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Edition 213 October 1966

THE NEWS
of the Melbourne Bushwalkers
(Registered at the G.P.O.
Melbourne for transmission
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CHRISTMAS WALKS ANNOUNCED

Below are descriptions of the Christmas walks proposed for 1966. We believe that every active member should find an appealing walk in this years list.

Previews of these walks will appear in next month's News. Will all leaders please submit details to Michael Griffin as soon as possible.

Nullabor Caves..23 days
Easy - Medium.

Rex Filson

Moroka Gorge-Mt. Kent Range-
-Snowy Bluff-Bennison Plains -
-Long Hill..... 11 days..Hard.

Ed Lawton

Mt. Darling Plateau-Holmes Plain
-The Watchtower-Grinoline.
11 days....Easy-Medium.

Fred Halls

Mt. Tawonga-Eskdale Spur-Bogong
-Wilkinson Lodge.
8 days... Medium.

Athol Schafer.

Bennies-Cobbler-The Razor-
-Crosscut Saw-Howitt.
4 days...Medium-Hard

Art Terry.

Eagle Peak's Range-the Bluff-
-Magdala-Howitt.
4 days.. Hard.

Robin Mitchell

Chinaman's Bay-Refuge Cove-
-Five Mile Beach. (Wilson's Prom)
Hard

John Richards.

FILMS

The following Forestry Commission films will be shown in the club-room on November 25th!!!

1. 'Wild-life Paradise'..about Healesville Sanctuary.

2. 'The Big Catch'..about commercial fishing in Tas.

3. 'Hurry Hurry'...a Comedy with W.C.Fields.

4. 'Around a Gumtree'..about the adaption of eucalypts.

5. Stop Bushfires'..

SANDRA SAYS, 'I'm hoping to have Graham's film of Suggan Bugganalso. It starts at 8 o'clock sharp', (She's got you on the brain Ken')

A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT.

There is an apparent feeling among some members that the Committee is a small group acting in an undemocratic way.

I understand how this feeling arises and I believe it is due to the perennial problem of communication, (or lack of it) between committee members and general membership.

Our bi-monthly meetings are the occasions when members should ask the committee to account for its trusteeship. These meetings are also the time for members to put forward any constructive criticism about the running of the club.

However, as most general meetings are apathetic affairs, the committee usually makes important decisions without the guidance it deserves from members.

Because these decisions are made at committee meetings attended only by committee members, hidden resentment is often created.

However, there is no rule in our revised constitution forbidding members to attend committee meetings, as observers.

There is nothing to stop non-committee members from sitting in on most committee discussions. I will welcome any member interested enough to attend.

EDITOR'S NOTE... Committee meets on the second Wednesday of each month (2nd in Jan '67)

PCR SALE...Athol Schafer (p) 211-2649 is trying to flog 1 pair of Workmaster boots size 6, little worn, studded. Anybody with \$1.50 to throw away is cordially invited to see Athol.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

(Hope I've deciphered this correctly Bill)

The controversy which has arisen as a consequence of the publication of the August '66 News Letter editorial intrigues me.

The questionnaire which was attached to the July issue was so drawn up as to leave no room for doubting that it is the individuals own personal opinion which is being sought. The very wording of the questionnaire confirms this fact. It is stated, and I quote, "this is not a vote ... it is only a questionnaire canvassing your opinion ... place numbers against the nights which you prefer".

There is no suggestion that the individual member is to go about asking all the other members how they feel about the issue. There is no suggestion that he is to take anything other than his own conscience into account. It appeared to have been envisaged that the choice best suited to a majority of the club members would be apparent from a perusal of the individual elections.

If it is the case that it is unjust that the opinion of a committee member, who contributes much by way of valuable and time-consuming effort on behalf of the club, should carry only an equal weight with the opinion of a person who does nothing for the general good, then it might be an idea if, in matters such as this, the opinions of committee members be suitably weighted so that their voice would have a greater influence on the outcome.

I do not believe that much good can result from accusations of selfishness. Human beings appear to be naturally given to selfishness, greed, drunkenness, immorality etc., but one can continue to like them.

If you want assistance in the execution of the affairs of the club, then it would appear that perhaps it would produce happier results if the message could be conveyed to non-participating members, who are at liberty to assist, that an active involvement in club affairs would help them to develop in themselves qualities of leadership; would help them to move away from the unhappy position of wanting to remain forever at the

centre of their own lives; would help them to learn to give, to take, to put up with mediocrity, to accept people as they are and to like them for being what they are; that all in all a more active participation would help them to find a greater and ever-increasing measure of happiness in their journey through life.

Bill Fitzsimons.

Editors Note. The message contained in the last paragraph of Bill's letter is hereby conveyed to all "non-participating members".

The following members are welcomed to the ranks. We wish you a long, happy and fruitful membership. (There are plenty of young eligibles floating around on Friday nights.) See John Brownlie about your membership badge.

BARRY KILSBY 44 Alfred Rd Burwood.
(b) 694166

DAWN MARRIOTT 22 Anthony Drive
Mt Waverley (p) 2367928
(b) 600281 ext 326

SUSAN MITCHELL 44 Tennyson St.
Highett (p) 936082

ALAN VEENSTRA 5 Kauri gve
Glen Waverley (b) 636011 ext 166

JANICE WRIGHT 2 Nepean St.
Glen Iris. (p) 293418 (b) 600551

CHANGES TO THE ADDRESS LIST

GEOFF KENAFACKE 33 Mt Dandenong Rd
East Ringwood (p) 876070

STAN MIZON (b) 320261 ext 745

CONQUESTS DEPARTMENT

Rod Taylor's excellent slides and commentary on mountaineering in Europe (Sept 23rd.) were enthusiastically received by a large crowd. Thank you Rob for a most entertaining and informative night, which included some interesting views of Russia.

A word of thanks to Shirley and Dawn for typing this monstrosity and to everyone else who helped. The News will appear on the fourth Friday of each month from this issue. All contributions to Michael Griffin, please.

"Meteorologist: A man who can look into a girl's eyes and tell whether,"

A L O N G T H E T R A C K

WILKIE MEMOIRS

(28th Aug. - 4th. Sept.)

HURSTBRIDGE (Oct 4th.)

Gee, these packs are heavy. Should have stocked up with food in the summer. Beaut day. Good to be here. Made good time, didn't we? What's this, only five feet of snow round the door. Where to tomorrow? Hot water system broken. Why won't you eat my partridge, Cranky Charlie? Let's go to Mount Nelse. Nice at the top. Weather is closing in. Head for home. You two cook and we'll wash up. This open fire couldn't be bettered. No hot water. Back to Falls Creek tomorrow. Pick up extra food. Let's go back right round the dam. Gosh it's hot. My pack has broken. So have my ski fittings. Try this bit of rope. Boy, I'm tired! Keep going. Back at last. I'll have coffee thanks. Still no hot water. Short trip to Mt. Cope. Slow down Big John. Langlauf's are too speedy. Skiing backwards for Christmas.....! Gooday Loch, about time you got here. Bludge for the rest of the day. Still no hot water. Spring hath sprang! Misty day. Better go somewhere. Rocky Knobs. Glug! Must try the Scouts' ski-run. More glug! Suzy's twenty-first. Kapow!! Table-cloth, serviettes, the lot. Still no hot water. Crook snow again. Easy day. What name shall we give the snowman? Jaunt to Basalt Hill. I'm going up that steep bit. You're a fool. Who said I couldn't make it? You're still a fool. At last - hot showers! Last day. Best day. No plans. Good snow. Rocky knobs - Pretty valley. Mt. Jim. Feathertop looks mighty from here. Look at that hare go. Jim scared it. Don't blame it for being scared. What, no clouds all day! Lovely. Tired, but content. Home tomorrow. Let's stay another week. Must we go? Parting is such sweet sorrow, and all that. Who's coming again next year? Besides me?

"Dim Tent"

FOOD FOR THOUGHT.

"Sins of omission are those we have overlooked committing."

One of the attractive things about flowers is their beautiful reserve.

H. Thoreau.

Reflections cont.

superficial life.

As we with wobbly knees recover?

Which is enjoyment?

Both, the voice of reason says.

Both ways.

And we go our way, content.

We are as they, people.

Michael Griffin.

There is a young lady named Ann - Leads walkers a long merry chase: She not only wants to but can; But don't turn away in disgrace. She's proven herself very able, She practiced up for the event; So let's lay our cards on the table Ann leading, to Hurstbridge we went

Spencer hungry, Ann took pity. Lunch declared, All down sittty. Lunch is over, Sights appal: Felix playing With tennis ball.

We went to an artist colony, It was all quite disheartening to me. Looked forward with great expectations - I thought she said nudist you see.

We walked all around dear old Hurstbridge Drinking in all the smells as we went, They say Ann used her nose as a preview, So we can't call the walk heaven scent.

Mike Griffin.

REFLECTIONS AFTER DONNA BUANG

Why so crowded here? poor miserable snow Churned by so many boots: White turning brown. Thin ribbon of road with edges / flecked in white, Burdened with rolling wheels. Buses to the top That lay unscathed before, fresh, unsuspecting. Metal pulses, stops, collects in one flat space Packed tight, as shells push forth their contents, Which the snow receives, unaware. They are as we, people.

Why so silent now? No gathering of people Half way down. The track is silent, untouched Except by us. The world awaits our recognition, Its beauty no longer drowned with shouts and pulsing humanity. Have we then seen the light? Are they in darkness, Not knowing any other way; enjoying

FEDERATION NEWS

Newsletter

At the September meeting of the Federation Council, it was decided that the Federation should publish a regular newsletter dealing with Federation news of interest to bushwalking clubs and their members. The Editor is David Hogg, 292 Mitcham Rd., Mitcham - 'phone 87 1630. See Ann Weiling for further details and enquiries.

Search and Rescue Report

A further report on matters discussed by F.V.W.C. Search and Rescue Committee regarding recent Donna Buang Search.

If any searchers have lost equipment would they please contact S. & R. Delegate (Fred Halls) to arrange for replacement.

After the last group of lost persons had been found, some confusion and delay in rescue was caused by an incorrect map reference being received by Search Headquarters.

In approximately twelve months time the present three radio sets of the Police S. & R. Squad will probably be replaced by six sets of much superior radio equipment. This should enable most searching groups to have the services of a radio.

It was discovered on the rescue that the standard stretchers are unsuitable for use in thick bush; but that the method of using 'H' Frame Packs lashed to saplings cut to length is quite satisfactory. This method will be illustrated in the S. & R. yellow leaflet at the next issue. The police method of radio call-in will also be included in the yellow leaflet.

It was decided that (if possible) the F.V.W.C. should be represented on the Donna Buang Committee of Management. It is desirable also that F.V.W.C. be allowed to assist in the compilation of a new handbook on safety aspects of the Donna Buang region.

Boots and All

Seems that some people made the most of the rain on the recent botany weekend. Secluded camp just for four.

Which reminds me. It was said that Taswop and Pam were pretty good at the holding hands game, but I reckon Sunbeames and Co. are current champions.

Nice to see Old Art and Doc Shaw back from safari.

Noticed a most unsatisfactory trend in the club room recently. Prospective members arriving already paired off. Should be something in the constitution about this.

Snakes are out again. Somebody almost stepped on one while plodding along on Ann's recent Hurstville escapade. Better check those first-aid kits.

Rita McCarthy is off to Sydney soon to work for a year before heading to England on a working holiday. She probably fears reprisals from her dirty stab at Mitchell (hereunder reproduced - the dirty stab I mean). "If all the tracks were made of cake, And all the land was cream, And pavlovas grew already cooked. Each filled with strawberry supreme; There wouldn't be a walk to do If the places were visited by you know who." Happy travelling Rita.

"A bore is a man who spends so much time talking about himself that you can't talk about yourself." Hmm. . . . Sinbad

In Brief: Supper charges have been discontinued, thereby making Ed Lawton miserable.

Doug Pocock (who else) is looking into possibilities of producing a new spicy song book. Anyone with ideas about songs or a suitable format, please see Doug.

Warning to Alan Drew. Tread carefully. You are under observation.

What's wrong with the car J.B? Or is it Hotham that's at fault.

BITS AND PIECES

Sugarloaf

"The twin hills of Mount Sugarloaf and Mount Leura give a grace and distinction to the landscape of Camperdown that thousands of featureless Australian towns might envy. Yet Mt. Sugarloaf is threatened with destruction. The owner of this uniquely symmetrical and beautiful hill, Mr. L. Alexander, has already gouged the side out of it to quarry the valuable scoria of which it almost entirely consists"

The Age 17.10.1966

The article goes on to say -

"It may seem absurd to make a fuss over a mere hill, but there is a philosophy involved which is sadly alien to much of our present thought - the land is not ours to destroy, but to keep in trust for our children and our children's children, who will hold any breach of that trust as a crime."

The hill was gouged into for the scoria, which means money to Mr. Alexander. Money it seems, can also save Sugarloaf, for Mr. Alexander is prepared to sell it. We must meet his price, however high.

Attention All Leaders

Please return walks reports promptly. Fred has enough to do without chasing you for a piece of paper. You chase Fred instead.

New Members

Any new member willing to have a go at leading a walk (that's go at not goat) please see Fred Halls, Roy Beames or Rex Filson. You reckon you're not capable of leading a walk? Neither is Rex, but that doesn't stop him.

Duty Roster

Oct. 28	-	Helen Mitchell
Nov. 4	-	The President
11	-	Foolish Filson
18	-	Fountain Pen Schafer
25	-	Money Bags Baker
Dec. 2	-	Fred Halls

(Nicknames are in.)

Walk 1967

Are you travelling to an interstate capital city late in Nov. or early Dec? If so, Athol Schafer or Tim Dext would like to twist your arm to smuggle a few copies of Walk past the customs. See them now for details. Order Walk 1967 NOW - Price 30c (for 1.) Put the number required and your name on a decent bit of paper (no toilet paper Mitchell) and hand in to Tim.

The President's Weak End

J.B. has finally divulged the secrets about his weekend. Here follows the whole ghostly mess:

Location: King Lake National Park
Near Jehosophat Valley
Transport: Van leaves Batman Ave.
1.30 p.m. Sat.

Fare: Approximately \$2.00

Overseas Department

John and Marion Siseman, the New Zealand branch of the M.B.W. are at present hiding out at 265 Queens Drive, Lyall Bay, Wellington. They will be there until December.

"This is the month when we shall leave Wellington and spend four or five weeks wandering around North Island. During this time it is our intention to assault some of the volcanoes in order to have a look into the top of them. They are rather large mountains (Mt. Egmont 8260' and Mt. Ruapehu 9175'), but if the weather permits we should get to the top of one of them. One or two are still active.

"All this bushwalking activity is leading up to one thing . . . it is preparing ourselves for our return to Melbourne Bushwalkers. We shall be coming walking on the Australia Day weekend, covered in volcanic ash and reeking of sulphur. You will be able to recognise us by our scorched boots and singed eyebrows." - John.

Appendix from Marion:

"As you have already seen John with his whiskers, you will be able to recognise him."

AUSKI - AUSKI - AUSKI

Go to Auski (9 Hardware St.) for your bushwalking needs (within reason). Enlist the happy help of Tony, John, Lois and Charles in choosing your new pack. They have a complete range of models including the celebrated Bergen from Europe. Consider especially Paddy Pallin's lightweight, slightly smaller 'H' frame pack, price only \$23.00. Remember, wise bushwalkers go to Auski's for everything from Freeze Dried Meat to clean socks.

New Zealand Book on Mountain Safety

"Safety in Mountains" Editor B.R. Mason 5th Edition 1963. Contact : Secretary, Federation Mountain Clubs of New Zealand Inc., Box 1604, G.P.O., WELLINGTON. C.1.

W A L K S P R E V I E W S

DAY WALKS.

- Oct. 30 YARRAGON - STREZLECKI RANGES - TRAFALGAR
Leader - John Rogers. Medium. Fare \$2.15
Train leaves Flinders St. 9.05 a.m. Buy a Sunday Excursion
(2nd Class) to Trafalgar. Map - Moe 1" to 1 mile.
- Nov. 1 YARRA GLEN - YERING GORGE - LILYDALE
Leader - Geoff Kenefacke (b) 34 4651 Ext. 26 (p) 87 6070.
Train leaves Flinders St. 8.25 a.m. Easy - Medium.
Tickets : Either a 2nd return to Yarra Glen (Approx. \$1.20)
or a single to Yarra Glen (approx. 70c.) and a single to
Melbourne from Lilydale (approx. 45c.). Maps: Yan Yean 1" to
1 mile and either Ringwood 1" to 1 mile or Monbulk 1:50,000 M.S.
- Nov. 13 LITTLE RIVER GORGE - DURDI WARRAH RESERVOIR - STEIGLITZ
Leader - Art Terry (p) 93 3617. Easy. Fare \$1.80.
Van leaves Batman Ave 8.55 a.m. Map: Meredith 1" to 1 mile.
Open forest country, wild flowers and a good look at the
old gold mining area of Steiglitz.
- Nov. 20 BREAK-O'DAY - MIDDLE STATION CREEK - GLENBURN
Leader - Tim Dent (b) 68 0551 Ext. 390. Easy - Medium.
Van leaves Batman Ave. 8.55 a.m. Fare \$1.60. Mainly easy
walking through open hill country consisting of grazing
pastures, bracken and some sections of eucalypts. Bring
water for lunch. (Tim advises something stronger - like
lemonade!) Guaranteed plenty of rabbits to chase.
- Nov. 27 BIG HILL - MT. EVERARD - YARRA RIDGE - YARRA GLEN
Christmas Leader - Michael Griffin (p) 90 4554 (b) 63 06119. Med. - Hard.
Training Train leaves Flinders St. 9.42 a.m. Fare \$0.85. Buy a
Walk. Sunday Excursion (2nd class) to Yarra Glen. Map :
Yan Yean 1" to 1 mile. A nice long walk with little time to
spare. Racehorses welcome. Bring your own water for lunch.

OVERNIGHT WALKS

- Nov. 5 - 6 PRESIDENT'S WEEK-END. SEE PAGE 5 FOR DETAILS.
- Nov. 18 - 20 SAWMILL SETTLEMENT - BULLER - FOUR MILE SPUR -
Christmas HOWQUA RIVER - FRY'S
Training Leader - Rob. Mitchell (p) 50 3042 . Medium - Hard. Fare \$4.40.
Walk Van leaves Batman Ave. 6.45 p.m. New map to be published.
The following "information" has been furnished by the leader :
"Tremendous views, wonderful walking, remarkable camp sites,
a magnificent leader and ice creams at the summit kiosk."
Come anyway. We hope to get back to Melbourne before
1967 arrives.

THE NEWS OF THE MELBOURNE BUSHWALKERS

(Registered at the G.P.O. Melbourne for transmission by
post as a periodical.)

If not claimed within seven days, please return to the
Melbourne Bushwalkers, Room 110, V.R.I. Building,
Flinders Street, Melbourne, Australia.

SUPPLEMENT TO THE NEWS OCTOBER 1966

The Committee has approved the addition of the following section to the by-laws:

Financial

Payments:

1. All bills received will be presented at committee meeting to be approved for payment. Payment will normally be made by cheque.
2. The Treasurer, may, at his discretion, settle debts of less than \$2.00 without reference to the committee. The recipient shall sign a petty cash slip for the payment and provide supporting dockets where possible.
3. The committee may authorize that a payment approved by them be paid in cash. In such a case the petty cash slip shall be initialled by any two of the office bearers authorized to sign cheques.
4. Any committee member expecting to make total cash disbursements on behalf of the club in the ensuing month, in excess of \$2.00, shall present an estimate of the amount to a committee meeting. If approved, petty cash payments may be made up to the amount authorized against petty cash slips. Such slips shall be initialled by any two of the office bearers authorized to sign cheques.

Financial Records:

1. A duplicate shall be kept of the receipts issued for all payments received. A file of bills paid with receipts and petty cash slips with dockets shall be kept in respect of each payment made.
2. A register shall be kept of all property owned by the club, giving details as to price, date purchased and where the property is situated.
3. A stock book shall be kept showing the numbers held of all goods purchased for re-sale.
4. The records mentioned in 1 - 3 shall be made available to the honorary auditors at each audit and they shall sign them to the effect that they have been examined.

THOSE AMENDMENTS

Changes to the Constitution appeared on Page 8 of 'The News' for September. The following corrections should be made:

Clause 4 - Associations

Add "except" between "effected" and "by" in line 5.
(We sincerely hope you didn't think it was correct as stated.)

Clause 11 - Finance

The last line should in fact read:

"Secretary shall operate on the accounts,"

i.e. The remainder of Clause 11(a) remains the same.