

# THE NEWS

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MELBOURNE BUSHWALKERS INCORPORATED

EDITION 447

MAY 1988

PRICE 20 C

REGISTERED BY AUSTRALIA POST PUBLICATION NO. VBH 1297

DONT BE A

DONKEY

PAY YOUR SUBS

IFTHIS DONKEY HAS A
RED NOSE
THIS IS YOUR LAST
COPY OF NEWS



SUBSCRIPTIONS	
ORDINARY MEMBERS	\$22
STUDENTS	\$11
COUPLES	\$33
NEWS SUBSCRIBER	\$ 11

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 p.m. Visitors are always welcome.

# DAY WALKS MAY/JUNE 1988

SAT. 28 MAY DANDENONGS EXPLORER - DOONGALLA STATE PARK EASY

LEADERS JOYCE DUNN & PAM WESTBURY

TRANSPORT TRAIN FROM FLINDERS STREET, 10.09 A.M.
MAP REFERENCE MELWAYS - WICKS RESERVE - PAGE 65, J7 & 8

APPROX. DISTANCE 9 KM

An easy and relaxed walk starting amid the rural area in the foothills of the Dandenongs. Lunch will be in the picnic area at the old historical homestead in the Doongalla State Forest.

After lunch there is a short, sharp, steep hill to climb and then it's downhill all the way back to the cars - really.

Bring water for lunch as the only water we saw on the preview was fit for the frogs only.

Please see leaders in clubrooms if you need transport from Boronia Station to Wicks Reserve.

SUN. 29 MAY
YEA RIVER PARK - KINGLAKE
EASY & MEDIUM
NATIONAL PARK

LEADERS GRAHAM HARDING & IAN NEWBOLD TRANSPORT BUS FROM NOLAN STREET, 9.00 AM

EXPECTED RETURN 7.00 P.M.

MAP REFERENCE PHEASANT CREEK 1:25,000

APPROX. DISTANCE 16 AND 19 KM

The walk is based in the northern section of Kinglake National Park, starting on the top of the Candlebark Track. We descend over 350m then follow a stream along a ferny track. The medium walk ascends St. Andrews Hill. Both walks finish at Yea River Park.

SUN. 5 JUNE STARLIGHT FLAT - MT. KLONDYKE TRACK EASY & MEDIUM KALATHA CREEK VALLEY

LEADERS FRED HALLS & FELICITY TOPP

TRANSPORT BUS FROM NOLAN STREET, 9.00 A.M.

EXPECTED RETURN 7.30 P.M.

MAP REFERENCE KLONDYKE 1:25,000

APPROX. DISTANCE EASY 17 KM; MEDIUM 19 KM

From the starting point on Blowhard Road near Nolan Road the walk (Easy) follows the track to Starlight Flat, then easterly to the start of Klondyke Track. We follow that track, winding up over Mt. Klondyke, north along Klondyke ridge track to a point near Kalatha Cascades. Then we follow the Kalatha Creek valley south to the finish at the upper end of the valley.

The Medium walk climbs steeply up the south end of Klondyke ridge, along that ridge and down to the lower Kalatha Creek picnic ground, returning along the north end of the range back to the bus.

An excellent walk along a soft, slightly overgrown track facing into the winter sunshine along the sunny end of the ridge, through a forest of tall mountain ash.

# DAY WALKS (Continued)

SUN. 12 JUNE

BIG PATS CREEK - MT. BRIDE 
EASY & MEDIUM
LA LA FALLS

LEADERS BOB BELL & HUGH DUNCAN

TRANSPORT BUS FROM NOLAN STREET, 9.00 A.M.

EXPECTED RETURN 7.00 P.M.

MAP REFERENCE GLADYSDALE & ADA RIVER 1:25,000

APPROX. DISTANCE 15 & 18 KM

These walks are in the mountains south of Warburton. Both walks will take in the La La Falls and the summit of Mt. Bride. The easy walk will follow the timber tramline through tree ferns down to Big Pat's Creek, while the medium walk will indulge in a little more leg stretching.

Remember to carry water for lunch, and be prepared for anything in the way of weather.

SUN. 19 JUNE GELLIBRAND STATE PARK - DEEP CREEK EASY

LEADER ART TERRY

TRANSPORT BUS FROM NOLAN STREET, 9.00 A.M.

EXPECTED RETURN 6.30 P.M. APPROX. DISTANCE 15 KM

This is a very pretty, interesting and easy walk less than 20 km from the GPO. We will visit the ruins of two historic homesteads set in beautiful red gum rural countryside and we will also visit and hopefully have lunch at the very beautiful and historic homestead "Woodlands". From the State Park we traverse the plain to Deep Creek, skirt around Tullamarine Airport and follow downstream past the confluence of Jackson's Creek, quite a pretty ramble. If you wish to have Devonshire Teas, etc. at "Woodlands", let me know when booking and I'll send our order in early so we won't have to wait until it is almost dark to get served, as was the case last year.

WED. 22 JUNE YARRA RIVER: WESTERFOLDS PARK EASY/MEDIUM
TO POUND BEND

LEADER JEAN GIESE

MEETING PLACE JEAN GIESE'S, 9 ALBERT CRES., SURREY HILLS,

NEAR SURREY HILLS STATION

TIME 8.30 A.M.

LIST IN CLUBROOMS, OR RING JEAN 890 2189

EXPECTED RETURN 5.00 P.M.

MAP REFERENCE MELWAYS MAPS 33, 21-23

APPROX. DISTANCE 14 OR 18 KM

Now that the days are shorter, a walk closer to home seems a good idea. So along the Yarra we'll go, amongst lovely gum trees and wattles with the sound of bell birds in our ears most of the time. There are a few fences to be wriggled around near the water's edge and a few blackberries, but on the preview I was altogether delighted with the lovely bush all along the way. A little bit of history can also be enjoyed as we go.

SAT. 25 JUNE DANDENONGS EXPLORER: OLINDA STATE FOREST EASY
- HAMER ARBORETUM

#### LEADER MAUREEN HURLEY

Meet at 11 a.m. at the car park at the National Rhododendron Gardens, Falls Road, Olinda (Melways Map 66 J6). This is a pleasant walk around the edge of the Rhododendron Gardens and through the Olinda State Forest. Lunch will be at the R.J. Hamer Forest Arboretum. Approximate distance 12 km. Remember to bring warm and water-proof clothing as the weather could be cold and/or wet. See you there.

DAY WALKS (continued)

SUN. 26 JUNE YOU YANGS

EASY & MEDIUM

LEADERS TRISH ELMORE & ALEX VOLTAN

TRANSPORT BUS FROM NOLAN STREET, 9.00 A.M.

For details of this walk please see the leaders in the clubrooms, or next month's "News".

# WEEKEND WALKS JUNE 1988

10-13 JUNE WYPERFELD NATIONAL PARK - BASE CAMP MEDIUM & EASY

LEADERS KEITH WHITE AND DAVE ANDREWS

TRANSPORT CARS

EXPECTED RETURN 7.00 PM MONDAY

MAP REFERENCE ALGONA: WYPERFELD NATIONAL PARK

A long weekend for exploring part of the fascinating Mallee country of north-west Victoria.

Wyperfeld, one of Victoria's largest national parks, was initially established to protect the habitat of the lowan (mallee fowl). The central feature of the park is a chain of normally dry lake beds, a popular feeding ground for kangaroos and emus. Over 200 species of smaller birds frequent the park.

The plan for the weekend is to arrive at camp on Friday night (450 km from Melbourne). Both medium and easy walks will be arranged on Saturday and Sunday to explore the wooded dry lakes area and the rolling sand dunes of the surrounding mallee. Monday, we can visit Lake Albacutya on our way back to the city.

Drinking water is available in the park, but it's a good idea to bring your own. The nights will be cold at this time of year.

24-26 JUNE MARYSVILLE GUEST HOUSE WEEKEND VARIABLE

LEADERS PAT & PAUL GRAY

PRIVATE, OR

BUS FROM WHIGHTS TOURIST BUREAU,

122 FLINDERS STREET, DEPARTING FRIDAY 6.30 P.M.,

ARRIVING MARYSVILLE 8.45 P.M.,

RETURNING SUNDAY 3.00 P.M., ARR. MELBOURNE 5.15 PM.

BUS TAKES YOU TO GUEST HOUSE AND COLLECTS YOU.

ACCOMMODATION MOUNTAIN LODGE, KING ROAD, MARYSVILLE HOSTS ARE SUZETTE AND HUBERT NASSL.

Official arrival time is after dinner Friday, with supper provided around 9.30 p.m. You may arrive during the afternoon and dine at the local hotel or milk bar. The weekend finishes after lunch Sunday.

Daytime activities will include organised walks on Saturday morning and afternoon and Sunday morning, with skiing, golfing, cycling, horseriding and fishing available in the area and tennis (tennis shoes required on court) and croquet available on site.

Evening activities can include table tennis, billiards, board games, cards, sing-song (please bring song books and music), fireside reading, chatting, etc.

BOOKINGS OPEN MAY 25TH AT 7.30 P.M.

Full amount only on a first come first served basis.

COST \$76.00 per person

\$16.00 per room extra for private facilities.

# COMMITTEE NOTES MEETING MAY 2ND

#### Correspondence

Letters from Athol Schafer and Art Terry re van fare increase. See elsewhere in "News". David Davies to reply.

#### Treasurer

1. Balance at 30.4.88: \$12 361.88

2. Payments to be ratified:

Rampower - petrol March 88 \$ 257.54 "News" Account 196.36

Total payments to be ratified: \$ 453.90

3. Bills to be paid:

Melbourne Map Centre (compasses) \$ 76.00
Gestetner 347.05
Bus driving and garaging April 88 530.00
Bob Bell (tea and coffee) 84.81
Total bills to be paid: \$1037.86

 $m_{a+a}, m_{a+i}, s_{i+a+i}, m_{a+i}, m_{a+i},$ 

Total ratifications and bills: \$1491.76

4. Other issues:

Petty cash limit - to \$60 Amount in News Account - to \$500.

N.B. Cycle trips will go up to \$16, not \$18 when the new increases come into effect, i.e. June 1988.

#### Walks Secretary

Figures for March

Total walkers 292
Day " 198 Members 214
Weekend " 94 Visitors 78

# Duty Roster

May 11 Jean, Hugh 18 Sylvia, Rob 25 Darren, Jean

Income \$1857

Darren, Jean June 1 Brian, Darren

8 Roger, Bob

## Next Committee Meeting

June 6th.

## N.B.

- 1. The pole line between Wallaces and Cope huts has gone missing! John Siseman to hunt it up.
- The famous bush biscuits from South Australia have arrived courtesy of Jean Giese, who will be selling them for \$1.30 per packet, so making a small profit for the club. Thank you, Jean.
- 3. The store room/office has been severely cleaned out and remaining boxes labelled. The missing first aid box turned up. Order reigns, at last.
- 4. Poster for "Day Walkers Need ..." on wall opposite entrance desk.
- 5. Posters for 1988 STAV Ski Carnival have arrived. Worth going to.

## ALONG THE TRACK

She asked, 'Should I go on this trip?' Considering her attributes, this seemed an odd question. There seemed no basis for her apparent self-doubts; the leader saw no cause for refusing my day walker friend. She had The Right Stuff.

For my part the trip offered yet another ascent of Mt. Bogong with the possibility of being blown off in a gale pelting horizontal rain in white-out conditions. Cleve Cole hut would inevitably be crowded. The original plan was to ascend the mountain by way of the Rootsey Spur track and then Granite Flat spur over the top of Bogong, camping near Stirling Gap. A portent to the weather over that Labour Day weekend was given by the torrential rain and high winds during the Friday of our trip.

With dark thoughts of the weekend in mind, I telephoned my day walker friend whom I had encouraged to enquire if the trip had been called off. Her cheeriness and enthusiasm for the trip made me wonder if she knew better than I. I wished I could share her enthusiasm. I gathered my things for the trip and went to meet her for the drive. She greeted me with cheerful expectation and I had forgotten my walking boots, but then I've walked with bare feet before.

After driving to our rendezvous point that night we made camp before continuing early the next day to the beginning of the Rootsey Spur track. It was a very steep start, yet the exercise somehow raised my spirits and, falling into a natural rhythm, the climb became effortless. Having progressed somewhat ahead of the group I waited to the sights and sounds of the bush. The threatening cloud couldn't put a damper on the trip. After the initial climb the way ahead flattened out, the walk to Hollow Hut proved to be rather easy going.

With lunch at Hollow Hut we changed into our thermals, the temperature being only five degrees. We were a cheerful group at the start of the final ascent by Granite Flat spur. Yet hunger began invading my thoughts and upset the rhythm of my steps, although lunch was only just had and it was certainly adequate. As the ascent continued, my stops became more frequent; there was no denying a sense of being positively drained of energy. As expected, weather conditions were extreme past the treeline, with a full-blown gale, horizontal rain and a white-out. It was the point of no return and it seemed best to continue to our destination, now changed to Cleve Cole hut. However, my progress was poor, to stop was to invite disaster, the group seemed to disappear into the white. At this point emergency rations were extracted from the bottom of my pack. Munching on this, the rhythm began to reassert itself, and once again I was in front of the group observing snow accumulating on the wind-facing side of the snow poles and on our legs. White-outs, gales and horizontal snow.

As expected, Cleve Cole hut was packed. While pitching my tent I saw the hut disgorge a group of no less than twelve. There must have been twenty people still in the hut. The association with Roman soldiers in 'The Life of Brian' comes to mind on these occasions. However, the company was good, conversation fascinating, apparent strangers discovering common threads and events in each other's lives at the cue of a single word or phrase.

Next morning our leader awoke us with the news that the second day's walk was cancelled and that we were continuing on to the cars. On emerging from the tent we could see why. It would be like walking through a pea soup. After a suitable sleep-in we decamped and returned by a different route (Long Spur and Mulhauser Spur - Ed.) to the cars on the Omeo road.

# ALONG THE TRACK (Continued)

Even though the trip was curtailed, the weather conditions were as I had so darkly expected and my own difficulties gave the group cause for concern, there would be no doubt the experience was worthwhile; we shared each other's company, there were moments of laughter, the blackberries were abundant and delicious, I learned of the importance of having one's emergency food handy, of having your Weeties, and my day walker friend should be left in no doubt of her abilities in white-outs, gales and horizontal snow.

#### ALEX VOLTAN

# EASTER near MT. JAGUNGAL

It is a long drive from Melbourne to Khancoban which nestles at the foot of Mt. Kosciusko, so it was a pleasant surprise when I arrived late on Thursday night at Bradneys Gap on the road to Tooma Reservoir to find a happy group of bushwalkers around a campfire with a billy boiling for my supper.

Next morning after a brief car shuffle we began walking from Wolseleys Gap along a fire trail which was mainly uphill so that when we rested for morning tea there was a view down to Tooma Reservoir. Lunch was in the sunshine outside Wheelers Hut, an old hut built with care and so far not vandalised. Then the leader decided to head across country and in the thickest scrub allowed Peter to be in the lead. Fortunately someone noticed a track on the plain below and most of the party headed for it. Down hill all the way to our campsite was the order. However the leader had decided that wet feet at night are more fun than wet feet in the morning, so we crossed the Tooma River before reaching our camping place. As an added attraction, the firewood was on the other side of the river.

The night was cold, so solid ice in billycans, solid tents and solid sandshoes were common in the morning. I remember climbing hills but there must have been some downhill and I remember two glorious views of Jagungal as we came nearer our main target. Before lunch we were erecting our tents amongst the snowgums with a view of Mt. Jagungal across the valley. An hour after the rest of us, Peter and his one follower arrive at the correct campsite.

In the afternoon we climbed the mountain which protects itself with scrub and cliffs but we conquered both and sat on the rocky summit of 2061 metres looking around 360 degrees and enjoying the view.

Next day we divided into three groups. I joined the fast party which headed in the mist over Strawberry Hill, across the Geehi River and then across Valentine Creek to Mawsons Hut. I find this hut cold and depressing, but I had a good sleep at lunch time under the table. Going across country to Valentine Hut we found some of the walking was slowed by scrub, fallen trees and rocks so we were pleased when we arrived at the road. However after following this road for many kilometres steeply down into the Geehi River, then steeply up the opposite side, down to Straight Creek, up again to Smiths Lookout and then on and on and on back to our campsite we were pleased that the other group had the firewood collected and red coals ready for cooking.

On the fourth day we headed for home following an undulating track in a mainly northerly direction. At the end of the morning we were in country badly damaged by bushfires earlier this year. For lunch we found a patch of unburnt grass with views of Round Mountain and Mt Jagungal. An early camp on a blackened plain. This time we had to wade the Tumut River to reach the new leader's chosen camping place. There was no visible firewood, but when we left next morning a considerable heap of dry snowgum remained.

The sun was warm and the men removed their shirts. The water was cool but most of the party had an all over wash and some even swam a few feet. It was a delightful time to relax.

#### LETTER

YACHT "MYVANWY", REFUGE COVE 19 APRIL 1988

Some twenty years ago when I first joined Melbourne Bushwalkers, I was "blooded" by a walk with the Club to the Prom. (Blooded because I was bitten by my first, but by no means last, leech.) It was one of the first weekend walks I'd been on and we went to the Prom, camping the first night just off the lighthouse track, then the next day walking down to the Roaring Meg campsite where we lunched and set up camp. The afternoon was spent doing the lighthouse. In those days there was no fence round the south east point and you could, as we did, walk up to the lighthouse, chat with the keeper and, if he had time, look over the light. I vividly remember standing on the balcony and watching a small sailing boat pass below, the helmsman waving nonchalantly. I thought how wonderful it would be to do the same in my own boat.

Twenty years later, many hundreds of miles of walking and over 10,000 miles of sailing, I am now realising that ambition. We are anchored here in Refuge Cove enjoying the peace and calm with one other boat, who we are travelling with, waiting for fair winds to take us to Eden and all ports north. It is easy in this serene place to muse on the past and memories and to realise that sometimes those dreams come true!

Keep walking, you Bushies - we'll be back at Christmas with or without boat.

Best wishes,

#### GRAHAM AND MARIJKE MASCAS

#### 1988

#### CROSS COUNTRY SKI CARNIVAL

POWERHOUSE, LAKESIDE DRIVE, ALBERT PARK RESERVE SUNDAY JUNE 5, 11 A.M. TO 4 P.M.

\$2 ENTRY FEE

FUN AND EVENTS FOR ALL THE FAMILY -

'88 INFORMATION: Courses, races, tours, accommodation EQUIPMENT DISPLAYS: Tents, skis, clothing SKIING VIDEOS
ROLLER SKIING & "ICE" SKIING
5 km FUN RUN (1 pm start)
400 m GRASS SKI RACE (2 pm start)
NOVELTY OUTDOOR RACE
WAXING DEMONSTRATIONS
FITNESS TESTING . . .

RAFFLE AND GOODS TO VALUE OF \$1800

BARGAIN SKI GEAR MART -

Bring all your gear to sell or buy: SKIS, BOOTS, CLOTHING, CAMPING and ANY OTHER SPORTING GEAR!!

ORGANIZED BY SKI TOURING ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA

#### BUSH BISCUITS FOR SALE

I've brought back from S.A. 70 packets of Arnott's bush biscuits. They will be on sale in clubrooms Wednesday 18th May at \$1.30 packet. Small profit on each to club funds.

## CONTROVERSY SECTION

Dear Members and Visitors.

Did you know that the first of the stated purposes for which the Club was established is "to bring together those who enjoy bushwalking and related outdoor activities"? In this regard the bus has played a major role in the initiation of many a newcomer to the joys of bushwalking. What a pity it is to raise walk charges - a move that could have a discouraging effect all round. The \$2 hike in walk charges was not hinted at in the Annual Report, and the idea that they will now have to keep up with the rate of inflation comes somewhat as a shock, all having been lulled into believing everything was running smoothly! Perhaps the user-pays principle should be modified, so that in order to meet the looming overhaul costs a rise in membership fees could be foreshadowed well in advance of the next AGM.

ATHOL SCHAFER, Life Member

To Members and Visitors,

# RE: OUR TREASURER'S NOTE

I find the Treasurer's note reflects the difficult task that confronts him. At the AGM when I stated that I considered the \$2 increase in membership fees to be totally inadequate to cover us -

- a) in the event of major repairs to the van,
- b) to provide a sinking fund for a replacement van,
- c) to have cash in hand for unforeseen expenses,

he replied sincerely that he figured we could manage OK on that small increase. Maybe I misunderstood him, he could have only been referring to the Club account which hadn't been performing too well, however, his annual report stated nothing about a proposed increase in walk charges nor did he mention it at the AGM. According to his report the Walks account ran a profit. Now only two months after the AGM we are sprung with a \$2 increase on walk charges. I am quite aware that David is in the hot seat and that he needs a lot of money, not hundreds but thousands of dollars, to provide for the items aforementioned in this letter and what our Treasurer has outlined in his note. I have always been in favour of a levy or a realistic membership fee to put our finances on a solid and workable financial foundation, as I see it presently our finances are as stable as a see-saw, up when things are going smoothly, down when some unforeseen expenditure crops up. When I put the proposal to the AGM that the membership fees be raised to \$33/year and so give us thousands of dollars of our own to manage our affairs with David admitted that would be a nice situation to be in. I'm sure it would, his job would be much easier, the Club would operate more smoothly and instead of our Treasurer having to increase walk charges he could reduce them as other Treasurers and Walks Secretaries have done in the past.

You all know Jopie Bodegraven, well Jopie was against a levy when it was under discussion in '85, he believed in the user/pay for the van principle, however, he could see that if a levy was struck then the van would certainly be paid off quickly and then the money would roll in and from what David is telling us I think that would be a good thing for all of us, himself included. To quote part of the letter written by Jopie in "The News", February 1985 - "if we paid the van off too suddenly we would either have to reduce the walk charges to a ridiculously low level or start and make huge and embarrassing profits". In my opinion Jopie lacked imagination as to what we could do with all that cash. I'm sure David would like to be in a situation where our profits are huge and embarrassing, his problems would cease.

An increase of \$2 walks charge means that a pensioner who attends at least 48 day walks/year will pay an extra \$48/year for the pleasure of walking with the Club on Sundays, people attending 30 walks will pay \$60 extra people attending 20 walks will pay \$40 extra

# CONTROVERSY SECTION (Continued)

people attending 10 walks will pay \$20 extra
The walks charge is beginning to get steep, a visitor will now pay
\$14, do you think it is now time to strike a levy of say \$20 which
would bring in about \$7000 with a membership of 350 people? \$20 is
no financial hardship for anybody. If you think this is a better
method than paying high walk charges then express your views by
writing an article in "The News".

My comments on the matter of continuing with our own transport (van) are that it is the only method for us to operate, our late mate Jim Hedstrom who in his wisdom and foresight was responsible for us purchasing the van which without a doubt saved us as a bushwalking club. Jim could see as most of us can how impossible and hopeless it would be organizing forty-five people (two parties) on a day's walk. It is absurd to think that it could be done but I know there are some members who think this way. Good luck David. I hope other members see fit to make things easier for you.

#### ART TERRY

#### A REPLY FROM THE TREASURER

Several club members have commented on the walks charge increasing soon after the AGM, and have raised these questions: why was the increase in the walks charge not foreshadowed, and are the Club finances really in a good state?

The aim of the increase in the walks charge, as discussed last month, is to -

- a) cover inflationary increases in van costs, and
- b) provide the Club with funds to meet an expected major cost of running the van, due in the foreseeable future.

Most of the regular expenses tend to increase with the rate of inflation, and the walks charge should increase to cover these costs. I became fully aware of the potential costs to the Club several months ago, and the Committee and I believe that it is necessary for the Club to start providing for these now.

Why, though, should today's walkers pay for future expenses? It isn't a matter of asking people to be altruistic. Every time the van goes out, it is subject to wear and tear; some of this shows up as minor items in the regular van servicing; some as the occasional (and very large) service costs. It seems to me most reasonable that the people using the van when the wear and tear occurs should pay towards the future cost of the repairs.

The Club provides a variety of services to members, such as walks, Wilky and social functions. The basic philosophy of the club has been that these should all be self-funding. Should all Club members pay so that some people can make use of Wilky? The Club's annual subscription fee covers the costs of services used by all members (such as the newsletter); Wilky fees pay for Wilky expenses; and the walks charge covers the costs of running the van. This is fair and equitable; I have yet to hear any good arguments why things should be run any other way.

The Club's present financial position is very sound (as indicated in the Treasurer's report for 1987-88) and the Treasurer is not in dire need of a large inflow of money to meet expenses. The walks charge increase is aimed solely at ensuring that the van operates on a user pays basis.

Art has also raised several other points, and my comments are as follows:

Apart from predictable month to month fluctuations, the club's finances are stable and the annual surplus has increased steadily over the past four years.

# CONTROVERSY SECTION (Continued)

There has only been one reduction in the walks charge in the last ten years (in the late seventies, I believe). In that instance, the Club was hiring a van, had highly predictable costs, and it was found that more money was coming in from walks than was justifiable. The fee was reduced for a fixed period of time to correct that anomaly. It is not the Club's policy to minimise the walks charge at the expense of people who do not go on walks, nor do I believe this has been the case previously.

The issue of a levy has been discussed at length in the past. I see it as a matter of last resort if the Club was in desparate financial straits. We are not, and haven't been, in that situation. The present system - where Club members pay for Club services as they use them - is a fair and equitable one. It has worked well in the past, works well now, and will continue to work well in the future.

Our Club has neither lack nor overabundance of imagination; we have neither the need to immediately raise huge sums of money, nor to splurge such sums. I believe Art should consider more carefully the impact of his suggested policies; the Club operates effectively and fairly under its present policies, and will continue to do so in the future.

DAVID DAVIES

#### NEWMEMBERS

We welcome the following new members:

Stan Mackowiak 15 Pheasant Street, Bennettswood, 3125

(H) 288 6960

Colin Clifford; 107 Normanby Road, North Caulfield, 3161.

(H) 509 8515

Marjorie Courtis 156 Victoria Road, Hawthorn East, 3123.

(H) 489 0978, (W) 320 9413

Bruce Sutherland, 4/57 Pender Street, Thornbury, 3071.

(H) 484 0967

(NEWS SUBSCRIBER) Sheina Nicholls 41 Rosedale Road, Glen Iris 3146.

#### CHANGES OF INFORMATION

Jill Goodge G.P.O. Box 1480N, Melbourne, 3001.

(H) 656 9141, (W) 748 1268

Susan Nevile, 5/12 Clyde Street, St. Kilda, 3182. Graeme Laidlaw, (Postal Address) Box 381, Manly, NSW, 2095. Charles Andersson, Box 207, Box Hill, Vic. 3128.

#### FORSALE

North Face "Tarn" internal frame pack.

Capacity expandable - from 100 litres to 139.3 litres.

Many features. Never been used.

New price \$640 - Asking \$430.

Wild Country "Quasar" tent. Never been used. 4 season, 4 pole (alloy) semi geodesic. 2 vestibules, 3.3 kg. New price over \$900 - Asking \$430.

North Cape fibrepile jacket. Large. Never been used. Price negotiable.

Phone Keith Warburton - 546 9592 before 8.30 pm.

#### CLOSING DATE FOR JUNE "NEWS" - WEDNESDAY, 8TH JUNE, 8.30 P.M.

Articles for "News" should be placed in the red box in the clubrooms, or posted to Melbourne Bushwalkers, Box 1751Q, GPO,
Melbourne, 3001. Please put your name on "News" contributions.
Anonymous articles will not be published. Please note that if your
contribution is a day late it will probably be too late.