



THE NEWS

OF THE MELBOURNE BUSHWALKERS

Edition 406

DECEMBER 1984

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S O C I A L C O L U M N

* * * SATURDAY, JANUARY 12TH 1985 * * *

Why not start off The Bushies' social calendar with a day at the beach - a beach picnic cum BBQ at Merricks Beach (Melways reference 192 H12). This should prove a fun day for all, with additional attractions such as sack races, egg and spoon race, 3-legged race, wheelbarrow races, etc. The two categories will be: children (under 18) and others (over 18). Also bring along cricket bats and balls, etc.

Time: 1 pm onwards
BYO everything

Please let Rosemary Cotter or others on the Social Subcommittee know if you intend coming.

* * * SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 16TH 1985 * * *

The last yacht cruise was such a success (due in part to the weather) that we have decided to run another trip. To recap on details: a day trip aboard the 54' ketch (16.46 metres) named The Aztec. She is an ocean going craft, has teak decks and is painted yellow. Depart from Ferguson Street Pier in Williamstown (next to the Hobson's Bay Yacht Club). Bring your own lunch (cooker ice, fridge etc. will be available).

Time of departure: 9.30 am from Ferguson Street Pier.

We will be charging \$15 per person. Preference will be given to members who didn't go on the last trip (until January 30th - then those who want can book for a second trip if there are still places).

Bookings with Rosemary Cotter in clubrooms or at home (481 2205).

* * * A SATURDAY EVENING IN MARCH * * *

We hope to arrange a social night mid-March, possibly a spit roast. Watch the next News for details.

Correspondence should be directed to:-

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

Meetings are held in the clubrooms, 377 Little Bourke Street,
entrance from Racing Club Lane, every Wednesday night 7-9 pm.
Visitors are always welcome.

DAY WALKS
JANUARY 1985

JANUARY 13	SNOWY JUNCTION, KEPPEL FALLS LOOKOUT, MARYSVILLE	MEDIUM
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LEADERS	ED LAWTON, HUGH DUNCAN
TRANSPORT	VAN FROM BATMAN AVENUE, 9.00 am
EXPECTED TIME OF RETURN	8.00 pm
MAP REFERENCE	STEAVENSON
APPROX. DISTANCE	17 km

This walk is all down hill along tracks and the Taggerty River.
The first 4.4 km is very steep, but is down hill. You may need
water for the first part of this walk.

JANUARY 20	SUGARLOAF - FARMYARD - CATHEDRAL RANGE (NEAR BUXTON)	MEDIUM
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LEADER	MAX CASLEY
TRANSPORT	VAN FROM BATMAN AVENUE, 9.00 am
EXPECTED TIME OF RETURN	8.00 pm
MAP REFERENCE	CATHEDRAL RANGE ALGONA GUIDE ALSO TAGGERTY AND THORNTON 1:50,000
APPROX. DISTANCE	8 km

The Cathedral Range is a small but spectacular range with steep
sides, with excellent views from the top. We will start from the
southern end at Sugarloaf Saddle and climb to the top. A sub-group
may go up via Wells Cave which involves a steep rock scramble. We
will go north along the ridge all the way to Chapel Hill, finishing
at the Little River. However, if the weather is very hot we may
decide to shorten the walk or change the area. Bring plenty of water
and be prepared for rock hopping - but it's worth it for the
excellent views.

JANUARY 27	MURRINDINDI CASCADES - WILHELMINA FALLS	EASY & MEDIUM (2 walks)
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LEADERS	MAIN - DAVID DAVIES - MEDIUM SUB - TRACY GUEST - EASY
TRANSPORT	VAN FROM BATMAN AVENUE, 9.00 am
MAP REFERENCE	KLONDYKE 1:25,000

Both walks take in a brand new 11 km foot track built under a CEP
scheme which follows the Murrindindi River from the Murrindindi
Cascades downstream to past Wilhelmina Falls. Even on a hot day
the shady forests and nearby river should be a delight. Bring
bathers for a swim or paddle. The rest of the walks is yet to be
previewed in detail but is bound to be good too.

DAY WALKS - ContinuedJANUARY 28 - Monday MORNINGTON - VT. MARTHA EASY

LEADER ATHOL SCHEMER
 TRANSPORT Meet under the clocks in time to catch the 8.30 am train to Frankston. There the bus to Mornington will depart at 9.55 am. Ticket: "Anywhere Card" (\$4) for most.
 EXPECTED TIME OF RETURN 5.30 pm

Nunn's Walk, extending most of the distance, winds through coastal clifftop scrub and under tea-tree forest, giving good views of the bay, and with a number of diversions down to secluded coves and inlets for swimming.

W E E K E N D W A L K SJ A N U A R Y 1 9 8 5JANUARY 18-20 DINNER PLAIN - MT TABLETOP EASY/MEDIUM

LEADER GRAHAM BREEN
 TRANSPORT PRIVATE
 MAP REFERENCE DARGO 1:100,000
 APPROX. DISTANCE 28 km

Depart Melbourne Friday and meet at Harrietville pub at 7.00 am Saturday. Then convoy to start point at the junction of the Alpine Road and Dinner Plain Track.

The first day's walk will be a meander through snow plains along the head of the Victoria River, then a mild bash through snow gum country to Precipice Plain, where the route of the walk on Sunday can be observed across the valley. From Precipice Plain we will take the track to Mayford on the Dargo River, quite a steep descent, where we will come overnight.

On Sunday we start with a splash up Tabletop Creek and then ascend a steep spur through scrub and timber for the first kilometre, after that the going gets easier. There is another short sharp climb to the top of Tabletop for fine views to the Dargo High Plains and Devil's Hollow. We follow the ridge to the Alpine Road for a short stroll back to Dinner Plain and the cars, water should be carried on the Sunday.

JANUARY 25-28 BOGONG CREEK SADDLE - MT BOGONG - MEDIUM
(Australia Day Weekend) WATCHBED CREEK

LEADER Marilyn Whimpey
 TRANSPORT Private cars
 MAP REFERENCE Bogong 1:100,000; Nelse 1:25,000;
 Bogong High Plains & Adjacent Peaks - Algona
 APPROX. DISTANCE 35 km

After a long car shuffle between Bogong Creek Saddle and Rocky Valley Dam we'll start from Bogong Creek Saddle and climb up Quartz Ridge to Mt. Bogong - one of the easier ways of climbing this mountain - only 700 metres. We'll probably camp on Camp Creek on the first night and visit Howmans Falls. If you like icy cold water there are some good swimming holes. The second day we'll descend to and cross Big River and climb up on to the Bogong High Plains, possibly camping near Roper's Hut. The third day is a stroll over Mt. Nelse North and Mt. Nelse and Heathy Spur to Rocky Valley Dam.

I can promise you beautiful weather and fantastic views, but bring winter gear and good waterproofs in case I break my promise. It can blizzard up there at any time of the year.

JANUARY 25-28 FAINTERS - MT. COPE - WILKY MEDIUM/HARD

LEADER GERRY KOTTEK
 For details of this walk, please see the leader in the clubrooms.

W H A T ' S O NI N T H E C L U B R O O M S

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 23rd

SALE OF THE CENTURY PARTICIPATORY QUIZ & FUN EVENING

8.00 pm in the Clubrooms

Come ye all to an evening of fun and frivolity with a chance at the grand prize - a free van trip. Quizmaster Athol S. will ask the rapid fire questions. Host(ess?) Steve C. will select the participants and Stuart H, will mastermind the lights, timers, buzzers and associated electronic paraphernalia. Questions will be a mish mash of some bushwalking and many general trivia questions, supplied by about 8 different contributors and jumbled up in a big box. There may even be some Who-Am-Is. There will be 3 participants in each round of 10 questions. The highest scorer goes on to meet 2 new challengers drawn from the eager audience by our lovely host(ess). Come along prepared to a) participate and b) have a good time.

PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION UPDATE

Two changes have been made to the details given in November News.

1. Extra Categories

There will now be two extra categories.

They are - 7 Open - slides

8 Open - prints

This is to cater for all you buffs with favourite shots that don't fit into the other categories.

2. Discount Rates

To encourage entries there will be a discount rate of 3 entries for \$2.

Full details in January and February News.

B O G O N G N A T I O N A L P A R KA S S I S T A N C E W E E K E N DJANUARY 26-28 1965 (AUSTRALIA DAY WEEKEND)

For the past two years we have organised work parties to help improve the newly-created Bogong National Park. In the first year we cleaned up the ugly and dangerous old metal fences around Wallaces Hut. Last year we dug a pit toilet for Wallaces and improved drainage on the access track.

I am not sure at this stage what we will be doing but if you would like to come along the main prerequisites are enthusiasm and lots of energy.

If you are interested, let me know or talk to Mick Mann in the clubrooms ASAP.

Ken MacMahon
Phone 452 977 (home)

C O M M I T T E E N O T E S
M E E T I N G 3 R D D E C E M B E R 1 9 8 4

Business Arising from Previous Minutes

At the last Committee meeting, it was resolved that -

"The Committee endorses Jim Hedstrom's proposal for management of the overdraft account."

This proposal was Published in November News.

Correspondence

A letter was received from Anne and Lindsay Crawford requesting that the Club membership list not be made available to anyone seeking to use it as a mailing list for advertising purposes.

A "Wilderness Congress" is being organised for the 19th-20th April 1985 by the publishers of "Action Outdoor" magazine. Guest speaker will be Greg Lowe.

Treasurer

Balance as at end November		10 745.19
	(total all accounts)	
Bills for payment	D. Barson	310.60
	Program printing	111.60
	Walk 85 typesetting	1 860.00
	Photos	61.50
	Map negatives	12.30
	J. Hedstrom	15 352.53

Note that this last item pays out Jim Hedstrom's temporary financing of the van purchase. The new overdraft account with ANZ Bank is now in operation, so we will be paying overdraft interest from now on.

Walks Secretary

October (October 7th walk not included)

Members	140	Day	144
Visitors	43	Weekend	<u>39</u>
			183
		Income	\$1514

Walk

WALK 85 is now available.

Some of the cover printing is unsatisfactory. Phil Taylor will negotiate with the printer.

The Editor, Heather Cameron, has resigned from the Committee and is moving to Sydney. She was thanked by the Committee for her efforts in producing WALK 85.

Wilkinson Lodge

See separate item.

Transport

David Baxter has allowed us \$627.00 off the purchase price of the van, being the cost of repairs necessary to meet roadworthy standards (tyres and exhaust).

Walk leaders please note the following resolutions:

1. Use of the van for day walks with less than 15 passengers is uneconomical.
2. Apart from standard day walks, no arrangements are to be made for use of the van without approval by the committee. (This applies mainly to weekend walks.)

COMMITTEE NOTES - ContinuedFederation

Federation Day Walk: Sunday 31st March 1985. To be organised by Maroondah Bushwalking Club in Kinglake area.

Duty Roster

December	12	Neil/Athol
	19	Winifred/Mike
	26	Clubroom closed
January	2	Robyn/Geoff
	9	Rosemary/Jill

Next Committee meeting

January 7th

Other Business

1. Small advertisements are to be placed in "Wild" and "Action Outdoor" magazines.
2. With the publication of the new Yellow Pages, Marion Siseman is now the information contact for the club.

Committee office bearers please note:

1. Annual Reports are required for inclusion in February News (deadline 6th February - earlier will make Merilyn's job easier). ** See bottom of this page.
2. If you are not standing again next year, please attempt to find someone to replace you.

C L U B R O O M S

1. Please note that the clubrooms will be closed on Wednesday 26th December 1985.
2. Bushgear has been bought out by Mountain Designs, and the shop at 377 Little Bourke Street has been painted yellow and is signposted "Mountain Designs". So if you are telling anyone how to find the clubrooms, don't tell them to look for the Bushgear building - it isn't there anymore!

W I L K I N S O N L O D G E

The National Parks Service are fitting their own locks to gates on the Bogong High Plains, over the weekend 8th/9th December 1984. One key only will be issued to cattlemen and organisations needing access, and subject to the following conditions:

1. Vehicle movement must be restricted to a minimum. After heavy rain, some tracks may be closed for indefinite periods.
2. Access to Johnson Telemark Hut, Wilkinson Lodge and Rover Scout Chalet is restricted to official working bees only. The Ranger in Charge must be notified in advance of dates for all working bees.
3. Gates must be locked immediately after entry or exit.
4. Only one key will be issued. Management of the key will be the responsibility of the holder.
5. Keys are of a restricted profile and cannot be copied without an official National Parks Service order. Replacement of lost keys must be by written request through the North East District Office, Wangaratta, at a cost of \$50.00.

** Editor's Note: I will be in Tasmania from 2-15th February 1985, and will have to get someone else to type News for that month. I can type any reports I receive before 31st January.

WILKINSON LODGE - Continued

This will mean that people taking in winter food will have to carry it in from the barrier. To minimise the effort involved, a year's supply of briquettes will be purchased and taken in by a work party before next winter.

LETTER NO. 2 -
R E P U R C H A S E O F
J A C K B A X T E R ' S V A N

Dear Members and Visitors,

I was pleased that Rod, Athol and Fred answered my letter and expressed their views on the matter of a levy. My sincere thanks to them for their efforts. The fears expressed by Rod and Athol will no doubt be given serious consideration by members when a vote is taken on a levy at the A.G.M. Like Fred and many other members, I favour an equitable levy, but if it is rejected by the majority then perhaps we could launch an appeal for voluntary donations to help pay for the van and reduce our debt to the bank.

We have become a business now that we have an overdraft, which does cause changes to be made to ensure that enough cash keeps coming in to meet the demands of the overdraft and general club expenses. When business practices are introduced into a non-profit organization such as ours then the character of the club changes.

In closing, remember what Athol suggested. regarding buying copies of this year's "Walk" as presents and also back numbers if you don't have them.

Yours sincerely,
Art Terry

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L E T T E R T O T H E E D I T O R

In my opinion it would be an unwise move to institute a levy upon club members to finance the purchase of the van. Rather than bringing the club together, I feel it would be divisive.

I would suggest a better course of action would be to ask members for donations. This would mean that no one would be coerced into giving money - but those that wish and can afford to may give financial assistance. I am also in favour of fund raising activities which, apart from all else, could be fun! I would be willing to assist in such activities and would like to hear from others likewise inclined.

Sandy Mattingley

* * * * *

L E T T E R F R O M T H E E D I T O R

All these people offering their opinions on paying for the van have inspired me to offer mine. I don't think it is necessary to levy members or do anything else to speed up the payment of the overdraft. A bank overdraft is quite normal in business and, according to Jim Hedstrom who has done a lot of research into the matter, should not be more than \$1000 in any one year.

However, if members are worried about owing money and want to pay the bank sooner, I think the best suggestions raised have related to social fund raising activities. The club runs at least one social event a month, most of which are very cheap and some of which are free. If we could put a levy on these activities - say \$2 per person or \$4 per family, we could raise a bit of money.

Merilyn Whimpey

C O N S E R V A T I O N :
GETTING RESULTS BY "DIRECT ACTION"

Most bushwalkers can appreciate the importance of the conservation of our natural environment. We also know that achieving results is often a long and difficult process.

One way in which you can do something for what remains of our natural heritage here in Victoria is to join a group like Kurri Kurri Co-op. This small, highly motivated organization has been formed to purchase an area of remnant bushland in dairy country near Warrnambool - a district that has been almost denuded of its original vegetation.

Such a project may seem insignificant when one considers the destruction still going on generally, but it is a start and a clear demonstration of people's commitment. It is also a way of directly achieving something worthwhile.

If you would like to become involved or obtain more information, contact Kurri Kurri Co-op Ltd., P.O. Box 582, Warrnambool, Vic. 3280, or ring Ken or Joan MacMahon on 452 977.

W E W E L C O M E T H E
F O L L O W I N G N E W M E M B E R S

Karen Wale	2 Tucker Avenue, Port Melbourne 3207 Phone: 64 3094 (H); 64 3251 Ext. 33 (W)
Roberta Christie	14/39 Hotham Street, East St. Kilda 3183 Phone: 527 8132 (H); 813 1611 Ext. 223 (W)
Fergus McCowan	12 Gourock Street, Reservoir 3073 Phone: 469 4794 (H); 359 2322 (W)

HELP!HELP!HELP!HELP!HELP!HELP!HELP!HELP!HELP!HELP!HELP!HELP!HELP!HELP!

As I want to go bushwalking in Tasmania from 2nd to 15th February 1985 would some kind person/s please volunteer to type News that month. I'll type up everything I can before I go, so if Committee office bearers, March walk leaders and anyone else who has copy for News can possibly get it me by Wednesday, 28th January instead of the normal deadline of 6th February, I would be very grateful.

Merilyn Whimpey
Phone: 386 0150 (H)
690 2322 (W)

FOR ALL YOUR MAPPING REQUIREMENTS VISIT:

MELBOURNE MAP CENTRE

740 WAVERLEY ROAD, CHADSTONE, 3148 PHONE: 569 5472

NATMAPS CMA (N.S.W.) VICMAPS

FOREST COMMISSION OF VICTORIA and NEW SOUTH WALES

MAPLAND (S.A.) TASMAPS

ALSO

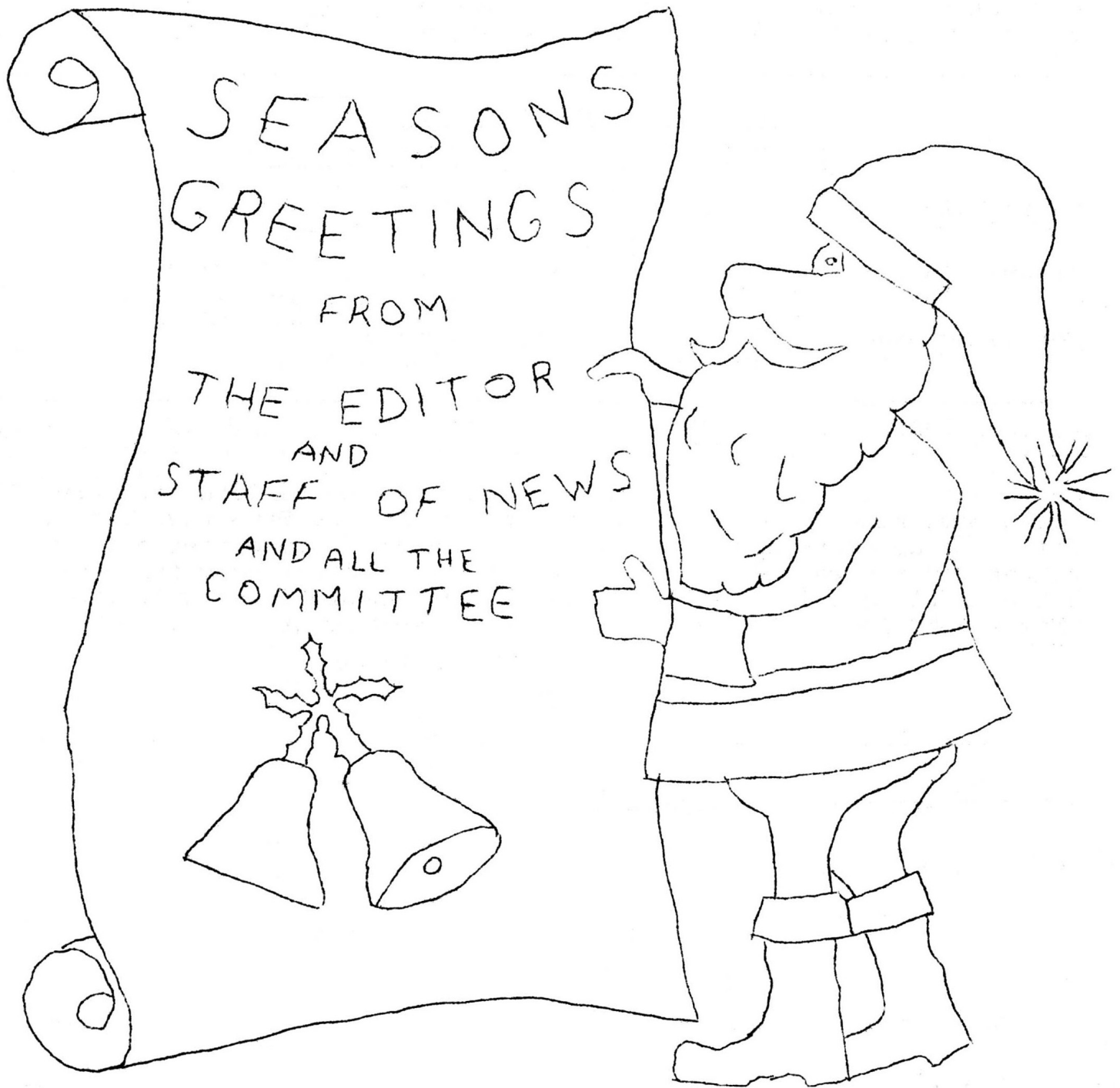
OVERSEAS MAPS COMPASSES GLOBES

TRAVEL GUIDES AND BOOKS

Closing date for copy for January "News" - Wednesday, 9th January.

CONGRATULATIONS Chris Samuel and Kendal Firth on the Announcement of their Engagement.

CONGRATULATIONS to Jan Chapman and Stuart Mattingley on the Announcement of their Intention to be Married.



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