

THE NEWS

Edition No. 254

May, 1970

Price 3c.

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

DONT BE A

DONKEY

PAY YOUR SUBS

If this donkey has a
RED NOSE
this is your last
copy of NEWS



"NEWS" Convenors need news

"NEWS" needs YOU

Don't open your "NEWS" hoping someone else has written about that last walk.

YOU DO IT

Got a few good ideas to put forward? Let us print them.

Quite often the "NEWS" Convenor has to ask the ever willing or obliging member to quickly write an article as there is a chronic shortage of material. Let us have an article so that we have copy to draw from.

Yes! This means YOU

Please see YOU have an article for "NEWS"

May I thank YOU in anticipation?

Jenny Mead

FILM NIGHT "BAAMA" JUNE 3RD

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.

Extracts from Committee Meeting

11th May, 1970

Chairman: Alec Proudfoot

Present: Dorrie Warton, Tyrone Thomas, Sue Ball, Rex Filson, Doug and Robyn Pocock, Rod. Mattingley, Barbara Davies, Jenny Mead, John Sparksman, Margaret Wark

Apologies: Athol Schafer

General Correspondence:

Two copies of the audited Federation Accounts were received. The Committee also received letters from the Erreys and Merle Hall accepting Honorary Membership and agreeing to continue as Club Contacts.

Treasurer's Report:

The sum of \$37.33 has been received as interest on the Club's Cheque account. The bank balance stands at \$1,334.50 and the Treasurer reported this as satisfactory.

Walks Secretary's Report:

During April, 145 people walked with the Club of which 98 were members and 47 visitors.

Social Secretary's Report:

Though the Social Secretary was absent, it was reported that the Barn Dance made a profit of \$9.10.

It was decided to hold slide nights on the first and third Weds. in every month. It is hoped to be able to show a film on the Baama forest on the 3rd June and on 17th June Sue Ball will be showing slides, subject unknown.

It is hoped that arrangements can be made to have speakers to address members.

"News" Convenor's Report:

It was requested that walk previews which are to be included in "News" reach the "News" Convenor as early as possible.

Wilkinson Lodge Report:

In the absence of Peter, it was briefly reported that the previous weekend at Wilkie had been most successful, even to the water supply which had been causing a few headaches.

Search and Rescue Report:

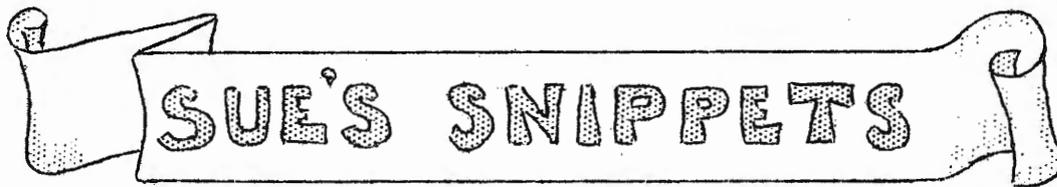
John reported on the Search and Rescue weekend on 18th/19th April.

WALK PREVIEWSDAY WALKS:

- JUNE 7 STARLINGS GAP-LITTLE ADA RIVER-LITTLE ADA MILL
 Leader: Art Terry p) 93-3617 Medium
 Map reference: Neerim Military 1:50,000
 Van leaves Batman Avenue 9.15 a.m. Fare \$2.00
 A pretty walk along old timber tramway tracks amidst tree ferns and nice stands of timber. Distance 11 miles.
- 14 AVONSLEIGH-CHERRY LANE- COCKATOO CREEK
 Leader required please Easy
 Train leaves Flinders Street Station 9.12 a.m. Buy Sunday Excursion ticket to Belgrave. Fare \$0.62 + bus
 Easy walk through hill country with good views.
- 21 LITTLE RIVER GORGE-DURDIDWARRAH RESERVOIR-STREILGLITZ
 Leader: Alan Miller p) 81-7176 Easy
 Van leaves Batman Avenue 9.15 a.m. Fare \$1.90
 Map reference: Meredith Military 1"
 Expected time of return 8.30 p.m. Approx. distance: 11 (Miller) miles.
 Get lost with Alan - the map was revised in 1933. The easiest way through the Gorge is to wade down the river; if you want to keep your feet dry, you will cross the river 74 times in two miles. Then we head up through knee-high banksia for a winter swim in the Reservoir. Gold was discovered at Steiglitz in 1851. The population now is about two dozen - mostly dogs.
 P.S. In Strine, Steiglitz is pronounced Stiglitz.
- 28 HARCOURT-LAWSONS LOOKOUT-CASTLEMAINE
 Leader: John Cairns p) 86-8227 Easy
 Map reference: Castlemaine Military 1" = 1 mile
 Train leaves Spencer Street Station 9.30. Buy Sunday Excursion ticket to Harcourt. Fare \$2.80
 This walk promises to be one of variety and interest with no steep climbs and a minimum of fences. The route passes through some fine apple orchards comparable to those legendary groves of Tasmania. After Lawsons Lookout is reached, it descends about 4 miles through deep pine forests and just beyond the fringe of the forest, Moonlight Flat, the scene a one of the famous gold strikes of the 1850s, is reached.
 If water is required for lunch, fill up at the siding at Harcourt Station.

WEEKEND WALKS:

- JUNE 12-15 BARMAN FOREST-MURRAY RIVER
 Leader: Rex Filson p) 88-1165 Easy
 Map reference: ~~Fernah~~ Forest (Forest Commission Vict.)
 1" = 1 mile
 Van leaves Batman Avenue 6.30 p.m. Fare \$6.50
 The van will drop us early Saturday morning at Rices Weir or nearby. We will proceed along the sand ridge track to camp on the Murray at the mouth of War Creek. Sunday we will rise early and walk via obvious routes (remember Morong Rise) to lunch at



SUE'S SNIPPETS

Phase for this month "playing the field".

For all those who have not heard - are there any? - Smithy has at last taken the plunge. Congratulations and best wishes to Carol and Smithy. It may be a September wedding.

Heard that a certain well known married couple are about to join the dog owners ranks when they acquire one of the pups of "big-savage-eat-little-dogs Fly". Who's for Wilkie Now?

Wonder if Warren is being driven mad with Hi-fi, stereophonic, psychoanalysis.

The Wandering Brownlies have spent a month visiting Ayre's Rock and the Ulgas. They are about to depart to Darwin so all you letter writing bushies please address correspondence C/o Darwin Post Office, Northern Territory.

Rumour has it that Roy Beames was sighted in these parts. Couldn't put up with the weather so has "cold footed" it back to Darwin.

Really should not complain about the weather for the Barn Dance. It is the first wet one we have had for about 10 years. The rain did not deter the 40-odd (being the operative word) who danced (?) to the music of Roy Taylor's duet. Unfortunately The Filsons had a fleeting glimpse of the "hayseeding".

It is interesting to note that the Club was thirty years old last month. The Melbourne Bushwalkers started in April 1940 with a walk from Belgrave to Mt. Morton and return. The 10th Birthday was celebrated by re-traversing the route of the foundation walk, but the 20th Anniversary route was modified (because of creeping suburbia) to include Kallista and Sherbrooke Forest. The 30th Anniversary? It appears to have been forgotten as no walk has been programmed and no cake has been forthcoming. Perhaps we could have a walk on the Winter Programme with invitations sent out to as many foundation members and old members as possible.

NOTES:

The annual 24 hours walk will be held on 20th June.

Cooking utensils and a lidded plastic container were found in the van about 3 weeks ago. The President (Alec Proudfoot) can help with enquiries.

A number of other clubs' circulars have now been collated and filed, and can be inspected in the Committee Room.

The Librarian (Athol Schafer) would like to here from members who are holding Club books.

DUTY ROSTER

June	3	Rex Filson
	10	Rod. Mattingley
	17	Jenny Mead
	24	Margaret Wark

SLIDES WILL BE SHOWN IN THE CLUBROOM
8.00 - 8.30 p.m.

3rd June

17th June



AFTER WILKINSUN

Probing cold in the black night, as the party, divided among shells of metal and motor, wends its way upward into the probing cold of the black night.

Suddenly there is white in the black, and Falls Creek is passed with the cold comfort of snow. Inch upon inch, it impedes progress as the cars push their way around Rocky Valley dam. The white road dissolves into the surrounding black and the shells, brittle with cold, slide onward.

Abandoned at the turn-off, the cars nudge piles of snow at the road's edge as the fingers of night search out water in the radiators. Silent combat with antifreeze and unscrewed caps.

Party united, almost. Feet forward, disturbing the whiteness and meandering. Alan encounters the Lodge and we troop in, dragging traces of the outside world with us. Thaw as the white trickles to the floor, christening.

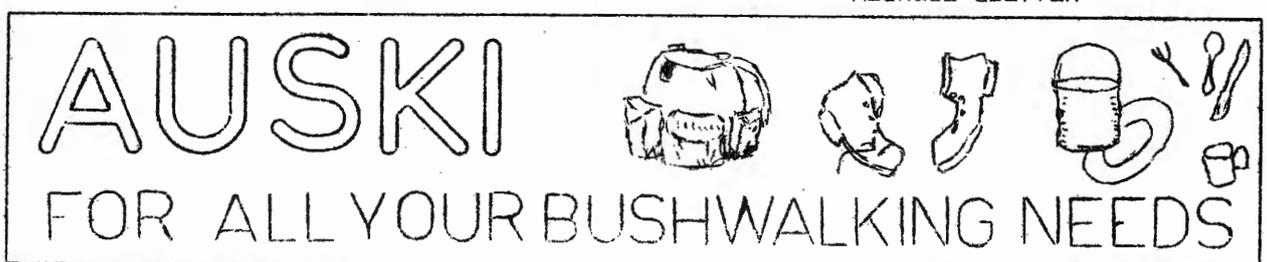
Sleep in the early hours, while the new day tip-toes in, revealing its blanket of white under the rising sun. Andy's togoggan run is extended to the feet of the first snow lady, and the latter is of course demolished by a runaway leader on a groundsheet. (Peter helped)

Organisation drifts by unnoticed. The stove finally remains alight and the last person finishes breakfast at lunchtime. Glenda and Maria go chasing mountain lions, tracking their imaginations in the snow. The official party naturally goes the other way, invariably encountering all the deeper snow drifts. Late lunch and wet feet.

Art and co. conquer Mt. Cope. Satisfaction. Snow fight on the road by Basalt Hill, as Saturday's evening filters down with the mist Mt. Mackay becomes wishful thinking for all but the same Art and the same co., who set out on Sunday through almost non-existent visibility in the general direction. Good luck.

Switch the scene to Mt. Buffalo, which follows on the heels of a protracted departure from Wilkie. Eight full turns and the water stops flowing. Blessed is the man who reads the instructions! Umpteen full turns on the serpentine road which leads to Tatra Inn and a barrier. Go back through the snow to coffee and cake at the Chalet. Party fragmented, but all left with memories of a desolate beauty. Finally to Melbourne, trickling in like the traces of snow on the floor of Wilkie. The snow alone disappears.

Michael Griffin



Extracts from Committee Meeting 11th May, 1970 (Contd.)

For the first time in Search and Rescue, girls were permitted to take part, and acted as "live bait", and assisted in Head Office administration and communication work. Extensive use was made of land rovers. John reported that the weekend was most successful.

General Business:

A "Clean up" of the Clubrooms is to be held on Saturday 23rd May at 2.0 p.m. All persons and equipment welcomed.

Applications for membership were received and approved by the Committee from Kevin Hadingham, Donald Page, Honour Dickson and Stephen Waters.

A plea for posters to decorate the Clubrooms was made. Would anyone having same, and of course willing to part with, please donate.

WALK PREVIEWS (Contd.)

Mill Log landing. Monday, we will continue to the Gulf and follow the Gulf track to Murrays Mill and the van. Baama walks have been notorious for wet feet, so bring plenty of dry socks. Also bring lots of film for as well as being a photographic locality, good action shots can be taken of unfortunates falling in the swamps.

JUNE 27-28

CLARKFIELD-DEEP CREEK-KILMORE EAST

Leader: Tyrone Thomas p) 89-5197 Medium/Easy

Map reference: Army "Lancefield 1" = 1 mile and Army Sunbury 1" = 1 mile

Train leaves Spencer Street Station 8.20 a.m. Buy single ticket to Clarkfield.

This walk, in an area the Club has not yet been in, includes Konagaderra Gorge, Deep Creek with its beautiful canyon-like valley, Brocks Hill and miles of rolling ridgetop walking. Being close to Melbourne does not detract, rather, it is amazing such an area exists right under our noses and we had not noticed it. Come along, bring a compass and a map if you're interested in map reading which will be an optional extra. 30 miles sounds a lot but it is easy walking.

THE BARN DANCE

Saturday May 2 dawned with grey skies, soon "Hughie" had turned it on. This was the night all youthful and young-in-heart bushies had been looking forward to - the Annual Barn Dance. Nevertheless, amid rain and hail over 50 people drove down to Main Ridge Hall to enjoy a wonderful night of dancing to strains of Roy Taylor's band.

Amongst those in fancy dress - one very obese fisherman, resembling one of our vice-presidents, one grass-skirted Tahitian closely resembling our President, little girls with freckles, buttons and bows, girls in mini skirts and maxi skirts, even pantaloons - one rich man in bowler hat, his wife as grandma - and who was the black vision, the cat burglar?

Judy and her band of helpers treated us to a lavish supper. Congratulations Judy on your first effort as Social Secretary. We all had a whale of a time.

Anon.