



THE NEWS

OF THE
MELBOURNE BUSHWALKERS INCORPORATED

EDITION 494

APRIL 1992

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In accordance with Rule 6 (2) of the Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc. the Committee hereby convenes and gives:

NOTICE OF EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING

8:00 P.M. WEDNESDAY 29 APRIL 1992

in the HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY HALL adjoining the Clubrooms

BUSINESS:

The purpose of this meeting is to discuss Sunday transport and to review the decision made at the recent Annual General Meeting.

Derrick Brown, Secretary

PROXY - Should any member wish to vote by proxy he/she may do so by completing and signing the form on page 15 which must be received by the Secretary before the commencement of the meeting.

The Committee has received a request to call this meeting as provided for in the Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc. Rule 6 (2) to (5) :

- (2) The committee shall on the requisition in writing of at least 5% of the members of the association convene an Extraordinary General Meeting.
- (3) The requisition for an Extraordinary General Meeting shall state the objects of the meeting and shall be signed by the members making the requisition and be sent to the secretary at the postal address of the association.
- (4) At least 14 days notice of an Extraordinary General Meeting shall be given in writing to each member.
- (5) No business other than that set out in the notice convening the Extraordinary General Meeting shall be transacted at the meeting.

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 May edition is Wednesday 29 April 1992.

Letters

Dear Editor

It was with dismay that I learned of the Annual General Meeting's decision to continue using the club van for day walks instead of the chartered bus. I have always found the van uncomfortable, and stopped attending day walks for that reason.

I am also very concerned with the safety aspect of the van. I shudder to think of the injuries that would be sustained by passengers in even a moderate collision.

I strongly recommend that the club change permanently to bus transport as soon as possible.

Sandy Mattingley

VICTORIAN WILDERNESS

LETTER WRITERS WANTED URGENTLY !!

In the next two months the State Government will debate the LCC's final recommendations on Victorian wilderness and decide what areas will be given wilderness protection.

We need **YOUR HELP** to write to key state politicians asking them to safeguard our important bushwalking areas. Important points to mention are:

1. Protect the Wongungarra River, home to the endangered spotted tree frog.
2. The closure of the Deddick track and other 4WD tracks adjacent to wilderness areas.
3. Protect all high quality wilderness areas such as Mt Cowra, Mt Kaye, Davies Plain.
4. Protect alpine wilderness from grazing.

Letters don't have to be long, just mention why you wish to protect wilderness and mention the 4 points. Sample letters will be available in the club and letters need to be written ASAP.

Please write to:

The Premier
Mrs Joan Kirner
1 Treasury Place
East Melbourne 3002

Leader of the Liberal Party
Jeff Kennett
197 High Street
Ashburton 3147

Liz Telford

CONSERVATION MATTERS

A **conservation sub-committee** has been formed to collect, discuss and disseminate information on conservation issues relevant to our bushwalking activities.

Our first line of action is to lobby parliamentarians on the LCC's proposed Wilderness Recommendation with particular emphasis on the Wongungarra River, the Mallee and the East Gippsland areas. (See Victorian Wilderness article on page 2.)

The sub-committee will meet monthly and members interested in joining us will be most welcome. The next meeting will be **Wednesday 29 April** at 7.30 in the Clubrooms.

Janet Norman

1992 SUBSCRIPTIONS ARE NOW DUE

Members now have less than 2 months (April and May) to renew membership. Failure to pay dues within that time means that qualifying walks will be necessary to rejoin.

Ordinary Members	\$27	
Concession *	\$18	* Proof required
Couples	\$39	
NEWS Subscribers	\$15	

Please post your payment to: Membership Secretary
Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc.
PO Box 1751Q
MELBOURNE 3001

Get into our history!

Enter the photography COMPETITION and have your photograph go into history !

Wanted! A top quality photograph for the wrap-around cover of our 50 year history book .
Entries to: Bill Metzenthon or Sylvia Wilson by Wednesday 29 April.

Wednesday May 6: Exhibition/show/prize awards

Illustration photographs wanted!!

Some of your photographs are just what are required to illustrate our history. Early photographs are especially sought and those showing differences from our current activities. Don't be shy, have a try!

Prize for Best Inside Photograph. This is your history - be in it!

Please label all photographs clearly with your name and address for safe returning.

DAY WALKS - MAY1992**SAT. 25 APR 92 DANDENONGS: MONBULK - JOHNS HILL EASY**

LEADER : MIKE CLODE
 TRANSPORT : PRIVATE OR 8.49 A.M. TRAIN FROM FLINDERS ST TO BELGRAVE
 MEETING PLACE : 10.00 A.M. BELGRAVE STATION CAR PARK (train from Flinders St arrives 10.00)
 MAP REFERENCE : MELWAYS MAPS 124 & 125. COMMENCES & FINISHES K11
 APPROX DISTANCE : 14 KM

Sorry I missed the deadline for March NEWS but on the day in question I was doing loop the loops in a Tiger Moth over Queenstown, N.Z.

Sandra Bardwell describes this walk in her '50 Day Walks Near Melbourne' as "an English-style country ramble along streams and lanes". Being the end of April we might also have to cope with some English-style rain and mud but, if the weather is kind, the panoramic views from Johns Hill across to Port Phillip Bay and Western Port can be captivating.

Descending Johns Hill, we join Menzies Creek at Avars Picnic Ground. We continue to follow the creek after it changes its name to Sassafras and then on to Moxhams Picnic Ground. We cross the streams quite frequently, though with some notable exceptions, sturdy bridges have been/are being built. Up to this point we have been using defined paths through thick vegetation and trees, walking close to the road, though largely unaware of it. From Moxhams we follow Priors, Portman, William and Ridge roads to return to the cars. The return is a steady climb and some of the roads are steep so we may leave a car/s at Moxhams for anyone wanting to call it a day at that stage.

Bring warm and rainproof clothing and water as well as lunch.
 For further details, please contact leader (H) (W)

SAT. 2 MAY 92 HISTORICAL WALK: ALBERT PARK EASY

LEADER : ATHOL SCHAFER
 TRANSPORT : TRAM. MEET UNDER THE CLOCKS BY 1.30 P.M.
 EXPECTED RETURN : 5.00 P.M.
 MAP REFERENCE : MELWAYS MAP 2J, 2K

Albert Park has an interesting history and is full of Victorian era architectural styles. This walk, which takes in the recently restored 100 year-old Kerford Road pier, start at tram stop 24 (route 1 and 2). Bring a picnic afternoon tea.

Afterwards there is the opportunity of walking back to the city via the Lake and the Domain.

SUN. 3 MAY 92 TRACK CLEARING - LERDERDERG GORGE EASY/MEDIUM

LEADERS : NIGEL HOLMES (track clearing) AND ANDREW LOW (walk)
 TRANSPORT : VAN FROM SOUTH BANK BLVD. AT 9.00 A.M.
 EXPECTED RETURN : 7.00 P.M.
 MAP REFERENCE : GREENDALE 1:25,000 OR LERDERDERG FOREST PARK 1:25,000 FCV 1974
 APPROX DISTANCE : 6 KM TRACK CLEARING, 11 KM WALK

The tracks which will attract the attention of the clearers are Lower Chadwick and Razorback, which were partially cleaned up last year. Hopefully we will finish the job with less drama this year...

The easy-medium walk will be around Mt. Blackwood track and will include Foxy Gully and Long Point Track which offers splendid view to the Lerderderg River hundreds of feet below. As the walkers won't be crossing the river, dry feet can be assumed and as usual the rugged terrain of the area should provide an exhilarating walk. Eagles, koalas, various parrots and lizards (big and small) have been noted on previews so keep your eyes open along the way.

SUN. 10 MAY 92 YEA SPUR**EASY/MEDIUM & MEDIUM**

LEADERS : ALAN CLARKE & DOT CHRISTIAN
 TRANSPORT : VAN FROM SOUTH BANK BLVD. AT 9.00 A.M.
 EXPECTED RETURN : 7.00 P.M.
 MAP REFERENCE : FLOWERDALE & HOMEWOOD 1:25,000
 APPROX DISTANCE : 13 & 17 KM

This walk is in the hilly region past Flowerdale on the Whittlesea - Yea Road. A mixture of farmland and natural vegetation will be seen. Excellent views should be a feature of both walks.

WED.13 MAY 92 WERRIBEE GORGE - FALCON'S BLUFF**EASY/MEDIUM**

LEADER : ANDREW BODEGRAVEN
 TRANSPORT : PRIVATE
 MEETING PLACE : 8.30 A.M. 9 ALBERT CRESCENT SURREY HILLS
 9.00 A.M. SERVICE STATION JUST BEFORE WESTGATE BRIDGE
 10.00 A.M. RIVER CAR PARK - WERRIBEE GORGE STATE PARK
 EXPECTED RETURN : 4.00 P.M. TO RIVER CAR PARK
 MAP REFERENCE : INGLISTON 1:25,000
 APPROX DISTANCE : 10 KM

We will walk along the Werribee River to Ironbark Creek, cross the river and follow the ridge to Falcon's Lookout. We then walk to Eagles Eyrie for lunch. After lunch we descend to Blackwood Pool, cross the river and follow it downstream back to our vehicles.

SUN. 17 MAY 92 MT. BEGGARY - MT. EVERARD**EASY, EASY/MED & MED/HARD**

LEADERS : GEOFF MATTINGLEY, PENNY STAPLEY & MARGARET BORDEN
 TRANSPORT : VAN FROM SOUTH BANK BLVD. AT 9.00 A.M.
 EXPECTED RETURN : 7.00 P.M.
 MAP REFERENCE : STRATHEWEN 1:25,000
 APPROX DISTANCE : 15-18 KM

The Kinglake National Park is dry, open-floored forest on the ridges, with moist fern gullies along the creeks. Lyrebirds live in these gullies, along with a wide variety of other birds. All three walks start and finish at the Jehosaphat Gully Picnic Ground, and are much the same length.

The two Easy/Medium walks will be similar to that described in Sandra Bardwell's "Park Walks Near Melbourne", and are on roads or graded tracks the whole day. The Medium/Hard will be much more challenging as it will leave the tracks for about half its distance, climbing and descending along the forested ridges. Unfortunately it isn't the best time for wildflowers, but we should have a pleasant day's walking.

SUN. 24 MAY92 GLEN NAYOOK - NEERIM**EASY/MED & MEDIUM**

LEADERS : PAULINE WILLIAMS & ADRIAN COLE
 TRANSPORT : VAN FROM SOUTH BANK BLVD. AT 9.00 A.M.

For details of this walk, please see leaders in the clubrooms.

SAT. 30 MAY 92 DANDENONGS EXPLORER WALK**EASY**

LEADER : MAUREEN HURLEY
 TRANSPORT : PRIVATE

For location and details of this walk, please see the May NEWS.

SUN. 31 MAY 92 HAWKES HILL - MOLLISONS CREEK EASY/MED & MEDIUM

LEADERS : JEAN GIESE & JAN BROOKSBANK
 TRANSPORT : VAN FROM SOUTH BANK BLVD. AT 9.00 A.M.
 EXPECTED RETURN : 7.30 P.M.
 MAP REFERENCE : PYALONG 1:50,000, OR TOOBORAC & GOLDIE NORTH 1:25,000
 APPROX DISTANCE : 16 & 20 KM

This walk was scheduled for last December but had to be changed because of extreme fire danger. Now we are hoping the fields will be green by the end of May. The views will be there and the grand old trees and granite boulders on Hawkes Hill.

We start south of Tooborac and walk generally in a southerly direction, through some farming land and beside Mollisons Creek to the gorge. The medium group will do an extra 4 km. Most of the walk is off track.

WEEKEND WALKS - MAY 1992**2-3 MAY 92 SEARCH & RESCUE EXERCISES HARD**

LEADER : STEPHEN DOWN
 TRANSPORT : PRIVATE
 EXPECTED RETURN : 8.00 P.M. SUNDAY EVENING

This exercise is for MBW Club Search & Rescue members only. It is organised annually by the Federation S&R and the Police S&R. If anyone is interested in joining the club's S&R team, they should contact me. There is an article in the June 1991 NEWS detailing the type of person we are looking for.

***** NOTE - the following two walks have been brought forward one week as Mt Buffalo campsite is closed after 3rd May**

2-3 MAY 92 MT. BUFFALO "PACK CARRY" MEDIUM

LEADER : DERRICK BROWN
 TRANSPORT : PRIVATE
 EXPECTED RETURN : LATE SUNDAY EVENING
 MAP REFERENCE : BUCKLAND 1:25,000, EUROBIN 1:25,000
 APPROX DISTANCE : 20 KM (SAT)

Although billed as a pack carry, the Saturday walk is now a medium-hard walk without packs, as we are forced to camp at the only permissible campsite in the National Park.

We will drive to Buckland Bridge and follow the original route taken by the early explorers of the plateau. This route climbs 1100 m, taking us up Goldies Spur to the Rocks Saddle and onto the Back Wall. We then make our way to Lake Catani campsite, where we will meet the base campers. On Sunday we will explore some of the many interesting features around the area.

2-3 MAY 92 MT. BUFFALO BASE CAMP - LAKE CATANI EASY & MEDIUM

LEADER : JEAN GIESE
 TRANSPORT : PRIVATE
 EXPECTED RETURN : 7.30 P.M. SUNDAY EVENING
 MAP REFERENCE : ALGONA: MT. BUFFALO NATIONAL PARK, VICMAP: EUROBIN 1:25,000

Wendy Barnes will share leadership with me so we will have both easy and medium grade walks available. Mt. Buffalo plateau is a wonderful place. If you've never been, or not been for a while, join us for lovely walks amongst the snow gums and gigantic rock formations, enjoying the grand views and lyrebird calls.

15-17 MAY 92 MT. STIRLING - CLEAR HILLS**MEDIUM**

LEADER : GINA HOPKINS
 TRANSPORT : PRIVATE
 EXPECTED RETURN : SUNDAY EVENING
 MAP REFERENCE : BULLER - STIRLING OUTDOOR LEISURE MAP 1:25,000
 APPROX DISTANCE : 25 KM

Here is a chance to visit Mt. Stirling before the snow falls (I hope). The walk will start from Bus Huts following various ski trails, including the Bluff Spur trail, to the summit of Mt. Stirling. We then descend the Clear Hills track, past the "Man from Snowy River" film set to Clear Hills where we will camp. On Sunday we return via The Monument, going off track down a steep spur and then climbing back up to King Saddle. Should be a good weekend with some reasonable climbs to keep us warm.

22-24 MAY 92 VICTORIA RANGE - VALLEY OF MYSTERY - SERRA RANGE**MEDIUM**

LEADER : PHIL LARKIN
 TRANSPORT : PRIVATE

For details of this walk, please see leader in the clubrooms.

29-31 MAY 92 BARJARG BUNKHOUSE BEANO**EASY & MEDIUM**

LEADER : SYLVIA WILSON
 TRANSPORT : PRIVATE
 EXPECTED RETURN : 7.00 P.M. SUNDAY EVENING
 MAP REFERENCE : VICMAPS MT. STRATHBOGIE, MT. SAMARIA, NILLAHCOOTIE
 NEW MELWAY REF 408 V5
 APPROX DISTANCE :

Sorry about the awful alliterations, they just slip out somehow. However I digress. So what's it all about, sez you. Barjarg is a teeny hamlet about 18 km north of Mansfield on the Midland Highway. Apart from sporting a roadhouse it also has an old village school complete with Bunkhouse. It's pretty basic but adequate for a decent sized group. As it is mostly used for school groups, the kitchen equipment is for communal eating. This is the excuse for a Sat. night beano.

And the walking: Mt. Strathbogie is up the road to the west and Mt. Samaria is to the N.E. I propose to spend a day at each area. This is a new angle on the Strathbogie Ranges (read untrod by us) but I do know of a lovely waterfall to finish at. With a bit of car shuffling we can do an interesting looking walk in the Samaria State Park. Anyway come and check it out, especially the smashing Friday night eatery in Mansfield with the most amazing proprietress...

FREEZER FOR SALE

Zanussi 3 drawer upright freezer (same size as standard dishwasher). Perfect working order \$150

Derrick Brown

DUNLOP KT26 RUNNERS FOR SALE

Size 7. Only worn once so are in purrfect condition. Price \$20.00

Call Dot Christian - (W)

(H)

SOCIAL COLUMN

IT'S ON AGAIN !!!

FOR THE TENTH YEAR AND POSSIBLY THE LAST !!!!

THE MARYSVILLE GUEST HOUSE WEEKEND

at the

MOUNTAIN LODGE

FRIDAY 19 JUNE - SUNDAY 21 JUNE

DAY ACTIVITIES

Walking, Golfing, Cycling, Horseriding, Tennis (tennis shoes only on the court) or just Relaxing.

EVENING ENTERTAINMENT

Table Tennis, Snooker, Games, Fireside Reading/Chatting/Relaxing and Music (piano players, bring music please and your favourite cassettes).

DINING ROOM

Excellent meals - BYO Drinks. (Fast before and diet after the weekend.) This is definitely not a Pritikin or vegetarian weekend!!

Suzette and Hubert Nasssl are your charming hosts.

BOOKING DETAILS

- Bookings open May 6, 7.30 p.m. in the Clubrooms (full amount only)
- **PLEASE NOTE** - bookings will be accepted (prior to this date) by **telephone** but cannot be confirmed until receipt of the **full amount**. (Ring me at home on _____ after 7.30 p.m.)
- **COST** - \$103.00 per person, rooms with private facilities \$25 per room extra.
- **NOTE - THERE WILL BE NO REFUNDS FOR CANCELLATION OF BOOKING(S)**

I can honestly recommend this weekend and can guarantee the food, surroundings and of course the company. (And at a real recession busting cost.) So, why not come along and join me for a memorable event, as this may be your last opportunity - well for a few years anyway !.

Michael Humphrey

SOCIAL COLUMN (continued)

NIGHT AT THE MOVIES!

I am organising a night at the movies on **Tuesday 19 May**. Tuesday night is half-price. The cinemas were unable to give me details of programs for May, but the plan is to meet in the city between 6.00p.m and 7.00p.m.

Look out for full details on the Clubroom notice-board, or give me a ring at home if you are interested in coming along.

Jan Gross

"PHANTOM OF THE OPERA" THURSDAY 8 OCTOBER 1992

Excellent seats available at \$62 each. Full payment required by 20 May to Sylvia Wilson

NEW MEMBERS

The Club would like to welcome the following new members:

Paul Johnson

Anna Casasayas

Angela Ho

Michael Brooks

Roger Oxenbould

Tilly Zimmerman

Simon Tsen

Sue Cooke

Karen Parry

Mary DeSalis

Elizabeth Spriggs

Mary Anne Boyd Squires

Wendy Steer

SCENIC PARKLAND **FITNESS WALKS**

- Fairfield Park
- Studley Park
- Yarra River
- Merri Creek
- Edinburgh Gardens

Fully qualified Fitness Leaders
Fitness Testing
See the Results!

- Mon/Tues/Thurs 6.30 - 7.30 pm
- Saturday 9.30 - 10.30 am
- Sunday 10.30 - 11.30 am

Fees: \$35 (quarterly)
FIRST VISIT FREE

We meet: **Clifton Hill Tennis Courts**
(near Cnr Heidelberg Rd and Hoddle St)
Melways Ref: 2C J1

R.S.V.P.: 489 6189

SHARE HOUSE

Wanted "Good Egg" to share house in quiet street in Fairfield with one other + cat.

Medium size room with open fireplace. Lots Olde World Charm with Country Cottage atmosphere. Lovely garden. Suit practical individual who enjoys life. Non smoker.

\$330 p.c.m. includes all bills and cleaning. Bond required. Long or short term.

Ring Tracy (W) (H)

CONGRATULATIONS

to David Lindsay and Janice Lawton on their engagement.

SKI LODGE FOR RENT

at Falls Creek

Luxurious 12 bed self-contained ski lodge

now available at a much reduced summer rental of

\$90 per day.

**2 double bedrooms, 2 bunk rooms,
2 bathrooms, large balcony,
fully equipped kitchen,
large outdoor spa.**

Bookings are also available for the 1992 ski season.

Call Dean Hewett

BUSHWALKING EQUIPMENT

On an overnight walk Bill and I often have the lightest packs in the group. Over many years of bushwalking we've decided what we need and eliminated the things we can do without.

Firstly, we save a lot of weight by sharing a tent and cooking gear. Our tent isn't the lightest you can get, but it's suitable for all weathers. Carrying the exact number of pegs saves weight, and in all but blizzard conditions three guy ropes can be anchored with one peg. For an extra ground sheet we use a space blanket, which is light and has emergency uses as well.

I've got an internal frame pack which is lighter than most external frame packs, but rather large - a small one would weigh less. I removed all the straps that I don't use.

In summer we share a Dacron Hollofil sleeping bag which spreads over both of us and in winter we have two down sleeping bags. We also have a silk inner sheet which is expensive, but lighter than cotton. Self-inflating sleeping mats are heavier than closed cell foam, but we think the comfort is worth the extra weight.

Clothes - in summer I would have a light-weight parka and overpants, fast-drying shorts, a cotton shirt, a polypropylene top, polypropylene long johns, a "legionnaire" sun hat, my warm synthetic fleecy jacket (which makes a good pillow), the two pairs of socks I'm wearing plus one spare pair, a couple of handkerchiefs and a couple of spare pairs of knickers for long trips. I might take gloves and a wool hat if I think it could get cold. I walk in runners and don't carry spare footwear.

For winter I would take a heavier parka and add warm ski pants, a wool shirt, another polypropylene top or wool singlet, a scarf, thick woollen mittens, nylon overmittens, a silk ski mask, a wool hat, and leave out the cotton shirt, the shorts and the sun hat. I would also be wearing ski boots and gaiters. I don't carry a change of clothes as such, just lots of layers. Synthetic clothes are lighter and usually warmer than wool. We don't need towels, face-washers or soap - a Chux or a sponge will do.

For cooking we usually carry a stove, though many people use fires. We think the convenience of two billies is worth the extra weight. We eat out of plastic bowls with a spoon (the knife and fork from the set are left at home). Bill cuts the knobs off his spoon to save a bit more weight, and uses a steak

knife with the point rounded off. I have a Swiss army knife. We also carry billy grips, though we could manage without. We drink out of plastic turbo-shakers, and leave the lids behind if we're not going to need to shake anything. I use a small square of green scourer for washing up.

Our food tends to be rather heavy, but I often mix fresh and dried foods, e.g. fresh vegetables and noodles. Tins are too heavy usually, though we sometimes carry a very small tin of tuna. Cheese, butter and margarine are good value for weight as they contain more calories than the equivalent weight in starchy foods. Rice goes a long way. Plastic bags are the lightest containers, and things that shouldn't be squashed can be protected in billies or shakers, though often I use plastic containers or aluminium jars. I never carry unnecessary packaging, e.g. I take soup packages out of their cardboard box. Some people transfer food from the container it came in to a plastic bag. 1-litre anodised aluminium bottles contain our drinking water for the day. Plastic soft drink bottles are OK weight-wise, but they sometimes split. For water at the campsite we have an empty wine bladder which, unlike a zipped water bucket, can be carried full in your pack. It makes a reasonable pillow if you half fill it with air. I made a nylon cover for the wine bladder which prolongs its life about a hundredfold.

I carry a first-aid kit in a home-made nylon bag with pouches for individual items. I usually have a head torch which holds 4 AA batteries, but when I'm really serious about saving weight I'll take a 2-AA-battery torch. A candle is useful in the tent, and of course we need matches, which we keep dry in a plastic film container. I always carry my wallet with me, especially as my car was broken into once. I like to take a book, but on long trips you get more entertainment value for weight from a pack of cards.

A toothbrush, comb, small roll of toilet paper, wide tent peg for a digger, sunscreen, lip cream, insect repellent (sometimes), maps, camera (a luxury), compass and whistle, complete the list.

We once set out on a 9-day walk with my pack weighing under 40 lbs, Bill's just a bit over, and we had 9 lbs of food left at the end of the trip. We carry enough to be comfortable when we're camping and when we're walking.

Merilyn Wimpey

ALONG THE TRACK**A WEEKEND WITH A DIFFERENCE ... JUMBUK PARK 20-22 MAR 1992**

Firstly, where is Jumbuk Park? It is situated in the beautiful Strezlecki Ranges approximately 2 hours from Melbourne. Consists of 130 hectares of bush and very civilized accommodation of bunks in several huts. We (being Becky Marshall, Brian Kilner, Alan Clarke, Jean Giese, Dot Christian, Liz Devine, Wendy Rees, Gwen Morgan, Liz Telford, Jan Brooksbank and visitors Merryn Mitchell, Dianne Bester and Leslie Harding) all arrived on Friday night where we hit the sack pretty early ready for a days walk on the Saturday.

8.00 a.m. Sat arrived very early and we met for a yoga and dance session before breakfast. Liz and Jan taught us how to relax and stretch those hamstrings before our supposed 'easy walk'. We then bopped to flashdance and had lots of laughs (told you it was a 'different' weekend!).

At 10.00 a.m. we headed off to Middle Creek through beautiful rainforests. We walked through ferns and mountain ash (some of us even sang... well attempted to anyhow) and much to Jean's delight we saw some sassafras trees with their distinctive smell. The mountain ranges were visible at most turns and after a hard slog up a steep hill we had lunch with a beautiful view. The afternoon wore on and our 'easy' walk turned into a harder walk. Still we were all in good spirits and it was good walking weather.

We got back to camp (er.. huts) at approx 5.00 p.m. to shower and get ready for the evening's entertainment. Jan had excelled herself with pate, dip, white and red wine. We sipped vino and had a BBQ tea - very upmarket. Jan and I sung a song we had penned for the weekend. Many groans

greeted the corny verses but we had a lot of fun anyhow!! After a night of awards - Mars Bars, Cherry Ripes and Violet Crumbles - which arranged from the most colourful shorts to the best footwear, most people went to bed. A couple of the diehards (Merryn, Dot and Jan) sat up for a while talking about the meaning of life then stumbled home feeling replenished and full of good cheer.

A beautiful day dawned on Sunday but the yoga session was missed due to lack of inspiration (after all we had walked 22 km approx on Saturday!). Everyone went their own way on Sunday morning, some to play archery, some to walk around the park through a beautiful fern walk. Alan, Jean and Merryn tackled the low ropes course followed by Becky and Brian later on. A big thrill was an echidna who was unaware of our presence... what a cutie! After a leisurely lunch we headed off to the Tarra-Bulga Nationala Park where we took a casual walk to Cyathea Falls. A magical place. We paused by the falls where we marvelled at the sun glistening on the gently flowing water. A beautiful rainforest with sort ferns, myrtle beech and mountain ash. We went on to the Bulga picnic area where we did the Lyrebird ridge track (yes, we saw three of them), the Ash track, the Fern Gully walk and walked over a suspension bridge that took us over a gully of myrtle beech and ferns.

By this time it was time to hit the road back to Melbourne. Thanks to Liz and Jan for organizing the weekend and for everyone else who made it such good fun!!

Dot Christian

WILKY

The leaders allocation night on Wednesday 11th March resulted in 12 weeks being allocated that night. The names of the leaders and their week have been posted up on the "walks board". A few compromises resulted but it was all sorted out in the end.

.... A special plea. Wilky is on a septic system. Would all leaders ensure that any product they take into Wilky is suited to septic operation, i.e. toilet paper and cleaners. All disinfectants will kill the bacteria in the septic tank so that it will not function - the consequences can be imagined.

Thanks. Graeme Thornton

WALK A WILDERNESS

As one of Australia's oldest and most basic Safari operators, we enjoy providing a special service for Bushwalkers. This service is unique in that it allows the average weekend bushwalker to walk in the most isolated and wildest areas of Australia.

This is possible because we provide all of the equipment that is needed to do these walks. Equipment that you personally might not be able to afford.

With our travel anywhere expertise, excellent catering, portable navigation equipment and communications, the wilderness just waits for you to walk in it! At around \$550.00 per week, all inclusive, you can even afford it!

Most Walking Safaris are for two weeks. In this time you can do up to six or more different walks for one, two or three days. There is no need to backtrack, we drive to pick you up. If you don't want to walk you can stay with the vehicles and have just as enjoyable a time.

The small party size also adds to the overall enjoyment.

Write for more information and when you do, help us to expand our service by telling us the areas you feel would be great to walk.

Write to:

**WILD COUNTRY SAFARIS
CARMILA
QUEENSLAND 4739**

COMMITTEE NOTES - 6 APRIL 1992**CORRESPONDENCE IN :**

Shire of Bacchus Marsh - Rifle range
 Request for Extraordinary General Meeting
 Federation of Vic Walking Clubs - fees and VicWalk subs

CORRESPONDENCE OUT:

Dept. Cons & Environment - Murrindindi Reserve
 Dept. Property & Services - Outdoor Leisure Maps
 Premier - Response to Wilderness Report

WALKS REPORT FOR FEBRUARY:

Total	Day walkers	W/E walkers	Members	Visitors	Fees
266	208	58	192	74	\$2655

Rosemary Thomson has taken over from Jean Giese as convenor of Wednesday walks.

TREASURER'S REPORT AT 31 MARCH 1992:

No report received.

WILKY:

12 winter weeks booked.
 Sub-committee set up to determine how much of the reserve funds should be allocated to Wilky.

TRANSPORT:

The van passed its annual vehicle inspection. Driver's agreement still under review.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

Request for extraordinary General Meeting.

DUTY ROSTER:

Apr	15	Becky & Mary
Apr	22	Jean & John
Apr	29	Alan M. & Gina
May	1	GT & Alan C.

NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING: 4 May 1992 at 7.00pm

CHANGES OF INFORMATION

Richard Chater

Dallas Stephens

Val Anderson

Les Southwell

PROXY

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

I
(Block Letters)

being a member of Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc. .

Appoint
(Block Letters)

or failing him/her, the Chairperson of the Meeting as my proxy to vote for me and on my behalf at the Extraordinary General Meeting of the Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc on 29 April, 1992.

Signature of Member