



THE NEWS

OF THE MELBOURNE BUSHWALKERS

Edition

393

SEPTEMBER 1983

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SOCIAL COLUMN

WERRIBEE PARK

MELWAYS MAP 201

SATURDAY OCTOBER 29th

WE WILL MEET IN THE CAR PARK AREA INSIDE THE GROUNDS AT 11.30 am.

BRING ALONG LOTS OF YUMMY FOOD FOR A BBQ LUNCH.

COST \$4 PER ADULT PAY AT GATE.

AFTER LUNCH ACTIVITIES

*for the energetic - 25 acres of gardens set out on eighteenth century design.

*for the many members who now own ankle biters there is a fauna park with lots of lovely baby animals (no lions)

*olde woodshed diary and stables

*for the lazy there are many trees to curl up under and have a kip (weather permitting)

so come along young and old and have a great day.

At the President's residence.....

Coming soon - Wine Bottling and BBQ, more details next news.

CONGRATULATIONS,

Leonie Thompson and Hugh Duncan on the occasion of your engagement.

SEX APPEAL!!!

SISTER SMITH OF COOMA DISTRICT HOSPITAL, WAS VISIBLY PLEASED WHEN SHE SPOKE TO ME LAST WEEK. "HASN'T YOUR SKING MATE GOT A SEXY TELEPHONE VOICE?" SHE ASKED. MY MATE? - NONE OTHER THAN OTTO. WHEN SHE MET HIM TWO OR THREE DAYS LATER, SHE WAS MOVED TO TELL OTTO IN PERSON OF HER OPINION. FOR A MOMENT I THOUGHT SHE WAS ABOUT TO FORGET HER HOSPITAL DUTIES, BUT FINALLY OTTO WAS REBASED AND HOME WE CAME. (GRAEME LAIDLAW)

WHOSE GOING TO CALL OTTO FIRST??

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 St., entrance from Racing Club Lane, every Wednesday night 7-9pm.,
Visitors are always welcome.

REQUEST

To those intending to come on the walk at Wilsons Promontory 23-25th September. Please ring me and advise us as soon as possible if you intend to come for the purpose of making bookings at the National Park for the trip. (numbers are restricted).

Stuart Mattingley 596 3976 (H)

DAY WALKS.....

OCT 2ND MORNINGTON PENINSULA NATIONAL PARKS Easy

LEADER: ART TERRY
TRANSPORT: VAN FROM BATMAN AVE, 9.00am.
EXPECTED TIME OF RETURN: 7.30pm
MAP REFERENCE: SORRENTO 1" = 1M or Broadbents - Mornington Peninsula.
APPROXIMATE DISTANCE: 16KM.

A very pleasant and interesting walk following Main Creek from Baldrys Crossing through beautiful stands of blackwoods, eucalypts and native shrubs, it is an area rich in birdlife and everything else that makes the Australian Bush a nice place to be in.

We follow the singing creek till it junctions with Lightwood Creek where we leave the valley and ascend to the heights for a view of the coast and the surrounding countryside from the heights we drop to the Main Creek walking track and eventually finish up at Highfields Homestead.

OCT 9TH MT. SLIDE - ST. ANDREWS EASY/MED.

LEADER: JIM WILCOCK
TRANSPORT : VAN FROM DATMAN AVE, 9am
EXPECTED TIME OF RETURN: 7pm
MAP REFERENCE: YARRA GLEN 1:50,000
APPROXIMATE DISTANCE: 12km.

This walk is an easier alternative to the harder walk also being held in same area by Graham Mascas. Area is quite rugged and an "easy" walk is not easy to arrange, however I am hopeful what has been planned will be acceptable and still give some sense of achievement.

The walk starts at GR 566 393 (Road Junction) and follows Road North-West until opposite Mt. Beggary. Up the hill, through the scrub to top of Mt. Beggary for lunch. After lunch, south down track to Mt. Everard and then west via Compass to finish at GR. 495 387.

THE AUGUST VICWALK NEWSLETTER HAS BEEN PLACED ON THE NEWSBOARD FOR ANYONE WHOSE INTERESTED.

DAY WALKS CONT.....

OCT 15TH HISTORICAL WALK - NORTHCOTE EASY

Meet under the clocks by 2 pm. Discover the fascinating history of one of our oldest suburbs.
Refer to "Melbourne on Foot".
Returning approx, 5pm.

OCT 16th OLD STRZELECKI RAILWAY - WILD WOOD CREEK E/MED
(GIPPSLAND - 2 WALKS).

LEADER: KEITH WARDURTON
FOR FURTHER DETAILS OF THIS WALK SEE LEADER IN CLUBROOMS.

OCT 23rd SUNDAY CREEK - MT. DISAPPOINTMENT - E/MED
TOOROURRONG

LEADER: ROD MATTINGLEY
TRANSPORT: VAN FROM BATMAN AVE, 9AM.
EXPECTED TIME OF RETURN: 7pm
MAP REFERENCE: KINGLAKE 1:50,000
APPROXIMATE-DISTANCE: 15km.

We will start near the West Plenty River and follow up the Valley of Falls Creek. After reaching Sugar Loaf Hill most walking will be on tracks - they are almost impossible to avoid in this area. If the weather is clear, there are good views to be had from Mt. Disappointment.

OCT 23RD CLCLING - BUNGAREE - MT. EGERTON

LEADER: ART TERRY
TRANSPORT: VAN FROM BATMAN AVE, 9AM.
EXPECTED TIME OF RETURN: 7.30pm
MAP REFERENCE: GOOD ROAD MAP
APPROXIMATE DISTANCE: ANY DISTANCE YOU CHOOSE TO GO.
0-80kms.

I have chosen Bungaree - Mt. Egerton - Meredith and Steiglity because it is a pretty ride on roads with little traffic to contend with, however if the wind does not favour this ride then we will go elsewhere, this will be decided on the morning of the ride. Outie often due to wind change an easy ride turns to a tough one. We will have the luxury of a van to transport us and the bikes so make the most of it and come along. The beauty of having a van accompanying us is that one can retire when one pleases, at \$10 a head it is good value - a similar distance by train costs a lot more. So if you are an experienced rider or just starting out this is an outing designed for you - 18 is the limit.

It is essential that all riders carry at least one spare tube and a pump to fit whatever type of valves that are fitted to your tubes.

OCT 30th MT. LOOKOUT - HILLBURN EASY/MED.

LEADER: ALAN KITCHENER

This is a good walk in spring time through open grazing country along granite ridge tops. There is not a lot of climbing involved but the distance is reasonably long. You will need to bring water for lunch and there will be a few fences to climb, as usual. There will be lots of lovely views over the surrounding countryside and probably some wild flowers - the feral types. It will probably be windy on these exposed ridges and I have ordered good weather but you never can tell in the Melbourne area at Cup time. You

WEEKEND WALKS CONT....

The first day's walk starts from Mackie Road west of Mt. Cowley with short climb up to Mt. Cowley. Then following Garveys Track to Lorne Forest Reserves to visit the Kalimna Falls and Sheoak Falls before going on to Cumberland River Camping Park for over night camp.

The second days walk will leave the Cumberland River and take the Cumberland Track up to Mt. Defiance. Then cross to some old timber tramways to finish the walk at Curtis or Gail Clearing for a pleasant. weekend walk.

Oct 22nd - 23rd Mt. Torbeck - Snobs Gan Easy/Med.

LEADER: PEARSON CRESSWELL
 TRANSPORT: PRIVATE
 MAP REF: ALEXANDRA 1:100,000
 APPROXIMATE DISTANCE: 20km.

This will be a not-too-strenuous walk in the Mt. Torbreck area (near Eildon) designed to loosen the legs a bit for summer and maybe entice out a few members who don't normally get into weekend walking. A Saturday morning start will be made. Further details will be available from the leader when he works out where Mt. Torbreck is.

Oct 29-31 STAIRCASE SPUR - BOGONG - ESKDALE SPUR MED/HARD.

LEADER: SPENCER GEORGE
 TRANSPORT: PRIVATE
 EXP. TIME OF RET. : 10pm.
 MAP REF: BOGONG
 APPROXIMATE DISTANCE : 30km, 50% uphill, 50% downhill.

Bogong is Victoria's highest mountain. We will begin walking early on Saturday morning so that we have finished climbing the Staircase before lunch. The afternoon will be spent exploring the top of the mountain with perhaps a swim in an icy pool under a waterfall. Weather permitting we will visit West Peak on Sunday morning.

Oct 29-Nov 1st WHITEWATER RAFTING - UPPER MURRAY HARD.

LEADER: BOB DOUGLAS
 TRANSPORT: PRIVATE FROM BATMAN AVE.
 EXP. TIME OF RET. : 9PM
 MAP REF: 1:100,000 KOSCIUSKO - JACOBS RIVER.
 APPROXIMATE DIST. : UNKNOWN.

This rafting trip includes the most demanding stretch of white water in Australia. For toughies only.

FOR DETAILS OF OCT 29 - NOV 1st HIGH PLAINS CIRCUIT WALK SEE P.2
 Conservation.

Are you interested in the future of Victoria? The Government has invited us to make a submission to a State Conservation Strategy, which has the aim of integrating sustainable development and the conservation of nature and natural resources. If you would like to join a small informal discussion group or have any ideas you would like to see incorporated in State policy, please contact Athol Schafer 211 2649.

ALONG THE TRACK.....

PETER BULLARD 19-21st AUGUST MT. ARAPILLEES BASE

If you want a good time go on a base camp of Peter Bullard's. This time we went to Arapillees and climbed a few of the different climbs there were. Mark Le Maire was our second and between the two of them and Aust Hetty, smiles did not cease, nor laughs and pleasure. Twelve of us went and nine of us had to go climbing. Russell and Andrea - first time climbers were like mountain goats - we just stared in ore. On Friday night it was raining when we got there, but up went the tents and a good sleep. Saturday was o.k. after finding the rock covered with fog it cleared by 10.00 (roughly) so off we went to our first climb - Cave Rock - this was a grade 3 climb from memory, not bad once up there the view was magical and worth the slips and slides, some or all of us endured to get to the top by rope. Then lunch came and after that Hammer Grade 3 again, by this time Anne Bullard's pants were - lets say - a little bit mud bound, but not enough to hold her to the ground.

Andrea was up and down, Jan had a go and enjoyed it. Mike and Dave who joined us at lunch were both up and down. Eve had a go. Russell - well no more need be said, he missed every second foot or hand hold because of his height. Peter and Mark were great as belayers (it means holders - I think) of our safety ropes. Ivor, Vyril and Wendy were our watchful observers and enjoyed taking photos or just relaxing. Ivor and Vyril came up Thursday. Tea was at the Natimuk Pub - here we had our 13th member join us - a very good friend of Ivors from memory - Aust Hetty. She stayed with us over tea and then back at camp over a good fire the men built. Port, Port and more Port, and a cake that was really well received, also some chocolate cake-they didn't last long. Some people were introduced to Aust Hetty by the fire others weren't so lucky.

Sunday morning we went for a walk or (bush bash) up and down, over and under, in and out, we were all there! Lunch was short and sweet and we or some of us went home and others stayed. I am not sure who stayed but I know Mike and Dave went. I believe Peter, Mark, Andrea and Russell. Wendy stayed I am sure of because she drove Russell up (and is now out of action car wise) So I suppose because Peter stayed Ann would now she is P.B's wife, but the others - well? I heard from the grapevine all had a good time.

If you want to know more about any of Bullard, Le Maire trips I guess you will have to check up with Aust Hetty.

S.T.A.V. HUTS POLICY AND WILKINSON LODGE

The Ski-Touring Association of Victoria (S.T.A.V.) published their Huts Policy in the July issue of their newsletter "Skitour". Under the heading "Availability to the Public", it states -

"It is S.T.A.V.'s long term policy that all huts on public land be open and available for public use."

Wilky is not mentioned, but the Rover Chalet and Johnson's hut are commented on as follows:-

"It would be unrealistic to expect that such huts would be thrown totally open to the general public immediately but we believe that a policy should be adopted which aims to achieve full public availability in a time scale measured in years, not decades.

This obviously applies to Wilky as well, and if it was implemented would result in Wilky becoming a wreck very quickly. If you are a member of S.T.A.V. and disagree with this huts policy, let them know about it. Rod Mattingley.

FOR SALE:

LADIES EUREKA BOOTS - SIZE 4½ (=6½B) Good condition \$30.
Phone 51 7487 (after 7.30pm) from Barbara Durton.

Submission on the Proposed Interim Management Plan for the
Bogong National Park.

The following is the club's submission on the recently published plan:

Having studied the Bogong National Park proposed management plan, we, the Melbourne Bushwalkers, endorse the objectives outlined therein. In particular we approve of concentrating on "the protection of the natural values of the park and on the provision of recreational opportunities that do not adversely affect those values".

We appreciate the opportunity to comment and would like to make the following points:

1. Section A.4.1. Visitor use, facilities and services.
We heartily concur with the emphasis on non-mechanical recreational pursuits.
2. Section A.4.1.1. Bushwalking. We query the choice of the Hollands Knob area as a reference zone as it is well used by walkers and skiers.
3. Section A.4.1.2. Bush Camping. We welcome the opportunity for bush-camping throughout the park, but feel that the 200 metre minimum from a road is too restrictive.
4. Section A.4.1.3. Vehicular access and vehicle based recreation. We hope that the existing practice of casual camping with vehicles in the Falls Creek unit, Hotham unit, Tabletop unit and Special Management Zones will be allowed to continue, unless there is evidence to unacceptable damage occurring.

It is good to see that the recreational use of oversnow vehicles in the park will not be permitted.

Section A.4.1.4. Ski Touring and
Section A.4.1.7. Public Safety. We approve of the aim to provide a balance between facilities for safety i.e. existing huts and pole lines, and preserving the opportunities for remote experiences.

The over-zealous provision of aids can detract from the experience visitors seek in the more remote locations.

5. Section A.4.1.12 Commercial Adventure Tours.
We support the management strategies in this section.
6. Section A.4.4.1. Cattle Grazing. We feel that cattle and cattlemen are part of the High Plains scene, and the compromise proposed is most acceptable to us.
7. Section A.4.4.7 Resort Development. We support the management strategies in this section.
8. Section A.4.1.8. Huts. We agree in principle with the strategy of maintaining huts while preserving their value as historic structures.

As we have a long and intimate association with Wilkinson Lodge, we have a particular concern for its future use and would welcome the opportunity to discuss this with the National Parks Service.

The use of Wilkinson Lodge is not exclusive to the Melbourne Bushwalkers, approximately 25% of users are not members. At present out only restriction on its use is that a club approved member shall be responsible for every party. This policy has protected this historic hut and its natural surroundings very successfully.

It is evident to us that this well written plan has been thoroughly researched.

Walk (Weekend) left out from Page 5.....

OCT 29 - NOV 1 (Melb Cup Weekend)

HIGH PLAINS CIRCUIT - SPION KOPJE - NELSE - NIGGERHEADS - FAINTER.

TRANSPORT: PRIVATE.
APPROXIMATE DISTANCE: 50KM.
MAP REFERENCE: BOGONG HIGH PLAINS.

For those lucky enough to have a long weekend this trip should prove to be a delight. We will start near Spion Kopje and then walk around the perimeter of the Bogong High Plains via Nelse, Nelse North, Mt. Cope, Tawonga Huts, Niggerheads and Mt. Fainter. As we have four days to complete the walk we can take our time and enjoy the scenery. Hopefully the weather will be fine but everyone should bring wet weather gear just in case.

INCORPORATION

By now, all members will have received the special issue of NEWS containing the proposed Rules and Statement of Purposes.

If you are unable to attend the General Meeting on September 28th please cast your vote by filling in the PINK Postal Vote Form, and posting it so as to reach the club by the date of the meeting. We have even paid the return postage for you!

Special thanks are due to:

Robyn Haby- for typing the stencils for the special issue of NEWS and assisting on the sub-committee.
Athol Schafer- for assisting on the sub-committee.
Peter Bullard and Anne Bullard - for printing the special issue of NEWS, and organising Business Reply Post for the Postal Vote Forms.

Geoff Mattingley,
President.

COMMITTEE NOTES.

MONTH OF AUGUST
MONEY IN BANK \$9,170 APPROXIMATELY
 \$6,000 in FIXED DEPOSITS.

MEMBERS FOR MONTH OF JULY:-
228 walkers

181 day walkers
47 weekend walkers \$25.70 profit.

DUTY ROSTER:-

14/9 N. Priestley/P. Stapley
21/9 R. Mattingley/F. Larkin
28/9 R. Haby/B. Spencer
5/10 P. Larkin/N. Priestley

Bushgear Discount Cards are available from Betty Spencer 233 8865.

NEW MEMBERS

CODOGNOTTO, Diana
22 Tenterden St., Spotswood 3015.
Tel (H) 314 3051 (W) 63 6212.

FRITZE, Vyrall 2 Bow Crescent, Camberwell 3124.
Tel (H) 830 4192.

HAMANN Helen 2 Aenone Ave., Noble Park 3174.
Tel (H) 546 8526

LINLEY Andrea 4 Dowville Court, Camberwell 3124
Tel (H) 29 6312 (W) 63 2888

MORONEY Brian 232 Amess St., Carlton North 3054.
Tel (H) 387 6992

SBISA Helen 45 Tucker Rd., Moorabbin 3189
Tel (H) 55 77187

Changes of information.

ANDERSON Michael 2 King St., Sandringham 3191
SARGEANT Donald 9/61 Mayston St.,
East Hawthorn, 3123

SHORT, Barry and Gwenda, 4 Pleasant Rise,
South Croydon 3136.

Tel (H) 723 1523

DOUGLAS LYNNE AND BOB 13 Drewett St., Surrey Hills 3127.
(Tel 898 3647 - Home).