



THE NEWS

OF THE MELBOURNE BUSHWALKERS

Edition 386

FEBRUARY, 1983

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HOW YOU CAN CONTRIBUTE TO THE TASMANIAN WILDERNESS SOCIETY'S 'NO DAMS' CAMPAIGN

I would have liked to have shared my experience of being involved in the Blockade in its second stage with you in this "News" but because it will be quite a large newsletter I will not be able to do this until the next "News".

My intentions were to help make people more aware of what is going on in the Blockade and also to conduct a "persuasion campaign" aimed at stimulating, or strengthening, their support for the Tasmanian Wilderness Society and encouraging them to become involved in the society's activities.

So, without the benefit of the "persuasion campaign" I would like to outline some of the ways in which you can contribute to the Tasmanian Wilderness Society's 'No Dams' Campaign.

1. By becoming a member of the Tasmanian Wilderness Society, if you aren't one already!
2. By sending a telegram & letter to Mr. Fraser stressing that the Franklin River wilderness area is a national matter.
3. By also sending telegrams & letters to your Federal Members of Parliament & Senators & To Mr. McVeigh (The Minister for Home Affairs & Environment).
4. By writing to the newspapers, ringing "Access Age", etc.
5. Joining your local T.W.S. branch & becoming involved in its activities.
6. By joining the Blockade either - "up river" or in a support role in Strahan. (See me if you'd like more information about this.)
7. By offering voluntary assistance.
8. By offering financial assistance.
9. By supporting the Tasmanian Wilderness Society's shop.
10. By encouraging others to become interested & involved.
11. By helping to promote NO DAMS as an electoral issue in the Federal election, & by campaigning in marginal electorates.

I must emphasise that I am making the following statement as a personal one and not on behalf of the walking club -----

A political solution is now possible but it isn't a time to be sitting back & hoping that it will all happen, YOUR SUPPORT IS NEEDED NOW. It isn't my intention to influence your political preference but I know that many people will regard this as an opportunity to register an anti-dam vote.

Correspondence should be directed to :-

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

Meetings are held in the clubrooms, 377 Lt. Bourke St., entrance from Racing Club Lane, every Wednesday night 7-9 p.m. Visitors are always welcome.

A TASMANIAN WILDERNESS FILM EVENING

A new inner suburban branch of the T.W.S. has been formed. They will be holding a film night on Thursday, 17th February, at the Baptist Church Hall, 382 Moreland Rd., West Brunswick starting at 8 p.m. Admission is \$3, \$1 concession & \$6 family.

The three films, which will be shown, are about a raft trip down the Franklin, the Gordon Splits gorges and the southwest Tasmanian wilderness.

For further information about this film night or other branch activities, contact Jenny Scott 489 9287 (home) or 818 9264 (work).

SANDRA MUTIMER

MARCH WALK PREVIEWS

DAY WALKS

Feb. 27 MT. TANGLEFOOT-MAROONDAH RESERVOIR EASY

LEADER: Max Casley
TRANSPORT: Van from Batman Ave., 9a.m.
EXPECTED TIME OF RETURN: 7.30 p.m.
MAP REF: Juliet 1:50,000, Taggerty 1:50,000
APPROX. DIST. 15 km

Starting near Mt. Tanglefoot we will climb steadily up a forestry track to Mt. St. Leonard, from where there are excellent views. Then along to Condons Track, down to MaroonDAH Reservoir. Remember to bring water. Note: if the forecast is for extremely hot weather this walk may be changed to a beach walk.

Mar. 6 KINGS FALLS-SEAWINDS-ROSEBUD-DROMANA EASY

LEADER: Art Terry
TRANSPORT: Van from Batman Ave., 9 a.m.
EXPECTED TIME OF RETURN: 8 p.m.
MAP REF: Broadbents Mornington Peninsular
APPROX. DIST. 18 km

This is a combined bush & beach walk, the first part embraces bushland of Mt. Arthur's Seat taking in Sea-Winds National Park, a delightful spot for lunch, from Sea Winds we descend gradually to a beautiful lagoon for a swim, from there the van will transport us to Rosebud pier, from here we walk along the beach to Dromana - plenty of time for swimming on the way.

Mar. 14 MONTROSE-MOUNT DANDENONG-PIG LANE-THE BASIN EASY
(Mon.)

LEADER: Athol Schafer
TRANSPORT: Train from Flinders St., Meet under clocks in time to catch 9 a.m. train to Croydon where there may be time for morning coffee. The walk itself will be along shady tracks on the western slopes of the mountain. Pig Lane is an old tram line.
EXPECTED TIME OF RETURN: 6.30 p.m.
MAP: Melways
APPROX DIST. 14 km

EASY

MARCH WALK PREVIEWS (CONT.)DAY WALKS (CONT.)MAR.19 MELBOURNE ON FOOT-WILLIAMSTOWNEASY

(Sat.)

LEADER: Athol Schafer

TRANSPORT: Meet Flinders St. in time to catch 2.05 train
to Williamstown. Zone 1 Travel Card.

EXPECTED TIME OF RETURN: 6 p.m.

MAP REF: Melways

Old Williamstown has lots to offer those who like to ramble midst the wrecks and relics of Time and History. And those with a taste for the gruesome will not be disappointed as we will look at the morgue that was abandoned on account of the rats. Bring a dollar to board Marine Trust vessel HMAS Castlemaine. There may also be time for a swim at Williamstown Beach.

MAR.20 (1) HEBBURN-SAILORS CK-DAYLESFORD GARDENS & LAKEMEDIUM(2) HEBBURN-SAILORS CK-DAYLESFORD LAKEEASY

LEADERS: (1) ROB AYRE (2) PHIL LARKIN

TRANSPORT: Van from Batman Ave., 9 a.m.

EXPECTED TIME OF RETURN: 8 p.m.

MAP REF: Daylesford 1" = 1 mile Or Castlemaine 1:100,000
Or Broadbents "Spa Country" or "Daylesford-
Hepburn Springs"

APPROX.DISTS: (1) 15 km (2) 12 km

A pleasant walk around the mineral springs of the Daylesford-Hepburn area, and along the gully of Sailor's Creek. Both groups will follow substantially the same route, the medium party covering a little extra distance and venturing off the track briefly. We will try to arrange for the groups to meet in Hepburn Park for a BBQ lunch - consult the leaders for confirmation when booking. Bring a cup for mineral-water tastings, which are provided at frequent but irregular intervals, drought permitting! There should be time for swimming, at afternoon and/or after the walk if the weather is appropriate, so come prepared. Also bring plenty of fresh drinking water; last year's trip in this area showed the hallmark of an incipient death-march in the 40+ heat. If that weather is repeated, the trips will be shortened appropriately.

MAR.26 ORIENTEERING & BBQ-WATTLE PARKEASY

(Sat.)

LEADERS: Mick Mann & Athol Schafer

TRANSPORT: Private or Tram (see below)

After October's washout we will try again. If you are good it will take about ¼ hr to complete the course; if otherwise up to 2 hrs. We have a supply of maps for sale, but don't forget to bring your compass. Turn up anytime after 2 p.m. Enter via main drive off Riversdale Rd. (Melway ref. Map 60 J2) and park at BBQ area. Tram Travellers can meet Athol at Batman Ave. terminus at 1.30 p.m. to catch Wattle Park tram. If you can't turn up till later, come anyway for the evening's doings. Bring meat, drinks, bread, salad, etc.

MAR.27 FEDERATION DAY WALK-MT.VINEGAR-SPLIT ROCK AREA

LED by the Walking Club of Victoria.

TRANSPORT: Van from Batman Ave. 9 a.m.

EXPECTED TIME OF RETURN: 8 p.m.

MAP REF: Juliet.

Support Vicwalk and meet other bushwalkers from other clubs. There will be four grades of walks, from easy for those who want to talk a lot; an easy/medium; a medium/hard and a plain hard. You've heard the slogan "Walk with a Club". Here's the opportunity to walk plurally!

MARCH WALK PREVIEWS (CONT.)WEEKEND WALKSMAR. 4-6 BAW BAW BASE CAMPEASY/MEDIUM

LEADER: Martin Elias
 TRANSPORT: Private
 MAP REF: Baw Baw Plateau 1:25,000, Baw Baw Base Camp
 Baw Baw National Park VMTC
 APPROX DISTANCE: 28 km
 EXPECTED TIME OF RETURN: 9 pm

This promises to be a very pleasant weekend. On the preview the open spaces were alive with flowers - orchids, gentians, violets, daises, etc. Meeting place Saturday morning is the Mt. St. Gwinear carpark. From there a pleasant 1½ hr walk takes us to the campsite on Mustering Flat. After setting up camp and an early lunch we will make an excursion to Mt. Baw Baw.

Sunday's walk is to Mt. Erica and back, with views to the north, east and south. Those with sensitive legs are advised to bring trousers or gaiters for the occasional prickly bits. Don't forget your postal vote for the March 5.

MAR.11-14 WELLINGTON RIVER BASE CAMPEASY/MEDIUM

(Labour day w/e)
 LEADER: Bob Steel
 TRANSPORT: Private
 (1) MAP REF: Howitt & Maffra 1:100,000 VMTC Snowy Plains
 & Mount Wellington

Interesting base camp on the Wellington River. Lots of swimming, rock pools.

(2) UPPER JAMIESON AREAMEDIUM/HARD

LEADER: Phil Taylor
 TRANSPORT: Private
 MAP REF:
 MAP REF: Watershed of King, Howqua & Jamieson Rivers - VMTC
 1:100,000 Mansfield & Howitt

Due to the drought and the unknown location of water I intend to establish a base camp in the vicinity of the Upper Jamieson Hut. From here a series of day walks will be conducted to Eagles Peaks, Mt. McDonald, The Bluff, The Nobs and anywhere else that appears interesting. What could be more perfect for a long weekend a base camp with all its delights(?) coupled with some outstanding walking country carrying only day packs. Take your pick, laze around the camp site or work off your frustrations on a walk.

MAR.18-20 CAPE LITRAP TO VENUS BAYEASY

LEADER: Bob Douglas
 TRANSPORT: Private
 MAP REF: Wonthaggi 1:100,000
 APPROX.DIST: 30 km

I believe this walk was to be attempted some years ago, but was abandoned because of water problems. When I preview the walk I shall scout out possible places for a water dump. Given this problem can be solved the walk should be quite an easy beach stroll.

MAR.31-
APR.5 SNAKY PLAINS-MT.JAGUNGAL-DARGALS(SNOWY MTNS)EASY/MEDIUM

LEADER: Keith White
 TRANSPORT: Private
 EXPECTED TIME OF RETURN: 9 p.m.
 MAP REF: Kosciusko 1:100,000
 APPROX. DIST: 35 km

This walk with Mt. Jagungal as the focal point, covers an attractive part of the Mt. Kosciusko National Park. The walk will start at Wolseleys Gap, just before Tooma reservoir and finish at Bradneys Gap, both points on the Corryong to Cabramarra Road. There will be a short car shuffle of 20 kms. As Wolseleys Gap is almost 300 miles (470 km) from Melbourne, we can start the walk at around 10 a.m. on Friday morning depending on the group.

Generally we will walk across snaky Plains, past Wheelers Hut and the Tooma River to the eastern slopes of Mt. Jagungal. Jagungal is an isolated crag

NOTICE FOR ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (23rd February, 1983 @ 8 p.m.)

Motion to be put forward ;

"That the Melbourne Bushwalkers become incorporated under the Sporting Bodies Incorporation Act, when it becomes operative."

There will be opportunity for discussion. We will also need to discuss the future of WALK magazine.

COMMITTEE NOTES - 7/2/1983

Treasurer - Bank Balance \$2,853.44 A/c's totalling \$498.75 were passed for payment.

Walks Secretary - Total of 189 persons on walks in December 1982.
77 weekenders, 112 Daywalkers; 142 members 47 visitors.
Loss \$18.

Membership - 343 members

Wilkinson Lodge - Successful work party on January long weekend.
National Parks assistance. A lot of wire, old fencing, posts, etc. were cleaned up in the area.

Maps - Club has purchased additional 65 maps for map file. Vic Map has discontinued producing 1:50,000 & is concentrating on 1:25,000 series.

Duty Roster - 16/2/83 Philip & Elaine
23/2/83 Rod & Robyn
2/3/83 Gail & Philip

Next Committee Meeting - 7th March, 1983.

CAR COST SHARING ON TRIPS

The following is a brief outline of the club car costs sharing policy currently being used on a trial basis.

1. Walks Secretary or Leader derives a base cost per person based on estimated distance, cost per kilometre, an allowance for bad roads and based on full cars, 3 occupants in a 4 cylinder & 4 in a 6 cylinder (includes driver). This base cost will be put on trip list.

2. The leader can then use an individual car basis or can pool costs so everyone pays the same.

Individual Car basis: Passengers pay direct to driver. If fewer car occupants than standard, increase cost per person accordingly.

Cost Pooling: Each driver gets base cost X occupants in full car & the total cost is equally shared among all trip members. Everyone pays to leader who then pays each driver. Finances are normally settled just before the drive home.

3. Beyond this common sense prevails. For complicated trips, the leader may decide to work out costs after the walk. If a driver wants only one passenger he can't expect a higher per person cost. Toyota Land Cruisers need 5 occupants to be regarded full.

Jopie Bodegraven

CONGRATULATIONS TO LYNNE MUIRHEAD & BOB DOUGLAS ON THE OCCASION OF THEIR ENGAGEMENT.

CHANGE OF INFORMATION - Telephone (work) 8119222 Bob Steel

PLEASE POST ARTICLES FOR NEWS (FOR MARCH EDITION) IN RED BOX IN CLUBROOMS. THANKING YOU.

ANNUAL REPORTS

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

BOB STEEL

1982 was my last year as President of the Melbourne Bushwalkers, having been President for 4 years - the constitutional limit. I have enjoyed my term of office, and I have been involved in some important events in the development of the club. The most significant occurrence was the move from Hosier Lane to Bushgear - a great improvement in premises.

The walking programme has been quite extensive, with very good attendances on day walks, although weekend walks were less popular. WALK Magazine has again been published, unfortunately with a higher cover price, due to increased costs. Wilkinson Lodge had good usage during 1982 although the snow season was rather poor.

Membership has declined slightly and seems to have stabilised at about 360, after reaching about 430 a few years ago.

I would like to thank everybody who has helped me over the years, particularly office bearers and committee members as well as people behind the scenes, such as the Newsprinters (Barry and Gwenda Short, then Peter Bullard), the club contacts, and others who have done various small unsung jobs for the Club.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

KEITH WHITE

Minutes have been kept for twelve committee meetings usually held on the first Monday of each month, and for five general meetings held on the last Wednesday of February, April, June, September and November.

Ordinary general meetings, i.e. those held in April, June and November have been poorly attended over the past few years - average of 20 members. Could members give some thought before the annual general meeting as to whether our general meetings should be reduced from 5 to 3 per year i.e. the annual meeting in February plus two others. This will require a change to the constitution.

The minutes kept from general meetings and committee meetings from February 1977 to June 1982 were perused for amendments to the clubs by-laws and both the Constitution and By-laws were updated and reprinted. These are available in the clubrooms for members requiring a copy.

The long awaited rental agreement covering the use of our club, room in the Bushgear building was eventually finalised. A copy of this agreement is held by the secretary if anyone is interested in the details.

It was decided by the committee that the necessary presentations be prepared for incorporation of the club when the new Act is proclaimed later this year. The new Act is designed to make incorporation both simpler and cheaper and will provide office bearers with a degree of legal protection in the event of being sued for public liability.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31/1/83

	1983		1982	
RECEIPTS				
Balance Forward		3081.58		3095.23
CLUB				
Membership Fees	3592.10			
Guide to Bushwalking	25.45			
Hire of Badges	3.00			
Donations	26.00			
Interest	298.55			
Equipment	275.95			
SOCIAL				
Total Income	677.50	677.50	2293.92	4367.68
WALKS				
Club Walks	12302.00			
Federation Walk	169.00			
Navigation Walks	179.50			
WALK MAGAZINE				
Sales & Advertising	5505.68	5505.68	3737.44	
OTHER BOOKS & MAGAZINES				
Total Sales	151.40	151.40	98.30	
WILKINSON LODGE				
Fees Collected	1567.00	1567.00	960.50	
		27854.71	26860.72	
EXPENDITURE				
CLUB				
News Printing & Postage			1927.93	
Stationery, Phone & Postage			59.51	
Subscriptions			415.00	
Post Box Hire			52.00	
Directory Entry			41.00	
Incorporation Meeting Fee			10.00	
Insurance			378.24	
Clubroom Hire & Equipment			826.40	
Equipment			65.15	
Maps			111.50	
Bank Charges			47.46	
SOCIAL				
Total Expenditure		634.68	634.68	2280.01
WALKS				
Van Hire			8090.00	
Bus Hire			4182.08	
Refunds			27.50	
Miscellaneous			39.42	
WALK MAGAZINE				
Printing			5850.00	
Business & Production Costs			250.55	
OTHER BOOKS & MAGAZINES				
Total Purchases			193.10	104.10
WILKINSON LODGE				
Supplies & Maintenance			1799.70	395.69
Bank Balance			2853.49	3081.58
		27854.71	26860.72	

TREASURER'S REPORT

HUGH DUNCAN

This year the club incurred a loss of just over \$200 over all accounts.

"Club" account receipts (mainly membership fees) were very similar to last year, but expenditure increased considerably, mainly because rent on the new clubrooms fell due for the first time in this financial year.

Social events and walks both showed a small profit for the year, while the sale of books and magazines (other than Walk) made a small loss.

Wilkinson Lodge made a loss for the first time in several years, due to the extensive maintenance work last summer, but this is more than compensated by profits in previous years. Fees were increased last year, and further losses are not expected.

The Walk magazine account showed a loss of about \$600, which is an improvement over the last financial year. The improvement is welcome, as it indicates that Walk can still be viable with good budgeting and marketing. Even so, this aspect of the club's activities needs to be managed carefully, if further losses are to be avoided.

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S REPORT

LES KRIESFELD

There are currently 392 members of the club. Of these 272 are ordinary members (includes concession members); 84 members have family membership. We have 5 honorary members and 9 life members. Membership is 22 down on last year's numbers. News subscribers total 22.

NEWS PRINTER'S REPORT/
NEWS CONVENOR'S REPORT

PETER BULLARD
ROBYN HABY

Thanks go to all those people who helped put News together over the year. Both members who contributed to the news articles, members who helped collate, label. To Ken Briscoe for supplying the address labels. Also thanks Peter for your early Monday morning cup of coffee that awaited me on each delivery of news stencils.

WALKS SECRETARY'S RPPORT

JOPIE BODEGRAVEN

There has been an overall drop in walk attendances in 1982, although they are still up on 1979 and 1980. Looked over at the long term, day walk numbers seem to be holding fairly steady whilst weekend numbers continue to decline.

The van system for daywalks has proved to be both popular and economical with Baxter's providing excellent service.

Four bus trips were held, all fairly well attended but all making some loss. They are more expensive in general than car transport but there would appear to be a place for occasional weekend bus trips to popular areas over 300 km distant, maybe 2 per year.

Mini buses were used twice and are economical if the larger 22 seaters are used and they are filled. Getting a willing driver is however a big problem as an endorsed licence is required.

WALK SECRETARY'S REPORT (CONT.)

The new car cost sharing policy now being used on a trial basis seems to be working well. Cars are still the cheapest and easiest form of transport for weekend trips.

Finally thanks to all the leaders and those who have helped put the programmes together. Keep your thinking caps on and come up with lots of good ideas for the next spring and summer programmes which will be put together in late May.

Year	Day Walkers	Weekend Walkers	Visitors	Total Walkers	No. of Trips
1977	1,335	770	751	2,605	107
78	1,668	779	876	2,447	105
79	1,518	733	673	2,251	98
80	1,484	666	700	2,150	94
81	1,749	739	747	2,488	114
82	1,699	645	638	2,339	122

SOCIAL SECRETARY'S REPORT

ATHOL SCHAFER

By our Constitution the fourth Object of the Club is "to foster social activity among the Members", and this I have attempted helped by a number of people both on and off the Committee.

Innovations on the social scene were a quiz and monthly walks of a social nature in urban areas of historical interest. The provision of supper after club night fixtures resulted in members nattering and lingering later in the Clubroom. Mention must be made of Freda Cavanagh's mother who provided the goodies for one memorable supper and for baking the Christmas cake and thanks given to Philip Larkin for getting his father to ice it.

Members who carry cameras provided material for many an informative, interesting and entertaining slide night - with special mention of Les Southwell's beautiful scenes of South West Tasmania.

The only real flop was the Orienteering and Barbeque - a wash-out - but this will be relisted in the next autumn programme.

HIRE OF EQUIPMENT

ELAINE COLLINS/
NEIL PRIESTLEY

The Club has available for hire at nominal rates a number of packs (weekend and day), tents, sleeping bags, etc. New and prospective members are particularly encouraged to utilize this facility while familiarising themselves with equipment most suitable to their needs.

Curing 1982 income from the hire of equipment has totalled \$166.

MAP CUSTODIAN'S REPORT

PHILIP LARKIN

The Club has obtained several new maps over the past twelve months, bringing the filing system up to date from imperial to metrication. It has purchased a total of 65 maps, which includes 27 maps at a scale of 1:100,000, 26 maps at scale of 1:25,000, 4 forest commission maps, 4 C.M.A. of New South Wales at scale of 1:50,000, and 4 Tasmanian maps at scale of 1:25,000. Also the Club has obtained a number of leaflets and catalogues from the mapping authorities.

MAP CUSTODIAN'S REPORT (CONT.)

The Victorian Mapping Authority has discontinued 1:50,000 scale, and started a ten year programme on 1:25,000 scale. It is producing approx. 3-5 maps per week and will continue this programme until it is completed.

Also the out of date maps have been removed from the central file and have been put into an archives file.

Finally I would like to thank Peter Bullard and Jopie Bodegraven for their help and assistance during the year.

ANNUAL REPORT ON WALK MAGAZINE

GLENN SANDERS

Once again 'Walk' has staggered off the presses and once again the troglodytes have questioned whether the club should be involved in such a publication. It seems clear to me that the club has a simple choice: to continue to publish a magazine with a definite market of 2,500 copies targeted at bushwalkers and sold largely through specialist bushwalking shops, or to retreat even further into its shell, resisting active involvement in the environmental, conservation movement for fear of drawing attention to its tenancy of a hut in a wilderness area.

'Walk' has a role to play if only to demonstrate that we are not entirely selfish.

After that little harangue, my thanks to Roy, Bob and Martin, who worked very hard at their respective tasks. My thanks also to the various contributors, and to the many words of thanks received from members when 'Walk' finally appeared: such words made up in no small way for a rather depressing year fighting off the purveyors of gloom and despair, and listening patiently to trite and childish excuses for lack of support, particularly from known enthusiastic photographers.

FINANCIAL REPORT - WALK 83

MARTIN ELIAS

This year there has been a sharp drop in advertising revenue, which is the reason for the substantial increase in the cover price. Also in view of the number of unsold 1982 copies, and to reduce expenses, 2500 copies were printed this year (3,500 copies last year).

Currently, 1160 copies have been sold or distributed. The financial position is as follows :

Total expenses (printing etc.)	\$6,500
Money currently owed to the club or received	4,300
Projected income from sale of remaining copies at wholesale price	2,200
<u>Balance</u>	<u><u>NIL</u></u>

What this means is that to break even all remaining copies must be sold. So, if you have a local bookshop or newsagent who would be interested to carry the magazine please see me in the clubrooms.

WILKINSON LODGE REPORTROD MATTINGLEY

The lodge was again in use for most of the winter. The new windows in the kitchen, shower, toilet and attic which were installed last March look really good and have improved the appearance of Wilky.

The load of cut wood we had last year from Les Vail of Tawonga should last us for a second year.

A working bee was organized by Ken MacMahon in conjunction with the National Parks Service on the Australia Day weekend. The old fence posts and wire from around Wallaces were collected and the track to Ropers lookout (opposite Falls Creek) was cleared. Thanks to all who took part and worked so hard.

There may be another work party in March. Work to be done includes; fixing up an overflow for the water from the kitchen fluc, cleanout the dam, clear along the fences and cut up the logs of wood in the yard.

A note of caution - be careful with candles. Someone had a candle on one of the wooden shelves in the shower, and the shelf above was nearly set alight!

FEDERATION OF VICTORIAN WALKING CLUBS REPORTALAN KITCHENER

The Federation exists to present the views of walkers to Government and the public, as well as its better known ~~xxxxxxx~~ activities such as Search and Rescue, hut/track maintenance, etc.

It attended the meetings held by National Parks Service(NPS) regarding the request by the Mittagundi school to reopen a track along the Big River. We suggested that an alternative route would be preferable and the NPS has approved another route leading down from Kelly's Hut. We have met with the NPS about user access to National Parks and will be examining management plans to protect the rights of walkers and campers.

Discussions are continuing between the Forests Commission of Victoria (FCV) and the Board of Works regarding that part of the Alpine Walking Track in the catchment area of the Thompson River Dam. We welcome the FCV letter regarding the proposed establishment of at least two campsites in this area. The Federation has written many letters pointing out that continued access to this area is vital to the Alpine Walking Taack.

The Federation has organized 4 track/hut maintenance weekends. Badly maintained tracks cause walkers to use the surrounding bush, gradually creating a 6 foot wide track. There were 5 Search and Rescue callouts.

We attended the Victorian Camping Conference, ensuring that the views of small tent campers were heard. The new Camping Association was formed from this conference and we will be looking at this new consumers organization with interest. The Federation has been contacted regarding a hut in the Gembrook/Powelltown area which would be ideal if(when?) another long range walking track is established. We will be following this up.

SEARCH & RESCUE REPORTGRAEME LAIDLAW

There are fourteen members on our call-out list, most of whom are prepared to be at a pick-up point within three hours of receiving a call from a club contact. Members assemble, prepared to be out in the bush for up to three days.

SEARCH & RESCUE REPORT (CONT.)

In March, at a weekend in the Cathedral Ranges, search patterns and stretcher-making and carrying were practised. It takes a team of about 24 to bring a person through the bush on a stretcher.

In early August, the only search involving our club (Phil Larkin) was south of Porepunkah.

This years practice will now probably be at Lake Mountain or on the Baw Baws in July. Club delegates meet every two months. From now on the meetings will be in Youth, Sport & Recreation rooms at Olympic Park. I will not be available to act as a delegate this year.

A.C.F. REPORT

KEITH WHITE

The ACF (Australian Conservation Foundation) is an Australian wide organization concerned with the entire range of conservation. The ACF works for long-term conservation Policies and seeks to uphold these policies whether on a local, regional, state, national or international basis. Some of the main areas of involvement during 1982 have been.

South-West Tasmania - the ACF was instrumental in gaining World Heritage Bureau endorsement for South-West Tasmania on the World Heritage List and are very strong in supporting and complimenting the activities of the T.W.S.

Great Barrier Reef- Sponsoring a petition campaign calling on the Fraser Government to declare the entire Reef and its surrounding waters as a Marine Park.

Whales - The I.U.C.N. resolution on 'Large and Small Cetacians' incorporated ACF Council's draft dealing with cessation of commercial whaling.

Save the Earth - The 'Save the Earth' campaign was a major fund raising appeal for the ACF during 1982.

Each month the ACF holds a meeting on a topical conservation subject with guest speaker at the Mobil Theatre, 2 City Road, South Melbourne. Visitors welcome.

CONSERVATION COUNCIL OF VICTORIA REPORT

PHILIP LARKIN

The CCV is a non-government, non-profit "umbrella" organisation for conservation groups in Victoria.

The CCV has over 125 member organisations (who total more than 50,000 individual members). These range from bushwalking clubs (like us) Field Naturalist Clubs and conservation societies to state wide action groups.

The CCV acts on behalf of the conservation movement in Victoria keeping an eye on government agencies, co-ordinating non-government conservation in Victoria and publishing books and pamphlets to promote conservation and environmental protection.

During the year there have been a number of issues on conservation and the environment throughout Victoria raised.

1. Mines (Amendment) Bill. - the critically important legislation which is intended to regulate the mining industry in Vic.
2. Wildlife and Native Plants. The Flora and fauna guarantee aims re species, habitats communities endangered, requirements for continued existence, current state of protection and the most efficient means for carrying out these objectives.

C.C.F. REPORT (CONT.)

. Victoria Heritage Plan. A public discussion paper is hoped to be circulated this year re conservation goals & objectives, assessing existing problems re aboriginal cultural heritage, historical places, artefacts & historical records.

4. East Gippsland National Parks.
5. Pulpwood harvesting in the Otways.
6. Woodchipping in East Gippsland.
7. Mt. Stirling Ski Development proposal.
8. The Grampians National Park
9. South-West Tasmania.

Lastly, I was disappointed with the lack of support & interest in this area from members and the CCV. Why?

V.N.P.A. REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT

GAIL FEARSON

A great variety of activities and issues have been tackled by the VNPA during the course of 1982.

- * A number of National Parks have had their boundaries extended significantly;
- * Several new reservations have been created;
- * The number of "Friends" groups has been constantly increasing, with a great deal of voluntary assistance, resulting in many improvements in our National Parks;
- * The proposed Grampians National Park - The CCV recommendation which allows for continued logging in the proposed area is a concern to the V.N.P.A.'s proposals for the Grampians.
- * Development of policies on a number of issues, including forests, definition of national parks, and mining;
- * Woodchipping in the Otways and East Gippsland have continued to be a source of concern to the V.N.P.A.

The VNPA welcome the support of all members and are grateful for the assistance given to their activities.