

= T H E N E W S =

of the Melbourne Bushwalkers.

Registered at the GPO Melbourne for
transmission by post as a periodical)

—Price 3¢—

INSIDE THIS MONTH:

- . Auditors' letter. . . P 2.
- . Club news P 3.
- . NEW BARN DANCE DATE . P 3.
- . Along the track . . . P 4.

A N N U A L M E E T I N G E L E C T S F O U R Y O U N G
M E M B E R S T O T H E C O M M I T T E E

BUT A COUPLE OF OLD HAS BEENS SNEAK BACK

FOUR young members were elected to the committee at the Annual General Meeting held last month, reflecting the interest new young members have shown in the Club in recent months.

Tim Dent, Michael Griffin and Val Jones were elected to the General Committee, while Sandy Phillips was levered into the social secretary's job.

Good old John Brownlie was given another chance as president, while Anne and Fred were re-elected as honorary secretary and honorary walks secretary respectively.

One of last year's auditors, Frank Baker, replaced the soon to be married Taswop as treasurer. Frank is now chasing subscriptions.

Rex and Athol were pensioned off as vice-presidents and there are ugly rumours that Rex will be appointed number 7 on the Social sub-committee. Athol continues his silent way as editor of Walk '67.

Auditors' report

A letter from the auditors was read to the meeting, commenting on aspects of the Club's financial management. As this is a matter that all members should take an interest in, the Meeting decided to print the letter in "News." You can read it on the next page.

The meeting also decided to print Walk '67 -- there is more on this on page 3.

PERSONAL PARAGRAPH. . . For members who didn't attend the AGM, Bill and Margaret announced they would be going overseas later this year.

We wish them all the best but expect to see them out on a walk or two when they return (Don't forget the cold-shoulder pills).

T R A D G E D Y O N M T B L O W H A R D: Club extends sympathy.

MOST Members will have read about the tragic death of three Melbourne University Mountaineering Club members in an accident on the Alpine road near Mt Blowhard last month. Two others in the car were badly injured. The Club extends its sympathy to the relatives and to the membership of the MUMC.

FOR THE LATEST WALKS INFORMATION TURN TO THE BACK PAGES 7 & 8

YOUR NEW COMMITTEE

President: John Brownlie,
24 Brentani Av.,
Elsternwick. 53-9692.

Vice-presidents:
Athol Schafer
Rex Filson (alias
Barrington Tops if you haven't
heard).

Secretary: Anne Weiling,
Flat 25, Redan St.,
St. Kilda. 51-8368.

Watch for Anne's new business
'phone number.

Treasurer: Frank Baker.

Walks Secretary:
Fred Halls,
26 Sunnyside Gve.,
Bentleigh. 97-3724.

Social secretary:
Sandra Phillips,
117 Melbourne Rd.,
Williamstown. 65-5473.

Committee: Tim Dent.
Val Jones.
Michael Griffin.
Sue Taylor.
Roy Beames.
Robyn Lewis.
Rob. Steele.

Wilkinson Lodge manager:
Darrell Sullivan.

News convenor: Helen Mitchell

Auditors: Maitland Vertigan.
Ian Phillips.

(Full list of sub-committees next
issue.)

A . L E T T E R F R O M O U R H O N O R A R Y A U D I T O R S :

LAST Year's honorary auditors, Frank Baker and Arthur Whyte, have sent the following letter to the Committee. The Annual General Meeting voted it be printed in "News."

To: The Committee.

"The Committee will have noticed that the auditors' certificate for this year's accounts is in a different form from that used in previous years. This report sets out the reasons for this change and draws the attention of the Committee to some features of the accounts that the auditors think should be considered further. At no stage have the auditors discovered evidence of misappropriation of funds.

The auditors are satisfied that all receipts and payments shown in the accounts have passed through the Club's bank account and that no receipts and payments passed through the Club's bank account have not been shown in the accounts.

Subscriptions: Receipts for subscriptions have been reconciled with the accounts figure and compared with a draft financial membership list as at 31.1.66, as supplied by the secretary. We believe the receipts will be in substantial agreement with the final list. This comparison revealed

(a) Some new members admitted in the second half of the financial year had not paid the full rate of sub-

PAY YOUR SUBSCRIPTION NOW!

Don't make the Treasurer's Job, difficult.

A D V E R T I S I N G I N W A L K .

The letter went on to make these further comments:

"This item (advertising in Walk) agrees with the cheques. The amount owing for other publications is as advised by the Committee. No attempt has been made to verify this amount and no basis would appear to exist for verification. In view of the apparent profit on other publications the auditors have doubts about the accuracy of this amount.

Cost of "News": The amount for this item is as shown in the Club's records and is approximately twice the item for "News" subscriptions (this consists of "News" subscriptions and an allowance from members' subscriptions at 3/ for a full year, reduced for members joining after the start of the year). The implication of this loss for the current year should be considered by the Committee.

Sale of Club maps: The Committee

The News, March 1966.

scription.

(b) Some new members admitted at the end of the financial year had paid the full rate of subscription for the financial year 1966/67,

(c) Some new members admitted at the end of the financial year had paid no subscription.

The auditors feel that such practices may not be unreasonable, but we recommend that the position be regularised, subject to the Club's agreement, by a suitable change in the Constitution and by-laws.

Van and other transport payments & receipts: A reconciliation between walks reports and the accounts figures for van fares etc. was attempted, but not found possible. The auditors accept these figures on the basis that they are satisfied that there are no substantial outstanding bills for transport and the payments and receipts for this item are in close balance.

Sale of publications: The accounts figures for these items are in agreement with receipts issued. The auditors have made no attempt to reconcile these with numbers sold and believe that the records for such a reconciliation do not exist. This covers Walk and other publications. The auditors do not believe that any realistic division of sale of Walk, between Walk '65 & Walk '66 and back numbers is possible."

should establish the reason for the replacement of the income derived from this source in previous years, by a loss.

The auditors are satisfied that other items of receipts and payments in the accounts are in accordance with Club records and are reasonable in amount.

The auditors recommend that the Committee should review the Club's system of financial controls in the light of the above remarks and submit the following suggestions for further consideration.

Receipt books: There would be advantage in keeping a separate receipt book for subscriptions and van fares.

PUBLICATIONS: Some system of stock control over publications, both walk and other publications, should be established."

A. G. M. DECIDES TO PRINT WALK '67

NOW IT IS UP TO YOU TO HELP

It's up to everyone to start writing walk descriptions, natural history, track notes, versc, paragraphs, etc.

There is no excuse to say one has nothing to write about ... the editor, Athol Schafer has a hatful of ideas just waiting for authors.

Black and white photos and drawings are also wanted.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS

It's time to pay your annual sub. if you haven't already done so.

Members - 21 and over \$ 3
Juniors 16 - 21 \$ 1.50
Husband and Wife \$ 4

If you want to be in our voluntary insurance scheme, it's 53 cents extra.

BY THE WAY...

Photoflora '66

Victorian wildflowers in colour. The screening of exhibition slides from the photographic competition Photoflora '66 with a commentary on the flowers will be held on -

Wednesday, 16th March

Thursday, 17th March

at the V.A.Y.C. Hall Gisborne St., East Melbourne, at 8 pm.

Tuesday, 22nd March

Wednesday, 23rd March

at the Lower Town Hall Ringwood, at 8 pm.

Thursday, 24th March

at the Mechanics' Institute Hall, Nepean Highway, Frankston at 8 pm.

News about members

For the benefit of anyone who doesn't know about Joan and Arthur Whyte's recent marriage, may we take this opportunity of letting you know. Best wishes to you both, Joan and Arthur. Hope to see you out walking soon.

NEW MEMBERS

Welcome to
FITZSIMONS, William (Bill)
33 Orchard St.,
North Brighton.
Phone (b) 604 258

SHARP, Edna
15 Raven St., Kew, E. 4,
Phone (p) 868 671

Hope you'll enjoy walking with us.

NEW BARN DANCE DATE !!/10/67!!*

The date of the Barn Dance has been changed to 7 - 8th May.

The map reading exercise will still be held on 8th May - in the same area as the Barn Dance. More details next month.

On 1st. May Helen Mitchell will now lead a day walk (train trip) in the Healesville area.

CHRISTMAS SLIDE NIGHT

On March 25th we are holding a Christmas slide night in the Club Room at 8.30 pm. Please give any suitable slides to either Sandra Phillips or Robert Steel no later than 18th March. This will enable the Social Committee to edit the slides and ensure club members with an interesting evening.

FIRE

On 18th February, Hugh Brown gave an informative talk in the Club Room on bushfires. His accompanying slides illustrated the subject very effectively.

COMMITTEE DUTY ROSTER

25 March	John Brownlie
1 April	Rex Filson
15 April	Athol Schafer
22 April	Anne Weiling
29 April	Frank Baker

AUSKI

AUSKI

AUSKI

Paddy Pallin has produced a light-weight H-frame pack, slightly smaller than existing models. Cheaper too, at \$ 23. 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, Tony, John and Charles at Auski House, Hardware Street, Melbourne (just off Bourke Street).

ALONG THE TRACK

COCKATOO - SHEPHERD'S CREEK - WOORI YALLOCK

26 - 27 March.

A leisurely summer walk with views of the Warburton Ranges - that's what "The News" said.

So, after bashing our way through jungle-type scrub, we had the first of many views - across to thickly-wooded Gilwell Park. An overcast sky did nothing re-inforce the "summer" part of the write-up, but some of the party amused themselves by predicting the exact hour when rain would fall, while the rest of us devoutly prayed that they would all be wrong, and that fair weather would prevail.

A few drops of rain at 10.30 made a prophet of one.

The walk commenced in the orthodox fashion - a circle - on the Koo-Wee-Roo Road, about three miles from Cockatoo, and after our preliminary battle with the bush, we continued along various jeep tracks until we reached our overnight stop - Shepherd's Creek.

We pitched camp in idyllic settings, and with the approach of night, settled down to the serious business of preparing the evening meal ... (Note for reference: I have it on good authority that burnt "Marva" is a meal fit for a prince").

After thought-provoking discussions among the intelligentsia of the party, bed was most welcome. However, mid-night invasions by a motorised division (in addition to the ever present aerial attacks disturbed the sleep of some.

Sounds of activity followed our leader's 6.45 alarm, and breakfast was partaken in leisurely style. Promptly at 8.30 the party continued to wend its way to Woori Yallock.

The Old Monkhouse Rd. resounded to almost martial tread that morning, but "cooee" provided the excuse for a break (much needed by those of us who feel much older than we are). Still, there was a schedule to meet, so packs were shouldered once more.

Leaving the Hansen Creek Road we followed the proposed (apparently unseconded) S.E.C. mission line for a time. Walking through the log-strewn bush was a pleasant but wearing change. However, at rests some unwelcome insects put in appearances ... it wasn't the air that was nippy...

Having left the power-line, we walked along Macott Rd., up Sheep Station Creek Rd., and through the bush to our lunch stop. This was beside what should have been running water, but it was only after the refreshed party had trudged on a little further that the real creek was found.

The after-lunch route over a number of barbed wire fences and up numerous hills, seemed never ending, but the views across to Mt. Donna Buang and Mt. St. Leonard were worth the effort.

After earlier struggles through the bush, walking along Schoolhouse Rd. seemed by comparison a little tame. However, the group who walked triumphantly into Woori Yallock for refreshments was not bored - tired perhaps, as a couple of them later proved, but not bored.

E. E.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

We want your views on bushwalking, maps, our Club, etc. Send them to the editor, Helen Mitchell.

DO YOU WANT AN EASTER WITH A DIFFERENCE?

Then come to Suggan Buggan in the mountains of far East Gippsland, pitch your camp by a lovely little river and have the satisfaction of lending a hand (even a small one) in the restoration of a tiny relic of Victoria's early pioneering

history. A work party (unofficial) is being organized to preserve an original schoolhouse built of Murray pine slabs and shingle roof which is only just standing. Transport--car. Information--Gwynn Taylor or Darrell S.

++ THE ANNUAL LI-LO DERBY, or the salad sandwich special

Battle of the sexes

LERDERG GORGE AWASH

CONDITIONS Were good and the track wet for the running of the Li-Lo Derby on Sunday, February 13. The president of the Melbourne Bushwalkers Racing Club presided over the eight event program, with the head steward, Maitland the Vertigan, at the starting line.

Some of the runners left Melbourne on the Sunday Morning and traversed the rugged Lerderg Gorge, where they joined the rest of the field who had spent the rest of the night there, grazing and, presumably, training. On the way one young colt caught his mane in a barbed wire fence, but several veterinary surgeons soon attended him, which enabled him later to compete.

Soon after nosebags were digested and the animals rested, the events got under way. The starter had misplaced his gun, but was horse enough to give an audible "go."

The betting was hot, especially as the previous year's successful filly, Sandra, had been seen training earlier. As when
PAY YOUR SUB. NOW - Keep us solvent.
Don't worry about
(Gorgecans for marriage)
+++++ CHARGES FOR YOUR MEMBERSHIP LISTS +++++

her heat was about to be run, she had to be lured from greener pastures at the head of the gorge to participate. However, she went away to win both this and the final event by more than a length to retain the championship.

There was more competition in the events for the colts, with several close finishes, the new champ being David. The mixed doubles displayed various styles and the insiders had a definite advantage. Therefore the event was not undeservedly won by outsiders Sue and Tim.

Colorful synthetic fabrics were favored by the ladies for the sultry conditions, whilst the gentlemen chose country casuals.

Trophies were presented and after communal-trough-type refreshments, the field returned to Melbourne stables, slightly worn, but in good spirits.

BACK, John - 154 Bay Rd., Sandringham, (p) 98-3352.

THE TREASURER'S NEW ADDRESS

BIESTERFELDT, Ruth - 16 Sweetland Rd., Box Hill.

GRIFFIN, Michael - (b) 630-6181, (p) 772-3403.

HUGHES, Dick - (b) 62-0171.

JAEGER, Trudy - 97 Ashburn Gve., Ashburton S.E. 11, (p) 25-5887.

McKINNEY, Graham - c/o Commonwealth Taxation Staff,

436 Lonsdale St., Melbourne.

MITCHELL, Robin and Mrs Helen - Flat 2, 48 Sutherland Rd.,

Armada. Delete 'phone number.

O'DONNELL, Ray - Unit 6, 7 Hedgeley Ave., East Malvern, (p) 25-7184.

PEDERSEN, Willy - Flat 5, 45 Venice St., Mentone.

PHILLIPS, Ian - (b) 62-7411.

THE TREASURER'S NEW ADDRESS

BAKER, Frank and Mrs Joan - 35 Munnery St., Mt Waverley.

You can 'phone Frank at work, on 60-0771 ext. 296.

IF YOU HAVE ANY BRIGHT IDEAS FOR WALKS, give them to the walks secretary, -- Fred Halls. Don't leave it to the walks subcommittee then complain about the walks they plan. Help them now.

FEDERATION DAY WALK

March 6.

MOUNT WISE - SKYLINE RD. - MUIRS RD. - THE BREAKNECK - YARRA GLEN

By the time the special train had reached Yarra Glen, it contained about 100 walkers, representing seven or eight clubs. The Catholic Walking Club and the Melbourne Women's Walking Club were each represented by between 20 and 25 members, and the Melbourne Walking Club by between 15 and 20 members. Representatives of the host club (The Ramblers) were understandably everywhere, and members of the Y.H.A. were scattered liberally throughout the party. The number of Melbourne Bushwalkers who turned up? - 5.

Yes, you read it correctly-FIVE! Out of nearly 150 members five managed to drag themselves along to the Federation Day Walk. I mean, it's not as though the trip clashed with anything else (except private parties).

Question: Why didn't more members of the MBW go on the walk?
Possible answers (choose one)

a) They didn't know anybody and would feel out of place, and besides, none of their friends were going. (As a matter of fact while I was trying to sell the tickets, I was invariably asked, "Who else is going?")

b) The venue was uninteresting.

c) Everybody suddenly decided that they'd been walking too much lately and needed a rest.

d) They couldn't afford to buy a ticket.

e) They all realised that the best way to be conspicuous was by their absence.

You win a gold medal with a long pin if you picked a).

The temperature reached 100 degrees F. at 2.40 pm. By my calculations we were then on a horrible, dusty road, probably suffering from indigestion as the result of a terribly rushed lunch (1½ hours or more)

Dust and heat are a well nigh unbeatable combination and there is only one remedy - water.

Luckily it was supplied at frequent intervals in large quantities. A heartfelt thank-you goes out to all who arranged this wet welcome.

Quite a few interesting observations were made: The best dressed man arrived wearing a sport coat, long trousers and tie (held neatly in place by a tie pin). Well, he didn't shed any of these accoutrements, even when chugging up a hill in 100 degree heat swallowing clouds of dust. Gold medal award probably.

The most with-it lady arrived at the station looking very determined with her kitchen fly swatter. Evidently they breed 'em big out Yarra Glen way (the flies that is).

The Catholic walkers are often regarded as rather a quiet, sedate bunch. The Federation walk provided me with a new definition of quiet -- boy, they can really turn it on!

The milk bar at the end of the walk was quickly crowded. Walkers were drinking milk, lemonade, fruit juice (no pub handy) and anything they could lay their hands on. It was discovered that some of the Catholic walkers are yoghurt addicts. And on that sour note we turn to the following juicy chunk of information:

There is an old and often quoted saying, "you don't have to be mad to be a bushwalker, but it helps" and also "bushwalking is like hitting your head against a brick wall--its murder while you're doing it, but, brother, its heaven when you stop." The Federation walk was an uncontrolled experiment using a large and diverse sample, conducted to test the proof of these sayings.

Such was the success of the experiments that we expect the sayings to be officially recognised by the Federation.

. . . Mike the Griffin

DAY WALKS PROGRAMME

- 20th March Brown Range - Mt. Tallarook - King Parrot Creek
 Leader - Tim Dent Medium
 Van leaves Batman Avenue at 8.55 am. Fare - \$ 1.70.
 Map - Tallarook 1:50,000 M.S.
 Good views will be had from Mt. Tallarook and Brown Range. Walk will be through farm land near Brown Range, then timbered country with thick Blue Gums, and farm country again near King Parrot Creek. Bring water for lunch.
- 27th March Mt. Victoria - Boobyalla Plateau - The Knobs
 Leader - Robin Mitchell Medium
 Van leaves Batman Avenue at 8.55 am. Fare - \$ 1.70.
 This would be a suitable qualifying walk for new members.
- 3rd April Powelltown - High Lead - Big Creek
 Leader - John Richards (p) 57 4633 Medium
 Van leaves Batman Avenue at 8.55 am. Fare - \$ 1.60
 Maps - Powelltown, Ada Valley (M.B.W.) or Gembrook (in four quarter sections A-D) 2" to mile, Lands Dept.
 A very pleasant walk along the edge of the Ada Valley through timbered country, descending High Lead track to Big Creek near beech forests. No water need be carried.
- 10th April Tallarook - Breach Peak - Daniel's Swamp
 Leader - Robin Mitchell Medium
 Train - Return Tallarook. Fare - \$ 1.60
 Leaves 9.00 am.
 Map - Tallarook 1:50,000 M.S.
- 17th April Macedon - Towrong - Camel's Hump - Macedon
 Leader Robyn Lewis (p) 878 5886 (b) 677 831 Medium
 Train leaves Spencer St., at 9.00 am. Buy a Sunday excursion, return to Macedon. Fare - \$ 1.55
 Map - Lancefield 1:50,000 M.S.
 An enjoyable walk with some views is guaranteed, mostly through open timbered country (some pine forests). The walk will begin near Macedon township. We will then climb Macedon Ridge, Towrong Ridge, and on to Camel's Hump, the latter being one of Victoria's rock climbing areas.
- 25th April Peninsula Rd., - Reefton Spur - Armstrong Creek
 (Anzac Day) A leader is required for this walk. Why don't you volunteer? Medium
 Van leaves Batman Avenue at 8.50 am. Fare - \$ 1.70.
 Map - McMahon's Creek 1:50,000 M.S.
 A pleasant walk through forest country.

OVERNIGHT WALKS PROGRAMME

- 26 -27th March Acheron Gap - Feiglin's Gap - Mount Strickland - Mt. Stinton
 Leader Fred Halls (p) 97 3724 Medium
 Van leaves Batman Avenue at 8.30 am.
 Map - Juliet 1:50,000 M.S. cont.

The walk will follow the Dividing Range along the edge of the O'Shannassy watershed, generally through thickly timbered country (woollybutt type), but occasionally through more open country. From Mt Strickland, the walk is over Paradise Plains, which is an extensive high plain, and then back to timbered country again near Mt. Stinton. Distant views of Sugarloaf and the Cathedral Ranges. Bring water for lunch.

22 - 25 April Polletis Creek - Mount Terrible - Enoch's Point
Stockman's Spur Medium
 Leader - Roy Beames Fare - \$ 3.80
 (p) 37 7669 (b) 35 2221, ext. 254
 Van leaves Batman Avenue at 6.30 pm.
 Maps - Jamieson 1:50,000 M.S.
 Matloch 1:50,000 M.S.

A walk through beautiful country giving magnificent views of Big River just after Enoch's Point and of Eildon Weir from Mount Terrible. Bring your camera for these superb panoramic views. The country is mountainous and heavily timbered. There are remnants of the gold mining days at Enoch's Point which is reached after the climb over Mount Terrible.

You'll need to carry water for lunch on the first day.

7 - 11th April There are three walks in the same general area, the one van taking all parties.

a) Barry Mountains - Speculation - Crosscut Saw -
Stanley Name Spur Tough

b) Magdala - The Bluff - Bindaree Medium

c) Howitt - Speculation - Cobbler - Clear Hills
 Medium

The Van will leave Batman Avenue at 6.30 pm.
 Leader - Neville Simpson (b) 30 4185 Fare - \$ 6.30.
 These walks offer an excellent introduction to the High Country.
 Map - King, Howqua, Jamieson Divides, 1:63,360 M.U.I.C.

a) Barry Mountains, etc;

This walk will start with a descent to the Wonnangatta River which will be followed to its head. Then to Barry Mountains, Speculation, and along the Crosscut Saw to Stanley Name Spur between the divide of the Howqua and King headwaters, ending near Clear Hills. The country, although scrubby in parts is spectacular. It is advisable to carry a large water bottle as the area is very dry in stretches.

b) Magdala, etc

The first day promises a hard climb of 3-4000 feet onto the ridge. From then we'll cross typical ski country, with unsurpassed views of the Macallister and Jamieson Watersheds, Mount Bulla and Mount Stirling. Come along and make the acquaintance of Howitt's Spur. There will be adequate water at campsites and during the day.

c) Howitt, etc

This walk will be in the high country above the Wonnangatta, descending to cross the King River. Excellent views from Mount Cobbler. If time permits, there will be good views of Dandongdale Falls. It is advisable to carry water during the Day.