

THE NEWS

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MELBOURNE BUSHWALKERS INCORPORATED

PRICE 20 C

REGISTERED BY AUSTRALIA POST PUBLICATION NO. VBH 1297



THIS IS YOUR LAST COPY OF NEWS

\$18

SUBSCRIPTIONS ORDINARY MEMBERS STUDENTS

COUPLES

NEWS SUBSCRIBERS

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

YHA BADMINTON & PORTABLE HOSTELS

present

PATERSON'S CURSE BUSH BAND

COLONIAL DANCE

FRIDAY 30TH MAY 1986

SOUTH MELBOURNE TOWN HALL

BYO supper, drink and glass. Tea & coffee supplied.

TICKETS - \$5.00 EACH

We have booked two tables (12 to a table) for this excellent function. For tickets, contact David Pickup in the clubrooms as soon as possible.

SATURDAY MAY 31ST - 8 PM

WINE & CHEESE NIGHT

A social evening has been organised to sample a selection of interesting wines, kindly donated by Stanley Leasingham Wines, and a range of tasty cheeses. Non-alcoholic drinks will also be available.

COVER CHARGE - \$7.00

This evening is limited to 40 people. To book contact Jan Mattingley (596 3976) or Phil Larkin (813 2271).

LOCATION - Graham & Janet Hodgson
9 Benwerrin Poad, Surrey Hills

SATURDAY JUNE 14TH

TRAIL RIDE ON HORSEBACK

All the places for this adventure have now been taken. However, if anyone is still interested, we shall put you on a waiting list for a place in the event of a cancellation.

Contact DAVID PICKUP in the clubrooms.

MID-YEAR DINNER

SATURDAY 19TH JULY 1986

This year's mid-year dinner will be held at the Hotel Victoria, 123 Beaconsfield Parade, Albert Park, at 7.30 pm.

It will be a set menu with an excellent choice of dishes (full details will be published next month). The meal price will be \$20.00. These premises are licensed.

Entertainment will be provided by the jazz band of the night. The music at the hotel is usually very good.

For enquiries and bookings contact DAVID PICKUP in the clubrooms.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Please note: the prices printed in the 1986 Winter Program are wrong. Correct subscription rates are:

Ordinary member \$18.00 Pensioner/student \$9.00 Couples \$27.00 News subscriber \$9.00

DAY WALKS JUNE 1986

SUN. JUNE 1 MT. WIL SON - KORWEINGUBOORA RESERVOIR EASY & MEDIUM

LEADERS GRAHAM BREEN & WENDY BARNES

TRANSPORT BUS FROM BATMAN AVENUE, 9.00 am

EXPECTED TIME OF RETURN 7 pm

MAP REFERENCE BULLARTO 1:25,000

APPROX. DISTANCE 14 KM EASY; 18 KM MEDIUM

Both walks are in the Wombat State Forest. They start just north of Mt. Wilson and finish at the junction of Carrolls Track and the Ballan-Daylesford Road. The easy walk is mostly on tracks. The medium walk will involve more cross country walking through open forest. The country is ideal for map and compass exercises and would provide good practical experience for those wishing to follow up the navigation course. There are kangaroos, wallabies and a variety of bird life for the aspiring naturalists. There are streams in the area; however it is recommended that water be carried. The hills are gentle and no long, steep climbs are involved.

SUN. JUNE 8 BARRABOOL HILLS - BARWON RIVER EASY & MEDIUM

LEADERS JAN MATTINGLEY & FRAN CHRISTIE (Sub leader)

TRANSPORT BUS FROM BATMAN AVENUE, 9.00 am

EXPECTED TIME OF RETURN 7.30 pm

The features of this walk include glorious views over the surrounding plains from the Barrabool Hills, interesting river walking along the Barwon River, a golf course and a waterfall (Buckleys Falls). Fine weather has been ordered and good company assured. Come along for a lovely walk and a lovely day.

SAT. JUNE 14 HISTORICAL WALK - EAST MELBOURNE EASY

LEADER ATHOL SCHAFER

RENDEZVOUS MEET UNDER THE CLOCKS BY 2 PM

The afternoon begins with a tour of the National Trust's Old Melbourne Jail. There is an admission charge of \$3 for adults (concession - students, pensioners). After ghouling about in this lovingly restored 19th century house of correction, we will have a look around the Eastern Hill end of East Melbourne, finishing with a warm-up walk through the Fitzroy Gardens.

SUN. JUNE 15 LOBB HILL - HOWATT LOOKOUT - EASY & MEDIUM STRATHEWEN

LEADERS STEPHEN COURTNEY AND ROBYN KENNEDY TRANSPORT BUS FROM BATMAN AVENUE, 9.00 am

EXPECTED TIME OF RETURN 7 pm

MAP REFERENCE NATMAP 1:25,000 ARTHURS CREEK

APPROX. DISTANCE 16 & 12 KM

A pleasant walking area close to the city. We will be walking through State Forest, National Park, and some farm land.

There will be one main climb for each group, with some wonderful city and surrounds views from vantage points, weather permitting.

The walk may be conducted in reverse to plan, but this will make little overall difference.

DAY WALKS (Continued)

PYRITES CREEK - SUGARLOAF -SUN. JUNE 22

EASY & MEDIUM

ANTIMONY MINE TRACK

LEADERS

PENNY STAPLEY & BRUCE BOELL

TRANSPORT

BUS FROM BATMAN AVENUE, 9.00 am

EXPECTED TIME OF RETURN 6.30 pm

MAP REFERENCE

TOOLERN VALE 1:25,000

APPROX. DISTANCE 15 km

Chest-high hakea and 1 km-per-hour progress necessitated the relocation of the walk from the programmed Cataract Creek walk.

However, this walk should offer plenty of variety: both groups will be walking partly on tracks with excellent views, and partly through light scrub. I guarantee numerous kangaroos, no leeches, very few fences, and a short van trip. What more could the discerning walker require?

GELLIBRAND HILL - DEEP CREEK SUN. JUNE 29

EASY

LEADER TRANSPORT ART TERRY

BUS FROM BATMAN AVENUE, 9.00 am

EXPECTED TIME OF RETURN 6-7 pm

APPROX. DISTANCE 16 km

An easy walk of approximately 16 km in beautiful redgum rural country a short distance from the city. The walk, or part of it, is in the Gellibrand State Park. It is a most interesting neck of the woods, rich in history of the early settlement era. "Woodlands", one of the original homesteads on the property, has been restored to its original beauty and charm. Come along and have a happy day.

WEKKEND WALKS

JUNE 1986

6-9 JUNE

GUNBOWER ISLAND BASE CAMP

EASY

LEADER

SPENCER GEORGE

TRANSPORT

PRIVATE CARS

EXPECTED

TIME OF RETURN 9.00 pm MONDAY

MAP REFERENCE

GUNBOWER ISLAND (Forestry Commission)

APPROX. DISTANCE 45 km

Gunbower Island is near Echuca. An anabranch, Gunbower Creek leaves the Murray River and wanders by itself for about 40 km before returning to the main river. Most of the island is river gum forests. Being on the Murray River, there are no hills to climb, and as it is mid winter we will have three brisk walks in the sunshine before relaxing around the campfires. Nights may be cold. If you would prefer not to drink Murray water then bring your own.

27-29 JUNE

MARYSVILLE GUESTHOUSE WEEKEND

EASY

LEADERS

GRAHAM & MARIJKE MASCAS

TRANSPORT

PRIVATE TRANSPORT BUT SERVICE BUS AVAILABLE

EXPECTED TIME OF RETURN P.M. SUNDAY

APPROX. DISTANCE MANY OR FEW KM

This is your opportunity to be energetic or degerate. At a time of year when weekend walks aren't too popular (because of the weather!), you can enjoy day walks, half day walks, skiing, horse riding, golf, fishing, indoor games, etc. in the company of a guest house full of Bushies at Marysville. We guarantee a good weekend - this is the fourth year running!

The price includes all meals and accommodation from after tea Friday to after lunch Sunday, \$66 per person with \$14 extra for a room with private facilities.

SEARCH AND RESCUE PRACTICE 1986

- PART 1 MONDAY 26 MAY 7.30 pm 33 LANSELL ROAD, TOORAK
- Avalanche probing and safety Ropes and lashings
- PART 2 SATURDAY 26-SUNDAY 27 JULY MT. ST. GWINEAR
- Skills acquisition and development in the following areas:
- . Roping
- . First aid
- . Sleds
- . Personal safety
- . On-snow mobility

Those in attendance will rotate through 5 x 2 hour sessions.

Part 1 is open to anybody who is interested.

Part 2 is open to any competent cross country skiers and snow campers. Further details will be given in June "News".

DAVID DUNDAS FVWC SEARCH & RESCUE DELEGATE

SATURDAY 19TH APRIL CYCLE TRIP

Although a member, I have been a rather intermittent attender of club outings in the last two years. However, my participation in recent club trips has convinced me that I have been missing out, not only on delightful walks, but also on the opportunity to travel through beautiful country, with good company, on bicycles.

One such thoroughly satisfying bicycle trip was that organised on April 19th travelling from Pyalong - Tallarook - Goulburn River Valley - Strath Creek - Murchison Gap to Broadford. The weather was perfect, despite rain on the way out; the trip was at a pace I could manage comfortably on my somewhat diminutive fold-up bicycle; and there was always the opportunity of rescue by the kindly Dennis, travelling behind the cyclists in the club van. It was a great day to be in beautiful country, and there were opportunities to enjoy our environment at leisure on morning and afternoon tea and lunch stops. The trip provided for many levels of stamina, with the super-fit travelling on ahead and completing the full distance, whilst others of us loaded ourselves and our bicycles into the van when we wished.

Thank you Art, for all your work to make the day enjoyable for us. Thank you Dennis, for providing the security that encouraged us to believe we could have a go at an 80 k cycle trip. Thank you members and visitors for the pleasure of your company.

CYNTHIA A. FLATMAN

____00____

I was on the trip too, and endorse Cynthia's comments. Thanks Art, for the terrific job you do in organising beaut cycle trips.

SNOW REPORT

Are you getting fit for the snow - daily jobs, swinging arms and so on? The snow might not be that far away, so think about it, you'll enjoy your skiing much more.

Your ever-so-enthusiastic skiing sub committee have worked out yet another ambitious program of day trips, weekend snow camping, extended trips and other two day and weekend trips which starts on July 5th/6th, in theory at least. Next month's News will have all the info. plus slide and beginners' nights. See you there!

OTTO, PHIL TAYLOR, BILL M. & SYLVIA

STOP PRESS

STAV (Ski Touring Association of Victoria, which is the umbrella group for ski touring as well as being a club in its own right) are organising a Ski Touring Carnival Day on Sunday June 1st 1986 at Powerhouse on Albert Park Lake.

The aim of the day is to promote the recreation and safety side of ski touring and other winter activities. The Carnival will include displays, new gear demonstrations, film and video information and advance bookings for 1986 ski touring courses (STAV and Howmans Gap) and commercial operators. There will be opportunities to take part in grass ski races, fitness testing, a fun run around the lake and to buy and sell at the second hand gear market.

THANKS

It was a very pleasant time reading the names and good wishes on the card sent to us on the occasion of our wedding. I want to thank very sincerely all the members who have given us their wishes either in person or via the card. It has all meant a lot to me.

Our movements so far -

Week 1 - Kalorama, saw the comet 3 times

- 2 Home
- "3 Rosebud
- " 4 Home
- " 5 Falls Creek
- " 6 Harrietville . . and so it goes on.

In the meantime we have been to the full opera season and have taken my father to see the comet for the second time in his life. My mother also remembers seeing it. I also stopped near Melton on the way back from the Ballarat Observatory and saw it quite easily - with binoculars - from the roadside.

Once again, thanks to everyone for your expressions of goodwill.

GRAEME LAIDLAW

WANTED

TELEPHONE CONTACT

We no longer have a volunteer to answer phone enquiries about the club. The alternative of an answering machine on a separate phone service is considered too expensive. If a volunteer cannot be found soon then the phone book entry will be discontinued.

Any offers?

COMMITTEE NOTES

MEETING 5 MAY 1986

Correspondence:

In: STAV Ski Touring Carnival in June.

Letter from Barbara Whiston advising that she finds the bus seats very uncomfortable (in response to item in last "News").

Letter from Peter Gronow re bus brakes problem.

MMBW advising of seminar on Industrial Waste Disposal. Border Bushwalking Club - requesting guidelines for

visitors attending our walks.

Out: Reply (written by Sylvia) to school project enquiry on "History of Bushwalking".

Treasurer:

Balance + \$2183.75

Accounts for payment:

Gestetner \$40.32
Rampower 213.46

Dennis - driving 375.00
- garaging 100.00
P. Gronow - bus repairs 676.25
Wilky supplies 38.00
\$1691.19

Also ratified a previous payment of \$49.78 for Wilky supplies.

Walks Secretary:

Day 185 Members 168 Income \$1398

Weekend 66 Visitors 83

251

Duty Roster:

May 14th Neil/Winifred

21st Sylvia/Rob

28th Neil/?

June 4th Rod/?

Next Committee Meeting:

June 2nd

General Business:

- 1. Robyn Anderson has withdrawn her offer to be the club's phone contact. Reassessment of the cost of an answering machine shows it to cost about \$800 in the first year, and \$200 per year thereafter. It was decided that if we could not get another volunteer, the phone book entry would be discontinued.
- 2. Ian Hill's letter on behalf of the Family Walking Group (printed in last month's "News") was discussed. It was decided to continue the present policy, that is, we are basically an adult walking club. Walks specifically suited for children will not be programmed, but, as previously, children may attend any walk if the leader agrees. However, if sufficient support is demonstrated for a change in the existing policy, it will be reconsidered by the committee. A letter is to be sent to Ian Hill stating this.
- 3. A reply is to be sent to the Border Bushwalkers advising that visitors who wish to attend our weekend walks must contact the leader direct and will be accepted at the leader's discretion.

COMMITTEE NOTES (Continued)

4. A revised set of By-Laws was discussed. The present Visitor's Fee (\$1 per walk) is now too small relative to the cost of membership. However, raising it to a level which will discourage "permanent visitors" will penalise genuine new members. It has been suggested that a scheme be introduced where the Visitor's Fee be raised to, say, \$3 per walk and qualifying walks Visitors Fees be deductible from the first year's membership. This would be satisfactory provided that it did not create extra work for leaders and the Walks Secretary.

Members are invited to comment on this idea.

UNPACKAGED TOURS

ANZAC DAY WEEKEND - 24-27 April - Merilyn Whimpey

Having camped the night by the river, we rendezvoused at the appropriately named Mt. Blowhard where the atrocious weather forced a change in plan. After discussions held in various venues at Hotham Resort it was decided to abandon the set walk and to try the Victoria River area where it was hoped the weather would be more clement. A short diversion to view the Victoria River Falls was made, where three intrepid members of the crew (Chris O'Neill, Mark Tischler and myself) took up the challenge of climbing the falls and exploring upstream. The beauty of this part of the river was well worth the effort, although it can be easily reached by coming off the road further upstream. From there we drove on to the Victoria River track which took us to our starting point.

Having left the cars, we made our way up the Victoria River along a well used track to the welcome sight of an apple tree heavily festooned with ripe, crisp, juicy apples. Having availed ourselves of its bounty, the party continued along the track, picking up the odd mushroom on the way. We made camp by a runnel, pitching tents in between the cow pats.

With camp established, we made our own way to the see the ruins a couple of kilometres away. By now the weather had caught up with us, a light drizzle turning to rain. Most of us had retired by eight o'clock. No psychedelic dreams were reported, so the mushrooms were the real McCoy.

It snowed lightly during the night and it was somewhat cold. My eight-year-old hollofil bag offered little protection against the cold! I made a mental note of buying a more suitable bag and better thermals. At least the weather cleared overnight.

After an unusually early start (Chris seems to live by another time zone), we made our way up the runnel through some forest to a road. Here we split up into two groups; one (Chris, Mark, Marianne and I) followed a side creek down a series of falls and through the dense, wet growth by the creek to our meeting place with the others on the Dargo River. The others came down a spur to the site of an abandoned mine by the river: the aqueducts were clearly evident, with much of the surrounding ground bare of vegetation. This area provided the campsite for the night.

The conversation flowed as free as the Dargo that night, with the celebration of Mark's birthday. Next morning it was the grunt up the spur to the road we had come off the day before. A bit further on we went into the forest, to come out on a magnificent plain with grazing cattle. We passed the time in deep conversation and viewing the magnificent scenery. Thanks to Marianne for listening.

P.S. Six inches of snow had fallen on Hotham and surrounding plains during that weekend.

VAN DEPARTURE TIMES

This article is being written mainly in the interests of a minority group of our members, visitors and potential visitors/members who by choice or circumstance use trains, trams and buses for their means of transport. It is also in the interests of members who wish the van departure time to remain at 9 a.m. for all of our walks, the only exception to the rule being when a special walk such as the Federation Walk is being organised by another club and the starting time of the walk and the van departure time are out of our hands. I am quite certain that the leaders who have taken the van out of Batman Avenue early (8 a.m. and 8.30 a.m.) on two trips this year do not know that it has been Club policy ever since the Club was formed that the van departure time out of Batman Avenue has always been consistent with railway time tables to allow members and visitors who travel by train to participate on our walks.

Up till '79 approximately the van departure time was 9.15 a.m. In '79 the railway time tables were altered and this allowed the van departure time to be brought forward to the present time of 9 a.m. I am also sure that these leaders and some Club members are not aware that the first trains which leave some suburban terminal stations on a Sunday do not arrive at Flinders Street till 8.50 a.m. if on time.

I know of a number of members who do not own cars and so depend on trains to get them into the city. What I do not know, however, is how many potential visitors/members are in the same situation. I do know that at least two well-known members who had read the leader's walk preview but missed reading about the early departure from Batman Avenue arrived there at 8.50 a.m., too late to catch the van. Both of these members have been so used to the van leaving at 9 a.m. for many, many years that they took it for granted that the van would be leaving at the usual time. One young chap who travels by train had to forfeit his day out with us because his train would have arrived too late for him to get over to the van on time. Maybe there were more people in the same situation as this young chap who, like the two members mentioned were very disappointed at missing out on a lovely walk.

Everything has worked smoothly for years with the van leaving Batman Avenue at 9 a.m., so why complicate the system, humbug members and visitors and deprive some people of the pleasure of coming out on our walks? I can appreciate the thinking behind a leader's desire to take the van out before 9 a.m. such as one of the longer van trips; however, leaders for the past 40 odd years have been managing quite well on these long trips leaving Batman Avenue either at 9.15 or 9.00 a.m. in all seasons. Getting back to the city early is of no importance as most people who participate in day walks commit themselves completely to the day and evening of the walk; those who don't should do so! What is important and in keeping with the character of the Bushies is to always consider the people whose interest this article has been written in.

ART TERRY

FOR SALE

Scarpa Gore-Tex Trekker boots for sale, size 38, used three times, \$70 (originally \$145).

Phone 20 6576.

THE OLD WOMAN OF THE ROCKS

It's competition time folk! Do you know or can you guess what's really going on in your club? You just might be amazed! Read on . . .

First a little cautionary tale about a member whose identity I won't reveal, for fear of embarrasing him further. This person has been in the club a good many years but just prior to Christmas he led a trip that had very few takers; additionally during the winter his skiing trip was cancelled through lack of participants. So he was thinking it was time he moved on and joined another club. "Oh, no", we said, "it's just co-incidence; these things happen; it's absolutely nothing to do with your popularity waning. After all you led a smashing trip to Hattah recently with a cast of thousands. Don't go, please!" No, he wasn't to be deterred, this was it. Several months later, here was the said member, back in the clubrooms. What happened? Looking a mite sheepish, he confessed he was back again, leading trips too, even snow ones. Apparently he had written and tried to get in touch with no less than two other clubs, but he had failed miserably to get any response from them. They just didn't want to know him. Well, welcome back anyway!

Now, I feel sure there's a moral here somewhere. Can you supply it? Who said: "I did enjoy sharing a tent with that Trish, she was a bit of all right."

Who said: (Scenario first: two small girls walk into a darkened comet viewing room looking for their mothers.) One said: "I don't think my Mum is in here." The other said, "Mine isn't here either, we would have heard her by now." Who was the other child?

Place your correct entries in Merilyn's red post box, don't worry if you can't get all three. The competition will continue . . .

NEWBERS

We welcome the following new members.

Maria Joyce

4/7 Oakleigh Rd., Carnegie, 3163 Phone: (H) 578 1235

Felicity Topp

25A Gordon St.,

Clifton Hill, 3068

Phone: (H) 489 7187; (W) 604 7840

Joe Moleta

17 Solway Drive,

Glen Waverley, 3168

Phone: (H) 546 4764; (W) 211 4211

Ben McGee

J Northbrook Ave., Malvern 3144 Phone: (H) 20 4448; (W) 797 3403

Edward Russell

26 Panorama Avenue, Lower Plenty, 3093

Phone: (H) 439 3849

Robyn Huggins

10/50-56 O'Shanassy Street.

North Melbourne, 3051

Phone: 329 9615; (W) 344 5821

Debra Gomm

34 Aron St., Bulleen, 3105

Phone: (H) 850 5368; (W) 389 2273

Giselle Sharp

2 Laburnum St., Brighton, 3186 Phone: (H) 592 9623; (W) 266 4472

Kevin Larkin

36 Western Rd., Boronia, 3155

Phone: (H) 762 1968

Chris Ridge

400 Blackshaws Rd.,

Altona North, 3025

Phone: (H) 14 8769

Rosina Clayton

5/46 Ormond Rd., Elwood, 3184

Phone: (H) 531 5867; (W) 654 4066

Alec Glogowski

4/7 Oakleigh Rd., Carnegie, 3163

Phone: (H) 578 1235