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WILKIE TRACKS :

As a result of the recent complaint by the S.E.C. regarding our creation of unauthorised tracks, (see Feb. "News") I visited Mr. Stuart of the S.E.C. recently to discuss the issue.

Our proposal was to block off these tracks and to erect an appropriate sign. Mr. Stuart agreed to this plan as long as it is successful - that is, any further infringement of S.E.C. regulations by us in this regard would leave no alternative but to construct a properly graded track at our expense.

Consequently, a barrier (with sign) has been erected across the lower track and a rough barricade of rocks and tree stumps has been placed on the upper track (which was passable only to Land Rover - type vehicles anyway).

Members are asked to co-operate with the committee and the S.E.C. by keeping to the formed track at all times. This includes parking of cars - there is room on the track for this, without driving onto the snow-grass.

Tim Dent

A TEACH IN ON HUMAN RIGHTS, organised by the Youth Council of Victoria, is being held over the weekend May 31st - June 2nd. It comprises a dinner, teach-in groups, preparation and presentation of a pageant, and an Ecumenical Church Service at which the findings of the teach in are to be presented.

The Federation of Victorian Walking Clubs has been allotted five places, and can submit additional applications for the waiting list.

Cost of the teach-in is \$2-50. For further information ring Anne Welling of Melbourne Bushwalkers, before evening of April 25th.

(p) 51-8368 (b) 63-0391 ext. 4422

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE
APRIL BI-MONTHLY MEETING WILL BE HELD
ON APRIL 26th 1968 at 8.30 p.m.,

161 FLINDERS LANE

Sue Taylor
Hon. Sec.

WALKS PREVIEWS

DAY WALKS :

- Saturday OLINDA FALLS - KALORAMA - MONTROSE. Easy.
April 20th Leader: Sam Larsen. Train leaves Flinders St. Station at
8.47 a.m. Buy a 2nd return to Belgrave. Fare \$1.31.
A walk of approximately seven miles through the Olinda State
Forest Reserve.
- April 25th (ANZAC DAY WALK) SUNBURY - JACKSON'S CK. - RIDDELL. Easy
Leader: Ann Silva (p) 878-3354. Train leaves Spencer St. Stn.
at 8.10 a.m. Buy a 2nd return to Riddell. Fare \$1.65.
Walk distance is 10 miles. Map: Sunbury, 1" to 1 mile.
- April 28th YARRAGON - SEAVIEW - STRZLECKI RANGES. Medium
Leader required. Buy a Sunday excursion ticket to
Yarragon. Train leaves Flinders St. Stn at 9.35 a.m.
Fare \$2.15. Map: Moa, 1" to 1 mile.
- May 12th NARBETHONG PLANTATION. Medium
Leader: Maria Verginis. Van leaves Batman Av. at 9.15 a.m.
Fare \$1.60. Map: Julist 1:50,000.

WEEKEND WALKS :

- April 27-28th MT. HICKEY - THE MOUNT - BROADFORD. Medium
Leader: Art Ferry. Transport is by train to Trawool leaving
at 8.20 a.m. from Spencer St. Stn. Buy a 2nd return to
Trawool. Fare \$3.85.
The area is one of rolling hills, mainly farming country,
with distant views. It is advisable to carry a water container
for water at lunch-stops as the area is particularly dry.
- May 10-12th JERUSALEM INLET - MT. TORERECK. Medium
Leader: Robert Steel. Transport is by van leaving Batman Av.
at 6.30 p.m. Fare \$3.60.
- May 24-26th SAN REMO - KILCUNDA - POWLETT RIVER -
CAPE PATTERSON. Easy.
Leader: Ed Lawton. Transport is by van leaving Batman Av.
at 6.30 p.m. Fare \$3.50.
The walk is of approximately 20 miles, along the coast. Maps:
Woolamai and Wonthaggi 1" to 1 mile.

The major social highlight of the
bushwalking year the BARN DANCE
WEEK END is May 18-19, not in the
weekend as listed in the WALKS Program.
Transport is to be by private vehicles.
Those desiring transport add your name
to the list in the clubroom or not by
Charles Trotter, Social Secretary
Home phone number 56 24 96

NEW MEMBERS cordially welcomed to the Club are :

- Margaret Jorgensen - 25 Tennyson Street,
Moonee Ponds, 3039 (p) 37-3204 (b) 34-0484 ext.394
- Barbara Doubell - 55 Barrington Street,
East Bentleigh, 3165 (p) 57-2927

MEETING VANS EN ROUTE

People wishing to meet the van en route to the walk, instead of in the city, must personally notify the LEADER, and stipulate exactly where they will be waiting.

ACQUIESCING TO LEADER'S ULTIMATE CONTROL

For practical reasons which are apparent, enthusiasts and deviators are requested not to proceed ahead of the leader, or to leave the track, without notifying him/her.

DUTY ROSTER

May 3rd	Ed. Lawton	24th	Marion Siseman
10th	Tony Morris	31st	Alec Proudfoot
17th	Shirley Treloar		

AUSKI.....AUSKI.....AUSKI.....AUSKI.....

Shop at AUSKI for all your bushwalking gear --
at Hardware Street, City.

AUSKI.....AUSKI.....AUSKI.....AUSKI.....

ALL SUBSCRIPTIONS ARE NOW DUE, FROM MEMBERS "OLD" AND OTHERWISE.

TO: Mr. Ian Morrison C/- The Melbourne Bushwalkers,
Box 1751Q, G.P.O., 3001.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

I have/not changed my address since January, 1967.
I enclose \$ _____

Signed _____

WALHALLA WEEK-END - 22/24 MARCH

Alec's trip to Walhalla promised to be different and eventful - it was indeed. The first difference came as soon as we left the van, for after months of rainlessness we had to slosh our way for half an hour in a downpour to the camp site near Coopers Creek. Upon our arrival however the rain stopped, enabling us to pitch our tents in the dry.

On Saturday Alec led us along the old narrow gauge tram track, originally built to carry copper from the nearby mines, over some nearby collapsed bridges (a little more secure than the Ada River variety but with an equally long drop underneath.) No better guide could have been desired than Alec, who, having spent his childhood at Coppers Creek and helped build the tramway, entertained us with personal reminiscences and a wealth of interesting information about the district.

Crossing the Thompson River we continued up the Stringers Creek gorge into Walhalla where 5 members, taking an opportunity rarely offered on bushwalks, enjoyed a three course lunch by candle-light in the hotel.

After visiting various places of interest including the museum which contains relics of the gold mining days, the rotunda, the cemetery and the entrance to the Long Tunnel mine, we took the Old Coach road up past the site of the Happy Go Lucky settlement. Unfortunately soon afterwards the track leading down to the camp was missed, resulting in some extra mileage and it was almost dark when we waded across the Thompson River. Those who had gone way ahead of the leader returned to camp much later, not without some anxious moments.

"Guaranteed bludge trip" he had said.

"About 10 miles" - (February News). This one must have been the longest bludge trip on record!

Most having recovered by Sunday, after a swim in the Thompson River, Alec led the morning walk past the nearby settlement of Coppers Creek, where little remains except a pub with no beer. We followed the old Cobb. & Co. Coach road up to where another settlement called Jubilee once stood, returning in time for lunch.

A few thoughts on the weekend :

First thought :

If anyone has a spare billy hook please give it to Ron Bracken so he does not tip any more water into any more fires.

Quotation of the week-end :

"My father was a good talker .

(No comment !)

" - Alec.

Lament of the lost :

"Oh, Mr. President, where are our smiles?

You went and missed the turn off and we walked on four more miles.

Take me back to Coopers Creek as quickly as you can,

Oh, Mr. President, will we ever see the van?"

Serious thought :

Thanks, Alec, for a beaut week-end. Let us know early when you are leading another trip to Walhalla because we all want to go.

John Sparksman

TYPISTS

The services of further volunteers to type "News" stencils would be

DOUG AND ROBYN POCOCK, husband-and-wife - Melbourne Bushies, have sent us news of the progress of their WALKING TOUR OF NEW ZEALAND.

Once again a blurb from the N.Z. branch of M.B.W. just in case you think you are forgotten. Well, we left the shearing gang we were working with and went over to Stewart Island for five days. The weather wasn't the best, odd showers, but we didn't really mind as we were able to catch up with some of the sleep we had missed due to shearers' parties. The second last day we came to Oban, the island's only town, and, due to the vast quantities of water dropping on our heads we sought refuge for the night - a guest house. Can you imagine the looks on the diners' faces when two scungy bushies walked in for dinner? Still they survived; so did we, so all was well.

Back on the South Island again we headed off to Fiordland, going via a rather beaut petrified forest on the south coast. In Fiordland we struck rain once again (I suppose you remember what rain is despite your water restrictions) so for three days we sat in a Parks Board hut waiting for decent weather. In the end Hughie turned the tap off and THE SUN SHONE - it was wonderful! We made the most of the beaut weather, it was so welcome. After two tries in crook weather we finally went up Key Summit on a fine day. What a magnificent view! 360° of mountains, valleys and glaciers - really fantastic! Still enjoying beaut weather we visited Lake McKenzie, very pictureskewy, and went on down the Hollyford Valley. We spent about a week in this area of the National Park (3 million acres of mountains, lakes and fiords, N.Z.'s. largest park), before returning to Te Anau for a wash.

Presenting a washed and mended appearance to the world again we set off as "Freedom Walkers" on the Milford Track. Instead of paying \$54 for the tourist trip we paid \$12 using Park Board huts and providing our own food. (which included a lettuce someone had given us!) There were only four of us freedom walkers on the boat going up the Lake, the rest were thirty odd tourist walkers so we glared at them while they looked down their noses at us. Getting off the boat we were attacked by sandflies and almost waylaid by a weka (a hen-like bird), but giving a last glare at the tourists we set off for the first hut, five miles up the track.

Next day was rather drizzly but pleasant walking, with plenty of waterfalls off the cliffs lining the river. It was about nine miles to Lake Mintaro hut so we got there fairly early in the day. A genuine oven in the hut so - fresh scones for afternoon tea. That afternoon, feeling rather energetic, I raced up to the McKinnon Pass for a look but couldn't see much due to the fog. ~~Next day~~ going over we saw even less as the fog was thicker. We hung around the Pass for a while when we were up there, watching the kens (mischievous parrots), but the fog didn't lift so we pushed on to the next hut, visiting Sutherland Falls on the way. That afternoon, as we were pretty hot, we jumped into the creek for a swim, jumping out even faster. Talk about freezing the medals off a brass admiral!!

Next day was a spare, luckily, as the weather was pretty wet, so we stayed in the hut most of the day. (gets quite a habit in this country!) The next day made up for it though and we set off with blue skies and bright sun, a real beaut day. We got to Sandfly Point (aptly named) a couple of hours ahead of the tourists so we covered ourselves in insect repellent and waited for the launch to take us over to Milford. We were most impressed by Milford Sound, great sheer cliffs all around with Mitre Peak dominating the scene. We had to return to Te Anau the next day and really enjoyed the bus ride up the Cleddau valley, through the Homer Tunnel, down the Eglinton and then along the lakeside to Te Anau.

Cont.

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Leaving Fiordland area we moved on to Queenstown looking in on the hotel where we used to work and then pushed on up the West Coast where once again we struck rain. This time it rained in earnest and we had to hang around Franz Josef for 2 days for slips to be cleared off the road and two bridges to be replaced that had been washed away. I say, could you use any of this rain over there? Anyway, we finally got through (the male and the female must get through!), and we finally landed here at Nelson Lakes preparing for a four or five day's walk in this area.

Will they make this walk or will our two intrepid explorers of a foreign land be forced to turn back due to rain, blisters or lost way? Be sure you get your copy of "News" for the next thrilling episode of the "N.Z. branch of M.B.W."

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ARTICLES AND LETTERS WITH NEWS AND VIEWS OF INTEREST TO MEMBERS

MAY BE SENT TO :-

Margaret Grey,
Flat 8,
Osborne Court,
41 Zetland Road,
MONT ALBERT.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS:- John and Marion Siseman have moved to
6 London Court,
Blackburn, 3130. 'Phone 878.1839

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The N.E.W.S. of the Melbourne Bushwalkers
Registered at the G.P.O. Melbourne for transmission by post as a
periodical

Robert Schaffer
20 Mernda Av
Glen Huntly

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