

THE NEWS

OF THE MELBOURNE BUSHWALKERS

Edition 397

MARCH 1984

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<u>SUBSCRIPTIONS</u> are now due and payable to the Membership Secretary - Winifred De Souza.

Members \$12 Students \$ 6 Couple \$18 News Subscriber \$ 6

SOCIAL COLUMN

> Rosemary Cotter SOCIAL SECRETARY

Y.H.A. BUSHWALKING ANNUAL BUSHIES' BALL

WITH "SHEARER'S TALLY"

MALVERN TOWN HALL

(Cnr. Glenferrie Road and High Street, Malvern)

FRIDAY 30TH MARCH 1984 - 8.00 PM

TICKETS \$5.00 EACH

B.Y.O. BASKET SUPPER, DRINKS AND GLASS FOR TICKETS SEE MICK MANN

AUCTION OF GEAR

21ST MARCH AT 8.00 PM AT CLUBROOM

Come and join the fun of an auction. If you have anything to auction, bring them into Clubroom by 7.15 p.m.

Correspondence should be directed to:-

The Secretary,
Melbourne Bushwalkers,
Box 17510 G.P.O.,
MELBOURNE, 3001.

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

DAY WALKS APRIL 1984

APRIL 1ST BUXTON - BLACK RANGE - TAGGERTY EASY & MEDIUM

LEADER: PENNY STAPLEY (MAIN)
MARIJKE MASCAS (SUB)

TRANSPORT: VAN FROM BATMAN AVE., 9.00 am

MAP REFERENCE: TAGGERTY 1:50,000

APPROXIMATE DISTANCE: 21 km (medium walk) 14 km (easy walk)

Book now on the walk you have all been eagerly awaiting - a repeat of the memorable "death march" of Summer '82!

This time, however, the cooler weather should enable us to actually enjoy the undulating tracks through pine plantations and the beautiful views of the Cathedral Range. Marijke will lead a shorter walk along the same route, but from west of Taggerty to Buxton. People on the easy walk will have the bonus of extra time in the milk bar (if the leader allows it).

Any participants feeling tempted to complain about either walk are advised to look at the date. Ha ha!

APRIL 1ST CYCLING EASY/MEDIUM

LEADER: ART TERRY

TRANSPORT: VAN FROM BATMAN AVENUE, 9.00 am MAP REFERENCE: A GOOD ROAD MAP OF VICTORIA APPROXIMATE DISTANCE: ANY DISTANCE TO 90 KMS

Our tour this trip will be in the Castlemaine & Fryers Town - Malmsbury area. We will have the convenience of a back up vehicle again on this trip so a person can retire from the ride at any point along the route. Wind direction will be taken into account when deciding where the ride will start. The country is mainly gentle undulating. 20 riders is the limit. The fare is \$11.

APRIL 8TH BRISBANE RANGES - LITTLE RIVER EASY & MEDIUM

LEADER: PHIL LARKIN (MAIN) - Phone (H) 568 1926, (B) 669 8314
MARIJKE MASCAS (SUB)

TRANSPORT: VAN FROM BATMAN AVE., 9.00 am MAP REFERENCE: BACCHUS MARSH 1:100,000;

INGLISTON, STAUGHTON VALE AND YALOAK 1:25,000

APPROXIMATE DISTANCE: 12-15 KM

This is an excellent Autumn walk through one of the lesser known National Parks in Victoria. It offers the walker plenty of interest from wild flowers, of which many species are either rare or remote to the area, to numerous wild life including grey kangaroos, wallabies, echidnas, possums and koalas.

Both walks will start in the northern end of the Brisbane Ranges and take in some of the magnificent fern gullies and native bush within the park. On the medium walk the route will follow the Little River Gorge to Staughton Vale, which offers numerous rock pools, rapids and rugged cliff faces. The easy walk follows Little River gorge along the top of the ridge line. BRING FRESH DRINKING WATER.

DAY WALKS - APRIL, 1984 (Continued)

APRIL 15TH MORNINGTON PENINSULA (FEDERATION DAY WALK)

LEADER: JOYCE DUNN

For details of this walk see Leader in the clubrooms.

APRIL 25TH (WEDNESDAY) CASTLE ROCK - KALIMNA FALLS - EASY/MEDIUM

SHE OAK FALLS (LORNE)

LEADER: HELEN HAMANN

For details of this walk see Leader in the clubrooms.

APRIL 29TH COLIBAN FALLS - GRANITE CREEK FALLS EASY & MEDIUM

LEADER: STAN ATTWOOD (MAIN)

MAX CASLEY (SUB)

TRANSPORT: VAN FROM BATMAN AVE., 9.00 am

EXPECTED TIME OF RETURN: 7.30 pm MAP REFERENCE: METCALFE 1:25,000

APPROXIMATE DISTANCE: MEDIUM 17 KM; EASY 12 KM

Starting from the Granite Creek end, we will follow the creek to the Coliban River. The medium walk group will climb Mount Lofty, whilst the easy walk group settle for a short climb and a good view of the surrounding area, before following the river to the Coliban Falls.

The remainder of the walk is along the Coliban River to the Metcalfe-Redesdale Road.

The walk is across easy undulating pasture land following well defined and interesting rocky creek and river beds, with several falls and rapids.

Unfortunately the view from Mount Lofty is restricted by native trees, but the State Forest is well worth a visit.

WEEKEND WALKS - APRIL, 1984

APRIL 6-8 LAKES NATIONAL PARK

EASY

LEADER: LYNN JAMES (RATCLIFFE) - 830 4119

TRANSPORT: PRIVATE

MAP REFERENCE: GIPPSLAND LAKES PARKS (available National Parks)

We will have a base camp in the Coastal Park. As the camping area is small in the National Park, groups are asked to camp at Red Bluff, on Lake Victoria.

Access: Drive to Sale (be sure to fill up with petrol). Proceed to Loch Sport. The turn off to Red Bluff is left from the main highway, 3 km before Loch Sport, and is called Beacon Swamp Tk. It has a toilet block, fresh water, shelter shed and fire places.

Saturday: I would like to visit Rotamah Island. It is a bird observatory, and has walking tracks and access to the 90 mile beach. However, it is necessary to canoe across from Trapper Pt. to the island. Fish also abound around the island jetty. The distance is short and no more than 300 metres. It would be well worth the effort of organising something on which to paddle across. The area is sheltered from the weather. Picnic lunch on Rotamah.

<u>Sunday</u>: Walking at the Lakes National Park. The area is quite small, and very picturesque. The birds are superb and the kangaroos are very friendly. Time could also be spent lazing about on the sand or swimming in Lake Victoria.

WEEKEND WALKS - APRIL, 1984 (Continued)

April 6-8 - LAKES NATIONAL PARK (Continued)

Lunch on Sunday: A barbeque at the picnic area at Pt. Wilson in the Lakes National Park. The area is very grassy and could also be good for a game of cricket.

Children are very welcome. Bring binoculars. No limit on group size and no camp fees.

APRIL 6-8 THE BLUFF - MT. CLEAR - THE NOBS MEDIUM/HARD

LEADER: MERILYN WHIMPEY

TRANSPORT: PRIVATE

EXPECTED TIME OF RETURN: 10 PM SUNDAY

MAP REFERENCE: MANSFIELD 1:100,000; HOWITT 1:100,000;

VMTC KING, HOWQUA & JAMIESON

APPROXIMATE DISTANCE: 35 KM

This is one of my favourite walks. After a short, sharp climb up The Bluff we stay on top of the world all weekend, with mind-blowing views of the mountains. (By special arrangement with Hughie, the rain god, the weather will be clear and sunny.) Walking is mainly on tracks, including the Alpine Walking Track. On Saturday we'll walk until we've covered a reasonable proportion of the total distance and then camp somewhere nice. Sunday we'll walk the rest of the way and if people are feeling really dynamic they can do a side trip up Mt. McDonald carrying the leader.

APRIL 13-15 GOLDFIELDS METAL DETECTING WEEKEND (BERLIN GOLD FIELD)

EASY

LEADER: ART TERRY TRANSPORT: PRIVATE

MAP REFERENCE: BERLIN GOLD FIELD 1:15,840; DUNOLLY 1:100,000

This will be a bushwalking weekend with a difference. We will explore the goldfields in the Rheola district and hopefully uncover something of value. Even if we don't find anything it will be an interesting and enjoyable two days' outing.

It is essential to obtain a Miner's Right - \$10 - available from Ministry of Minerals - 151 Flinders Street, or 140 Bourke Street, 9th Floor (Hoyts Cinema Centre).

I think it best to make your own arrangements re camping or whatever on the Friday night or come up on Saturday morning. Rheola is situated approximately 28 km north of Dunolly. The most direct route appears to be via the Calder Highway to Castlemaine, thence to Maldon, Eddington, Dunolly, Goldsborough, Moliagul, Rheola.

We will meet at Rheola M.R. road junction 411402 (Dunolly Sheet 1:100,000) at 9.30 a.m. on Saturday. We will choose a suitable camp site for Saturday night.

The Berlin Gold Field map, scale 1:15,840, is available from 1st Floor, 140 Bourke Street.

Mosquitos can be troublesome so come prepared. Carry 2 or 3 gallons of drinking water in the car. Metal detectors can be hired from "The Miners Den", 670 Canterbury Road, Surrey Hills (200 yards east of Warrigal Road) for \$30 per weekend. \$100 deposit is required.

WEEKEND WALKS - APRIL, 1984 (Continued)

APRIL 19-23 BASE CAMP - GRAMPIANS

EASY

LEADER: ANNE BULLARD
TRANSPORT: PRIVATE

EXPECTED TIME OF RETURN: UP TO YOURSELVES

MAP REFERENCE: GRAMPIANS 1:100,000; HORSHAM 1:100,000

We leave on Thursday 19th April to go up the Western Highway to Buandik Camping Ground in the magnificent Grampians. This, being a base camp, gives plenty of scope for things to do. You can either come on the walks suggested, you can laze around the camp enjoying its fresh, smog-free air, or go off by yourselves and see things at your leisure that interest you.

A few walks that are being tossed about by me at the moment are Mt. Zero, Mt. Stapylton and Mt. Difficult. One walk that I am definitely going to do is to the numerous caves. These caves have pictographs done by the Buandik, Jardwa tribes. The Buandik tribe were the first known tribe of this area. The Jardwa peoples forced the Buandiks out of their sacred territory to go further south. In doing this we have both Buandik and Jardwa paintings and sometimes a combination of both in the same cave.

Unfortunately the caves over the recent years have had to be fenced off as artists (vandals) of our time do not respect other people's cultures and have drawn hearts, names and just plain desecrated these valuable religious, everyday, and Dream Time story paintings.

There are toilets (and showers?) I am told and cold water for your hot cups of Billy Tea.

So come on and relax. Get away from it all up in the Grampians. I know. I am going too.

Further information can be found in Walk 1967 in an article by Fred Halls called "Temples of the Dream Time". This article really whets the appetite to find out more and see just what he is talking about!

P.S. We come home on Monday, 23rd April.

APRIL 19-25 THE GREAT DIVIDE NORTH OF LICOLA MEDIUM/HARD

LEADER: KEITH WHITE TRANSPORT: PRIVATE

EXPECTED TIME OF RETURN: 8 PM

MAP REFERENCE: HOWITT 8223 NATMAP 1:100,000

APPROXIMATE DISTANCE: 90 KM

The extended Easter break of six days provides a good opportunity to do a petit walking tour of Victoria's most beautiful mountain scenery just north of Licola.

The walk is slightly altered from that intended in the autumn program but is still basically a Mt. Arbuckle-Mt. Arbuckle circuit. The main difference is that I plan to include the Viking and Razor, having only admired them from the distance, which means we will start from Guys Hut area on Friday morning.

The circuit will include the Wonnangatta River, The Viking and Razor, Mt. Speculation, Crosscut Saw, Mt. Howitt, Mt. Clear, Tom's Cap and many other well known features along the Great Divide. With a bit of luck we may even camp at Old Yard Flat on the Macalister River. On the last day we will be faced with the option of an arduous slog up Long Spur or an arduous climb along the Caledonia River Road. By that time we will have springs in our heels.

WEEKEND WALKS - APRIL, 1984 (Continued)

APRIL 19-25 COOPRACAMBRA AND CROAJINGOLONG N.P. EASY/MEDIUM

LEADER: GEOFF MATTINGLEY

TRANSPORT: PRIVATE

MAP REFERENCE: CRAIGIE 1:100,000

APPROXIMATE DISTANCE:

Actually, Coopracambra is a State Fark, not a National Park (whatever that means). This walk will be an exploration of a completely new area for me, described by the National Parks Service as "in one of the most remote and least disturbed parts of Victoria, and much of the park is very rugged". There are several peaks to climb, and the red sandstone gorge of the Genoa River to explore.

I anticipate that some days walking will be from a fixed camp, but it all depends on what we find when we get there!

Whether we spend much time at Croajingolong National Park will also depend on what we find at Coopracambra!

For those who haven't heard of Coopracambra, it adjoins the N.S.W. border north-east of Cann River, north-west of Mallacoota.

APRIL 19-29 WARRUMBUNGLES & KAPUTAR

EASY/MEDIUM

LEADER: JOPIE BODEGRAVEN

TRANSPORT: PRIVATE

MAP REFERENCE: WARRUMBUNGLE NAT. PARK 1:30,000;

HORTON 1:100,000 (KAPUTAR)

The Warrumbungles are a rugged area of eroded volcanic remnants, with spectacular trachyte spires, exposed dykes and mesas. Bird life is abundant. The Kaputar Plateau is also volcanic, very rugged, with great trachyte domes, cliffs and gorges, plus superb views over northern NSW from its 5,000 ft. summit.

The plan is to drive to Kaputar in two stages, leaving early Friday and spending a half day and a night at Cocopana National Park to break the 1200 km journey. Then two or three days at Kaputar, three days in the Warrumbungles and then the 1,000 km trip home, leaving Saturday morning.

All walks will be day walks or shorter and everyone can do as much or as little walking as they wish. Flexibility and an enjoyable time will be the keynotes so we will divide up when some want to do a harder day than others.

Transport costs will probably be in the region of \$80-\$110 depending on how efficiently we can use the cars.

WILD SALE!

MARCH 13-24 ONLY!

The Wilderness Society shop is overstocked. Hundreds of Books, T-shirts and Posters will be sold below cost.

ALL PRICES BULLDOZED!

AT LEAST 10% OFF!

Support THE WILDERNESS SOCIETY
Shop 8, 399 Lonsdale St. Melbourne. Ph: 67 5884
(Enter via Hardware Street)

MAP READING & NAVIGATION

Theory evening - Monday, April 30 in clubrooms.

Navigation exercise - Sunday, May 13 near Bacchus Marsh.

If you are - a newer walker bamboozled by maps and navigation

or an older walker

or someone who would like to lead a walk but is worried by the navigation side of it

or someone who wants to spend a Sunday doing fun navigation and map reading exercises instead of just being led by someone else

then this is for you. If you feel that you understand maps, then just come on the Sunday exercise for the fun. Like so many things, map reading and navigation are easy once you've been shown them and understand them. To book put your name on the list in the clubrooms or ring me (Jopie - 80 5654). The cost will be \$5 to cover the cost of an Ingliston Map and photocopying. You will need a compass (preferably a Silva), clipboard, pencil and biro. Van fare of course is extra. More details in April News.

Jopie Bodegraven.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - held 29th February.

The following office-bearers were elected:

President:

Geoff Matttingley
Mick Mann

Vice-Presidents:

Athol Schafer

Secretary:

Robyn Haby

Treasurer:

Hugh Duncan

Walks Secretary:

Mark Tischler Winifred de Souza

Membership Secretary:

Rosemary Cotter

Social Secretary:

Rod Mattingley

"Wilky" Manager:

Marily of Minancy

"News" Editor:

Merilyn Whimpey

"Walk" Editor:

No nominations received

General Committee:

Penny Stapley Phil Larkin Neil Priestley Angela Tanti Mike Clode

The following were elected to honorary membership:

Jack Baxter
Ken Briscoe
Peter and Anne Bullard
Sue and Graham Errey
Geoff and Jenny Kenafacke
Jim and Libby Marsden
Sue Filson
Merle Halls
Fay Pitt
Edna Richards

Club spoons were presented to the following couples:

Graham Hodgson and Janet McCreadie Peter and Anne Bullard Angelike Wilhelm and Colin Prohasky Hugh Duncan and Leonie Thompson

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (Continued)

Jim Wilcox and Jim Hedstrom were elected as Honorary Auditors.

The meeting requested the committee to:

- (a) try and find out why the numbers attending weekend walks continue to decline;
- (b) investigate the establishment of a lending system for the Club's map files.

Subscriptions were set at the same rate as last year.

COMMITTEE NOTES - MEETING 5TH MARCH, 1984

Treasurer: Bank balance end February \$8,082.07

Bills for payment \$1,967.00

Walks Secretary (acting):

Walks for January:

Day walkers 140 Members 154 Weekend 72 Visitors 58

212

Profit \$65.20

Correspondence: A letter was received from the National Parks service thanking the Club for the work done around Wilky on the January long weekend (organised by Ken McMahon).

The idea of a "Friends of Bogong National Park" is being promoted. Such a group would organise work parties to assist the National Parks staff, as well as having social activities, etc.

Alan and Lil Kitchener wrote requesting absentee membership, as they will be away for 2 years working in the Solomon Islands. (This was granted.)

Social Secretary

Club Auction: 21st March YHA Bushies' Ball: 30th March

<u>Specific jobs</u> were undertaken by the following committee members: Equipment Hire: Neil Priestley

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Neil Priestley
Penny Stapley

Map Custodian:

Australian Conservation Foundation:) Phil Larkin

Conservation Council of Victoria:

Wilderness Society: Mike Clode

Victorian National Parks Association:

Native Forests Action Council:) Mick Mann

Duty Roster:

March 14th Athol/Merilyn

21st Phil/Penny

28th Neil/Mike

April 4th Angela/Geoff

Next Committee Meeting 2nd April at 7 p.m.

Walk 85:

At the Annual General Meeting, no nominations were received for Walk Editor. The committee has accepted Heather Cameron's offer to fill the position.

COMMITTEE NOTES (Continued)

Weekend Walks:

At the Annual General Meeting, the committee was requested to find out why the number of people attending weekend walks has steadily declined over the past few years. A questionnaire will be drawn up to survey people attending walks, but in the meantime, if anyone has any ideas on the subject, please get in touch with a committee member or write to the editor of "News".

Maps:

It was decided to implement a lending system for the Club's m-p file, as a result of a request at the A.G.M. This will be available only to walk leaders, and where necessary maps of popular areas will be duplicated. Persons wishing to borrow maps please see Phil Larkin the Map Custodian. (Previously, the map files were only available for perusal in the clubrooms.) Approximately 25 new 1:25,000 maps and some plastic map cases will be purchased.

Badges:

A new supply of Club badges has been obtained.

Equipment Hire:

An additional tent is to be purchased (low-priced nylon).

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SKI TOURING COURSES 1984

SKI TOUR LEADERS COURSE

The Australian Ski Federation, together with the Bushwalking and Mountaincraft Leadership Course, is offering a high level Ski Tour Leadership Training Course for experienced ski tourers.

The Course covers theoretical and practical mountaincraft leader ship instruction; practical leadership training; on snow skills training.

Applicants must be competent ski tourers capable of carrying a pack over varied terrain for extended periods.

It is anticipated that participants on the course will take at least two winter seasons to gain the required range of experiences necessary before final assessment.

Full course details and entry forms can be obtained from Maureen Young, Tel. (03) 725 9557 or Rod Lingard, Department of Youth, Sport and Recreation, 24th Floor, 570 Bourke Street, Melbourne, 3000, Tel. (03) 606 3336.

Applications close on 16th March 1984 with an initial assessment weekend close to Melbourne on 30th March/1st April.

SKI TOUR ORGANISERS COURSE

The Australian Ski Federation is offering a ski touring course aimed at club skiers or skiers who find themselves being asked by friends to organise and run day tours or longer tours.

Applicants are expected to have had several years of skiing experience and be confident in touring over varied terrain while carrying a day pack.

The course is in three parts. (1) Home study of course notes with an "open book" test. (2) One day off snow seminar. (3) On snow weekend.

Full course details and entry forms can be obtained from Maureen Young, Tel. (03) 725 9557. Applications close on 1st May 1984.

NEW MEMBERS:

Welcome to the following members:

Central West Bushwalking Club, P.O. Box 836, Bathurst. NSW. 2795.

BARNES, Wendy 7/276 Domain Road, South Yarra. Tel (H) 264 381, (W) 541 9541.

DAY, Christoher 8/66 Murray Street, Prahran. Tel (H) 529 6408; (W) 618 3127.

PITT, Rodney 68 Gabonia Avenue, Watsonia. Tel (H) 435 2471.

Maroondah Bushwalking Club, P.O. Box 575, Ringwood, 3134.

Menk, Andrew

47 Sunhill Road, Mount Waverley, 3168. Tel (H) 470 5649; (W) 541 7845.

SWABY, Margaret & Ron 36 Cratloe Street, Mount Waverley, 3149. Tel (H) 288 8335.

Topor, Rodney

143 Thomas Street, East Brighton, 3187. Tel (H) 578 3945; (W) 341 7182.

Changes of Information:

David McFarlane

17 Chapel Road, Moorabbin, 3189. Delete Tel (H) 347 0802.

Jill Campbell

13/37 Torbay Street, MacLeod, 3085. Tel (H) 435 8021; (W) 479 2924.

Brian Crawford

13 Sydare Avenue, Chadstone, 3148.

John Stedman

12/44 Kneen Street, North Fitzroy, 3068.

Lynn Ratcliffe is now Lynn James

- She has returned to her maiden name.

David Charles

11/50 Scotland Avenue, Greensborough, 3088. Tel (H) 435 2101; (W) 609 2240.