



# THE NEWS

OF THE

MELBOURNE BUSHWALKERS INCORPORATED

EDITION 504

FEBRUARY 1993

PRICE 60 C

Registered by Australia Post

Publication No. VBH 1297

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

WEDS 24 FEBRUARY 1993, 8.00 P.M.

The Annual General Meeting of the Melbourne Bushwalkers (Inc.) will be held in the Horticultural Hall (entrance from the Clubrooms, MacKenzie St).

All members are welcome to attend.

## **ATTENTION ALL WILKYPHILES**

### **Wilky Celebrations 27-28 March**

This weekend is to celebrate Wilkinson's 60th anniversary and to celebrate our 32 years of ownership.

(will be limited numbers, perhaps can be repeated in clubrooms if required)

We have contacted some of the original donors and Club members involved in early work parties. We are still trying to contact some of the original SEC occupants. The Rover Chalet has been hired for accommodation and will be used mainly for these people.

Sunday morning: Walk to Mt Cope.

Celebrations (introductions, speeches, cake cutting, etc.) will be at 3.00 p.m. on Saturday. All old log books will be returned and Rod Mattingley is making up photo albums to be kept at Wilky. If you have any photos of interest please contact Rodney. A plaque is to be installed in recognition of those SEC occupants 1933-46.

There may be some space at the Rover Chalet (which includes meals), otherwise camping and providing own food. We suggest the people spread themselves over the plains, e.g. some at Wallaces, ditto Cope Hut, Langfords aqueduct camp and Strawberry Saddle. No camping around Wilky please.

For those who would like to come but can't get into the clubrooms, please let Doug Pocock know on

A tentative timetable is:

Bring: folding chairs for Saturday afternoon, and suitable slides for Saturday night.

Saturday morning: Walk to Rocky Knobs and Wilkinson's plaque

We may need some cooks and slushies - any volunteers?

Saturday afternoon: Celebrations

Would anybody like to organise mini-bus/buses? Please contact Jean Giese.

Saturday evening: Slide show at Rover Chalet

**Doug Pocock**

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 March edition is Wednesday 3 March 1993.

### CONSERVATION SUB-COMMITTEE

The Conservation Sub-Committee meets every 2 months and is open to all Club members.

The next meeting is **Wednesday 31 March** at 7.30 in the clubrooms.

Why don't *you* come along and get involved in protecting the great areas we walk in!

*Liz Telford*

### WHERE IS "THE ALPINE WALKING TRACK?"

Has anybody borrowed "The Alpine Walking Track" by John Siseman? If so, could you please return it to the clubrooms.

Members are welcome to borrow books from the Club library (the cupboard at the far end of the clubrooms), but books should not be removed without recording relevant details in the notebook provided for borrowers.

### DAY WALKS - MARCH 1993

#### **SUN 28 FEB 93 CAPE WOOLAMAI - FORREST CAVES EASY & MEDIUM**

LEADER : ALAN TOMSETT & CHRIS LYNCH  
TRANSPORT : BUS FROM SOUTH BANK BLVD. AT 9.00 A.M. \*\*\*  
EXPECTED RETURN : 7.00 P.M.  
MAP REFERENCE : PHILLIP ISLAND SPECIAL 1:25,000  
APPROX DISTANCE : ? KM

\*\*\* In last month's NEWS, Transport was shown as Private. This was an error. \*\*\*

This walk involves beach, rock and track walking around Cape Woolamai. There are excellent views of Cape Patterson, San Remo, Mornington Peninsular and Churchill and French Islands. Cape Woolamai is a reserve for a large colony of short-tailed shearwaters (Mutton Birds).

#### **SUN. 7 MAR 93 DOM DOM SADDLE - DONNELLY'S WEIR EASY & MEDIUM**

LEADERS : PETER MCGRATH & ALAN MILLER  
TRANSPORT : BUS FROM SOUTH BANK BLVD. AT 9.00 A.M.  
EXPECTED RETURN : 7.30 P.M.  
MAP REFERENCE : MAINLY MONDA 1:25,000, STARTING ON MARYSVILLE,  
FINISHING ON JULIET SOUTH, BOTH 1:25,000  
APPROX DISTANCE : 13 & 17 KM

The walks will be mainly along tracks through eucalypt forests containing some fine stands of Mountain Ash (*eucalyptus regnans*). The area is on the edge of the Maroondah Water catchment beyond Healesville. There should be no leeches! Bring water.

**MON 8 MAR 93 WESTGATE PARKLANDS - YARRA MOUTH EASY**

LEADER : ATHOL SCHAFER  
 TRANSPORT : TRAM  
 MEETING PLACE : 10.00 A.M. NEAR INFORMATION DESK, GROUND LEVEL, SPENCER STREET STATION  
 EXPECTED RETURN : 4.00 P.M.  
 MAP REFERENCE : MELWAYS 56,57

A visit to a number of parks, gardens and wetlands - some recently developed - at the western end of Hobsons Bay and the Lower Yarra area. The walk also takes in the old colonial sector of Port Melbourne.

**SUN 14 MAR 93 CAPE SCHANCK FROM BOTH DIRECTIONS EASY & EASY/MED**

LEADERS : JOHN ROSEMAN & GEORGE ZAMORA  
 TRANSPORT : BUS FROM SOUTH BANK BLVD. AT 9.00 A.M.  
 EXPECTED RETURN : 7.00 P.M.  
 MAP REFERENCE : CAPE SCHANCK 1:25,000  
 APPROX DISTANCE : 12-16 KM

The easy walk will start from Cape Schanck going towards St Andrews beach. The walk will start off in the vegetation area, then descend to the beach. This is a good swimming beach and there are some nice rock swimming holes, very isolated from the crowds. Also there are beautiful sea-shells all along the beach. Don't forget to bring your bathers and sun-block.

The easy-medium walk will start before Cape Schanck, then follows the same route as the easy group from there.

**WED 17 MAR 93 WESTERNPORT BEACHES EASY/MEDIUM**

LEADER : JOAN HAIGH  
 TRANSPORT : PRIVATE  
 MEETING PLACE : 8.30 A.M. JEAN GIESE'S, 9 ALBERT CRES, SURREY HILLS, OR  
 10.00 A.M. CAR PARK, POINT LEO SURF BEACH  
 EXPECTED RETURN : 6.00 P.M.  
 MAP REFERENCE : MELWAY MAPS 196,197  
 APPROX DISTANCE : 14 KM

A beach walk to and from Flinders with time for a swim, weather permitting. At the end of the walk we'll have Devonshire Tea at Somers.

This section of the walk will complete the stretch from Sandy Point to Flinders by the Wednesday walkers over three years.

**SUN 21 MAR 93 MT. WORTH EASY & MEDIUM**

LEADERS : LIZ TELFORD & ELIZABETH SPRIGGS  
 TRANSPORT : BUS FROM SOUTH BANK BLVD. AT 9.00 A.M.  
 EXPECTED RETURN : 6.30 P.M.  
 MAP REFERENCE : MT. WORTH RANGER'S MAP  
 APPROX DISTANCE : 12 & 14 KM

The park is a superb pocket of rainforest in the Strzelecki Ranges that has survived the clearer's axe. The walk is on tracks through forests that include tall mountain ash, mountain grey gum and silver wattle, with tree ferns lining the creeks. Bird life is abundant. There are also panoramic views of the green rolling hills of the Latrobe Valley.

**SAT 27 MAR 93      DANDENONG EXPLORER: 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

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 March 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.

**SUN 28 MAR 93      PORTARLINGTON - EDWARDS POINT      EASY & EASY/MED**

LEADERS : ANDREW LOW & RALPH BLAKE  
 TRANSPORT : BUS FROM SOUTH BANK BLVD. AT 9.00 A.M.  
 EXPECTED RETURN : 7.00 P.M.  
 MAP REFERENCE : MELWAY MAPS 239,240,241  
 APPROX DISTANCE : 13 & 18 KM

Two gentle beach walks are planned starting at Portarlington Peir for the easy-medium group, and Point George for the easy group. Both walks will follow the shoreline to the Wildlife Reserve at Edwards Point with the possibility of a full afternoon tea on the beach if conditions permit. (See leaders re afternoon tea.) We will pass the shipwreck of the paddle steamer *Ozone* and will no doubt have at least one opportunity to swim along the way.

**WEEKEND WALKS - MARCH 1993****5-8 MAR 93      GREY HILLS - MT BOGONG - MT NELSE      MEDIUM**

LEADER : MAX CASLEY  
 TRANSPORT : PRIVATE  
 EXPECTED RETURN : MONDAY EVENING  
 MAP REFERENCE : BOGONG ALPINE AREA 1:50,000  
 APPROX DISTANCE : 50 KM

We will start at Watchbed Creek on the Bogong High Plains and go to Mt Nelse, the Spion Kopje Spur and along the Grey Hills to camp at Bogong Creek Saddle. If this camp site appeals to us we will stay here both nights and walk up Quartz Ridge and explore Mt Bogong with day packs. Then on Monday we will walk over Timms Lookout and look at the waterfalls on the way back to our cars. (Depending on the group, a more energetic alternative may be to carry our packs over Mt Bogong and follow the Alpine Walking Track via Ropers, camping on the Big River.)

Come along - it should be a great walk.

**5-8 MAR 93      INTRODUCTION TO WILKINSON LODGE      EASY**

LEADER : BOB STEEL & MICHAEL MANN  
 TRANSPORT : PRIVATE

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

**6-8 MAR 93      KING ISLAND, TASMANIA      EASY**

LEADER : DAVID VINCENT  
 TRANSPORT : LIGHT AIRCRAFT AND HIRE CAR  
 EXPECTED RETURN : 6.00 P.M. MONDAY

King Island, on the western end of the strait, is a picturesque, rugged island with an unspoilt coastline of sandy beaches. The island is famous for cheese and seafood (including the "king crab"). This walk will sample all these attractions and more. I plan to hire a car on the island from which we can undertake short walks. I also plan to bring some cheeses and seafood back to Melbourne. From King Island we will fly to Three Hummock Island for a day walk on the Monday. Three Hummock Island is between King Island and Tasmania.

We will depart Melbourne on the Saturday morning and arrive back on the Monday afternoon. The route will be via the Great Ocean Road to Cape Otway then south to King Island. For a group of six, including myself, the estimated cost of the aircraft hire is \$125 each.

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

**12-14 MAR 93      MITCHELL RIVER LILO TRIP      MEDIUM**

LEADER : MERILYN WHIMPEY  
 TRANSPORT : PRIVATE  
 EXPECTED RETURN : SUNDAY EVENING  
 MAP REFERENCE : STRATFORD 1:100,000  
 APPROX DISTANCE : 20 KM

Starting at the site planned for a dam (which may still be built) we blow up our lilos and paddle down this beautiful river. There are a couple of big, named rapids (which can be portaged by the faint-hearted), and numerous small rapids, interspersed with stretches of calm water. There is a short, steep climb at the end.

You'll need a lilo in good repair, preferably a box-walled one as they float well, a paddle (if you want to keep up), lots of patching material and Selley's Quick-Grip or equivalent. Wear clothing that will cover you from head to foot as there is no shade in the middle of the river. Runners are the best footwear. Two hats are a good idea in case you lose one. Plus the usual weekend walking gear, including a parka to keep out the wind.

Liloing on rapids is quite dangerous, so a buoyancy vest and a stack hat are strongly recommended.

**26-28 MAR 93      WILKINSON LODGE 60TH BIRTHDAY      EASY**

LEADER : DOUG POCOCK  
 TRANSPORT : PRIVATE  
 EXPECTED RETURN : SUNDAY EVENING  
 MAP REFERENCE : BOGONG ALPINE AREA 1:50,000

See article on front page.

**ANNUAL REPORTS 1992****PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

1992 has been a good year. We have had our difficulties but our main business - that of enjoying good walking and skiing together - has proceeded with enthusiasm. We agonised over the question of whether to sell our van or not, but once the final decision was made, we were able to sell at a good price and the hire bus arrangements have proved satisfactory.

A Conservation sub-committee was formed during the year enabling us to be more efficient in bringing conservation matters to the attention of members and making our contribution to public discussion.

Our publication "*The Melbourne Bushies - 50 Years Along the Track*" has had a long gestation period but the birth is imminent. I am sure everyone will agree that the extra time and effort have produced a book of which we can be proud. Watch for book-launch date.

Your Committee of Management has worked tirelessly and I thank them very much for their

efforts, time and patience. Some are not able to stand for re-election and I thank them for their contribution. Our Secretary, Derrick, cannot continue because of pressure of work but has been nominated for Vice-President, Janet being prepared to take on the job of Secretary, if elected. Special thanks to Alan Clarke and Marilyn Wimpey who stepped in during the year to fill the vacancies of Treasurer and Vice-President respectively.

So many members give a lot of time to the Club, either out front in leadership roles, or quietly behind the scenes, and on behalf of the whole membership which enjoys the fruits of those labours, I say thank you.

There are many new walking clubs throughout the suburbs and a centrally based one like ours could be adversely affected. However, this has not been the case and I'm sure 1993 will see us enjoying ourselves and offering a friendly introduction to bushwalking to many new chums.

*Jean Giese*

**WILKINSON LODGE REPORT FOR 1992**

I put most of my 1992 Wilky report in last November's *NEWS* so I refer readers to that edition. The only comments I have received related to point 6 (how the woodshed holds less than one winter's supply of wood and we may have go to a wood/briquette mix again if wood is used at last year's high rate).

I don't like briquettes, they are dirty, dusty and present an ash disposal problem, to say nothing of the awkward handling to get them in. This year there will be 2 loads (2 x 5 tonne) of wood taken in so it will not be seasoned at all except for that in the woodshed. Provided all groups are conscious of the need to conserve the wood in the woodshed for following winter groups then I think it best to put aside the idea of briquettes for 1993.

As mentioned in November, Wilky had a busy year and due to the new accounting system it is clearly financial enough to consider replacing the stove from its own funds. Summer 94 would be a good time for this.

I am not standing for Lodge Manager this year. Wilky is held with such affection within the Club that I think there should be ample candidates for the position. I can provide support in the transition but feel I cannot devote a full year to the position.

As a personal opinion I think it very important that we maintain the links we have developed with other clubs and kindred groups; these, and continuing good relations with the Parks Service are vital.

I'd particularly like to thank Doug Pocock for his support and the load he has taken on in organising Wilky's 60th birthday celebrations. There are many others I can thank, the enthusiasts who are always ready to muck in, but I would miss some and the *NEWS* editor would look darkly upon the amount of typing.

Thank you all.

*Graeme Thornton*

## WALK SECRETARY'S REPORT

Walks statistics for 1992 compared to previous years: (12 months January - December)

Year	Total	Day	Weekend Total	Weekend Packcarry	Members	Visitors	No. of Trips
1992	2630	2106	524	236	2090	540	134
1991	2993	2389	604	285	2317	676	140
1990	2842	2403	439	188	2131	711	130
1989	2584	2130	404	223	1815	764	120
1988	3020	2330	690	240	2280	740	127
1987	2800	2260	540	220	1950	850	125

Details for January - December 1992: (figures in brackets are for the previous year 1991)

Walk Type	No. of Trips		Average Attendance	
Sunday Bus	51	(51)	34.4	(37)
Pack Carry	31	(33)	8	(9)
Base Camp (includes 4 walk-in base camps)	15	(12)	13	(16)
Lodge, caravan, etc.	9	(9)	13	(14)
Wednesday	12	(11)	10	(14)
Dandenongs	8	(10)	15	(16)
Historical and Urban	7	(11)	13	(15)
Run & Climb	1	(-)	8	(-)
Ski Day	-	(3)	-	(7)
<b>Total Trips</b>	<b>134</b>	<b>(140)</b>		

- The figures for 1992 are generally lower than the previous five years, especially for the day walks. The Wednesday, Dandenongs and Historical walks are all slightly down in numbers but are still well supported. The main concern is the average attendance of Sunday bus trips has fallen from 37 to 34. We need to ensure that this trend does not continue, otherwise we will face financial loss as well as missing out on new members. We need to plan interesting walks to encourage people to come along and to welcome visitors to our walks.
- The overnight trips are solidly supported with some new walkers joining in. To encourage new backpackers we have had demonstrations of cooking and how to pack a lightweight rucksack. The hire equipment has been upgraded which makes it easier for people starting on overnight walking.
- Our Club should aim to increase bushwalking skills of all our members and especially our leaders. We can all improve our abilities to plan and organise a walk, to navigate and to deal with emergencies. Suggestions to achieve this are welcome. Also the new Committee will be pleased to hear from you about fresh ideas for both day and overnight walks.
- Many people helped run the Walks Programme including Alan Miller (Sunday walks), Rosemary Thomson (Wednesdays), Michael Humphrey (Dandenongs), Athol Schafer (Historical), Marilyn Whimpey, Bill Metzthen, Philip Larkin, Jean Giese (Walks Sub-committee), plus all our leaders - thanks to you all.

*Max Casley*

## MEMBERSHIP SECRETARYS REPORT

In 1992 the Melbourne Bushwalkers Club has received 59 new members into its ranks, many of whom have been in the 20-30 year old age group, which is always a positive sign for any organisation. But the most important factor is that these new people have been enthusiastic and have much to contribute to the Club in the future.

Insofar as numbers are concerned, while some members have not renewed their subscription, our position is almost the same as at the conclusion of the 1991-92 year.

Membership as at 8 February 1993:

Singles	275
Couples	47
Life members	9
Honorary members	13
 Total members	 391

*Chris Lyn*

### NEW MEMBERS

The Club would like to welcome the following new members:

Joseph Wrzesniewski

### CHANGES OF INFORMATION

Richard Chater

Michael Brooks

Bruce Sutherland

# **MORAN RIVER:**

## **April 25 - May 15 1993**

Situated just to the south of the Mitchell Plateau in the Kimberley, the Moran River is one of the least known and least accessible wilderness areas in Australia. It is also one of the most incredibly beautiful. The river gorges seem to go on forever. Aboriginal art sites, shady monsoon forest, waterfalls, abundant wildlife, good fishing - this area has it all. Although this will be only our fourth visit, **the Moran has a greater percent of repeat visits than any other area we visit.**

Two weeks is not enough to do justice to this magnificent area. Our trip lasts three. We will beat the problem of accessibility by using a combination of helicopters and light aircraft to get us to and from the walk and to set down a food drop at our halfway point. Although long distance helicopter rides are very expensive, we are so keen to ensure that this trip goes ahead that we are offering a substantial advance purchase discount to anyone booking before 10 March.

Write or phone for our 16 page brochure and ask for the Moran River trip notes.

**Willis's Walkabouts**  
**12 Carrington Street Millner NT 0810**  
**Tel (089) 852134      Fax (089) 852355**



### Half-Yearly General Meeting of the Melbourne Bushwalkers (Inc)

**Date:** 26 August 1992  
**Opened:** 8.02 pm  
**Chair:** Jean Giese  
**Present:** 27 members as in attendance book.

1. **Apologies:** Alan Clarke, Graeme Thornton
2. **Minutes:**

*Motion* - That the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 26 February 1992 be held as a true and accurate record of that meeting.  
P - Geoff Mattingley S - Doug Pocock. Carried.

*Motion* - That the minutes of the Extraordinary General Meeting held on 29 April 1992 be held as a true and accurate record of that meeting.  
P - Alan Miller S - Janet Norman Carried.

*Motion* - That the minutes of the Extraordinary General Meeting held on 10 June 1992 be held as a true and accurate record of that meeting.  
P - Sylvia Wilson S - Peter Havelicek Carried
3. **Business arising:**
  - 3.1 **Bequest of the late Alex Rolfe**  
It was suggested that the bequest be used to provide a fireproof box in which the Wilky logbooks could be safely stored. It was also suggested that alternatively a professional copy on microfilm might be made.  
**Action :** The Wilky sub-committee would examine these suggestions.
  - 3.2 **Bus**  
Arising from the EGM of 29 April a bus sub-committee was set up and reported back to the committee with three options: Buy another bus, hire, or buy or lease a bus in conjunction with a third party. It was decided that the preferred option was to continue to hire a bus.
  - 3.3 **Model Rules**  
Since the EGM's and the questions that had been raised regarding the proxy forms, we had raised the issue with the Corporate Affairs Office and we were awaiting a reply.
  - 3.4 **Elections**  
The position of Treasurer was open for election. Alan Clarke had been acting Treasurer and was proposed by Geoff Mattingley and seconded by Paul Gray. Carried.  
This left a position of vice-President open, since Alan Clarke could not hold both positions, and Marilyn Whimpey was proposed by Janet Norman and seconded by Mick Mann. Carried.
4. **Financial Report**  
Alan Clarke presented a financial report which showed that the club was in a healthy state and that no increases in bus fees were necessary so long as the number of Sunday walkers remained about the same as the recent average.  
**Motion:** "That the meeting accept the Treasurer's report" Proposed - Mick Mann, Seconded Bob Steel. Carried.
5. **Other Business**  
The matter of producing 'News' on re-cycled paper was raised. It was explained to the meeting that this was technically not possible at present due to the quality limitations of re-cycled paper and the demands of the copying process employed.  
**Action:** A note explaining this would be published in 'News'.  
The meeting closed at 9.32 p.m..

**COMMITTEE NOTES - 7 FEBRUARY 1993****BUSINESS ARISING:**

Walk fees - decision deferred to new Committee

**CORRESPONDENCE IN:**

Australia Post - questionnaire  
 Federation - Central Highlands National Park  
 Binna Burra Bushwalkers (Brisbane) - request to use Wilky

**CORRESPONDENCE OUT:**

Australia Post - questionnaire

**TREASURER'S REPORT AT 31 JAN 1993:**

	\$	\$
JANUARY RECEIPTS:	2,458	
JANUARY PAYMENTS:	2,579	
BALANCE:		
Current Account	5,536	
Reserves Account	52,000	
Postage float	500	<u>58,036</u>

**WALKS REPORT FOR DECEMBER:**

Total	Day walkers	W/E walkers	Members	Visitors	Fees
184	105	79	159	25	\$676
					not including President's W/E

Average number of Sunday walkers = 27.3.

**TRANSPORT**

A faster bus has been used on two Sundays, but some complaints about soft suspension for those sitting at the back.

**TRACK MAINTENANCE:**

Cement Creek instead of Richard's Tramline to be cleared in April.

**GENERAL BUSINESS:**

57 telephone enquiries received in January by new Club contact

**DUTY ROSTER:**

Feb	17	Janet & Chris
Feb	24	Gina & Marilyn
Mar	3	Jean & Alan M

**NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING:** 1 March 1993 at 7.00pm

---