



# THE NEWS

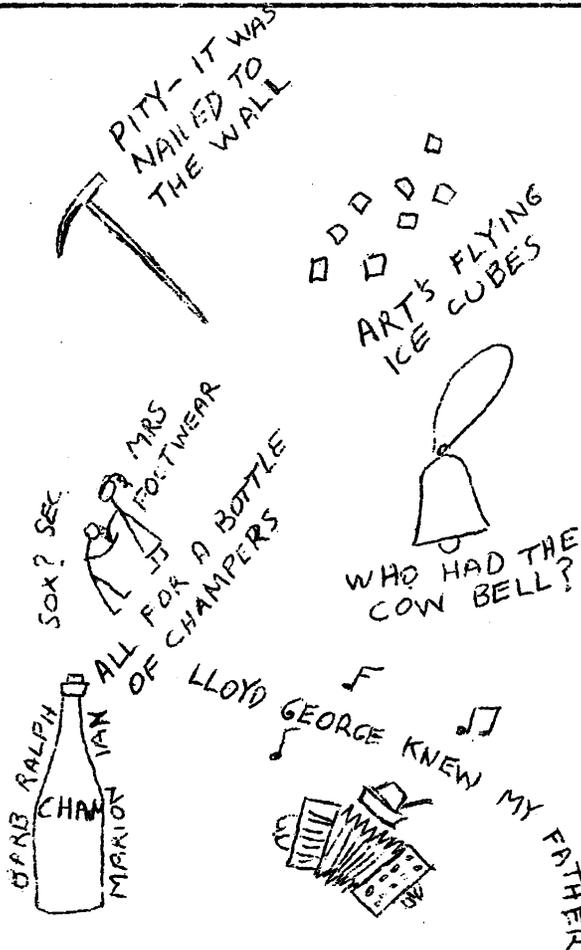
OF THE MELBOURNE BUSHWALKERS

Edition 283

OCTOBER, 1972

Price 3¢

Registered at the G.P.O. for transmission by post as a periodical. Category B.



SECOND ANNUAL CLUB DINNER .... It was only six months after the first one, but who would want to wait a year for such a great night out ?..... About sixty Bushies entertained the other patrons of Salzburg Lodge.....even that well known gentleman L. George Esq, got into the act (with great gusto)..... Newly engaged couples Barb and Ralph, and Ian and Marion got a bottle of champagne each and our dashing Social Sec. graciously accepted a bottle for the rest of the club.....in fact his graciousness really surprised the M.C.....got a free plug for the Matrimonial Bureau of Walkers. Some of the dancing would be seen to be believed.....Art and Virgil and Alec and Dorrie being particularly energetic. We found a few exponents of the Highland Fling among our members....The only person who could get Spuddingly on to the dance floor was Dorrie and it took Zorba the Greek to get Tyrone on his feet! .....Thanks for arranging such a great evening, Graham.

P.S. One noted absentee was Rob Steel who was doing his bit for the club at the Federation Council meeting.

### CORRECTION

The Old Timers' walk on Saturday 21st. October is to be held at YAN YEAN Reservoir not Upper Yarra Dam as previously stated. All those interested in going should contact Felix Harding (97 5538) All other arrangements are the same. Try to arrive at the Picnic Area by lunch time.

### CHRISTMAS WALK ?

A proposed Christmas Walk from (generally) The Pilot area (Southern Snowy Mts) to the Northern Snowy Mountains (e.g. Grey Mare Hut) is being planned by Gerry McPhee. The main focus of the walk will be the Main Range, Ramshead, Watson's Crags area. The route and timing are very tentative as the aspirant leader will drop the whole project if he gets a better offer.....(quote) If you are interested in an easy to medium easy walk for 7 to 10 days, phone Gerry (p) 29 5683 (b) 652 7180.

\* \* \* \* \*

WE STILL REQUIRE MORE WALKS AND LEADERS FOR CHRISTMAS ! SEE RODNEY WITH YOUR SUGGESTIONS.

CLUB TRACK CLEARING WEEKEND - 28 - 29 OCTOBER - CRINOLINE AREA

See Art Terry if you are interested in coming.

All correspondence should be addressed to  
Hon. Secretary, Melbourne Bushwalkers,  
Box 1761Q, G.P.O.  
MELBOURNE, Victoria 3001

Meetings are held in the clubrooms, 14 Hosier Lane, at the rear of the Forum Theatre, every Wednesday night at 7.30 p.m. Visitors are always welcome.

---

WHAT WAS GOING ON AT THE COMMITTEE MEETING ? 2nd. October

TREASURER: Club finances are healthy.

WALKS SECRETARY: There were 203 attendances on last months walks of which 70 were visitors.

SOCIAL SECRETARY: Announced the following dates -  
Nov 1 Slides, Norther W.A. and N.T. Darrell Sullivan  
Nov10 (Friday) Theatre Night "Barry McKenzie"  
Nov 15 Clubroom, Film about Mt. Newman

SEARCH AND RESCUE: Important meeting of all S&R members. 23 October 7.30 pm in the clubroom.

TRACK CLEARING: Club track clearing in the Crinoline Area. 28 - 29 October.

CLEAN UP NIGHT: Its our club's turn to clean up the clubrooms on Thursday 2nd November from 5pm onward. Come along.....work can be fun!

Land Conservation Council has published a very detailed report on the S.W. corner off Victoria inc. Lower Glenelg and Portland areas. It contains maps and information on flora and fauna, and An excellent \$2 worth from 464 St.Kilda Road (by mail).

Duty Roster: 18 Oct Tim Dent, Graham Mascas  
25 Oct Ann and Darrell Sullivan  
1 Nov Barbara davies, Sue Ball  
8 Nov Bob Steel, Graham Hodgson  
15 Nov Alma Strappazon, Rod Mattingley

---

METRIGATED BUSHWALKING

We all know that Australia is in the process of changing from the Imperial system of weights and measures to the S.I. or metric system. This will, we are told, lead to greater efficiency in industry and commerce.

But the Metric Conversion Board has not realised the effect on the noble art of Bushwalking.

The new 100,000 series maps have heights in metres and a kilometre grid. I don't think we will have any problems measuring horizontal distance in kilometres. After all walking 16 kilometres sounds better than walkinh 10 miles. What I don't like is measuring height in metres !

Up to now we knew that above that magic figure 5000 feet we were in the alpine country, and that Victoria's highest mountain was a grand 6508 feet. But things won't be the same with the wretched metric system. What does 1524 metres (5000 ft.) mean? And Bogong is humiliated with a height of 1983. It robs the mountain of its character. Why can't we stick with the good old British foot?

Spud.

---

CLUB ROOM CLEAN UP ..... THURSDAY 2nd. NOVEMBER

Just come along straight after work.

WALKS PREVIEWSDAY WALKS

- November 5 MT. BARNARD - CROTTY'S KNOB - KONG MENG  
 Leader: Leigh Pretty (b) 874 7444 Medium  
 Van leaves Batman Ave. 9.15 am Fare \$2.50
- 7 CUP DAY. YARRA GLEN - Highbrow Hill - PINNACLES  
 Leader: Alan Phillips Easy - Medium  
 Train leaves Flinders Street Station 8.25 a.m. Fare \$1.15  
 Expected time of return 5.45 p.m. Flinders St. Distance 12 miles  
 Map Reference: Yarra Glen 1:50,000  
 Easy - medium walk through foothills country north of Yarra Glen.  
 Should be good weather so come along and get away from the Cup Day crowds.
- 12 COOKS MILL - JAWBONE - SUGAR LOAF - SUPER DIRECT TRACK  
 Leader: Geoff Kenafacke (p) 29 4667 Medium - Hard  
 Van leaves Batman Ave. 9.15 a.m. Fare 2.50  
 Expected time of return 8.30 p.m. Approx distance 9 miles  
 Map Reference: V.M.T.C. Sketch Map "Cathedral Range"  
 An interesting ridge walk with good views towards Eildon and along the Acheron Valley. Some steep climbs and descents likely. Carry water for lunch.
- 12 FAMILY WALK CERBERUS CREEK  
 Leader: Marion Siseman (p) 878 1839 Easy  
 Van leaves Batman Ave. 9.15 a.m. Fare \$2.50  
 Expected time of return 7.00 p.m. Approx distance 4 miles  
 Map Reference: Taggerty C 2" = 1 mile  
 We follow the old Ajax mining track along shady Cerberus Creek near Buxton. Some interesting old wooden bridges to see. Plenty of water in this tumbling stream but not enough for swimming. Possibly plenty of mozzies so some repellent would be a good idea.
- 19 STARLINGS GAP - ADA RIVER  
 Leader: Dave Gibson (b) 397 1600 Easy - Medium  
 Van leaves Batman Ave. 9.15 a.m. Fare \$2.00  
 Expected time of return 8.00 p.m. Approx distance 9 miles.  
 Map Reference: Meerim 1:50,000  
 The walk follows the route of old timber tramlines through the thickly timbered area east of Powelltown.
- 26 PRESIDENTS DAY WALK HAS BEEN CANCELLED  
 SEE next months NEWS for all the details of alternative walk.

WEEKEND WALKS

- November 3 - 5 HARRIETVILLE - SHICER CREEK - CLEAR CREEK - BUCKLAND RIVER  
 Leader: Graham Wills-Johnson (p) 52 4720 Medium  
 Van leaves Batman Ave. 6.30 p.m. Fare \$7.00 Transit van or private transport. Approx distance 24 miles  
 Map Reference: Feathertop, Buffalo (FCV 1 mile = 1 inch)  
 Buffalo 1:100,000  
 This walk HAS been previewed. In fact by the time it is run I hope I will have been able to preview it myself (!). However, I am assured by the Walks Secretary that there are superb views of the Razorback and Feathertop across the Ovens Valley from the top of the Ovens - Buckland divide. So if you've ever wondered where that road straight ahead at Harrietville goes to when you turn left to go to Hotham, nows your chance to come along and find out.
- 3 - 5 WILKINSON LODGE  
 Leader: Darrell Sullivan Easy  
 Private transport leaving 6.30 pm. Batman Ave. See leader.  
 The leader promises easy walks over the High Plains to the Rocky

WALKS PREVIEWS Cont.

Knobs and Initiation Rock with excellent views of the surrounding mountains. Comfortable accomodation at the Lodge. All new members should take this opportunity to visit this popular spot.

November 17 - 19 ROCKY RIDGE - THE BLUFF - HOWQUA RIVER

Leader: Tyrone Thomas (p)89 5197 Medium  
 Van leaves Batman Ave. 6.30 p.m. Fare \$6.00  
 Expected time of return 9.00 p.m. Approx distance 16 miles  
 Map Reference: Jamieson 1:50,000, Buller 1:50,000  
 Howitt 1 in. = 1 mile  
 A stiff climb on Saturday followed by alpine walking and camping. Sunday is downhill along the Howqua River. Bring your bathers.

24 - 26 PRESIDENTS WEEKEND HAS BEEN CANCELLED

The Vice Presidents are planning an alternative weekend.  
 SEE NEXT MONTHS NEWS FOR FULL DETAILS

OUR IMPACT ON THE ENVIRONMENT

Current issue of "Victoria's Resources" (Sept-Nov) carries a table charting the impact of outdoor recreation on the Victorian environment. Generally, bushwalking appears to come off more favourably than most of the 38 different kinds of activity listed - skiing, caravanning, gem hunting etc. Still, though having little effect on rarely visited places (e.g. Cobberas) bushwalking does have a marked effect on the more popular areas (e.g. Wilsons Prom, Lerdérderg gorge, Tarli Karng.) Heavy seasonal useage causes trampling and stripping of vegetation. Irresponsible conduct involves disturbance of wildlife, forest fires, erosion, litter, access arguments. However, bushwalking and climbing are noted for encouraging appreciation of wilderness and vigilance on remote unspoilt places.

The author suggests that a table of this sort should be the basis of a State wide recreational plan based on some understanding of the ecological systems and their capacity to withstand recreational pressures.

"Victoria's Resources" is available through newsagents or from Natural Resources Conservation League of Victoria, c/- Box 104, Springvale, 3171

Athol Schafer

WELCOME TO THE FOLLOWING NEW MEMBERS

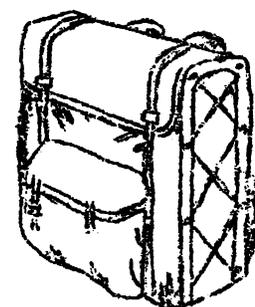
Tony Sultan 1047 Drummond Street, North Carlton 3054

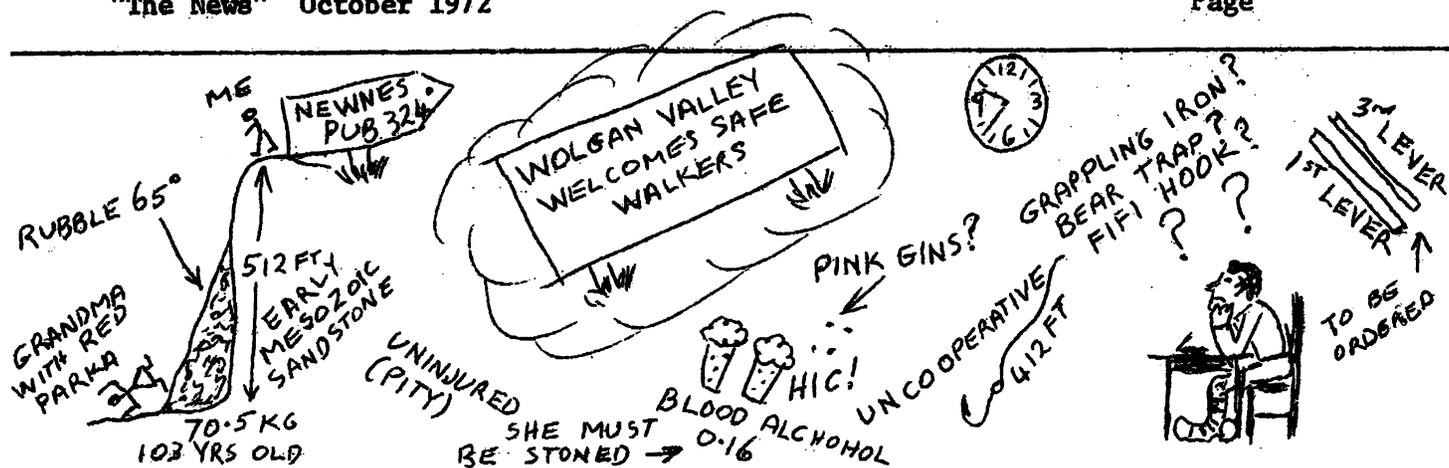
Richard Merls 5 Power Street, Balwyn 3103 (p)83 3638 (b)41 5225

Alwyn Bloom 133 Spring Street, Reservoir 3073 (p)47 6579 (b)47 1641

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

The Bushwalking Specialist  
 Paddymade equipment, Packs, etc.





Have you ever noticed how some people are becoming very crafty in their ways? I think you will find that on most day trips people take along a container of water. Joyce Dunn, however, has a container that gleams an alcoholic red, like claret or Burgundy. When questioned, Joyce always insists upon it being blackberry juice - I wonder!!

Cleanliness is next to Godliness quotes the old saying. I don't know what John Cairns is hoping for - he was seen on the van a few weeks ago extracting a brush and boot polish from his pack and then methodically cleaning his boots to a glowing brilliance. I reckon when he starts preening his wings we had better watch out.

Alan Parker, or Sparky Tarzan as he is better known, was up to his old tricks again recently. Alan seems intent on every trip to drag monstrous logs (15 feet long) over 300 yards onto the camp fire and then becomes very restless until the log is burnt in half. At various stages he is to be seen scraping the underside of the log (sending showers of sparks over everyone) assisting the fire in its arduous task of halving the one foot thick monstrosity.

The other day a member came up with the startling information that 37% of the Club are/say they are females. This met with a mixed reception. One male member thought 90% would be even better; another thought 50% would save arguments and would assure that no girls would be disappointed; and another thought 0% was a good round figure. I like good round figures too!

Do you know how to cook a Vesta dinner? Handy hint coming up. The proper way is to put the Vesta and an axe head into a billy. Boil them until the axe head becomes soft. The Vesta is then ready to eat.

I would like to express our heartiest congratulations to BARB and RALPH on their recent engagement and to offer a pat on the back to Barb for the splendid way in which she took over "News" in Anne's absence - a job very well done.

I would like you all to know that just because the Fossil mobile blew three tyres at the Federation weekend it doesn't mean I shall be out of action. Hurray for Tyrone, the tired tyrant of the tyred trio.

A few years ago some bushes were car touring in Victoria when they came across a level crossing at which one gate was open and the other shut, thus impeding their journey. After about ten minutes the driver blew his horn but nobody showed up. Another half hour passed and an old man came down the road.

"Can you tell me," said the weary driver, "who's in charge of these gates?"

"Sure, it's Mr. Mooney," was the answer.

"And where the hell is Mr. Mooney?"

"Oh, he'll be over the other side of that hill digging his potatoes. I'll get him for you."

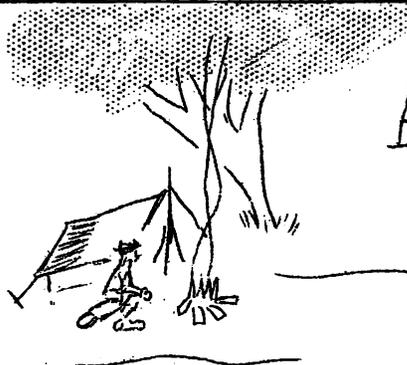
Within half an hour Mr. Mooney appeared and opened the closed gate. Before driving on the bushes thanked him, adding

"There's something which puzzles us Mr. Mooney. Would you kindly tell us why one gate was open and the other shut?"

"Well, the fact is," answered Mr. Mooney, scratching his head, "I was half expecting a train."

Overheard: I know you have been on many walks in this State but do you feel you know Victoria intimately.

Answer: Victoria who??



# ALONG THE TRACK

## SUN AND HIGH SEAS AT CAPE OTWAY

Morning: We are camped by the tidal marshes of the Aire River, the haunt of ibis and frogs. The ocean, hidden by high sandhills, rumbles ceaselessly like the roar of distant guns. With grunts, yawns and chuckles, the camp stirs, stretches and rises. Wood smoke scents the air, and wet tents are quickly stowed in packs already overweight with water rations. Rod gathers his motley crew and sets out across the rolling sandhills. Soon, nothing remains but the imprint of many boots on damp sand, and several startled cows. In due course, after numerous halts to remove excess clothing, clear barbwire fences and to catch second winds, we descend to the sea shore. The wild, restless ocean heaves ominously, and huge spray crested waves expend themselves on gleaming black reefs. Soon the bracing sea air is at work revitalizing smog warped lungs.

The route to Cape Otway lay along numerous beaches, rock ledges and cliff tops. Skirting the narrow rock ledges is a hazardous business as the surf becomes increasingly defiant. The Social Secretary is very nearly consigned to Davy Jones' Locker, when a particularly sneaky and malevolent wave creeps up on him from behind. Fortunately all he suffers is a drenching; but true to form he has the remainder of the party in fits of glee. Leader at this point, anxious that he not become a victim of misadventure, encourages us to head for the clifftops.

About midday the Otway Light appears and leader judging it to be an excellent vantage point, declares lunchtime. Five minutes later enters lightkeeper. *"Oy you lot 'op it. Yer not in the Botanic Gardens now. Anyways, people 'ave bin killed fallin' down these 'ere cliffs before y'know. So 'op it like I says"* Disconsolately we obey and a few hundred metres further along the cliffs complete our interrupted repast in peace. While some sleep off the effects thereof, others head down to the rocks below the Cape to look for shipwrecks and the remains of cliff jumpers. Alan, archaeologicizing around the cliffs, discovers the jawbone of a prehistoric Mummajong - or so it is rumoured. Marions is very nearly brought up the cliffs on a stretcher but says she feels OK.

Packs at the shoulder once again, we set off for the Parker River along grass-anchored sand dunes and onto the beach, while Felix rock-hops along the base of the cliffs to get in training for the Mount Anne Circuit. The beach disappears quickly and formidable cliffs replace it. The waves break menacingly at our feet as we edge fearfully along the reefs and around a corner into Parker Inlet, a gap in the cliffs less than 200 metres wide, through which the waves surge and dissipate to break gently on a curve of sandy beach. Sealers Cove in miniature. Soon tents appear in the clearing behind the beach and we set about the tasks of gathering wood from the high-water mark and water from the nearby waterfall.

The sun goes down, dragging the clouds with it, leaving a starry sky. The ghostly beam of the Otway Light pierces the darkness at intervals and the lights of a ship at sea wink at us across miles of black ocean. Pyromaniacal Alan skilfully conceals a blaze of immense proportions and welcomes all comers. The waves are singing a timeless lullaby and sleep comes effortlessly.

Morning. Felix sounds reveille at 0730. Sunshine and blue skies beckon insistently. Yours truly takes a plunge and frightens the fish. The glowing remains of Alan's fire are quickly resurrected and breakfast is on. Felix tells in

Contd...

horrifying terms how, through pitching his tent too close to the high-water mark he is nearly carried off in his sleep by a freak wave. Leaving the tents to dry in the sun, we take a leisurely stroll through the scrub above the cliffs. Sight and sound of the sea are soon lost, and with the scrub becoming much difficult we head back to camp to sunbake and swim until 2 pm. Then it's time to leave, so with packs at the shoulder Rod leads his reluctant followers away from the secluded cove and sounds the retreat that takes us across the rolling coastal hills to the Lighthouse Road and the little green van.

Thanks Rodney, thanks Bob Steel may your boots never give you blisters.

*Underleutenant Greenboots*

---

#### HIKING IN THE CANADIAN ROCKIES

Mt. Robson, the highest peak in the Canadian Rockies at 12,972 feet is seldom seen without an accompanying layer of cloud and mist. Being on the windward western side of the Rockies, it is an area of higher rainfall with the resulting lush vegetation, wildflowers and thickly timbered areas. By comparison the Bluff and Jasper National Parks on the leeward side are much more barren.

On a long weekend trip recently with the Edmonton section of the Y.H.A. we had the good fortune to see this mountain completely unclouded for three days of perfect weather. Situated in a Provincial Park in British Columbia, Mt. Robson is an impressive giant with three large valley glaciers extending from its slopes and beautiful Berg Lake at its foot.

The trail to Berg Lake is, like most trails in the Rockies, very well marked and well made so much so that maps and compasses can almost be dispensed with. 'Bushwalking' doesn't seem to be done much here, though hiking (or 'back packing' as it is known in North America) on set trails is tremendously popular with the result that trails tend to be very much over used.

It is encouraging that people are becoming more aware of natural environments and wanting to experience them at first hand. But for the individual it means there is less chance to feel real solitude and isolation in the mountains.

Leila Fiddian

---

#### THE CRAIGIEBURN FACADE

For years the long brick wall, punctuated with holes as if for doors and windows, has been an object of curiosity for travellers on the Hume Highway. Here is the gist of an article which appeared in "The Craigieburn Post" in 1969.

Back in 1927 rumor was rife that a company had bought a large Craigieburn property with a view to erecting a factory to manufacture farm machinery. The company boasted the resounding title "Australian Farmers Centre Draft Harvester Works Limited" and, according to its letterhead, manufactured a whole range of other machinery from Stump Jump Ploughs to Patent Potato Planters. The wall was erected; the land subdivided into blocks for homes for workers, application was made to the Licencing Court for permission to build a hotel and the land sold 'thick and fast'. Shares in the company sold for £1 each; purchasers of 1000 shares became directors of the Company. Some invested their life savings for that title. After selling all the stock, the company folded up and the promoter disappeared with the takings.

Athol Schafer

---

BIG thanks to Barbara for keeping the NEWS going so well while I was away. And to Helen and Marion for all that typing and to all the contributors.

Keep the stories and articles rolling in Folks. We'd like to hear from some of the new faces round the club room too.

Closing date for next NEWS is November 8th.

BUSHWALKING TECHNIQUES IIIIE

(Second Paper)

26 December 1972

5.00 am - 7.30 pm

Attempt ALL questions and ONE other  
Logarithmic tables and graph paper are provided

\* \* \* \* \*

QUESTION 2: Grandma has fallen over a cliff in the Wolgan Valley  
Assume that the cliff is 512 ft. high and consists of early mesozoic sandstone, with rubble sloping away at an angle of  $65^\circ$  at the base. Assume also that Grandma weighs 70.5 kg, is 103 years old and is wearing a red parka. She is not injured but is in a very unco-operative mood.

(a) Using only first and third order levers and a piece of fishing line 412 ft. long, design an apparatus for rescuing her. (Honours students must avoid impaling the victim. Pass students need only recover the body)

(13½ marks)

(b) Grandma's blood alcohol level is 0.16. The Newnes Hotel is at a bearing of  $324^\circ$  from the point where she fell. Estimate to four significant figures (i) how many minutes to closing time, (ii) how many noggins of pink ginshe consumed before the accident occurred.

( 5 marks)

QUESTION 3: You are sitting in a Gronows van. For the past fifteen minutes an English bushwalker has been talking very loudly to you without even pausing for breath, when he accuses you of trying to ram your opinions down his throat. Write an essay containing only words with five letters or more on what your reply to this remark would be if you ever got a chance to make it (which you wouldn't)

(15 marks)

QUESTION 5 (b) The tide at Williamstown is at 2 ft 3 in, and the wind is 15 knots from the south east. Estimate the temperature at which Vesta Chicken Supreme will boil on top of Mt. Howitt if at the same time the wind there is at 43 knots from the west north west. Will Alliance Farmhouse Stew boil at a higher or lower temperature? (Give reasons for your answer).

(½ mark)

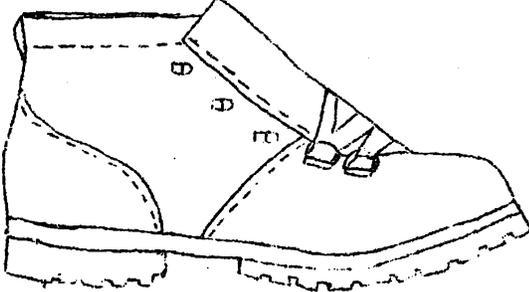
(c) If after consuming the Vesta Chicken Supreme a bushwalker were taken up vertically in a helicopter at a constant rate of 500 ft per second, would he die of asphyxia or indigestion? (Give convincing reasons for your answer and a graph to illustrate the influence of the Mackenzie Oldpacificsea factor.)

QUESTION 6 Trace the development of Women's Lib from Pankhurst to Seymour, indicating reasons for and against the view that liberated women bushwalkers have a poor sense of direction.

(403 marks)

QUESTION 7 What will win the Melbourne Cup this year? (Students who cannot give me a good tip will fail, regardless of their performance on the other questions.)

THE TIME ALLOWED EXPIRED FIFTEEN MINUTES AGO , AND YOUR PAPER HAS BEEN DISQUALIFIED  
.....please don't send your papers to the News Convenor.



SEE LOCH WILSON AT  
BUSHGEAR PTY LTD  
46 HARDWARE ST  
MELBOURNE

FOR ALL  
BUSHWALKING AND CLIMBING GEAR