

# THE NEWS

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MELBOURNE BUSHWALKERS INCORPORATED

EDITION 412

JUNE 1985

PRICE 20 C

REGISTERED BY AUSTRALIA POST PUBLICATION NO. VBH 1297

# SOCIAL COLUMN

Saturday 6th July

# MID YEAR DINNER - ARABIAN STYLE

This will be a fun night. Recline on cushions at low tables in harem-like surroundings. Be lulled by the gentle minstrel strain or quickened by the s'rl of the belly dancer. Whatever your bag, this should fill the bill. Arabian food - YUM!! and plenty of it. Fish available for non-meat-eaters, and there will be lots of salads. Please let us know if you want fish when booking.

Still some places left - book with Tracy in the clubrooms.

SAHARA ARABIAN RESTAURANT
301 Swanston Street, City
\$15.00 (full price deposit please)
BYO
7.00 pm

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Sunday 14th July

#### SHERBROOK EQUESTRIAN CENTRE

Supervised Trail Rides - Time to get the riding boots and breeches out for the leafy lanes of the Emerald area. Ride lasts 2 hours and supervision will be available for beginners. Experienced riders will appreciate a well organised stint in the saddle. See you there!!

SHERBROOK EQUESTRIAN CENTRE

Cnr. Magpie & Wellington Rd., Clematis

10.00 am

\$15.00 for 2 hours

FOLLOWED BY B-B-0 in Bob's Fark which is close by. B.Y.O. food, drink etc. B-B-0s provided (wood)

Book with Tracy or Caroline Strickland in clubrooms. Full Price Deposit please.

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# Thursday 22nd August

### A DATE WITH THE STARS AT MELBOURNE OBSERVATORY

We have booked both telescopes for the night of 22nd August. Amongst the many fascinating heavenly bodies, Jupiter and Saturn will have pride of place, weather permitting. Hot Toddies at the Botanical Hotel, weather inclement! If you've never experienced the stars through a telescope you don't know what you're missing. And for those who have, a chance to look in on old friends. Viewing supervised by Observatory Personnel.

#### MELBOURNE OBSERVATORY

Birdwood Ave., Royal Botanic Gardens - directly opposite the Shrine.

TIME: 8 pm - meet at gate. ADMISSION: Free

See Tracy in the clubrooms for information and bookings.

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.

# SOCIAL COLUMN (Continued)

# Thursday 29th August

# A NIGHT WITH THE LEGENDARY BOLSHOI BALLET

The entire company with Artistic Director Yuri Grigorovich, direct from the U.S.S.R. complete with Symphony Orchestra. Excellent balcony seats available for Tchaikovsky's immortal

#### SWANLAKE

Cost \$38 (normal price \$45)
Time 8pm - meet in foyer 7.30-7.45 pm
Venue State Theatre, Victorian Arts Centre, St Kilda Rd.
Date Thursday 29th August.

#### ---000---

Have been getting some feedback re pre Christmas dinner venue, and it looks as if the Cuckoo Restaurant, Olinda is holding its own.

Am also interested in booking the Ballarat Observatory end February for a viewing of Halley's Comet with their powerful telescope. We could combine this with a walk in the area, as I believe has been done in the past, with success.

The Yum Cha will have to wait a while. Victor has suggested we might be interested in attending one of the many functions organised at the Austrian Club. A Dinner Dance for example. Good idea?

Also coming up, a Club Auction night, so get those unwanted items sorted out. Can't think of anything else at the moment.

Many thanks to those who helped make the Wine Tasting a success. Don't forget bright ideas always welcome.

# - TRACY

# WHAT'S ON IN THE CLUBROOMS

#### Wednesday 17th July 8 pm

Tracy has some slides you might like to see. Around the world in 60 minutes, with highlights from her Pacific Crossing in 1976, aboard yachts Different Drummer, Straight Arrow and Rainbow. Tracy also spent some years in South Africa and has a few memories she'd like to share with you. Not a long session!

### CONGRATULATIONS

To Stuart Mattingley and Jan Chapman on the occasion of their wedding (11th May).

# DAY WALKS JULY 1985

JULY 7 BLUE MOUNTAIN - PAULS RANGE EASY & MEDIUM

LEADERS PAULINE WILLIAMS and HUGH DUNCAN TRANSPORT VAN FROM BATMAN AVENUE, 9.00 am

EXPECTED TIME OF RETURN 7.00 pm

MAP REFERENCE YARRA GLEN & JULIET 1:50,000

APPROX. DISTANCE 14/16 KM

The easy walk is our perennial and ever-popular Pauls Range ridgetop walk, starting near Toolangi, and following the ridge generally downhill to the Healesville-Yarra Glen road. Remember to carry water for lunch.

The medium walk starts at the base of Mt. St. Leonard, and goes through the research farm to Blue Mountain. Don't expect too many views here, except of a steep downhill track leading to the Chum Creek valley. From there we follow a scrubby fence line uphill to join the route of the easy walk, and follow that route to the end of the walk.

JULY 14 BLUE MOUNTAIN - BLACKWOOD EASY & MEDIUM

LEADERS MEDIUM - GERALD YOUNG EASY - GRAHAM BREEN

TRANSPORT VAN FROM BATMAN AVENUE, 9.00 am

MAP REFERENCE TRENTHAM 1:25,000

This area is in the Wombat State Forest north of the Lerderderg Gorge and consists of heavily forested valleys with creeks feeding the Lerderderg River. We start both walks with an extensive view of the surrounding country from Blue Mountain fire tower. The easy walk stays generally on tracks to Blackwood, whilst the medium walk traverses a fair amount of bush across the grain of the valleys to get to the same finishing point (hopefully). All walkers to bring torches - gaiters are advised for the medium walk.

JULY 21 WINTER COAST WALK - LONDON BRIDGE EASY & MEDIUM - RYE (2 walks)

LEADERS MEDIUM - JILL CAMPBELL EASY - LORNA McVEITY

TRANSPORT VAN FROM BATMAN AVENUE, 9.00 am

EXPECTED TIME OF RETURN 7.30 pm

MAP REFERENCE MELWAYS APPROX. DISTANCE 12-16 km

Here's an opportunity to enjoy some remote beaches, sea air and coastal scenery mid-winter. The walks will start at London Bridge and, depending on the weather, the numbers and your inclinations, we will stroll, walk or run towards Rye Ocean Beach along the Peninsula Coastal Walk.

JULY 27 (Sat.) DANDENONGS EXPLORER NO. 5

DOONGALLA ESTATE - MT. DANDENONG - THE BASIN

LEADER PHILIP LARKIN - PHONE 813 2271

TRANSPORT PRIVATE

TRAIN TRAVELLERS - meet under Flinders Street station clocks at 11.00 am or at Boronia station

at 12.30 pm

CAR TRAVELLERS - meet at Wicks Reserve, cnr. Basin/Olinda Road and Wicks Road at 12.45 pm.

EXPECTED TIME OF RETURN 5.00 pm

MAP REFERENCE Melway pages 65/66 and F.C.V. Doongalla Estate APPROX. DISTANCE 10 km

# DAY WALKS (Continued)

This walk takes you into the early settlement of the Dandenongs, back into another world only a short distance from the centre of Melbourne.

The gardens of the Doongalla Estate are set in a tranquil fern gully and surrounded by a natural forest of mountain grey gum just below Mt. Dandenong. Within the gardens there are a number of exotic plants such as kalmias, rhododendrons and avenues of camellias and many European trees.

The walk will follow well made fire tracks and some of the original pony tracks which wind through the eucalypt forest and extend over much of the estate.

If the weather is fine we will finish with a B-B-Q at Wicks Reserve.

JULY 28

YOU YANGS

EASY & MEDIUM

LEADERS

ANDREW MENK (EASY)

STUART HODGSON (MEDIUM)

For details of these walks see the leaders in the clubrooms.

# WEEKEND WALKS JULY 1985

# JULY 5-7 BLACK RANGE - MURRINDINDI

MEDIUM

LEADER

SPENCER GEORGE

TRANSPORT

PRIVATE

EXPECTED TIME OF RETURN 7.00 pm MAP REFERENCE TAGGERTY 1:50,000

APPROX. DISTANCE 30 km

The hills south of Yea are steep and often very pretty. Each day we will walk between 9.00 am and 4.00 pm. At night we will camp beside our cars so you may bring your easy chairs, jaffle irons and foam mattresses. I expect cold nights and warm, sunny days. (Bring your cameras).

### JULY 19-21 MT. KOOYOORA & MT. KORONG

EASY

LEADER

PETER BULLARD

TRANSPORT

PRIVATE

MAP REFERENCE

DUNOLLY & WEDDERBURN 1:100,000

APPROX. DISTANCE 20 km

This walk is aimed at the person who wishes to try a weekend walk without the problems of carrying a heavy pack. We will be camping beside the cars for both nights so bring all your luxuries.

Saturday we will climb Mt. Kooyoora, which is only approximately 600 feet above us, for views of the surrounding area, returning via the plains with varied types of vegetation. At dusk some wildlife may be seen coming out for food and water.

Sunday we will visit Mt. Korong, which is further north and on the other side of the highway and is more of a farming country area.

NOTE: It will be necessary to take water as there is none at camp. Also please see me for directions to the campsite.

# SKI TOURING TURING

Wednesday 3rd July

# SKIING - BEGINNERS' TALK

2-9 mm in the clubrooms

#### SYLVIA WILSON

Come and hear about the gentle art of snow camping. This is the theory part, prior to putting it into practice on the Bogong High Plains on 12-14 July, and a follow up on the Baw Baws on 16-18 August. I'll be telling you about what gear to take and why, we'll cover tents, sleeping bags and stoves as well as clothing, food and survival kits. An equipment list will be available. I'll make a start with handy hints in the snow, e.g. how to erect a tent.\*

If you've read this far but you're not sure, come along anyway. Let me convince you that this is the GREATEST clean fun you can have. You see even in grotty weather in the snow one can be comfortable, but when the weather's fine - WOW!

\*Incidentally, it's a lot easier if you know how to ski a bit first, carrying a pack straight off is very hard on you.

# JULY 5-7 MYSTERY TRIP - SKIING STANDARD - NEGOTIABLE

LEADER KEITH WHITE TRANSPORT PRIVATE

EXPECTED TIME OF RETURN 7 pm

The mystery, of course, is snow. Will there be a good fall at this earlier part of the season?

For this reason I will defer a decision on the place and type of trip until the Wednesday night before the weekend. As it is a normal two day weekend, I would prefer to choose a snowfield close to Melbourne.

The standard of the trip will depend on the quality of the snow season to date and the people interested in going - there are a number of options.

# JULY 12-14 INTRODUCTION TO SNOW CAMPING EASY HEATHY SPUR (BOGONG HIGH PLAINS)

LEADER SYLVIA WILSON

MAP REFERENCE BOGONG 1:100,000 or NELSE 1:25,000

Herewith the practical session following the theory in the club rooms (July 3rd). Friday night is spent below the snow line. Meet at the Nordic Shelter at 9.00 am and ski across Rocky Valley Dam Wall and straight up Heathy Spur to some suitable camping spot. After moving in and lunch we might check out Ropers Lookout. Following an exceedingly comfortable night we'll head off to Mt. Nelse and possibly Spion Kopje.

# JULY 19-21 SKIING - HOTHAM ROUNDABOUT MEDIUM

LEADER GRAHAM WILLS-JOHNSON

TRANSPORT PRIVATE

MAP REFERENCE ALGONA FEATHERTOP

# Diamantina Hut to Feathertop

Well - how about that? A Walks Secretary who is not only a lady, but also an archaeologist. I got dug up from a level that was almost Precambrian. I tried to tell her that I would have long since lost all my following because I'd been buried so long as to be completely forgotten, but she said that was OK, she would get in touch with Renta-crowd. So the trip will be led by a fossil with a badly-twisted arm!

LEADER

# SKI TOURING (Continued)

I would plan to snow camp in the usual place at the top of the Diamantina Spur on the Saturday evening, but play the rest of it according to weather conditions, etc. There will be nothing desperate about the pace, but the trip wouldn't be suitable for those who have only skied once or twice before.

# JULY 26-28 SKI TOURING FOR BEGINNERS

OTTO CHRISTIANSEN

EASY

This year our program contains a lot more ski trips than in previous years. If you would like to come on some of these trips but haven't skied before, then make a start on the Beginners' weekend. This year it is being held three weeks later than usual to make sure we have sufficient snow. The provisional venue is Baw Baw, but this may be changed depending on snow conditions. On Friday and Saturday nights we will camp somewhere below the snow line. Saturday will be spent learning the basic skills, such as diagonal stride, snow plough and falling over. Sunday we will go on a little tour to try out the newly acquired skills. Please note that there are some easy ski tours in August which you could go on to practise your skiing skills.

The Beginners' Weekend will be limited to 30 participants - so please book early.

### SKIING PROGRAM AT A GLANCE

JULY					
Wed 3	Beginners' talk on snow camp	ing	Sylvia Wilson	836	6342
	(in clubrooms)				
5-7	Mystery Trip E or	M?	Keith White	534	7439
12-14	Introduction to snow	E/M	Sylvia Wilson	836	6342
	camping - Bogong High Plains				
19-21	Hotham - Feathertop - Loch	M	Graham Wills-	370	6739
			Johnston		
26-28	Beginners - Baw Baw	E	Otto Christiansen	459	7695
AUGUST					
2-4	Mt. Stirling Ski-in Base Cam	DE/	M. Bill Metzenthen	578	1062
9-11	The Bluff	M/H	Mark Tischler	25	6607
10 Sat	. Lake Mountain	E	Graham Harding	387	9831
16-18		& M			
	Base camp below snow line		Otto Christiansen		
	Snow camp		Sylvia Wilson	836	6342
	Mt. Buffalo base camp		Bob Douglas		3647
			Graham Breen		3193
		M/H	Phil Taylor	386	0797
SEPTEM.					
	Mt. Bogong		To be confirmed		
25-29	Long weekend Snowy Mts.	M	Graham Thornton	878	0660

N.B. All transport is by cars; all phone numbers are home ones. The Skiing Sub Committee would like to point out that as anything may happen (and it probably will), it would be a super idea if you could be in the clubrooms the Wednesday before the trip you wanted to go on. In the event of a change of location, for instance, it makes the logistics so much easier for the leader. Day trips to Lake Mountain, Stirling and St. Gwinear will hopefully happen too; keep in touch!

Otto Christiansen, Bill Metzenthen, Phil Taylor, Sylvia Wilson.

# COMMITTEE NOTES MEETING 3 JUNE 1985

### Correspondence

Out: Letter to Dennis Barson re van problems (reply to his letter received last month).

In: G&S Errey - thanks for honorary membership

Knox Photographic Society - requesting a speaker on the
 subject of bushwalking/photography (to be referred to
 Les Southwell )

Request for information on walking in south west Tasmania

Request from student at Bendigo College re research project on bushwalking and wildlife.

#### Treasurer

Current balance \$3502.57 (in credit)

N.B. holding approximately \$3100 for Marysville.

#### Accounts for payment

Mountain Lodge, Marysville approx.	S3100.00
STAV subscription approx.	
Gestetner	256.80
Melbourne Map Centre	82.00
P. Gronow - van maintenance	43.34
M. Siseman - half phone rental	28.75
D. Barson - driving	300.00
Wilkinson Lodge insurance	288.94
Wilkinson Lodge - general expenses	74.87
FVWC subscription	250.00

\$4475.20

# Acting Walks Secretary

April	Day walkers W/E walkers		Members 167 Visitors 70
		232	Total Income \$1451
May	Day walkers W/E walkers	174	Members 148 Visitors 57
		204	Total Income \$1340.50

Transport

Jim Hedstrom away 3 July until October. Before leaving, he will enquire whether existing garaging arrangements can continue or if increased payment will be required.

# Membership

Ordinary	-	individual	191
	-	couples	80
		concession	20
Life			8
Honorary			14
		Total	313

Those who have not paid since red-nosed donkeys (last month) will not receive "News" from now on.

# Walk 86

Budget accepted by committee:

Total Expenses \$4500 for 96 pages, perfect bound, 2000 copies

Sales - 700 in first year @ \$3 \$2100 Advertising - assume same as last year \$2500

\$4600

# COMMITTEE NOTES (Continued)

#### Wilky

Booked for 9 weeks over winter.

Federation of Victorian Walking Clubs

Sylvia Wilson must stand down as Federation delegate due to other commitments. A replacement is needed (we can have two delegates - Athol is willing to be the other one). Anyone who can help please contact a committee member.

Equipment

Some hire equipment is unsatisfactory and needs replacing. Neil is to check prices and make specific recommendations for purchase.

Note: Anyone who has secondhand equipment for sale, please contact Neil or Hugh. The club may be interested in buying it for the hire service.

### Duty Roster

June 12 Neil/Tracy

19 Hugh/Leonie

26 Rosemary/Merilyn

July 3 Geoff/Winifred

# Next Committee Meeting

1 July

# NEWMEMBERS

We welcome the following new members -

Michael Humphrey

3 Austin Street, Hampton 3188

Derek Snaith

30/77 Park Street, South Yarra 3141

Susan Nevile

35 Henry Street, Windsor 3181

Terence Cogdom

16 Riddle Street, Bentleigh 3204

Chris Schon

2 Frisina Court, Nunawading 3131

Wendy Batehup

10 Marchiori Road, Blackburn 3130

Andrea Tan

30 Naroon Road, Alphington 3075

### WANTED

One or more people to occupy and look after a furnished two-bedroom house in East Brighton for six months from September 1985 to February 1986. Low rent negotiable. Ring Rod Topor on 578 3945 (H) or 344 7182 (W).

#### ALONG THE TRACK

This year some of us were able to enjoy a "second Easter" since Anzac Day was on Thursday and we could arrange to have Friday off work. Rod Mattingley led the trip to Feathertop and the Bogong High Plains.

Thursday morning was the long, but not difficult climb from Harrietville with its autumn toned trees to the bare summit of Mount Feathertop via the Bungalow Spur. The final ascent of Feathertop is always a thrill as the snow gums are left below and the mountain peaks on the roof of Victoria become visible - Buffalo (looking blackened and severely fire swept), the Fainters, Bogong, Hotham and Loch, with support from Mackay, Cope and Jim. Our campsite was a small snow plain at the top of the Diamantina Spur with flat grassy areas and supplies of dry snow gums. Above us was Feathertop, coated with the remains of the first snow falls of the season. When my tent was set up I went for a walk without pack along some of the bumps of the Razorback.

On Friday we descended steeply to the waters of the West Kiewa River, investigated Blair's Hut while we waited for most of the party to find their way by various routes off the end of Diamantina Spur, then climbed to Weston's Hut for a late lunch in the sunshine. We camped amongst snowgums on the ridge high above Tawonga Huts.

Next morning without packs we wandered amongst the snow gums and snow plains on the cattle pads between The Niggerheads and Mount Fainter. On our way back we talked with a stockman collecting stray cattle, who remembered when the 1939 fires swept through the area, and very few people enjoyed the peace of the High Plains. After lunch we strolled across the grassy flats then descended to Cobungra Gap and Dibbins Hut before we climbed steeply up Swindlers Spur to a grassy camp spot.

Early on Sunday we were climbing toward Mt. Loch and soon we were sitting on the top of Mt. Hotham. From here for most of the party it was downhill all the way along the Bon Accord track to the milk bar in Harrietville. The day was so glorious in the sunshine that I decided to walk across the Razorback. As I walked I saw again from a different direction most of the points we had visited during the weekend.

Thanks for the "second Easter", Rod.

#### - SPENCER

#### WEATHER & MOUNTAINS

Friends of Bogong National Park have written to tell us about a seminar on Weather and the Mountains.

"Everyone who goes into the mountains is affected by the weather. It is part of the beauty and the danger of the mountains and an understanding of the weather can add greatly to your enjoyment of the outdoors.

"This series of talks aims to give you the background to enable you to make the best use of the forecasts and understand the effects of the mountains on the weather. Topics to be presented include sources of information, the weather map, mountain effects, do-it-yourself forecasting and snow."

For more information contact Tom Kneen - 669 3606 (W) 80 1398 (H). Secretary - Cheryl Morvell 665 5653 (W) 569 5729 (H).

# CHANGES OF INFORMATION

ALLAN, Maria

7 Belvedere Court, Blackburn North 3130 (H) 777 7681

ARMSTRONG, Neville

527 Pinegrove Avenue,

Irondequoit

Rochester 14617

N.Y. U.S. of A.

BLAKER, Alison

3/55 Martin Street, Thornbury 3071

BROWN, Graeme

10/3 Arthur Street, South Yarra 3141

BURTON, Malda & John

17 Cawthorn Crescent, Evatt, A.C.T. 2617

DENNY, Peter

Phone 609 4690 (W)

DRIVER, Marianne

Phone 616 3486 (W)

GRANDAGE, Jerry

4/3 Browning Street, Elwood 3184

HARDING, Graham

54 Osborne Street, South Yarra 3141 266 4222 (H); 269 3926 (W)

LEMAIRE, Mark

Phone 652 7249 (W)

LLOYD, Keith

Phone 652 9915 (W)

MARRE, John

2/25 Gibbons Street, Werribee 3030 (H) 741 4538

MURRELL, Roland

5/601 Toorak Road, Toorak, 3142 (H) 241 3406

NICHOLSON, Grant

Phone 541 6733

QUINN

3/37 Bryson Street, Canterbury 3126

SKILLINGTON, Helen

141 Richardson Street, Middle Park 3206 (H) 669 8637

THOMPSON, Chris & Helen

2 Garrett Place, McKellar, A.C.T. (H) (062) 58 7510 (W) (062) 433 355 Chris

(062) 643 832 Helen

If you change your address or telephone number, please tell the Membership Secretary, Winifred De Souza and she will arrange for it to go in "News" and for "News" to be posted to your new address.

CLOSING DATE FOR JULY "NEWS" - WEDNESDAY 3RD JULY. Articles for "News" can be put in the red box in the clubrooms, posted to the address shown on page 2, or sent to the editor, Merilyn Whimpey, 17 Phillips Street, Coburg, 3058.