



BI-CENTENARY  
CAPTAIN COOK  
29th April  
1770 — 1970

# THE NEWS

OF THE MELBOURNE BUSHWALKERS

Edition 253

APRIL 1970

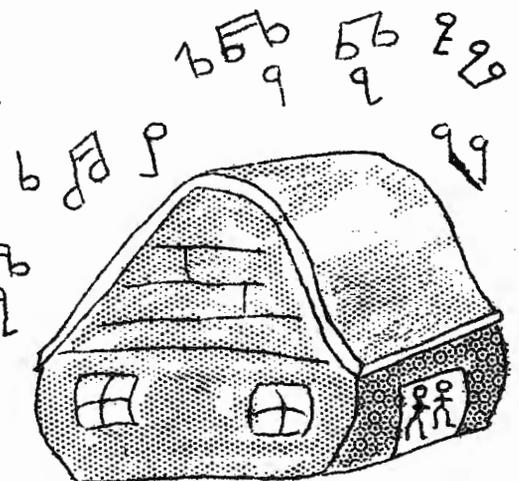
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# THE ANNUAL BARKIN DANCE

MAY 2ND 1970

BE IN IT - ONLY A DOLLAR  
AT THE MAIN RIDGE HALL  
ROY TAYLORS BAND  
SUPPER

TRANSPORT WILL BE  
ARRANGED IF REQUIRED  
LOCALITY MAP IN CLUBROOM  
WEAR YOUR HAYSEED GEAR  
STAY THE NIGHT





All correspondence should be addressed to:

Hon. Sec. Melbourne Bushwalkers,  
Box 1751Q, G.P.O.,  
MELBOURNE Victoria 3001

Meetings are held in the Clubrooms, Hosier Lane, at the rear of the Forum Theatre, every Wednesday night at 8.00 p.m. Visitors are always welcome.

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Extracts from Committee Meeting

13th April, 1970

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Chairman: Alec Proudfoot

Present: Dorrie Warton, Athol Schafer, John Sparksman, Barbara Davies, Sue Ball, Tyrone Thomas, Doug Pocock, Jenny Mead, Robyn Pocock, Rex Filson, Rod. Mattingley, Graham Mascus, Margaret Wark, Judy Shegog.

General Correspondence:

Notification of the inaugural meeting of the Victorian Orienteering Association and the Orienteering Federation of Australia to be held on Tuesday 21st April 1970, at the Activities Room, Sports Union Offices, Melbourne University, was received. Anybody who is interested in taking part in an orienteering contest on Sunday 3rd May at Kinglake, should see the Secretary who can provide them with an application form.

Walks Secretary's Report:

In the month of March, 186 people took part in walks. This compares favourably with a figure of 113 for March of last year. The approximate profit from walks for March was \$70.

Treasurer's Report:

A sum of \$90 has been received in the form of visitors fees. The Treasurer warned that this sum is not enough to cover increased costs which face the Club.

Social Secretary's Report:

Arrangements are well in hand for the Barn Dance on 2nd May (see front page of this "NEWS"). For tickets (\$1.00) or to make any enquiries, contact Judy Shegog on p) 90-2703.

Magazine Report:

Robyn reported that 12 articles have been received for "Walk" but that more are wanted. She asks that everyone put on their thinking caps and take pen in hand and write. The next meeting of the Magazine committee will be held in the Clubrooms at 8.00 p.m. on 20th April.

News Convenor's Report:

It was requested that, as the News Convenor has recently commenced a new job where she will have little time to prepare "NEWS" for printing, anyone who could help out with typing from time to time, contact her on 25-1709 (home).

Search and Rescue Report:

It is requested that all members of Search and Rescue attend a weekend to be held on 18th-19th April, 1970.

WALKS PREVIEW

DAY WALKS:

- MAY 10 YARRAGON-KERRIE BRAE - TRAFALGAR  
 Leader: Roger Brown p) 57-6729 Easy  
 Train leaves Flinders Street 9.35 a.m. Buy Sunday Excursion ticket to Trafalgar. Fare \$2.25
- 17 BLUE GUM TRACK-DARLEY FORD  
 Leader: Marijke Mascas p) 50-2995 Easy/Medium  
 Map reference: Ballan Military 1:63360  
 Van leaves Batman Avenue 9.15 a.m. Fare \$1.60 Expected time of return 8.00 p.m.  
 A pleasant walk in the neighbourhood of the Lerderberg Gorge. We'll try not to get lost!
- 24 HIGH CAMP-MT. WILLIAM  
 Leader: John Sparksman b) 41-1121 Medium  
 Map reference: Pyalong 1:50,000  
 Van leaves Batman Avenue 9.15 a.m. Fare \$1.70 Expected time of return 7.45 p.m.  
 An enjoyable ridge walk across mainly open country with extensive views.
- 31 LIMESTONE CREEK-NATIVE DOG GAP-MT. CUNNINGHAM  
 Leader: Graham Mascas p) 50-2995 Medium  
 Map reference: Yea & Taggerty 1:50,000  
 Van leaves Batman Avenue 9.15 a.m. Fare \$2.10 Expected time of return 9.30 p.m.

WLEKEND WALKS:

- MAY 2-3 BARN DANCE - see details on front page of "NEWS"
- 8-10 WILKINSON LODGE  
 Leader: Michael Griffin p) 90-4554 Easy  
 Private transport - all cars welcome  
 Map reference: F.C.V. Feathertop 1" to 1 mile  
 Both nights will be spent in the luxury of Wilkie. - hot showers, slow combustion stove, paperbacks. A leisurely side trip will "eventuate" on the Saturday to nowhere in particular and everywhere in general. Sunday will be spent recuperating and driving home. Guaranteed extra easy - sanity, as usual, will prevail.
- 15-17 MT. COLE-VICTORIA MILL-BEN NEVIS - Walk 1  
 Leader: Art Terry p) 93-3617 Medium  
LONG GULLY-HARVEYS FLAT-WIMMERA RIVER - Walk 2  
 Leader: Fred Halls p) 97-3724 Easy/Medium  
 Map reference: F.C.V. Mt. Cole Forest Scale 2" = 1 mile  
 Van leaves Batman Avenue 6.30 p.m. Fare \$4.40  
 Walk 2 If you like to wander along forest trails you should really enjoy this easy/medium ramble through some of Victoria's finest forest groves.  
 Although only two or three miles of Wimmera bushland separates the starting and finishing points, the object of the walk will be to zig-zag back and forth through the best of these forest glades. Smell the heady tang of Blue Gum and Peppermint, see the shy bush marsupials and the sulphur-crested cockatoos wheeling through the tall Messmates at the head of the Wimmera River. Distance about 20 miles, mostly easy.
- 29-31 PARADISE FALLS-EVANS CREEK AREA  
 Leader: John Siseman p) 878-1839 Medium/Hard  
 Map reference: Whitfield Fire Map & Mansfield F.C.V.  
 Van leaves Batman Avenue 6.30 p.m. Fare \$5.00  
 The leader knows little of this area since it has never been visited by the Club. However, it should provide an interesting change from the more frequently visited areas with views of the nearby Alps and a visit to the Evans Creek Falls. The leader will be previewing the area before the trip, so all (we!) will not be lost.

## Report on Committee Meeting (Contd.)

General Business:

The positions of Track Clearing Officer or Assistant Track Clearing Officer are vacant. If you are interested in either of these positions, please contact Dorrie Warton p) 92-8518.

Barbara Davies has accepted the position of Assistant Equipment Officer.

Would anyone in possession or know the whereabouts of Club Tent No. 13, which is a two man green walled one, please return same to the Equipment Officer, Sue Ball, or her assistant.

It was decided to confer Honorary Membership on the following:

Roy Taylor, Colin Crocker, Tim Dent, John and Sue Brownlie, Merle Halls, Margaret Reid, Edna Richards, Jeff Sill and Graham and Sue Errey.

Applications for membership were received and approved by the Committee from Ralph Bryan, Lexley Holme, Pamela Rowell, Barbara Cant, Sigrid Wendtlandt, Philip Taylor and Peta le Page.

<u>Duty Roster:</u>	22nd April	Margaret Wark
	29th April	Peter Carlyon
	6th May	Rod. Mattingley
	13th May	Rex Filson
	20th May	John Sparksman
	27th May	Graham Mascas

Changes of Address etc.

HAM, Neil and Mrs. P. - Villa 3, 71 Leila Road, Carnegie  
POCOCK, Doug and Robyn - p) 83-5027 (after 6)

CURIOSITY ON THE TRAIN

While travelling home from a weekend walk recently, my rucksack became the object of utmost curiosity to a youth sitting opposite me in the train. While passing through the first few stations, he simply stared at it with a most puzzled look on his face.

When curiosity had got the better of him, he asked, "Er, miss, what is that thing there?" "What! You mean to say that you don't know what it is?" "Er, no. Not at all". So I proceeded to tell him the necessary details 'till I was interrupted by, "For what sport do you use it?" "For bushwalking," I replied. However, he still seemed none the wiser as he asked me what I did with the rucksack in connection with this activity and what was involved in bushwalking.

Although I related details of these as best I could, he slumped back into his corner with that same expression on his face! What conclusions he came to I will never know.

Anonymous Bushie

**AUSKI** 9 Hardware St.  
Phone 67 1412

The Bushwalking Specialist  
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### EASTER, THROUGH A VISITOR'S EYES

Directed by the noise, the innocent young visitor, complete with new and overweight pack, found the Melbourne Bushies. Within a mere 30 seconds of arriving, much unsolicited advice and abuse was directed against the pack. I quickly gained the impression that they wanted to tear it apart in order to make it look more "respectable".

At the appointed time, the de-luxe Gronow GTS roared up. The noisiest group (amongst them an obviously emancipated 'lady') managed to hobble across to the van a little faster than the rest, thus securing the front seats. Fred told me later it was the fastest he had seen them move.

I, for once showing a singular lack of foresight, (no-one warned me) found myself next to a young man who upon opening his mouth needs no further introduction. In between prods from the 'schoolmaster', I was able to converse about the aborigines with the only intellect near me.

When the van stopped at Hall's Gap, I was encouraged with enthusiasm to go with Athol's party. However, once the van had left, I found, to my horror, to be surrounded by females.

Under the dynamic and decisive leadership of Athol, we headed him towards the nearest civilization (which happened to be the camping area). Camp was pitched in a vague fashion in the dark.

Dawn revealed a not unpleasant site, where at least we were on our own. After breakfast, Athol decided to exercise us by going to the near-by Clematis Falls. Yvonne, living up to her reputation, managed to slip off the track. Unfortunately the Falls proved to be dry but it was there that Athol revealed his awe inspiring knowledge of botanical paraphernalia! I still don't know what ACACIA ATHOLONIA is.

We then walked uphill (sound familiar) to Chataqua Peak, where a good view of the valley below was obtained. Athol then decided to test our strength by proceeding to climb over Mt. Difficult instead of going around it. Halfway up the slope of Mt. Difficult, Athol placed a stone cairn in the vain hope that some-one might follow our path in the future. Somehow I seriously doubt that anyone in their right mind would someday follow our route! However, after huffing and puffing for many hours, conquer Mt. Difficult we did! After lunch on the summit, a super view of the surrounding countryside was to be seen from the lookout.

A 9 mile conversation on controversial subjects between two enlightened members of the party only resulted in dry mouths and not one disagreement. On this road bash home, the party found its first flowing stream.

Back at camp an unpleasant surprise awaited us. While we were on the walk, the populace of Melbourne decided to move into Hall's Gap. The result was that it took a while before we recognised our own site which was now packed full of cars, tents, dogs and above all - people! After initial mutterings of dissent, we decided to stay.

Easter, Through a Visitor's Eyes (Contd.)

That evening the theory that all women are good cooks was exploded. Since when has Deb Instant Mashed Potatoes looked like soup? Despite battling with Athol's pessimistic warnings of the dangers of food, everybody enjoyed their respective meals.

Saturday's walk was along the foothills of the Mt. William Range visiting Boronia Peak where a tremendous view of the surrounding plains could be seen. I didn't appreciate the suggestion by one of the girls that I should jump off so that she would know how high the Peak was. The younger set raced down the mountain path towards the main track in the valley below, which was to lead us to our destination, the Bellfield Reservoir. However, the others had been sneaky and used a secret shortcut down the mountain and as a result were ahead of us. The Reservoir was well worth the visit (especially the amenities).

That night, Athol entertained those suffering insomnia by reciting poems ghost ones being a speciality.

It was so warm, comfortable and dry lying in one's sleeping bag the next morning that two members had serious thoughts about not going on the day's walk. However, weak-will power was overcome by a sense of duty. When Athol announced that it was time to go, it was discovered that the revolt had spread to the others. So it was only a small group that left camp to climb the Wonderland Range.

Many species of birds (the feathered kind) were seen on this walk, also some interesting rock formations. On the way home, we ran into the morning mutineers who were on their way up to the Wonderland Lookout. They had obviously felt guilty at not going in the first place.

That night, we were again entertained by Athol and his prowess as a reciter.

The next morning was spent as we pleased. The attraction of a certain young lady's company proved far too strong for me, so I stayed around the camp fire drinking coffee.

As for the van journey back, well all I can say is I hope the Melbourne Bushies don't treat all their visitors the same way as they did me. I will never be the same after that!

Athol is to be congratulated for putting up with the many dissident characters forced upon him and for providing such enjoyable walking.

Michael Garner

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Do you know any gossip? If you do Sue Filson would like to hear from you. Sue's Snippets was not included in this month's "NEWS" as she didn't have any 'Snippets'. I'm sure you all enjoy reading her column and will help her by passing on any items you might think of interest to Club members. If you can't think of anything of interest, create it!

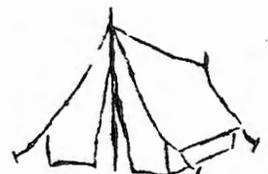
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For all

Caulfield

Bushwalking Equipment,  
Climbing gear, Shirts, Pullovers, Sleeping bags.



WHY HUBBY STAYED HOME

Eighteen intrepid walkers braved the derisive laughs of workmates, the pitying stares of the Swanston Street crowds and Melbourne's foul weather and headed out for Taggerty and the Blue Range on Friday night 10th April. Dennis couldn't turn the van around at the leader's chosen disembarkation point so he obligingly took us a couple of extra miles uphill. Little did we suspect that our fiendish leader would increase the walk by about five miles to compensate. No wonder her "old man" stayed home!

After securing his tent with "crowbar" size pegs, John discovered that he'd camped on a bull ant's nest. Rather than shift, he attempted to endure the ordeal and is now confident that he holds the world record for the greatest number of ant bites to a posterior.

Spencer rolled up in his 1100 on Saturday and brought the rain with him. Incidentally girls, he needs a new jumper. All reasonable offers will be considered.

Saturday's walk was a "route march" of which any army could be justly proud. Such was our pace that we marched through to Saturday night's intended camp by Saturday lunch time and consequently, broke the time barrier by arriving at Sunday's lunch spot in time for Saturday's tea, at Royston Dam.

The weather was slightly better on Sunday and we started off by tramping along a grassy track parallel to the Royston Dam aqueduct. Lyrebirds, mountain parrots and wrens chorused in the morning stillness and the bush gave off a sharp, clean fragrance after the rain.

We filled in the remainder of the day by tramping up and down tram-tracks and finally hobbling down a new road to Rubicon. There it was all aboard the van and eventually out to Buxton where copious quantities of ice cream were consumed as we waited for the day walkers.

Geoff Kenafacke

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As a result of one of our recently introduced family walks, we have had an article from one who would probably be one of the youngest contributors to "NEWS". We thank her very much and hope that she follows her mother and father in their interest in bushwalking.

On Sunday 15th March we walked from Somers to Merricks. It was about four miles. We had lunch at Balnarring. There were nine adults and ten children and two babies. After lunch we saw some yachts. The van picked us up at about half past four.

We had fun in the sand and finding shells and sea-weed. We also had a lovely swim in the sea.

Monique Mascus

HAVE YOU PAID YET    HAVE YOU PAID YET    HAVE YOU PAID YET ? ? ? ?

1970 Subscription is due now.

Member (over 21)	\$4.00
Junior Member (16 to 21)	\$2.00
Husband and Wife	\$6.00

The following letter was received by the Committee who thought Club members might be interested in the contents. Older Club members will probably remember Margaret and Heinz Wolff who are now in Canada.

Dear Dorothy,

Twelve years away from Melbourne have had the result that we have no idea what kind of a person goes by that name of Dorothy Warton who is listed as the Secretary of the Melbourne Bushwalkers (but we guess that someone interested in bushwalking must have the right spirit), and you don't know who on earth those Wolffs in far away Canada are.

Yes, there has been a great change in the membership in those 12 years, and we know very few of the names which crop up in the "NEWS" but the Club itself has remained the same. We are still keeping in touch with many of our old friends in the Melbourne Bushwalkers, but most of them have since given up walking.

Family responsibilities and advancing age have compelled us to restrict our walking activities, but we still get out into the bush now and again, and we are lucky that the surroundings of Vancouver offer much more spectacular scenery than the Dandenongs or Mt. Macedon.

We enjoy reading "NEWS" and seeing that the old Club is thriving. Many of the articles and reports are very well written, and they remind us of the places where we used to go bushwalking. May we offer some slight criticism. In 'Along the Track' and in the gossip column there are often subtle hints which appear very tantalizing but are unintelligible to those who were not actually there, let alone those who are 10,000 miles away. Perhaps a glossary or footnote for dumb overseas members may help.

To you and to the Club as a whole we are sending our best wishes.

Yours etc.

Margaret and Heinz Wolff

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STOP PRESS - Gossip

It has been said that there will be wedding bells for Colin soon. We are wondering if he could perhaps have paid the Army to send him back to Perth.

What happened to Ron Filsell and the young lady who disappeared into the bushes last weekend besides being attacked by leeches!

Observant members may have noticed that Joan Gibbons has been giving more time to Y.H.A. than to M.B.W. lately. We might be able to get a discount on our maps soon.

At last Smith has taken the plunge and is off to New Zealand with his bird. Are wedding bells ringing there?

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My thanks to all contributors to this month's "NEWS". Remember that "NEWS" cannot continue without your support and that articles of interest are always wanted.

Jenny Mead  
"NEWS" Convenor