on the ground.

Leave notes at camp sites and prominent points, e.g. creek junctions, clearings.

Don't head downstream blindly. Many Victorian watercourses run for great distances in thickly scrubbed, uninhabited country.

Remember ridges often give better going than watercourses.

If you feel hopelessly lost, make camp, carefully light a fire if safe to do so, and await help, preferably near a stream.

If you are returning to the city on your own, the Contact must be informed at the first possible instance.

5. CONTACT SYSTEM.

Before leaving on any walk members must leave phone numbers of Contacts home. All inquiries should be made to the Contact - not the police.

Members should also memorise or carry with them on trips the Contacts' phone numbers.

Members leading private walks should inform the Contact of persons in the party, intended route and expected time of return, and should report in on return.

The Contacts are:	Norn and Edna Richards	85 3726
	Fred and Merle Halls	97 3724
	Win and Ian Bennett	43 1921

6. BUSH HYGIENE

Litter must not be dropped along tracks.

Lunch and camp-sites must be tidied before leaving.

Nightsoil must not lie uncovered.

Avoid polluting watercourses.

7. LIGHTING OF FIRES IN THE BUSH

In Victoria fires can be lit only in a properly constructed fireplace, or in a trench 18" deep with an area of 10' radius all round cleared of all inflammable material, leaves, etc.

Fires must not be left unattended, and must be extinguished before leaving, preferably with water.

On days of "Total Fire Ban" NO fire may be lit in the open.

8. SNAKE BITE PRECAUTIONS

Carry snakebite outfit on you wherever you go.

Treat all snakes as dangerous.

Always take a good look around before spreading groundsheets or sitting down.

If bitten, do not panic but calmly carry out first aid treatment and seek medical help as soon as possible.

This is only a brief guide. Further information can be found in the following publications, which are available in the clubroom:

Bushwalking and camping, Paddy Pallin's handbook on Australian bushcraft, 6th ed., 1959, 5/-

Equipment for mountaineering, a guide to the choice of equipment for the bushwalker, rock-climber and mountaineer, published by the Melbourne University Mountaineering Club, 1961, 3/-

Going hiking? A guide to safety in bushland tracks, published by the National Safety Council of Australia

Safety in the bush, published by the Hobart Walking Club, 1962, 1/6d.

Please do not hesitate to ask leaders, committee members, etc. for advice on equipment, points of bush-lore, etc.

AUSKI

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Paddy Pallin has produced a new light-weight H-frame pack, slightly smaller than existing models. Cheaper too, at £11.10.0.

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

AT LAST

Freeze-dried meat - available at

AUSKI's

CALL AND INSPECT

See LOIS, TONI, JOHN and CHARLES

at AUSKI HOUSE

Hardware Street, Melbourne (just off Bourke Street)