

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

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Just a reminder that the AGM will be held in the clubroom on Friday, 25th February at 8.30 p.m. We still need nominations for office bearers and committee members.

NEW MEMBER

Welcome to another new member:

KENAFACKE, Geoffrey Russell - 15 Rotherwood Avenue, Mitcham, (b) 34 4651, ext. 26

CHANGES TO ADDRESS LIST

Please note Robin and Helen Mitchell's new address and Charlie and Anne Weiling's home phone number on the attached address list. Would you please check this list carefully and notify the secretary of any changes.

COMMITTEE DUTY ROSTER

February 18	Robert Steel	March 11	John Brownlie
25	Sue Taylor	18	Fred Halls
March 4	Darrell Sullivan		

PRIVATE TRANSPORT

Members booking on programmed van trips and using private transport may be required to pay the full van fare unless special arrangements have been made with the leader beforehand. Members using private transport on programmed train trips should also make arrangements with the leader beforehand.

MORE WEDDING BELLS ...

Relaxing last week-end after his hard labour on the annual financial statements, our Treasurer announced his engagement. No wonder he's been missing in Tasmania so often! Our congratulations and very best wishes to you both, Pam and Maitland.

ALONG THE TRACK ...

Blackberrying Walk, February 6th

After reading about, witnessing and being part of some of the mishaps and incidents that have occurred on various walks, I was rather reluctant to try my hand at leadership.

A running battle of three months or so proved of no avail however, and I was finally cornered in the clubroom one dark night by our eminent Walks Secretary and persuaded to act as emergency leader for the black event of the year - the blackberrying walk.

And so, on that Sunday morning, twenty-four walkers with anxious fingers and trailing blackberry containers arrived at Belgrave after one of those minor miracles - an uneventful train journey. Following a leisurely wander around Belgrave and its Milk Bars - several people apparently caught up on breakfast - the party climbed aboard one of Puffing Billy's cattle cars and enjoyed the brisk journey to Emerald. Along the line by foot to the lakeside, gathering the first blackberries on the way, and then lunch and a bracing swim in the nice clean lake. One member of the party later mournfully told me that the lake did not measure up to Sydney's surf beaches.

After lunch, the party was given the difficult choice of staying at the tourist encrusted lake or venturing off into the unknown with the leader. Eighteen walkers, replete with lunch and blackberries, eventually set out on the accustomed walk. No one got lost and the leader put on a magnificent act, managing to persuade at least one female member of the party that he knew where he was going.

Back at the lake, the remaining six evidently spent a constructive afternoon eating, gathering blackberries, swimming and generally behaving like tourists.

Cont. on page 2

DAY WALKS PROGRAMME

- 20 February

Queenscliff - Point Lonsdale - Saltlake

Leader - Roy Beames, (p) 37 1139

Easy

Train leaves Flinders Street station at 8.52 a.m.

Fare - 2nd return Queenscliff - \$1.05

Bring swimming togs and water for lunch. A nice easy trip.

Return to the city about 8 p.m.

Map - Sorrento 1" to 1 mile Military Survey
- 27 February

Seville - Woori Yallock

Leader - Neil Ham, (b) 68 0311, ext. 335 till 6.30 p.m.

Easy

Van leaves Batman Avenue at 8.55 a.m.

Fare - \$1.10

We leave Seville township and head due south for about 2 miles, then we travel due east passing several apple orchards on the way. Bring bathers and towel as there will be sufficient time for swimming. Also bring water for lunch.

Map - Monbulk 1:50,000 M.S., Gembrook A, 2" to 1 mile, Lands Dept.
- 6 March

Federation Day Walk

Led by The Ramblers (Secretary - David Stewart, 407 Swanston St., (b) and (p) 34 4356)

A special train leaves Flinders Street at 8.55 a.m. (Fare - \$1.00), then bus (30c). Walk will be in the Yarra Glen area. Come along and take this opportunity to meet members of other Victorian walking clubs.

Map - Yan Yean 1" to 1 m. M.S.
- 13 March

Launching Place - Aqueduct - Warburton

Leader - Robin Mitchell, (b) 329 6911

Medium

Bus leaves Wright's Tourist Bureau at 10 a.m.

Map - Gembrook A, 2" to 1 m. Lands Dept., Juliet 1:50,000 M.S.
- 20 March

Trawool - Mt. Tallarook - King Parrot Creek

Leader - Tim Dant

Medium

Van leaves Batman Avenue at 8.55 a.m.

Fare - \$1.70

Map - Tallarook 1:50,000 M.S.

OVERNIGHT WALKS

- 26-27 February

Cockatoo - Shepherd's Creek - Woori Yallock

Leader - Athol Schafer, (p) 211 2649

Medium

Van leaves Batman Avenue at 1.30 p.m. Saturday afternoon.

Fare - \$1.80.

A leisurely summer walk giving views of Warburton Ranges.

Maps - Monbulk 1:50,000 M.S., Gembrook A and C, 2" to 1 m. Lands
- 11-14 March

Mitchell's - Jamieson River - Jamieson

Leader - Fred Halls, (p) 97 3724

Medium

Van leaves Batman Avenue at 6.30 p.m.

Fare - \$4.80

Map - Jamieson 1:50,000 M.S., Skene 1:50,000 M.S.

ALONG THE TRACK (Blackberrying Walk) cont.

The twenty four finally straggled back to Emerald (some still picking blackberries) and caught a bus to Belgrave. Arriving at the station, everyone piled into an extra small carriage and sang raucous and untuneful songs all the way back to the city. It was at this stage of the proceedings that one of the party was almost blacklisted for behaving in a manner unbecoming to clean walkers, being covered almost entirely with blackberry juice. (I thought Emerald Lake was for swimming in?). Needless to say, he, like the others, had had an enjoyable day.

M. Griffin

AUSKI

AUSKI

AUSKI

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, JOEN and CHARLES

at Auski House

Hardware Street, Melbourne (just off Bourke Street)

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

WALKS REPORT 1965-66

Fred Halls

During the early part of the year the Walks Sub-Committee consisted of John Siseman, Barry Short and Rex Filson. Later Robert Steel was co-opted to act as Walks Secretary when John Siseman resigned. During the last four months the Walks Sub-Committee has comprised Fred Halls and Roy Beames (elected 29/10/65), Rex Filson and Barry Short, while because of his enthusiasm and experience Robert Steel was again co-opted to act on the Sub-Committee.

Walks Programmes during the year were compiled by this Sub-Committee, prior to approval by the general committee.

Walk details: Returns of Walks reports were far from complete, especially for the early part of the year. The majority of walks reports were received for the last four months, and, while this is obviously too small a sample to enable an objective report to be presented, it can be examined with reservation to enable some trends to be observed.

The figures quoted are average attendances for the quarter October 1965 - January 1966 and are printed without further comment. Below are average attendances for the full year of some past years.

	<u>Average attendance</u>			
	<u>Visitors</u>	<u>Members</u>	<u>Total</u>	
Day walks	8	10	18	
Week-end walks	5	20	25	
Extended			13	
Overall	7	14	21	(Total - 404)

Long week-end walks are included in extended walks.

<u>Year</u>	<u>Some past attendances</u>		<u>Overall</u>
	<u>Day</u>	<u>Week-end & extended</u>	
1961-62	20	16	19
1962-63	17	15	16
1963-64	17	17	17
1964-65	16	12	15

While the total attending Christmas club walks seems rather low at 28, a pleasing feature is that the club parties visited four quite different districts, whereas some other clubs in the Federation found it difficult to support more than one club trip.

Early in the year it was found necessary to cancel many van trips but lately our troubles seem to have been resolved, with the result that it was necessary to cancel only one walk during the last four months.

Equipment

For the past year John Richards has been Equipment Officer. All equipment is currently in good condition, and has been hired out regularly during the latter part of the year.

SOCIAL SECRETARY'S REPORT

Helen Mitchell

Besides the annual Christmas and barn dances, the Club held three theatre and five slide nights. Members saw "The Fall of the Roman Empire", "Excuse I" starring Barry Humphries, and "Those Magnificent Men in their Flying Machines". Friday night slide nights covered Christmas, Easter and other walking trips, including a preview of the Feathertop winter trip. Rob Steel and Tyrone Thomas entertained with their slides of Lord Howe Island and another highlight was Jim Newlands of the MUMC's slides of climbing in Victoria and John Brownlie's of climbing in New Zealand - organised at the last minute.

About 70 people attended the barn dance held in the Labertouche hall on May 1 & 2. The Christmas dance "occurred" at the honorable treasurer's riverside moorings (The Moorings, North Kew). A barbecue tea proved a satisfactory entree to Roy and his band.

Thanks to Marion, Robyn and Robert for their enthusiasm during the year - some of the social sub-committee's tasks are very onerous. Thanks also to those who helped with the slide nights and the supper.

"WALK" MAGAZINE

Athol Schafer

The 1965-66 Magazine Sub-Committee consisted of Athol Schafer (editor), John Brownlie, Ian Phillips (distribution), Bob Bittner (advertising manager). The magazine, appearing for the first time under a two-colour cover, became available on December 8th, the night of the Christmas dance.

Distribution - Walk No. 16, 1965

Ian Phillips

Sales - Gordon & Gotch	£ 64. 3. 4
Other - Received 1964/65	51.16. 5
Received 1965/66	63.16. 8
	£189.16. 5

Advertising - Received 1965/66	£124.14. 4
Outstanding	12.12. 0

137. 6. 4

£327. 2. 9

Less cost of 2000 copies

296. 0. 0

Surplus

£ 31. 2. 9

This result seems particularly satisfactory in view of the increased issue in 1965 and the consequential increased cost. Of the 2000 copies printed some 1750 have now been sold and it is anticipated that the remainder will in time be sold as back copies. Sales of copies prior to 1965 totalled £20. 3. 0 during the year.

Walk 1966 was published at a cost of £306. 0. 0 of which £123.18. 0 will be recouped in advertising. 1400 copies of the issue have been placed with Gordon and Gotch for distribution, leaving 600 to be sold through other outlets. Sales to 31st January 1966, including sales of other publications exchanged for our magazine, totalled £ 43.16. 6.

"NEWS"

Anne Weiling

"News" was compiled and produced by Anne Weiling with assistance during the year from Robin Bliss, Margaret Thompson and Robin Mitchell. Sue Taylor looked after distribution and mailing with assistance from many willing "wrappers" and addressers in the clubroom.

WILKINSON LODGE

Darrell Sullivan

Over the period of the last twelve months there have been some small changes made to Wilky that will improve it for the use of members. The kerosene hot water system functions quite well and the new water main trench is nearly finished, ready to lay the new pipe. In the near future the roof will need to be re-nailed here and there and possibly re-painted.

Wilky now possesses a slow combustion burner that should help to conserve firewood.

One winter party used the lodge last winter and from this week a lot was learned.

The financial side of Wilky is reasonably sound.

FEDERATION OF VICTORIAN WALKING CLUBS

Anne Weiling

Harold Petersen was our Federation delegate until October, and Rob Steel has been an observer. Generally Federation activities are not well supported by members of this club. Annual activities included the Moomba Day Walk, Federation week-end, S & R practice, track clearing, and the annual meeting at which Mr R.G. Taylor gave an interesting talk on national parks.

The Federation Day Walk will be run this year independently of the Moomba festival organisers. The Federation is increasingly turned to as an authoritative body on bushwalking and has a good public image.

SEARCH AND RESCUE SECTION

Fred Halls

The numerical strength of the Club Search and Rescue Section remains fairly stable, but fortunately now contains a higher percentage of young and active walkers, which provides the necessary blend of enthusiasm with the experience of the older members. Still more young members are required to further build the section. The club should also appoint more of its members to act as S & R leaders.

The alert and partial call-up just before Christmas when a Federation member was missing near the Knobs, probably provided a check as to whether the machinery and method of call-up was still functioning correctly.

TRACK CLEARING

Darrell Sullivan

Track clearing for this last year was fairly quiet, generally lacking in members on the organised trips. The Big Pat's Creek tramline track was cleared by the club in May, and later in the year the Federation held a track clearing at Lake Mountain, at which this club seemed to be predominant. It is to be hoped that a few more members will participate on future club track clearing trips.

VICTORIAN NATIONAL PARKS ASSOCIATION

Sue Taylor

One of the most important events of 1965 has been the development of a programme for a Nature Conservation Survey of Victoria. This to be undertaken in six main phases and involves detailed assessment of existing reserves as well as proposals for further acquisitions. The support of the appeal for £2000 to begin the first part of the Survey was wonderfully encouraging, and the project should prove extremely valuable.

Mallacoota National Park. Protest and appeal from the Association and the public gives some hope of abandonment of the scheme to excise part of the park.

Wilson's Promontory. Unfortunately, public opinion appears to have been completely disregarded in regard to the proposed motel, and plans are still in existence to further the project.

Lower Glenelg. Alienation of the part originally proposed for reservation as a national park has been long threatening the Lower Glenelg area, and it still remains for a Government decision to be made as to what area can be protected from agricultural development and pine plantations.

Inspection of several areas within Victoria has been carried out with a view to further reservations of land.

Bushfires have certainly taken their toll of many Victorian areas, one of the most tragic being the conflagration last March in the Glenaladale National Park, which includes the Den of Nargun. Many years will pass before this enchanting place is restored to its former beauty.

A continuous growth in membership and influence of the National Parks Association indicates increased awareness of the urgent need to conserve and extend our national resources, but constant activity is required from all supporters. Those of the Club who are not already members of the V.N.P.A. are strongly urged to join.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Anne Weiling

Harold Petersen was secretary for the greater part of the year, and Athol Schafer was acting secretary prior to Anne Weiling's election.

1965-66 has been a good though not entirely untroubled year for the club. As can be seen from the above reports active support of the walks programme seems to have increased gradually during the year. Social events have been enjoyable, and our publications well received. Wilkinson Lodge is used and appreciated by many members. Members have represented the club at meetings of the Federation, the V.N.P.A., the Native Plants Preservation Society, and a proposed organisation for the protection of rights of way, as well as speaking to several youth clubs.

There is a steady flow of enquiries about membership and the secretary, with assistance from other members, also answers requests for walks information, information on maps, etc. We have many visitors on walks and in the clubroom. We exchange newsletters and magazines with a number of other clubs, and also have on sale copies of such publications as: Safety in the Bush (Hobart Walking Club), Equipment for mountaineering (MUMC), The Scenic Rim (Brisbane Bushwalkers), etc.

Membership Membership figures remain much the same as will be seen from the table below:

	<u>1961-2</u>	<u>1962-3</u>	<u>1963-4</u>	<u>1964-5</u>	<u>1965-6</u>
Members	152	152	154	142	145
Life members	3	3	3	3	4
Honorary members	16	14	14	11	8
	<u>171</u>	<u>169</u>	<u>171</u>	<u>156</u>	<u>157</u>
News subscribers	5	4	6	5	9

There were 33 new members admitted this year compared with 31 last year.

Committee During the year six members including three office bearers resigned from the Committee for various reasons. This has not helped the smooth running of the committee's work. Early in the year there was concern to increase the responsibility and safety consciousness of members in the bush. Later concern turned to constitutional and procedural matters, over which there was considerable disagreement. The committee tries to care for the day-to-day "household" jobs of the club, and also to encourage new ideas. It is grateful to those members not on the committee who assist in both these aspects of its work.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Maitland Vertigan

There has been an excess of expenditure over income in the financial year ended 31st January 1966. This has been to some extent a result of increased costs in printing of News, financial losses with otherwise extremely successful social functions, and difficulties found with recouping map making costs. On the other hand, the financial position is very sound. Current liabilities are more than adequately covered by cash at bank, cash owing by debtors, and current stocks of Walk magazine.

The detailed balance sheet and income and expenditure statements are set out below:

MELBOURNE BUSHWALKERS

WILKINSON LODGE - STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

<u>1965</u>			<u>1966</u>
£ 199.18. 5	<u>Balance</u> - 31st January 1965		£ 194. 9. 5
1.16. 0	<u>Income</u> - Bank interest	£ 1. 2.11	
7.18. 0	Accommodation fees	6.0. 6	
<u>20. 0. 0</u>	Transfer from General Account	<u> </u>	<u>7. 8.11</u>
229.12. 5			201.18. 4
	<u>Less expenditure</u>		
22. 0. 0	Depreciation	22. 0. 0	
<u>13. 3. 0</u>	Repairs and maintenance	<u>6. 7. 0</u>	<u>28. 7. 0</u>
<u>£ 194. 3. 0</u>			<u>£ 173.11. 4</u>

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31st JANUARY 1966

1965		1966	
<u>Members' Funds</u>			
£ 466.10. 7	Balance - General Funds	£ 449.17. 2	
199.18. 5	" Wilkinson Lodge	194. 9. 5	£ 644. 6. 7
16.13. 5	Loss for 1965	43.16. 4	
5. 9. 0	Net expenditure on Wilkinson Lodge	20.18. 1	64.14. 5
449.17. 2	Balance Accumulated General Funds	406. 0.10	
194. 9. 5	" Wilkinson Lodge A/C	173.11. 4	579.12. 2
<u>644. 6. 7</u>			
<u>Current Liabilities</u>			
103. 5. 0	Sundry Creditors	428. 4. 0	
3.15. 0	Subscriptions in advance	3. 0. 0	
	Insurance to be paid	9. 6. 6	440.10. 6
<u>£ 751. 6. 7</u>			<u>£1020. 2. 8</u>
<u>Fixed Assets (at cost less depreciation)</u>			
£ 34. 0. 0	Equipment		
17. 4. 0	Filing cabinet		
	Duplicator		
10. 0. 0	Projector		
	Tilley lamp		
3. 0. 0	Track clearing equipment		
	Printing frame		
	<u>Wilkinson Lodge and Equipment</u>		
192. 7. 3	Cost	£ 192. 7. 3	
30. 0. 0	Plus Improvements	30. 0. 0	
222. 7. 3		222. 7. 3	
59. 7. 3	Less provision for deprec.	81. 7. 3	
227. 4. 0			141. 0. 0
			199. 6. 0
<u>Current assets</u>			
231. 4. 8	Bank - General Account	451. 5.11	
31. 9. 5	" Wilkinson Lodge A/C	32 11. 4	
	Cast in hand from equipment hire	9. 0. 0	
149. 5. 0	Advertising debtors	164. 2. 0	
	Sundry debtors	2 8. 0	
103. 9. 7	Stock - Walk '66	157. 8. 6	
5.11. 3	Badges - metal	2.16. 3	
3. 2. 8	- cloth	1. 4. 8	
			820.16. 8
<u>£ 751. 6. 7</u>			<u>£1020. 2. 8</u>

We have examined the books of the Melbourne Bushwalkers for the year ended 31st January 1966.
In our opinion the balance sheet and attached income and expenditure statement reflect the financial activities of the club according to the information and explanations given to us.

F.H. Baker A. Whyte (16.2.66) (Hon. Auditors)

MELBOURNE BUSHWALKERS

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR YEAR ENDED 31.1.66

1965	1966	1965	1966
£ 995.10. 0	£1204. 1. 6	£ 15. 1.10	Profit on Walk '65
94. 0. 0	95.12. 6	967.10. 6	Transport fares received
20.11. 6	17. 8. 0	171. 6. 0	Subscriptions
25.13. 1	8.17. 8	18.14. 0	News subscriptions
46.11. 0	42. 6. 6	20. 2. 6	Sale of back numbers of Walk
	4. 4. 0		Sale of magazines
19.12. 7	9. 2. 8	21.17. 3	Hire of equipment
18.17. 1	33.12.10	7. 6	Donations
6.19. 0	16. 5. 0	48. 5.11	Sale of maps
	10. 0	48. 6. 0	Social receipts
	39.11. 0	15.12. 0	Visitors' fees
	10. 0. 0	11.16. 1	Bank interest
	6. 2. 6		Sale of pack
18.19. 9	48.17. 1	16.13. 5	Deficiency
62. 2.10	13. 5. 9		
10. 2.11	8. 0. 0		
	13.11. 6		
14.11. 3	1. 0. 0		
1. 0. 0			
2. 2. 0			
20. 0. 0			
£1356.17. 0	£1572. 8. 6	£1356.13. 0	£1572. 8. 6