



# The NEWS

of the

## MELBOURNE BUSHWALKERS INC.

NOVEMBER 1997

EDITION 561

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PRICE 60 cents

### Christmas Party !!



Everyone is welcome  
Come and help celebrate the conclusion of another  
successful year for the Melbourne Bushwalkers  
**Wednesday December 17<sup>th</sup>**  
**7pm onwards**

**St Michaels Community Hall**  
**cnr Macpherson St & McIlwraith St**  
**North Carlton**  
(Melways Map 29 J 12)

*Please bring*  
**Plate of Food to share**

**All drinks supplied**

Lucky door prizes

BYO Glass/Mug

Come dressed in Christmas Spirit and reminisce,  
renew old acquaintances, plan new trips and have a  
really good time

Bring some music with you on tapes or CDs.

*Also if you have a portable CD/Tape player we could  
borrow please contact Marisa on*

### Slide Night

**Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> November**  
**8.00pm Clubrooms**

Les Southwell's slides on  
**Fraser Island**

Les Southwell will be showing his slides of Fraser Island,  
the largest sand island in the world.

In 1975 the Federal Government held an  
environmental enquiry into sandmining and forestry,  
which eventually resulted in the island being  
dedicated as a major national park and world  
heritage area.

As part of the campaign, Les was commissioned by  
the Australian Conservation Foundation to provide  
color photographs for the book, "Incredible Fraser  
Island"



### Happy Hour & Dinner

**Friday 21<sup>st</sup> November**  
**6.30pm**

**"The Flying Duck Hotel"**  
**Courtyard**  
**67 Bendigo St Prahran**

Final numbers by Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> November  
Please phone Marisa on

### Leaders Training Day

**15<sup>th</sup> November 1997**  
contact Derrick Brown

### Wilky Spring Clean Work Party

**14-16<sup>th</sup> November**  
contact Doug Pocock

### Otway WalkFest

**15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> November**  
see article inside

## From the President

Some of us are making the most of the last minute chances for skiing (yes, there's still some snow around) while others are now getting serious about weekend walking again. The walks programme looks terrific and offers many opportunities for all grades of walks. The Sunday walks remain extremely popular with the list filling quickly each week. If you are a Sunday walker you may wish to think about trying the more serious stuff. Don't forget that the Club has a range of equipment to hire - at very reasonable rates - to make it easy to try out week-end walking without making a hole in the pocket.

At the time of writing we have only received five responses to the Sunday bus survey so if you feel strongly about this issue then you'd better let us know, quickly, because the Committee will be considering this soon (the questionnaire appeared in the October **News**).

The latest news on the clubrooms is that the Federal government is now involved as well as the State government in deciding the future of the heritage building! We are safe for the next few months, it would appear, but we are keeping options in mind.

*Derrick Brown*

### Wilky

**All food lockers are to be emptied by the end of the year. Please return any tea towels**

**The NEWS** is the official newsletter of the Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc. and is published monthly.  
Edited by **Judy Gipps**.

Articles, walk reports, poems, snippets of news, reports of new gear, book reviews, letters "to the Editor", advertisements, etc are always welcome. The Editor reserves the right to edit articles, letters or other contributions, where space, clarity or propriety dictate. and to maintain editorial consistency

Please note that articles for **The NEWS** may be :  
**placed in the Red Box** in the clubrooms or  
**mailed to Judy Gipps,**  
**faxed to me on**

#### Advertising Rates

**¼ Page** 1 Issue-\$20; 3 Issues-\$50; 12 Issues (1 year)-\$180  
**½ Page** 1 Issue-\$30; 3 Issues-\$75; 12 issues-\$270  
**Full Page** 1 issues-\$50; 3 issues-\$125; 12 issues-\$450

Only advertisements directly relating to bushwalking will be accepted (eg gear, maps, trips, tours)

**Members Ads - FREE**

Closing Date for **DECEMBER 97 News** is 26th November 97



*Alan Ide & Pam Kirkham have announced their engagement.*

*Congratulations and best wishes from all of us.*



**Walks Western  
Australia**

Fax: (08) 9734 5889

**Melbourne Office**

Phone: (03) 9827 3253

Discover the legendary wildflowers, animals and landscape of the South West corner of Australia. Walks are organised and guided by Bushwacker, Les Mutton, a professional biologist with long experience on walking paths of Australia and Central Africa.

We offer a variety of packages in splendid bush settings:

- Base camps, in cottage accommodation, with diverse day walks.
- Custom-designed expeditions for groups looking for physical challenges.
- Opportunities for nature photography and bird watching.
- Catering is provided. Packs may be transported for you.

Our costs are very reasonable, starting at \$30 per day, per person for groups of ten.

Meetings are held in the Clubrooms, MacKenzie St., Melbourne  
(rear of the Royal Horticultural Society building)  
on **WEDNESDAY** Evenings between 7.00pm and 9.00pm.

*Visitors are always welcome.*

General correspondence should be directed to:  
The Secretary, Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc.  
PO Box 1751Q, MELBOURNE 3001

## Previews for December Day Walks and one for November

**Sunday 23rd November 1997** Lederderg Gorge  
Easy/Medium & Medium

**Leaders:** Chin Teck & Fulvia Collavo  
**Transport:** Bus from Southbank Boulevard at 9.00 am

For the easy/medium part of the walk there will be spectacular views of the gorge and wild life. Other sights are an old abandoned hut, an unknown mine (bring a torch) and THE TUNNEL. We will be crossing the Lederderg river twice so be prepared to get your feet wet !!! There is also the opportunity to get the heart going with two short sharp climbs.

With the medium walk there will be the additional distance, the opportunity to view some mines and O'Briens crossing.

**Sunday 7th December 1997** Mt Disappointment  
Easy/Medium & Medium

**Leaders:** John Kittson & Fay Pratt  
**Transport:** Bus from Southbank Boulevard at 9.00 am  
**Area:** North of Whittlesea  
**Distance from Melbourne** 65 km  
**Expected time of return:** 7.00pm  
**Approximate length of walk:** 14 & 22 km  
**Map Reference** Kinglake West 1:25,000

The walk will be in a nice forested area of tracks. Both groups will start and finish at the Mt Disappointment Picnic Ground. We will walk to the summit, where the views are blocked by trees, but the spot is marked with an old trig point. Good views are to be had later on along Harpers Creek Road.

The two walks are of a similar standard but the medium is just that few kilometres longer.

**Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> December 1997** Somers Beach  
Easy

**Leaders:** Joan Haigh  
**Transport:** Private  
**Area:** Mornington Peninsula  
**Expected time of return:** 5.30pm  
**Approximate length of walk:** 14 km  
**Map Reference** Melways Maps 194 & 195

Meet in parking area opposite the Somers Store at 10am or Jean Giese's, Surrey Hills at 8.45 am. The walk will be along the beach at Sandy Point and beyond as far as possible then back the same way. Time for swim if the weather is right.

**Leaders buying maps which they will get the club to purchase should get them laminated.**

**Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> December 1997** Captain Creek  
Easy & Easy/Medium - Wombelano - Little Bobby Ck

**Leaders:** Jean Giese & Stuart Mann  
**Transport:** Bus from Southbank Boulevard at 9.00 am  
**Area:** Northern King Lake National Pk  
**Expected time of return:** 6.30pm  
**Approximate length of walk:** 12 & 18 km  
**Map Reference** Kinglake Natn't Pk Outdoor Leisure Map 1:25,000

Both walks will commence at "The Gums" camping area and follow the very pleasant walking track upstream beside Inland Creek. We then climb 180m on tracks in the forest to the ridge which separates the watersheds of Island & Captain Creeks. The descent to visit Wombelano Falls will follow then, while the easier group makes its way to the bus, the medium group will go down through the bush to cross Captain Creek and climb up to Candlebark Track. If there's one thing about Kinglake you can be sure of its that there are plenty of ups and downs - but that's good for us !

**Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> December 1997** Ada Tree  
Easy/Medium & Medium

**Leaders:** Peter McGrath & Pauline Williams  
**Transport:** Bus from Southbank Boulevard at 9.00 am  
**Area:** Powelltown & Noojee (Upper Yarra State Forest)  
**Expected time of return:** 7.00 pm  
**Approximate length of walk:** 17 & 20 km  
**Map Reference** Ada River 1:25,000 & McCarthy 1:25,000

This walk goes through some of the prettiest country outside Melbourne, scene of some tragic bushfires and an essential part of Melbourne's water catchment area. The routes have not yet been finally decided but you can be rest assured these walks will conform to club standards - 17kms (Easy/Medium) and 20 kms (Medium). Both walks will visit the Ada Tree - a whopping big eucalypt surrounded by some of the best beech myrtle to be found. On the preview, a clear hot spring day, this forest proved a refreshing place to be. I therefore recommend this walk to you.

**Please note there will be no walk on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> December 1997**

### For Sale

**Back Pack**  
Caribee Lhotse 70 litre, Teal Green. Only used twice, excellent condition.  
\$150

## Previews for December Weekend & Pack-Carry Walks

**5-7 December 1997**      **St Gwinear - Mustering Flat**  
**Easy**      **Mt Erica**

**Leaders:** Peter Gipps  
**Transport:** Private  
**Length:** Approx 17 kms  
**Maps:** Mount Baw Baw & Tyers Junction 1:25,000

The walk starts from the Mt St Gwinear Carpark and winds its way upwards to Jeep Track Flat then to the summit of Mt St Gwinear. Descending from the summit we follow the track along a short way before turning northwest and crossing Gwinear Flat and climbing gently to the southern most point of Mustering Flat. This is reputed to be one of the prettiest camping areas in Victoria. Having set up camp we will do some short walks to explore the area (if so inclined).

On day 2 we will strike southwest to Mt St Phillack and the Alpine Walking Track. Turning to follow this south east we have a relatively flat walk to Talbot Peak and Mt Erica. We will start descending slowly past The Mushroom Rocks, to finish at the Mt Erica carpark.

**12-14 December**      **Upper Wongungarra River**  
**Medium/Hard**

**Leaders:** Ralph Blake  
**Transport:** Private  
**Approximate length of walk:**  
**Map Reference:** Dargo Plains - Cobungra 1:50,000  
**Area:** Near Mt Hotham  
**Expected return:** Late Sunday night  
**Approx Distance:** 30 km

This rather energetic walk will start at Mt St Bernard and we hope to visit The Twins, Mt Murray and Mt Blue Rag. Saturday night camp will be somewhere on the Wongungarra River.

There will be some steep ups and downs and walking off track. This trip is suitable for experienced bushwalkers only.

**26-1 Jan**      **Stanley Name Spur - Mt Howitt -**  
**Easy/Medium**      **Mt Speculation - The Cobbler**

**Leaders:** Jean Giese  
**Transport:** Private  
**Approximate length of walk:** 75km km  
**Map Reference:** Howitt - Selwyn 1:25,000

We'll commence at Stanley's Name Gap at 9.30 and slowly climb the 350m up the spur (with Ups and downs between) to camp in a saddle just below the Cross Cut Saw. Day 2 we ascend the last 300m and drop packs to spend the remainder of the day exploring Mt Howitt and going onto Mt Magdala and return, collecting packs and making camp above Macalister Springs. Day 3 will see us heading off across the Cross

Cut Saw to camp at Speculation. Day 4 we take the 4WD track to camp near Lake Cobler. Day 5 will be spent without packs again on 4WD tracks climbing Mt Cobler and visiting nearby falls, then it's back to Circuit Rd via King hut. Again on 4WD track.

Party limited to 12. Expect any kind of weather..

**26<sup>th</sup> Dec - 4<sup>th</sup> Jan 1997**      **Alpine Track**  
**Medium**

**Leaders:** Bill Metzenth  
**Transport:** Private  
**Map Reference:** Natmap 1:100k :  
Howitt, Mansfield, Matlock  
**Distance:** About 175 km  
**Limit:** 8

Two years ago, I led a trip along the northern end of the Australian Alps Walking Track (AAWT). This time I will be doing the other end.

Although closer to home, the logistics of this section are more difficult and the details of the trip will depend upon the exact numbers of people who wish to join the trip. It is essential that I know who is coming as soon as possible, therefore I am asking you to decide whether you want to come and let me know by the 3rd December.

If you decide after that date then please don't expect me to organize your transportation, etc.

Note that depending upon numbers, the walk may need to start on the afternoon of the 25th of December.

By definition, this walk will all be on a track. The section of track we will walk will be roughly from the King Billies to Walhalla, walking an average of a bit less than 20 km per day. For the statistically inclined, the total amount of height gained (by walking uphill) will be around 7.5 km.

Most of the walk will be well above 1000m asl, with a few descents into river valleys and subsequent long climbs out.

Any weather conditions are possible, equipment suitable for blizzard conditions in alpine areas, as well as containers suitable for carrying water for a day, must be taken. Campfires may be not possible on some days due either to driving rain or high bushfire danger.

For anyone who might be interested, I am contemplating doing a linking walk immediately before this one. It would start somewhere around the Bogong High Plains on the previous weekend.

26<sup>th</sup> Dec - 3<sup>rd</sup> Jan 98  
 Medium/Hard

Tingaringy -  
 Byadbo(Snowy River)

Leaders: Doug Pocock  
 Transport: Private  
 Area: Southern Section Kosciusko Nat Park  
 Expected time of return: Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> Jan  
 Approximate length of walk: 120 km  
 Map Reference: Tombong  
 & Numbla Vale 1:50000(CMA NSW)

There doesn't seem to be much information about this area. The ranger I spoke to said "I've never seen anyone walking there". All the more reason to have a look !!!

This is the area N.E of Suggan Buggan where the Snowy River does a big loop to the north before flowing south to the sea. Hilly, dry country, predominantly Murray River Pines. There are large falls on the Snowy (not shown on the map) just before a gorge. After that lovely sandy beaches along quiet sections of the Snowy. Lots of swimming (togs optional)

Typical of my Christmas walks planned from a map it is graded medium hard though I hope it won't be. Be prepared to carry water.

26<sup>th</sup> Dec - 4<sup>th</sup> Jan 98  
 Medium/Hard

Upper Shoalhaven  
 Lilo Trip

Leaders: Jopie Bodegraven  
 Transport: Private

The Shoalhaven river south of Braidwood in NSW, flows north across a plateau and then descends over several kilometres into a spectacular 600m deep gorge which continues most of the way to its estuary at Nowra. We will launch our lilos near Oatlers Ford on the plateau and follow the river as it descends through its gorge to our exit point at Bungonia where a sheer sided limestone gorge comes in. The scenery is superb especially the descent section where we will have many waterfalls and rapids to portage with lots of rockhopping. The descent can only be done in relatively low flows which luckily often occur around Christmas. If water levels are too high we will enter the gorge below the river descent and visit some other scenic bushwalking areas nearby with any spare time.

The intention is to have a reasonably leisurely trip with lots of swimming, but the grading is medium/hard because of the length, remoteness and the amount of rockhopping involved.

Everyone of course must be competent swimmers and life jackets and helmets are compulsory for safety. You will need a paddle and a boxed lilo.

The 26<sup>th</sup> will be spent travelling to Oatlers Ford and the car shuffle will probably take half a day. This will give

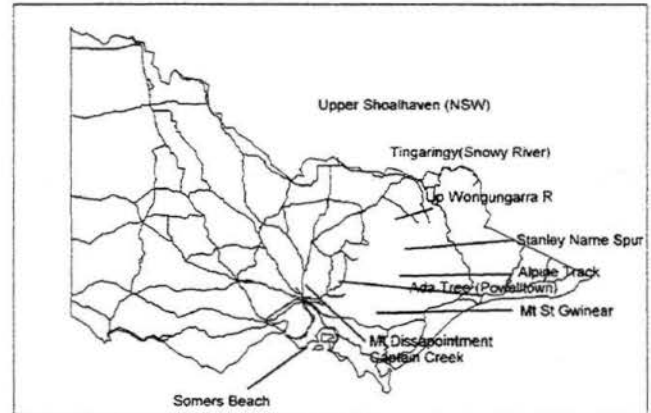
us 6 and 2 half days in the river. Campsites are mostly lovely sandbanks and there are lots of swimming spots.

26<sup>th</sup> Dec - 4<sup>th</sup> Jan 98  
 Easy

High Plains  
 Base Camp

This walk is still being organised. It will probably be held in the Mt Cope area of the High Plains and if you are interested please contact Pearson Cressell on

Details in the December News.



**Walk with a Club**

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Please make cheques payable to -  
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## Whipstick Base Camp

Growing in the Whipstick Forest in patches open and sunny  
Red Ironbark, Grey Box and Yellow Gum are much prized for their honey.

There's Bull Mallee in abundance and Kamerooka too  
But the eucalypts harvested for their oil are the Green Mallee and the Blue.

On a hot weekend in October fifteen bushies went  
To see the flowers, watch the birds and walk to our content.  
One new bird was spotted, some plants identified  
But some we couldn't name at all no matter how we tried.

The dams were placed at intervals, thank goodness folds for that  
For all of us were sweltering hot and swam without a hat.  
At one such dam the sides sloped down, smooth and shiny steep  
Great to slide in, but how to get out? Impossible to leap!  
An entrepreneur with fallen branch and nothing else besides  
Held out our salvation as we climbed back up the sides.

At camp we drank and reminisced on this hot October day  
When one young lady with sudden shock found her car keys locked away.  
Keys in car, oh what to do? But mobile phones abounded.  
The RACV from Bendigo were really not astounded.  
"Happens often", as they said, so we were all relieved  
A cheer went up when they opened the door and her sleeping bag retrieved.

The Kamerooka Forest was drier still by far  
Not the roads that one would choose to drive a shiny car.  
But up the tracks we made our way, to step out fresh and bright  
When a snake bumped into someone's shoe, and gave itself a fright.

Mine shafts were dotted here and there, so we all took extra car  
But made it back to our waterhole, where we bathed and combed our hair.  
In the cars and back to Melbourne, with one more stop to go  
The most important stop of all, ice creams in Bendigo.

**Thanks to leader Gina Hopkins**

**who was accompanied by Alan, Amanda, Bev, Cameron, Derrick, Douglas, Geoff, Jean, Jenny, Jerry,  
Lance, Max, Neils, Rod**

### Walk the Wet in Comfort

10 days: January 4-13 1998

**Kakadu, Katherine Gorge, Litchfield  
and more: our first fully accommodated  
wet season bushwalking trip.**

The land is green and lush, every waterfall is  
at its magical best. The daily walks are all long  
enough to show you places that the 4WD  
tourists will never see.

Without a full pack, walking is easy. You cover a  
good distance and still have time for swimming,  
photography, birdwatching and relaxing.  
Every night you come back to a dry bed and a  
good meal. **What more could you ask?**

For more  
information  
about these  
trips and the rest  
of our bushwalking  
program contact:

**Willis's Walkabouts 12 Carrington St Millner NT 0810**

### Kimberley Coast Expedition

5 Weeks: March - April 1998

Space is going fast. Get in now or wait  
another year.

What's it like? The photo on the back page of  
the July 1997 issue of Wild magazine was  
taken on our 1995 trip.

Waterfalls, gorges, beautiful pools we have to  
ourselves and a wealth of Aboriginal rock art  
combine to make this one of Australia's best  
wilderness experiences.

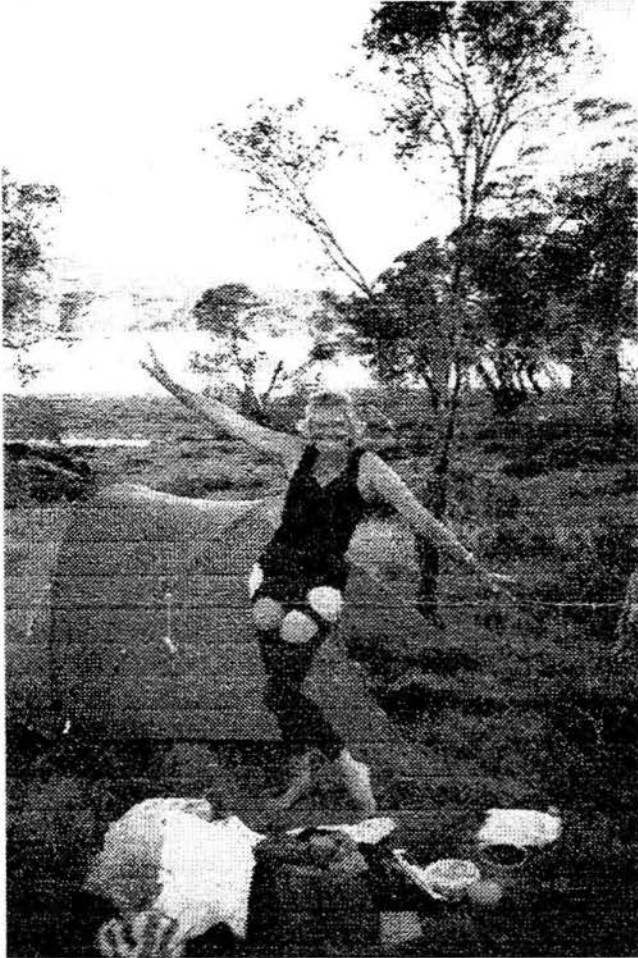
**Too long? Hop on the seaplane that  
brings in our food drops  
and you can do any  
part of the trip.**

Isn't it time  
you experienced it for yourself?



**Phone: (08) 8985 2134**

**Fax: (08) 8985 2355**



**Jean turn 70**

Jean Giese celebrated her 70<sup>th</sup> Birthday in October and the above photo was printed on her party teshirt. In case you were wondering the above tights are bright red and they apparently acquired the holes to let some air in during a very hot Christmas walk a couple of years ago where the area was infested with March flies.

### Looking for Leadbeaters

Environment Victoria are looking for Possum Spotters. A minibus will leave Melbourne in the afternoon on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays returning later that evening for The Central Highlands 1 and a half hours away. Possums are surveyed by a technique called stagwatching. During daylight hours trees with hollows are identified. Just before dusk, a volunteer is stationed at the base of each of these trees for about an hour recording how many and which species emerge. The information is collated over a number of visits and is vital to knowing how many are left and how best they should be managed. All you have to do is look out for Leadbeaters.

There is a brochure in the club or contact Environment Victoria, Project Possum, 19 O'Connell St, Melbourne or call Ruth Singer during office hours on (03) 9438 9044

## Conservation Forum

I'd like to extend a couple of the issues raised in last months News. Both are from letter to the Editor.

The first is Janet Norman's letter about the Clubs' support, at the Half Yearly General Meeting, of the proposed Refuge Cove to Light House track in Wilson's Prom. The second is Stephen Lake's letter re the intrusion of the Hotham/Falls Creek helicopter shuttle into the tranquillity of the Bogong National Park.

Both are harbingers of things to come and as such raise issues that the Club are going to have to deal with.

I presume the Half Yearly General Meeting saw the Prom track as a good thing in that it provided another track for walkers to walk. I see something more manipulative and potentially divisive in the track. To me the primary purpose of the track is to provide a circuit for commercial tours around the Prom - and to keep us quiet it has been presented as something for us. And it is too, a nice track through spectacular wilderness and coastline. I have to agree with Janet. I think the track is an unnecessary intrusion into a remote area - we don't have very much remoteness left in Victoria.

Also, I think the track is, by itself, likely to be the least of our problems with intrusion into the Prom. Commercialisation of the Prom is going to bring the same problem as Stephen refers to in his letter - the noise of the low flying helicopters. Bill Metzenthen and Derrick Brown have also commented on this. The helicopters are supposed to "fly neighbourly" but clearly they don't.

It is my understanding that the commercial lodges at the lighthouse are to be permitted to be supplied by helicopter, as required, provided that they "fly neighbourly". The flights are not to carry guests to the lodges.

Now, this is where I became very suspicious. There would clearly be a good little earner in providing tourist helicopter flights around the Prom. So, is a passenger who gets on a lighthouse "supply" flight but is not a guest and/or does not even get off at the lighthouse in breach of the spirit of the development. I wonder? Under such circumstances the pilot would be under a lot of pressure to ignore the "fly neighbourly" rules - just as they do at Hotham - Falls.

This would detract enormously from the Prom's value for solitude and considerably diminish the enjoyment of the proposed new track. What do you think?

*Graeme Thornton (4/11/97)*

## CUP DAY WEEKEND WALK

### Razor-Viking Circuit

Leader Alan Ide

After last years epic walk which included a broken ankle, torrential rain, stomach upsets and broken down cars, it seemed only natural to attempt to do the walk again this year.

Eight of us, including our intrepid leader Alan and five other "veterans" of last years walk, watched nervously as it rained all day Friday and most of the night before the start of the walk. The Howitt Road was a quagmire which delayed us but the weather began to clear as we set off towards Macalister Springs. We avoided collecting any water here as we suspected this may have been the cause of last years upset stomachs.

The gale force winds that I had said were forecast failed to materialise so we set off across the Cross Cut Saw and up to Mt Speculation. By this stage it was clear and sunny. Under a knarled old snow gum on the summit of My Speculation, Alan proposed to Pam, proving just how romantic bushwalkers are. He was to say later that the Viking had been an alternative place to propose, Mt Despair was a last resort and Mt Buggy was out of the question.

Day two was to have been an easy 7 km stroll to the Viking saddle where Rod optimistically suggested we would have lunch. The track was very slippery, uneven and slow however. It took us an hour and a half to go 1 km but we were rewarded with spectacular views of the Razor. We arrived at our campsite in Viking Saddle late afternoon.

Day three began with a steep climb up the Viking and a scramble (with the help of a rope) through "the keyhole" to the top of the cliff line. We had misty views with clouds swirling eerily around us. We then descended to the Wonnangatta River for our last night. It was mosquito infested, had leeches, involved two river crossings and Alan got bitten by bull ants but apart from this was a very pleasant camp site. Rod shared around his second packet of chocolate biscuits (thanks Rod) and Stan showed us his lingerie, which he claimed was a mosquito net (sure Stan)

Our final day involved a log walk back up to the car park through beautiful wild flowers. (Mint bush, egg and bacon, native wisteria and grevillea to name a few). We were weary but understood why this is one of Victoria's classic walks.

Congratulations to Alan and Pam on their engagement and our thanks to Alan for doing his usual excellent job in leading a remarkably "incident free" walk.

The Razor - Viking Circuit 1997 party were :-  
Alan, Pam, Marisa, Adam, Sak, Marika, Stan and Rod.

*Adam Read*

## Letter to the Editor

*Extract of letter from Russel Willis of Willis Walkabouts.*

The Kakadu authorities have just produced draft plans for Jim Jim and Twin Falls, Maguk (Barramundi) and Graveside. There is a lot on the plans for which they should be commended. There are a few things which are detrimental to anyone who may wish to walk in Kakadu in the future. This letter is an attempt to drum up any support I can to prevent certain closures.

One proposal is completely close the Graveside track for one week in every four to allow the traditional owners unrestricted access. They "own" the park. It's a hassle I don't like but I'm not sure if it can be prevented.

Another proposal is to ban one of the things which many have done and enjoyed - the climb down the chimney ('the chute') at Twin Falls.

The closure is proposed in the name of safety. This particular climb is, in my opinion, less dangerous than several parts of the accepted walking routes. If it happens, it may be the beginning of the end of remote area bushwalking in Kakadu.

My submission objecting to this closure will only be one small voice. It will not stop it. However, if enough people write in to protest, one of the highlights of bushwalking in Kakadu may remain open to the public. I'd like to encourage you and anyone else who might be interested to write in and protest.

Submissions should be sent by **28 November** to

The Planning Officer  
Kakadu National Park  
PO Box 71  
Jabiru NT 0886

If you would like to receive copies of any of the proposed area plans (Jim Jim & Twin Falls, Maguk (Barramundi) and Graveside), please fax Sandy Toth at Kakadu Park headquarters on

*On the back of his letter is a few comments from his draft submission. I will put this up on the noticeboard in the clubrooms.*

Many thanks for whatever support you and any other members can give.

*Russel Willis  
Willis Walkabouts  
(See Add in Newsletter)*



**New/Add members**

CHARLIE DARVAS

MEGAN HATFIELD

TRISH NATHAN

CHRISTINA VAKIS

**Altered Address/Phone**

CHARLES CUTLER

SYLVIA FORD

TRACY GUEST / GRAEME THORNTON

DAVID LAING

ELIZABETH MOORE

**OTWAY WALKFEST**

**15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> November**

The trans Otway Walking Association has organised a weekend of daywalks in the area of the prepared TRANS OTWAY WALK.

They'll be in the upper Cumberland River area and Upper Wild Dog Valley, 10km plus each.

This is a chance to have a good walk in a beautiful area down in the Otways(near Lorne) and see for yourselves what the story is with the proposed Trans Otway Walk following the beautiful, somewhat controversial slide night given by John Piese earlier in the year.

For more information call..

John Piese (AH)  
Ann Wilkins (AH)

**Committee Reports**

**Treasurer:** Accounts for October 1997

Opening Balance	\$58,909.74
Receipts	\$3,940.29
Payments	\$2,970.63
Closing Balance	\$59,879.40

**Walks Secretary:** Attendances for September 97

	<b>Trips</b>	<b>Av</b>	<b>1996</b>
Sunday Bus	4	40	37.3
Pack Carry	0		0
Base Camps	2	18.5	-
Wed, Hist, Dandenong	2	13	11
Cancelled	3		

**Membership:**

Life Members	<b>11</b>
Honorary Members	10
Single Memberships	362
Family Memberships (2x 44 = )	88
<b>Total membership</b>	<b>471</b>

**Duty Roster**

19 <sup>th</sup> November	Stephen & Bernie
26 <sup>th</sup> November	Bill & Ralph
3 <sup>rd</sup> December	Judy & Marisa

Next committee meeting 1<sup>st</sup> December, 1997

**For Sale**

**Walk**

5 for \$2

For those new to the club **Walk** magazine was published by the club from 1968 to 1987 and is in a small magazine format and has valuable descriptions of walks and is well worth reading. Various surplus copies are available.

Ask in the clubrooms.

**You should always ring the leader if you cancel a trip which you said you would be going on.**

## Walks in November 1997

Date	Location		Standard	Leader
14-16 Nov	Machinery Spur	Private	Medium	Cameron McMillan
Sat 15 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Sugarloaf Reservoir	Private		Derrick Brown
Sun 16 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Hughes Creek	Bus	EM & M	Brian Croouch
Wed 19 Nov	Warrandyte Park	Private	E/M	Jean Giese
21-23 Nov	Cape Otway-Johanna Beach	Private	E/M	Pearson Cresswell
Sat 22 Nov	Dandenongs	Private	Easy	Michael Humphreys
Sun 23 Nov	Lederberg Gorge	Bus	E/M & M	Chin Tek
28-30 Nov	Mt Buffalo - Base Camp	Private	Easy	Carol Tidey
28-30 Nov	Mt Buffalo - Big Walk	Private	M/Hard	Bill Metzenthien
Sun 30 Nov	Murrindindi	Bus	E/M & M	Sue Ralston

The NEWS of the Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc

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