



THE NEWS

OF THE MELBOURNE BUSHWALKERS

Edition 312

NOVEMBER 1975

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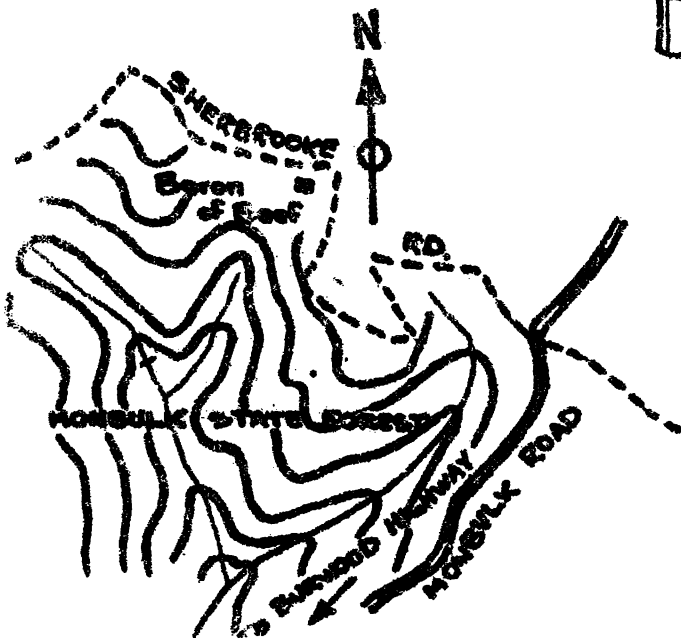
2ND ANNUAL DINNER 1975

at **BARON BEEB**
SHERBROOKE

ON TUESDAY NIGHT
DECEMBER 16TH

\$7 per head

for bookings &/or
further details
see Geoff Crapper
p) 953793
b) 6154262



All correspondence should be addressed to:-

The Secretary
Melbourne Bushwalkers
P O Box 1751Q, G P O
MELBOURNE VIC 3001

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

SEPTEMBER HALF-YEARLY MEETING

The News Convenor wishes to apologise for the omission of any mention of the results of this meeting in the October News. Two important results came from the meeting.

- (1) The Constitutional change requiring membership fees to be paid with the application was passed and becomes part of the Constitution. Please amend your copy of the Constitution after consulting August News. The amendment concerning Family Membership did not pass.
- (2) The vacancy on the general committee of the club caused by the resignation of Jerry Grandage was filled by the election of Rob Hayes.

DECEMBER WALK PREVIEWS

Dec 7 CAPE SCHANK - GUNNAMATTA BEACH Easy
 Leader: Sylvia Withall
 Transport: Van from Batman Ave. at 9.15am Fare \$2.50
 Map reference: I can't get lost with the ocean on my left!
 A pleasant stroll along the cliff tops of Cape Schank before dropping on to the beach. Weather permitting, plenty of swimming as well as walking all the way to Gunnamatta.

Dec 14 CEMENT CK, -DONNA BUANG-BOOBYALLA-ACHERON GAP Easy/Med
 Leader: Rob Hayes (p) 950 239
 Transport: Van from Batman Ave. at 9.15am Fare \$2.50
 Map reference: Juliet 1:50 000
 Approximate distance: 12 Kilometres.
 After a short walk up Cement Ck. we climb the west slope of Mt. Donna Buang, then travel northwest along the spur to "The Knobs" and down to meet the van at Acheron Gap. Bring water for lunch.

Dec 21 STRICKLAND SPUR-MT. STRICKLAND-MT. KITCHENER-KEPPELS LOOKOUT Easy/Med
 Leader: George Telehin (b) 387 1066
 Transport: Van at 9.15am from Batman Ave. Fare \$3.00
 Expected time of return: 9 ~ 9.30pm
 Map reference: Juliet and McMahons Ck. 1:50 000
 Approximate distance: 16 Kilometres.
 Starting with a 650 metre climb up Strickland Spur (just to get the blood moving); then a stroll to Mt. Kitchener and Keppels Lookout. Keeping off the 4WD tracks where possible.

WEEKEND WALKS

Dec 6-7 PORTSEA-CAPE SCHANK-FLINDERS Medium
 Leader: Russell Wilk (p) 927 139
 Transport: Van from Batman Ave 9.00am Saturday Fare \$6.00
 Expected time of return 7.00pm
 Map reference: Broadbents No 229(Mornington Peninsular)
 Approximate distance: 25 miles(40Km)
 An overnight coast walk. An unusual walk for the club; it is not intended to be a "24 hr walk", but it is important to keep the pack as light as possible to avoid being slowed down unduly in the sandy areas, so no tents but as it is summer, a sleeping bag could be carried for Saturday night's fireside rest.
 About 17 miles of the walk will be done on Saturday, from Portsea Ocean Beach going mostly inland from the beach, to Cape Schank. Late Saturday evening we will stop at Bushranger Bay for a few hours rest. Water is available here, and supper and breakfast can be cooked.

On Sunday morning we will go overland to Flinders about 10 miles further; this part of the walk will have no sand underfoot. There will be ample time at the end of the walk for swimming at Flinders before we go back to Melbourne.

Take a full water bottle - we will be able to pick up water at various coastal resorts on Saturday.

Take 5 meals - Saturdays supper and Sundays breakfast can be cooked as we will be resting then.

Take a torch also. There are no roads to follow for the entire 25 miles. See me in the clubroom for further details.

Dec MIRIMBAH SPUR-MACLAUGHLIN'S SHOULDER-MT. BULLER Med/Hard

12-14 Leader: Dave Oldfield (b) 317 222 x613

Transport: Van from Batman Ave. at 6.30pm Fare \$8.00

Expected time of return: 10.00pm

Map reference: FCV Mt. Buller 2 inches to 1 mile

Approximate distance: 15 miles

Have you ever looked across the Bluff towards Mt. Buller and wanted to walk along the ridge between Buller and Timbertop? If so then the walk is your chance to do just that. We will start by climbing the Mirimbah spur, a route not previously used by the club, to bring us to the summit of Mt. Buller. The spur rises steeply for almost 4000 ft. with a little scrub at the start and no track, however the views across to Mt. Stirling and beyond should offer compensation for the effort. Energetic souls may care for a side trip to Little Buller. We will continue down over Round Hill and Timbertop to make around 5000ft. of climbing for the weekend.

CHRISTMAS TRIPS

Dec19 TASMANIA-CRADLE MOUNTAIN NATIONAL PARK-SOUTH WEST COAST

Jan 5 Leader: Charles Knight (p) 267 3161

Transport: Contact leader

There are two separate walks.

(1) Cradle Mountain - Lake St. Claire Approximately 50 miles excluding side trips. Grading: Easy/Medium

Duration 9 days including side trips with day packs. Walkers must have weekend walking experience but this trip is aimed at relative beginners who wish to do an extended trip. NB. All food must be carried in. The scenery is marvellous and the mountains fairly easy to climb with day packs.

(2) South Coast Track - Pt. Davey - Lune River. About 70 miles. Grade: Medium

Duration 8 days Experienced walkers only. Wading may be involved and possible waits for water to subside. Good scenery and swimming en-route. Mostly on a defined track. If we cannot fly in due to weather the alternative will be Mt. Anne.

Winter clothing is required for both trips.

Dec WILKINSON LODGE-DINNER PLAIN-ANGLERS REST Easy/Med

26-28 Leader: Marijka Mascas (p) 256 940

Transport: Private

Approximate distance: 30 miles

Wilkinson's lodge - Cope Saddle - Mt. Bundarra - Mt. Jim - Youngs Hut/SEC Huy - Dinner Plain - McNamaras Hut - Callaghans Track - Bundarra River - Anglers Rest. An easy walk over 3 days mostly on the level or down hill.

Jan WILKINSON LODGE-BIG RIVER-MT. WILLS-MULHAUSER SPUR-ROPER'S HUT-
WILKINSON LODGE

1-4 Leader: Graham Mascas (p) 256 940

Transport: Private

Approximate distance: 40 miles

Wilkinson's lodge - Harms Point - Kellys Yards - The Lanes - Mt. Wills - Big River Saddle - Mulhauser Spur - Maddison Hut - (Mt. Bogong perhaps) - Ropers Hut - Wilkinson's Lodge.

A good medium walk, not previewed, so of unknown difficulty, but challenging.

Approximately 40 miles over 4 days with about 6000 ft of upwards. I reserve the right to reverse the walk if it looks easier.

MONASH UNIVERSITY CHORAL SOCIETY & MONASH MODERN DANCE SOCIETY & AUSTRALIAN PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE

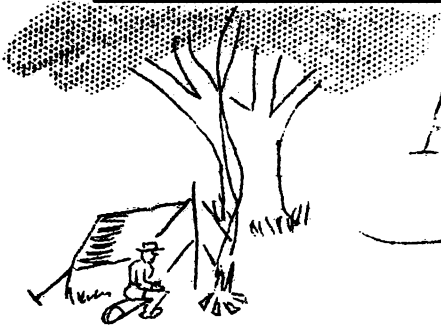
present STRAVINSKY - LES NOCES

\$4.00

Alexander Theatre Monash Uni.

Fri 12, Sat 13 December

See Hugh Duncan



ALONG THE TRACK

A CURE FOR WINTER BLUES

Do you feel worn out in winter and wish to get away-from-it-all? Then follow the example of seven guys and seven dolls who gave their cars a kick in the tyres and boarded Gronows trusty green Chariot on Friday night, 22nd August for Georges walk in the Elphinstone - Mt. Franklin area. Warmly fortified by the usual greasy grub mixture of hamburgers, fish and chips and coffee at Kyneton, it was with slight misgivings about our own sanity that we followed the leader from the van in drizzling rain and watched the cheerful lights as it disappeared in the darkness, and we erected tents and bedded down as quickly as possible beside a quiet side road.

A dawn carolling of magpie song - have you noticed how the white backed magpie, found north of the Divide, sings more joyously than his black backed relatives in the south? Probably life is happier on the morning side of the mountain - or it could have been the group of multi-coloured tents that had mushroomed during the night suggested to him that a better race had landed from space, when strange gnome-like figures emerged. Then one of the figures spoke: "I've been sleeping on a rabbit hole full of water!" "Same old grumbling humans" thought the magpie, and flew away. A quick breakfast, damp tents packed, George and Shirley donating hot water to lazy types who don't carry choofers, and we started off through a misty and bracing morning, to lightly timbered hills with bushes of pink and white wax-flowers in bloom. A day of enjoyable walking with pleasant company, gay laughter, lunch in the sun and then a walk along a ridge overlooking the old mining district of Fryerstown, no longer noted for gold, but the road we followed was bordered by gloriously flowering golden wattle, filling the air with fragrance.

Our campsite was among gum trees by the Loddon River, very high and muddy and a pump with twin jets of refreshing spa-water. A scots lassie was not impressed with its flavour and declared she "wouldna pay to take the waters here!" I don't know why, there was gallons of it, and all for free. With a cheerful fire blazing and billies steaming, we settled down to a gourmet meal - a sort of spa-tasting evening. Beginning with cup-a-spa soup, followed by spa-stew, pronounced delicious, and finished off with express-spa coffee. With wet socks, sleeping bags and clothing dried out, a happy glow enveloped us and a huge silver moon peeping over the hill found our little group agreeing that this was the best part of weekend camping.

A comfortable night and satisfying breakfast with spa-tea, and we were off and up the hill, and along forestry tracks - lunch by a pretty creek with silver wattle blooming. Vyrall was nervously wondering about crossing the river and would she have to travel home wet to the waist; but George, with the precision of judgement that has made him famous, led his party to where a huge old log had fallen across the stream and no worries.

The last stage was climbing Mt. Franklin by the keen types and a comfortable trip back to the city, all feeling happily refreshed thanks to our considerate leader.

Lorraine Richey

SOCIAL CALENDAR FOR DECEMBER

As is the usual practice in the summer months, film and slide showings in the clubrooms will be discontinued until February or so - we can't afford to lose anyone to heat suffocation.

Tuesday Dec 16 Annual Christmas Dinner at the "BARON OF BEEF"
See page 1 for details

There isn't much time left so get in touch with the Soc. Sec. soon for your booking. Don't be a snore night and (hopefully) will carry on from Alfred's

Letter to the Editor:

I recently attended a 3 day conference (Radical Environmental Education Conference) held at Melbourne University. The aim of the conference was to discuss (and if possible act on) ways of educating people in environmental issues. Following an introductory session, delegates organised themselves into discussion groups by way of the Contact system - anyone interested in exploring a particular topic placed a notice on the Contact board and other people of like mind attended at the designated time and place. Thus the conference was relatively unstructured and informal.

Quite a few of the discussion groups focussed on ways of educating children in the schools (there were many teachers present) while others talked about the use of media, the setting up of communication networks, the education of the "man in the street" etc.

I remember becoming demoralised at what I saw as a general inability to get down to practicalities, almost a sense that many of the participants were slightly out of touch with what really goes on in the world. There was considerable difficulty in achieving a realization that many small groups professing an environmental interest were quite fragmented from one another, with an apparent mistrust of any attempt to set up a formal communication network which all groups could plug into. (People thought that bushwalking clubs weren't really interested in environmental issues for example)

Some of the same misgivings arise when I read our own conservation supplement in "News" - especially do I wonder whether we have given due consideration to the "facts of life" as they are now and as they are projected to be. Perhaps I am just lacking facts and figures, but is it really feasible to stop all grazing in the high country (is there going to be enough land elsewhere), is it truly possible to avoid logging in all major bushwalking areas (won't the demand for wood be too great), and who is going to listen to bushwalkers anyway, when they seem to be demanding a major say in so many areas of production. (mining, grazing, logging etc)

I would like to see some evidence that our policies are factually possible, given current and future consumption rates. If they are not, I would like to see how we are going to bring about the drastic changes in peoples lives which the alternatives imply.

This letter has not been very constructive, but I felt it was worth getting some of my doubts out into the open. I commend the efforts of the conservation group and I am on their side, but I am becoming somewhat concerned about the various things conservationists say which seem to imply an insidious myopia and a failure to come to grips with the hard realities of power and position.

Michael Griffin

WHAT SOME PEOPLE GET UP TO:-

For warding off creeping cold when deeply esconced in snow caves the Yeti, Commander Garitub and the St. Albans Kid, devised the following recipe for the defection and general warming of the company.

Take 1 bottle of white Jamacian rum, a good supply of lemon refresh and sufficient hot water to cause condensation on Yeti's contact lenses. Stir intimately (works much better when Yetiesses or fair snow bunnies are present) and serve at once.



Thanks to the Orienteering Newsletter.

Q: Why did the Irish attempt to climb Mt. Everest fail?
A: They ran out of scaffolding.

DANNY FLYNN SETS RECORD - AFTER 7 YEARS

(Reprint from SKI, sept 75 - magazine of the Victorian Ski Association)

Danny Flynn has established a record for the solo run which killed Charlie Derrick in 1965 - Mountain Creek to Hotham Heights in winter.

Danny completed the distance of 52 Km. (about 30 miles) in 10 hours, 15 minutes on Sunday August 31, only days before the 10th anniversary of Charlie Derrick's death. Charlie had been trying to establish a time for the distance in 1965 when he was caught by bad weather and died from hypothermia at the top of Mt. Loch, only an easy downhill run from Hotham Heights.

Danny Flynn had been training 7 years for last months record attempt. He had a previous crack at it, but failed to find the perfect combination of weather, snow conditions and personal fitness. On the morning of his successful run, he left Mountain Creek at 7am (after sleeping in) and arrived at Hotham Heights at 5.15pm after travelling alone all the way on cross-country skis and on foot, with only lightweight emergency gear. Included in his pack was a complete change of underwear and socks, as he had to swim the Big River en route.

The worst part of the run was the 9000ft of climbing - first up Mt. Bogong's Staircase spur, and then up Mt. Nelse from the Big River, and finally the long haul up Mt. Loch from Dibbin's Hut. This latter section was described by Danny as the "red zone", because it's about here that exhaustion is likely to set in. Danny said he had been surprized when he found he had slept in on the morning of the record run, but realized later it was the best thing that could have happened. "It's almost as if someone up there said, 'Righto, you're going to get a good night's sleep'", he said. "And it was well worth it too, because seeing the sunrise while I was going up the Staircase was really beautiful."

(The same man won this years Bogong Conquestathon on record time.)

CONSERVATION

There is a General Meeting 25/11/75 at 7.30pm at ACF, 206 Clarendon St., East Melbourne. One thing sure to be discussed will be the proposal to build an airstrip at Bond Bay in SW Tasmania.

Following are extracts from various Tasmanian newspapers about the matter:

The State Government was reducing the planned South West Inquiry to a "farcical and empty political charade" by failing to curb continuing development in the South West until after the inquiry, it was claime yesterday.

"Indeed it seems quite likely that the construction of this airstrip represents a clandestine foundation for yet another grab by the Hydro-Electric Commission at a very valuable area of the South West, t e Davey River." The State Government's cynical disregard of the need to preserve the status quo in the South West and not pre-empt the findings of the inquiry, was exemplified by continued forestry operations in the Picton, Weld and Catamaran river valleys, and hydro-electric investigation of major rivers in the western wilderness."

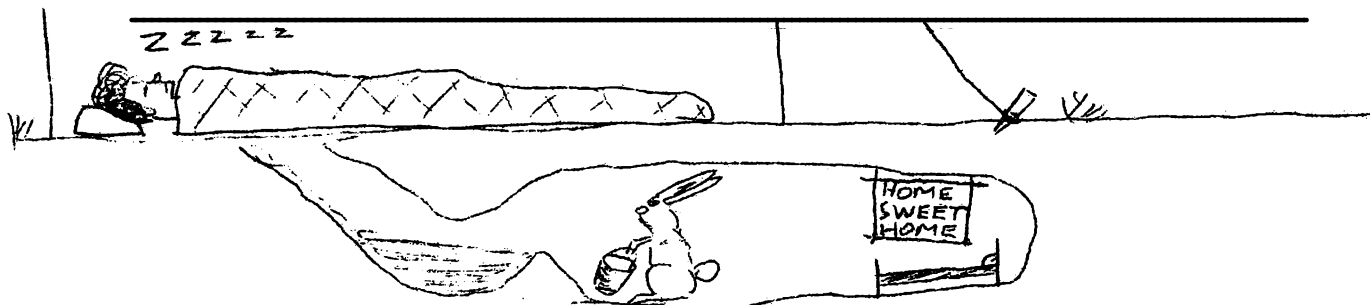
Part of a letter from a reader:

I think this is the greatest effort towards tourism for some time. It makes the South West accessible to far more people and with another airstrip proposed near the Lune River, it should make it financially possible for all people to afford a day trip to the South West.

The Government's intention to fund the clearing of the strip appeared to conflict with a statement made by the Premier, Mr. Neilson in May, the Federation's president, Mr. P.S. Witham, said yesterday.

Mr. Witham said there were only two explanations for this apparent conflict. "Either the Government has made a mistake with this year's Budget or the Premier has been insincere in his May 28 statement.

Mr. Kieran (of the SW Action Committee) said one airstrip already existed in the Pt. Davey area, and piecemeal development such as a further airstrip at Bond Bay was a completely unwarranted occurrence in a delicate area of the SW, where every



HOW THE HELL DO I GET RID OF ALL THIS WATER WITH THAT GREAT OBSTRUCTIONIST IN THE ROAD?

The News Convenor cannot organise trips - the rain was coming down (not too good for canoeing), and Saturday mornings arrival at the chosen campsite was greeted by the Caretaker of the Establishment abandoning the place in the face of rising water from the Goulburn River. However, some good did come of it all, it was agreed to adjourn to Chateau Tahbilk to think about things. Fortunately, John Purbrick (a part owner) took pity on the party (they did buy a large amount of his product!) and offered his shearing shed as headquarters for the weekend. (The next barndance should be held there - it's bigger than Badger Creek Hall) So the intrepid canoeists shared quarters with three pigs and other assorted creatures and thought it wonderful instead of tiny, wet tents in the rain.

For FUN, see if you can pair the following with the correct partners!

- | | |
|---------|-------------------------------|
| Otto C | Ruth |
| Bob S | Helen |
| Alex S | Marian |
| Rod M | Julie, Ann, Mary, Bronwyn etc |
| Ken M | Verle Ann |
| Geoff C | Pauline |
| Geoff M | Margaret |
| John F | Pam |
| Stan A | Sylvia |

A recent trip to the Snowy Mountains saw Ken again carrying his pack and some- one elses because it was heavy enough to cause her to lag considerably behind the rest of the party. Yet the same person considers it an absolute necessity to have in her pack make-up, aerosols and other assorted junk.

The Cup day walkers were almost swearing at Alex S when it became obvious that he had ordered the van for 9.15am instead of the intended time of 8.30am. However, many thanks for his actions went up when a violent rain storm hit about 15 minutes before the van arrived at its destination and it was realised that had the van been on time the party would have been 1/2 a mile along the clifftops and no shelter whatever. Thanks Alex!

QUOTES OF THE MONTH

MM: The best thing about Bombay bloomers is that you just have to pull the leg up.

Carol (about MM): He went 4 times in 1 1/2 hours!

Paul G to Bob S (in the loo) Swim trunks and overtrousers - that must be a problem!

Rob H: Give it to me - I've got the smallest mouth.

Tony M to MM: Did the barber charge \$6 for exploratory surgery?

Bob S(at breakfast complete with egg cup) These plastic cups are no good, I'll have to start bringing a china one.

Rob H: Anything you can do, Hugh can do better.

GC: Hugh can do anything better than you!

Carol to MM: Come on, undo a few buttons, - Yeah, rip them off!

Rob H to MM (discussing aid to News Convenor) How many 10ft. tall bushwalking typists do you know?

SCENE: Pouring rain, beginning of walk, Gronows van 100yd. behind

Arthur(leader): That gate should open!

Alex R: I bl.... well hope not!

WELCOME TO THE FOLLOWING NEW MEMBERS:

LANGE, Jenny - 65 Millewa Ave., Chastone 3148 (p) 564 689
 PORTER, John - 28A Narong Rd., Caulfield Nth 3161 (p) 509 4438 (b) 615 4262
 WOOD, Yvonne - 19/57 Darling St., Sth. Yarra 3141 (p) 265 8333 (b) 266 961
 SHIELDS, Jennifer - 513/100 Altona St., Flemington 3031 (b) 652 7262
 WHITE, Janet - 7/15 Wheatland Rd., Malvern 3144 (p) 503 588 (b) 328 0241 x292
 WILLIAMS, Pauline - 10 Cloniag St., Brighton East (b) 677 575
 METZENTHEN, Bill - 22 Parke ST., Ormond (p) 581 062 (b) 630 7621
 LANDMAN, Agnes - 11 Derby St., Camberwell 3124 (p) 824 335
 THOMPSON, Christopher - 28 Charters Dr. E. Ivanhoe 3079 (p) 493 689
 (b) 317 9041
 GOETZ, Harald - 18/168 Albion St., Brunswick 3056 (b) 387 1066 x437
 INGRAM, Ruth - 13/5 Fulton St., East St. Kilda 3183 (b) 266 651
 ARNOLD, Simon - 3 Winmarleigh Close, Brighton (p) 922 229

CHANGES OF ADDRESS:

POWELL, Derek and Robyn - 33 Ivy St., Hampton 3188
 BECK, John - 6/325 Riversdale Rd., Hawthorn 3122 (p) 828 633
 HANSEN, Elsebeth - 5/30 Elm St., Hawthorn 3122
 GOLDSTRAW, Bill - 13 Arundel St., Croydon 3136
 BROWN, Ted - 309 The Hermitage, 75 MacDonnell Rd., Hong Kong
 HARRIS, Rob - 30 Har ts Pde., Hawthorn East 3123 (p) 828 800
 OIEN, Harald and Jorunn - 19 Sargood St., Toorak 3142 (p) 244 755
 SCHMID, Ella - (p) 489 6082 (b) 347 5522

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