



THE NEWS

OF THE
MELBOURNE BUSHWALKERS INCORPORATED

EDITION 485

JULY 1991

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NOTICE OF HALF-YEARLY GENERAL MEETING

WEDNESDAY NIGHT, 8PM, 21ST AUGUST, 1991.

BUSINESS:

1. Receive minutes of Annual General Meeting
2. Appoint second auditor

All members should note this date in their diaries. It is in your interest to attend this meeting.

SOCIAL COLUMN

Hi Bushies!

Things have been so hectic this month that I have not had time to write up my usual blurb. But stay tuned for more details of events coming up in July including the real Robin Hood movie with Kevin Costner, a Saturday arvo Elwood Beach bike ride, another ice skating night by popular demand at Oakleigh and GT's pizza night. See me in the clubrooms for further details.

Rosa D'Angelo

AND FOR SKI TOURERS:

The Ski Touring Association of Victoria (STAV) has club nights at Stewarts Hotel, Carlton (cnr Elgin & Drummond Sts, Carlton), with drinks at 6.00pm, dinner at 6.45pm and guest speaker at 8.00pm. Members and friends are welcome. Coming up is:

- Slide presentation on ski areas in Victoria and NSW Tuesday 16 July
- Gourmet cooking for cross country skiers (and tasting) Tuesday 20 Aug
- Slide presentation on overseas skiing Tuesday 17 Sept

WILDERNESS AREAS - PROPOSED RECOMMENDATIONS

The Land Conservation Council (LCC) has proposed recommendations on Victorian Wilderness areas requested by the government in Aug 1988. They were well covered by the VNPA's Jamie Pittock at club-night on 26 June. Final recommendations are due to be submitted by 30 September 1991. Don't forget to write your letter to the LCC. Sample copies of letters by members are available in the club room to help get you started.

Correspondence should be directed to:

The Secretary
Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc.
PO Box 1751Q
MELBOURNE 3001

Meetings are held in the clubrooms, Mackenzie St Melbourne (rear of the Horticultural Society building) every Wednesday night 7.00-9.00 p.m.

Visitors are always welcome.

Please note that articles for "The News" may be faxed to the News Convenor on

Closing date for the August edition is Monday 5th August.

CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING - HOW TO START

At the time of writing the first snow has just fallen on the peaks and the keen skiers have already been out to check its condition - and theirs!

If you haven't yet tried cross-country (x/c) as opposed to downhill skiing then I recommend that you do. If you have tried neither, then try x/c - it is the natural thing for Bushies to do in winter - 'walk' in the snow, away from those crowded lift queues on the downhill slopes. It can be quite demanding physically, but like all these things you take it easy to start with.

The problem of equipment and clothing can be a worry for beginners, so here are a few simple tips from a recent beginner.

Gear - Hire, beg or borrow to start with. When you've tried it a few times you will have more idea of what you need. For the skiing that we tend to do mostly - off-track - the metal-edged skis with the 3-pin 75mm binding are the favourite. If you say that you are a beginner the hire shop will try to hire you the thin skis and the very light, flexible boots. These are for track skiing, and I had a miserable time with these on my first outing, as they are difficult to use in anything but groomed snow. Get poles of the right length for your height, or you'll end the day feeling like a hunchback.

Accessories - A daypack, with the things that you would normally carry for a day walk, except that you must be prepared for both blizzard and tropical conditions. Take a jumper or fibrepile, waterbottle, chocolate and emergency food, first-aid kit, matches, torch, map, compass, parka, overpants, beanie, sunhat. A space blanket might save your life if you were to get lost. Some like a bumbag for

those things that you need quickly, like a camera, and the essential lipsalve, sunblock and sunglasses. Goggles will be useful in a blizzard and gloves are a must.

Clothing - Whilst some skiers will wear the latest, high-tech colour-co-ordinated fashion, many wear their oldest, most comfortable gear. I found that deciding what to wear on my legs was the most difficult. The fishnet or the flesh colour tights? Some wear ex-army trousers, others 'knickerbockers'. For some time I wore my overpants over longjohns, so that on the frequent occasions that I found myself buried in snow I kept relatively dry. However, you become surprisingly warm, not to say hot, in fine weather, so I tried shorts over longjohns. The longjohns get wet, but quickly dry out. I've now splashed out on some snazzy lycra pants, so as to compete with GT and Mark Walters, who sport the most vivid colours (bright colour help searchers to find lost skiers!). Gaiters are essential for skiing in untracked snow. Don't wear jeans.

On your top you need layers of clothes, so that you can adjust your body temperature quickly according to conditions. You might experiment with a thermal vest, a t-shirt, long-sleeved shirt, and a jumper. With the sun out, all you'll need is the thermal vest. When you stop for lunch on a cold day you'll need everything.

The rest I leave to you. Look out for the Club Beginner days, maybe take some lessons. Don't take yourself too seriously and you'll have a lot of fun. See you out there!

Derrick Brown

DAY WALKS - AUGUST 1991**SAT. 27 JULY 91 DANDENONGS EXPLORER: TECOMA - LYSTERFIELD EASY**

LEADER : WINIFRED DE SOUZA
 TRANSPORT : PRIVATE
 MEETING PLACE : BIRDLAND RESERVE (MELWAYS PAGE 75 D12)

Meet at 11.00am at the entrance to Birdland Reserve on McNicol Road.
 A pick up from Tecoma Station can be arranged with the leader. Phone: (H)

SUN. 4 AUG 91 GREEN'S BUSH STATE PARK EASY & MEDIUM

LEADERS : ART TERRY & JEAN GIESE
 TRANSPORT : VAN FROM SOUTH BANK BLVD. AT 9.00 A.M.
 EXPECTED RETURN : 7.30 P.M.
 MAP REFERENCE : CAPE SCHANCK & FLINDERS 1:25,000
 APPROX DISTANCE : 12 & 20 KM

The medium walk embraces six State Parks, namely Sea Winds, Waterfall Gully, Baldry's, Greens Bush, Highfields and Cape Schanck. Features of this walk include magnificent views, beautiful bushland and coastal scenery.

The easy walk commences at Baldry's Crossing, continues along Main Creek for a couple of kms, then across country into Greens Bush and into Highfields where this walk will terminate at the bunkhouse. A gem of a walk really.

SAT. 10 AUG 91 LAKE MOUNTAIN SKIING MEDIUM

LEADER : DAVID PICKUP
 TRANSPORT : PRIVATE
 APPROX DISTANCE : 12 KM

Lake Mountain is 109 km from Melbourne, and 20 km beyond Marysville. The meeting point will be at the Ski School Hut (adjacent to Gerraty's car park) at 9 am. The day is intended for XC-skiers with experience as we will tackle the Jubilee, Woolly Butt and Long Heath Trails (plus the Royston Road run).

Bring food and drink for lunch. We aim to return to Gerraty's car park between 3 and 4 pm.

Entry fee per car to the area is approximately \$5.
 Ski Hire is available at Gerraty's car park.

If you need transport let me know (phone).

SUN. 11 AUG 91 TOOLANGI - PAULS RANGE - SCHOOLHOUSE RIDGE E/MED & MED

LEADERS : ALAN CLARKE & PETER HAVLICEK
 TRANSPORT : VAN FROM SOUTH BANK BLVD. AT 9.00 A.M.
 EXPECTED RETURN : 6.30 P.M.
 MAP REFERENCE : GLENBURN, TOOLANGI, KLONDYKE, MONDA 1:25,000
 APPROX DISTANCE : 13 & 18 KM

This popular area is reasonably close to Melbourne, and contains many areas of Mountain Ash and fern gullies. It is subject to logging but we will avoid the recently logged parts, and also try to find some of the lesser-known tracks.

WED. 14 AUG 91 WATTLE WALK: WILSON - WESTERFOLDS E/MED

LEADER : ROSEMARY THOMSON ()
 TRANSPORT : PRIVATE
 MEETING PLACE : 9.30 A.M. WILSON RESERVE (MELWAYS 31 F10)
 EXPECTED RETURN : 5.00 P.M.
 MAP REFERENCE : MELWAYS PAGES 31,32,33
 APPROX DISTANCE : 14 KM

The walk follows some very new and some older paths and bridges along the Yarra River from Wilson Reserve in Ivanhoe to Westerfolds Park in Templestowe. If the newest paths have not been completed the last part of the walk will be re-routed up the Plenty River to Greensborough.

We should be able to enjoy the sight and scent of lots of spring wattle along the banks of the Yarra and Plenty Rivers. Please ring Rosemary to book and find out the latest information.

SAT. 17 AUG 91 HISTORICAL WALK: WINDSOR - ST. KILDA RAILWAY EASY

LEADER : ATHOL SCHAFER
 TRANSPORT : MEET UNDER THE CLOCKS BY 1.30 P.M.
 EXPECTED RETURN : 5.00 P.M.

For a few short years the railway line to Brighton went via St Kilda until its owners the St Kilda & Brighton Railway Co. went broke and were bought out by the Melbourne & Suburban Co. who constructed a direct line through South Yarra. It is still possible to follow sections of the route which crossed St Kilda Road and the local swamps on trestle bridges. This tour will point out the effect the old line had on the geography and history of the area. See leader for details of the start and finish of the walk.

SUN. 18 AUG 91 TRAWOOL - FALLS CREEK RESERVOIR EASY & MED

LEADERS : TRACY GUEST & JEAN WOODGER
 TRANSPORT : VAN FROM SOUTH BANK BLVD. AT 9.00 A.M. SHARP
 EXPECTED RETURN : 7.30 P.M.
 MAP REFERENCE : STRATH CREEK, SEYMOUR, BROADFORD 1:25,000; TALLAROOK 1:50,000
 APPROX DISTANCE : 15 & 19 KM

The medium walkers will start with a 500m climb up Mt. Hickey (Mt. Tallarook) with the easy/medium walkers taking a less strenuous route. The rest of the walk will be much the same for both groups, mainly on tracks, with the easy/mediums in front. We may meet up later in the day, for the home run. The walk is a long one, an estimated 7 hours including breaks, so please note, **THE BUS WILL BE LEAVING AT 9.00A.M. SHARP!**

However, your efforts will be rewarded. The walk is outstanding for its variety. The climb up Mt. Tallarook and surrounds are through open bush with tall blue gums, peppermint, stringy bark and wattle trees. Be warned, this is Cockatoo Country, and the screeching of the Sulphur Crests is quite deafening!

This is not an easy walk - there are lots of steep ups and steep downs, right to the very end, but the reward of that last descent through farmland with the Goulburn twisting away on every side, huge granite boulders and rocky outcrops on the beautiful fields and hills, is quite spectacular. Not to mention the wonderful views from Warragul Rocks, where we will be having afternoon tea, the cascades and the reservoir, all of which present themselves as the walk unfolds.

SUN. 25 AUG 91 TRACK CLEARING: LOWER CHADWICK TRACK

LEADER : ART TERRY
 TRANSPORT : VAN FROM SOUTH BANK BLVD. AT 9.00 A.M.
 EXPECTED RETURN : 7.00 P.M.

For details see leader in the clubrooms.

SUN. 25 AUG 91 BEARS HEAD RANGE**MEDIUM/HARD**

LEADER : JOHN ROSEMAN
 TRANSPORT : VAN FROM SOUTH BANK BLVD. AT 9.00 A.M. (Shared with track clearing group)
 EXPECTED RETURN : 7.00 P.M.
 MAP REFERENCE : LERDERDERG GORGE 1:25,000
 APPROX DISTANCE : 10 KM

This is a walk for the adventurous at heart, passing through country of astonishing beauty. Lots of rock hopping, river-crossings, bush-bashing, mountain climbing and cliff walking. Nigel Holmes has personally previewed this walk with me to ensure that the standard is to his satisfaction. At one point we nearly turned back for fear of falling into the gorge below.

The sheer size of the gorge with its deep transparent pools and small waterfalls, winding its way through steep cliffs and rocky outcrops, makes all the hard work getting there well worth the effort.

SAT. 31 AUG 91 DANDENONGS: THE PATCH**EASY**

LEADER : MICHAEL HUMPHREY
 TRANSPORT : PRIVATE OR 8.49A.M. TRAIN FROM FLINDERS ST TO BELGRAVE (ARRIVES 10.03A.M.)
 MEETING PLACE : PUFFING BILLY PICNIC AREA
 EXPECTED RETURN : 4.30 P.M..
 MAP REFERENCE : MELWAYS PAGES 75 & 124
 APPROX DISTANCE : 12 KM

We will meet at the Puffing Billy Picnic Area (Melways page 75 G9) and commence walking promptly at 10.30 a.m. If the weather is kind this is a very pleasant and pretty walk - containing a mixture of open country and traditional Dandenongs flora.

After lunch we call into a daffodil farm where we will find an extensive array of blooms - purchases can be made. Around early to mid-afternoon we will arrive at Grants Picnic Ground where you may choose to join me for a devonshire tea or you may prefer to continue walking back to the start point (approximately 45 minutes away).

This is an easy walk and contains something for everyone! What better way is there to spend a Saturday afternoon? See you there.

WEEKEND WALKS - AUGUST 1991**2-4 AUG 91****DINNER PLAIN YUPPIE SKI WEEKEND****EASY/MEDIUM**

LEADER : SYLVIA WILSON
 TRANSPORT : PRIVATE CARS
 EXPECTED RETURN : 8.00 P.M.
 MAP REFERENCE : BOGONG ALPINE AREA. DARGO PLAINS, COBUNGRA 1:50,000 (8323-4-N)

Due to an excess of enquiries about this weekend, and only 13 places in the lodge, I think it is actually full up. Anyway don't let that stop you asking.

Booking date is Wednesday 17 July. Money \$50 upfront please.

No idea what we'll do when we get there. We'll see how the snow is. Our host, John Philip, knows the local trails and is happy to be our guide. More information when booking.

9-11 AUG 91 SKIING - COBBLER PLATEAU MEDIUM

LEADER : STEPHEN DOWN
 TRANSPORT : PRIVATE
 EXPECTED RETURN : 9.00 P.M. SUNDAY
 MAP REFERENCE : HOWITT - SELWYN 1:50,000 VICMAP
 APPROX DISTANCE : 25 KM

We will leave the cars at the Lake Cobbler car park and walk/ski up towards Mt. Cobbler, visiting the many waterfalls on the way.

We will camp in the area just before the final climb to the summit. From our camp we will climb/ski the summit and explore the snow gum covered plateau.

16-18 AUG 91 MT. BUFFALO SKIING: BASE CAMP EASY/MEDIUM

LEADER : BECKY MARSHALL
 TRANSPORT : PRIVATE
 EXPECTED RETURN : SUNDAY EVENING
 MAP REFERENCE : MT BUFFALO NATIONAL PARK

Depending on weather, snow conditions, and the ability and wishes of the group, we will probably ski up to the Horn and down and around the tracks on the Wiribil Plain area. We may also ski out to the Reservoir and to the Wild Dog Plain area.

I have booked one caravan at the Riverview Caravan Park in Porepunkah which will hold up to six people. There are tent sites for those who wish to camp.

23-25 AUG 91 RAWSON SKIING WEEKEND MEDIUM

LEADER : SANDRA MUTIMER
 TRANSPORT : PRIVATE
 EXPECTED RETURN : SUNDAY EVENING
 MAP REFERENCE :
 APPROX DISTANCE : VARIED

Yes, we have booked 24 places at Rawson Holiday Resort, 5 kms from Erica and 174 kms from Melbourne. The tariff is \$55, bed and breakfast for Friday night to Sunday morning, 23rd to 25th August.

There are options for both Saturday and Sunday, catering for easy/medium and medium standard of skiing ability. These tours will not be on prepared tracks and will not be suitable for beginners or skiers with very little experience.

If you plan to book on this trip you need to be aware that things do not always go as planned, but snow or not much snow, it usually ends up being a good get-together.

Because I am not able to be in the clubrooms, if you'd like to contact me at home phone , preferably between 5 and 6pm, and definitely not in the mornings.

23-25 AUG 91 LANSBOROUGH RIDGE - KARA KARA (AVOCA AREA) EASY/MED

LEADER : ROSEMARY COTTER
 TRANSPORT : PRIVATE

This walk has been postponed to 22-24 November.

30 AUG - 1 SEP 91 SKIING - THE BLUFF**MED/HARD**

LEADER : MERILYN WHIMPEY
 TRANSPORT : PRIVATE
 EXPECTED RETURN : 10.00 P.M. SUNDAY
 MAP REFERENCE : V.M.T.C. WATERSHEDS OF KING, HOWQUA & JAMIESON

This is a trip for cross-country skiers with snow-camping experience.

We will leave Sheeppark Flat at 8.00am and drive as far as possible towards the car park at Refrigerator Gap. A 4-wheel drive vehicle is recommended for this drive in winter. *Don't forget to bring snow chains.* If we are lucky, we will leave our cars at the car park, possibly after digging a parking spot from the snow (*bring a snow shovel*). We will then follow the walking track as it climbs the 400 metres to the top.

If there is good snow, skis may be needed from quite early in the climb. Later, the track becomes quite steep where it passes through the final rock band and it is usually not possible to use skis here. After emerging above the rock band we should have a weekend of skiing on mostly gentle slopes along the main ridge line and on the eastern slopes.

Our intended campsite is near The Blowhole (about 2 km from the top of the climb from Refrigerator Gap). After pitching our tents our itinerary is flexible but we will probably do a trip along the ridge to Mount Lovick and perhaps beyond. On Sunday we will need to pack our tents and leave the campsite reasonably early in the afternoon in order to ensure that we get back to our cars before night falls.

WEEKEND AND LONGER WALKS IN SEPTEMBER 1991

There are some good walks planned for spring - here is advance notice for your diary.

7-8 Sep	Mt. Stirling Beginners Skiing	(Mark Walters)
9-15 Sep	Mt. Hotham - Mt. Bogong Skiing	(Ken MacMahon & GT)
13-15 Sep	Eildon State Park - Mt. Enterprise	(Gina Hopkins)
20-22 Sep	Lorne - Otway Ranges	(Rosa D'Angelo)
21-29 Sep	Flinders Ranges (see below)	(Dave Vincent)
25-29 Sep	Hattah Lakes - Pink Lakes (base camp)	(Sylvia Wilson)
27-29 Sep	Kooyoorra - Melville Caves	(Peter Bullard)

21-29 SEP 91 FLINDERS RANGES - S.A.**EASY/MEDIUM**

This walk is during the first week of the September school holidays, and includes a public holiday. The walking will be day walks from base camps in three National Parks - Hattah Lakes in Victoria, Gammon Ranges and Flinders Ranges in South Australia. The weather should be mild and wildflowers prolific. By using an aircraft, travelling time is minimised. The proposed itinerary is:

Sat 21 - Sun 22 Sep: Depart Moorabbin and fly to Hattah Lakes National Park, 50km Sth Mildura. Two day walks from a base camp.

Mon 23 - Wed 25 Sep: Depart Hattah Lakes and fly to Mildura for refuel/resupply. Depart Mildura and fly to Balcanoona Homestead at the entrance to the Gammon Ranges National Park, 200 km NW Broken Hill. Three day walks from a base camp.

Thur 26 - Sat 28 Sep: Depart Balcanoona Homestead and fly to Wilpena, at the entrance to the Flinders Ranges National Park, 300 km Nth Adelaide. Three day walks from a base camp.

Thur 26 - Sat 28 Sep: Depart Wilpena and fly to Quorn, 30 km NE Port Augusta, for a half day steam train tour of the southern Flinders Ranges on the famous Pitchie Ritchie railway. Fly back to Moorabbin after refuelling at Port Augusta.

For a group six, including myself, the estimated cost of the aircraft hire will be \$250 each. For further details and to book a place on this walk, contact Dave Vincent at home on phone:

COMMITTEE NOTES - 1 JULY 1991**CORRESPONDENCE IN :**

Wilderness Society, on Walk for Wilderness Campaign
 Conservation Council - seeking support
 Australian Conservation Foundation , on green bonds
 Federation , on subscriptions to VICWALK
 Department of Conservation & Environment - reply to Club letter
 Athol Schafer - re bequest
 STAV re future activities
 Accident Compensation Commission -WorkCare levy notification

CORRESPONDENCE OUT :

Lambert Bain re Wilky insurance

BUSINESS ARISING:

Bundled sets of the Club's **Walk** periodical are being sold in the clubroom for \$5 per set. Old **Wildlife** magazines are being heavily discounted at only \$1 each.

WALKS REPORT FOR MAY:

Total	Day walkers	W/E walkers	Members	Visitors	Fees
273	229	44	210	63	\$2251

TREASURER'S REPORT AT 30 JUNE 1991:

JUNE RECEIPTS: \$ 5770

BALANCE:

Current Account	10105
Reserves Account	33000
Postage float	<u>500</u>
Total	45838

JUNE PAYMENTS MADE/TO BE RATIFIED:

Various 7307

JULY PAYMENTS FOR APPROVAL:

Various 1373+

GENERAL BUSINESS:

A proposal was put forward to purchase a whiteboard.

DUTY ROSTER:

July	10	Becky and GT
July	17	Rob and Derrick
July	24	Jean and Alan
July	31	Jan and Jean
Aug	7	Stephen and Gina

NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING: 5 August at 7.00pm.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 17 JUNE:

By-laws 1.1, 3.1, 4.3, 5.4, 8.5, were amended/created.

The new By-laws, with the changes marked, are displayed on the club notice-board.

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