



# THE NEWS

OF THE MELBOURNE BUSHWALKERS

396

DECEMBER 1983



This immature  
Santa needs to  
go or retraining in  
the Art of Santaring  
in 1984

Correspondence should be directed to:-

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

Meetings are held in the clubrooms, 388 Lt. Bourke Street, entrance from Racing Club Lane, every Wednesday night 7-9pm. Visitors are always welcome.

SOCIAL COLUMN

The Annual Dinner at Ferguson's Winery was a great success. Food was good and there was plenty of free wine and coffee.

On Wednesday 21st December in the Clubrooms around 7.45pm we will have a

CHRISTMAS PARTY

Its bring your own plate and drink. If you want decorations bring them as well .

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THE MOUNTAINS OF PARADISE

THE WILDERNESS OF SOUTH-WEST TASMANIA

Photographs and text by Les Southwell, with a foreward by David Bellamy.

This is the most substantial book yet published on the South-West, containing an extensive selection of colour photos of South-West Tasmania ranging from the mountains of the King Williams in the north to the shores of the South Coast. Included are twenty-two previously unpublished plates of the now-vanished Lake Pedder and several of the hidden gorges of the Lower Gordon.

It also presents, for the first time, a comprehensive account of the long battle for the South-West wilderness, from the beginnings of the Lake Pedder dispute in the 1960's to the 1983 High Court decision on the Franklin.

Size 250 x 270 cm (10" x 12"), hard cover.

212 pages, including pages of colour plates and 16 duotone (B&W).  
Printed by T of Singapore (who also print the Dombrovskis  
Wilderness calendar.

On Sale December 1983 at a recommended retail price of \$45. Also available to Club members at a special discount price of \$35 (valid till 30/1/84) direct from the author (post free) by writing to:

Les Southwell, Box 29, P.O. Camberwell, Victoria, 3124.

(Please include number of copies required, a cheque or money order for the correct amount, or Bankcard no, and your Name, Address, Postcode and Signature.)

## DAY WALKS.....

JANUARY 8TH      WOOLAMAI BEACH - PYRAMID ROCK      EASY  
(PHILLIP ISLAND)

LEADER: HUGH DUNCAN  
 TRANSPORT: VAN FROM BATMAN AVE, 9AM.  
 MAP REFERENCE: PHILLIP ISLAND 1:25,000

This will be an easy beach walk, for a warm (hopefully) summer day. There will be time for a swim at lunchtime for those who wish to partake. Remember to bring plenty of water if it threatens to be very hot.

JANUARY 15      TALLAROOK-GOULBOURN RIVER      EASY

LEADER: ANNE BULLARD  
 TRANSPORT: VAN FROM BATMAN AVE, 9AM.

FOR FURTHER DETAILS OF THIS WALK SEE LEADER IN CLUBROOMS.

JANUARY 22ND      COWES - THE NOBBIES      EASY/MED.

LEADER: BETTY SPENCER  
 TRANSPORT: VAN FROM BATMAN AVE, 9AM.

FOR FURTHER DETAILS OF THIS WALK PLEASE SEE LEADER IN CLUBROOMS.  
 IS THIS THE FAMOUS BIKINI WALK !!!

JANUARY 30TH (MON) FRANKSTON-CANADIAN BAY -MORNINGTON      EASY

LEADER: ATHOL SCHAFER  
 TRANSPORT: TRAIN FROM FLINDERS ST STATION 8.50AM. (TO FRANKSTON)  
 EXPECTED TIME OF RETURN; 7.30pm  
 MAP REFERENCE: MELWAYS  
 APPROXIMATE DISTANCE: 15KM.

Beach walking, cliff scrambling, swimming and good views of the bay will all be part of the Australia Day holiday program.

WEEKEND WALKS .....

JANUARY 13-15      MOONLIGHT HEAD - GELLIBRAND RIVER      MEDIUM

LEADER: PRU HARDIMAN  
 TRANSPORT: PRIVATE

FOR FURTHER DETAILS OF THIS WALK SEE LEADER IN CLUBROOM.

JANUARY 27-30 (AUSTRALIA DAY Wkend)  
MT. REYNARD-CALEDONIA R-MT      HOWITT      MEDIUM

LEADER: ROD MATTINGLEY  
 TRANSPORT: PRIVATE  
 MAP REFERENCE: HOWITT 1 to 100,000  
 APPROXIMATE DISTANCE: 44 KM

On the Upper Macalister River there is a name on the map that has had me intrigued for years - Old Yard Flat. The maps do not show any jeep tracks to it, which adds to the mystery. Well, we will find out on the Sunday night when we camp at the flat after coming down Macalister Spur from Square Top.

Friday night's camp will be at the Gorge near Kellys hut, and on Saturday morning we will drive up to the Macalister Springs junction. From here we will visit Howitt and Magdala and on to camp near no. 2 divide, with a side trip to the Crags.

## WEEKEND WALKS.....

JANUARY 27th - 30th. McFarlanes Saddle - Tarli Karng- Easy/Med  
Wellington River.

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LEADER: Phillip Larkin, phone 568 1926, Bus 669 8314

TRANSPORT: Private

EXPECTED TIME OF RETURN: 8.00pm

MAP REFERENCE: 1:100,000 Maffra; Natmap : 1:63:360-Wellington;  
Moroka F.C.V.: and 1:50,000 Lake Tarli Karng and  
Approaches, Alonga Guides.

APPROXIMATE DISTANCE: 45 KMS.

The main attraction of this area is Lake Tarli Karng which lies in its isolation, and the beauty and serenity of its wilderness setting, and in a certain amount of mythology and mystery about its origin which had given it an almost legendary character. It has been called "The Hidden Lake" and "The Enchanted Lake" which is situated on the headwaters of the Wellington River. Other features of the area is the high alpine country which is interlaced with deep gorges where mountain streams flow between precipitous slopes clothed with dense eucalypt forest. Also a crystal clear mountain stream which tumbles down from Moroka Gap into a striking series of waterfalls, cascades and rock pools to disappear underground before entering the lake. There is also an enormous amount of wild life around the lake and along the Wellington River, including a large variety of bird life and brown trout in the lake and mountain streams.

On the first night we will camp at Breakfast Creek before proceeding to McFarlanes Saddle the next morning. After leaving McFarlanes Saddle we will take the Tarli Karng track down to above the lake, then across to Millers Hut for base camp, for the rest of the day. After setting up camp, we will walk out to the Wellingtons Plateau and the Sentinels, then return to the hut for the night.

On the third day we will proceed down to Lake Tarli Karng and spend a relaxing afternoon around the lake and set up camp for that night.

The last day we will proceed out from Lake Tarli Karng and spend a relaxing afternoon around the lake and set up camp for that night. The last day we will proceed out from Lake Tarli Karng along the Wellington River past the Valley of Destruction, out to the car park on the Tamboritha Road, before returning back to Melbourne. So bring along your cameras for the spectacular scenery and light weight packs for a pleasant weekend. Visitors are most welcome.  
Phillip Larkin.

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EASTER '84 ADVANCE NOTICE

APRIL 19-29 WARRUMBUNGLES AND KAPUTAR

EASY/MEDIUM

LEADER: JOPIE BODEGRAVEN.

This trip will require participants to get Thursday and Friday April 26 and 27 off. As well as Kaputar and the Warrumbungles we will probably visit Cocoparra and possibly the Weddin Mountains National Park near Grenfell.

April 19-23 COOPRACAMBRA AND CROOJINALONG NATIONAL PARKS. E/MED.

LEADER: GEOFF MATTINGLEY

Coopracambra has not been burnt out and the area has lovely gorges along the Geneo River. Other Easter trips are an easy Grampians Base Camp and a grand alpine circuit, 4 Or 6 days taking in Mt. Arbuckle, Howitt and Clear.

ALONG THE TRACK.....

THE BHP CIRCULAR

As a relatively new, pedestrian admirer of the Bogong High Plains (hence BHP), the BHP round trip over the Cup Day weekend was a good introduction to the area.

Day 1 was the momentous day for me. We started out from Howmans Gap and after thoughtful consideration of Rocky Valley Creek we 'pole vaulted' the deeper sections (thanks to Mark Le M) - mostly to dryness, though some had more than a patch of wetness. Then a "short" climb of almost 2000' (longer from some than others) to little Spion Kopje, and on further to Spion Kopje itself - where we refreshed ourselves over lunch, surveying the scene, Bogong to the NE and Rocky Valley Storage to the S etc. We wandered along Whiterock Creek and through sparse patches of snow and made camp not far from Ropers Hut.

Day 2 we went to Tims LO before continuing via Mt. Nelse North, Mt. Nelse and Marms Point and the aqueduct to Wilky - which furnished the usual delights (including additional pud and custard).

Day 3 we started in heavy mist which was clearing away by the time we reached Mt. Cope. There we met some people who had been working on Cope Hut (from the Outward Bound), then on to Mt. Jim, and thence to the saddle above Tawonga Huts and immediately below Mt. Niggerhead. It was gratifying to get a view of the first days climb - and enjoy it sitting down! Threatened inclement weather did not eventuate.

Next day, Day 4, we walked across The Niggerheads, to the Mt. Fainters (S and N), where the clouds came rolling in, unfortunately obscuring the views of Bogong and Feathertop. From there it was downhill all the way via Bogong Jacks Saddle to Bogong (some 3500').

Thanks to Phil T for leading the party of 8 and keeping it to a reasonable pace, and for arranging such good weather (i.e. no wet tents at all!)

Rosemary Cotter.

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VICWALK NEWS : NOVEMBER 1983

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

Lindsay Collins has attended meetings of the Major Mitchell Walking Track Committee to set out the terms of reference and to appoint a consultant to establish this long range walking track. The emphasis will be on walking, with provision for cycling and canoeists also. Should be good seeing canoes travelling down the Hume Highway! A grant of \$10,000 has just been received to pay for a consultant to plan the route.

The Federation enquiry is completing a questionnaire sent by the Victorian Tourist Commission enquiring about the feasibility of establishing a low cost accommodation centre at Rawson which is the MMBW's construction camp for the Thomson River Dam near Erica. It has possibilities for providing low cost accommodation close to Mt. Baw Baw National Park and other good walking areas. Apparently dormitory style facilities have been available for some time to groups and individuals - you can learn something from attending Federation meetings even without this proposal going ahead.

The Federation has been asked to nominate a representative to the Community Interest Groups Walking Party which will represent the views of Community Groups directly to the Minister in the reorganised Department of Forests, Lands and Conservation. If

you have anything to say on these matters, contact your Federation representative and make your submissions through them.

The matter of the proposed barrier on the Bogong High Plains Tourist Road, i.e. from Omeo to Falls Creek is dragging on. The Road Construction Authority's proposed site would seem to put this area out of practical bounds except with almost a day's walk each way along a pretty boring road. We are still working on having the barrier shifted to Strawberry Saddle area.

UNPLEASANT BUSINESS

Is it possible, under the proposed Victorian Aboriginal Land Rights legislation to transfer ownership of National Parks and other public lands to essentially private control without the usual procedures of asking for public comment and holding public inquiries. The recent controversy over ULURC National Park makes me wonder just how safe our parks are.

LAST NEWS

Our President, ATHOL SCHAFER, will not be eligible for re-election for President in 1984 and our Assistant Secretary is also stepping down. You could ask around your club for nominations. In USA it costs millions of dollars to be elected President: here its free!

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WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE NEWS CONVENOR FOR MELBOURNE BUSHIES IN 1984?

The present News Convenor will not be able to type "News" in 1984 so the position is "up for grabs". If you feel you might be interested in doing it please phone Maureen Hurley 337 3220 for further details.

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LOG CABIN AVAILABLE IN KINGLAKE NATIONAL PARK.

A log cabin is available for hire in a delightful bush setting adjoining Kinglake National Park. The cabin sleeps four, has water and electricity with toilet and cooking facilities. A wood stove for those chilly autumn and winter nights is also installed.

There is plenty of outside space for a couple of tents. Ideal for weekend walks for small groups or for private hire if you want a few quiet days "away from it all". Hire fees...\$5 per night per person for the cabin and \$3 per night for a tent.

For further details contact Jean Scarsbrook 211 5626 A.H.

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TO RENT - A renovated 2/3 bedroom house in beautiful Glenhuntly (Caulfield) recently repainted, with good garden and close to trains and trams. 2 year lease preferred, minimum of 12 months.

Allan and Lillian Kitchener.  
578 3942 (H).

FOR SALE

1973 Holden Station Waggon. New Engine - No Rust - Goes Excellently - Good for camping - bucket seats - likes country trips.

Allan and Lillian Kitchener.

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COMMITTEE NOTES - MEETING 5th DECEMBER 1983.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** The Sydney Bushwalkers have reprinted the article "Snakebite" in the Wonnangatta Valley from "Walk" 82.

The Australian Democrats have revised their conservation policy, and are inviting comments and suggestions.

**Treasurer:** Bank Balance at end of November \$10,167.50. Accounts for payment: various \$974.24, printing of "Walk 84" \$5476.00. An increase in membership fees will be proposed next year, mainly due to increased insurance costs.

**Walks Secretary:** Walks for October 51 on weekend, 195 on day walks. Profit \$72.50

**Membership:** 354

Duty Roster:

Dec 14 Rod/Neil  
 21 Robyn/  
 Jan 4 Phil/Betty  
 11 Alan/Phil

Next Committee Meeting 9th January.

**Insurance:** Our previous insurer would not renew our policies. Through a broker, we have obtained public liability insurance at a cost of \$458.35 per year. (\$1m cover.) This would cost \$721 per year for \$2m cover. The need for continuing with this type of insurance will be further investigated. Wilky is currently uninsured. Only one company will accept its insurance at a quoted cost of \$289 per year (for minimum cover - \$20,000). This policy will be taken out subject to a satisfactory reply on Wilky's present situation in a National Park.

**Phone Contact:** Phil Larkin has offered to be the "White Pages" contact number for the club - this was accepted by the committee.

**General:** Gail Pearson has resigned from the Committee as she is moving to Tasmania.

IMPORTANT NOTICES

1. The Clubroom will be closed on Wednesday 28th December 1983.
2. The Annual General Meeting of the Melbourne Bushwalkers (Incorporated) will be held in the clubrooms on Wednesday 29th February, 1984.
3. At or before the Annual General Meeting, nominations will be required for all Office bearers and General Committee members. Please consider if you would like to assist the club by nominating for one of these positions.

Welcome to the following members:

HUGHES, Alan,  
 Political Science Dept, Melbourne University,  
 Parkville 3052.  
 Tel (H) 489 3883 (W) 345 1844.

EVANS, Peter,  
 4/146 Glen Iris Rd., Glen Iris, 3146.  
 Tel (H) 258 803 (W) 785 0111

FIKTH, Kendal,  
 22 Bath Rd., Burwood, 3125.  
 (H) 29 7646 (W) 63 0391.

WELCOME TO THE FOLLOWING NEW MEMBERS:

FIRTH, Kendal,  
22 Bath rd.,  
Burwood, 3125.

LANCASTER, Eleanor,  
41 Tait St.,  
North Fitzroy, 3068  
(H) 481 2929

RUDD Wilma,  
6/11 Logie St.,  
Huntingdale, 3166.  
(H) 568 4112 (W) 792 9421.

HAGARTY, Trish,  
12 St. James Pde.,  
Greenvale, 3185  
Tel (H) 596 3976 (W) 685 4411 x201

DUNNADGE, Ian Duncan,  
17/342 Dryburgh St.,  
North Melbourne, 3051.  
Tel (H) 329 8681 (W) 699 5511.

Changes of Information:-

Karen Gamberoni to Karen Linnell,  
38 Park Rd., Middle Park, 3206.

News Subscribers

Sharen Davey,  
1/ 4 Blessington St.,  
St. Kilda 3182.

Peter Lemon,  
361 Burke Rd.,  
Glen Iris 3146.