

The



News

Published by The Melbourne
Bushwalkers

Edition 241

April 1969

Price 3c.

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

THE BARN DANCE WEEKEND IS ON MAY 3-4, AT
MAIN RIDGE HALL (MORNINGTON PENINSULA)

Tickets \$1.00 will be obtainable at door but please see Soc. Sec. and purchase tickets beforehand if possible.

WHAT TO BRING: "Normal" bushwalking clothes. NO BOOTS WILL BE WORN IN THE HALL. Camping facilities are available for those who require it.

WHAT'S ON:

SATURDAY AFTERNOON. Explore the area at will.

SATURDAY EVENING. From 8 pm barn dance and social evening with bushwalker Roy Taylor and his band.

SUNDAY. A day walk will be organised if enough are capable.

HOW TO GET THERE: BY CAR. Take Nepean Highway leaving it just before Dromana at the

Arthur's Seat turn-off.

Private Transport can be arranged in the Clubroom Friday night, for the people who require it.

Shirley Trotter
Soc. Sec.

SUSIE FILSON'S COLUMN

Sorry to hear that Andy Price has had a spell in hospital. We all wish him a speedy recovery and hope to see him out on walks again very soon. Members miss his liveliness in the bush.

Bev. and Tony Morris are back from their honeymoon "sauntering" around our Eastern neighbouring islands. New Zealand certainly attracts the M.B.W.

Tyrone Thomas had "done" the Pacific Islands on his recent quick look around Australia and places further afield. He didn't quite make Canada but may get there next time.

Sue Taylor and John Brownlie are wed - April 12th. Their extended honeymoon includes working their way around Australia. We hope they are not leaving us forever as the Club has need of the good work they both have done in the past.

For the ears (or eyes) of the older bushies word has reached me that Val Jones is back in Europe and will soon be on the way home. Anyone heard of Roy Beames lately?

Wondering why you haven't seen Graham McGowan over the last months? He has at last his guide dog. Once well acquainted, we should be seeing him again.

From what one sees and hears at recent meetings it may not be a bad idea if a few people re-read their constitutions. If you have not got a copy, ask for one from the Secretary. Every member should know the contents of this important document, especially the rules of the club concerning walks.

It's a pity the club is not consistent about the re-joining rule.

It is with great regret that we are losing two of our best members in Anne and Charlie Weiling who are moving to Sydney. Anne and Charlie have worked unflinchingly for the Club for many years. The Club wishes them well in both their new ventures.

Copies of the Club's long awaited Information book are now available in the Clubroom for 10c. Buy a copy for a friend as they are a good way of advertising our Club.

Art Terry and John Sparksman are back in the fold again after an extensive walk in Australia's unjoined state. Only hope the weather was better than the Filson's month of snow and sleet last March.

Just as well Toyota's are solid otherwise more than the vehicle might have had dented backsides. It shouldn't be too long before we see the fair damsel back in the passenger seat.

With the recent controversial T.V. film on Robert Ruark's South Africa perhaps Hans Oppersdorff could fill us in on a few truths.

(Advertisement)

FOR ALL YOUR WALKING EQUIPMENT

A S E E A U S K I P Y T L T D A
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* Paddy-made equipment, rucksacks, sleeping bags, ground-sheets
tents and all accessories.

* Full range of Dehydrated Foods.

* Jackets, Anoraks, Shorts, Local and Imported Boots, Socks, Stoves, Mess Kits, Maps, Silva Compasses, Carbide Lamps, etc.

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

AUSKI...AUSKI...AUSKI... 9 HARDWARE ST.

CITY.

19 Blind mice, 19 Blind mice, See how they run, See how they run.

This is the saga of how your intrepid editor - accompanied by eighteen fearless (feckless ?) friends - set off for a Sunday walk in the Victoria & Blowhard Ranges.

Gordon's Bridge, our ref. point, was clearly indicated on the Yan Yean map and it was calculated that the starting point of the walk was one mile south of the bridge. However once we arrived in the area we couldn't find any such bridge.

The nineteen bushies and the Scottish driver were suddenly transformed into a mad debating society - topic: what's happened to the bridge. Where is it ? Backwards and forwards we travelled, again and again, looking for the mysteriously misplaced bridge.

Then at 12.30 p.m., an hour after we first arrived in the area we discovered the missing ref. point, 400 yards west of the main road. We had been travelling along the new road, of course, but the bridge was on the old road, out of sight. The sign-post at the nearby junction had been broken too.

At last we're ready for that walk. The track runs north, parallel to the road, for a mile and then turns sharply to the left and starts climbing. (I'm dying, a voice groans) The leader proceeds to the rear, the toughies race forward and up. Lunch is on a carpet of loose grey earth, after we arrive at the top.

The whole area turns into a tangle of jeep tracks, running in all directions. We shuffle along, hemmed in by all slender gums and short thick scrubby growth, travelling east, across the Blowhard Range and once again we are lost (?). This time we cannot decide which of two tracks we should follow (Moral - if you lead a walk, do preview it and don't emulate your editor by going blindly)

Our ankles plunge into deep ditches full of debris and rise up and over the bridges of fallen logs. We slither and slide, log by log, down the descent. A girl slows up showing uncertainty in her footing over the logs, Linten and Ron confidently catwalked the river. The others, more unadventurously choose the easy route; daintily treading the glinting waters of the Yea, and then up an easy climb from the river, to another track.

Off we go, no delay now, it's getting dark and we must get to the van before sundown.

Everyone walks, faster and faster, (Look out Art, we're training some opposition worthy of your notice) Ron arrives first - how? Simple: he runs the last three miles. And soon the others arrive also - the last two or three just before the light disappears. The end of yet another (dull?) Sunday walk.

Mildred Marrow

THE WASHOUT THAT WASN'T

Cool to Cold, Cloudy showers, Max temperature 55°.

This was the unwelcome forecast that was to start Kel's walk on Sunday 30th. Surprisingly twenty mackintosh's, ground sheets and odd bits of plastic turned up on that wintry morning from the promised twenty-seven. Was it because they had already paid their deposits?

The van, at last, was finding its way through the steady rain, with eighteen bushwalkers. (Now reduced as a young couple "chickened-out"). But, we were to lose one more. A young man. His excuse being "Personal Reasons". Without any stops on the way for morning tea, although it was suggested, the leader directed us straight to our target.

Warily the hardy band alighted from the van to find the rain had stopped - almost! - and the sun was peeking through. So we started our trek comparatively happy.

Contd. Page 4.

The Washout that Wasn't - cont'd.

Our leader called a halt at the Murchison Falls for an early lunch, which we accepted readily. Kel, as an appetizer, scrambled down the side of the falls. On ascension, he found he had a three corner tear in the most obvious place. Jerry also tested his agility and only received a tear to the skin.

We left our watering hole and proceeded up the spur to Tunnell Hill where, a newcomer found Kel's ballpoint (biro), lost the previous Sunday and was recorded accordingly.

Heading for Diggers Gully Creek, we found a gold-mine shaft. The more adventurous began to explore and found a four foot black snake. Result - a speedy exist.

We headed upstream towards Diggers Gully, navigation been trustingly handed over to a female, while our leader collected rose-hips. Afternoon tea was demanded so we downed-packs and boiled billies. Tyrone showed his skill at building bridges and others at making splashes.

Our climb up, was made easier with the knowledge that the van awaited and the sight of a trickle of water cascading over the Diggers Gully Falls.

The successful reaching of the van due to the prowess of our leader and undying confidence in him ended our "washout that wasn't"

Ann P.

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Over the Summer much work has been done by a few people. In the kitchen the inefficient old fire stove has been removed, the rusted chimney pulled down and an alcove built out in their place. A slow combustion stove is now installed and the chimney rebuilt. The stove will accommodate more pots and pans and so cut down on congestion in the kitchen when there are several cooking parties. Extra bench space has also been added. The stove also heats the hot water thus eliminating the fire in the storeman and conserving fuel. The new kitchen wall has been clad with pre-enamelled steel sheeting instead of boards and this will save painting.

Rat proofing in the form of wire netting around the bottom of the Lodge is expected to be complete before winter - bad luck for "Rat-O".

Much scrubbing of floors and washing of walls has been achieved - let's hope it is kept as clean as it is now.

Trip Cancelled : Unfortunately owing to work still to be completed a planned fixed camp to Wilky over Anzac weekend will have to be postponed until after winter but we hope to have a club trip there as soon as practicable.

Thank you - on behalf of the Committee, the Club and myself to all those who have LABOURED, SWEATED, FROZEN, (frostbite cream has been suggested for the first aid kit by one who spent some time in the well fixing it) CURSED, GIVEN UP HOLIDAYS AND TIME to make our Lodge a more comfortable dwelling.

One Last Word: Perhaps someone has a Ground Base Saucepan or Frying Pan just waiting to be used, that they could donate to the Lodge. Some of our pans have rather battered bottoms.

Marion Siseman

The face he's wearing this year is behind the latest (one month old) beard, and t'would seem J.S. holds all the magical charms. May be it's already too late, to warn the pumpkin seed eaters or the skim milk drinkers...

WALK PREVIEWS

DAY WALKS:

April 20 1) TRAWOOL-BALD CONE-CHERRY TREE RANGE- Medium
GOULBURN R.

Leader : John Sparksman b) 62-5661.

Train leaves Spencer St. Stn at 9.30 a.m. Buy Sunday excursion ticket to Trawool (change at Tallarook) - fare \$2-25. Map : Tallarook M.S. 1:50,000

Pleasant walk across mainly open country giving good views over Mt. Tallarook range and Goulburn River. Bring water for lunch - also bring food and drink for tea. Arrive back in Melbourne 10.0p.m.

2) BROADFORD-MT.MARIANNE-MT.JIMMY-YEA. Tough
Leader : Art Terry p) 93-3617. Train leaves Spencer St. Stn. 9.30 am. Buy a Sunday excursion ticket to Yea. Fare \$2-35. Map : Tallarook

April 27 YARRAGON-KERRIE BRAE-TRAGALGAR. E a s y.
Leader required.

Train leaves Flinders St. Stn. 9.35 am. Fare \$2-25.
Buy a Sunday Excursion ticket to Trafalgar.

May 11 RYE-OCEAN BEACH-LONDON BRIDGE. Medium
Leader Mario Attard.p)544-8493
Van leaves Batman Av. 9.15 am. Fare \$1-80.

May 18 KINGLAKE-BALD SPUR-ARTHUR'S CREEK. Easy
Leader required?
Van transport, leaves Batman Av. 9.15 am. Fare \$1-30.

WEEKEND WALKS:

April 24-27 ANZAC W/E: MT. BOGONG. Medium.
Leader : Michael Griffin p) 90 4554.

A circular trip is planned, but the leader is open to suggestion. Anybody interested in going on this trip who is not in the Clubroom on Friday 18th April is requested to ring Michael Griffin to make arrangements for transport. Private transport is to be used.

A brief outline of the WALK:

1st Day Climb the Stair-case spur, and continue to Cleve Cole hut.
Friday

2nd Day Fixed camp at Cleve Cole - easy day - no packs.
Saturday

3rd Day Come down the Eskdale Spur, taking in the summit of
Sunday Mt. Bogong 6516' en route.

The leader assures all that his walk will definitely be no harder than medium. Map : Mt. Bogong MUMC 2" to 1 mile.

May 3-4 BARN DANCE. See Page 1.

May 9-11 FRENCH IS. Easy distance of 25 miles.
Leader : Art Terry p) 93-3617. Van leaves Batman Av. 6.30 pm. Boat from Stony Point 8.30 pm. Fare \$3-20
Map : Westernport.
An easy walk over undulating country, one mountain to climb Mt. Wellington 350'. It may be necessary to carry water, will advise on this when booking. I believe there is plenty of bird life on lagoons.

May 17-18 SEARCH PRACTICE - LERDERDERG-BLACKWOOD AREA
Venue: Follow Greendale - Blackwood Rd. at 1 1/4 miles before Blackwood turn right on to Frenchman's Rd. Grid Ref. 368734. Field Headquarters for the above Practice will be by the jeep track. Approx. Grid ref. 382729.

Transport: By private cars

Once again I request your support in supplying articles, new items on anything you think would make interesting reading to club members would be greatly appreciated.

SEARCH PRACTICE - continued from Page 5.

Time: Members are asked to arrive not later than 10.00 a.m.
Car journey approx. 1½ hours from Melbourne. Search finishes 2-30 p.m. Sunday.

Map: Military Survey - Ballan 1" to 1 Mile

Equipment: Full equipment should be brought.

DUTY ROSTER :

May Friday 2nd	Shirley Trotter
9th	Marion Siseman
16th	Rex Filson

All Correspondence should be addressed to : Hon. Sec. Melbourne Bushwalkers,
Box 1751Q, Melbourne. Vic. 3001.

A HEARTY WELCOME IS EXTENDED TO OUR (ONE ONLY THIS MONTH)

NEW MEMBER:

Norman McLeish,
7 Lynden Street, Camberwell. 3124. p) 83-8475
b) 396-2169

The Vietnam Branch of MBW, Geoff Kenafacke, writes :

"I was very pleased to learn that I have been made an Honorary Member for 1969 and I would like to convey my thanks to all those responsible.

I see that the Committee contains many of the "old faithfuls". Actually I can't remember a committee without Mike, Rex, Fred and Liz. Anyway with such a capable crew in the "brass department" and Alec as C.O. I have no doubt that the club will be well run over the next 12 months.

My tent is only a 100 yds. from my mess area and 50 yds. from where I work. I go to the mess 3 times daily and to my work area twice and that gives a total of 800 yds a day. I suppose you could add about 200 yds. to allow for movement around the area but that still only makes a 1000 yds. and that would be pretty accurate reckoning.

The fact of the matter is that everything I need is located within a very small area, my job requires me to sit for 5 or 6 hours at a time and most off-duty hours are spent in pursuit of lost sleep."

Easter at Suggan Buggan

1. The Canberra Branch of MBW were represented this year. Nice to see them joining our ranks. It certainly made a curious combination exchange of demonish philosophical whispers of Canberra life and the well-trained bird & animals callers.

2. Lindsay's discovery of a delightful way to enjoy walking much more than before - is remaining his guarded secret. Tuesday, closing day of Easter, saw him in the pink of condition. Woof, woof!

3. One bird overhead day-dreaming in the bush. "I've never seen so much open space anywhere with no people on it."

4. One young friendly hairy Kiwi innocently wanders through Tyrone's back garden to his heart's content. But not over the Easter weekend, he was walking with Tyrone, sharing his food. Looks like they have started a friendship.

Thank you to all contributors, who together, have, compiled this issue.

COPY DEADLINE for May issue is 10/4/'69.

News Convenor : Shirley Treloar, 197 Station St. Edithvale. 3196. p) 772-2553.
b) 61-3281 ext 228