

the news

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Bushwalkers

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Contacts for Christmas Walks --- See December "NEWS" for contacts.

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

DECEMBER 24-29 (5 days)

THE BLUFF..WONNANGATTA..VIKING..RAZOR..
CROSS-CUT..HOWITT..

Leader : Art Terry (p) 93-3617. Transport - either private or train
& taxi. Expected time of return : 10 p.m. 29/12/'68.

Map : Lands Dept. Howitt 1" to 1 ml. & VMTC Watershed of King
Howqua & Jamieson Rivers. Approx. distance 60 miles.

THIS is an excellent walk for the fit walker offering a variety of
interesting and beautiful river valley and mountain scenery taking in
the Howqua (Swimming on Christmas Day) The Bluff (Camp 1)
Mt. Lovick-Mt. Magdala and Hell's Window - Mt. Howitt-McAlister
Springs (Camp 2) Wongangatta R. (Camp 3). From here it will be
necessary to carry water for 1 day - we climb to "The Viking"
(Camp 4). The final day will be tough also taking in "The Razor",
Mt. Despair, Mt. Speculation-The Cross-Cut-Mt. Howitt and then
downhill for a change to the lovely and welcome Howqua for a much
needed bath.

10 - 12 days -- Leader : Ed Lawton

LICOLA..LAKE TARLI KARNG..MOROKA RIVER..SNOWY BLUFF
WONNANGATTA STATION..MACALLISTER SPRINGS..MT. HOWITT..
MT. STIRLING..MT. BULLER.

DECEMBER 26 - JANUARY 7. (13 days)

MT. COBBLER..MT. SPECULATION..CROSS-SAW..MT. HOWITT..
SNOWY PLAINS..DOOLANS PLAINS..MT. KENT..PINNACLES..
CASTLE HILL..

Leader : Felix Harding (p) 97-5538

Transport : rail ticket to Wangaratta. Then taxi to Mt. Cobbler,
visit beautiful Cobbler Falls, swim in Cobbler Lake. Then via
Mt. Speculation, Mount Buggery, Cross-Cut Saw, Snowy Plains.
Rest day at Bryce's Gorge, weather permitting pickup 7 day's food
(collected by Leader at the club on 13th December) on 31st December
Then via. Moroka Glen (rest day), Snowy Bluff, Billygoat Bluff,
Pinnacles, Castle Hill and lots more. Views galore. Only one big
climb (about 3,000').

BUT! EARLY STARTS, EARLY STOPS. DON'T COME IF YOU
WANT TO SLEEP.

For the others there will be good walking in the cool of the day. Don't
forget to put in a few "goodies" in the food you send up!

Approx. cost \$20. Approx. miles to walk each day - 10.

A WEEK AT WILKINSON'S LODGE

Anyone interested in spending Christmas week at "Wilkie"?

Contact Rosemary Olorenshaw (business hrs. 93-0311 Ext. 257).

TASMANIA

Jeff Sill (p) 772-3507 weekends-- wishes to visit Lake St. Clair over the

Christmas period and anyone who is interested in doing the same can ring
him.

BOOK REVIEW: "HANDBOOK FOR ADVENTURE" Neil F. Blake,
Museum Press, London.

By letters that come postmarked from the four corners of the globe, it would seem that there are some Bushies, who, more adventurous than the rest of us, delight in exploring strange cities, meeting new people, crossing deserts, climbing mountains and generally seeing as much as possible that the world has to offer. "Handbook for Adventure" is largely based on a young Englishman's experiences travelling abroad and is intended as a guide for those who would follow, mainly for those who prefer the unorthodox and inexpensive ways rather than for the purchasers of 'package tours'.

There is much practical advice and information: how to embark on different sorts of expeditions, singly or with others; obtaining the necessary documents; dealing with foreign police and officials; the techniques of survival; and fitting out of motor vehicles for long overload journeys, etc. However, the author concedes that the most independent type of traveller is the walker-- and provides a list of items for a relatively light-weight, around-the-world rucksack. Other unusual topics include: smuggling, bribery, camping on unofficial sites, and getting out of ugly situations.

Having planned well, essential to avoid a disastrous ending, the main thing is to get out and abroad while still young and healthy enough to enjoy the rewards and satisfactions you'll never find at home--just commuting.

(A.S.)

"MY SENSIBLE: INDISPENSIBLE (& OFTEN DISPENSIBLE) PLASTIC BAGS"

As the song goes, an oldtimer was wont to laud his old black billy as being his 'best mate of all'. Today he might be more moved to sing about that humble piece of equipment - the polythene plastic bag, with its multiplicity of uses, as the following list shows. This has been compiled by one who believes a plastic bag is valued by the weight of dehyds it can hold, which indicates the most popular use -- that of a food container. Other usages: spare clothing bags, tent and sleeping bag covers, pillow cases, map cases; sponge bag and other toilette items; botanical specimen holder etc; log-book holder on exposed trig-points and cairns; waterbucket (held in string bag); water collector-- tied over branches of shrubs to collect condensation; worn between boots and socks when crossing streams and swamps to keep feet dry; tents may be kept clean by pulling bags over boots when entering, a piece is cut of top corner, and you have an emergency storm hat; for first-aid (i) vomit-bags (ii) a piece of sterile polythene will protect mouth when sucking out poison from a wound or bite (snake, insect or human); A recent film showed a space capsule's toilet arrangements - just a supply of plastic bags - very handy for cramped quarters. Also polythene has some strange properties. A man who was using them to store banknotes, found, after a few months, that the printing had disappeared leaving only blank pieces of paper!

(A.S.)

SERUM FOR ALL SNAKES

The Commonwealth Serum Laboratories has developed a new anti-venene, giving protection against all known poisonous snakes in Australia and Papua-New Guinea.

The serum, known as polyvalent, contains neutralising agents for bites from brown and black snakes, death adders, taipans and tiger snakes. The serum could be used for all snake bites, instead of separate serums for each snake. It is hoped that Federal Government might soon include it on the national health list, as the serum is very expensive. (Australian--- 22/10/'68)

ALONG THE TRACK

CUP DAY - UPPER FERNTREE GULLY - CHANDLER'S HILL - MOORES BREAK

The filmy blue haze of forget-me-nots floating over new spring grass, vibrant crimson Waratahs on a tree half hidden from the road and glowing purplish mauve boronia from an abandoned olde-worlde garden were the floral highlights of Athol's walk.

Readings from a book of Shakespearēan plays, reference to an incompletely known poem of Isaac Walton's and "What! Leave halfway through my lunch," (spoken after a 1hr. 45 min. lunch stop) were some of the lunchtime conversational pearls. As well, Athol informed us all of his newly discovered brand of biscuit Sesameal which was duly sampled, and commended.

The amiable shopkeepers at One Tree Hill were most impressed with our big boots, and farewelled us in the early stages of our walk.

On our return through Sherbrooke Forest, secret hopes were dashed on discovering from a tourist that Rainlover had won the cup, but two of our party found they would profit from the minor placings.

The enjoyment of the Cup Day Walk by all thirteen members was added to by the good weather.

Margaret Grey

A PERFECT HIKE

The promise of a perfect day enticed 27 people of all ages, shapes and sex to get up early on a Sunday morning to join the Daylesford train and venture forth into the wild, wild bush at Trentham.

The leader, looking his handsomest in a black string vest revealing a tantalizing glimpse of a rugged male chest strode along the highway purposefully, counting his flock every 5 minutes or so. After a 20 mins march the exhausted leader called a halt at the side of a dam - which he called a lake.

A few extroverts proceeded to thrash about wildly in the water, raising mud, mosquitoes and other wildlife while the rest of the party, hungrey after the exhausting 2 hr. train ride, ate their lunch.

The leader counted again - not one member of his flock had drowned - and proceeded to lead us up the Blue Mountain rising steeply a whole 300ft. above the countryside. Past a pioneers cemetery we clawed our way to the lookout tower at the top. After the rigours of the past hour, the view to Mt. Alexander in the North Macedon in the East and the You Yangs in the South was a sufficient reward to those who conquered the mountain. Now came the perilous uncharted descent, the leader counting his charges at every clearing to make certain none had strayed into the treacherous jungle.

At 5 pm the party arrived safely back at Trentham, a great triumph for the leader, considering that some of the route was actually not along a hwy or had no signposts. Here the party split up, 20 members went to see the Trentham Falls, the remainder stretched out in the afternoon sun at the Trentham Railway Station thinking "That's the way all hikes ought to be done"

"And when can I go again?" said the 11 year old son of the author who led the field most of the way carrying his aged fathers rucksack. And so said all of us as the train rocked us back to Melbourne.

P. Baxter

PRESIDENT'S WEEKEND was a Wow. Chops and sausages were never ending (as was the walk - country 2½-miles) Saus were delicious, Alec must have been 'in' with the butcher.

Nice to see Val and Roy Hockley again. Older members will remember Val as Lance Mobbs sister. They very bravely took their youngest son (20 months) David on George's You Yangs trip. They got on very well. The Walks Committee may have to organize special Parents and Childrens Walks in the near future.

Whilst on the Cupid section Darrell and Ann are to be wed on December 18th Dave Hespe to Barbara on January 10th. Greatest number of weddings in the Club for some years.

You are all going to have to put up with a whole lot of ravings after January as the "great Barrington Tops" leads a band of intrepid Bushies into that oft spoken paradise.

Bad weather maried this year's Annual Bushwalkers Reunion resulting in a small attendance. It is a pity that an alternative arrangement is not made in case of rain. Many people were looking forward to renewing past friendships.

Colin and Tyrone certainly look as though they has a good trip. Tyrone is already booked up for his next soujourn, to New Zealand this time. Bendigo Bob is going to accompany him for his Christmas Holidays.

Wouldn't be surprised if one of the Clubs gayest confirmed bachelors is stepping towards staid marriagehood.

Wonder if only one girl leaves at Christmas for faraway places?

A group of Young Mothers all ex-members and members of the Club are meeting every six weeks for afternoon tea to recall the good old days. Any girls interested could ring Ann Phillips 24-4016 for the date of the next meeting which will be held at the end of January.

GEOFF KENAFACKE is

"THE VIETNAMESE BRANCH
OF THE BUSHIES." 3.11.68

For the first few weeks, he was employed on operations in the donga but for the last week and from now on he will be working as a signaller at H.Q., 1st Aust. Reinforcement Unit in the Nui-Dat base camp. Working mainly at night and spends a lot of the days, dozing in a hammock in the shade of the banana trees or if he feels more energetic acting as the "shotgun" or guard, on the ice-truck when it goes into the local village to get the ice for the Victoria Bitter and Tarax.

...All correspondence for Geoff should be addressed to his newest address, which he says won't change for 12months :-

3793264, PTE G. KENAFACKE,
H.Q. PLATOON, 1 A.R.U.,
AF/P04, C/- G.P.C.,
SYDNEY..N.S.W..2890.

WHAT'S A BOTANY?

(WARBY RANGES, 19-20 OCTOBER)

Memories of being awakened several times on Friday evening remind one that trains run on sleepers - I'll bet Ned didn't have this trouble when he was around here. Sleep is soon forgotten as the spirited few race up Mt. Glenrowan chasing the more evasive botanies I guess. The tail enders soon catch up, muttering abuses such as "caladenia dilatata" and "white backed magpie". They're just crook on missing out on seeing the botanies.

Everyone is happier after lunch, when someone sights two more of the species baled up in a tree and cunningly disguised as fledgeling wedge tailed eagles. This good humour persists throughout the afternoon, aided by oranges from Kurring-Gai farm. If all botany hunts include such refreshments, I'll look forward to the next one. Camp amongst gum trees beside a beaut stream completes the day. Some types persist in calling them Red Box, but I know that they were really gum trees.

Sunday morning and we're discussing the diet of black boys (grass trees). This one is 8 feet tall and at about 100 years per foot is 800 years old. They mustn't eat very much - I'm 5'8" but I'm not 5662/3 years old! The tensions of the hunt become too much for the two Johns now, and they shoot off amidst cries of "where have all the flowers gone" not to be seen for the rest of the day. Cunning organizing on the part of our leader, I say.

Your correspondent becomes further confused later in the day when one party member claims he's found a spur-winged wattle. 'Gosh, trees don't have wings'. I recognised this as yet another cagey botany - actually a rare one found only in this area. The van is located further on, and so is another specimen. Echidna they say, but he doesn't kid me - I know a Tachyglossus when I see one. John and John are found later and we return to Melbourne, proclaiming this as a most rewarding botany hunt.

Angus Von Trype

CONGRATULATIONS TO Barbara Doubell for having a fleet-footed brother Ralph who won a gold medal in the 800 metres at the Olympic Games in Mexico.

GIRLS! If your boy-friend drinks skim milk (or eats pumpkin seeds) -- watch out.

DATES TO REMEMBER:

- 31/1/'69 The Club hopes to present a representative of the Australian Andean Expedition 1969 for talks on the expedition.
- 14/2/'69 In the steps of 'Burke & Wills' Film.
- 14/3/'69 Doug Pocock will give a talk and slides on National Parks in New Zealand.

28/3/'69 "Walking, Sweating Blow-fly Slide Evening"

DON'T FORGET TO COME ALONG TO THE CHRISTMAS PARTY-----
BARBE-QUE SUPPER.

Taylor Residence : SATURDAY November 30th.

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

SO YOU THINK MELBOURNE'S TRAFFIC IS BAD !!

Liz and Clive Bray have been in Bangkok for over a year now and are finding life in another country extremely interesting, rather exhausting because of the humidity and somewhat dangerous at times.

Bushwalking is definitely OUT! The jungle is full of creepy-crawlies with no legs, 2 legs, 4 legs, 6 legs and 8 legs. Even picnicing can be hazardous - so many onlookers. We only heard about one picnic - the Thai's thought they were crazy! - "Mad dogs and Englishmen."

The greatest danger seems to be city traffic (isn't that what we all tell our parents when they worry about the dangers of the bush). It appears to have no rules whatsoever and everything - cars, trucks, bicycles, animals - drives all over the narrow roads. The only rule seems to be that whoever hits a pedestrian or causes an accident goes straight to jail.

However this does not ensure that a pedestrian will be safe and perhaps Liz and Clive are keeping fit dodging the traffic. Stand to reason that sooner or later A THAI WILL GET YOU! And one got Clive - or rather his car! Turning into a road he met a large truck coming the opposite way on the wrong side of the road. Clive's car was no match for the trucks. IT GOT HIM..

Fortunately Clive wasn't hurt but the car was all smashed in and had to be towed away. Two motor-bike riders crashed into the back of the truck and one lost an eye. They were thrown into a taxi (maybe they don't have ambulances) and sent to hospital (at least there are hospitals)

The police spent ages talking to everyone and at last were convinced that the truck driver was in the wrong and hauled him off to jail. Lucky escape for Clive - though of course generally foreigners are to blame if they weren't in the country these accidents would never happen. So much for one street scene now for another.

Liz says :- The other day we saw a sight for sore eyes - a paychai (man) was standing under a jet of water pouring off a roof and soaping himself down and having a lovely shower! He was a coolie who had been working on a new building. All that water coming down, he just couldn't resist having his daily ablutions there and then, even if he was standing in the road! I wish you could see the way these people wash themselves and their clothes all in one operation, then change into fresh clothing without revealing themselves. It really is an art."

(Seems some bushies know the art, Liz. After a long hot, walk or a cold wet one its amazing how clean and neat some people can look for the van trip home)

LOCH WILSON & CO.
692 GLENHUNTLY RD, CAULFIELD 3162

Boots, Packs, tents, sleeping bags, billies, knives, gas stoves,
and lanterns, maps, compasses, books, etc.

Mountaineer shirts, jackets - caps - Greasy Wool Socks and other
Knitwear, Wool trousers, balaclavas, mittens.

If it comes from N.Z. Loch has it or will try and get it for you!

Call, phone or write for the lists - - Phone: 53-7353 (All Hours) pr 96-3891

SONG BOOK : Nov: songs are A-Roving and The Mermaid

WALKS PREVIEW

DAY WALKS

- NOVEMBER**
24 STRATE CREEK-YEA SPUR-JUNCTION HILL. Medium
Leader : Shirley Treloar p) 772-2553
Van leaves Batman Av 9.15 am. Fare \$1-70. Carry water..
Maps (3) :- Glenburn, Tallarook & Yea Military.
- DECEMBER**
1 SOMER-POINT LEO-SHOREHAM. (Swimming) Easy
Leader : Andy Price . Van leaves Batman Av.
9.15 am. Fare \$1-60. Map: Westernport 1" to 1 ml.
- 7 N.B. THIS IS A SATURDAY (A.S. 211-2649)
CLYDE-LISBAUN-OFFICER. E a s y
Leader : Athol Schafer p) 211-2649 Train departs
Flinders St. 9.15 am returning City 5 pm. Buy a
2nd single to Clyde - Fare 70c.
A very easy walk along hawthorn-edged back roads
giving distant views of the Gippsland hills - and
there should be time for afternoon tea - but carry
water. Map: Cranbourne Military 1" = 1 ml.
- 15 1) YARRA GLEN-MT. EVERARD-YARRA RIDGE. Hard
Leader : Required Train-Sunday excursion
to Yarra Glen. Fare \$1-00. Train leave Flinders St.
9.40 am. Map: Yan Yean 1" to 1 mile.
Last hard day walk before Xmas, last chance to get
fit for Christmas Walks. (Train - Healesville line.)
- 2) YARRA GLEN-HIGHBROOK HILL-PINNACLES. Easy
Leader : Alan Bailey 2nd Return to Tarraworra \$1-25
Same train as for 1. above. Map : Yan Yean 1" to 1 mile.
Undulating country with open views over Yarra Valley
Bring water for lunch.
- 22 QUEENSLIFF-PT. LONSDALE-SALT LAKE (Swimming)
Leader : Greg Harwood p) 50-4784 ---- E a s y.
Train leaves Flinders St. Buy a Sunday excursion to
Queenscliff. Fare \$2-15. Map: Pt. Arlington Military.

WEEKEND WALKS

- NOVEMBER**
24 - 24 BROKEN RIVER-MT. SAMARIA-TOLMIE. Medium
Leader : Marion Siseman p) 878-1839.
Van leaves Batman Av. 6.30 pm. Fare \$4-30.
Map: Whitfield Fire Map. (Obtainable from Lands Dept)
- DECEMBER**
6 - 8 WILSON'S PROMONTORY :
- 1) MT. NORGATE-MT. WILSON. H a r d
Leader : Art Terry. Van leaves Batman Av. 6.30pm
Fare \$5-00. Estimated time of return 9-10 pm Sunday.
Map : Wilson's Prom (Variety)
This walk offers excellent coast walking swimming
at Oberon Bay, and a climb to the summit of Mt. Norgate
on the Saturday - good views of the Anser and Glennie
group of islands. Sunday will find us climbing Mt.
Wilson with rewarding views from the top. Long
trousers and gloves are recommended as scrub is
unavoidable for some of the trip.
- 2) SEALERS COVE. Swimming --- E a s y
Leader : John Sparksman. Transport same as above .
One 1/2 day's actually walking on Saturday and Sunday
leaving the rest of the time for swimming or exploring
Camp on Saturday night will be at Sealers Cove, right by
the beach. This weekend is suitable for beginners.

The next issue of "News" will come out on 11th December 1968, copy
deadline being 7th December

NEW MEMBERS ::

The Club extends a hearty welcome to the following 6 new members :-

1. Pamela Ann WESTGATE
264 Nepean Highway, E. Brighton. 3187. p) 96-4928
2. Hoyce Constance DUNN
17 Beaver Street, S. Box Hill. 3129 p) 88-2393
3. Mario Emanuel Clement ATTARD
43 Wordsworth Avenue, Clayton. 3168 p) 544-8493
4. Peta Lesley SNELLGROVE
University Women's College, Parkville. 3052. p) 34-5901.
5. Ivor DAVIES
14 Jika Street, Heidelberg. 3084. p) 45-7545
6. Alexander STIRKUL
21 Conrad Street, St. Albans. 3021.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS :

Dr. David Moore,
43 Oswald Street, DANDENONG. 3175.

D. & R. Pocock,
85 Union Road, Surrey Hills. 3127.

Post Code for R & S. Filson should be 3129 not 3127
Mrs. Val Hockley, 15 James St. Footscray. 3011.

DUTY ROSTER :

November 29	--	Tim Dent
December 6	--	Athol Schafer
13	--	Margaret Reid
20	--	Michael Griffen
January 3	--	Shirley Treloar

There will be no meeting held for the Bushies on 27/12/'68 .

WALK '70 :

A meeting will be held at the Filson's Residence (18 Sutton Parade, Mont Albert, phone 88-1165) at 8 p.m. on 11/12/'68 to discuss the Walk Magazine for the coming year. All ideas & suggestions welcome.. All interested folk are invited to attend so that WALK may stride out again. WEDNESDAY 11th December 1968.

THANKS once again to contributors supporting this issue with such things as articles, gossip, walk previews, along the track notes, songs , etc. And with the 'regular' turning the handle on the duplicator , appreciation is expressed, especially now that the "News" is growing bigger and all others who help out with News... sookran ((i.e. Arabic for Aw gee, thanks)) The News is edited & typed for, and on behalf of, The Melbourne Bushwalkers by Shirley M. Treloar, 197 Station St. Edithvale. 3196. p)772-2553.

A ROVING

1. In Portsmouth town there lived a maid, Bless you young Women!
In Portsmouth town there lived a maid, Mark well what I do say!
In Portsmouth town there lived a maid,
And she was mistress of her trade;
I'll go no more a roving with you fair maid.

CHORUS

A Roving, A roving, since roving's been my ru-i-in
I'll go no more a roving with you fair maid

2. I took this fair maid for a walk.....etc
And we had such a loving talk;
I'll go no more a roving with you fair maid.
3. I took this fair maid on my knee.....etc
And Oh! the things she did to me;
I'll go no more a roving with you fair maid.
4. And when I'd spent my blooming screw.....etc
Then she just upped and she shot through;
I'll go no more a roving with you fair maid.

THE MERMAID

1. One Friday morn, as we set sail,
And our ship not far from land;
We there did espy a fair pretty maid,
With a comb and a glass in her hand, her hand, her hand,
With a comb and a glass in her hand.

CHORUS

- For the raging seas did roar,
And the stormy winds did blow,
And we jolly sailors were up, up aloft
And the landsmen were all down below, below, below,
And the landsmen were all down below.
2. And then, up spoke the Captain of our ship,
A well spoken man was he;
Oh! I've married a wife in fair Portsmouth town
And this night she a widow will be, will be, will be,
And this night she a widow will be.
 3. And then up spoke the little cabin boy,
A fair haired boy was he;
I've a father and mother in fair London town,
And this night they will weep for me, for me, for me,
And this night they will weep for me.
 4. Then three times round went our gallant ship,
And three times round went she;
Then she gave one whirl and she gave one twirl,
As she sank to the bottom of the sea, the sea, the sea,
As she sank to the bottom of the sea.