

THE NEWS

OF THE MELBOURNE BUSHWALKERS

Edition 405

NOVEMBER 1984

Price 20¢

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SOCIAL COLUMN

SATURDAY, DECEMBER lst

ANNUAL DINNER POTTERS COTTAGE - WARRANDYTE

Sold out! If you missed out Mick Mann will take names for a waiting list.

Be sure to let us know if you want to order a vegetarian meal.

N.B. B.Y.O.G. * * *

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8th

LUNCH IN THE BOTANICAL GARDENS PLUS A DIFFERENCE!

Join us for a lunch in the Botanical Gardens. Enter through the gate nearest Clowes Street (Melway 2L, Dl) and look for signs of and to The Bushies.

Fancy dress competition for children (under 12).

* * *

Santa Clause will make an appearance - so see you there! BYO everything, not forgetting nibbles for the reindeer and 'roos.

Time: 1 pm onwards

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 19th

END OF YEAR GET-TOGETHER.

Meet new friends and old at the Christmas break up in the clubrooms. Speculate on proposed trips and discuss previous ones.

BYO soft drink and food.

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Time: 7.30 pm onwards

FORTHCOMING ATTRACTIONS IN 1985

PICNIC/BBQ

with races for children of <u>all</u> ages. Location to be decided. Probably will be in February.

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

DECEMBER 1984

NOVEMBER 25 - See page 10.

DECEMBER 2 BUNYIP RIVER, BLUE RANGE,

EASY-MEDIUM

LEADER FRED HALLS

TRANSPORT VAN FROM BATMAN AVENUE, 9.00 a.m.

TOMAHAWK VALLEY

EXPECTED TIME OF RETURN 8.00 p.m.

MAP REFERENCE F.C.V. YARRA VALLEY - GEMBROOK FOREST. GEMBROOK C APPROXIMATE DISTANCE 18 KM

This walk is along soft tracks, through some of the best forest terrain in Victoria. First of all through the sylvan glades of the Bunyip River Valley, then into the Bunyip Forest Park along the slopes of the Blue Range. Then back along the Ash Landing Road, finishing walking along the Tomahawk Valley to Basan's Corner.

DECEMBER 9 LORNE FOREST PARK EASY, MEDIUM, HARD (3 walks)

LEADER GRAHAM HARDING - 484 7224 (H); 647 5540 (W)

TRANSPORT VAN FROM BATMAN AVENUE, 9.00 a.m.

EXPECTED TIME OF RETURN 9.30 p.m.

MAP REFERENCE LCRNE 1:50,000; LORNE FORESTS WALK MAP

APPROX. DISTANCE 14-19 KM

Scenic coast, tranquil forest stands, tree ferns, spectacular waterfalls, cascades and rapids, Lorne Forest Park has it all. This area has sheer beauty and is definitely compulsory camera country.

The hard walk follows the Cora Lynn Creek, gives glimpses of the Margaret and Melba Falls after 2 hours of bush bashing, and includes The Canyon and Kalimna Falls. Bring appropriate gear, boots, etc.

The medium walk starts at Erskine Falls and includes the Splitter Falls, the Cora Lynn Creek, Phantom Falls and The Canyon.

The easy walk follows the Cora Lynn Creek and includes the Phantom Falls, The Canyon and Kalimna Falls.

All walks finish at the Sheoak Picnic Area. The Lorne walk is always very popular - 70 people last year! Book early for this one. Private cars may be added as required.

DECEMBER 15 - SATURDAY MERRI CREEK - RUCKERS HILL EASY
HISTORICAL WALK

LEADER ATHOL SCHAFER

Return City 5 p.m.

TRANSPORT

Meet under the Clocks in time to catch 1.58 p.m.

train from Princes Bridge Platform. Arrives at

Rushall Station, from where the walk starts.

The route starts on the creek flats - the site of the original township survey, and through solidly-working-class areas, gradually ascending the hill where the great mansions mark the crowning achievements of those who made it to the ranks of the colonial bourgeoisie. On the town hall steps the leader will outline some of the dramatic events that were played out in the immediate vicinity.

WEEKEND WALKS DECEMBER 1984

NOV. 30 - DEC. 2 GOVERNORS - EAGLES PEAKS MEDIUM HARD OR HARD

LEADER RUSSELL JONES

TRANSPORT PRIVATE

MAP REFERENCE HOWITT 1:100,000

APPROX. DISTANCE 40 km

LIMIT 10 walkers

Camp on Friday night at Sheepyard Flat. Saturday - Sheepyard Flat to Wares Creek, then track to Mitchells Homestead. Sunday - Mitchells to the Governors (very steep and scrubby) to Mt. Darling. Leave rucksacks and climb to Eagles Peaks, then back and then to Howqua River and Sheepyard Flat.

OR

The Governors - Mt. Darling - Eagles Peaks and descend from there to Sheepyard flat (hard). (Depending on time.)

NOTE: MAKE SURE OF LODGING YOUR POSTAL VOTE FOR THE ELECTION ON THE SATURDAY.

DECEMBER 8-9 BOGONG HIGH PLAINS - MITTAGUNDI TRACK EASY-MEDIUM

LEADER SYLVIA WILSON

TRANSPORT PRIVATE

MAP REFERENCE BOGONG 1:100,000

APPROX. DISTANCE 25 km

The object of this walk is to show you where the delightful Mittagundi Track is. It is in fact quite historic, being used by the Glen Valley gold miners last century as their main road out of the place, up over the High Plains and out via Harrietville. It's official name is Track 107. However it had been lost over the last thirty years, to be rediscovered and restored by Mittagundi people last year. The track itself goes from Kelly's hut, crosses the Wild Dog Creek, gently sidles around several spurs with lovely views of Mt. Wills, till it gets down to the old horse race track by Prenders Flat on the Big River, then it finally follows the river after crossing Dead Horse Creek and comes out at the Big River Bridge. However we shall start from the Rocky Valley Dam and walk over the Heathy Spur track to Kelly's'to make it more interesting, and then camp on Wild Dog Creek. It would be an exaggeration to say it's down hill all the way, but it is easy walking and pleasant for beginners. And I hope the flowers will be out and the snow mostly gone by then.

(Mittagundi is an outdoor education centre. It's quite unique, but alas I can't take you over it as there will be some kids there that weekend. Did you see the TV programme about it: A Big Country on Saturday 27th October called "City Girls"?)

DECEMBER 14-16 MT TIMBERTOP - MT BULLER - SHEEPYARD FLAT MEDIUM

LEADER MERILYN WHIMPEY

TRANSPORT PRIVATE EXPECTED RETURN YES

MAP REFERENCE MANSFIELD 1:100,000

APPROXIMATE DISTANCE 35 KM

One big attraction of this walk is that you won't have to carry a tent or sleeping bag as we're staying at the Mt. Buller Youth Hostel on Saturday night.

We start from Timbertop Saddle on the Howqua Track, walk up and over Mt. Timbertop, Round Hill and Mt. Buller and down through the ski village to the Youth Hostel. After morning tea After a good night's sleep we descend via Little Buller to the Howqua River and along the river to our cars at Sheepyard Flat. Be prepared for wet feet.

I'm not yet sure what the position is about associate membership of YHA for those who are not members of that organisation, or

(Cont'd.)

EKEND WALKS (Continued)

whether we can hire sleeping sheets at the Hostel. I'll let interested people know when I hear from YHA.

AS YHA ARE A BEAUROCRATIC ORGANISATION, AND WANT EVERYTHING IN TRIPLICATE, I'LL NEED TO KNOW THE NAMES AND YHA NUMBERS (IF APPLICABLE) OF THOSE GOING ON THE WALK BY WEDNESDAY, 5th DECEMBER.

P.S. I've had a hard ski season, am tired, and don't feel like pushing myself or anyone else hard for the next month or two. So don't be afraid - this will be a laid-back walk.

EXTENDED TRIPS SUMMER 1984-85

The King of the Shoalhaven announces that this year's adventure will start at Bungonia on Thursday, 27th December, and will end in the Primrose Tea Rooms, Bundanoon, on Thursday, 3rd January, 1985. The expedition will be mainly on lilos, but two climbs of 500 metres are planned.

WARNING to intended participants: flies, sunburn and unclad bathers are expected.

Time will be allowed each day for swimming, sunbaking and exploration.

RSVP Spencer George 836 4225 before 7th December

CRADLE MOUNTAIN / LAKE ST. CLAIR

COMMENCING ON: MONDAY 7th JANUARY ENDING ON: TUESDAY 15th JANUARY

The route to be travelled is The Overland Track which is 80km. We will travel in a north/south direction. The aim of the trip is to see as much of the surrounding area as possible. Places to be investigated are Pine Valley which has The Parthenon, The Acropolis and The Labyrinth nearby, Mt. Oakleigh, Mt. Olympus, Mt. Ossa, Barn Bluff, Cradle Mountain, plus lots more.

I plan to spread the time (9 or 10 days) evenly along the track which will allow time to see the areas around Cradle Mountain which are often overlooked.

After leaving Cradle Mountain/Lake St. Clair region we will cross over into Frenchmans Cap National Park and walk to the top of Frenchmans Cap.

For more details about this trip see me in the clubrooms or phone me at home. The trip will be limited to a maximum number of 8.

The estimated cost of the trip is \$190 to \$200. That amount includes air fare to Devonport return and bus fares.

Also, could those people interested confirm themselves with me by December 1, so advance bookings can be made.

GERRY KOTTEK

WHAT'S ON

INTHE CLUBROOMS

WEDNESDAY, 28 NOVEMBER - 8 pm

SLIDES - PREVIOUS CHRISTMAS TRIPS

There have been some very interesting and fun trips over recent years. We'll endeavour to give a good cross section of trips to whet your appetite, with the emphasis on mainland Australia. This means lilo trips, extended trips in the Snowy Mountains and other areas. A few Tassie slides may be shown if we need the numbers.

WEDNESDAY, 1.9 DECEMBER - 7 pm onwards

CLUB BREAK UP

See blurb under social section.

WEDNESDAY, 23 JANUARY - 8 pm

SALE OF THE CENTURY PARTICIPATORY QUIZ & FUN EVENING

Modelled after the TV show, with all the fun but without the commercial stuff. Everybody in the audience will be a potential contestant. The Grand Frize will be a free van trip (land content only, ex Batman Avenue).

WEDNESDAY, 13 FEBRUARY

FIRST AID TALK

After the disappointment of our October first aid talk being cancelled due to Shirley McInnes having a bad dose of 'flu, we have arranged for her to have another go.

WEDNESDAY, 27 FEBRUARY

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

WEDNESDAY, 27 MARCH

PHOTO COMPETITION

All entries, unless we have absolutely overwhelming numbers, will be shown. See below for competition details.

PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION

ADVANCE NOTICE

There will be a club photo competition held next March. We expect the competition to be fierce so we're giving you heaps of advance warning. Maybe you can take some winning shots over summer.

Categories

- 1 Victorian Landscape Slides
- 2 " Prints
- 3 Native Flora & Fauna Slides
- 4 " Prints
- 5 Artistic Landscape Slides
- 6 " Prints

Dates

Entries accepted on Wednesday, February 27, March 6 and March 13. Entries displayed and winners announced March 27.

Eliqibility Must be club member.

Entry Limits Maximum of 4 entries per person per category.

Maximum of 12 entries total per person.

Cost

\$1 per entry.

Prizes

To be announced.

PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION (Continued)

Judges 3 judges. One will be a professional photographer and non club member, and the other two will be club members.

Further details will appear in January and February News.

PURCHASE OF THE VAN

In view of the continuing discussion on how the purchase of the van should be financed it is desirable, I believe, to inform members of the method being considered by the Committee.

The current proposal is to finance the van purchase by bank overdraft.

As some members may not be conversant with what an overdraft entails and how this facility can be used in the best interests of the club, allow me to explain.

The proposal is as follows:

- 1. The club opens a trading bank account at the ANZ Bank at 388 Collins Street and is granted an overdraft facility of \$15,000 for a period of up to five years or longer if required.
- 2. The club then transfers its funds to this account.
- 3. The club then pays out my loan from the new account.
- 4. The club then operates on this account until the overdraft is no longer required.

What use is made of this facility in the future is in the hands of the club.

Repayment of the overdraft

The Committee have acted in this matter by increasing the van fees.

However, there is an opinion within the club that the loan should be repaid immediately by calling on all members to pay a levy. One of the main reasons the pro levy members claim for the levy is to avoid large amounts of interest the club will, in their belief, be called on to pay for borrowed money.

The following figures may help to put the interest question in proper perspective.

- 1. The club will pay in approximately \$10,000*to the new ANZ account.
- 2. The club will then pay off my loan of approximately \$15,000, which will leave the account with a debit or overdraft of approximately \$5,000.
- 3. Interest on this \$5,000 overdraft is charged on a daily balance at the rate of 13.5% which amounts to \$1.84 per day or \$12.88 per week or \$670 per year. This is equivalent to the approximate return on two day walks.
- 4. The overdraft will fluctuate of course generally downwards as van fees will exceed expenses, upwards as expenses for Walk are paid, down again as the cash flow from Walk comes in, possibly temporarily into credit or close to it as the annual subscriptions are paid, and so on.
- 5. Interest is paid twice a year in March and September. These amounts are debited to the account and, provided the account is kept within the limit which it will, no special interest payment is required. There is no penalty interest no matter how soon the overdraft is repaid.
- 6. There are various bank charges associated with establishing an overdraft which are: Establishment Fee \$100 once only, Stamp Duty \$36 once only and a quarterly management fee of \$18.
- * This figure is the current balance in the Club's (Cont'd.) account. Accounts for Walk 1985 have yet to be paid.

INCOME

\$2741.00

PURCHASE OF THE VAN (Continued)

I believe that the amount of interest involved, which I anticipate should not exceed \$1,000 in any one year, is not significant enough in itself to warrant the imposition of a levy.

- JIM HEDSTROM

VAN OPERATION - SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER

Van Fees September & October

PROFIT & LOSS STATEMENT

EXPENSES	Initial	Operati	ng		
Registration	\$471.00				
Stamp Duty	399.00				
Insurance	691.00				
Tyres	390.00				
Gronow Repairs	237.00				
Wheel Alignment	55.00				
Spring Resetting	290.00				
Servicing Tools	124.00				
*Interest Allowance	1080.00				
Sundry Items	214.00	\$136.0			
D. Barson September		380.0			
Rampower - Fuel		270.C			
D. Barson October		378.0			
Rampower - Fuel		170.0			
	\$3951.00	\$1334.0			
SUMMARY					
Initial Expenses Spread over 12 months		\$3951.00 =	\$329.00	per	month
Operating costs Septemb Average per month	er, October =		\$667.00	per	month
Total Monthly Expenses			\$996.00		
Income September & Octo	ber	\$2741.00	\$1370.00		
Profit per month	= Income Expenses	\$1370.00			
		\$374.00			

^{* &}lt;u>Please Note</u>: The interest figure of \$1080 included above is an estimate only and has <u>not</u> been paid. Interest will be paid on the overdraft on the daily balance and will be added to the account each March and September.

REPLY TO ART'S LETTER CALLING FOR A LEVY TO PURCHASE THE VAN

A levy to pay off the van may have the opposite effect from that which Art desires - it could result in great damage to the club.

I believe that one of the strengths of the club is the large number of members who have been regular walkers in the past. These people keep up their membership because they are still interested in the club's activities even though they seldom go on walks any more. Hitting these people with a levy that effectively more than doubles their annual subs. would be a sure way of losing most of these old members. I also believe that many currently active members, particularly those actively involved in the running of the club, would refuse to pay a levy - what happens then?

The end result could be the club membership suddenly reducing from the 375 members to a much smaller number, resulting in a desperate financial situation - without enough funds to pay off the van and without sufficient funds from subs. to run the club.

In addition, it is unlikely that visitors would join up to become members if they had to pay an extra \$37 for one year or \$18.50 a year for two years. They would most probably remain as visitors.

I would also like to clarify the situation regarding levies to purchase materials for Wilkinson Lodge and to buy new hire equipment. Some people may have got the wrong idea about this - the club's finances have always been arranged on the "user pays" principle, and there never has been a levy struck to provide funds for Wilky or to buy new hire equipment.

Finally, although opposed to a compulsory levy, I certainly support Art's suggestion of other money raising activities, such as fetes or auctions, to help pay off the loan for the van.

ROD MATTINGLEY

In regard to payment for the club van, it is my intention, at the special general meeting, to vote for an equitable levy on all members.

For those members that cannot afford such a levy, some consideration should be given by the committee to a special surcharge on all fares such as \$3.00 for members who do not pay levy and \$4.00 for visitors. This may encourage members who participate in many day walks to pay the levy previously. These figures are not necessarily recommendations but may serve as a starting point for discussions.

FRED HALLS

Life Member

Some fear has been expressed that levying members for a quick payingoff of the van as proposed by Art in the October "News" would prove
counter-productive by (a) discouraging certain members, particularly
those non-active, from continuing membership, and (b) presenting
currently joining new members with perhaps a \$50 first sub. The
bank overdraft strategy now adopted is reasonable enough but works
on a tight margin and the proviso of always having full van loads.
A prolonged cold/wet season could easily jeopardise the finances.

However the club holds a considerable amount of potential capital tied up in a vast quantity of unsold magazines. A new issue of "Walk" is out. Here is an opportunity for members to help the Club in its hour of need by, say, doubling at least their usual order of the magazine. (It makes a very nice Christmas gift.) Also now is the time to buy up any back numbers you may have missed.

ATHOL SCHAFER

COMMITTEE NOTES MEFTING 12 NOVEMBER 1984

Business arising from previous Minutes

Alison Blaker was appointed as Auditor to replace Jim Hedstrom.

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Balance as at end Oc	\$9548.31		
Bills for payment:	Petrol	166.48	
	Gestetner	41.70	
	Clubroom keys	16.50	
	VNPA Subscription	24.00	
		248.68	

Bills for ratification (paid during month)

or there can bered mentales.	
D. Barson	378.00
Potters Cottage	1330.00
Piver Cruise	102.00
Petrol (October)	269.56

Walks Secretary

Sentember	1984	Members	181	Day	188
		Visitors	49	Meekend	4.2
			230		

Membership

A total of 387 members.

Transport

So far (September-October) van has been profitable, despite unexpected maintenance costs (see details on page 7 of this issue).

· It was resolved that the Walks Charge for all day walks would be \$9, starting immediately. (There are only three \$8 walks on the current program anyway.)

Walk Leaders please note:

Despite the fact that it is daylight until after 8 pm, it is essential to plan day walks so they do not get back to Melbourne too late. (10 p.m. 1s too late.) Remember that Dennis has to get up at 4 a.m. and that the van has to be garaged after a walk.

General Business

It was resolved to join the Friends of Bogong National Park as an Associate Member (cost \$10 p.a.).

Search and Rescue practice in October - 10 members attended, a very useful weekend.

Duty Roster

November 21st Rod/Winifred 28th Phil/Robyn

December 5th Merilyn/Penny

Next Committee meeting

December 3rd.

THE WILDERNESS SOCIETY

Are drafting a bill to be put to the Government to define wilderness areas.

Have premises at Shop 8, Myer House Arcade, until the end of December.

They want to open a travel agency specializing in outdoor activity and natural history. It will be a contact centre for walking, trekking and natural history and able to put people in touch with people with common interests in different countries.

STOP PRESS

MORE DAY WELKS

NOVEMBER 25 GENTLE ANNIE - QUARTZ CREEK EASY/MEDIUM

LEADER CHRIS DAY

TRANSPORT VAN FROM BATMAN AVENUE, 9.00 a.m.

MAP REFERENCE 1:50,000 NEERIM

This is the alternative walk for those not too keen on playing "trolls" through Labertouche Caves. It encompasses lots of wet forest, huge ferns and straight majestic trees. There are excellent views from the summit of Hell's Gate, which will probably be the lunch stop. Mostly on tracks with one fairly steep downhill section off tracks. Distance is about 18 km with 300 m total vertical climb.

NOVEMBER 25 LABER TOUCHE CAVES MEDIUM

LEADER JOHN SAMARINE

TRANSPORT VAN FROM BATMAN AVENUE, 9.00 a.m.

This walk is medium only because it involves clambering and crawling through the caves. The caves were formed by a creek eroding its way through a landslide which blocked the valley. They are very interesting, provided you don't get claustrophobia. Bring a change of clothes and a good torch.

DECEMBER 30 ACHERON GAP - MT. DOM DOM

LEADER VOLUNTEER/CONSCRIPTEE REQUIRED

JANUARY 20 CATHEDRAL RANGE. CATHEDRAL - COOKS MILL

LEADER MIKE CLODE

For details of this walk, please see the leader in the clubrooms. Possibly more information on this and the previously mentioned walk in December "News".

CHANGES IN DAY WALK CHARGES

It has been decided that future walks charges will be \$9 irrespective of distance of walk from Melbourne. Please note all \$8 walks in the summer program are now \$9.

Future use of the van for weekend trips will depend upon the numbers making the trip economical.

LEADERS PLEASE NOTE

All leaders should ensure that walkers are competent in walking in the standard of the walk they are going on.

It is also hoped that walk leaders should ensure that walks are to get back to Melbourne at a reasonable time if possible.

MMark Tischler - Walks Secretary

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

ANDERSSON, rMichael & Robyn - 190 Tennyson Street, Elwood 3184

LAIDLAW, Graham - 1/23 Waltham St. Richmond 3121. Phone 428 4485 (H)

O'DONNELL, lan - Phone 527 7737

Please let Winifred De Souza know any changes of information, and she will give a list of changes to the "News" editor.

NEWMEMBERS

We welcome the following new members.

CARLSON, Judith and Geoff	Home	Work	
28 Guinevere Road, Glen Waverley 3150	232 0372		
CLUCAS, Bronwen			
	890 5794	658 324.7	
LIGHTFOOT, Helen			
7 Myrtle Grove, Preston 3072	478 8048		
MARRE, John			
2/6 Ford Street, Clifton Hill 3068		347 0019	
ROLLS, Colleen			
25 Carlton Street, McKinnon 3204	557 2073		
ROSS, Jenny			
60 Champion Street, Brighton 3186	592 7156	241 2091	
SKILLINGTON, Helen			
41 McGregor Street, Middle Park 3206	699 8647	459 0111	
SOFIELD, Irja			
15/51 Kinkora Road, Hawthorn 3122	819 3508	810 1556	
WEISS, Barbara			
8/42 Creswick Street, Hawthorn 3122	818 5639		

BILL JESSUP

Those who knew Bill Jessup will be sad to read that he died on 8th November. He first became ill about a year ago, and the doctors found a brain tumour.

Bill loved the bush and was one of the fittest and keenest walkers around. He walked in all the popular areas in Victoria and many interstate, particularly Tasmania. He trekked in Nepal and Sikkim. He was also a very good cross country skier.

Bill was 34. He married Rosalind Bottomley at the beginning of 1984. She is expecting their child in mid-January, so he has left us more than just memories.

His many friends miss him greatly.

Merilyn Whimpey

FOR ALL YOUR MAPPING REQUIREDUTS VISIT:

MELBOURNE MAP CENTRE

740 JAVERLEY ROAD, CHADSTONE, 3148

PHONE: 569 5472

NATMAPS

CRIA (N.S. ...)

WICHAPS

FOREST COMMISSION OF VICTORIA and MET SOUTH TALES

MAPLAID (S.A.)

TASMAPS

AI.:30

OVERSELS MAPS

COMPASSIS

GT.0:3

TRAVEL GUIDES AND BOOKS