



# THE NEWS

OF THE  
MELBOURNE BUSHWALKERS INCORPORATED

467

JANUARY 1990

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EDITION

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## CLUB NIGHT

Slides of orchids and wildflowers from a trip to W.A. by  
DEAN PENDRIGH - 8.00pm - Wednesday 17th January.

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## NOSTALGIA NIGHT

The ultimate slide night: 50 years of the Melbourne Bushies.  
Wednesday 14th February at 8.00pm in the clubroom. BYO ancient  
or contemporary slides and photos for an hilarious night. A  
night to remember old companions and past trips. All part of  
our Jubilee Year celebrations. See Athol Schafer 571 2649.

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HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO US!!  
DINNER AT:

POTTERS COTTAGE WARRANDYTE  
(Completely booked out by us.)

SATURDAY MARCH 31ST. AT 7.00PM  
\$33.00 for 3 course choice meal. Licenced.  
Tickets on sale Feb. 7th.

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## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that our A.G.M. will be held in the club  
room (The Lodge, 8 MacKenzie St., Melbourne 3000) on  
WEDNESDAY 28TH. FEBRUARY  
AT 8.00PM.

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## FEDERATION DAY WALK

An information night TUESDAY 20TH FEBRUARY in club room at 7.30pm  
for everyone involved in the Federation day walk which the club is  
hosting. All leaders, helpers, volunteers, traffic directors etc.  
are asked to attend to discuss and contribute resources required.  
See you there on:-

TUES. 20 FEB. AT 7.30PM.

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

DAY WALKS

FEBRUARY 1990

SAT. 10 FEBRUARY HISTORICAL WALK - ELWOOD SWAMP EASY

LEADER ATHOL SCHAFER  
TRANSPORT MEET UNDER THE CLOCKS, FLINDERS STREET STATION  
IN TIME TO CATCH THE 1.30 TRAIN TO BALACLAVA.

One hundred years ago it was Crown Land, useless for development. It took 20 years or more to be drained and filled in with the rock and soil of Point Ormond Hill, the latter now only a dwarf compared to what it used to be. We will look at the traces and relics of the swamp; the National Park that never was; a Sea-Beach railway planned but never built - yet still may be; local native vegetation - in the St. Kilda Botanical Gardens - the highlight of the walk, including the world famous Alister Clark Memorial Rose Garden. Finishing 5pm.

WED. 14 FEBRUARY SOMERS BEACH - COOLART EASY

LEADER JOAN HAIGH  
TRANSPORT PRIVATE - MEET AT JEAN GIESE'S, 9 ALBERT CRES.  
SURREY HILLS AT 8.30AM, OR "COOLART" LORD SOMERS RD.  
SOMERS CAR PARK AT 10.15AM.  
EXPECTED RETURN 6PM.  
MAP REFERENCE MELWAYS  
APPROX. DISTANCE 10 - 12 KM.

We shall start the day with a look at Coolart and the birds (bring binoculars). A flexible day's walk, towards either Point Leo on Sandy Point depending on the wind direction and the weather, is planned. The return will be the same stretch of beach to avoid long stretches of roadway; please bring water for lunch and swimwear.

SUN. 18 FEBRUARY MT. DISAPPOINTMENT STATE FOREST EASY/MEDIUM & MEDIUM

LEADERS SYLVIA WILSON & ALAN MILLER  
TRANSPORT BUS FROM NOLAN STREET AT 9.00AM.  
MAP REFERENCE KINGLAKE WEST 1:25,000  
APPROX. DISTANCE 15 & 19 KM.

Walk along undulating tracks through the Mt. Disappointment State Forest. The previous club walk to this area was marred by trail-bike riders, so we have decided to walk in an area to the north of Mt. Disappointment. Some of the tracks have been blocked off to prevent use by motor vehicles. The walk will be mainly through eucalypt forest, some of which is very dense. There is plenty of shade - in case it is a hot day.

For all walks listed in the February Walks Programme but not mentioned here, please see the leaders in the club room for further details.



COMMITTEE NOTESMEETING HELD 8TH. JANUARY 1990.1. Reports:1.1 Treasurer:

Balance:	\$29,532.64
Payments to be ratified:	
K.MacMahon (wood for Wilkie shed)	600.00
M.Mann (Wilkie Supplies)	68.88
Alexanders (Christmas Dinner)	608.00
Driving/Garaging (December)	340.00
Mountain Lodge (Marysville deposit)	100.00
Potters Cottage (50th Dinner Dep.)	150.00
Fed.Vic.Walk.Clubs (M'ship)	722.00
Rampower (November Acct)	246.77
M.Mann (Wilky supplies)	46.50
	<u>\$ 2,882.15</u>
Bills to be paid:	
K.MacMahon (More timber)	500.00
	<u>\$ 500.00</u>

1.2 Walks Secretary:

November 1989 206 total walkers  
 comprising 171 day and 35 weekend walkers  
 152 members and 54 visitors.

Autumn Programme nearly finalised.

Federation Day Walk under control - will have 6 walks.

A team of helpers has been arranged - Meeting in Clubroom to organise, probably 20th February - see elsewhere.

1.3 Transport:

- i) We have lodged employer registration papers with Workcare to cover drivers.
- ii) After more than 37 years of driving for the Club, Dennis has had to resign as driver due to ill health. Few members will realise just how much he has been doing for us over the years - not just driving on Sundays, but also looking after the van, having it serviced and inspected, refuelling, cleaning and a host of other tasks. Things have run smoothly for us largely as a result of his efforts, and we owe him a great deal.
- iii) Dennis will continue to do the "behind the scenes" work associated with the bus operation; his offer is greatly appreciated. A new team of drivers has been arranged to start 12/1/90, and we will see how this works out. Ted will continue as an emergency driver, and Paul will practice to serve as a second backup driver. Leaders will need to provide clearer direction to drivers re. pickup points as we cannot count on drivers' knowledge.

1.4 Social Secretary:

41 people attended the end of year dinner, and a great time was had by all.

Thanks again to Betty for organising the Christmas Party.

Marysville Guesthouse Weekend 22-24 June - Michael Humphrey and Alison Blaker to organise.

1.5 Wilkie:

- i) Ken MacMahon has prepared a new Woodshed. Art Terry and Ken Baird have delivered it to the lodge in kit form. Many thanks to all. Errection party arranged for January long weekend.
- ii) No word from plumber re. septic tank. Planned for early February. Mick to follow up.

Committee Notes continued:

1. Reports:  
 1.6 Federation:  
 Our track cleaning work reported in Newsletter
- 1.7 V.N.P.A.  
 Will invite Jamie Pittock to speak in Clubroom on the Alpine Resorts campaign.
- 1.8 Track Maintenance:  
 Will defer next project until Spring because of a clash of proposed date.

Any Other Business:

We currently have 4 more draft management plans for comment, from Conservation, Forests and Lands. These cover:-

- Wonnongatta/Moroka
- Errinundra (on recycled paper!)
- Cobberaras/Tingaringy
- Dartmouth

The first three of these especially are important walking and conservation areas. Phil Taylor has drafted a Club Response to the W/M plan, others "fingered" for C/T and E.

\*\*\*\*\*It is important that individual members write in with comments, even if only in general support. There will likely be a large orchestrated campaign from the logging and grazing industries opposing controls, and from 4WD groups over road closures. We are all well aware that politicians notice the number of responses for or against, and apathy will get us nowhere and nothing!

Copies of the proposed plans will be on the desk in the Clubroom. Please spend a few minutes and a stamp in support of valuable walking areas. Comment is required by end of March.

Duty Roster: 17 Jan. Nigel & (Mick or Stuart)  
 24 " Jean & Wendy  
 31 " Rob & Maire  
 7 Feb. Winifred & Graeme

Next Committee Meeting Monday 5th Feb. at 7.30p.m.

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CLOSING DATE FOR FEBRUARY NEWS, WEDNESDAY 7TH FEBRUARY 1990:

Articles for "News" should be placed in the Red Box in the clubroom or posted to the club's address, Box 1751Q, GPO, Melbourne. 3001. Please put your name on "News" contributions.

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IMPORTANT NOTICE

C.F. & L. have been busy little bees churning out Management Plans for various areas at the proverbial "rate of knots". These Plans are highly sensitive to conservation areas and issues, to the detriment of 4WD enthusiasts, horse riders, trail bike riders and others of the kind. Consequently, we can expect a large volley of letters and protests from the aforementioned, as they look after their own interests. SO, we have to counter balance this lobby with our support for the Proposed Management of areas that we utilise extensively and from which we derive a great deal of enjoyment. Individual members have been assigned (! really pleaded with and begged !) to peruse one Management Plan in detail and make comment. The list is:-

- Wonnongatta/Moroka - PHILIP TAYLOR
- Errinundra Plateau - KEITH WHITE
- Cobberaras/Tingaringy - GRAEME THORNTON

The Club will then send in a Submission. IN ADDITION: Individual members are asked/pleaded with/begged to etc. write in themselves to add weight and volume to the conservation lobby. Copies of the Management Plans will be on the desk on Wednesday nights and Philip, Keith and Graeme will be around to answer questions/queries. Comments must be in by the end of March. So come on Bushies, lets all of us knuckle down and actively support our new National Parks.

Hebe Winifred.

ATTENTION ALL WALK LEADERS

From 12th January, we will have a team of new drivers for the club bus. They are experienced professional bus-drivers, from route and coach service, but:-

- they are not bushwalkers: they do not know the areas in which we walk or our regular pick-up and drop-off points.

If you want your party to be picked up at the end of the walk, you must provide the driver with clear and comprehensive instructions as to how to find the pick-up point. Preferably this should be in writing, and should include all of the following:-

- a description of the pick-up point
- how to get there
- features of the pickup-point that will enable the driver to identify the point
- a good photocopy of the map with points clearly marked

For many years we have been spoiled by having Dennis, and more recently Ted, as our driver. We can no longer get away with giving vague instructions and relying on the driver's experience to guess the desired spot.

Rob.

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OBITUARY

Those who knew him will be saddened to learn that Ivor Davies passed away on Sunday 10th December 1989. Ivor had been a walker going back to pre-war England and Germany. Post-war migration brought Ivor to Victoria where he joined the Y.H.A. and, since the late '60s, the Melbourne Bushwalkers. At a time when the Club was short of leaders, Ivor acted as co-leader on a number of walks. In later years ill health restricted him to easy Saturday walks.

Probably his last pack carry was on ~~the~~ Jagungal trip when it rained incessantly and everyone did a phenomenal walk to get out a day early. Ivor was interested in conservation issues and devoted much time and effort to furthering the conservation cause. He was also a member of the VNPA. In Heidelberg he was a member of the Conservation & Historical Society and also went dancing at the Senior Citizens Club. He was an expert on camera mechanics and was always ready to help practically or with advice. A man of many parts was Ivor and he will be sadly missed by his many friends in the Club. We extend our deepest sympathies to his daughters Barbara and Wendy.

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SOUTHWEST NATIONAL PARK - TASMANIA, CHRISTMAS 1989  
PRECIPITOUS BLUFF WORLD HERITAGE AREA

Party - Brian Marriott (leader), Peter Marriott, Marianne Driver, Trish Elmore, Mark Walters, Felicity Topp, Gina Hopkins, Derrick Brown.

The walk began on December 23rd in a forest area, just outside Lune River, a tiny town some 105 km south of Hobart on the Huon highway. We climbed up and along Moonlight ridge through forest gradually emerging onto scrub and rock, with views of the coast and an impressive mountain range. Peter soon felt a desire to see the famous Tasmanian mud at close quarters and went in up to his middle. For the first two days the weather was fine, with one or two of us suffering a little from sunburn, despite sunscreen. On Christmas Day we set out from our campsite at Pigsty Ponds and climbed Mount La Perouse (1158m). Fine weather gave us magnificent views all round. Finding snow on the top, we indulged in a snowball fight and took photographs of this unexpected White Christmas. After exploring the Cockscomb, an interesting rocky ridge, we climbed down 266m to Swallows Nest Lake for a refreshing swim. Screams rent the air as hot sweaty bodies plunged into water at 1° above freezing! Later the same day we encountered our first thick scrub, in particular Richea Scoparia, a rather prickly shrub

Southwest Tasmania continued:

which we got to know rather well over the next few days. That evening, just as we were stuffing the turkey lentils, the first rain fell. After our sumptuous meals we exchanged gifts which were, of course, all edible or drinkable. Trish heroically carried a quantity of port in secret which went down rather well. The next day we climbed round Pindars Peak with a force 8 gale and rain. Despite this Mark and Gina insisted on climbing to the top to look at the mist. Then the weather got worse. The scoparia got thicker and Brian's navigational abilities were tested more than once. We made camp at Wylly's plateau that night and stayed there all the next day. I didn't poke my head (or anything else) out of the tent for 24 hours for fear of frostbite. Our leader then declared that the weather was improving and we left the comparative comfort of our tents to do battle with the scoparia again.

Our efforts were eventually rewarded when we had climbed Precipitous Bluff (1145m) and again had clear views, this time of mountains, coast and the New River Lagoon. The campsite that night was on a sort of plateau near the top of the Bluff. I spent all night trying to stop myself sliding down what seemed like a 30° gradient. Climbing down we came through some wonderful forest, with verdant mosses and ferns. On reaching the lagoon we followed the "walking track" which was in the lagoon! We waded along it for some four hours during which time Felicity took a close look at the bottom, forgetting that she did not have her snorkel and mask. The water depth varied between knee and knickers. The following day we walked from Prion Beach to Surprise Beach and Granite Beach. These were beautiful bays with breakers and on Granite Beach Marianne was the first into the sea to check the temperature. A convenient waterfall provided a shower afterwards. Our route for the remainder of that day took us through some creeks, mud and into some beautiful glades, before we camped by the seashore for our last night. Having had a long day we were ravenous and ate up everything that we could find in our packs. We finished at Cockle Creek the next day, driving back to Brian's house outside Hobart in time to have a barbecue and some dancing to see in 1990.

This was my first trip to Tasmania and this walk certainly provided an opportunity to see a variety of terrain and scenery. The wild flowers were everywhere and the forest was truly quite beautiful. I shall be back to see some more of this island. Thanks, Brian, for organising and leading this walk. You did a great job.

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Derrick Brown.

NEWS FROM OLD FRIENDS

Letter received from Rex & Sue Filson, who are enjoying an active retirement along the north coast of N.S.W. They have enjoyed visits from a series of Bushies and have extended an invitation to all Bushies to a party on 18th March. There are acres of good camping area and a hut if it rains. The letter is on the notice board for the address and further details.

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When I Have Fears

When I have fears, as Keats had fears,  
Of the moment I'll cease to be,  
I console myself with vanished years,  
Remembered laughter, remembered tears,  
The peace of the changing sea  
And remembered friends who are dead and gone.  
How happy they are I cannot know,  
But happy am I who loved them so.

Noel Coward.

MINI PREVIEW MARCH 1990 WALKS

2 - 4	Baw Baw Plateau	Mark Walters	Medium
SUN. 4	Mt. William - Mollison Creek Gorge - Pylong	sub Ian McPhee	E/M & E
9 - 12	Labour Day W.E. Base Camp/Pack Carry Moroka Gorge and Mt. Wellington & Talk	Keith White	Medium
MON. 12	Sutherland Creek - Yankee Gully Brisbane Ranges - Upper Moor- abool River	Tony Stapley	E & M
MON. 12	Brighton - Mordialloc	Athol Schafer	Easy
WED. 14	St. Andrews - Wombalaro Falls	Bob Aujard	Easy
SAT. 17	Hodgkinsons Flora Reserve North Croydon	Graham Harding	Easy
SUN. 18	Mt. Worth State Park	Max Casley & Stuart Hodgson	Med. & E/M
17 - 18	Wilsons Prom. East Coast	Liz Telford	E/M
23 - 25	The Bluff - Howqua River Track	Spencer George	Med.
SUN. 25	Waterfall Gully - Nepean State Park - Bushrangers Bay - Cape Schanck	Penny Stapley & Alan Clarke	Med. & E
SAT. 31	Dandenongs Explorer Fernree Gully - Ferny Creek	Graham Breen	Easy

CHANGE OF INFORMATION

PETER ROKS: 12 St. Andrews Street,  
ST. ANDREWS. 3761.  
(H) 710.1836

LYNNE ATKINSON: 90 Thompson Road,  
NORTH FREMANTLE. W.A. 6160.  
(H) 335 2847

A very warm welcome to the following new members:-

RUSSELL SPOKES  
72 Johns Cres.,  
MT. EVELYN 3796.  
(H) 736 3053  
(W) 059 685388

ELIZABETH HOCRING  
2 Ventich St.,  
BURWOOD 3125  
(H) 809 2569  
(W) 241 1988

JOHN ROSEMAN  
13 Alexandra Ave.,  
SOUTH YARRA 3141  
(H) 267 5916

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The job of "News Convenor" will be going when the Committee Elections take place in February at the A.G.M. So, anyone out there who has an interest in this direction please let a committee member know \*\*\*\*\* Have a good think. It's been very rewarding editing "News" but other commitments will be pressing in 1990, so it's goodbye "News" for Tracy, for the time being.