



THE NEWS

OF THE MELBOURNE BUSHWALKERS

Edition 266

May, 1971.

Price 3¢

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Category B.

DONT BE A
DONKEY
PAY YOUR SUBS

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



JUNE 5-6

YOU HAVEN'T "BEEN 'ROUND"
'TILL YOU'VE DANCED IN A SQUARE
SO DON'T BE A SQUARE
COME AROUND TO SQUARE DANCING....!



JOIN IN THE FUN
at
MAIN RIDGE HALL

See Supplement inside for full details.

All correspondence should be addressed to:

Hon. Sec., Melbourne Bushwalkers,
Box 1751Q, G.P.O.,
MELBOURNE, VIC. 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 THE COMMITTEE MEETING

11th May, 1971.

Chairman: Graham Mascas

Present: Jenny Mead, Roger Brown, Sue Ball, Geoff Kenafacke, Joy Seymour, Margaret Jorgensen, Alex Stirkul, Alan Miller, Tyrone Thomas, Bob Steel, Rex Filson, Pam Collinson.

Apologies: Peter Carlyon, Athol Schafer.

Reports:

Treasurer - Approx. 130 subs. have been paid for 1971-1972.

Walks Secretary - During the month of April a total of 175 people walked with the Club, this number included 60 visitors.

Social Secretary - Arrangements have been made for the Square Dance on 5th June. Tickets are now on sale in the club rooms on wednesday nights.

Federation - The Federation Search & Rescue weekend was fairly successful. Six members from our club attended. Some policemen helped with the latest radio aerials equipment to organise a rescue. 'One' rescue case was reported carried out on a stretcher.

Equipment - Two new tents have been purchased and are available for hire.

Track Clearing - A list of Huts used when walking in Victoria is being compiled for general use by club members.

General Business:

The following Applications for membership were received and approved -

Christopher Milne, Chris Symes, Jenny Pulsford, Helen Dean, Les Markham, Colin McHarg, Ron Swaby, John Hammond, Harold Hilderhof, Ian Wright Smith, Rex Niven.

It was decided to give a copy of the Club Constitution to new members in future.

The Club booklet 'A Guide to Bushwalking' is available free to visitors on their first walk provided they supply their names and addresses and pay their 25¢ visitors fees.

The Club's Map File on walking areas is to be brought up to date. Club Programmes and "News" are to be filed in order.
ANYONE WITH OLD BACK COPIES OF "NEWS" THAT THEY DO NOT WANT
WOULD THEY PLEASE DONATE TO THE CLUB FILE.

* * *

DUTY ROSTER

26th May - Alex Stirkul
2nd June - Peter Carlyon
9th June - Joy Seymour
16th June - Graham Mascas
23rd June - Jenny Mead

SLIDE NIGHTS

2nd June - Peter Carlyon - Hattah Lakes
16th June - Barry Short - Flinders Ranges & Arkaroola (recent visit)

* * *

DAY WALKS:

- June 6 The day walk to ST.ANDREWS NORTH-MT.EVERARD-MT.BEGGARY-JEHOSOPHAT VALLEY. has been postponed to a later date as the SQUARE DANCE & SUNDAY WALK IS NOW ON THIS WEEKEND.
- 13 CANNIBAL HILLS - MT. TOWT WEST - CORNUCOPIA
 Leader: Rosemary Rider (Easy-Medium)
 Transport for this walk will now be by train not van as previously stated on programme.
 Train leaves Flinders St. Station - 9.35 a.m. for Garfield.
 Those people not going to Hattah Lakes come and enjoy a relaxing Sunday walk.
- SAT.19 OLINDA FALLS - SASSAFRAS CREEK SHERBROOKE
 Leader: Spencer George (Easy)
 Van leaves Batman Ave, 9.15 A.M. Fare \$1.60¢
 Map Reference: Ringwood 1: 50,000 10 miles.-Distance.
 Expected time of return: 6.00p.m.
 A leisurely stroll on tracks amongst the natural forests of the Dandenongs, attempting to dodge all tourists, houses and fences. The leader discovered some parts of the Dandenongs he did not know existed so come and share his discoveries.
 This is a Saturday walk with an early return to the city.
- 27 MACEDON - BLACK FOREST - WOODEND
 Leader: Rod Peters (Medium)
 Transport for this walk will now be by Van not train as shown on the programme. Batman Ave. 9.15a.m. Fare \$2.05¢.
 Map Reference: Lancefield 1" = 1 MILE. 8 Miles.-Distance.
 Expected time of return: 8.00 p.m.
 A shorter, slower walk than usual due to the complete absence of jeep tracks. Hurrah! A good possibility of seeing some wild life and no hills to climb.
 N.B. Carry water for the day.

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WEEKEND WALKS:COUNTRY & WESTERN

- June 5-6 SQUARE DANCE & SUNDAY WALK - MAIN RIDGE
 Details printed elsewhere in this NEWS.

11-14 HATTAH LAKES - KULKYNE STATE FOREST

- 1) Leader: Art Terry (Medium)
 Map Reference: Hattah Lakes Nat.Park. Distance 25 miles.
 Train ret.Hattah. Expected time of return: 8a.m.Tues.morn.Spencer St.
 An interesting traverse of a fascinating area of mallee and semi-desert coupled with a system of beautiful lakes - an area that abounds in wild-life both animal & bird - cameras & binoculars are an asset for this trip. This walk starts & finishes at Hattah Railway Station. I suggest to people who intend going by train to get their own tickets (return to Hattah) 1st class or sleeper is recommended. 2nd class is ok if reclining seats are available. The best map for the area is a dye-line copy printed by the Govt.printer, Govt.offices at top of Collins St. Title - Hattah Lakes Nat.Park and Kulkyne Forest - County of Karkaroc. Price 80¢ order early as they are only printed as ordered.

- 2) Leader: Tony Morris (Easy-Medium)

Have you been to Hattah? No? Well its time that you visited this fabulous spot. Location: 315 N/W of Melbourne. Altitude: 200 ft.
 Population: About 6 and a dog.

If enough people are interested, ie, about 35 or 40, we will hire a coach and go in style for a maximum of approx.\$9.50¢ each. Otherwise it will be private transport or train.
 A word of warning about the Victorian Railways. The train departs at 9.20p.m.Friday, arriving Hattah around 7.00a.m.Saturday.
 Return train leaves Hattah Monday night at 10.15p.m. and arrives Melbourne 8.05a.m.Tuesday (If it's on time!), just in time for you to trot off to work. Cost: about \$14 return for 2nd class.

(continued on Page 4.)

(continued)

WALK PREVIEWSWEEKEND WALKSJune 11-14 HATTAH LAKES - KULKYNE STATE FOREST

No matter what the transport arrangements are, come along. Stroll through this colourful mallee country and see how many species of birds (feathered ones) you can identify. (200 different species have been recorded there). There is normally an abundance of 'roos, emus, wild pigs, goats, goannas, etc., in the area and a camera is definitely recommended as essential equipment.

The only decent map is obtainable (on order) from the Lands Dept., Map Sales, Treasury Place. It is a dyeline and titled "Hattah Lakes National Park and Kulkyne Forest".

See the leaders, Art Terry and Tony Morris and book early!

25-27 HISTORICAL RAMBLE - MOLIAGUL - BEALIBA RANGE - DUNOLLY

Leader: Barry Short (Easy-Medium)

Map Reference: Dunnelly 2" = 1 mile. Lands Dept. Cost \$5.00.

Transport: Van leaves Batman Ave. 6.30p.m. Return 8.00p.m.approx. During this walk an attempt will be made to delve into the history of the area. We will start the walk with a visit to the monument erected on the site of the discovery of the largest gold nugget in Victoria (the Welcome Stranger) and then progress to other points of historic interest. Later we will traverse the Bealiba Range and finish the walk at Dunolly, one of the richest towns of the gold rush era.

* * *

"GRAHAM'S SUNDAY STROLL.

What with the week-end forecast as it was and the sky in the west blackening more every time one looked at it, well one just naturally packed all his water proof gear he had into his pack and set off ready for the soaking.

However "Old Sol" must have been feeling kindly towards Graham or all the visitors he had on his walk (15 members & 20 visitors) because the further out of Melbourne we got the clearer the skies and the sunnier it became.

What a horrible shock all those "first timers" had though when the leader jumped sprightly out of the van and announced just a little 1,000ft. climb straight off to loosen up any stiff limbs!

Still that was the only strenuous part of the walk and after some very pleasant strolling through the bush came upon an open patch or small paddock full of bullocks which we had to pass through. Graham, being the proper English gentleman that he is with "Women & Children" always first & all that, pushed me in through the fence first to see the beasts re-action. Of course one look was enough & off they fled so our gentlemanly leader was able to safely lead his flock across.

Going down over the last hill before dropping into "Taggerty" we hear this thunderous roar behind us, lockup and see Art, our long suffering "Whip" for the day charging down the hill like "Wally" the wombat did just 5 mins. previously. He just had to do it he said, he couldn't help himself - we all under-stood, Art.

Fortunately the lady at the one & only Milk-bar in Taggerty had been forewarned about 38 "ruffians" descending on her some-time late in the afternoon and so after nearly completing all her stocks drove onto Healesville then to complete the "orgy".

It completed a very pleasant Sunday walk, thankyou Graham.

- Joyce Dunn -

* * *

LOCH WILSON

For all

692 Glenhuntly Rd.

Caulfield

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



RANDOM RAVINGS



by

"MUMMAJONG"

As your scurrilous scribe during Sue's absence. I would like to welcome myself to this exalted position and trust that you will bear with me while I report on various intrigues, indecisions, and incidents during the next few months.

* * *

It appears that the well known bush arsonist Roger "Hoy Fritz" Brown alias "The Rosedale Rocket", might have his driving licence suspended for some time as a result of a minor driving infringement. In case this does happen, I have taken it upon myself to appeal on Roger's behalf, for an experienced young lady (i.e. in driving) who would be willing to act as chauffeur during that period. Those interested should contact Roger who will arrange a personal interview.

* * *

FOR HIRE 1 HOLDEN PANEL VAN FOR 3 MONTHS REASONABLE CHARGES

* * *

Those interested in preserving our national parks would be pleased to see the way some conservationists are fighting for their cause. This thought was inspired by the lengths to which some members of the "Save the Colong Caves" committee were prepared to go in trying to oppose the intention of Associated Portland Cement Manufacturers to mine limestone deposits in the Colong Caves Reserve which is part of Kanangra-Boyd National Park about 60 miles south-west of Sydney. The committee organised about 220 proxy shareholders to attend the company's shareholders meeting which was held last month, in an attempt to influence the company. It is hoped their efforts will be rewarded with success and that another of our national parks is saved from commercial desecration.

(N.B. See next month's NEWS ---- Sue Brownlie's Article on COLONG)

* * *

Well, it appears that it is engagement time once again. The following couples have recently publicly announced their intention of pursuing their respective relationships with the ultimate intention of being holy matrimonied. The club would like to extend to Lindsay & Anne, Warren & Maria, and to Dave & Joan the best wishes for their futures. That takes care of three more ex-confirmed batchelors. Methinks there is an insidious plot afoot in the club, whose sole aim is to decimate the ranks of those batchelors who have managed to elude the clutches of matrimony. (Spencer beware!)

* * *

As most people would know by now, Walk '72 will be published this year. This column would like to thank all those people without whose efforts this would not have been possible.

* * *

Geoff Sill was seen at the recent Ski club Film with 3 birds (Not the feathered variety) in tow. He left early with them all and afterwards arrived at Robin & Helen Mitchell's home for supper minus the previous company. Geoff, were 3 too many to handle? I suggest you date one at a time.

* * *

Some club members may remember Brian Ellis who has not been walking since June, 1970. The reason being he has taken the plunge and was married (not to a bushie) May 1st last. Brian & his wife may come walking soon.

* * *

IN closing I would like anyone who has some scandal, news or rumours of a club coup d'etat, etc. to pass it on to me via the News Convenor.

NEW * * *

WELCOME TO ALL OUR MEMBERS - Christopher Milne, Chris Symes, Jenny Pulsford, Helen Dean, Les Markham, Colin McHarg, Ron Swaby, John Hammond, Harold Hildernof, Ian Wright Smith, Rex Niven.

* * *



ALONG THE TRACK

FEATHERTOP TO FAINTER

Following a 2 a.m. camp on Friday morning the leader allowed the mob to "sleep-in" until 7 a.m. before tackling Feathertop. Once under way, the "toughies" and Spencer charged ahead and the "slowies" and the wiser ones merely plodded up, finally reaching camp at Federation Hut around 3 p.m. Most of us then strolled up to the summit and enjoyed the 360° view. It was quite easy to distinguish, Mts. Buffalo, Loch, Jim, Cope, Razor, Spion Kopje and so on. Out behind Mt. St. Bernard, a bushfire burned unchecked and spread as we watched.

Next morning the whole party surprised the leader by proving to be astonishingly fit for all 24 completed the 7 or 8 mile trip across the Razorback to Hotham between 2½ and 3 hours. This set a precedent for the whole day and they next galloped down towards Mt. Loch to complete 10 miles before a noon lunch stop! After a leisurely lunch in the sun, some of us walked up to Mt. Loch and the rest merely dawdled across the plain to Swindlers Spur. Here we inspected the Derrick Memorial Hut and spotted an "odd bod" running full speed uphill with a pack. From here we took a leisurely stroll down the spur to Dibbins Hut on the Cobungra River and made camp. A few of us attempted to swim in the chilly waters but soon had to retire to the comfort of bonfires such as lit by a certain committee member henceforth referred to as "Pyromaniac".

Next day the "slowies" were pushed off early in an attempt to avoid humiliation on the climb out of Cobungra Gap to the Bogong High Plains but they were rapidly overhauled by Spencer and Co. From the top, we all got good views of Feathertop, its various ridges and spurs being bathed in varying shadows, thus highlighting its ruggedness. By 10.30a.m. all had reached Tawonga Huts after having observed a stockman rounding up Westons cattle. A couple of "Peak Baggers" had also bagged Mt. Jim and one odd fellow was observed collecting chunks of rock to add to an already weighty pack. At Tawonga the party split into two groups and Felix, the Plastic Kid, and Spencer and Co. scrub-bashed up to the Niggerheads while the rest of us roadbashed to Mt. Fainter. After taking in the view of the Kiewa Valley and Mt. Bogong we descended from Fainter down, down, down to Bogong - Jacks Saddle and our last camp. This was set up on a grassy clearing of just over an acre in area, which, had on the previous night been the encampment for 800 head of cattle so one had to be careful where he trod.

Next morning we did an easy five miles down to Bogong Village and attempted to eat the store out before Dennis arrived at 1 P.M.

"ONE OF THE "SLOWIES"

* * *

WANTED TO BUY -

H-Frame Pack.
2 Man Wall Tent.

Sleeping Bay. Please contact -

* * * Colin McHarg - (p) 92-6930

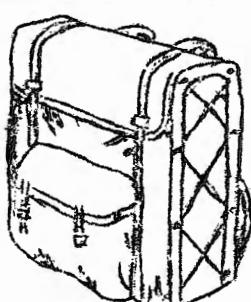
FOUND ON GRONOWS VAN. - TRACK SUIT. OWNER MAY CLAIM AT CLUB ROOMS.

* * *

AUSKI

9 Hardware St.
Phone 67 1412

The Bushwalking Specialist
Paddymade equipment, Packs, etc.



The Editor,
The NEWS,

Dear Madam,

Alas, I can contain myself no longer. The meanderings of Jim and the Brigadier in recent issues have been based, it would seem, solely on their own experiences. I feel that I must inform the readers of this "august" magazine (which is nevertheless published every month) that I have recently completed a large scale investigation which provides the facts on this issue. The details will shortly be published in a 2500 page paperback entitled "Footnotes", but for those who cannot wait I will here present some of the more revealing conclusions.

It was found that, in general, wearers of gym (jim) boots were more intelligent than walkers employing other types of footwear. This can be interpreted as revealing that anyone wearing carpet slippers in the bush is a moron. However, gym boot wearers were definitely more anxious, on the whole, than other walkers. A possible explanation of this trend is that 65% of the gym-booted subjects were tested at the moment of slipping on a slab of wet rock near the top of the Bluff.

The half-life of gym-boots (ie. the time taken for 50% of the boot material to disintegrate) was found to be significantly less than that for "proper boots" of robust construction. Again though, this situation was somewhat offset by the tendency of gym wearers to retain their footwear until only the laces remained. This may offer an explanation of the present trend towards bear feet.

A high positive correlation was found between bushgamesmanship and the wearing of jims. It appears, in fact, that many practising B.G. men use their jims as a means of gaining rest stops. A moment's consideration will indicate that the possibilities are nearly limitless - tiredness resulting from slipping on wet grass due to the absence of any tread, necessity to repair ripped canvas (a small razor blade is useful), need to replace inferior-strength laces, multiple bruising due to the lack of cushioning between feet and jagged stones, etc.

There was some indication that wearers of "proper boots" tended to be more stable, less adventurous, less articulate, more conservative, and less poverty-stricken than wearers of gym boots. Hence, if you need somebody to inject a bit of life into your next bushwalk, don't go looking for a Paddy man (although he's more likely to come across with a loan).

Wearers of carpet slippers were also to be tested on these factors, but unfortunately they had all either committed suicide or fallen off cliffs by this time. There is a group of people called christians (a capital "c" is preferred) who stress the importance of the Sole. The above data tend to support their argument. However, there remains one final conclusion that transcends all others in importance and swings firmly in favour of gym boots. This of course is the conservationist consideration. Clod hoppers may be strong, robust and gripping, but they are murder on tender green plants. Many a grass blade has died in agony under the assault of an unrelenting "proper boot". By comparison, gym boots are flexible and soft, and the message is clear: Wear jims and give nature a chance!

Yours Faithfully,

Major Grippe Yarfeet.

P.S. I am obliged to point out to the Brigadier that his mathematical treatment of the movement of fluid to the edges of the feet could be more simply illustrated by the use of a flow chart.

* * *

HOLIDAYS

ANYONE INTERESTED IN GOING TO NEW ZEALAND? JULY 4TH TO 25TH -

with Alan Miller, Ted Brown, Sue Ball, & Tyrone Thomas
IF INTERESTED RING TYRONE PROMPTLY - 89-5197

* * *

ANYONE INTERESTED IN GOING TO THE FLINDERS RANGES DURING THE
SCHOOL HOLIDAYS 21ST AUGUST TO 5TH SEPTEMBER,
with Graham & Marika Mascas. Ring (p) 50-2995 (b) 37-8881 - Graham)

* * *

NEWS CONVENOR -

Thankyou to all the contributors to this months news.
Those articles not able to be printed this month will be in June News.
Please keep those pens writing and let me have any news.
Any articles after the 9th ~~Juge~~ should be handed to Jenny Mead as I shall be on holiday.

Joy Seymour

AN AGEING WALKER'S LAMENT
(with apologies to Browning.)

When I think of how my fire is spent,
 How my get up and go got up and went,
 The years I've lain in my tent at night
 Scratching each lump, each March fly bite,
 Water on the knee and an aching back.
 Sunburnt nose and a cold in the head.
 Now why did I let myself be led
 Through the rivers and across the tops
 Of the foggy mountains and over the rocks?
 I'm getting older, I want to stop
 on the soft warm sand, and remember when
 I scaled the heights with the best of men,
 Put my right foot forward and never slacked
 Till the tent was up and the food unpacked.
 Now my knees are weak and my blood is thin
 Though I'm very fit for the shape I'm in,
 I'm tired of speeding those wearying miles,
 And rain sounds better on terra cotta tiles.
 Now I call a halt. I've a go slow scheme,
 I want to SEE the places I've been!
 I want, like the cows, to stand and stare,
 Or wander along and never care
 Whether I walk one mile or four,
 And if young walkers think that's poor,
 Let youth beware, for before you know,
 Dehyds. will rot you, your teeth will go,
 Rain will wash the hair from your head
 And rheumatics catch you in your bed
 On the cold hard ground. And all your bones
 Will ache as you sleep on the cold hard stones.

....
 Go slow along with me
 For all the views are free
 And let's enjoy the walk while yet we may.
 T'was great when I was tough,
 But now I cry "enough!"
 For like the little dog, I've had my day!

By Anon.

* * *

AN AFFECT OF INFLATION

Extract from "Walk" Vol.1, 1949 - - - - -

Current Club Fees

Joining Fees	Nil
Annual Subscription -	Senior - - - - - 10/- per annum.
	Junior Under 21 - 5/- per annum,
	Husband & Wife - 15/- per annum.

Oh for the good old days.

* * *

'BEHIND THE WHEEL' JOKES.

You have less chance of reaching 90 if your car does.
 Parking ticket. fine thing.
 Drive-in, where you turn off the ignition and try out your clutch.
 Are car battery manufacturers overcharging these days?
 Motorist. one who keeps pedestrians in good running order.
 Crumpled mudguard. Well, that's the way the Mercedes-Benz.
 All the money being spent on cars, is it money for jam?
 A new petrol puts a rabbit in your tank - for short hops.
Girl For goodness sake use both hands. Driver. Sorry, can't, I have
 to steer with one.

* * * supplied by Stuart Hodgson.