

## of the Melbourne Bushwalkers

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NEW MEMBERS

We are happy to welcome the following new members to the club:

HALL, Arthur - 260 Buckley Street, Essendon, (p) 337 7627

PHILLIPS, Alan - 161 Balcombe Road, Mentone, (p) XF 3628

CHANGES TO THE ADDRESS LIST

HOUSTON, Marion - (b) 98 1746 (till 3.30 pm)

LEWIS, Robyn - 878 5886

CLUB ROOM DUTY

A member of the committee, with access to the various cupboards, will be on duty in the clubroom each Friday evening from 8 pm. The roster for the next month is as follows:

25 June Harold Petersen

2 July Bill Thompson

9 July Athol Schafer

16 July John Siseman

23 July Helen Mitchell

DATES TO REMEMBER

On 25th June we have our bi-monthly meeting in the clubroom at 8.30 pm.

The next meeting of Victorian National Parks Association is on Tuesday 22nd June at 8 pm at the Herbarium. For details, see last issue of News.

MOUNT FEATHERTOP SLIDE NIGHT

There will be a slide night on 2nd July in the clubroom at 8.30 pm.

This time we would like something different from the usual, when it is either looking at slides taken on trips during the last three months, or looking at one person's slides of a particular area or trip.

On this evening we would like to show a rather restricted area, but to see as many person's slides as possible. We would like to collect all the slides of this spot, arrange and edit them, then present a complete picture of the area. For the subject what could be better than Mt. Feathertop, where the club is running a trip at the end of July. In a way this will be a sort of walk preview, but of course more than that. We hope that after the slide show you will have a very good idea of what Feathertop is like, even if you have never been there before.

For this we want everybody's pictures of Mt. Feathertop, the approaches to it, anything you have showing the area, whether in summer or winter, whether it was taken recently or twenty years ago (this might be the most interesting). Here is the opportunity, all you "old" bushwalkers, get out those fading slides, show them to us, see if you have anything of this magnificent mountain - in rain or 'shine, under snow or wildflowers - we all want to see them. Please give the slides (with your name written on every slide) to Anne or Charlie Weiling in the clubroom at least a week before the slide night, or if you cannot make the trip to the City just for this (and you trust the P.M.G. with your precious slides), please send them to Mrs. Anne Weiling, c/- Australian Institute of Management, 31 Queens Road, Melbourne, S.C. 2.

FOR SALE

Paddy Pallin 'Bushwalker' pack - 4-pocket A-frame - only used once. Will take £6. Please contact Sue Errey - 88 4385.

FEDERATION WEEK-END

The Federation week-end trip will be held on 10th-11th July this year, probably at the Y.H.A. hostel at Warburton. An evening of folk music is being arranged for the Saturday night. This is an excellent opportunity to meet with fellow bushwalkers from the other clubs.



DAY WALKS PROGRAMME

- 20 June Trentham - Lyonville Spring - Babbington's Hill - Daylesford  
 Leader - Alan Bennett (p. 98 1057) Medium  
 Train leaves Spencer Street station at 9.30 am  
 Fare - Sunday excursion to Daylesford - 18/6 (\$1.85)  
 Map - Daylesford Military Survey, 1" to 1 mile  
 From Trentham to Coliban River, thence an old track to Lyonville Mineral Springs where we will lunch. A compass course over Babbington's Hill and down to the Bullarto Reservoir to follow the pipe track to the State Forest road near Aranny's Hill, then to Leitch's Creek Spring. From the spring along the road to Bullarto.
- 27 June Lyrebird Walk - Sherbrooke Forest  
 Leader - Walks Sub-Committee Easy  
 Train leaves Flinders Street station at 9.00 am  
 Fare - Sunday excursion to Belgrave - 5/1 (51c.)  
 A walk through the Forest from Belgrave along Coles Ridge Track and into Sherbrooke Forest. The lyrebird walks have been popular in previous years and many lyrebirds and other birds are seen.
- 4 July Yarra Glen - Christmas Hills - Wattleglen  
 Train leaves Flinders Street station at 9.15 am Medium  
 Fare - 2nd single to Yarra Glen - 6/- (60c.)  
 Map - Yan Yean Military Survey, 1" to 1 mile.
- 11 July Macedon - Black Forest - Woodend  
 Leader - John Richards (p. 211 7969) Easy  
 Train leaves Spencer Street station at 9.00 am  
 Fare - Sunday excursion to Woodend - 17/- (\$1.70)  
 Map - Lancefield Military Survey, 1" to 1 mile.
- 18 July Murchison Falls - Tunnel Hill Arch - Digger's Gully Falls  
 Leader - Fred Halls (p. 97 3724) Medium  
 Van leaves Batman Avenue at 8.55 am  
 Fare - 14/- (\$1.40) Distance - 11 miles  
 Leaving the van we will approach the top of the Murchison Falls from the north-west. Since the first sighting of the waterfall will occur in the morning from the high west bank, some good photos may be obtained. The Strath Creek falls a couple of hundred feet into a black slate gorge 800 feet deep. There is another view later from the east side of the gorge.  
 The next point of interest is the Tunnel Hill Arch where a tiny creek runs through a natural arch of black slate, then on down the small rocky gorge of Tunnel Hill Creek. After climbing out of the timbered gorge we amble down the spur to the foot of Tunnel Hill. We'll follow the "Houdino" Digger's Gully Creek - first you see it, then you don't - disappearing and reappearing in the rocky creek bed. We'll then climb out by way of the Digger's Gully Falls onto the timbered plateau finishing the walk in the vicinity of Mullers Creek.  
 Although creeks are plentiful it would probably be better to carry a small water flask, as the lunch spot may be on a dry ridge.  
 Map - Kinglake Military Survey, 1" to 1 mile.

OVERNIGHT WALKS

- 26-27 June Lyrebird Walk  
 Leader - Walks Sub-Committee Easy  
 Train leaves Flinders Street station at 2.02 pm, bus from Belgrave to Kallista; return from Belgrave on Sunday.  
 Fare - 4/- (40c.) single  
 A walk in Sherbrooke Forest to see the lyrebirds. We will spend the night at Kallista Hall, for which a small charge will be made to cover the cost of hire of the hall. This will give us a chance to leave at dawn to follow the lyrebirds through the forest.
- 2-4 July Fernshaw - Old Black Spur Road - Monda Track - Mt. St. Leonard  
 Leader - Marion Houston (p. 52 1313) Medium  
 McKenzies Bus leaves Whight's at 6.30 pm  
 Fare - 23/6 (\$2.35)  
 This easy walk follows the Old Melbourne Road up the Black Spur



from Fernshaw to Dom Dom Saddle, then along the Monda Track to Mt. St. Leonard and so to Healesville. The beautiful mountain ash forest is a feature of the walk, and good views are to be had from Mt. St. Leonard.

Map - Juliet 1:50,000 Military Survey

#### BOOKING OFFICER ROSTER

18 June Marion Houston  
25 June John Richards  
2 July Fred Halls

9 July Robin Petersen  
16 July John Brownlie, Athol Schafer  
23 July Richard Hughes

#### NEWS FROM THE FEDERATION

A copy of the Secretary's Annual Report is available for your perusal in the clubroom. He speaks of the Federation being more and more acknowledged as the authoritative body to make pronouncements regarding matters concerning walkers and walking, and of the occasions on which walking matters have featured in the news during the year. Government action affecting the national parks at Mt. Buffalo and Wilson's Promontory is deplored. Special mention is made of the preparation of a master plan for national parks in Victoria, starting with a scientific survey. Other items in the report include the repair of the Feathertop Hut, Search and Rescue Practice, Track Clearing, Federation walks, and the offer to affiliated clubs of the Federation of a personal accident insurance policy which is strongly recommended.

#### WALK '65

Still a few copies for sale in the clubroom.

#### WALK '66

One way to pass these long winter evenings is to write up your walking memoirs out of which may grow that article for 'Walk'. What do we want? Look up any back number and get the general idea. Paragraphs, track notes, photographs, etc. Stumped for ideas and background material? The Royal Historical Society of Victoria at 19 Queen Street, City has a large library of Australiana and has facilities for research. Contributions will be welcomed in the next month or so.

#### NEWS OF MEMBERS

We are very sorry to hear of the accident of Michael Griffin. We wish you a speedy recovery, Michael, and hope to see you out walking again before long.

Bill and Margaret Thompson recently visited Canberra to make an official presentation of a sugar spoon to Val Elder as a token on her election to life membership of the club. They report that Val and Peter are well, happy and very busy in their great country mansion at Gundaroo. However, they managed to go on the Canberra Bushwalkers' Easter trip to the Mt. Colong area in the Blue Mountains. Anne and Peter van der Duys were also on the walk, so the reputation of the MBW is now well established in the Capital City. Anne and Peter are also enjoying their new habitat in Canberra.

#### CULTIVATION CREEK - INITIATION ROCK - HOLLOW MOUNTAIN - CAVE OF FISHES - BILLIHING SHELTER - CAVE OF HANDS - KAPPA CAVE - BILLIHING GORGE

25 miles led by Fred Halls, 15-19 April, Easter 1965

The first night's camp was on the sandy slopes above the Wannon River near Dunkeld -- not a bad camp site among the bracken and wattles. Too few were the hours of rest, but away we must if we are to reach Cultivation Creek in time for lunch. The sandy roads and tracks to the Billiwing country were much better than a few years ago, but clearing of the native bush prior to planting of pines and the construction of new access roads to the various blocks made navigation to Cultivation Creek turntable somewhat difficult. We went around one block about three times, then for some there was the novel sight of four half-grown striped emus racing full speed just ahead of the van for some minutes.

When the sandy tracks became too boggy we said farewell to the van and set out on foot, headed for Cultivation Creek; some little difficulty was encountered in finding the turntable mainly due to the extensive clearing operations. Walking northwards along the creek's course brought us to the turntable flat in time for lunch. The season being dry the creek had ceased to flow, and consisted of a string of sandy waterholes containing water of the consistency and colour of very strong black tea, quite a good brew when boiled.



Camp was pitched under wattles on the sheltered sandy flat. After lunch we walked to Initiation Rock (our oldest known, largest and possibly the best of Victorian rock shelters), often known as Red Rock; then to the Cave of the Emu Track before clambering up the ridge to Hollow Mountain, the mountain with a cavern blown through the top. As usual all members of the party marvelled at the great forces of Nature so graphically demonstrated here.

Across the valley to the south appears another sandstone peak with vertical walls carved out by a red cave. Was it yet another sandstone mountain with a wind-eroded hole through the crown? It took us an hour to cover the half mile across the scrubby valley and after several false leads Frank found a way onto the top by skirting the base of cliffs off to the left. It was yet another Hollow Mountain, even larger than the first, with two large vertical shafts through from the red cavern; this was indeed an exciting find.

Next day we visited the Cave of Fishes, easy to find from the Gort Track, mainly due to the excellent directions given to the leader by Rupe. This is a fine example of an Aboriginal Rock Shelter with markings of yellow as well as the usual red ochre on the sloping sandstone roof. Then to Billiwing for visits to the Billiwing Shelter and the Cave of Hands. That evening after return to camp rain fell steadily for most of the night and spasmodically the following day, which was spent on the approaches to the Fortress. Although we failed to climb the Fortress and the spiny scrub was wet, there were many compensations on this rocky ridge walk, views of five vertical sandstone towers jutting out of the swirling mists, one of which was the Fortress's main peak; magnificent towers, cliffy overhangs and wind-eroded peaks dotted the sandstone ridges.

That evening in the light of the campfire a fabulous Cultural Centre for Ants began to rise from the sand. The architect refused to make any hazardous estimate of the cost of the completed masterpiece. Latest reports say that Uncultured Humans with Motor Cars have decided that the mighty edifice must be sacrificed for a freeway.

Next day we walked through very wet scrub into the Billiwing Gorge, with some good views of orange-red cliffs facing the valley. Our walk out to the van at Hut Creek concluded what for most had been a most successful and interesting Easter trip to the mystic Victoria Range.

Fred Halls

#### TRACK-CLEARING WEEK-END, 29-30 May

The week-end got off to a good start by the leader arriving late at Batman Avenue and finding all his flock seated in the van and becoming impatient. So off we went, a quick count revealing two missing. Upon arrival at Warburton everybody proceeded to fill themselves with hot coffee and freshly baked buns and pies, while the leader set out to find the chain saw operator, complete with camp stretcher, Tilley lamp, gas stove, Diesolium (good for lighting fires), and chain saw.

A short drive from Warburton found us bumping along Big Pats Creek Road, and all the activity of people changing was suddenly interrupted by the exclamation of one who stated that she had two right boots and two left feet.

At the end of the road some of the weaker members had their packs carried by utility truck to within 10 yards of the camp.

The only fatality was one who, while cutting a tent pole, slipped and cut his finger - Tut! Tut!

It was soon proved that we can build bridges as well as any Boy Scouts, only quicker, and that the scarcity of equipment did not seem to hamper the work. The return home on Sunday was quite an event, arriving to the sound of St. Pauls Bells at 7 pm.

D.K. Sullivan

AUSKI

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Paddy Pallin has produced a 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)