



THE NEWS

OF THE MELBOURNE BUSHWALKERS

Edition 322

SEPTEMBER 1976

Price 3¢

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1 1/2 YEARLY GENERAL MEETING

29th SEPTEMBER 8.00 pm.

OCTOBER SOCIAL ACTIVITIES.

- Wed Oct. 6th - Nothing planned as yet but will try to organise a slide show of Central Australia.
- Wed Oct 20th - Slides of South America featuring the Worlds Highest Ski Resort in the Andies taken during Ann and Lindsay Crawford's recent overseas trip.

Forthcoming November attractions include a sheep roast at Ken Macmahons place, a talk by Dr. Hugo Mackay on First Aid in the bush and a visit to "Ripponlee" estate. See October News for details.

There is a view held by certain members that the Club, and the Committee in particular, pay too much attention to Conservation issues and not enough time to the issues directly concerning the Club, such as overcrowding on walks, whether or not to have two leaders on Day Walks, are Van fares too high? etc.

What do YOU the ordinary member think?
Do you feel that your interests are being adequately catered for by the Committee?

If so, tell them so, if not tell them why not.

P.S. There is also a rumour going around that nobody reads their "News" (except for the Walk Preview) so I guess the Committee needn't worry about any criticism.

Footnote: An average "News" requires approximately 30 Man Hours each month of time and effort to produce.

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 7.30pm. Visitors are always welcome.

OCTOBER WALK PREVIEWS.

Day Walks.

Oct. 3rd - STRATH CREEK - YEA SPUR JUNCTION HILL Easy/Med.

LEADER: Arthur Francis (P) 725-7074
TRANSPORT: Van from Batman Ave. 9.15 am Fare \$2.50
EXPECTED TIME OF RETURN. 8.00 pm
MAP REFERENCE: Unfortunately the walk area is covered by four 1:50,000 maps viz Glenburn, Yea, Kinglake & Tallarook.
APPROXIMATE DISTANCE: 12 miles.

This walk should be very pleasant, the preview certainly was. From Strath Creek township we will climb very gently onto the Yea spur which is a long line of hills offering views in all directions. The country is mainly open with some areas of light forest. The walk terminates where Yea Spur meets the Yea-Flowerdale Road.

Oct. 10th - MAUDE - SUTHERLANDS CREEK - STEIGLITZ Easy.

LEADER: Marijke Mascas (P) 25-6940
TRANSPORT: Van from Batman Ave. 9.15 am Fare \$2.50
EXPECTED TIME OF RETURN. ??????
MAP REFERENCE: Meredith 1:63360
APPROXIMATE DISTANCE: 10 miles.

Come looking at an area of Victoria's early history. A pleasant walk in the Brisbane Ranges on tracks or through light scrub. We will be pottering around some of the old Gold mines. This is not a "S.L.O.B.S." endurance test.

Oct. 17th - GUIDE HOUSE - BRITANNIA CREEK - MT. BRIDE - BIG PATS CREEK.

LEADER: Alan Kitchener (P) 58-3942 Easy/Med.
TRANSPORT: Van from Batman Ave. 9.15 am Fare 2.50
EXPECTED TIME OF RETURN: ??????
MAP REFERENCE: ??????
APPROXIMATE DISTANCE: ??????

Walk preview not received.
See leader in Clubrooms.

Oct. 23rd - SATURDAY ECLIPSE - TRENTAM FALLS - COLIBAN RIVER - JAMIESON RIVER.

LEADER: Bob Steel (P) 47-3743 Easy/Med
TRANSPORT: Van from Batman Ave. 9.00 am Fare 2.50
EXPECTED TIME OF RETURN: ??????
MAP REFERENCE: ??????
APPROXIMATE DISTANCE: ???????

The News Convenor is as much in the dark about this walk as the people who attend will be.
See leader in clubrooms.

Oct. 30th - SATURDAY - EMERALD - SHERBROOK SHIRE WALKING TRACK - FAIRY DELL - THE PATCH. Easy.

LEADER: Athol Schafer (p) 211-2649
 TRANSPORT: Van from Batman Ave. 9.00 am Fare \$2.00
 EXPECTED TIME OF RETURN: 5.30 pm
 MAP REFERENCE: Monbulk 1.50,000
 APPROXIMATE DISTANCE: 12 miles.

From "The Cascades" we will walk along the banks of Menzies Creek then Sassafras Creek. After lunch a very steep climb to the ridge followed by a long drop through Sherbrook Forest (Monbulk Forest) to Elgrave.

Weekend Walks.

Oct. 1-3 - CHARMAN FALLS - MT. WOMBAT - SEVEN CREEKS FALLS. Easy/Mod.

LEADER: Ken McMahon (p) 45-2977
 TRANSPORT: Van from Batman Ave. 6.30 pm Fare \$7.00
 EXPECTED TIME OF RETURN: 8.00 pm
 MAP REFERENCE: EUROA 1:100,000 & M.D.W.- Mt. Wombat - Seven Creeks Gorge 2":1 mile.
 DISTANCE: 13 miles.

This route was walked approximately 4 years ago and we will follow basically the same path.

On Friday night we camp near the road. Saturday involves 8½ miles walking to camp at Polly McQuinn's via Mt. Wombat (Approx 1400' climb). Sunday should be at a very easy pace through the seven creeks gorge. Distance for second day is approximately 4½ miles. A side trip to Rocky Knob may be in the agenda.

The route we traverse is either lightly timbered or open sheep country. Some rock hopping may be necessary in the gorge but shouldn't be too troublesome. As water should be boiled at both camp sites it would be advisable to bring water on Friday night - campsites are otherwise very good.

Oct 15-17th - MT. COLE STATE FOREST Easy/Mod.

LEADER: Graham Mascas (p) 25-6490
 TRANSPORT: Van from Batman Ave. 6.30 pm Fare \$8.00
 EXPECTED TIME OF RETURN: 8.00 pm
 MAP REFERENCE: Mt. Cole F.C.V 2": 1 mile.
 APPROXIMATE DISTANCE: 20 miles.

In order to compete for the Charles Knight award of leader of the year, The super SLOB (i.e., Super Senior Leader of Bushwalks) I feel that my recent activities have been too tame. This being so, I've not previewed this walk at all ! It is in an area I have never been to before so with these advantages and a walk grade of Easy,Medium I feel I just can't fail. Or can I? There was a temptation to cheat a little and look at the map but the dye line copy I bought is quite illegible so that can't count.

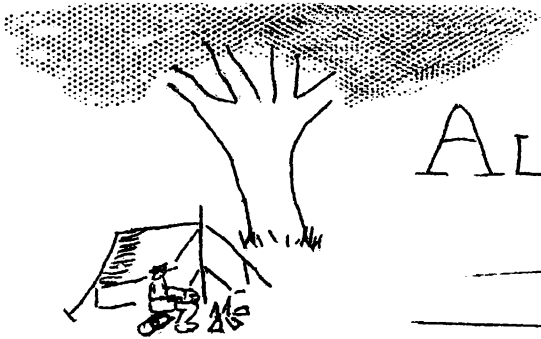
The walk promises (not me) to be a good passing through State Forest, with good views starting near Raydon and heading generally north to finish at Elmhurst for milk shakes etc. Walking will be on tracks with some scrub to give the right grading, good facilities for Saturday night but water required for Friday night/ Saturday morning.

Those with a sense of adventure, especially welcome so come along on this award winning walk.

Oct 23-31 GOULBURN RIVER - JAMIESON RIVER - HOWQUA RIVER Mod/Hard.

LEADER: Geoff Crapper (D)614-4262
 TRANSPORT: Van from Batman Ave. 6.30 pm
 EXPECTED TIME OF RETURN: 9.00 pm Sunday.
 MAP REFERENCE: Jamieson 1.50,000 DISTANCE: 40 km

From Baines bridge on the Goulburn we will follow a 4WD track upwards towards the Jamieson Lookout tower climbing about 500m on the way. From there it will be down to the Jamieson River to Camp. A minimum of 19km from Baines. Sunday will see us crossing the River at "Arworthall" and then following the Track over the divide down the Wild Dog Creek Track to end up at Howquadele. Saturday promises to be a pretty grueling day so all those who expect it to be a social stroll because it is being led by the Social Secretary had better stay at home.



ALONG THE TRACK

SO NOW WE HAVE BEEN TOLD.

Up front the competition for first place must have been fierce indeed. Geoff, Alan and John all seem to have arrived at Bivouac Hut almost before they left Mountain Creek. Most of the rest of us were reasonable about it, however, and I was particularly glad to see that our revered Walks Secretary is now adopting a pace more suited to his years and the dignity of his office. Quite right, too. After lunch, taken within the windy confines of Gorge Gap (the leader had suggested the treeline as being much more reasonable, but we couldn't find him there, so he must have changed his mind on the way), we continued on to the summit and thence to Cleve Cole hut.

Our greeting here was curious indeed. At least four people began their conversation with the remark that we could not stay here - the hut was full - you had to book months ahead in winter these days - it was a private hut (which we know...though we had always imagined, wrongly it appears, that it belonged to the Mt. Bogong Club). We were, however, kindly invited in for the Gerontocrats' Annual Memorial Lecture. This was given by a large individual of florid complexion and advanced years, who, swaying slightly stood in front of the fireplace and delivered it to us from a great height. There was no doubt (because he said everything four or five times over in the same words) that he felt he could have it both ways. Cleve Cole is a private hut and it almost amounted to burglary to even think of staying there - but the hut needed a lot of repairs done to it and they couldn't do it on their own and would need help, and he could see what a fine public-spirited body of young people we were and felt confident that he could call on us for that help, but it was a private hut and you had to book months ahead and there was no room this weekend. It did not seem to occur to him that we might not be actively seeking company such as he, with his fixed and freely-expressed ideas, and his less-voluble but equally hoary and no doubt like-minded companions offered. When at last we could get a word in edgewise we said goodbye and left him still prattling away euphorically about how the Bogong Wilderness should be made much more accessible to the motoring public and a ranger should be put in to keep control and people should be made to book ahead in order to be able to use it and it didn't really matter if you cut the snowgums because they regenerated a ain quite quickly and Altogether a very sobering experience.

We camped half a mile away - almost beyond earshot of the sounds of someone's 65th birthday celebrations - at the top of Saddleback Spur, on splendid, deep, firm, dry snow. Charles would have loved it - we really must encourage him to come on more snow walks! Next day we all traipsed out to the West Peak, where we were treated to the spectacle of the leader sliding down a steep slope a couple of times on his stomach. He was joined somewhat unenthusiastically by the club's most eminent snowmobile fan, but the rest of the party appeared more willing to be entertained than to provide entertainment. Then, with no time whatever for morning tea, and only about five minutes for lunch, we all hurried to the bottom of the mountain as though a whole regiment of geriatric wilderness developers in wheel chairs was right behind us. Actually they were coming down in their four-wheel-drives, and passed in convoy moments after we got back to Mountain Creek. A most instructive weekend.

..... Y.Y.

MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETING, 6th SEPTEMBER, 1976.

Treasurer: Bank Statement as of 31st August, 1976.

Fixed Deposit	\$2,000.00
Investment Savings Acc.	\$2,000.00
Cheque Account.	\$3,816.26
	<hr/>
Total.	\$7,816.26

The following bill was passed for payment on the motion of
1. George, 2. Geoff. M.

<u>Name.</u>	<u>Amount.</u>	<u>Particulars</u>
J. Gronow Pty. Ltd.	\$1,149.00	July Account \$404.00 August, Acc. 745.00

Walks Secretary. For the month of July there were 80 Visitors and 152 Numbers on Walks. Profit \$92.50. Overall profit for the year so far is about \$500.00.

Walk Editors: Dave has offered to be chairman of the committee consisting of Fred, Bob, Athol and Mike. Fred has delivered the Track Notes. Gerry has an article written by G.W.J. and Charles has offered to write something relating to the crowding on Day Walks. About 4 articles have been received so far and Graham M. has promised one. The overall situation is still serious and a printing date before late November is unlikely. Paddy Pallin has requested centrefold space in Walk 77 at a cost of about \$130.00.

Federation: 52 people attended the Bushwalking Seminar at Gilwell Park. \$78.00 was collected from registrations. Expenditure was \$46.00 - \$2.00 per night x 23 people
\$12.00 - tea and coffee.
\$58.00 Profit of \$20.00 to be donated to the S.U. Tascia Action Committee.

- Conservation:
1. W.M.C. have re-applied for a very extensive mining exploration licence in E. Gippsland/ Alpine area. We have lodged an objection. Geoff Greenwood has agreed to help draw up a more detailed oppositional document.
 2. L.C.C. has advertised that it is seeking information on Corangamite - Wernambool.
 3. It (L.C.C.) is also working on Grampians on Bendigo at present.
 4. Alps Report (L.C.C.) is not due out for six months yet.
 5. The N.E. Alpine working Group has now completed its second stage sell out of Bushwalkers interest in the Alps. Details are in the V.N.P.A. Newsletter e.g. we have consented to logging on Stanley Name Spur and the N. Kiowa.
 6. Suggest that the Club buys the McKendry Report on Alpine Recreation Motion seconded by Geoff. M. and approved.
 7. Areas now open for (i.e. pending) membership participation are
-draft club policies on Conservation
-L.C.C. submissions as above.
-Conservation Articles in Walk.
 8. G. McPhee attended the Senate Standing Committee on Science and the Environment hearing on woodchip.
 9. The Conservation Convenor will be investigating the impact of 76/77 budget on funding of environment.
 10. A National Forests Action Council is in the process of being born.
 11. There is a need to demonstrate the Club's commitment to conservation beyond Constitutional tokenism on the efforts of a few in the Club's name. I give notice of motion that "This Committee recommends that the Club donate \$200.00 to the A.C.F. Alpine National Park Fighting Fund". The motion was seconded by Geoff. M. and accepted with one dissent. It was pointed out that this donation is equivalent to 3% of current asset or 1 1/2% of Annual Turnover.

12. Garry suggests that the Club formulate a firm policy now on tracks and huts.

He moved that "This Committee recommends that
1/ The Clubs Policy on huts is no additions only maintenance.

2/ This Clubs Policy on Tracks is no additions, no renovations.

Seconded by George and accepted after much discussion with Charles.

13. A few tracks have been closed by the F.C.V. but there is no real significance in these closures.

Committee of Management.

Ten people attended the recent clean up which was finished by 7.00 pm. At the last meeting C.O.M. suggested that a sign be placed on or near the front door saying "14 Hosiery Lane, the following Bushwalking Clubs meet here etc." Janet to arrange.

Equipment. \$18.00 was taken for August.

A recommendation was put that Sylvia purchase a high pack, in this way we can ask people what they think of high packs after they have returned them and settle the controversy surrounding them.

Wilkie. Septic Tank is still hard to flush.

Rod moved the motion that we get another 201b Gas Cylinder and a Double De' Mattress. Total price about \$50.00

General Business.

1/ The Membership application form is to be revised and updated with an indemnity clause included. Geoff. H. to arrange.

2/ Rod suggested some programme/booklet similar to the Mens Club Circular be purchased or commissioned. It was decided that the booklet "Bushwalking and Camping" by Paddy Pallin, be purchased and recommended for use by new members.

Excerpt from "Popular Science" supplied by Harold Graves.

CAMPSTOVE SAFETY.

Two professors at Worcester (Mass.) Polytechnic Institute recently discovered that a slight modification of your lightweight camp stove could save your life, if you insist on using the stove in a tent.

Drs. Joseph T. Kohler and Robert E. Jagner definitely don't recommend using stoves inside tents, because of the danger of carbon-monoxide poisoning. But if you do use one inside, they recommend raising the pan about an inch, or high enough that the flame doesn't hit the bottom of the pan.

With that modification, they claim, CO levels dropped greatly in a number of stoves they tested last year. "Several models we tested produced more than 100 parts per million of carbon monoxide when used as designed," they reported. "When we raised the pan an extra inch, the levels dropped to as low as 15 ppm in some cases. Not all changed so dramatically, but in every case there was a reduction in carbon monoxide of better than 50 percent."

The penalty is time: It took about one-fifth as long to boil a quart of water. The professors found this to be true of all bottled-gas and L-G- fueled stoves they tested. Alcohol stoves "produced high concentrations of carbon monoxide no matter what we did."

The researchers stress that there's nothing wrong with using any of the stoves out in the open, but they strongly recommend modifying a stove if you plan to use it inside a tent. You can make a holder out of any heavy wire with a coat hanger, to support the pan an inch higher.

CAMPING PERMITS AT MT HOTHAM.

The following is an extract of a letter received from the Mt. Hotham Alpine Resort Management Committee.

"Following a number of approaches by various groups and individuals and particularly by the F.V.W.C. the Committee has realised that its requirement for camping applications to be made 14 days in advance may tend to be a little restrictive and at times impracticable."

An alternative system, which will involve the setting up of "Walkers' Check Points" at various approaches to the resort, has been approved in principle by the Committee."

DARTMOUTH TRANSMISSION LINE - THE EPILOGUE

Letter received from the S.E.C., 25th August, 1976.

"The enclosed copy of Area Plan No. C1/147/6 shows generally the route of the 220 kV transmission line to be constructed between Dartmouth Power Station and Mt. Beauty Terminal Station.

This route has been finalised after wide public investigations including an All Party Parliamentary Public Works Committee inquiry and consultations with interested parties.

We are now proceeding with the survey of the route and construction of the line will follow in due course.

for enquiries: Mr. R. J. Lukies (8)615-3437 "

ENVIRONMENT '76 EXHIBITION 8th-13th OCTOBER

A display representing the S.T.A.V. and the F.V.W.C. is being organised for the Environment '76 Exhibition to be staged in the Eastern Annex of the Exhibition Buildings. The display will have the theme "Natural Recreation in a Natural Environment" and consist of good quality photos and a continuous slide display using an automatic projector.

If you think you can be of help or want to know more details then contact Tom Kneen (P) 85-1262 (8)669-3606

FORUM ON FORESTS.

Saturday, 2nd October, 1976. Geelong City Hall.

The Geelong Environment Council is following initiatives put forward by Ourselves and other Conservation orientated bodies and have organised a Forum on Forests to discuss the wood chipping situation and the ever increasing destruction of Victoria's Forests (with particular reference to the Otways). The forum will commence at 9.00 am and will feature Mr. Phillip Brown, President, C.C.V., Mr. F. R. Moulds, Chairman, F.C.V., Dr. Malcolm Calder, President, N.W.A. along with several other informed speakers. See Notice Board for further details.

LOST IN THE BUSH ?

Anyone interested in learning about "a patent safety device which could save the lives of people lost in heavy bush country" can contact Mr. Gerald Hope (P) 211-6876.

Please report back to the Committee of your opinion on the device.

SOUTH WEST TASSIE CHRISTMAS WALK TO PRECIPITOUS CLUFF.

From 26.12.76 to 6.1.77

Distances: Approx. 70 miles Grading: Medium Hard
Leader: Peter Bullard (P) 509-8359

The walk will start near Ransgate and go via South Cape Range, Surprise Bay, New River Lagoon, Precipitous Cluff, Pin Lers Peak, Moonlight Ridge and end at Lune River. If you wish to come or require more details please contact the leader.

NEW MEMBER.

CONNOR, Genie, Flat 2/33 Brunewick Rd, E. Brunewick, 3057 (P)387-5797 (B)877-1177

WELCOME BACK.

NICOL, Chris, Flat 2/70 Denbigh Rd, Armadale. 3143 (P)509-5755

CHANGES OF ADDRESS.

CHESTERFIELD, Debbie, 126 Miller St., North Fitzroy. 3068.

DANGERFIELD, Margaret, Unit 3/2 Tumora St., E. Montone. 3194 (P)90-8243

HAM, Neil, Transfer from News Subscriber to Full Member.

LARSEN, Sam, Flat 1/ 20-22 Beaufort Rd., Croydon. 3136.

MORONEY, Stuart, 33 Bruarong Cres., Frankston. 3199. (P) 737-5656

STIRKUL, Alex, 3/431 Buckley St, Essendon. 3140.

SULLIVAN, Darrell & Ann, 23 Barrington Cres., Tullamarine. 3046. (P)338-6325

THOMPSON, C. 28 Chartars Drive, East Ivanhoe. 3079.

WARRINGTON, David & Margaret, C/- Box 792F, Melbourne (42A Glendoung Gr. Malvern)

WITHALL, Sylvia, Dist. work phone no.

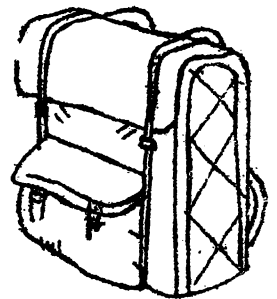
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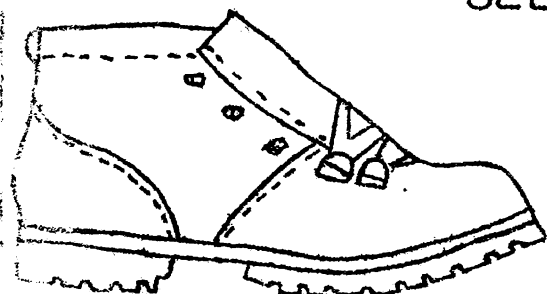
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