



THE NEWS

OF THE
MELBOURNE BUSHWALKERS INCORPORATED

EDITION 482

APRIL 1991

PRICE 20 C

REGISTERED BY AUSTRALIA POST PUBLICATION NO. VBH 1297

SOCIAL COLUMN

Hi Bushies!

Last month I organised a spontaneous Saturday arvo bike ride along the Yarra. We met at Princes Bridge as some of us had to hire a bike and pedalled along for two hours. It was a very pleasant afternoon - I think I'll organise another. This time we'll start from Como House and explore upstream. For those without a bike we can hire them from here for about \$10 for 3 hours. It gets cheaper the longer we hire and the more bikes we hire.

However, it may have to wait until a weekend in June (or even Spring) as April and May are chock full of weekend walks I want to go on.

MOVIES

Last month I also organised a movie night to see "Hamlet" using MOVIE MONIES. It seems many people don't understand how movie monies work. Basically movie monies are like vouchers, which can be exchanged at the cinema for a movie ticket. Each ticket costs you \$6.50. You can use it to see any movie at the nominated cinema, on any day and at any time except Saturday night after 6.00p.m. So effectively we can organise a movie night for any night of the week. During winter I'll organise a Saturday arvo at the movies.

The next movie I want to organise is "Dances With Wolves" for **Friday 17th May**. See me in the clubrooms for more details.

SLIDE NIGHT

On **Wednesday 1st May**, Mick Mann and Graeme Thornton (G.T.) have organised a slide night. It's an opportunity for club members who haven't been to Wilkie during winter to see pictures of Wilkie covered in snow.

Slides will commence about 7.30 p.m. Both Mick and G.T. will be around to answer questions about Wilkie.

By the way, there are some bookings at Wilkie still available for keen skiers - see Graeme Thornton.

GARAGE SALE

I'm interested in organising a sale of pre-loved camping/ski equipment. To get an idea of how many people have items for sale, please talk to me in the clubrooms or leave a note in my pigeon hole with your name, item for sale, approximate sale price, contact telephone number. I want to organise the sale before the end of May but I'll wait and see if I get enough interested people.

BUSH DANCE

On **Friday 24th May** there is a bush dance organised by the YHA held at the South Melbourne town hall. Tickets are \$10. I'll put up a poster in the clubrooms in May with more information. Do come - they're usually a lot of fun.

G.T.'S PUB CRAWL

Graeme Thomson, being really a skier, finds these non-skiing periods a bit of a bore. So to help G.T. while away the time while he waits for snow, I am organising an afternoon visiting some of the pubs in Richmond along Bridge Road. Ideally, I would like to end it at the Bridge Road Hotel where you can have a very nice cappuccino, a slice of cake or two and they often have afternoon music, usually jazz. It will be in the first weekend in June, more details later.

Rosa D'Angelo

MARYSVILLE GUEST HOUSE WEEKEND

The Marysville weekend at "Mountain Lodge" proved to be very popular and enjoyable last year, so we are including it on this year's winter program too.

It will be held from **FRIDAY JUNE 21ST TO SUNDAY JUNE 23RD** with organised half day walks on Saturday morning and afternoon, and on Sunday morning. Come to walk, ski, golf or relax and enjoy the generous hospitality and convivial company.

Bookings open in the clubrooms on **WEDNESDAY MAY 15TH at 7.30 P.M.** with Michael Humphrey and Alison Blaker standing in for Pat and Paul Gray who are unable to attend that day. Payment must be made in full with precedence given to personal bookings ahead of mail/phone bookings. The cost is \$98.00 per person and rooms with private facilities are \$20.00 per room extra. This includes full board from a light supper on Friday night through to a "Christmas" lunch on Sunday. (If over 50 persons attend, there will be a refund of \$5 per person.)

DANDENONG EXPLORER WALKS

These are Saturday walks arranged to give people the opportunity to walk in an area close to the city and to appreciate the diversity of the area. They are normally graded Easy or Easy/Medium and while frequently of a suitable standard for novice walkers, are sufficiently demanding to be rated as qualifying walks for people seeking club membership.

The walks tend to start in mid to late morning and finish mid afternoon. Some walks start and finish at a railway station. Others require private transport though every attempt is made to organise a pick-up for users of public transport.

They are held on the last Saturday of the month unless this coincides with a public holiday in which case it is held on the previous Saturday.

LEADERS' FORUM

Have you thought of leading a walk? Or are you a leader already? Either way, join us in the clubrooms on Wednesday 8 May at 8.00 p.m. when Max Casley, Walks Secretary, will lead a discussion on the joys of being a walk leader. This will be an opportunity to discuss what is involved in leading a walk and to raise any questions you may have. Wine and cheese will be available to improve the ambiance!

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*	Wilkie Slide Night (clubrooms)	Weds. 1 May 7.30 pm
*	Leaders' Forum (clubrooms)	Weds. 8 May 8.00 pm
*	Movie: Dances With Wolves	Fri.day 17 May 8.00 pm
*	Navigation Instruction (clubrooms)	Thurs. 23 May 7.30 pm
*	Bush Dance (S. Melbourne)	Fri.day 24 May 7.30 pm
*	Garage Sale - Camping/Ski gear	late May
*	G.T.'s Pub Crawl (Richmond)	Sat. in June
*	Bike Ride	Sat. in June (or later)
*	Marysville Weekend	21-23 June
*		*
*		*

ATTENTION TEACHERS

Tired of VCE? Sick of that pile of waiting corrections sitting on your kitchen table? Forget it all and come away with me during the school holidays.

I am currently planning a base camp for the July holidays, possibly up on the Murray, and I would like to hear any expressions of interest or ideas from you. You can ring me on 481 6331 evenings. Updates on the trip will appear in future editions of "The News".

Diane Wright.

SUNDAY TRANSPORT

As reported in last month's "News" we were required by the Vehicle Inspection section of the Roads Corporation to carry out repairs to our van within 14 days, or our licence would have been suspended. The Committee considered it wise to hire a bus until the required work had been done and passed inspection.

There were expressions of appreciation from the Sunday walkers of the swifter transportation to and from the walk area, allowing longer time for walking and less sitting.

We have received an attractive offer of a bus hire contract for each Sunday from a bus line which might be cheaper than running and maintaining our own van. Your Committee is anxious to have a policy ready before we are suddenly faced with the next major expense for the van, or changed design requirements for passenger vehicles; the latter is on the cards.

A sub-committee will be appointed at the April Committee meeting (delayed because of Easter Monday holiday) to look into all options for Sunday walk transport, including selling the van. Opinions from members are sought. A box to receive comments is in the clubrooms, or post to our Secretary, or talk to members of the sub-committee - names in the Committee Notes.

Jean Giese, President

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Peter Havlicek's letter in the March edition of "The News" was interesting, although I found his tone just as arrogant and authoritarian as that he ascribes to one of our members. I feel compelled to reply in support of Art Terry's philosophy of leadership.

Being a leader can be an onerous task: there are responsibilities for the safety and enjoyment of the walkers and there is an implicit responsibility not to discredit or embarrass the Club by losing individuals or getting the entire party lost or delayed. This task is not made any easier for a conscientious leader by chasing after tearaways or trying to assert authority over those who prefer not to walk with the rest of the party.

All walks are carefully graded so as not to disappoint walkers. Less able walkers, or those who prefer a steady pace, enjoy a rewarding day out on an easy/medium walk. Hard walks may be undertaken by walkers fit enough for and desirous of a stiffer walking pace. All walkers are encouraged to choose walks suitable for their abilities and inclinations.

Peter's letter emphasises the right of participants to an enjoyable day's walking; Art's emphasis is on responsibility. I think people gain rights when they have demonstrated responsibility and a responsible attitude towards the leader and other walkers is paramount.

If I am "sheeplike", so be it. It seems to me as if these tearaways would enjoy a good run rather than a bushwalk. Have they thought of joining a running club?

Lindsay Markham

ADVERTISING IN "THE NEWS"

The Club is now accepting suitable advertisements for "The News". Prospective advertisers should note that the circulation of "The News" is approximately 450 per month.

Advertisements should be:

- for goods and services of potential interest to members
- in sympathy with the aims of the club
- unlikely to cause offence to members

Rates:

1/4 page	1 issue	\$20
	3 issues	\$50
1/2 page	1 issue	\$30
	3 issues	\$75
full page	1 issue	\$50
	3 issues	\$125

Payment must accompany the copy.

Members should note that this is only intended for commercial enterprises; members may continue to advertise personal items for sale in the usual way without charge. For further information call Derrick Brown on _____, or fax _____.

Please note that material for "The News" can now be faxed to the News Convenor on

DAY WALKS - CONTINUED**SUN. 19 MAY 91 GELLIBRAND PARK****EASY/MED**

LEADER : ART TERRY
 TRANSPORT : VAN FROM SOUTH BANK BLVD. AT 9.00 A.M.
 EXPECTED RETURN : 6.30 P.M.
 MAP REFERENCE : SUNBURY 1:50,000
 APPROX DISTANCE : 15 KM

An easy, interesting and beautiful walk embracing red-gum rural and river landscapes, touched with a splash of early settlement along the Moonee Ponds Creek and the Maribryngong River. Not so far from the city, but far enough, however, to spend a relaxing enjoyable day. Devonshire Teas are available on this walk; if you wish to partake of this, then please indicate when booking for the walk. It is too late to do so on the day of the walk.

We will have lunch with the Devonshire Teas at the historical homestead "Woodlands", for lunch at approximately 12 o'clock. This is a walk done at a very leisurely pace.

SAT. 25 MAY '91 DANDENONGS EXPLORER: GEMBROOK - EMERALD**EASY**

LEADER : JANET NORMAN
 TRANSPORT : PRIVATE OR 9.29 A.M. TRAIN FROM FLINDERS ST TO BELGRAVE
 MAP REFERENCE : MELWAY PAGES 127 & 188
 APPROX DISTANCE : 14 KM

After meeting the train travellers at Belgrave Station at 10.43 a.m. we'll travel by car to the Emerald Reserve and then walk to the Emerald Lake Park.

The walk follows an old railway line through Cockatoo. There are plans afoot to extend Puffing Billy's line to Gembrook in the next few years so this is a timely opportunity for a pleasant walk with fine vistas. We'll return via forest tracks as well as the train track.

SUN. 26 MAY 91 NAVIGATION DAY**EASY**

LEADER : A DO-IT-YOURSELF DAY, COORDINATED BY ROB AYRE
 TRANSPORT : VAN FROM SOUTH BANK BLVD. AT 9.00 A.M.
 EXPECTED RETURN : 7.00 P.M.
 MAP REFERENCE : ECLIPSE CREEK 1:25,000 VICTORIAN LANDS DEPT. (See below)
 APPROX DISTANCE : 14 KM (plus any side trips)

A chance to learn or refresh those navigation skills, and have a lot of fun at the same time. Participants will find their way around a course of about 14 km in small groups, but shortcuts or extensions are possible.

The course lies mostly in the forest, which is fairly open and has numerous tracks. Some optional exercises in map-reading and compass work will be provided at the checkpoints, and at many checkpoints, an experienced walker will be "in residence" to help with any problems.

YOU WILL NEED a copy of the map, and a compass. I will have a number of maps available for sale, book early with me if you want one. The club has a few compasses for hire, but for regular walkers, a compass is a necessary investment anyway. If you are buying a compass, one like the Sunoto RA60 or Silva type 3NL is recommended. The shorter ones are a little cheaper, but not as useful. I may also be able to arrange a "bulk-buy" of compasses for those interested - see me for details.

IF YOU CANNOT USE A MAP OR COMPASS, or would like to refresh your memory, I will arrange an **Instructional Evening** in the clubrooms on **Thursday 23 May**; but please see me for further details if you intend coming! (It may be necessary to amend the date.) This would start at about 7.30 p.m. and we would run through the basics and do a few exercises. Bring your compass, pencil and paper, and a copy of the map (or buy one on the night).

IF YOU DON'T WANT TO NAVIGATE, but would like to come on a walk anyway, you might like to "person" a checkpoint and lend moral or practical assistance to the navigators; volunteers for this (pleasant) task are eagerly sought. Alternatively, you would be welcome to accompany one of the groups.

WEEKEND WALKS - MAY 1991

3-5 MAY 91 BLANKET BAY - CAPE OTWAY - AIRE RIVER MEDIUM

LEADER : PETER BULLARD
 TRANSPORT : PRIVATE
 EXPECTED RETURN : 7.30 P.M.
 MAP REFERENCE : GLENAIRE AND CAPE OTWAY, 1:25,000
 APPROX DISTANCE : 26 KM

As I have not yet had time to preview this trip I am thinking of staying at Bimbi Park for both nights and doing two full day walks. On Saturday we will start at Blanket Bay and follow the coast to Cape Otway, passing Parker River, Crayfish Bay and the lighthouse.

On Sunday we will visit Cape Otway Cemetery on the way to Rainbow Falls and then continue to follow the coast along Station Beach to Aire River, returning to the cars along inland tracks.

NOTE: This trip may be suitable for beginner weekend walkers as there will be no heavy packcarrying. There will be some rockhopping and scrambling.

10-12 MAY 91 NORTHERN WILSONS PROMONTORY E/MEDIUM

LEADER : MARK WALTERS
 TRANSPORT : PRIVATE
 EXPECTED RETURN : 8.00 P.M.
 MAP REFERENCE : WILSONS PROM OUTDOOR LEISURE SERIES
 APPROX DISTANCE : 28 KM

We will go by boat from Port Welshpool to the Northern Prom. Where we land is dependent on the prevailing winds. We will hopefully be dropped off and picked up at a different location.

The numbers are limited to 12.

18-19 MAY 91 STRATHBOGIE RANGES E/MEDIUM

LEADER : JEAN GIESE
 TRANSPORT : PRIVATE
 EXPECTED RETURN : 6.00 P.M.
 MAP REFERENCE : VIOLET TOWN 1:25,000, MT. WOMBAT 1:25,000
 APPROX DISTANCE : 26 KM

There were devastating fires in the Strathbogrie Ranges recently. Our walk is well to the North of this area, commencing on Harrys Creek Rd with a 250m climb onto a ridge which we follow South, enjoying glorious views for most of the morning. Camp will be reached beside Faithful Creek by early afternoon. We will then visit the falls without packs.

Sunday we follow the creek upstream, then climb again for another ridge walk.

The walk begins on Saturday at 9.00 a.m. at a private property where we can leave our cars near the house for safety. However, we do have a campsite for those wishing to camp out Friday night.

WEEKEND WALKS - CONTINUED**24-26 MAY 91****BAW BAW****MEDIUM**

LEADER : MARK WALTERS
 TRANSPORT : PRIVATE
 EXPECTED RETURN : 6.00 P.M.
 MAP REFERENCE : VICMAP: MT. BAW BAW & TYERS JUNCTION 1:25,000
 APPROX DISTANCE : 32 KM

Friday night - Walking by moonlight from Mt. Erica car park to 'The Rocks', 1.5 km.
 Saturday - The Rocks via Tullicooty Glen to Wombat Flat, a very seldom visited button grass plain.
 Sunday - Return via Mt. St. Gwinear to Mt. Erica car park.

Photocopies of the road from Erica to Mt. Erica car park and from the car park to 'The Rocks' will be provided in the club rooms.

FAMILY WALKING GROUP PROGRAM 1991

The aim of this informal group is to provide opportunities for families to take their children bushwalking in the company of others. The emphasis is on the children, to teach them enjoyable, safe and responsible bushwalking. The leader may choose a route plus an alternative if there is a wide variation in children's capabilities that day.

The walks generally start about 10.00am for day walks, and finish about 4.00pm.

If you wish to join a walk, call the leaders, preferably more than a week prior to the walk.

<u>DATE</u>	<u>WALK</u>	<u>LEADERS</u>
5 May	Ada Valley	Barry & Gwenda Short ()
26 May	Wilhelmina Falls	Monika & Rolf Herrmann ()
8-10 June	Barmah Forest base camp	Any volunteers?
14 July	Hepburn Springs	Lindsay & Les Markham ()
11 Aug	Greens Bush	Joan & Ken McMahon ()
15 Sept	Maribrynong River bike ride	Marion & Ian Hill ()
6 Oct	Botanical Gardens, Cranbourne annexe	Katherine & Trevor Bear ()
12-13 Oct	Rubicon track o/night packcarry	Peter & Sisel Clunas ()
27 Oct	Planning day	Barbro & Steve Roberts ()
2-5 Nov (Cup W/E)	Upper Jamieson River base camp	Barbro & Steve Roberts ()

JUNE 1991 - EARLY PREVIEW:**8-11 JUNE 91 KANGAROO ISLAND - SOUTH AUSTRALIA****E/MEDIUM**

LEADER : DAVE VINCENT
 TRANSPORT : LIGHT AIRCRAFT - COST \$150 EACH
 EXPECTED RETURN : 6.00 P.M. TUESDAY 11 JUNE
 MAP REFERENCE : TBA
 APPROX DISTANCE : 30 KM OVER 3 DAYS

The walk is planned over the Queen's Birthday long weekend. The walk will use a base camp at Rocky River in the Flinders Chase National Park, which is on the Western end of Kangaroo Island. Access will be by light aircraft from Melbourne. Kangaroo Island is 200 km SW of Adelaide and is only available by boat or light aircraft. For a group of six, including myself, the estimated cost will be only \$150 each.

For those who don't know the area, Flinders Chase National Park is SA's most important wildlife refuge. There are no rabbits, foxes or dingoes on the Island. For this reason some mammals and many bird species have been introduced from the mainland to ensure their survival. Native birds include the rare western whipbird, and the yellow-tailed black cockatoo which is found nowhere else in SA. Three major rivers dissect the area and they flow year round. These rivers support dense forests, dominated by sugar gums.

For further details and to book a place on this walk, contact Dave Vincent at home on phone:

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FRENCHMANS CAP, TASMANIA 9-12 MARCH 1991

We left Moorabbin Airport at 5.00 a.m. flying in a tiny Cessna to Queenstown, Tasmania, from where we were to walk to Frenchmans Cap during the Labour Day long weekend. As it was dark, I wondered how pilot Dave knew where he was going, but I soon settled down to sleep and left the technical matters to him. After a safe landing and a short bus ride, we were on the Frenchmans Cap track. We soon had to cross the Franklin River by Flying Fox, a flash name for a soapbox dangling from a cable. We might as well have swum, because by the time we stopped for the night at Lake Vera Hut, we were soaked through, having crossed the Lodden Plains (the 'Sodden Lodden') in the pouring rain. I had also fallen off a log bridge into a creek, up to my middle. The hut was most welcome, and very soon was adorned with drying clothes.



"This isn't the track - is it?"

Walking alongside Lake Vera through beautiful rain forest, then up and over Barrons Pass, we arrived at Lake Tahune hut the following evening, at the foot of the Frenchmans Cap itself. Despite it being covered in cloud, Gina and Brian sprinted to the top before dinner. The rest of us took it more leisurely the next day, and despite waiting optimistically on the top for an hour, we were unable to get more than a tantalising glimpse of the views that we knew were there. The rain changed to snow and hail just to give us some variety.

On our return journey, the track was even muddier after all the rain, but by now we had learned to take it in our stride (or elbows or face, depending where we landed). The weather cleared enough for us to get some views of the Cap, so that we could appreciate where we had been, and also to see Cradle Mountain and Barn Bluff from the air on the return flight. An excellent trip, ably lead by Dave. - Derrick Brown.

Party - Dave Vincent, Brian Bowditch, Greg Nutting, Alan Miller, Gina Hopkins, Derrick Brown.

NEW MEMBERS

The Club would like to welcome the following new members:

Dallas Stephens

Geoffrey Kelly

Valmai Anderson

Lloyd Young

Brian Bowditch

Keith Nelmes

Keith Warburton

John Reeves

Sally Bouvier

Margaret Tuohey

Virginia Heaver

Gary Mack

Erin-Leigh Slocum

John Sztanski

CHANGES OF INFORMATION

Elizabeth Hocking

Mufutau Amusa

David Mentiplay

Stephen Down

Alan Clarke

Registered Publication No. VBH 1297

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