



THE NEWS

OF THE MELBOURNE BUSHWALKERS

Edition 292

JULY 1973

Price 3c



COMING SOCIAL EVENTS

- July 18 Film in the clubroom MULTIPLY AND SUBDUE THE EARTH described in last months news, promises to be well worth seeing. Don't forget to be in early.
- July 24 Tuesday evening MBW ANNUAL DINNER at Munich Barrell. See advert in the clubroom or last months news for all the details and Graham Hodgson to make your booking. There are lots of people going already so don't miss out.
- August 1 Dave Harrison has put together a slide show called 'CONTRASTS' which he will show in the clubroom.
- 15 & 29 Two more films from the State film library will be shown in the clubroom. Titles will be announced later.

WALK MAGAZINE

Graham Wills-Johnston would like to hear from any one with up to date information about tracks and huts or any other items that could be included in the "MOUNTAIN MUSTER".

All correspondence should be addressed to
 Hon. Secretary, Melbourne Bushwalkers,
 Box 1751Q, 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 pm. Visitors are always welcome.

AUGUST WALKS PREVIEWS

DAY WALKS

5. SNOW WALK - ACHERON WAY - MT. STRICKLAND - KEPPELS LOOKOUT

Leader; Dave Oldfield (b)31 7222 ex613 Medium
 Van leaves Batman Ave 9.15 am. Fare \$2.50
 Maps; Thornton 1:50,000 McMahon's Creek 1:50,000

Accompanied by the trusty Nanga Parbat we will venture forth in the Marysville area in search of snow. Come along prepared for an invigorating walk, armed with a Thermos for lunch and warm clothes for the return journey. The leader guarantees nothing.....least of all, the snow!

12 BLOWHARD RANGE - YEA RIVER

Leader; Warren Baker (p)89 9908 Medium
 Van leaves Batman Ave 9.15 am. Fare \$2.00
 Maps; Juliet 1:50,000 Glenburn 1:50,000. Approx distance; 11 miles.

Through Toolangi State Forest, we climb about 1000 feet initially along the old Yea road and then pursue a westerly course along the Blowhard Range to the Yea Road. Climbing is moderate, there are numerous logging tracks and the route is a bit tricky to follow, so stick together. Water is available.

19 BONEO CUPS - GUNNAMATTA BEACH

Leader; Gerry McPhee Easy
 Van leaves Batman Ave 9.15 am. Fare \$2.00
 Map; Sorrento 1" to 1 mile

This will be an exciting winter walk along the cliff tops with magnificent views and the surf pounding below.

26 INGLISTON - WERRIBEE GORGE

Leader; Bob Chadwick (p)83 3592 Medium
 Van leaves Batman Ave 9.15 am. Fare \$2.00
 Map; Ballan 1" to 1 mile.

Take this opportunity to visit the well known Werribee Gorge - a popular walking spot.

WEEKEND WALKS

10-12 ELDORADO - MT. PILOT - BEECHWORTH

Leader; Graham Mascas (p)25 6940 Easy - Medium
 Bus leaves Batman Ave 6.30 pm. Fare \$7.00
 Expected time of return; 8 pm, Sunday
 Map; Beechworth 1:50,000 Approx distance; 19 miles.

A very pleasant walk in the gold mining areas of the north west. A beautiful campsite is promised for the Friday night camp (If I can find it in the dark) followed by a gentle 6½ miles through the hills to Saturday's campsite. For the lazy the day ends here, but for those more energetic is the reward of the round trip to Mt. Pilot (without packs of course!) The views from here are quite splendid and although it is 5 miles there and back it is well worth it - its up to you - freedom of choice and all that. The following morning we follow the ridge down to Reedy Creek and lunch at the spectacular Woolshed Falls, which we climb, then into historic Beechworth for those ice creams. 7½ miles for the day. A good introductory walk with lots of interest not too strenuous, but not too easy either.

Here is a great opportunity for all you DAY WALKERS to have a go at a week-end walk. See the equipment officer about hiring some gear and come along!

A L L W A L K E R S

It would be greatly appreciated if everyone would try to pay the full fare when booking on walks on Wednesday evening. This will help the leaders greatly as it is much easier to handle money in a brightly lit clubroom than a dark bouncing van. Most day walks are fairly cheap and most people have enough money on the to pay the full fare when booking, paying visitors fees in the clubroom also helps overcome the small change problem on walks. On the longer weekend trips the poor leader ends up carrying quite a substantial sum of money around with him on Sunday evening. Naturally a deposit will still reserve you a seat on the van, but the more money you can pay in the clubroom the better.

AUGUST WALKS PREVIEWS cont.**24-26 WYCHITELLA FOREST - MT. KERANG - NARDOO CK - THE GRANITES**

Leader; Fred Halls (p)97 3724

Easy - Medium

Van leaves Batman Ave 6.30 pm. Fare \$5.00

Expected time of return; 8.00 pm. Sunday

Map; Wedderburn.

Approx distance; 17 miles.

An easy weekend spent wandering through Mallee scrublands, the main feature will be the early spring time flora of the arid Mallee lands, and stony Belar rises. There are many rare or unusual plants not seen down south. For instance, there is the rare Wychitella Wattle, the beautiful Bent Leaf Wattle and the golden rods of the Gold Dust Wattle; the rare and beautiful Desert Baeckea, the light yellow Desert Phebalium, Scarlet Mint Bush, Scarlet Sundew and five varieties of Mallee growing in the region. Although this this Mallee wilderness is relatively small (3,500 acres) it possesses the best concentration of Mallee Men in all the Mallee lands. It is quite possible that we will see several of these unique birds and their incubator mounds. Kangaroos are also quite common in the reserve, we should see them while camped at a waterhole. Because the water is very inky, it would be advisable to bring some pure water from the city. After observing the floral display of the reserve, we will climb Mt. Kerang then cross the head of Nardoo Creek travelling eastwards towards Skinners Flat, then returning northwest to camp. Next day we will walk to the northeast corner of the sanctuary and continuing in the same direction, finish at the Mysia Granites - fine examples of weathered granite outcrops similar to those at Melvilles Caves. Total distance is 16 -17 easy miles.

WELCOM TO THE FOLLOWING NEW MEMBERS...

Cynthia & Peter ASHBY, 4 Valerie St., East Bentleigh 3165 (b)95 7277

Lorna CHADWICK, 12 Telbot Ave., Balwyn 3103 (p) 83 3592

Gordon DOAK, 33 Glengara Road, Sunshine 3020 (p)311 3377

Hugh DUNCAN, 34 Howie Street, Glen Iris 3144 (p)29 5924 (b)615 5160

Ellen FREEMANTLE, 7/98 Vale Street, East Melbourne 3002 (b)341 6541

William and Stella LEWIS, 190 Rathmines Road, Hawthorn 3122 (p)82 5456

Christine NICHOL, 23 Church Street, Parkville 3052 (p)329 6871

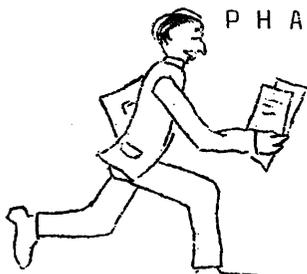
Robin and Derek POWELL, 10/63 Osborne Street, South Yarra 3141 (b)579 1011 ex226

Andre STOMM, 20 Celia Street, East Bentleigh 3165 (p)57 4586

Graham TODD, 6 Beacon Street, Parkdale 3194 (p)90 3800 (b)41 7251

James WILCOCK, 16 Wellman St., Box Hill 3123 (p)89 6804 (b)62 0141 ex445

PHANTOM FOSSIL



HOLD IT! I'VE FINALLY FOUND A BLOKE WHO SAYS HE MIGHT FIND A USE FOR THAT LAND



YE GODS! TALK ABOUT LUCK! I WAS ABOUT TO RECOMMEND IT AS A NATIONAL PARK

Two taxis crashed. "Wazza matter ?" hollered the driver of one, "Ya blind ?" "Blind ?" countered the other, "I hit ya, didn't I ?"

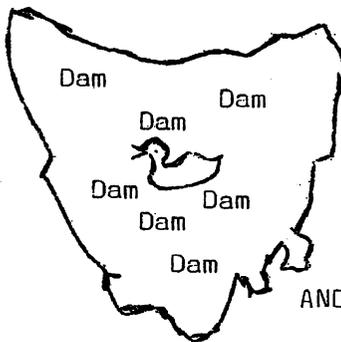
Have you heard GWJ's super charged, butane boosted, V8 XL GT Hillman super tank? You haven't!! Well just follow him up the Mt. Stirling road with his muffler off, I reckon in a good snow season his ear drum shatterer would be excellent avalanche material.

Many congratulations to Joy on her recent engagement to David Bover I mentioned before that she had latched on to him but I did not realise that the paddlock had been well and truly secured.

There was a good chance of an orgy taking place on a van recently, for all the lights went out including the head lights as well. It was however rather unfortunate that there was only one girl and eleven blokes present; not particularly good odds. There was one consolation for all the unhappy blokes, for as we were sitting stranded in darkness, a Mt. Buller coach with an electrician and 22 girls!!! came along and offered their assistance, the headlights and all the blokes eyes were soon gleaming again.

On a recent trip the topic of conversation was on National Parks. It was generally agreed that the only reason the powers that be ever set aside an area for a park is if it is useless for mining, planting of commercial pines, building hydro-electric schemes, etc, etc. Someone remarked that if a bunch of politicians were blindfolded and led into Ferntree Gully National Park none of them would know where they were. To which someone else replied. "It wouldn't be necessary to blindfold a politician would it ??"

DAMNATION OF TASMANIA



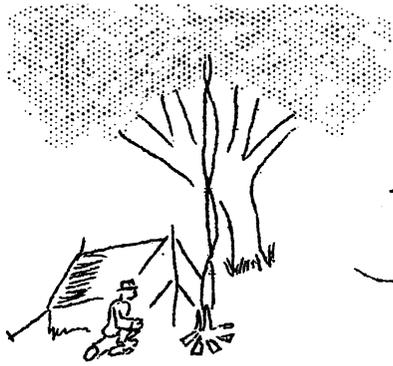
AND JUST PLAIN DAMN!!!

CHANGES OF ADDRESS

- Max WILKINSON, 44 Ramptons Road, Eltham North 3095
- Graham GUTTBRIDGE. Box 41, Section Ydu, Broadmeadows 3047
- Suzanne HAMILTON, P.O. Box 580, Alice Springs, N.T. 5750
- Annette KINDER, now GRAY, 15 Neill St., Rushworth 3612
- Graham MASCAS, new (b)662 0201 ex8137

DUTY ROSTER

- July 18 Geoff Greenwood, Joy Seymour
- 25 Darrell and Ann Sullivan
- August 1 Fred Halls, Graham Wills-Johnston
- 8 Graham Mascas, Graham Hodgson



ALONG THE TRACK

BUTTERCUP CREEK - LAKE WILLIAM HOVELL

Chapter 1: On arrival at Batman Avenue I was greeted with the words "You are the only girl on the trip". I thought how nice it would be, all those kind gentlemen to carry my pack, etc. but alas, they thought differently. Five minutes before we left a coach set off for Mt. Buller. We took little notice at the time, but about five minutes after we arrived at Lilydale for tea, the same coach arrived. Our sex-starved leader and The Phantom Fossil rapidly ascertained that it contained 23 girls and only 4 men. I still don't know how they managed to restrain themselves from changing trips! However, we continued on our way, until about three miles out of Mirrimbah the headlights went out. Various people crawled around the front of the van (in the rain) until along came this same coach which actually stopped, and one of those four lonely men found that we had blown the headlight fuse and so, on again. About two miles along the Buttercup Creek Road our leader said we would have to walk the rest of the way, so we went down to the campsite and pitched tents, only to be told that the van had had to follow us down to turn and was now stuck! Nine hardy souls went back. You may wonder why so few - it seems that the Phantom Fossil, the Sauerkraut and a visitor went to bed instead! For nearly 2 hours we pushed, heaved, slipped and struggled with that van, in rain and mud, desperately trying to avoid trees and drains. We finally got it up the hill and collapsed into bed at 2 am - at least we were warm!

Chapter 2: Rod was up lighting the fire early. It appeared that he had a leaking groundsheet and his sleeping bag was rather damp (it had rained for most of the night). We were 12 minutes late leaving camp so we had to walk fast (actually, on Saturday we walked 15 miles including 1,500 ft of climbing and 2,500 ft of descending and averaged 3 mph). Fortunately, the weather started to clear about 1400. The descent into the King River Valley was beautiful with the trees side-lit, patches of mist in the trees on the other side of the valley, and the roar of the river below. The camp site was by a hut on a grassy stretch with a wide variety of trees and bushes. Camp was made about 1530 leaving plenty of time for fire lighting with wet wood. There was little socialising - I think bed was needed by all (except three of course).

Chapter 3: A beautiful morning with a leisurely start, only 7 miles and 3½ hours in which to complete it. Fortunately the leader decided that the river was flowing at too many cu. secs. to be crossed, so he omitted that bit of interest from the walk, so we only got wet crossing Evans Creek which was some creek, believe me! The jeep track wandered along the river and then along Lake William Hovell. We strolled along smelling the fresh bush and listening to the lyre birds, but alas, it had to end. We reached the rendezvous just before the van and sat in the sun for lunch before heading for home.

I can recommend this trip to the 190-odd members who didn't go. It was well worth it. Thank you very much Geoff.

Sue Ball

Did you hear the story of the group of clergymen visiting a local record factory? - They were shown around at the rate of two revs per minute.

WOULD ALL MEMBERS PLEASE CHECK LAST YEARS
 FINANCIAL ADDRESS LIST TO SEE THAT ALL
 THE DETAILS GIVEN WERE CORRECT.
 PLEASE ALSO INFORM ME OF ANY
 CHANGES OF ADDRESS OR
 TELEPHONE NUMBER.

IN ORDER TO BE INCLUDED IN
 THIS YEAR'S LIST, AMEND-
 MENTS AND ADDITIONS
 SHOULD REACH ME
 NO LATER THAN

26TH JULY

Helen
Dent

molony's

197 ELIZABETH ST.
 MELBOURNE
 67-8428&9

STILL TOPS FOR
 BUSHWALKING, SKIING,
 AND CLIMBING NEEDS

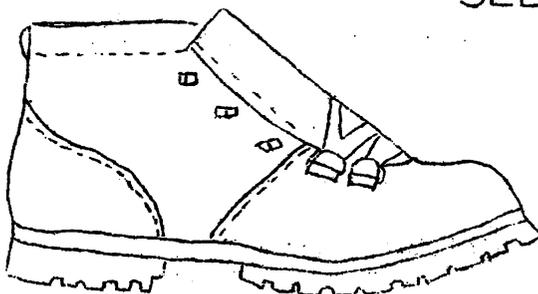
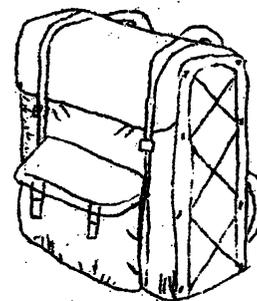
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FOR ALL
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MAKING MORE DENTS IN MT. STIRLING

Something hurtled out of the fog, ploughed a deep furrow in the snow, sat up looking surprised and began shaking ice crystals out of its bushy red whiskers. One looked around to see whether Snow White would materialise, or at least some of the other dwarfs, but then the realisation dawned that the unguided missile which had made such a dent in that particular part of Mt. Stirling was in fact the Club's esteemed Treasurer. I hope our finances are more under control than his skis were!

The occasion was, of course, the annual Beginners' Weekend on Mt. Stirling, but what a change from last year! No snow anywhere as we roared up to Woollybutt Saddle. I suppose I should qualify that statement: the Triumph purred, the Morris ticked and the Veewees chugged up through the deep mud left by forestry operations. Only a certain very offwhite Hunter was ill-mannered and exhibitionistic enough to roar, and you could have sworn there was another over on the Buller road roaring right back!

Just before we got to Woollybutt Saddle we saw a few little sad bits of snow on a sheltered slope. "Day packs" said the fearless one, apparently taking this as a favourable omen, and with skis across our shoulders we clambered up the steep track to the main ridge. There, wonder of wonders, was a whole lot of hard-packed snow. Apparently some people thought it necessary to show gratitude to the local gods by periodically prostrating oneself upon the ground. Indeed for a while the Social Secretary looked like gaining as great a reputation for piety as he now has for conviviality - unless you happened to be within earshot, when the distinct impression was gained that at least some of the obeisances were unintentional. However, the whole party eventually made it to the top an hour or so after lunch, and you had to queue up to ski down the stretch of road where the only piece of snow was Buller opposite, which earlier had looked sad and streaky and deserted, was mercifully blotted out by a thick fog.

We camped at Woollybutt. A minimum requirements fire was built. A brisk chilly wind blew. The Social Secretary tried to help the minimum requirements fire along with a few songs he knew, but the only extra heat these produced was in the ears of a young lady who asked him what school he had gone to. The Social Secretary went to bed. The chilly breeze increased in strength and chilliness. Minimum requirements were revised. It began to rain. By 7 o'clock not even a maximum requirements fire could prevail. The last few hardy souls retired shivering to bed. The chilly breeze turned into a hurricane and began to try to strip Mt. Stirling bare of trees, huts, tents, snow and anything else in its path. Four inches of rain fell.

About 5.30am I revised my plans for breakfast. By then every time I turned over something went "splash" underneath me. Although the sound was not loud, it did tend to keep one awake. Perhaps the fact that I do not have a sewn-in groundsheet contributed. Anyway, breakfast was re-scheduled to 5.35am over in the little hut, where already in their toes and throats other members of the party were fergathering.

Strangely enough the suggestion that we return to the top of the ridge to see if any snow had survived the deluge was received with total lack of enthusiasm. Even the fearless one felt that a return to Melbourne would be more realistic. So, with a little help from Hill's Garages Inc. in re-assembling Old Blunder Bus to make the journey, if not pianissimo, then at least only about mezzoforts, return to Melbourne we did.

--- Ye Olde Yabbering Yeti ---

CLUB DINNER DANCE - - MUNICH BARREL FOOTSCRAY -- DON'T FORGET
Tuesday, July 24th. 7pm - 11.30pm. \$3.00 each. Bookings going fast,
see Social Secretary, Graham Hodgson, for your tickets.

To those who have struggled with them the mountains reveal beauties they will not disclose to those who make no effort. That is the reward the mountains give to effort. And it is because they have so much to give and give it so lavishly to those who will wrestle with them that men love the mountains and go back to them again and again ---
--- the mountains reserve their choice gifts for those who stand upon their summits.

* * * * *

WORDS OF WISDOM FROM THE
WALKS SECRETARY

When you are out on a walk do you.....

As leader;

- Explain the proposed route to the rest of the party with reference to the pmap ?
- Encourage members of the party to carry a map ?
- Explain features of the terrain on the map ?
- Advise when taking a compass bearing so that others can follow ?

As a member of the party;

- Carry a map and follow the route as you go along ?
- Carry a compass and know how to use it ?
- If you do not have much idea of navigation don't be afraid to ask.

New leaders are always needed, and perhaps the Walks Secretary already has his beady eye on YOU.

REMINDERS FOR LEADERS

The Leaders job does not start and finish on the day of the walk. Apart from all the obvious things a leader does in leading a successful walk, such as planning, navigating and keeping the party together, it is most important that he or she encourages as many people as possible to come along and enjoy the walk.

ARE YOU DUE TO LEAD A WALK SOON

Firstly you must write a preview for News. This is most important as some members freely admit this is the only part of News that they read! The Preview filled with enticing descriptions etc etc is obviously going to attract more walkers than the one that says nothing. These previews are usually required at least a month to 6 weeks before your walk, which is all very inconvenient but necessary to give members plenty of notice. So when you write in your diary that you have a walk to lead, make a note in the appropriate spot that a preview will be required for the News a month before. Naturally it is preferable to have made your actual walk preview before this date, but if you haven't don't let this stop you writing something for News. You must know something about the area you can tell the other members.

Secondly you must come into the clubroom for several weeks before you walk to look after your booking list and advertise your walk. Any salesman will tell you the personal approach is best. There are visitors and new members in the clubroom every week looking for first hand information about walks. Just walk up, introduce your self and give them your piece, you'll become known as a top leader in no time!

So when your name comes up on the program, don't sit back and hope people will like you enough to come along. They need some encouragement, especially in this cold weather.

ADVERTISE!

Thank you to Joy and Helen for typing. Thanks to the contributors too. Keep these stories rolling in! Closing date for August News is August 1

HELP HELP HELP HELP

Are you interested in helping to print News ? Its a really fascinating process. and lots of fun too Gwenda and Barry Short put a lot of work into doing News each month and usually require 3 or 4 people to help with each issue. It is usually printed on the second Tuesday in each month. If you want to be in it ring Barry (b)651 6269 or Gwenda (b)651 6626