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

Edition 226 November, 1967

THE "N E W S"

Published by the Melbourne Bushwalkers Price 3c.

W A L K ========== W A L K W A L K ========== W A L K

WALK has made the headlines several times this year and been discussed at most of our general meetings and

W H Y - because we are at the crossroads. Till recently our magazine has been showing a handsome profit for us but now printings costs have crept up that infernal spiral so that at present we are barely keeping our heads above the boiling brine.

W E A R I S O M E - metaphors might impress! No doubt the usual motion that we print WALK 1969 will be put at the next AGM in February, but this time we want to have formulated our ideas on WALK.

- Should we subsidize WALK from our subscriptions?
- If not how can we make it self supporting?
- Should the format be changed?
- What sort of public are we trying to reach?
- How often should WALK be published?
- How much will people pay for it?

These and many other questions must be answered, and answered NOW if we are not to let WALK slip from existence.

So that we can be prepared to discuss the above motion constructively at the AGM Ann & Charlie WEILING have organized a meeting at their home

at: FLAT 25, 6 REDAN STREET, ST. KILDA.

on: WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6th at 7.30 pm.

All interested folks are invited, nay, URGED to attend so that WALK may stride out again.

THE MEW

CHRISTMAS PARTY

WILL BE

A REAL HUMDINGER

To be held at our magnaminous Presidents Pallace

29 Brentani Avenue Elsternwick

Ring your own drink & meat - Primus too if there is a total fire ban !

..... B U T .....

..... S E E ..... Y O U ..... T H E R E .....

SATURDAY D E C E M B E R 2 nd 8 pm.

D E C E M B E R 2nd

Small donation will be extracted for hire of glasses, etc.

EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING held on 27th October 1967
Shirley Trotter was elected Social Secretary.

Good socializing Shirley!

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BIMONTHLY GENERAL MEETING held on 27th October, 1967.

Points of interest:
New committee members elected,

MICHAEL GRIFFEN
SHIRLEY TRELOAR
MARION SISEMAN

WALK - Discussed at length see page 1. for details.

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NEW MEMBERS
Welcome to

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Linda Alice SAUNDERS | - | 27 Pyne Street, S. Caulfield | (p) 53 7469<br>(b)544 0611 ext 2611 |
| George Francis HALL | - | 40 Belmont Avenue, Kew | (p) 80 3789<br>(b) 615 3470 |
| Ian Kenneth MORRISON | - | 3/315 St. Kilda St. N. Brighton. 3186. | (b) 90 6044 |

A reminder to old members; Our constitution requires that, in order to prop~~os~~e or second a person for membership of the Club, both the Proposer and Seconder must have been members of the Club for at least six months. So if you have joined within the last six months and a visitor asks you to nominate him or herself, the committee would be grateful if you would decline as it causes much inconvenience and embarrassment for the applicant.

More membership list changes :
Tim Dent's new 'phone number is (b) 68 0551 ext 231
Anne & Peter Van der Dinzs -- 72 Beasley Street, Pearce. A.C.T.
Beverley Southwood — 159 Wattletree Road, Malvern (p) 50 1667
Fay Nelson -- Lot 69, Seymour Road, Devon Meadows. 3977
Felix Harding's correct phone no. is 97 5538
Michael Griffen no longer has a business so please delete the phone no.
Loch Wilson new address 692 Glenhuntley Rd. Caulfield 537353

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## C H R I S T M A S W A L K S

| DURATION | AREA | LEADER |
|---|---|---|
| 14-16 days | Kosciusko State Park | Athol Schafer 211 2649 |
| If you can come for a shorter period contact Athol as people can join the walk for part of it. | | |
| 4 days Christmas | Lake Peddar Tasmania | Tyrone Thomas 89 5192 |
| 5 days " W/end | Howqua River - Mt. Howitt Wonnangatta River | Art Terry (p) 93 3617 |
| 3 days New Year weekend | Mt. Feathertop - Mt. Hotham | Art Terry 93 3617 |
| 26th Dec-1st Jan | Federation Mt. Feathertop Hut Work Party. Erection of Hut. | Dave Hogg (p) 87 1630 |

WILKIE LODGE Bookings to be made with Tim Dent (b) 68 0551 ext. 231.

CONTACTS FOR CHRISTMAS WALKS

(1) [illegible]
(11) See December "NEWS" for contacts for Xmas trips.
(111) Don't forget to leave phones nos. with those at home.

We understand that Rex F. has been approached by the M.M.B.W. asking him to lead a walk in Melbourne's water catchment as soon as convenient.

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## ALONG THE TRACK

DO YOU REMEMBER "PAID HOLIDAYS IN THE BUSH"? WELL HERE IS THE GEN FROM ANN SILVA.

Recently I had the pleasure of being assistant leader and Federation representative on the Social Welfare Dept. training walk for Youth Leadership Students. These students are doing a two year course for the Diploma of Youth Leadership. The successful graduate gets the letters D.Y.L. after their name (a source of much humour). The walk was for second year students to give them the opportunity to practice walk leading and map and compass work. The course has only been in operation for three years, so the group I was with will be only the second group of graduates so far.

The walk we eventually chose to do was the one Fred Halls lead last year, from Fry's to Mitchell's and out along the Jamieson River. On Monday (16th October) the party left the Training Division in Hawthorn in a Polic Bus. We got to Sheepyard flat by lunchtime and set out for Fry's. We introduced ourselves to Fred Fry and talked for sometime before we pushed on to Ware's for the first camp site.

Tuesday was spent climbing up and over the Howqua-Jamieson divide and down to Mitchell's. Next day some of the group took advantage of the optional rest day, while the rest of us went for a short walk up the track towards the Governors. We had a bit of a map and compass demonstration which got the instructors(?) more confused than anyone else.

On Thursday we set out along the old Jamieson bridle track. We all got a bit wet crossing the Jamieson though it was very low for this time of the year. The views from the track down into the Jamieson Gorge turned out to be one of the highlights of the trip. Everyone was very interested in the old Quicksilver Mine workings, where we had lunch. One enthusiast took a fully clothed dip in the Jamieson at this point. Camp that night was on one of the many grassy flats along the river and on friday morning we completed the last few miles out to the pick up point. After waiting an hour or so, we were beginning to wonder what had happened to our bus, when up rolled two powder blue patrol cars! The bus was out of action so we had a 70 mph spin back to Melbourne to cap off an enjoyable week.

Thanks go to Fred Halls for his very informative tracknotes (even if we did get a bit confused in all the jeep tracks towards the end)

Besides bushwalking the students do gymnastics, games, crafts and group psychology. They also have to have their Bronze Medalion. When they have finished the course they will lead youth activities in various organizations and homes. So next time you feel your office job is getting you down you might find this is the kind of work you would like to do. That is, if you can spare the two years for a full time training course. Anyway, next time the bushwalking leadership job comes up you could volunteer to go with them and find out all about it.

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AUSKI AUSKI AUSKI AUSKI AUSKI AUSKI AUSKI AUSKI AUSKI AUSKI AUSKI

AUSKI Shop at AUSKI for all your gear

AUSKI Hardware Street, City.

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SLIDES.....SLIDES.....SLIDES.....SLIDES.....SLIDES

Don't forget the slide collection.

At last we are beginning to get a few slides together. The collection is taking shape, but only with your help. Next time you go on a walk, how about taking just one or two photos for the collection. Did you take another one of those lovely photos of Wilky all covered in snow this winter? We would like to have a good section showing Wilky and the high plains in summer and winter.

If you have slides to give

see Ian Sheehy, Tony Morris or Ann Silva

SLIDES FROM ALL THE COMING CHRISTMAS TRIPS WILL BE VERY WELCOME

## FACTS ABOUT FAUNA

Australia has a higher rate of extinction of native species than have European Countries. Although this is regrettable, it is to a certain extent to be expected, because most Australian species are not yet in equilibrium with agricultural development, and there will thus be a comparatively high rate of extinctions. The centuries old European countries went through this stage, but their rate of extinction has now dropped because the remaining animals are adapted to the environment.

That this inevitable loss of species is an incontrovertible fact should lead neither to a fatalistic outlook not to a laissez-faire one, for once again man has shown himself capable of "improving" on nature, and therefore merits our earnest attention.

Indigenous fauna are generally less efficient in utilizing the environmental resources than the higher placental mannals. This has led to the replacement of small carnivorous marsupials by introduced species (cats and wild foxes) over wide areas. In areas heavily infested with rabbits there has been a marked drop in the number of native species.

This indiscriminate introduction of species is however an error of the past and errors of the past, in many cases inevitable and understandable, can no longer be our main concern. We are concerned with the errors of today, with man's want on destruction and utter disregard for the nature that surrounds him. This destruction can be blatant, but it can also be extremely insidious; a 'ow but steady progress in a negative direction that is unmindful of pleas from the enlightened and the concerned; in many cases, one thinks, because the danger is not realized.

Consider but one example and a simple requirement: Marsupials and space. Marsupials, such as the red and grey kangaroo, require large spaces. The suitability of the environment for these animals is reduced greatly once it is cut up (e.g. subdivided by fences). Thus the way we are shaping agriculture means less forest and less favourable environments for our indigenous fauna. The result is a loss of species unless we provide them with space - which sounds rather like another of the many arguments for national parks. Makes you think, doesn't it?

Michael G.

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## EMERALD LAKE "OLDER" MEMBERS GET = TOGETHER

About 80 people including 35 children made this gathering a great success . While some children and their mothers enjoyed the ride on "Puffing Billy" amid the usual clamour of eager voices, their dads drove to Emerald Station. Here the seething mass of bodies, some covered with ice-cream, spilled out of the train to inspect"the Engine ". Hence a short drive to Emerald Lake to join other families under various shady trees. The latter were very welcome as the temperature rose into the eighties. Suitcases, stringbags, plastic containers but no packs, disgorged their unbushwalker-like contents onto the lawn. There seemed to be children everywhere. And more cars arrived, more children spilled onto the lawn to eat more lunches. Some ventured into the pool which was surprisingly warm.

Old friendships were renewed. Some people hadn't seen each other for five, ten even fifteen years. The afternoon seemed too short to talk to everybody. Therefore it was decided to repeat this event every year on the last Saturday in October at Emerald Lake. See you there next year for a bigger and better outing.

Felix

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LOCH WILSON IS NOW AT 692 GLENHUNTLY RD. CAULFIELD

He has excellent stocks of

S H I R T S - The Hon. Ed. has one, they are T R E M E N D OUS

P U L L O V E R S - Ed doesn't have one but they are still tremendous

Also SOCKS, CLIMBING EQUIPMENT and MAORI PAINTINGS

If it comes from N.Z. Loch has it or will get it for you !!(Ed's promise, no Locks)

Open Saturday mornings or evenings by appointment 537353

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

DAY WALKS:

November 19 — PRESIDENTS DAY WALK - FRYERSTOWN. Easy
Leader: John Brownlie 53 9692. Van leaves Batman Av. 9.15am Fare: $1.60. Map: Castlemaine 1" to 1 mile. Come to the Presidents Picnic amid the historic ruins of Fryerstown. No packs to carry.

November 26 — OLD GHERANG CAMP - WENSLEYDALE RAILWAY - PETERS HILL. Easy
Leader: Ken Sharpe 113 Bowes Av. 3042. Van leaves Batman Av. 9.15 am. Fare: $2.00. Map: Anglesea 1" to 1 mile. An easy walk through the foothills of the Otways. Pleasant views of Bass Strait. Carry water for lunch.

December 3 — WERRIBEE GORGE. E a s y
Leader: Sue Filson 88 1165. Van leaves Batman Av. 9.15 am. Fare: $1.30. Map: Ballan 1" to 1 mile. A trip into the spectacular Werribee Gorge.

December 10 — LATROBE R. - SILVERTOP RIDGE - STH HILLS GAP - LABERTOUCHE. Medium.
Leader: Tony Morris (b) Dept of Supply. Van leaves Batman Av 9.15am. Fare: $1.90. Map: Neerim 1:50,000. A walk into a little visited area of our mountains.

December 17 — DAYLESFORD - BALD HILL - GOLDEN SPRINGS - HEPBURN SPRINGS. Easy
Leader: r e q u i r e d. Train leaves Spencer St. 9.30am. Sun excursion Daylesford. Fare $2.15. Map: Daylesford 1" to 1 mile. Last walk before Christmas, and last chance to get fit for Christmas Walks.

WEEKEND WALKS:

November 18-19 — PRESIDENTS WEEKEND - FRYERSTOWN. Easy
Leader: John Brownlie 53 9692. Van leaves Batman Av. 1.30pm. Fare: $2.80. Map: Castlemaine. A pschydelic happening on the banks of the Crocodile Reservoir. Be sure to be in it. Organised by Hippy President.

November 24-26 ********** N.B. see below for important details — OTWAY RANGES. Medium - Hard
Leader: Felix Harding 53 3851. Van leaves Batman Av. 6.30pm. Fare $4.20. . A walk through the heavily forested Otways. Map 1:31,680 Beech Forest.

December 2-3 — FEDERATION HUT WORK PARTY - MT. FEATHERTOP.
DIGGING OF FOUNDATIONS, PREPARATION OF AGGREGATE, TRANSPORTATION OF MATERIALS
Private Transport . Contact David Hogg (p) 87 1630. Or Tom Buykx p.433534 before Wed. 29th 8pm

December 8-10 — BAW BAW PLATEAU. Medium
Leader: Michael Griffen 90 4554. Van leaves Batman Av 6.30pm. Fare $4.00. Map: Walhalla 1:31,680. Last chance to cross the Baw Baws before another road brings tourists into our walking areas.

December 16-17 — FEDERATION HUT WORK PARTY - MT. FEATHERTOP.
COMPLETION OF FOUNDATIONS, TRANSPORT OF MATERIALS.
Private transport. Contact David Hogg (p) 87 1630. Or Tom Buykx 433534 before 8pm Wed.13th Dec.

OTWAY RANGES OTWAY RANGES OTWAY RANGES OTWAY RANGES

********** N.B.

Because of fire restrictions people coming on the walk to the Otways should

(a) bring food that doesn't need cooking
(b) bring long trousers because of the scrub,
(c) bring swimsuits if its warm,
(d) cast a postal vote for the Senate Election

Thanks once again to Shirley Treloar for typing this issue and also to the contributors .
The News is edited for , and on behalf of, The Melbourne Boshwalkers by Elizabeth J.Shaw, University Women's College Parkville. 342539.

WALKS LEADERS :

It has been suggested that walks are excellent opportunities for recruiting people for your walk. It is noted that on the van trip home people are usually enthusiastic about going on future walks. So if you happen to be on a trip, take along a pencil and paper (which you should have anyway) and sign up any who would like to join you, Don't forget to collect deposits though!

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FILSON'S FINALLY FATHERED A FOAL !

Congratulations to Rex and Sue for increasing their family by one. Matthew entered this world on October 18th and attended his first Bushie meeting on November 4th; so with such early training we are expecting another great walker.

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Smithy wishes it to be known that he and Mitchell will still be accepting odds till the New Year.

(Hope this makes more sense to my readers than it does to me. Ed.)

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Also, Lloyd George is to be banned at midnight.

(Understand this one, do you? - Ed.)

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VICTORIAN SPAELOGICAL ASSOCIATION

NEXT MEETING : Dec 6th V.A.Y.C. Hall Gisbourne St. E. Melbourne.

WEEKEND TRIPS : Dec 9-10; Jan 27-28-29 1968.

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DATES TO REMEMBER

Club meets every Friday at 161 Flinders Lane 8-11 pm.
There will be no meeting on FRIDAY DECEMBER 22nd. & FRIDAY JANUARY 5th.

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 6th — WALK meeting at Chez Weilings 7.30 pm.
Flat 25, 6 Redan St. St. Kilda.

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DUTY ROSTER

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Nov 24th Athol Schafer | Dec 1st John Siseman | Dec 1st Fred Halls |
| Dec 15th Frank Baker | Jan 5th Shirley Trotter | Jan 12th Shirley Treloar |

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V.N.P.A.

November 22nd Jim Willis and Alan Morrison will show slides "West of Alice Springs" in the Herbarium 8 pm.

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return to Hon. Sec. Melbourne Bushwalkers
P.O. Box 1751 q GPO, 3001.