

# THE NEWS

OF THE

MELBOURNE BUSHWALKERS INCORPORATED

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# SOCIAL COLUMN

#### CHRISTMAS BREAK-UP PARTY

This annual party will be held in the clubrooms on Wednesday, 23 December, 1987 at 7.30 p.m.

Come along and share with others your thrills and spills of 1987 and your plans for 1988.

Bring along a plate and something to drink. There will be a raffle. Any enquiries regarding this event to David Pickup in the clubrooms.

# CONGRATULATIONS

TO MARGUERITE LUCILLE HODGSON

om her choice of parents

JANET AND GRAHAM

(Marguerite was born on 17th October, and is the third child in the family)

Graham and Janet intend to get back into some serious walking some time in the 1990s!

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.

#### DAYMALKS

SAT. 28 NOVEMBER DANDENONGS EXPLORER - EMERALD TO BELGRAVE

EASY/MEDIUM

LEADER

MICHAEL HUMPHREY

TRANSPORT CARS

TRAIN DEPARTS FLINDERS STREET 8.49 am (Platform 4)

ARRIVES BELGRAVE STATION 10.03 am

EXPECTED TIME OF RETURN APPROXIMATELY 5.30 pm

MAP REFERENCE MELWAYS MAPS 127, 125, 124 and 75

APPROX. DISTANCE 18 kms

The Dandenongs are known for ferns of all kinds and walking tracks beside creeks and this is one of those walks. So come along and join me for a long but easy walk. We will meet promptly by 10.30 am in order to catch a bus to Emerald which departs Belgrave Station at 10.50 am and arrives at Emerald Station at 11.05 am. So don't be late! Depending on the numbers, we may be able to organise a car shuffle.

From Emerald Station we will make our way to the start of the Dandenong Ranges Walking Track which follows Menzies Creek downstream though Avards Picnic Ground to Butterfield Reserve for lunch. We will then have completed 6 kilometres of the walk. After lunch we follow Woori Yallock Creek upstream through a number of picnic grounds to Baynes Park where we will pause for afternoon tea. From Baynes Park we make our way to Grants Picnic Ground where if time permits we can indulge ourselves and undo all our good work. From Grants Picnic Ground it is approximately 45 minutes back to Belgrave Station.

For two reasons, I have graded this walk easy/medium. Firstly the distance, and secondly there are a few bridges that we will have to negotiate, but the pace will be kept within easy reach of everyone. The terrain is rather flat and there are no hills but good walking boots are strongly recommended.

For further information please see me in the clubrooms prior to the walk or ring me at home on 598 7317 after 7.30 pm.

#### SUN. 6 DECEMBER CATHEDRAL RANGE

EASY/MEDIUM & MEDIUM

LEADERS

JOPIE BODEGRAVEN & GINA HOPKINS
TRANSPORT

BUS FROM BATMAN AVENUE, 9.00 am

EXPECTED TIME OF RETURN 8.30 pm

MAP REFERENCE NATIONAL PARKS BROCHURE

This is one of the classical day walking areas and also one of the best. The views from the ridge of the range are superb.

The easy/medium has a steep track climb of 400 metres up to the cathedral and much of the ridge after that is very rocky underfoot. Consequently it is more than an easy, but we will take our time.

The medium follows a creek and a small rugged ferny gorge to finally emerge on the Cathedral too and will have some extra detours to viewpoints.

Both walks have a steep descent beside a creek on a steep track that has little regard for topography but gets us back to our bus.

DAY WALKS (Continued)

SUN. 13 DECEMBER KEPPELS FALLS, THE BEECHES, WHITEHOUSE EASY & CREEK MEDIUM

LEADERS FRED HALLS & IAN NEWBOLD

TRANSPORT BUS FROM BATMAN AVENUE, 9.00 am

EXPECTED TIME OF RETURN 9.00 pm

MAP REFERENCE 2"-1 MILE TAGGERTY (IF AVAILABLE);

MCMAHONS CREEK 1:50,000

APPROX. DISTANCE 16 & 18 km, DEPENDING ON THE ROUTE

This should be a good walk through some of the best forest terrain in Victoria. Situated in the midst of a cool, southern rainforest grove of ancient myrtle beech, massive mountain ash, with thick moss, filmy ferns, kangaroo ferns and other epiphytes growing on the tree trunks and huge granite boulders above the silvery waters.

This, broadly, is the scene at the environment of Whitehouse Creek Scenic Reserve, largely much as it was 50 years ago before the 1939 fires. Depending on the weather prior to the walk, there will probably be some leeches about at various stopping places. Plenty of excellent water available en route from river or creek. Not fully previewed yet, it seems that two different walking routes can be selected for use on the day. It seems to me that the present track has been recut, to follow much the same alignment as that of 50 years ago.

#### SUN. 20 DECEMBER SOMERS PARK - FERNSHAWS

EASY/MEDIUM & MEDIUM

LEADERS HUGH DUNCAN & MAX CASLEY

TRANSPORT BUS FROM BATMAN AVENUE, 9.00 am

EXPECTED TIME OF RETURN 7,30 pm MAP REFERENCE JULIET 1:50,000

APPROX. DISTANCE 14 & 16 km

Both walks are in mountain ash forest in and around the Maroondah catchment area. The easy-medium walk will probably follow the access road from Somers Park over Mt. Vinegar as far as Carters Gap, then down Morley's Track to Fernshaw. The medium walk will probably start at Acheron Gap, and climb over the Knobs to meet the route of the easier walk near Mt. Vinegar. This stretch starts on a good track (an old timber tramline), but steadily deteriorates until any resemblance to a track is purely imaginary. When we finally retrieve the route of the easy-medium walkers, we will follow them all the way to Fernshaw.

#### WEEKENDWALKS

4-6 DECEMBER SHEEPYARD FLAT - EAGLES PEAKS - MEDIUM
LICKHOLE CREEK

LEADER RUSSELL JONES

TRANSPORT CARS

MAP REFERENCE MANSFIELD 1:100,000, VMTC KING, HOWQUA & JAMIESON

Walk along the Howqua River to Frys, then turn off and along the track to Lickhole Creek.

Water will need to be carried for Saturday night and Sunday.

Camp at Lickhole Gap. Then on Sunday over Eagles Peaks - fantastic views in good weather - then along the tops to the 4WD track back to Sheepyard Flat. Side trip to the Governors on Saturday before reaching camp.

# WEEKEND WALKS (Continued)

EASY/MEDIUM ECHO FLAT - BOUNDARY TRACK -11-13 DECEMBER KEPPELS HUT

SPENCER GEORGE LEADER

TRANSPORT CARS

EXPECTED TIME OF RETURN 9.00 pm

McMAHON'S CREEK and THORNTON MAP REFERENCE

APPROX. DISTANCE 35 km

A stroll on tracks at an elevation of 1400 metres. Saturday morning start, two hours drive from Melbourne. We will carry packs for only part of each day. Come and enjoy the alpine spring.

BUCKLAND SPUR - MT EVERETT -MEDIUM 18-20 DECEMBER EVANS CREEK GORGE

MERILYN WHIMPEY LEADER

TRANSPORT CARS

MOSTLY ON VMTC WABONGA PLATEAU, SOME ON VMTC MAP REFERENCE

KING, HOWQUA & JAMIESON, ALSO NATMAP HOWITT &

MANSFIELD 1:100,000

APPROX. DISTANCE 25-35 km, DEPENDING HOW FAR WE CAN DRIVE

I haven't previewed this walk, but looking at the maps, it appears that on the Saturday we walk down Buckland Spur on a 4WD track to Lake William Hovell, and on Sunday we walk up another 4WD track along Evans Creek, with lighter packs and water nearby. On the way we might climb No. 3 Mountain - about 50 metres from the road, and with an interesting rocky top. It will be interesting to see the views, as the first time I was up there there were 360 views of thick fog. We will meet at King Saddle on the Saturday morning and drive as far as the good road lasts, but not as far as the campsite.

# CHRISTMAS TRIPS

25-27 DECEMBER LORNE WATERFALLS BASE CAMP MEDIUM

PHILIP LARKIN (813 2271) LEADER

TRANSPORT CARS

MAP REFERENCE VICMAPS KENNETT RIVER AND WYE RIVER, LORNE,

MOUNT COWLEY AND SKENES CREEK

This area is notable for its sheer beauty, scenic coast and peaceful forest reserves. It offers a natural forest backdrop to the ocean and includes several swiftly seaward-flowing streams. These offer numerous and spectacular waterfalls, cascades and rapids. The walking track follows approximately 24 kilometres of historic timber tramway routes, winding through fern gullies and gorges and in many places traversing cliff faces. There is also an abundance of fauna such as the echidna, platypus, possums and gliders.

On the first day we will visit the waterfalls on the Upper Cumberland River, just below the T.W. Spur. These are not marked on the map. If time allows we will do some exploring along the river for possible unmarked waterfalls. We will be walking for approximately 10 km during the day, mostly off tracks.

Book early, for there is a limited number of camp sites.

Bring along your cameras and bathers for an enjoyable weekend and rewarding bushwalking in the Otways.

26-31 DECEMBER	MURRAY RIVER CANOE TRIP	SLACK
LEADER	DOUG POCOCK	

TRANSPORT CARS

HOLBROOK, ROSEWOOD, CORRYONG, KOSCIUSKO 1:100,000 MAP REFERENCE

120 km APPROX. DISTANCE

# CHRISTMAS TRIPS (Continued)

What can we say? This is quite exploratory for the club. However all the notes and information point to a very pleasant trip down the Murray from Brigenbrong Bridge to Dora Dora. We will be able to call into some riverside towns for some supplies if the fishermen in the group don't do the right thing by us. Canoe hire and delivery/pick up costs will probably be somewhere around \$40 for the five days (27th to 31st). We will go to Wilky for New Year's Eve, which will break up the trip home.

Let us know early if you are a starter so that we can organise canoe hire.

# 27 DECEMBER - 2 JANUARY LILO TRIP - SHOALHAVEN RIVER (NSW) MEDIUM

LEADER SPENCER GEORGE

TRANSPORT CARS

MAP REFERENCE NERRIGA, CACURA, TOUGA (NSW 1:25,000)

APPROX. DISTANCE 70 km

Read the two articles "Adventures on a Lilo" on pages 13-17 of "Walk 1986" for some general information about liloing. If still interested, then contact Spencer George for details on flies, hot sun and specialised equipment.

#### DANDENONGS EXPLORER WALKS

The Dandenongs Explorer walks are generally held on the last Saturday of each month, but will not take place in December or January because of the holidays. They are fairly easy walks starting around noon for four or five hours, so offer a good introduction for potential members as well as a pleasant activity for members. As private transport is used, pre-booking is not essential, but it is advisable to inform the leader of your intention to join the group. For the benefit of public transport users, many walks meet at a station or leaders will arrange station pick-ups.

#### GREAT SOUTH WEST WALK

The Friends of the Great South West Walk are offering the "G.S.W.W. Bicentennial Walk '88", commencing April 2nd, as an endorsed Bicentennial event. This walk coincides with Easter and Victorian school holidays. Other starting dates can be arranged.

The walk is 250 kms, 17 sections and 16 campsites, offers easy/medium walking in a variety of landscapes ranging from forests to National Parks to wild and rugged coastal scenery, and is a wonderful opportunity to view the Western District of Victoria.

For further details see Trish Elmore in the clubrooms.

# THE BUSHPEOPLE CALENDAR

The Bushpeople Calendar is an impressive full colour calendar, incorporating fifteen photographs from various Australian wilderness regions including far north Queensland, south west Tasmania, Snowy Mountains.

Available to members wholesale \$7.80 Recommended retail \$12.95

Trish Elmore has a copy for interested people to have a look at and information regarding purchasing.

# COMMITTEE NOTES

# FOR THE MEETING HELD ON 9 NOVEMBER, 1987

# Treasurer's Report

Bank balance October 30, 1987 \$4551.29

Payments to be ratified:

234.08 Rampower - Fuel & Oil, Sept.87 S. Wilson - reimbursal of wreath 50.00 for J. Hedstrom B. Bell - reimbursal of purchase 41.69 of urn Booking payment for "Cats" (Social) 720.00 David Deans - wood for Wilky 350.00 79.51 M. Mann - reimbursal of Wilky expenses 530.00 Driving & garaging of bus, Oct. 87 \$2005.28

Bills to be paid

Gestetner Pty. Ltd. <u>\$208.71</u> \$2213.99

# Walks Secretary

Total walkers in September - 218 comprising 165 day walkers and 53 weekend walkers 150 members and 68 visitors

Income \$1467

Guest house at Marysville has been booked for the annual Degenerate Weekend, on the first weekend of the June school holidays.

A "Walks Manual" of information relevant to leaders and others will be prepared this summer.

A track clearing walk/social event will be scheduled in the autumn programme.

#### Membership Secretary

We have 313 members and 33 News Subscribers, including seven new members accepted at this meeting.

# Wilkinson\_Lodge

Mick, Hugh and Geoff Crapper met with three National Parks representatives at Wilky on Monday, November 2nd, to discuss the future of the hut.

We are not likely to lose the lodge, but we will have to provide an emergency refuge, and some access to outside groups.

The refuge is to be for emergency use only, and must be under the same roof (i.e., not a separate building). An extension of about 2 metres on the north end is the preferred option. Lodge Manager has authority to proceed with design, costing, and approval by National Parks Service.

Some access to outside groups must be provided. There are several possibilities, but a club member "Warden" for outside groups is a popular option. The booking system would be similar to what we have now, and a reasonable fee may be charged. Negotiations are continuing, and all suggestions will be gratefully received.

An informal discussion session will be held on Wednesday, 16 December in the clubrooms. Get your ideas together and come along for a cuppa.

# COMMITTEE NOTES (Continued)

# Duty Roster

November 11 Ceri, Ed

18 Neil, Mick

25 Merilyn, Jenny

December 2 Mendy, Bob

9 Ceri, Neil

# Next Meeting

December 7th

# WILKINSON LODGE OCCUPANCY SUMMARY APRIL 1982 - OCTOBER 1987

MONTH	1982		1983		1984		1985		1986		1987		AVERAGE/MONTH		
	W/E	WKS	W/E	WKS	DAYS										
JAN	?	?	4	1	3	2	1	0	3	0	1	0	2.4	0.6	11.4
FEB	3	?	2	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0.8	0.2	3.8
MAR	?	?	1	0	0	1	3	0	2	1	1	0	1.4	0.4	7.0
APR	1	3	4	1	2	1	2	1	2	0	3	2	2.3	0.8	12.5
MAY	2	0	3	0	3	0	4	0	2	0	4	0	3.0	0.0	9.0
JUN	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.2	0.0	0.6
JUL	0	2	3	1	1	3	0	3	0	1	0	2	0.7	2.0	16.1
AUG	0	4	0	4	0	4	0	4	0	5	0	5	0.0	4.4	31.0
SEP	1	2	0	1	1	2	3	2	2	1	1	2	1.3	1.7	15.8
OCT	3	0	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1.0	0.0	3.0
NOV	0	0	4	0	2	0	2	0	4	0	1	?	2.4	0.0	7.2
DEC	2	1	3	1	4	0	1	1	2	1	2	?	2.4	0.8	12.8
TOTAL	10	9	26	9	16	14	18	11	17	9	12	11	18	11	130
PEOPLE	138		2(	)4	1	58	177		182		156				
TRIPS	19			35		30	29		26		23				
PEOPLE /TRIP	7.3		5	8	5	3	6.1		7.0		6.8				

# A LETTER FROM MARJORIE HEDSTROM

Dear Melbourne Bushwalkers,

Please accept our thanks for your kind words of sympathy in our recent, unexpectedly, sad loss.

Your floral tribute was also much appreciated.

Jim was looking forward to the day when he could join all his friends again, on his much loved bush walks, but that was not to be, sad to say.

Thank you all,
Sincerely,
Marjorie Hedstrom
and Family

# ALONG THE TRACK

# 4 OCTOBER, BLACK SNAKE RANGE

(OR WHY HAVE A BATH IF YOU SHOWER ALL DAY?)

#### LEADERS - GRAHAM BREEN & BRIAN MARRIOTT

The weather forecast was not good, but it was accurate. Climbing onto the exposed Egg Rock Ridge, the medium walkers were hit by a howling northerly. The magnificent views rated a quick glance before we scurried into the shelter of the mountain ash. This proved no protection against the impending rain and lunch was a stand up affair of soggy sandwiches relieved by the diversionary game of spot the leech. The rain was now starting to penetrate some of the water?proofs, particularly the leader's, so the pace was turned up and we hurried past the towering tree ferns and up the now slippery red and brown mud of the Black Snake Range. The leader led from behind on the steeper section and was secretly pleased to find a confusing track junction as an excuse to recover his breath. There was general comment that this was the prettier section of the walk, with many flowering shrubs, including red and white heaths. The easy walkers, already back at the van in various stages of steaminess, were not unhappy to see us an hour earlier than planned.

N.B. It is very wise to leave a change of dry clothes in the van.

GRAHAM BREEN

# NEWMEMBERS

We welcome the following new members:

Peter Sturgess

71 Liston Street, Burwood, 3125

Phone (H) 299 1313

Veronica Sheen 5/10 Ida Street

North Fitzroy, 3065

(H) 482 1931, (W) 419 7055

Mark Frizzell 597A North Road Ormond, 3163

(H) 578 6572, (W) 541 1222

Stacey Ford

14 Cyril Street, Ashburton, 3147

(H) 25 2995, (W) 232 4700

Nigel Holmes

P.O. Box 19, Ormond, 3204 (Post)

8 Clee St. MacKinnon (Home)

(H) 578 8105, (W) 640 3048

Elizabeth Kourlims

49 Lincoln Drive

Thomastown, 3074

(H) 466 2975

# CHANGES OF INFORMATION

Wendy Barnes 8/90 Hambleton Street Middle Park, 3206 (H) 690 9112

Mick Mann

Work No. 667 7646

Gerald Young
34 Rails Crescent
Armadale, W.A. 6112
(H) (09) 399 5002

Ray McCall

46 Dunoon Street, Doncaster, 3168

(H) 848 2853

Victor Trigarsky
3 Judith Street, Dromana, 3936
(H) 059 87 1587

# CLOSING DATE FOR DECEMBER "NEWS" - WEDNESDAY, 9TH DECEMBER

Articles for "News" should be placed in the red box in the clubrooms, or posted to the club's address, Box 1751Q, GPO Melbourne, 3001. Please put your name on "News" contributions. Unsigned articles will not be published.