THE NEWS

OF THE

MELBOURNE BUSHWALKERS INCORPORATED

EDITION 462 AUGUST 1989 PRICE 20 C

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SOCIAL SCENE

Thirty four hardy souls rolled up for a sumptuous repast at the Stavros Tavern - the food just kept on coming! Not much room for dancing but the music was good.

We had twelve Indiana Jones fans join the Crusade at the Rivoli. Everyone thought it was a good bit of escapism.

---oOo---

16mm HOME CINEMA NIGHT

On Saturday 19th August we are screening a selection of short comedy films on the big screen (not videos). Included will be classics from Buster Keaton, Charlie Chaplin, Harold Lloyd and Los Trios Ringbarkus. The "Cinema" will be at 81 Blackburn Road, Mt. Waverley at 7.30. Admission is free, but please BYO plus a contribution to supper. Ring Stuart on 741 5592 or Bernadette on 233 9492 if you'd like to come along.

---oOo---

FRIDAY BALLROOM DANCING

A growing group of bushies now regularly attends an informal dancing class at Coburg from 8.30 - 10.45pm. It is run by a family, is very friendly and great fun. You don't have to get dressed up and it's only $5.00 per session, supper is included. Your first lesson is free! It's on the corner of Bell Street and Melville Road. Come along and get into practice for our big end of year do at Alexanders. Ring Stuart on 741 5592 for more details.

---oOo---

PENNY'S SATURDAY ARVO MOVIES

9th September
"SCANDAL" or "DEAD POETS SOCIETY"
Ring Penny 578 5623

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HORSE RIDE

7th October at Glen Elgin near Sunday Creek Broadford. Starting at 10am. Bookings close 4th October. Cost $30.00. $5.00 deposit. BYO lunch. You will need some experience.

DINNER BEFORE THE MEETING

Don't forget Wednesday nights at 6.00pm at TOTOS in Lygon Street. We have a regular table set aside for hungry bushies.

Correspondence should be directed to:-

The Secretary,
Melbourne Bushwalkers,
Box 1751Q, G.P.O.,
MELBOURNE. 3001.

Meetings are held in the clubrooms, Mackenzie Street, Melbourne (rear of the Horticultural Society building), every Wednesday night 7-9 p.m. Visitors are always welcome.

D A Y W A L K S

AUGUST

SUN. 20 AUGUST — STRATH CREEK FALLS - MURCHISON FALLS — EASY/MEDIUM & MEDIUM

LEADERS	**SYLVIA WILSON & PHIL TAYLOR**
TRANSPORT	BUS FROM NOLAN STREET AT 9.00 a.m.
EXPECTED RETURN	7 p.m.
MAP REFERENCE	REEDY CREEK 1:25,000
APPROX. DISTANCE	E/M 10k. M 13k.

First of all please note that there is no Easy walk now, that's because there are some lengthy and steep ascents and decents, and at least ¼ of the walk is rock hopping.

Both walks cover the same area, the medium one does an extra loop at the beginning: more up, down and rock hopping.

Now, secondly, the good news: it's terrific country; ragged, impressive and challenging. Apart from walking up Strath Creek (medium group) and Digger Gully (all of us), we also cross over Tunnel Hill, 510m, and get some good views. If it's been raining heavily immediately prior to this walk, we won't be up the proverbial creek without a paddle, we won't be up the creek at all; we'll go somewhere else, as it is potentially dangerous.

SAT. 26 AUGUST — DANDENONGS EXPLORER - OLINDA STATE FOREST — EASY/MEDIUM

LEADER	**PAULINE WILLIAMS**
TRANSPORT	TRAIN & BUS (or private)
ESPECTED RETURN	4.00 p.m.
MAP REFERENCE	MELWAY p52 & 120
APPROX. DISTANCE	12 km.

Meet at my house, 15 Oak Grove, Mt. Evelyn (Melway 52 K4) promptly at 12 noon or, if coming by public transport, telephone for details. The walk follows a little known section of the Olinda Creek, up and down a number of hills and finishes up back at my house. Although the area is virtually at my back door, I think it's a very pretty area - tall timber, fern gullies etc. There are a number of steep hills, this being the medium bit. I will not be in the club rooms before hand so bookings should be made either at work 617 5812, or at home 736 2493 before 8.30 p.m. (my bed time).

WANTED PLUMBER of the 'artisan' variety, or any variety at all. Do we have in the club, or do any club members know a licenced plumber of friendly persuasions? We need someone to supervise the installation of the new septic tank at Wilkie this Spring and to sign the necessary forms etc. We would be very grateful if anyone could help. See **Mick Mann** in the Club rooms or phone 497 4674 (H). Would pecuniary inducement help?

---oOo---

D A Y W A L K S

SEPTEMBER

SUN. 3 SEPTEMBER EAST MOORABOOL RIVER - BOSTOCK RESERVOIR EASY
MT. EGERTON EASY/MEDIUM

LEADER	**BILL PENROSE** (592 9140)
TRANSPORT	BUS FROM NOLAN STREET AT 9.00 a.m.
EXPECTED RETURN	7.00 p.m.
MAP REFERENCE	BALLAN 1:50,000
APPROX. DISTANCE	13 & 16 km.

The walk will take place in slightly undulating country just west of Ballan. It will be mainly on tracks with a few kilometres of light open scrub and pine forests.

The section from East Moorabool River to Lake Bostock and then Mt. Egerton township will constitute an easy walk. The van will wait in the township for any walkers who elect not to tackle the final section. This involves climbing Mt. Egerton.

The van will then proceed to a second pickup point on the opposite side of Mt. Egerton, where there will be an opportunity to inspect an old local graveyard.

SUN. 10 SEPTEMBER TRACK CLEARING WOMBAT STATE FOREST AND
WOMBAT FOREST WALK

For details of this activity please see Walks Secretary, **Phil Taylor**.

SUN. 17 SEPTEMBER KINGLAKE NATIONAL PARK - ACROSS THE GRAIN MEDIUM/
HARD, ALSO EASY SEE BELOW

LEADERS	**GEOFF MATTINGLEY & ALAN MILLER**
TRANSPORT	BUS FROM NOLAN STREET AT 9.00 a.m.
EXPECTED RETURN	7.00 p.m.
MAP REFERENCE	STRATHEWEN 1:25,000
APPROX. DISTANCE	18 km. (Med/hard)

This is a repeat of a very successful walk, last done about 2 years ago. It is a circular walk (start and finish at the same place) and goes across country, mostly through the bush and with plenty of up and down - a good challenging day.

The easy walk, which will be led by **Alan Miller**, is shorter, more on tracks and involves less climbing.

There should be lots of wildflowers at this time of year.

If you think that some day walks are too much of a stroll, come along and try the medium/hard walk. If you are new to the club carrying a football injury, or want more time to contemplate the bush, the "Easy" is for you.

See you there!

WED. 20 SEPTEMBER BRITANNIA RANGE - BRITANNIA FALLS EASY

LEADER	**BOB AUJARD**
TRANSPORT	MEET AT JEAN GIESE'S - 9 Albert Cr. Surry Hills Melway 46 H11 to arrange cars and passengers 8.30am
EXPECTED RETURN	5.00 p.m.
MAP REFERENCE	CROWN LANDS & SURVEY, GLADYSDALE
APPROX. DISTANCE	16 km.

This walk is in the Yarra State Forest just south of Warburton. It is along forest tracks on the ridge of the Britannia Range. It starts with a good climb of 500 m. There are good views from the top In the afternoon we descend along an old timber tramway and return to our cars by walking along Britannia Creek Rd. next to the creek.

Day Walks continued:

SUN. 24 SEPTEMBER ANAKIE GORGE - LITTLE RIVER EASY & MEDIUM

LEADERS	**TONY STAPLEY & JOAN MAC MAHON**
TRANSPORT	BUS FROM NOLAN STREET AT 9.00 a.m.
EXPECTED RETURN	8.00 p.m.
MAP REFERENCE	STAUGHTON VALE 1:25,000
APPROX. DISTANCE	16 to 20 km. depending on party

Rising 600 ft. from our starting point (Bristane Road) on the flat farmland east of Bacchus Marsh is the escarpment of the Brisbane Range. Running north and south, the range is dissected by eastward flowing tributaries of Little River. It is a National Park timbered with Ironbark, Box, Wattle and Stringybark. If you are interested in wild flowers go on the shorter walk with Joan Mac Mahon described below. This walk is more aerobic, with little time for flower identification and partly off tracks. We shall work our way south, staying on the slope and crossing several steep gullies. Both walks finish at the Anakie Gorge Picnic Area.

BRISBANE RANGES WILDFLOWER WALK - LEADER **JOAN MAC MAHON** EASY

TRANSPORT	BUS FROM NOLAN ST. 9.00 a.m. - with Medium walkers.
MAP REFERENCE	VMTC BRISBANE RANGES NATIONAL PARK
APPROX. DISTANCE	10 km.

A walk for those who'd like to stop and look at the flowers, without feeling they're holding up the rest of the party. Only one climb, the rest will be quite gentle. Starting and finishing at Anakie Gorge Picnic Area.

THUR.28 SEPTEMBER MULLUM MULLUM CREEK - RINGWOOD EASY
SHOW DAY

LEADER	**ATHOL SCHAFER**
TRANSPORT	MEET UNDER THE CLOCKS IN TIME TO CATCH THE 9.29 a.m. TRAIN TO RINGWOOD
MAP REFERENCE	MELWAYS No. 50

The peace and natural beauty of Mullum Mullum Creek under its canopy of forest cover is threatened by Govt. plans to transform its valley into a freeway/by-pass road. Unless local opposition to the development gets enough successful support then this could be your last chance to see this urban bushland unspoilt. Train arrives Ringwood 10.15 from where we go upstream, the creek cascading down little waterfalls. We then cut across to Croydon Town Park for lunch, returning to Ringwood via a shared footpath, more bushland and around the Ringwood Lake. Should finish before 5.00 p.m.

W E E K E N D W A L K S

SEPTEMBER

27/9-1/10 GRAMPIANS BASE CAMP - MT. STAPYLTON - EASY/MEDIUM
BUANDIK & MEDIUM

LEADER	**SYLVIA WILSON**
TRANSPORT	CARS
MAP REFERENCE	VICMAPS: NORTHERN & SOUTHERN GRAMPIANS 1:25,000
APPROX. DISTANCE	VARIOUS

I don't know about you but I havn't been to the Grampians in Spring for ages. A dose of those wildflowers will be very welcome. The base camp has been planned in two parts to accommodate those unfortunate people who can't take the four days. So we'll be at Buandik - mid western part - for 2 nights, (approached on the Glenelg Highway through to Dunkeld and Cavendish) and walk to the Fortress and maybe up the Goat Track to the Matterhorn. For the final two nights we shall go to the Mt. Zero/Mt. Stapylton area (north west tip, easily approached via the Western Highway) and stay at Hollow Mountain Camping Grounds. The walk linking these three spots looks good, plenty of scrambling and extensive views. If you're not feeling

Weekend Walks continued: Grampians Base Camp:

energetic there are plenty of "Caves of....." to visit (and the fire always needs tending David). Come anyway, it should be good.

P.S. I take no responsibility for the "Roaming in the Gloaming in the Grampians" bit, the Walks Sec. must have had a touch too much sun Sun?

P.P.S. How about going to the Chimney Pots on the way there? It's 9.5 km. off the road and is a 2 hr. circuit.....I really do recommend these new maps.

27/9 - 1/10 SKI TRIP - NIGGERHEADS - FAINTERS MEDIUM
SHOW DAY + 3

LEADER	GRAEME THORNTON
TRANSPORT	PRIVATE
EXPECTED RETURN	LATE SUNDAY
MAP REFERENCE	ALGONA BOGONG HIGH PLAINS 1:25,000
APPROX. DISTANCE	20 - 40 km. I suppose.

We will camp somewhere in the near vicinity of the Niggerheads - hopefully near a patch of snow grass at least the diameter of the leaders tent.

This will be a base camp some 2-3 hours skiing from Falls Creek Village. There is inevitably a bare foot crossing of the Pretty Valley Causeway in ice cold water of variable width/depth - so be prepared. Once beyond Pretty Valley the route may be very bleak in bad weather as it is exposed with little option for shelter.

However, once there we are situated in the most delightful X/C area on the Bogong High Plains. This fact is still substantially secret so please don't come if you don't believe it and by no means pass this on.

For the believers there will be lying in the sun watching the sailplanes from Mt. Fainter Sth. and possibly lying in the sun watching the tourists on Mt. Hotham from Mt. Jim. Other than that there will be lying in the sun on the snow reflecting on the last poorly executed turn. The energetic may watch the sailplanes from Mt. Fainter Nth. or even explore the area south-east of Mt. Jim - snow permitting.

C O M M I T T E E N O T E S

MEETING HELD 7TH AUGUST 1989

1. Correspondence:

IN *Carolyn Maclean graffited van, basically against
*YHA 50th Anniversary - see elsewhere in News
*E. Gippsland coalition - in correspondence box
*W.A. Bushies Programme of Walks:- see Notice Board Club Rooms
*E.P.A. re Wilkie - see elsewhere in News
*V. Assoc. of Environmental Education have a directory of periodicals on environmental issues - in correspondence box

OUT *VNPA re. forming an Association to stop resorts expanding. We Care.
*Ombudsman re Wilkie
*Federation re Wonangatta/Moroka Tracks and Huts wanting info. on our recent trips in the area.

2. Reports:

2.1 Treasurer:

Rick will be away from 16th - 23rd August. Gina will take over Rick investigating Insurance re clubroom contents.

Committee Notes continued:

2.1 Reports Continued - Treasurers:

Balance:	$31,847.21
Payments to be ratified:	
T. Thomson (Maps)	37.50
P. Gronow (Bus repairs)	258.93
A. Bullard (Postage)	39.00
N. Kinsman & Assoc (Wilkie Insurance)	308.00
M. Peck (Wilkie refund)	40.00
STAV (Membership)	25.00
R. Chater (Printing of Address Lists)	352.80
Rampower (Bus servicing)	286.84
Stavros Tavern (Mid-year Dinner)	850.00
R. Ayre (Porta Pottie)	149.00
RTA (Bus Registration)	375.00
Printed Matter (Introduction Sheets)	224.00
	$ 2,946.07
Bills to be paid:	
Driving & Garaging (July)	540.00
R. Chater (Computer Labels/stamps)	54.00
	$ 594.00

Reminder that (i) $2 visitor fees are to be collected by leaders for ALL walks including Saturday
(ii) Now - booking on the bus incurs an extra $2
(iii) Concession fares are for transport only, not visitors fees
(iv) Children's concession fares are for transport; they do not pay visitors fees.

2.2 Walks Secretary:

June Figures
255 Total Walkers
187 Day Walkers
74 Weekend Walkers
203 Members
52 Visitors

Income $1,626.00

(i) Encourage leaders to give a good blurb on the bus re the standard of the forthcoming walks so people can make better decisions.
(ii) Contact "Contacts" at the end of walks leaders, they are being neglected.
(iii) "Planning a Walk" is jolly helpful leaders, and potential leaders, get your copy at the desk.
(iv) Feel free to volunteer to lead the Walks Secretary will be delighted to hear from you.
(v) Emergency and First Aid Kits, do you carry your own? It's best to. More later.

2.3 Transport:

Extra seating rails have been investigated.

Herewith:-	$480	to make
	$200	to install
	$680	altogether. Peter Gronan to blast off.

2.4 Membership Secretary:

Membership figures as at 19.7.89:-		TOTAL
Single Members:	224	224
Couples:	47	94
News Subscribers:	13	-
Life Members:	8	8
Honorary Members:	13	13
		339

Not yet Renewed (Approx.)	
Single	40
Couples	5
"News"	4

2.5 Wilkie:
See elsewhere re pollution problem. Also Wilkie Users Meeting Monday 9th October at 7.15 p.m. Write it in your diary now.

2.6 Tracks:
See elsewhere

2.7 Publication - 50 Years: Alas 2 of our Eds have had to drop out due to over-commitment (I know the feeling). Jan L. will soldier on anyway.

Duty Roster:		
	Aug. 16	Winifred & Tracy
	23	Roger & G.T.
	30	Jean & Maire
	Sept. 6	Sylvia & Gina

Next Committee Meeting on Monday 4th September at 7.15 p.m.

The Revenge of the Old Woman of the Rocks:

Waddayou mean, Ed.? Fossilized? Me? Humph!!! Just because I lie low for a bit doesn't mean I'm metamorphising! And anyway, Ed., I havn't forgotten the time you and me and Barbara went away on an extended trip with ten fellows and YOU stuck to one instead of taking your share of looking after 3.3333. (Touche. Ed.)

Meanwhile, back on the back blocks the Bushies have been getting up to lots of things, not always wot they're supposed to.

The mid year dinner at Stavros Tavern went well, we were delighted to have Gerry Young temporarily back from Perth in our midst. An ex-president was doing a fine job catching young ladies as they fell up the steps into the dining room from the loo. I tried to alert his wife to this but she was too busy talking. Much dancing was done; the current pres. was very grateful for the help of her mates when called upon to perform a belly dance.

On a recent walk to Wombat State Forest an ex Walks Secretary was heard to say: "In country like this it's really hard to know where you are....."

Talking about this subject, a very recent Sunday walk, medium group, got geographically embarrassed - too many tracks running the same way and fast flowing swollen creeks that looked like one another. Eventually they got re-united with the bus, but not without the help of the local Constabulary, who ran messages and brought up the rear guard, in a paddy wagon.

At much the same time hundreds of k's away on the Baw Baws, official help in the shape of the ski patrol, was offered to a Melbourne Bushie with a bad knee injury. He got from the blue pole line to St. Gwinear by himself, but said that travelling in a stretcher pulled by a snow mobile certainly beat walking. The day before he was a basket case as well, this just couldn't have been his weekend. He's on crutches now and hopes to be off them in a week. Get well soon, Peter.

This Baw Baw episode was one of the many events in an action packed Rawsons weekend. This was admirably organised and directed by the inimitable Sandra. First of all the room keys went missing, the lady in the bar said she gave them to the man "with the beard". Then , Brian T. kept inviting ladies to his room to come and...um...sample his good coffee and fresh milk - now this is a new line. The match-making, I mean bedroom sharing (oh dear, that sounds worse) that our leader went in for was convoluted in the extreme. Bob & Helen took the cake in this regard, throwing caution to the wind, they shared a room. Heard next day Bob was told to "stop it", all night - snoring, that was!! Spencer was most obliging saying he didn't care what sex he slept with. But it really boiled down to whether it was proper if G.T. shared with this unknown young girl who was arriving at 2a.m.

The Old Woman of the Rocks continues:

You don't need me to quote G.T's. feelings on this do you? The following evening the leader had a fit of hysterics when she learned that the drying room had been inadvertently locked by Keith, and there was no key. What to do? The enterprising fellow sent his slightly smaller and long suffering friend Dr. Casually over the top of the wall from one drying room to the other. The snow? Yes that was fantastic too. Sandra, smashing weekend, thanks no end.

The following article written by **Jon Cairns** almost 20 years ago for "News" was never published, he now lives with his wife Catherine and two children, James 6 and Alison 3, in Hertford Great Britain. He sends cheerios to Dorrie, Alex, Tyrone, **Fred Halls**, Warren & Maria, Strappa and Sandy. The other runners mentioned are **Tyrone Thomas** and Sandy Ireland. Recently Jon sent this article with a letter to me.
Art Terry.

ANATOMY OF A TWENTY FIVE MILE BASH

Clarkefield, 0925 hours, Saturday 18 Oct '69.....
The train from which we had just alighted sped away out of sight. A massive striptease was in progress on the platform, as we prepared for the long push. Today was the day; no backing out now. Just Art, Tyrone, Sandy and me. Our destination, Kilmore East, 8 hours and 25 miles away. What was in store for us. Visions of barbwire fences, muddy streams, angry bulls, and miles, miles, breathless miles, aching feet and wearied limbs. But as there was no time for daydreaming, we dismissed these sentiments, and without delay set off at a breakneck pace, along the old Lancefield Railway, now dismantled, which was to be our route for the next 4 to 5 miles.

Soon we were panting and wheezing like the very locomotives that once travelled this way, as along the embankment and through the cutting we ran, and across the old wooden trestle bridge, jumping the gaps where the woodwork had rotted away. Art, in his usual form, quickly broke away from the mob, and went sprinting away into oblivion, leaving the remainder of us to push on as best we could. Because the route was straight and uninteresting, it seemed ages before we eventually arrived at the Bolinda Vale station site, where Art had stopped to take on water and wait for we miserable stragglers.

Once recovered, we set off again in higher spirits, this time Tyrone in the lead, across the fields now in the direction of Hill 1400. The pace gradually lessened as did our stamina, to a fast walk, accompanied by intermittent spurts of running. As we progressed, the country became more interesting. To our left, Brock's Hill loomed upwards, dominating the horizon. A pair of wedgetailed eagles, startled by our approach, took flight from a nearby tree, and we observed a display of ariel combat staged by them and several indignant magpies. Our premonitions of barbwire fences quickly materialized to add zest to the occasion. Bulls were also in evidence, but these were too preoccupied with their harems to show much interest, so we passed on unscathed. We covered over 12 miles in just over 3 hours, stopping frequently to read the map and observe the terrain, until lunch appeared on the horizon.

Lunch, rest and recuperation was on the banks of a non - perennial stream at Grid Reference 890 886, which was overshadowed by the steep rise where the ridge commenced, and in 45 minutes, we had recovered sufficiently and were climbing the 400 odd feet to its crest. Art and I stopped at times in our ascent, to send suitably large rocks hurtling back down the slope. Most specimens disintegrated rapidly, or rolled over reluctantly several times before coming to a halt several feet away. Sandy and Tyrone, not wishing to participate in such childlike pranks, were by this time miles ahead.

Anatomy of a Twenty Five Mile Bash continued:

The ridge extended for about three miles, before descending gradually into the next valley. The atmospheric gloom that had accompanied our travels that morning now gave way to glorious sunshine. The distant hills were diffused in the afternoon haze; the air was still but full of the sounds of spring.

The approach to the ford was accompanied by minor creek crossings, where Tyrone managed to get us all across without wet feet. It was at the ford at Grid Reference 929 942 that we intersected Tyrone's old Wallan to View Hill route, a memorable day walk made by the club some months ago. The time was now 1515 and seven and a half miles lay between us and our destination. We were right on time. A gradual ascent of about 450 feet towards Kilmore was taken in easy strides through pleasant, lightly timbered country similar to parklands, and through lush grazing fields. Civilization became more and more in evidence, and at length we crossed the busy Hume Highway and the old Heathcote railway on the outskirts of Kilmore. The time was now 1700 hours.

By-passing the township, we struck out into the bush once more on the last leg of ourmarathon, in the direction of the old lookout tower on Hill 1546. The sun was casting long shadows through the trees; cows nonchalantly feeding stared at us in surprise as we passed. Before long we were standing on top of the tower, gazing back at the hills from whence we had come. At the foot of the valley behind us the North Eastern railway snaked through the forest towards the station where we would catch the train back to the 'Big Smoke'. So wasting no time, we tore down the hill towards the pub, aches and pains forgotten.

A perfect outing, I concluded; perfect weather, perfect navigation, perfect companions. But a kind of trip that's definitely not for the birds. It's not really all that far if you have got long legs. At the moment I can't wait for Art's next classic bash from Broadford to Yea. 'Pity, I never made it....Jon Cairns.'

PEPPERCORN TREE

HATTAH LAKES JUNE 1989

While marching around a waterfilled depression at Hattah
we discovered a Peppercorn Tree
nestled in a hollow among the surrounding dunes.

My expatriate companion,
taking its pink and black corns,
asks whether these may be used as pepper.
Pleading ignorance, I am nonetheless intrigued
at its existence in this chaos of dunes.

Peppercorn, transplanted along Empire's extractive veins,
lent Utilitarian order and shade to an Anarchic and terrorising land.

But now, as with discredited Imperial ideals,
these children,
disowned and abandoned
by long departed conquering Fathers,
go native in this land of millenial dreaming.

Alex Voltan.

CLOSING DATE FOR SEPTEMBER NEWS, WEDNESDAY 6TH SEPTEMBER 1989:
Articles for "News" should be placed in the Red Box in the clubrooms or posted to the club's address, Box 1715Q, GPO Melbourne. 3001.
Please put your name on "News" contributions.

Everyone's been very good with their handwriting, but remember especially with people's & places' names - wirte them correctly - check up!!Ta.

YHA 50TH ANNIVERSARY

On 4th September 1989 it will be 50 years since the formal founding of YHA in Victoria and Australia. A program of celebrations has now been finalised and YOU ARE INVITED to join your old and new friends in the following functions:-

Monday 28th August 7-10 pm. "BACK TO CLUBNIGHT" at the Council of Adult Education Conference Centre, Level 2A, 256 Flinders St., Melb. (Off Degraves St. Between Elizabeth & Swanston Streets.)

See what YH Activities are doing, bring your photos and reminisce, take this opportunity to introduce teenagers to YHA. Entrance $1.00. Supper will be served by Portable Hostels 7-9 pm.

Saturday 2nd September. Open House at Geelong YH, 1 Lonsdale Street, Geelong. Everyone welcome, morning tea from 10.30 am (Melway 228 B5).

Sunday 3rd September. "BACK TO WARRANDYTE" at the hostel site in Warrandyte State Park (Melway 23 C/D10).
12 noon - BYO Picnic/Barbecue lunch (Portable BBQ's only).
2.15-3.00 pm - Paradiddle Bush Band.
3.00 pm - Unveiling of a cairn commemorating the site of the first YHA owned hostel, and the venue in 1947 of the inaugural meeting of AYHA. The cairn will be unveiled by The Hon Kay Setches, Minister for Conservation, Forests and Lands.
3.30-4.15 pm - Paradiddle Bush Band.
This afternoon members past and present and their families can take a last look at the old hostel and "Dave and Mabel" before these succumb to the progress of Warrandyte State Park.

There will be young trees available for those who would like to plant some to mark the occasion.

Afternoon tea will be provided by Portable Hostels. With their new "Town Hall" tent there will be adequate shelter should it rain.

Monday 4th September 12.00-2.00 pm - On the actual date of the 50th Anniversary of the formal meeting founding YHA, again in the Lower Town Hall, Melbourne, in the presence of our national Patron, HE The Govenor-General, a commemorative postage stamp will be previewed, and designs for a YHA historic tapestry will be exhibited. Snacks and drinks will be served. Tickets on application from the YHA office.
7.30-11.30 pm - REUNION DINNER at Hawthorn Football Club Social Club, Linda Crescent, Hawthorn (Melway 45 C9). A gala birthday party for all members, past and present. Bring your photos and memorabilia. Guests will include overseas representatives of IYHA and interstate members of AYHA. TICKETS $29 PER PERSON for dinner and drinks, are available from the YHA office. Numbers are limited - book early to avoid a miss.

PLEASE NOTE THIS LETTER WILL NOT HAVE REACHED EVERYONE. PLEASE PASS THE NEWS ON TO OTHERS WHO HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO THE GROWTH OF YHA.

ENQUIRIES: Anna Parkes, YHA Office (03) 670 7991 -
Ann Crawford (03) 809 2718

FROM THE WALKS SECRETARY ON LEADING WALKS

Leading a walk can be a daunting task but with some forethought the task is not so terrible and you can enjoy the walk as much as everyone else. The following items are listed to prompt you in organising the walk whether it be Saturday, Sunday or weekend. The club has produced an excellent handout on "Planning a Walk" and these will be going out to all leaders with their Walks Previews.

Walks Preview for News:

Please ensure that a Walks Preview is prepared for "News". This is a primary source of information for people thinking about coming on the

On Leading Walks continued:

walk! Adequately define the area and what is involved - long climbs, thick scrub, crossing rivers, along tracks, etc. Let People know about the walk when booking.

Keep in mind that new walkers should be encouraged to go on the easier of the two walks on Sundays. This avoids the problems of people going on trips who are unable to cope.

On the bus make sure that everyone is aware which walk is which. Identify yourself and the sub-leader. Make it clear which walk is the medium or easy if you are not setting out together.

On the booking list obtain the name, address and contact phone number of all visitors. This is to ensure that if anyone becomes lost, we can identify them. Leave the list on the bus.

ON THE WALK:- Before setting out form a circle and count mumbers, introduce everyone and appoint a Whip. Make sure that the Whip has a map and knows how to use it. Something that's often forgotten is the rule that one's pack is left in full view on the track if a loo stop is required. That way people won't be left behind accidently.

AT THE CONCLUSION:- On arrival back in town or as soon as possible, please phone a club contact. Their names and addresses are on the reverse side of the cardboard quarterly walks programme sheet.

And finally, please complete the Walks Report and Booking List Sheet and return them to the Walks Secretary. And a bit more;

If you think you would like to lead a walk please see me, I will be happy to provide more information.

CHRISTMAS/NEW YEAR:- It's nearly that time of the year again for long summer trips. If you are planning to lead a trip over Christmas New Year, please let me know so it can go on the summer program.

Phil Taylor.

ITEM FOR NEWS

For some years now G.T. had wondered why the floor of his tent had a semi-circular zipper, approximately 30cm in diameter, sewn into it. Many theories had been advanced:-

* it was to put the "chuffer" on, so as to not burn the floor of the tent
* it was for this purpose
* it was for number 2 purpose.

Nobody knew.

Then, on a recent Sunday morning, on a snow camp near Mt. St. Gwinear, very early, with sleep still in his eyes, G.T. was awoken by a gentle hissing sound. Partly arising was a vision of Ken Mc MacMahon, avoiding a trip outside. Surely not. So back to sleep he went.

But there, clear for all to see when the tent was taken down was a yellow hole drilled very precisely in the snow where the zipper had been. - Perhaps it was for number one purposes after all.

Signed Puzzled.

WILKINSON LODGE - WE CAN USE IT!

Just after NEWS was typed last month we made a major step forward in our negotiations regarding the use of Wilkie this winter. As a result of our submission to and meeting with the Omburdsman and his investigation, the EPA has revised its works order and we may now use Wilkie more or less as normal, provided that -

* we do not use the septic tank
* we mitigate the discharge of sullage waste
* we provide a chemical toilet for the use of Lodge occupants
* the waste from the toilet to be buried in a pit.

The first groups have not found this too inconvenient - and far preferable to not going in at all.

In looking at what has happened over the last couple of months, it has become quite apparent that action was taken against us because of the very serious contamination of Falls Creek's water supply. Looking at records from the last few years, the bacteria counts in the water supply are usually high, but reach enormous levels during Autumn. It doesn't take much imagination to see why, with thousands of tons of cow-dung dropped in the catchment each summer, and heavy autumn rains washing it into the reservoir. But we are identifiable and prosecutable while the cattle are not!

But the message is - if you are going to Falls Creek - don't drink the water!

Rob Ayre.

PADDLE AND PEDDLE

by the Admiral (RGD)*

(With acknowledgements to John Masefield's "Cargoes")

Sea kayak with World Exped. in Northern Queensland,
Paddling for eight days round sunny Hinchinbrook,
With a cargo of Dougo, Jan,
GT, Mark, Val, Martin,
Spencer G, Gareth P - for a long long look.

(Also Ceri and Robyn who didn't fit the metre)

Public launching at Lucinda - life jackets, spray skirts,
Colour co-ord canoes (one must not cross our Mark!)
With a cargo of novices,
Camping gear, food stuff,
High waves, cross waves - and encroaching dark!

But safely on the island, tents up and waiting, while
Jon and Neville cooked tea - at which they did just fine
From the cargo of good food
Came fresh fruit, damper,
Chocolate pud, spaghetti bol. and sweet white wine.

Now
Keen to meet the challenges, off we set next morning,
Swells of great proportions bothered not at all,
On the lookout for mountains,
Sandy beaches, mangroves,
Wild life, tropic veg., and waterfalls.

One campsite was beautiful, the next was perfect,
The weather ad., howe'er, was very much astray,
We had a cargo of mistiness,
Gloominess, dreariness,
Moisture, raindrops - and but <u>one</u> sun day!

Turtles swam and dolphins leapt, fish jumped round about us,
Insects, adders, butterflies on the palm-green shore,
With a fun time for Martin
With turtle shells, coconuts,
Snorkelling, sea eagles - and lots lots more.

PADDLE AND PEDDLE continued:

Lots of little cameos - the vultures at mealtime,
Gareth feeding fishes, the three-life-jacket loos,
And a sponge full of (question Mark),
Birthdays, rope swings,
Surf spills, lizard rocks and sunset hues.

Alas
Then the grubby Bushies with salt-caked everything,
Headed for the mainland in a somber mood,
With a cargo of memories,
Wet clothes, prune hands,
Fly bites, sand grains and - NO MORE FOOD!!

* Ask Spencer for a translation.

BUSHIE BUS LETTERS

Dear Secretary,

First I favoured the larriken title "The Melbourne Bushies" on the bus, but Tom Wilcox's reasons have persuaded me. "The Melbourne Bushwalkers" exactly states who we are. We are not a lunatic fringe group, but apple-pie homely and community approved. This is our name in the telephone book, and it instantly identifies us. I can hardly wait for the new bus seats.

Sincerely,
Carolyn Maclean

---oOo---

TO THE EDITOR, NEWS

COMMENTS ON THE PROPOSED SIGNWRITING OF THE BUS

1. Does the name "Melbourne Bushwalkers" mean anything to the general public? Is its appearance on the side of a bus really going to bring the customers queueing to join our "healthy lifestyle?".

2. The actual exposure of the bus is only about 6 hours per week. Given that signwriting in any style is going to be expensive, it would be a pretty poor use of the advertising dollar.

3. In some circumstances, anonynimity of the bus could be very useful. For example, if a group had to cross private property and the leader had been unable to obtain prior permission, not having the club's name visible from miles away would be a distinct advantage.

Geoff Mattingley.

I would just like to comment that I think Sylvia's expression of "Melbourne Bushies" has been taken too literarily by some. I got the impression she was just talking "off the top of her head" what, not our Sylvia, and was just trying to enthuse some new ideas into our presentation. "Melbourne Bushwalkers"/in a catching pattern could be fun. Afterall we are allowed to have fun even if we are being health at the same time. I'm sure the decorated trams don't label our transport system with the wrong values. I like the trams.

Tracy Guest.

AN EDITOR'S TALE

My fingers are stiff, it's the cold you see,
This hair-trigger typer, tis the death of me!
What I really need is a pair of mitts,
To complete this budding eccentricness.
Just went to the bank, insurance to get,
With pencil on ear - oh hell, what a git!!

Ed.

CHANGE OF INFORMATION:

Pauline Williams: (W) 617 5812

Diane Schudmak: (W) 690 5544

Christine Little: 46 Panoramic Grove, GLEN WAVERLEY. 3150.

Phil Larkin: 6/497 Glenferrie Rd., HAWTHORN. 3122. (H) 819 1636

Bernadette Osborne is now Bernadette FARRELL

Jenny Flood & Jopie Bodegraven: Home & Work 725 2723.

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A very warm welcome to the following NEW MEMBERS.

Liz Telford
1 Dwyer Court
DONVALE 3111
842 2994 (H)

Georgina Mavor
12/212 Walsh St
SOUTH YARRA 3141
266 4540 (H)
567 1649 (W)

Darrell Rolfe
"Aradala"
Hillcrest Rd
Sth. Warrandyte 3134
876 2121 (H)
652 1111 (W)

Malcolm Davidson
3/27 Pickett St
RESERVOIR 3073
469 5206 (H)
652 5515 (W)

Kevin Fisher
4 Coleman St
MAIDSTONE 3012
317 9108 (H)

Richard Alexander
757 Toorak Rd
HAWTHORN EAST 3123
822 2163 (H)
790 2818 (W)

---oOo---

ODE TO THE BUSHIES

(Written by one of our guides) Sea Kayak Trip, 25 June - 2 July.

There was a bushwalker named Doug
Who was also one of a club
From Melbourne he came,
Where it's cold and it rains
So for holidays next he wanted a rest
The ads said Queensland's the best
Beautiful one day, perfect the next!

Gareth and Martin were keen
There are crabs to catch so it seems
And Jan said "Why not - it beats skiing"
So Doug said to the Bushies
"Sure it'll be cushie
There are guides to cook and to clean"
So along came his pals
G.T., Ceri and Val, with
Mark, Robyn and Spencer as well.

Now Val knew the score, she'd done it before
With G.T. and the boys on the Murray
So teamed up with Mark
She said, "What a lark
What the hell, there's no hurry".

Mark was upset in the saddle
As they zigg zagged across Hinchenbrook Channel
So at George Point he decided
The male strength he provided
Should ride in the front
And not be misguided!

There was surf on day two
Which upset quite a few
And eight ended up in the "oggin"
Wet and cold on the beach
The reward for them each
Was merely a handful of scroggin.

Young Gareth enjoyed cereal and fish
But continuous swells made him squeamish
Bored by the colour of our boat it seams
He painted our decks with orange and greens

At Zoe Bay there was a waterfall When the Bushies saw it they bar
When the Bushies saw it they bared all
Swimming and swinging in pure delight
Asking again, "Where's Queensland's sunlight?"
The knots on the rope didn't look much
But could have been nasty if cought in the crotch.

On this eventful day it seems
Ceri turned "sweet sixteen"
The guides had been told but forgot
So happy birthday was sung
And spinach pie was begun
But it was a little too hot.

G.T. was a character complex and edgy
Espousing theories of work, power and energy.
Of sexism he was particularly vocal,
Pushing his point with stories anecdotal
Surrounded by females backed up to the hilt,
He tried brute force but suffered only guilt.
But alas, he was bored, by all reports
He wanted to defaecate on those posh resorts!

Now Martin was upset and turned turtle
Then found and recreated a turtle
For one so young,
It was great to have you along.
Left with sandy chicken, we came back and it was done!
(Thanks again!)

Robyn read furiously about brain disease
Which I'm sure we all had in varying degrees
She sits back, observes and holds all the keys
To us and our quirks, our efforts to please
One question though Robyn, to put my mind at ease
Why were you friendly with all those fleas?

Spencer's disease troubled him not
Which unfortunately meant he ate quite a lot
Until the rest day when the sun finally shined
And the only food left was water and wine
No seriously folks, the food did just stretch
Thanks to the coconuts Mark would fetch

Now here we all are safe 'n' sound
Hopefully lighter by a few pound
The moral of course is very profound
If it's bushies you're feeding
It's double you're needing

I'm not finished yet
There's more to be said
Of the bushies and Queensland's big wet
Sunny one day atrocious the rest
Bushies, hungry every day, hard workers - THE BEST!

---oOo---