

THE NEWS

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MELBOURNE BUSHWALKERS INCORPORATED

429

NOVEMBER 1986

PRICE 20 C

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SOCIAL COLUMN

SLIDE NIGHT

on WOODCHIPPING IN EAST GIPPSLAND AND THE LATEST ON THE TASMANIAN FORESTS AREA

on WEDNESDAY 26TH NOVEMBER, 7.30-8.30 pm

in THE CLUBROOMS

by THE WILDERNESS SOCIETY

Coffee, tea and biscuits provided

BE THERE OR BE SQUARE!

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CHRISTMAS DINNER

Place: The Eltham Barrel, Main Road, Eltham

Date: Saturday 6th December, 1986

Time: 7.30 pm

Cost: \$23 per head, including beer, wine and soft drinks

The Eltham Barrel has a hot and cold smorgasbord (as much

as you can eat), a live band and dancing.

The full deposit is required by 26th November, 1986.

Contact either Robyn Kennedy or David Pickup in the

clubrooms, or Robyn on 211-1213 (A.H.)

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CHRISTMAS BREAK-UP PARTY

This annual social event will be held on Wednesday, 17th December in the clubrooms.

Put this date in your diary. Full details next month.

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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)

THEATRE NIGHT-OUT FOR

MEMBERS AND/OR VISITORS

EDDIE BRACKEN

GARRY MCDONALD & JOAN BROCKENSHIRE

IN

"SUGAR BABIES"

AT

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE AT 8 PM

ON

THURSDAY 5TH FEBRUARY 1987

TICKETS - The very special price of \$19.00 (payable when making booking)

To enjoy the songs, gags, surprises, laughs and prancing dancing girls contact in the clubrooms either David Pickup (16 Halley Street, Blackburn 3103) or Phil Larkin (Tel: 813 2271).

CLOSING DATE FOR BOOKINGS: 17TH DECEMBER 1986

ACT NOW

DAY WALKS DECEMBER 1986

SAT. 6 DECEMBER HISTORICAL WALK - LOWER YARRA

EASY

LEADER

ATHOL SCAHFER

RENDEZVOUS

MEET UNDER THE CLOCKS BY 2 P.M.

This walk is along the riverside parks recently developed. A number of historic sites will be visited en route. Walk finishes back at Flinders Street Station by 4 pm.

SUN. 7 DECEMBER MT GRANT - MARYSVILLE

EASY & MEDIUM

LEADERS

ROD TOPOR & FRED HALLS

TRANSPORT

BUS FROM BATMAN AVENUE, 9.00 AM

APPROX. DISTANCE 12-16 KM

These walks go through mountain ash forest, involve some climbing, have lovely views and visit Steavenson's Falls and/or Paradise Plains. For further details please see the leaders in the clubrooms.

DAY WALKS (Continued)

SAT. 13 DECEMBER CYCLE TRIP

VARIOUS

LEADER

ART TERRY

TRANSPORT

BUS FROM BATMAN AVENUE, 9.00 AM

EXPECTED TIME OF RETURN 7-7.30 PM

MAP REFERENCE

GOOD ROAD MAP

APPROX. DISTANCE 70-80 KM - DISTANCE IS BY YOUR OWN CHOICE

As always, a wind-assisted ride will be of major importance. It was grand to have the strong NW then W wind at our backs on the ride of the 4th October.

It is essential that each rider carries 1 spare tube, pump and tools to suit the bicycle.

As always, the route will be decided on the morning of the ride. If you have any ideas on a suitable trip please let me know and I'll check it out.

SUN. 14 DECEMBER CAPE SCHANK - FLINDERS

EASY & MEDIUM

LEADERS

BILL PENROSE & ROBERT GRAVE

TRANSPORT

BUS FROM BATMAN AVENUE, 9.00 AM

MAP REFERENCE

MELWAYS 200 197

APPROX. DISTANCE 14 & 16 KM

EXPECTED TIME OF RETURN 7.30 PM

Don't be discouraged by the seemingly suburban map reference. You won't see many rotary clotheslines on this walk.

The easy walk will start near the Cape Schank lighthouse and the medium about 2-3 km toward Gunnamatta. The walks will proceed through the Cape Schank Coastal Park around Bushrangers Bay and then along cliff tops to Flinders. Some spectacular seascapes are inevitable.

Unless you have a special interest in high diving, swimming opportunities may be limited - but bring your togs and we will try to organise something.

At the end of the walk we should be able to spend a little time in Flinders, perhaps a walk along the pier and a visit to the milk bar or beer garden.

SUN. 21 DECEMBER MORLEYS TRACK - SOMERS PARK

EASY & MEDIUM

LEADERS

PHIL LARKIN & STEPHEN DAL-MOLLE

TRANSPORT

BUS FROM BATMAN AVENUE, 9.00 AM

For details of this walk, please see the leaders in the clubrooms.

FRI. 26 DECEMBER

(BOXING DAY) WARBURTON AREA EASY

LEADER

PHIL LARKIN

TRANSPORT

CARS

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

CROCKER'S PRIDE

A field trip led by an ex-member of this club, Colin Crocker (his dad still is) discovered a new genus of plant in the south-eastern wheat belt of W.A. Its name is Bentleys spinecens, given in recognition of the TAFE Bentley College students who found it. It is a prickly, yellow-flowered shrub that grows about 20 cm. It has been suggested that the common name could be Crocker's Pride.

WEEKEND WALKS DECEMBER 1986

5-7 DECEMBER MOUNTAIN CREEK - MT. BOGONG MEDIUM

LEADER PHILIP TAYLOR

TRANSPORT CARS

For details of this walk please see the leader in the clubrooms.

12-14 DECEMBER GRAMPIANS - VICTORIA RANGE MEDIUM/HARD

LEADER MERILYN WHIMPEY

TRANSPORT CARS

MAP REFERENCE FCV GRAMPIANS, NATMAP GRAMPIANS 1:100,000

This is an exploratory walk in the Deep Creek - Mt. Thackery area. From a distance Deep Creek looked as if it might have some campable caves. A couple of people I know have walked in the area, but I don't know if they did ex ctly what I want to do, which is to follow up Deep Creek as much as possible, and perhaps to get as far as Mt. Thackery, which has good views. I won't make you carry packs any further than necessary (which could mean the whole weekend). It will be scrambly and hopefully not too scrubby. Come along for a weekend of surprises - for the leader as well as the party. Camp on Friday night will be at Buandik picnic ground.

CHRISTMAS-NEW YEAR WALKS

18 DEC - CHRISTMAS SNOWY MOUNTAINS PRE CHRISTMAS TRIP MEDIUM

LEADER JOPIE BODEGRAVEN

TRANSPORT CARS

This will be mainly base camping and walking with day packs, although there will be a pack carry of 2 km each way to one base camp. I envisage 3 days base camping on the Snowy River near Charlotte's Pass visiting Townsend, Ramsheads, Blue Lake, Kosciusko and Watsons Crags, followed by visits to Cave Creek and several other spots reachable with day packs.

26 DEC - 4 JAN KOWMUNG RIVER LILO TRIP & KANANGRA WALLS EASY/MED.

LEADER JOPIE BODEGRAVEN

TRANSPORT CARS

The Kowmung is in the southern Blue Mountains and flows through lovely granite gorges and a variety of more gentle scenery. There are lots of little rapids but no big dangerous ones. It is a favourite lilo trip with Sydney bushwalkers. Providing there are not heavy rains, it should be a reasonably warm river. The lilo trip will be 6 days, followed by 2 days of day walks.

27 DEC START KOSCIUSKO NATIONAL PARK

LEADER NEIL PRIESTLEY

TRANSPORT CARS

Both walks will be pack carrying and visiting two completely different areas of the Kosciusko National Park, with reference to the areas concerned in the publication "Snowy Mountains Walks" by Geehi Walking Club.

(A) DEC 27 COLEMAN PLAINS - CAVE CREEK - BLUE WATER HOLES

In the northern part of the national park, the walk will start near the Tantangara Dam, with the first night's camp near the junction of Cave Creek and the Goodradigbee River.

From exploring along Cave Creek and its limestone caves to visiting the Cooleman Homestead (now being restored by the N.P.W.S.) to crossing the Cooleman Plains which were used for grazing in the late 1800s.

CHRISTMAS-NEW YEAR WALKS (Continued)

The last night's camp will be at Harris Hut, with the fourth day's walking being a morning's stroll back to the cars.

(B) JAN 1 1987 KOSCIUSKO PEAK RAMBLE

In the southern area of the national park, following a ride up on the chairlift to the top of the range above Thredbo (saves a lot of climbing!). We will take in the magnificent views by visiting Ram's Head, Mt. Kosciusko and Mt. Townsend and Watson's Crags. This will be a three day pack carry with the first night's camp beside Lake Albina and then Blue Lake.

N.B. Please see leader in the clubrooms re any further information or queries.

8-19 JANUARY WALLS OF JERUSALEM & CRADLE MOUNTAIN MEDIUM
LEADER JOPIE BODEGRAVEN LIMIT - 10

The plan is to leave Devonport after the early flight on the 8th and camp right in the Walls area that night. The next 5 days will be spent exploring the Walls area and the Traveller Range, with its myriad of beautiful lakes, tarns and pencil pines. Two of those days will be with day packs, the rest are full pack carries. We return to where we have one car, transfer everyone to Waldheim and spend four days exploring the north end of the Reserve, including Cradle Mountain, Waterfall Valley and Barn Bluff. This will be a mixture of pack carrying and day packs. We return to Devonport on the a.m. of the 19th.

CCMMITTEE NOTES MEETING 10 NOVEMBER 1986

Correspondence In:

1. Alpine Planning Project - invitation to contribute.

2. Letter from Ted Lawton offering to look after the club's archives. Decision deferred until next meeting after contacting Life Members who currently hold archival material.

3. Letter from Karmela Sandra requesting a partial refund of membership fee, as she is no longer an active walker. She is to be advised that such refunds are not given.

Treasurer:

Balance 31.10.86	+\$4751.16
Bills to be paid: Gestetner supplies P. Gronow - bus repairs Driving and garaging Rampower - fuel Subscription to ACF	(\$130.22 (\$47.82 295.18 585.00 325.72
Bubscription to Mcr	<u>56.00</u> \$1339.94

Resolved that subscription to "Alpine Observer" not be renewed.

Walks Secretary:

September 1986	Day walkers	205	Members 182
	Weekend walkers	<u>53</u>	Visitors 79
		261	Income \$1360

Membership

Total 305 "News" subscribers 12

"Walk" magazine

So far copy received from only two advertisers - to be chased up. Only enough text material in hand for 60-70 pages.

COMMITTEE NOTES (Continued)

Wilky

Probable work party Australia Day weekend. Warmray needs replacing - any ideas welcome.

Duty Roster

November 19th David/Neil 26th Hugh/Robert

December 3rd Maureen/Jenny

Next Committee Meeting

1st December

General Business

Emergency brake has been fitted to bus, but has not yet been checked by A. Enkelman, Consulting Engineer.

RESULTS OF PHOTO COMPETITION

Our new system of audience judging seemed to work fairly well. The slide judging was well attended and the number of entries was good. The main problem seemed to be the time taken for the voting - this prevented us from running through the slides afterwards with descriptions. The number of print entries was disappointing; nevertheless there were enough after the deadline was twice extended and the voting was keen. Final results were:

Slides

Personality

- l Athol Schafer Bob Steele on tree stump
- 2 Jopie Bodegraven Bill Bennett playing up to Helen Lightfoot
- 3 Jan Mattingley Four bushwalkers studying a map

Australian Landscape

- 1 Mark Tischler Pandanus and mountains in Tasmania
- 2 Stuart Mattingley Central NSW scene
- 3 Mick Mann sunrise on Wye River Beach

Open

- l Hugh Duncan Lyttleton Harbour at night
- 2 Mick Mann Sailing boat on Gippsland Lakes
- 3 Jopie Bodegraven Girl in canyon

Prints

Personality

- l Graham Harding Fallen skier
- 2 Jopie Bodegraven Mark and Graham on Colo River
- 3 Maureen Hurley Bushwalker in Kakadu

Australian Landscape

- 1 Lesley Forbes Jim Jim Falls, Kakadu
- 2 Graham Harding Wilson's Prom.
- 3 (Graham Harding Moorabool Gorge (Lesley Forbes - Kakadu scene

Open

- l Lesley Forbes Kakadu waterfall
- 2 Graham Harding Mt Buffalo
- 3 Rita Poole Whitsunday Islands

CONGRATULATIONS!

To Mila and Graham Harding on their recent marriage

ALONG THE TRACK

ART'S RUN

Art's Broadford to Yea run is a 30 mile scramble up hill and down dale from one town to the other. The terrain is rarely level and, if it is for a moment somewhat forgetfully horizontal, that stretch is bound to be dotted with barbed wire fences. A runner can't afford to lose concentration!

Once the happy band of runners has managed to escape the developmental spread of Broadford and eased the legs into running rhythm across the first stretch of countryside, a number of obvious staging posts beckon. One Tree Hill stands about 15 km from the start, and it is non-stop going until the summit is gained after a surprisingly steep climb. Art allows about 5 minutes for a quick drink and a bite to eat, then it's a dive off the other side and on the way to King Parrot Creek, a further 9 km away. I always forget about the hills in between but finally there is a straightforward jog to the road and the creek bridge.

The half-way point. Time for each person to decide whether they can keep going at the necessary pace. Discretion is sometimes the better part of valour, especially when it's already a struggle to keep the legs pumping. The path ahead is daunting - straight up a steep spur that has its end somewhere in the blue sky near the top of Mt. Marianne. Collapse on the grass at the end of the climb and recover in the name of admiring the view. Then it's up and down the spine of the range. Exhilarating stuff, but guite demanding at times. There's a nice swimming hole after a while, just at the point where the legs are having serious doubts. (Mine always have serious doubts after 30 km!)

Revitalized, we continue along the ridge - still a succession of climbs and descents - until that wondrous point is reached where we leave the spine and take off down an extended rib, running easily now through open forest that soon finds room for a jeep track as farm country beckons below. This is a long stretch of uncomplicated running and we soon meet the road at the foot of our last major obstacle.

Mt. Jimmy. It's a slog up Mt. Jimmy, even apart from the confounded fences. There's still a way to go, perhaps 9 km from the start of the climb. With a bit of luck, Dennis will be standing on the top with encouragement and the keys to the van. Legs don't want to work at this stage of the trip, nearly 40 km from Broadford. What a way to get to the end of a marathon!

Dennis is there, bless his soul. He seems quite cheerful, looking across an expanse of green to Yea, buried in the distance. The legs crank into action for the final effort, down the protracted spur and on to a series of roads. It's just about possible to summon up a final whisper of speed at the outskirts of Yea, knowing that the milk bar and salvation are close at hand.

I first ran this trip with Art many years ago. He's still doing it, despite the best efforts of developers to cruel his pitch. Art's not getting any younger, but he's getting faster! It's a worry.

My thanks to Art, Royce and Mark for encouragement through to the end. To Dennis for keeping me company on the jog down the final hill and along the dusty roads. To Alec and Chris for a valiant effort and cheerful company. And finally to Art again for giving me at least a little hope that I'll stay forever young! It was well worth the plane fare.

ALONG THE TRACK (Continued)

A PLEASANT WEEKEND IN THE MOUNTAINS

Have you noticed that it has been raining lately? When our car came to a halt alongside the Royston River at Rubicon it was raining. The ground was also covered with recent raindrops, in some patches 20 mm deep. After searching by torch light I found an island in the lakes of mud and water, quickly erected my home and was soon asleep. Next morning I left the tent at what I thought was a strategic time, and discovered to my disappointment that there was no welcoming fire. I do not enjoy cold muesli.

A short car drive took us to the first highlight of the day - Snobs Creek Falls - two large drops with volumes of icy water hurrying down. The recent rain and the melting snow in the mountains nearby were racing to join similar molecules in Lake Eildon. If you have never been to these falls add them to your list of sights which are worth many visits.

The remainder of the day was spent walking on tracks in the mountain forests, being cooled at intervals by the wind and the rain. Camp was reached early in the afternoon. It was an old sawmill site on the headwaters of the Rubicon River. I noticed an old hut which persons unknown had been renovating. I promptly claimed a corner as my bedroom. It was dry, warm and rat free. After afternoon tea our leader took us on an exploration of the mill area. We found some tram tracks, a couple of collapsed huts, pieces of boilers and an almost working piston and fly wheel.

I think it rained during the night, but it was dry in my bedroom.

On Sunday the sun shone warmly. Walking was mainly down hill, for much of the time on the gentle grade of the maintenance tracks alongside a series of aqueducts. Mountain Streams is a hydroelectric scheme started more than fifty years ago, long before the Snowy Mountains, Kiewa Valley or Lake Eildon became major suppliers of peak electricity. Fed by the melting snow from Lake Mountain, the Royston and Rubicon rivers rush downhill. These rushing waters are captured by a series of weirs, dams, aqueducts and pipelines to spin turbines in four small power stations which still produce electricity in economic quantities. We visited three of the power stations, three of the dams and walked along one of the maintenance tramways across three high trestle bridges.

The sun was warm, the company friendly, the pace leisurely, the scenery pretty and the engineering structures interesting.

Add the name Jean Giese to the list of those who lead satisfying walks.

SPENCER GEORGE

POSITION VACANT (Unpaid)

Would somebody else like to have a go at typing "News" next year? It takes 6-8 hours a month, with an additional 6-8 hours in July when the membership list is typed. You get custody of the club's Adler electric typewriter and stencils and correcting fluid are supplied by the club through Peter Bullard. You know what's going on in the club before everyone else, both through "News" copy and from being a committee member. If you can't manage "News" for one month, there's always some kind person willing to do it just once (maybe even me).

If you're interested, see me in the clubrooms, or ring 578 1062 (H).

MERILYN WHIMPEY

NEWMEMBERS

We welcome the following new members:

Clare McGlone 5/34 Wynnstay Road, Prahran, 3187

(H) 549 4618 (W) 741 3444

Anthony Cheesman 8/81 Pleasant Road, Hawthorn East, 3123

(H) 813 1848

Colin Baimbridge 7 Kilander Court, Ferntree Gully, 3156

(H) 758 3117

CHANGES OF

INFORMATION

Trish Elmore 19 Gibon Street, Burnley, 3121

(H) 429 3631

Felicity Topp 44 Kerr Street, Fitzroy, 3065

419 4281

Jenny Ross 57 Park Crescent, Fairfield, 3078

(H) 489 2221

John Marre 7/2A Bernards Road, Alphington, 3078

(H) 762 5505 497 1082

Russell Jones 17 Phillips Street, Coburg, 3058

Jan Carnell (H) 386 0150

27 Airedale Avenue, Hawthorn East, 3123

(H) 882 3925 (W) 857 8151

CLOSING DATE FOR DECEMBER "NEWS" - WEDNESDAY 3 DECEMBER