



THE NEWS

OF THE MELBOURNE BUSHWALKERS

Edition 293(2)

APRIL 1974

Price 3c

DONT BE A

DONKEY

PAY YOUR SUBS

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



SUBSCRIPTIONS ARE — SINGLE MEMBER \$4 MARRIED COUPLE \$6
UNDER 21 \$2

ANNUAL DINNER

(Replacing the advertised Square Dance)

WHERE: "ELTHAM BARREL"
WHEN: SATURDAY MAY 18TH - 7 P.M. ONWARDS
COST: \$5 EACH

Dress is reasonably casual. There is dancing, singing, drinking. eating to your hearts content. Tremendous German-Austrian atmosphere in a unique barrel-shaped restaurant. Smorgasboard type feasting

We had close to 70 people at last year's Dinner so please let Graham Hodgson know if you are going, as soon as possible. Also pay your money to Graham.

Bushies excell at this sort of place and we usually manage to wangle a few free bottles of wine by our "fixing" of weddings engagements, birthdays etc.

All correspondence should be addressed to:-

The Secretary
Melbourne Bushwalkers
P O Box 1751Q G P O
MELBOURNE VIC 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.

COMMITTEE NOTES

The following notes are a brief summary of reports received and decisions made at the April Committee Meeting:-

WALKS

During February 217 people took part in Club Walks, 62 of which were visitors

MEMBERSHIP

A large section of members have not paid their 1974 Subs. (Remember, the longer you leave paying your subs, the more work you create for the Membership Secretary and the News Printers - Ed.) Twelve applications for membership were received.

"WALK" 75

Due to another increase in the printing price, "Walk" 75's price may also have to be increased.

WILKIE

Wilkie will be well used this winter as the Lodge has already been booked for four weeks. Strangely, some people are expecting snow this winter! Parties wanting food lockers for the winter must let Rod Mattingley (the Lodge Manager) know by Wednesday 1st May at the latest. As there are only 12 lockers, they will be allocated to parties and not to individuals. Locker hire will remain at \$4 each for the winter. Parties already booked will be allocated lockers as a matter of course.

Wilkie is becoming more and more popular so to ensure that members wishing to use Wilkie are not being displaced by visitors, the Committee has decided that during peak periods (e.g. Christmas and winter) a limit of not more than two visitors per member will be applied.

The old ruling still stands firm that a member wishing to use Wilkie for the first time MUST be accompanied by a member who has been to Wilkie before.

There have been two Work Parties to Wilkie with the following results: a great deal of firewood has been collected; the fence round the Lodge has now been completed; the kitchen floor has been repaired; access road repaired; the Lodge has been given a thorough clean-up and parts of it have been painted.

SOCIAL EVENTS

| | |
|---------------|---|
| Wed. 1st May | Slides of the Kanangra Walls, Budawangs and Snowy Mountain area of New South Wales - PETER CLUNAS |
| Sat. 18th May | Annual Dinner at the Eltham Barrel |
| Wed. 15th May | Slides of the Western Arthurs and Precipitous Bluff areas of Tassoe - ALMA STRAPPAZON |
| Wed. 29th May | Walking in Hong Kong - besides a bustling city of four million people jammed onto Victoria Island and Kowtoon Peninsula, Hong Kong has some 400 square miles of mountains, valleys and inlets where village life is peaceful and unhurried, little changed from the days of the Chinese dynasties - TED BROWN |

*** "WALK" 75 ***

DID YOU KNOW That all contributors to "WALK" 75 will receive a FREE COPY. Send your short stories, amusing recollections, helpful hints or just your views on the Bush to DAVE OLDFIELD as soon as possible. A VALUABLE PRIZE will be awarded to the best Bush Recipe - let's hear about your culinary specialities so we can include a camp cookery section.

MAY WALKS PREVIEWSDAY WALKS

May 5th MT TOWT-DIAMOND CREEK-WINDY POINT-BLACKSNAKE RANGE Medium

Leader: Kevin Greaves
 Transport: Van leaves Batman Ave. 9.15 am - Fare \$2
 Expected time of return: 8.00 pm
 Map: Gembrook 1:50,000
 Approximate distance: 12 miles

Starting with a climb up Mt Towt to a jeep track then following roads through timbered country to Windy Point and on to the van. Please carry water for lunch.

May 12th KINGLAKE-YARRA GLEN Easy/Medium

Leader: Ken Firth
 Transport: Van leaves Batman Ave. 9.15 am - Fare \$2
 Expected time of return: 7.30 pm
 Map: Yarra Glen 1:50,000
 Approximate distance: 9 miles

A pleasant walk along a ridge, mainly on tracks. Some short climbs and a steep descent into Yarra Glen at the finish. Good views into Kinglake National Park and the Yarra Valley.

May 19th PYKE'S RESERVOIR-WERRIBEE RIVER-THE ISLAND Easy

Leader: Joyce Dunn
 Transport: Van leaves Batman Ave. 9.15 am - Fare \$2
 Expected time of return: 6.30-7.00 pm
 Map: Ballan 1" - 1 mile
 Approximate distance: 10 miles

A very pleasant and easy walk across open country-side. On the preview there were absolutely hundreds of mushrooms to be seen. There are a few fences to be hurdled!

May 26th MT DESPAIR-WILHEMINA FALLS Easy

Leader: Stewart Backhouse
 Transport: Van leaves Batman Ave. 9.15 am - Fare \$3
 Expected time of return: 8.00 pm
 Map: Taggerty 1:50,000
 Approximate distance: 8 miles

An easy walk up tracks to the summit of Mt Despair descending along the northern ridge to the Mirrindi River directly below the Wilhelmina Falls. We will then visit the falls and return to the van. Please bring water for lunch.

WEEKEND WALKS

May 4th - SEARCH AND RESCUE PRACTICE
 5th

This year's practice weekend promises to be bigger and better than any similar function held in the past. A great deal of preparation has been done by the organizers to ensure a weekend of interest to S & R members and non-members alike. The programme is too detailed to fill this small space, so anyone interested should see Tim Dent for details or read the programme on the notice board. A brief summary is as follows:-

WEEKEND'S ACTIVITIES: A mock search, followed by a discussion and film session on Saturday. Detailed instruction/demonstrations concerning various facets associated with S & R, on Sunday.

VENUE: St John Ambulance Brigade Training Camp, near Yarra Junction, situated at Grid Reference 663405 on the Gembrook 1:50,000 sheet

FACILITIES: Lighting, hot and cold showers, ample camping area, training rooms. The cost for the use of these is \$2.00 per person for the weekend.

START TIME: The camp will be open from 8.00 pm on Friday evening 3rd May for those wishing to make a full weekend. The official start of programmed activities is 9.00 am on Saturday 4th May.

(Previews contd. on Page 4)

May 10th - MT BUFFALO AREA Medium
 12th
 Leader: Dave Andrews
 Transport: Bus leaves Batman Ave. 6.30 pm - Fare \$8
 Map: 1:100,000 Buffalo Algora
 Approximate distance: 16 miles

Friday night camp near Buckland River. Saturday climb Unnamed Spur from Buckland River to the old Galleries. Camp at Lake Catani. Sunday trips with day pack on Buffalo Plateau. Pick up bus on the Plateau. A chance to see some quite remarkable scenery in an area not very often visited by the Club.

May 24th- KANGAROO FLAT-AXE CREEK-MT ALEXANDER Easy
 26th
 Leader: Graham Hodgson
 Transport: Van from Batman Ave 6.30 pm - Fare \$5

An interesting walk in an area not often visited by the Club. See Graham for further details.

L C C PROPOSED RECOMMENDATIONS FOR NORTH EASTERN STUDY AREA

The Land Conservation Council of Victoria has outlined their proposals for the North Eastern Study Areas, District 2. This takes in the area between Euroa, Glenrowan, Bonnie Doon, Mansfield etc.

Of special interest to bushwalkers are the two parkland areas which are proposed for the region.

The first is Mount Samaria on the Midland Highway between Mansfield and Benalla, where 6960 hectare may be reserved. The aims for this park are:-

- (a) to provide opportunities for recreational and educational experience related to enjoying and understanding natural environments.
- (b) to protect and conserve natural environments.
- (c) to provide for apiculture on the western margins of the park.
- (d) to provide hardwood timber from the areas within the park until 1983. The nature of the timber production should be selected so as to minimize conflict with the primary uses and to be agreed upon by the National Park Service and the Forests Commission.

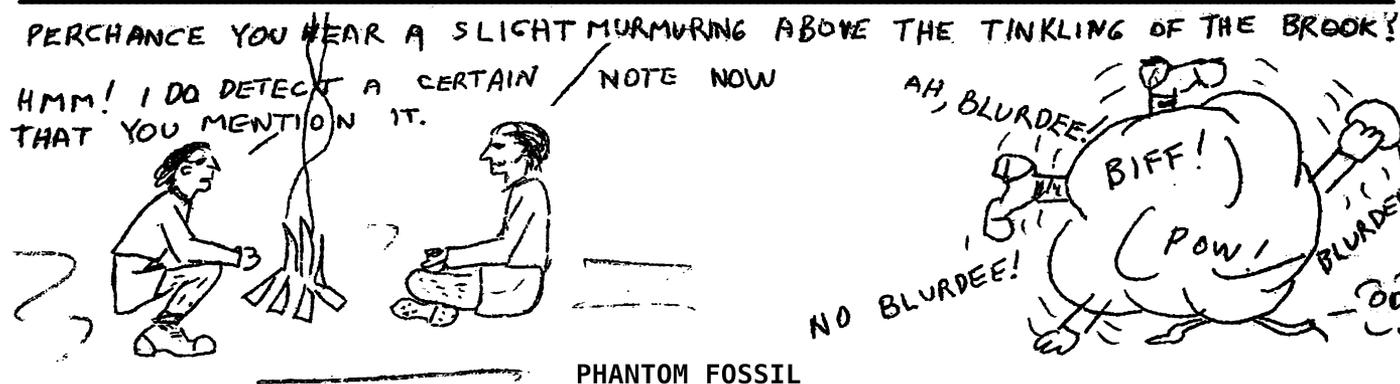
The area is proposed as a State Park. A State Park is defined as an area of public land, containing one or more land types, set aside primarily to provide for public enjoyment, education and inspiration in natural environments.

The second area is known as Reef Hills and is an area of 2064 hectare in flat, scrub country, adjoining the Hume and Midland Highways near Benalla.

This is proposed as a Regional Park. This is defined as an area of public land, readily accessible from urban centres or a major tourist route, set aside primarily to provide open-space recreation in natural or semi-natural surroundings for large numbers of people.

The nature of this type of park and the actual area proposed is less interesting to walkers.

Geoff Kenafacke



A play in 6 parts for 2 persons, namely a fearless German leader and a hungry leech:-

- PART 1 "Ah, no no blurdee" is heard reverberating through the trees at Roaring Neg. Norbert has found a leech enjoying a quiet feed firmly attached to his ankle.
- PART 2 Norbert is to be seen performing a wierd ritual as streaking and dancing combine and shoes, socks and voice go thundering up into the air. "Ah, blurdee" is repeated at least four times during the ceremony.
- PART 3 "Matches, salt, queek, oh no blurdee" is shrieked at the amazed audience as the dancing reaches its climax. Norbert's voice has risen three more octaves and Mr Leech cringes in fear as he is wrenched from his splendid feeding spot and thrown onto the ground. Imminent death approaches.
- PART 4 Norbert's voice has reached falsetto and two big feet are pounding Mr Leech and grinding him into the blood-stained earth.
- PART 5 The grand finale takes place as Norbert, still yelling abuse in German, Russian, Czech and English, picks up the now somewhat pancaked leech and belts it with a colossal rock.
- PART 6 Roaring Neg slowly returns to normal as the 15 minute performance by Sir Norbert Laurence Olivier Rudolph Nureyev Joan Sutherland Hendrych draws to a close and the shattered ear drums of all present stop vibrating.

The above play is to be shown to restricted audiences only, as there are scenes that may shock the pure, innocent and especially sexless angels in the club.

You can be assured of a good night's sleep if you visit Stuart Moroney at Wangaratta Base Hospital. His room is well equipped with a double bed and two single beds, everyone will be welcome, especially girls!!

A warm welcome is also assured from Helen Dean who is now at Bright Bush Hospital and would love to have some visitors. Bright Nurses Home is reputed to be the warmest place around in winter (except for Wilkie of course!!)

It seems that a rather splendid feat was performed by one of our members recently. The person concerned evidently grabbed the handle bar of a trail bike and caused the bike and rider to plummet to the ground. Such bravery surely deserves a medal - perhaps the KCROASS (Knight Commander of the Royal Order of the Abolition of the Stink Sports).

It's true that people who don't come walking very often soon lose contact with other members:-

Example - Overheard recently, "Gudday, so you're finally back from Antarctica, when did you arrive?"

"Twenty-third of June 1966"

No there isn't any truth in the rumour that two people consumed a large proportion of a two gallon flagon of wine and then technicolour yawned all night, None at all. MUCH!!!!

You most probably have heard many references to the Yeti, but do you know just what this person or thing is? Reliable information states that a Yeti is a pitifully crude ape-like creature who grooves around on all fours and possesses an extremely low mentality. A Yabbering Yeti is the most obscene member of the above species.



ALONG THE TRACK

FOR THOSE WHO TRUST THE STARS,

OR

MAYBE OLD MACDONALD DID HAVE A FARM, BUT USING A LOW SADDLE
PADDY MCKINTY'S GOAT IS A GOOD MOUNT ON SUNDAYS

FRIDAY: As the result of a total fire ban, water signs will be dominant. Minor flooding on the Barkly River will force most Scorpios from their tents (after emptying the odd stray Pisces out of their boots) to shelter in the cars, but one well-known Scorpio whose great-grandfather was knighted for inventing an ingenious piece of plumbing will display something of the same spirit by suspending his groundsheet like a hammock inside his tent, thus rising above the flowing tide.

SATURDAY: Jupiter enters Libra, meaning that the weather regains its balance and it stops raining for a while. (A certain amount of Taurus is running loose in this horoscope). Your path will be obstructed in the early morning, but you have many willing helpers and the owners of Glencairn station will undoubtedly be pleased to find that their road has been cleared.

Beware of false starts: the path is downward, Grimme though the prospect may appear. Do not despair, however. Later in the day you will come up in the world. And up. And up. And up. You will be confronted ultimately by a chocolate and yellow sign. This is not a sign of the zodiac at all, but belongs to Big Brother. It tells you that you are on top of Mt MacDonal - as though you were expecting Kosciusko, or maybe Everest or something! As you slip down the ridge beyond MacDonal the sun will slip down even more rapidly, and haste will have to be made in order to avoid being stranded with nothing better than a lunar aspect. The last half mile of the day's activities involve Aquarius, the water carrier, but this will at least save you having to make a special trip from your camp, which seems to be (the crystal ball is clouding darkly here, and I am having some trouble reading the signs) on the backbone of a Shetland pony or a low horse or something. I really will have to get this picture tube looked at! On a saddle worn by a caterpillar perhaps?

SUNDAY: You will be led astray by a young enthusiast, but eventually you will regain the correct ridge, from which the peak named for the day must be ascended. Still rumblings of discontent in the stomachs of those who are following you by declaring this the first morning tea stop. When this is over, head south along the ridge. On top of Mt McKinty you will meet a Capricorn - ash blonde with fascinating yellow eyes, the most appealing way of saying "Baaaaa", and a little white beard. Paddy McKinty's goat, of course. Recover from the shock of the encounter by declaring a second morning tea. You are now fated to come down in the world, and the path before you is obscure and divides many times. Do not allow yourself to be misled by another Scorpio who does not know what he is talking about. The path he would have you take is thorny indeed!

After lunch, Mars is in the ascendant, meaning that you will have to fight your way up to the top of a steep and prickly ridge. Your trials are now over, however, and I see an old jeep track running all the way down to some huts on the main branch of the Barkly River, where the walk seems to end - or maybe it's just that my picture tube really has given up or something. Now for all those born under the signs of the Centaur. I confidently predict (?!*\$±@#%\$ç&*+!! What d'yer mean, no such thing?!)

By the beard of Nostradamus and the
whiskers of Dr John Dee's black cat,
I SOLEMNLY DECLARE
this to be a TRUE and CORRECT horoscope.

(signed) The Wizard of Id.

8th March 1973

The President
MELBOURNE BUSHWALKERS CLUB

Dear Mr President

You must have spent many a sleepless night since Xmas, wondering when my \$10,000 pledge was to be honoured. The fact is, that I have been half hiding and half sulking.

The intended gift was partly for bushwalking pleasures past, and partly in anticipation of pleasures to come - namely a 6 day Xmas romp in the Snowy Mountains. The leader of that party gave me very explicit pre-trip instructions on how to locate the group at mid-day on a bend in a mountain road, in another State approximately 400 miles as the crow flies from Hosier Lane.

Taking some days unpaid leave from work - after an argument and near dismissal - and purchasing \$50 worth of movie film, not to mention a mind-boggling quantity of dried and fresh fruit (it entirely filled the boot of my Viva) I set forth to meet my comrades-in-boots.

After sitting at the wheel for some 12 hours, with the Dandenongs still clearly visible in the rear mirror, it began to dawn on me that driving a car and flying a crow have no connection whatever. In fact, I began to suspect that my Leader's 'flying crow' had been specially trained by a rocket scientist.

The second trauma was in discovering that there was not ONE mountain but ... HUNDREDS. And that there was not ONE bend but ... THOUSANDS. This unpleasant discovery was further complicated by thick fog.. blinding rain... icy patches on the road and fallen trees.

As you may have already guessed, I did not locate the party. I did, however, take a short break from searching, to eat some of the fruit-in-the-boot and I returned to the vehicle, heavily sun-burned down one side and painfully frost-bitten down the other.

Deciding to drive back to Melbourne non-stop, to sell my boot of fruit at the market I was shocked and insulted to be flagged down by a border Fruit-fly Catcher who ordered me to throw my entire cargo into a pit. It may have been the first time that he had seen a grown man cry.

Thus I returned to Melbourne, less \$25 in petrol, less several days wages, less 2 cwt of fruit, less somewhere else to go for Xmas, PLUS eight rolls of unexposed movie film. By a rotten twist of Fate, the holiday which I had calculated would cost me \$20 but be worth \$200 finally cost me nearly \$200 but was worth.. NOTHING. That is why my generous donation did not manifest itself. I was broke and had to start saving again.

Anyhow, here is a small token of my appreciation and pleasure in being associated with the MBW.

Sincerely

Tom Trustrum

(The above letter was sent to Graham, but as it is so humorous (disastrous though the tale it unfolds be) and so very well written we felt it deserved to be published in "News". Hope you don't mind, Tom)

The long distance Western Australian walking track (referred to in January's "News") which was to have been opened this month has been delayed and the opening will now be at the end of the year.

WELCOME TO THE FOLLOWING NEW MEMBERS

- Mary Burnett - 12 Oaklands Crescent, Frankston 3199. (p) 783 2294 (b) 6306115
- Lorraine Delany - 127 Shaftesbury Parade, Thornbury 3071. (p) 444 918 (b) 440241
X 339
- Gavin Dent - 7 James Court, Warragul 3820. (p) 0562-22080 (p) Melbourne 8366364
- Galliano Fardin - 4/182 Page Street, Middle Park 3206
- Geoffrey Mattingley - 2 Leons Court, Blackburn 3130. (p) 878 4630 (b) 544 2011
X 395
- Sereney Mow - 32 McArthur Street, Malvern 3144. (p) 20 1474 (b) 423 980
- Lynne Muss - 14 Nicole Street, Mt Waverley 3149. (p) 232 6262 (b) 510281 X 2200
- David Smith - 3/2 Boonong Avenue, Seasford South 3201. (p) 783 2294
- Carolyn Venn - 233 Brunswick Road, Brunswick 3056. (p) 387 3154

AMENDMENT TO ADDRESS

Dave Oldfield - Please add Flat 1

TELEPHONE NUMBER

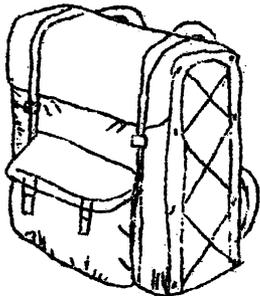
Darrell and Ann Sullivan - (p) 338 6325

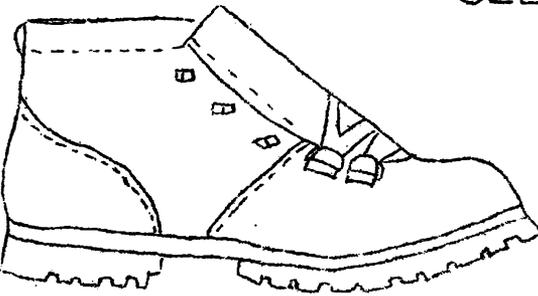
CHANGES OF ADDRESS

- David Harrison - Flat 3/4 Rae Court, Windsor 3181
- Margaret Reimer - Flat 3/4 Rae Court, Windsor 3181
- Graham Seers - 9 Warana Court, Benalla 3672

Wendy Avery, who had an ad. in last month's news re a female companion to travel overseas, has since had a change of telephone number. It is now (b) 26 3341 X 57

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| <p><i>molony's</i></p> <p>197 ELIZABETH ST. MELBOURNE 67-8428&9</p> | <p>STILL TOPS FOR BUSHWALKING, SKIING, AND CLIMBING NEEDS</p> <p>INSPECT OUR RANGE 1ST & 2ND FLOORS</p> |
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| <p>AUSKI</p> <p>9 HARDWARE ST PHONE 671412</p> <p>THE BUSHWALKING SPECIALIST</p> <p>PADDYMADE EQUIPMENT, PACKS, ETC.</p> |  |
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|---|--|
|  | <p>SEE LOCH WILSON AT BUSHGEAR PTY LTD 46 HARDWARE ST MELBOURNE</p> <p>FOR ALL BUSHWALKING AND CLIMBING GEAR</p> |
|---|--|