



THE NEWS

OF THE MELBOURNE BUSHWALKERS

Edition 288

March 1973

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OFFICE BEARERS FOR 1973

At the Annual General Meeting on 21st, February in the Clubroom, the following positions were filled.

PRESIDENT.....GRAHAM MASCAS has consented to continue until a replacement is nominated and elected.

VICE PRESIDENTS....TIM DENT and FRED HALLS

HON. TRESURER.....DAVE ANDREWS

HON. SECRETARY.....SUE BALL

WALKS SECRETARY....ROD MATTINGLEY

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY.. HELEN DENT

SOCIAL SECRETARY ...GRAHAM HODGSON

NEWS CONVENOR.....ANN SULLIVAN

WILKY LODGE MANAGER.. DARRELL SULLIVAN

"WALK" EDITOR.....GRAHAM WILLS-JOHNSTON

GENERAL COMMITTEE... GEOFF GREENWOOD,
JOY SEYMOUR
PETER BULLARD
ROSEMARY RIDER
LINDSAY BARROW

COMING SOCIAL EVENTS

April 4th. Stewart Moroney will show slides of his recent trip to NEW ZEALAND, in the clubroom.

April 18th. Peter Bullard will show slides of his trip to CENTRAL AUSTRALIA, also in the clubroom.

* * * * *

There was a great response to the film night on the 2nd, February to see "Follow the Sun" at the Melbourne Town Hall. 70 people attended.

SUBSCRIPTIONS ARE NOW DUE. IF YOU WISH TO REMAIN A FINANCIAL MEMBER OF THE CLUB, PAY YOUR SUBSCRIPTION NOW TO OUR NEW MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY...HELEN DENT.

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 pm. Visitors are always welcome.

COMMITTEE MEETING

At the first meeting of the new Committee held on 5th. March the following jobs were allocated;

WALK MAGAZINE BUSINESS MANAGER.... GEOFF GREENWOOD This is a new position and Geoff will look after all financial and business aspects of publishing "Walk" which will greatly assist the editor.

FEDERATION DELEGATE..... JOY SEYMOUR who will represent our club at Federation meetings and keep us informed on joint activities.

EQUIPMENT OFFICER..... PETER BULLARD Taking over after so ably assisting Barbra last year.

SEARCH & RESCUE DELEGATE..... TIM DENT

TRACK CLEARING DELEGATE..... PETER BULLARD

VIC. NATIONAL PARKS ASSOC..... ROSEMARY RIDER

NATIVE PLANTS PRESERVATION SOC,... GEOFF GREENWOOD

COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT REPS..... TIM DENT, FRED HALLS

LIBRARIAN..... ATHOL SCHAFER Another member is required to help Athol with this job of selling books and publications in the clubroom.

MAP CUSTODIAN..... ANN SULLIVAN

CHANGES OF ADDRESS

Ed LAWTON, RADS Pool, Laverton RAAF Base, Vic. 3027

Dave and Joan GIBSON, 17 Wishart Street, East Kew 3102 (p)80 1951

Shirley TROTTER, Correction to phone No. 24 3763

Stan ATTWOOD, Flat 1, 62 Alexandra Street, Balaclava

Lindsay and Ann CRAWFORD phone (p)82 4407 (b)81 1487 (Ann)

WELCOME TO THE FOLLOWING NEW MEMBERS

David HARRISON, 2/35 Narong Road, Nth. Caulfield 3161 (b)544 1133

Roger William ABBOTT, c/o Headquarters Support Command (GT4B2) Victoria Barracks Melbourne. (b)698 8523

Otto CHRISTIANSON, c/o Kodak Australasia P/L, Research Lab. Elizabeth St. Coburg (b)350 1222 ex370

Peter THOMPSON, 12 The Avenue, Blackburn 3130 (p)877 1818 (b)544 0211 ex 3914

APRIL WALKS PREVIEWSApril 1 LIMESTONE CREEK - MOLESWORTH

Leader; Graham Mascas (p)25 6940 Easy - Medium

Van leaves Batman Ave 9.15 am. Fare \$2.50

Expected time of return; Anybody's guess - sometime Sunday evening
Map; Alexandra 1:50,000 (I hope)

A pleasant walk through state forests south east of Yea emerging onto the cleared hills overlooking the Goulburn valley. Magnificent views before the descent to Molesworth and that welcome milk bar; Guaranteed previewed - 2 years ago

April 8 MT. DESPAIR - WILHEMINA FALLS

Leader; Art Terry (p)93 3617 Medium

Van leaves Batman Ave 9.15 am. Fare \$2.50 Expected return; 8.30 pm.
Map; Taggerty 1"= 1 mile. Approx distance; 10 miles

A nice walk in rain forest (without the rain, I hope) not many views, but fern gullies and waterfalls.

April 15 ACHERON GAP - BOOBYALLA - CEMENT CREEK

Leader; Ann Sullivan (b)654 4200 Medium

Van leaves Batman Ave 9.15 am. Fare \$2.00 Expected return; 8.30 pm
Map; Juliet 1:50,000 Approx distance; 10 miles

Mainly along good tracks through tall timbers and rain forest.

April 25 BULLA - MARIBYRNONG RIVER - JACKSONS CREEK

Leader required Easy

Van leaves Batman Ave 9.15 am. Fare \$2.00

An easy walk not too far from Melbourne - a pleasant way to spend Anzac Day if you are not going away. Any one willing to be leader please contact Rodney.

April 29 REEDY CREEK - WILD DOG CREEK - DIGGERS GULLY SPUR

Leader; Dave Andrews (b)379 4055 Medium

Van leaves Batman Ave 9.15 am Fare \$2.00 Expected return; 8.30 pm
Maps; Kinglake 1:50,000 Approx distance; 11 miles

Yet to be previewed.....quote.

WEEKEND WALKSApril 6 - 8 MT. LOCH - YOUNGS HUT - DINNER PLAIN Medium

Leader; Alex Stirkul (b)46 4841

Minibus leaves Batman Ave 6.30 pm. Expected return; Who knows?
Fare \$8.00

NO PREVIEW RECEIVED....FOR FURTHER INFORMATION - RING ALEX!

EASTER April 16 - 23 (4 days) EMU FLAT - STRADBROKE - ROCKY RANGE Medium

Leader is required.

Private transport will leave Batman Ave 6.30 pm

April 18 - 25 (6 days) LIMESTONE CREEK - McHARDYS FLAT - THE PILOT - BERRIMA RA.

Leader; Geoff Kenafacke (p)29 4667 (b)347 4822 Medium

Private transport will leave Batman Ave 6.30 pm

This walk will visit some of the less frequented areas in the Cobberas regoin. About half of the walk will be through open mountain forest AWAY FROM JEEP TRACKS. Every body must carry wet weather gear as we could encounter snow. This is only really intended as a 5 day walk. Anzac day will be spent driving home at a leisurely pace. (I hope)

Thank you to Helen Dent and Joy Seymour for helping with the typing this month, and to those who contributed articles. We need some more articles for next month.....Deadline April 4th.

SEARCH AND RESCUE

Several members of our club Search and Rescue group attended the search this week for a young man lost near Erica. He was found safe and well on Wednesday.

BOOK FOR BUSHWALKERS

"BILL WANNAN'S FOLK MEDICINE" published by Hill of Content, 1970 \$5.95

Nineteen years ago last November, Bill Wannan addressed a rapt audience of Club members on the collecting of Australian folklore. At the time he was gathering material for his first volume "The Australian". Since then a number of his books on the subject has appeared; one of the latest dealing with folk medicine - a collection of "pills, potions and prognostications", covering old English recipes imported by the early immigrants, the special nostrums of travelling quacks and pseudo physicians, aboriginal herbal lore, and hints and kinks found in popular housewife magazines. It seems that old wives tales, superstitions and home cures die hard and are still with us.

That folk medicine is sometimes practiced among bushwalkers I have no doubt, having marked the use of braken root for easing ant-bite and the soaping of socks to deter leeches. Perhaps members may care to publish here some of their favourite remedies which work well. They could also test the efficiency of some of the 19th century method of preventing "the unpleasant odour from perspiring feet by sprinkling oatmeal in the socks, as used by the army; or sprinkle bran in the socks frequently."

Athol Schafer

molony's

197 ELIZABETH ST.
MELBOURNE
67-8428&9

STILL TOPS FOR
BUSHWALKING, SKIING,
AND CLIMBING NEEDS

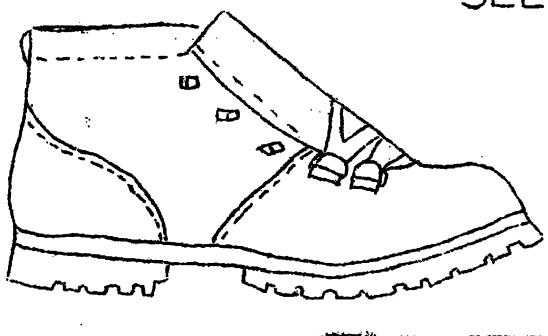
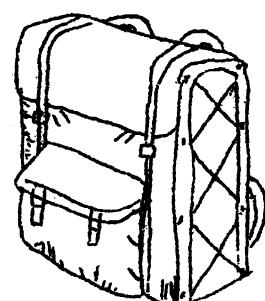
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Rod has a rather unique way of washing his Landrover, not the usual method of bucket and sponge, but his requisites include...a) long straight road b) conveniently placed side track, c) the Ovens River. The method is to hurtle along the road, off onto the side track and straight into the river, the resultant spray does a magnificent job. The only problem is that Rod only goes to the Ovens River about once a quarter so if his rover looks a bit dirty you know why.

If Warren Baker comes up to you and says "ruff ruff" don't be too amazed, because I was recently talking to Maria and she was adamant that the only food they had in the fridge was dog bones and as far as I can gather they do not possess a dog.

You can work this one out for yourselves.

In case anybody is interested, Joy has a spare bed at her flat, she says its very comfortable and is amazed that she's had no offers. (To share the flat)

Leigh Pretty has not been seen either in the club or at the Duke for some considerable time, however he turned up the other night to prove the rumours correct. Congratulations to you Leigh and Joan from the club on the announcement of your engagement.

About 45 happy souls turned out in force at the Duke the other night to farewell Ralph and Barb. They are going on a world trip and we may not see them again for quite a while as they plan to see many countries.

It's just as well for one club member that in this case the first impression was not a lasting one. The person concerned alighted from the car at the Wilky barrier in particularly cold and windy conditions and uttered the following comment about that beaut area.

"Ruddy 'ell what a God forsaken place this is, I should never have come!" Dont worry Wilky lovers, as I said, the opinion was soon changed to one of adoration.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY WALK

25th ANNIV. OF WALK

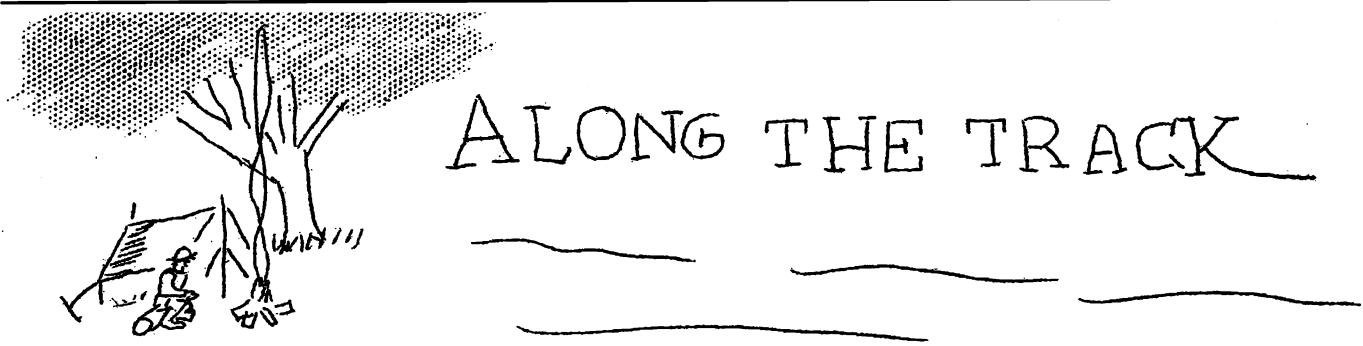
NOW IS THE TIME TO SUBMIT YOUR ARTICLES AND CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE NEXT ISSUE OF

* * * * WALK MAGAZINE * * * *

WALK 1974 WILL BE A SPECIAL TWENTY FIVE YEARS ANIVERSARY EDITION, SO THE EDITOR - GRAHAM WILLS-JOHNSON - IS GOING TO A LOT OF TROUBLE TO SEE THAT THIS WILL BE THE BEST ISSUE YET. IF YOU HAVE ARTICLES, PHOTOS, TRACK NOTES OR IF YOU CAN HELP IN ANY WAY PLEASE SEE GRAHAM IMMEDIATELY.

HE IS SPECIALLY INTERESTED IN ANY ONE, MALE, FEMALE OR OTHERWISE, WHO CAN TYPE !

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THE ANN SEMI-CIRCUIT; orMR. HARDING'S PRIVATE HELL (Contd.)

We left this weather-worn team last month defending their tents against the unrelenting elements of Tasmania To see how they fared, read on

Shortly after nightfall, the wind builds up to gale pitch, bringing mist and heavy rain. At about 0100 a hasty torchlight check of the defences discloses a fast-accumulating pool at the end of the tent, that is soaking into the already spray-dampened sleeping bags. The wind outside is shrieking fearfully and the tent flaps and convulses like a thing possessed. Felix, who is doubled up with me due to lack of tent space, packs his wet bag and dresses to boots and waterproofs. Before long I do likewise. Then the tent sags dangerously but it is fixed temporarily after a brief skirmish outside in bare feet. Elsewhere, tents are collapsing or subject to inundation, and their occupants shivering within. Dawn isn't until 0500 but it's not long before Felix decides what must be done - bug out as soon as possible to Condominium Creek. Our campsite is untenable, there is no question about continuing the Circuit in these conditions, as the route over Mount Lot is hazardous and difficult even at the best of times; our spare day has been used; and the bad weather may, as it often does, continue for some time.

At 0600, packs are overburdened with wet tents and sleeping bags, we set off into the mist and rain to cross the Mount Eliza plateau, our only line of retreat. With poor visibility we could only grope forward very slowly, without markers, track or landmarks to guide us. Crossing an immense boulder field is worst of all. A rough compass bearing maintains direction but there are several periods of indecision as we imagine ourselves going the wrong way. A lone snow-pole is sighted and on it we correct our course. Bursts of hail accompany the rain and icy winds. At 0915, almost wet through and utterly dejected, we reach Eliza, about $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles from our campsite. From here it's plain sailing, following the cairned route over the boulder field and on to the track that runs astride Eliza Spur down to Condominium Creek. It's nice to feel good Tasmanian mud squelching under the boots again. As we slip under the clouds the wind disappears. Blue clouds colour the grey sky and light up the brown peaks around us. At 1130 we reach Condominium Creek. The camp is occupied and a large fire is built for us. The gurgling creek welcomes muddy feet; button grass clumps take on an exciting new dimension as wet gear is draped over them to dry; late breakfast. The sun is shining and we are grateful to be there. What lies beyond Mount Lot we do not know, but we do not intend to find out until another year.

Our gratitude is due to Felix for his leadership and for his patience, bushmanship and sense of direction; to Norman for his observations on the social behaviour of ants; and to Alma for her unfussability, sense of humour and determination.

Moral: Der Ahn Surkutt iss verboten to der unprepared.

Underleutnon Greenboots R.L.

GEOFF'S VALIANT VIKINGS

"Strewth they've had a fair bit of rain around here" Rod's comment was further illustrated as we slithered around the umpteenth puddle spraying both the side of the Landrover and the road edges with brown slimy mud.

The Buffalo was relatively placid and not the raging torrent we half expected; the campsite was somewhat covered in fallen foliage but all managed to have a comfortable night.

Saturday dawned cool and cloudy and the process of encouraging the vehicles up to Barry's Saddle commenced. "I'M not taking my Triumph any further" was one rather sad comment however we managed to accommodate the three concerned and another muddy, slimy, etc. mile was traversed. The next mile was somewhat time consuming mainly due to the fact that Otto's Renault decided to become firmly entrenched in a beaut heap of goo. "All push from the front" said Otto revving it violently and instantly covering the pushers with half an inch of slop. "Try bouncing it" said Geoff. 10 strong lads succeeded in moving it about $\frac{1}{2}$ an inch in the wrong direction. Not to be defeated Rod and Co. eventually dug channels and after a delay of some half an hour we were again on our way.

The only vehicle actually achieving the top of Barry's Saddle was Rod's Landrover, this was mainly due to the fact that the Buffalo decided to rise over night and make further progress impossible, so after an interesting few miles of bludging in the mud we left Barry's at about eleven and commenced the climb up the Viking. If you've never climbed the Viking you are in for a treat, for the views over to the Razor, Speculation, Howitt, etc. are fantastic and make the relatively short but steep climb really well worth while.

We all sat amazed at the splendor which is indeed the Viking; the rugged rocks sculptured into fantastic shapes falling away rapidly into the tree lined valley many hundreds of feet below. As many of us had never been on the Viking before it was obvious that there was a great deal of reluctance when Geoff said it was time to leave our perch.

The descent to the Viking Saddle was accomplished in very rapid time and here in pleasant surroundings Norbert was subjected to some more very Australian terms, he is becoming very prolific in some phrases and I warn you never to annoy him other wise I think you may be in for quite a shock.

Sunday was shrouded in mist and the view up to the Razor's cliffs was a grey swirling sheet, however a few valiant vikings decided to climb the peak. It was very cold on the top in all the mist but we were occasionally allowed to see the valley floor playing games with the sun's rays as they attempted to penetrate the gloom.

We returned to the campsite and were then treated to three miles of thick scrub illuminated periodically by the little red markers which showed us where the non existant track aught to be. Eventually a logging road was reached and a four hour road bash saw us back at the cars. Upon reaching the vehicles Geoff, like all good leaders (or should be) produced an esky from his boot and we were all rewarded with a welcome ale.

Thus ended a bog bonanza and scenic extravaganza. Thanks Geoff, it was your first weekend as leader and I doubt very much if it could have been bettered.

Graham Hodgson

WELCOME TO THREE MORE NEW MEMBERS

Max CASLEY, 26 Clark St., Port Melbourne 3207 (p)644358 (b)630 7323

Phillip CHADWICK, 12 Talbot Ave., Balwyn (p)833592 (b)95 1280

Robert CHADWICK, 12 Talbot Ave., Balwyn (p)83 3592

CLUBROOM DUTY ROSTER

March 28 Geoff Greenwood, Lindsay Barrow

April 4 Graham Wills-Johnson, Fred Halls

11 Peter Bullard, Joy Seymour

WALK REPORT

Walk 1973 reached the bookstalls early in December and with few exceptions has been favourably received. This year a new cover was tried along with a new style of print and an offset process. The overall effect is most pleasing.

Apart from the authors I am deeply grateful to Athol Schafer for his work with advertising, Fred Halls for collecting and editing the "Walks" section, Ann Sullivan who drew the maps and Rosemary Rider who designed the cover and title page. Graham Wills-Johnson and Graham Mascas gave valuable assistance. The response to the request for typists was disappointing and only Marion Siseman and Helen Dent did any typing this year, and I want to express my appreciation to them and in the same sentence bemoan the lack of others offering to help in this department.

Our first venture into offset has, in my opinion, provided an aesthetic magazine, and has proven successful. Some criticisms are that the headings have not been correctly centred; the photographs have been reduced beyond the size of the text; and in some cases the legend is too far removed from the photograph. A common complaint, especially amongst older folk, is that the print is too small. In some cases there are pages of print missing. These are valid criticisms and I am afraid have to be accepted by the club because of the cheapness of the printing costs. I have no sympathy with trivial criticism of minor points such as the lack of drawings in spacing, the use of abbreviations and incorrect use of full stops.

Our cost of printing for "Walk 1973" was \$800, and this was done by means of the offset process. Other quotes for letterpress were \$965, \$1035 and \$1100 respectively. This did not include blocks. On the advice of Swinburne College Press, who informed me that the price was more than competitive, I accepted the quotation. This now means that we will run at a profit for 1973.

The following tables list the expenditure and income from Walk since 1968:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Printing Cost</u>	<u>Yearly Income</u>	<u>Difference</u>	<u>Edition Income</u>	<u>Difference</u>
1968	\$ 789.98	\$ 648.09	\$ -141.89	\$ 583.24	\$ -206.74
1969	794.80	917.48	+122.68	873.28	+79.48
1970	916.60	943.25	+ 26.65	869.18	- 49.42
1971	1061.65	925.56	-136.09	1010.22	- 51.43
1972	1235.18	981.32	- 254.80	1002.62	-234.56
1973	800.00				

The figures have been supplied by the Treasurer. 1972 figures are until the end of September. Yearly income is the total income in that year for Walk. Edition income is the income that has come in over the years for each edition. There is still \$112 in outstanding advertising from 1971, and \$65 from 1972. When looked at in the light of the incomes from yearly editions it can be seen that the club is not carrying such losses that have subsequently been reported per edition and that many of the statements of the financial position of Walk which have been made in the past have either been made in ignorance or deceit. The club is well able to carry a loss of \$50 per edition. Even so we should be looking for new markets. Schools and Municipal Libraries would be one new source of potential sales of current and past issues.

Warren Baker
Editor Walk 1973