



# The News

of the

## Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc



A0000133X

**MARCH, 2000**



**Join with other  
Bushies and have a  
fun Mystery Movie  
Night**

Thursday 13 April, 2000. See Fiona Gallery, Social Secretary, in the Clubrooms on a Wednesday or phone her on for more details

**60th Anniversary Picnic at Gilwell Park  
Gembrook**

BBQ from 12 noon

The day walk will finish at Gilwell Park at 3pm for afternoon tea with past & present members.

Contact Fiona or Jenny for more details and to RSVP.

There will be a charge of \$2 to cover costs.



### *Out with the Old and in with the New*

Committees of 1999 and 2000 joined by new honorary member, Margaret Borden.

Back Row: Rod Novak, Fiona Gallery, David Arnold, Darryl Weinert & Brian Crouch. 2nd Row: Deb Henry, Margaret Borden, Gina Hopkins, Trish Elmore, Alan Miller, Bernie Webster & Clare Lonergan. Front Row Jan Palich, Derrick Brown, Pearson Cresswell, Doug Pocock & Peter Havlicek.

**Edition 589**

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**Price 60 cents**

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2000

At the Annual General Meeting held on 23 February 2000 a motion was put and carried to raise membership fees by \$10 per annum to prevent Club Funds being eroded.

Margaret Borden was made an Honorary Member and the following members were elected to the Committee:

**President:** Pearson Cresswell  
**Vice President:** Anne Wilkins  
**Vice President:** Trish Elmore  
**Secretary:** David Arnold  
**Walks Secretary:** Rod Novak  
**Walks Secretary Assistant (Day Walks):** Alan Miller  
**Treasurer:** Jan Palich  
**Social Secretary:** Fiona Gallery  
**Editor of News:** Clare Lonergan  
**Committee:**  
 Deb Henry  
 Amanda Smith  
 Brian Crouch  
 Pam Ide  
 Alan Ide

The News is the official newsletter of the Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc. and is published monthly.  
 Edited by Clare Lonergan.

Articles (max 1000 words), walk reports, poems, snippets of news, photographs of club events, 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 sent to Clare Lonergan by:

- ◆ Placing article in the Red Box in the clubrooms
- ◆ Mailing to:
- ◆ Fax:
- ◆ E-mail:

### Advertising Rates (artwork ready)

¼ Page 1 Issue - \$30; 3 Issues - \$80; 12 Issues (1 year) \$300  
 ½ Page 1 Issue - \$50; 3 Issues - \$135; 12 Issues (1 year) \$500  
 Full Page 1 Issue - \$80; 3 Issues - \$220; 12 Issues (1 year) \$800  
 Only advertisements directly relating to bushwalking will be accepted (e.g. gear, maps, trips, tours, etc.)

### Members Ads - FREE

**Closing date for receipt of material for The News is the last Wednesday in each month.**

## Who's Who In the Melbourne Bushies

Bob McLellan, who is an honorary member of the club, has been our Sunday driver for many years.

I am sure that all members will join with me in wishing Bob and Jan McLellan congratulations on the recent marriage of their son Stuart to Jackie. Apparently Jackie, although smiling broadly in this photo with her new father-in-law, cried for most of the ceremony and the reception. Let's hope their life together is all smiles from here on out.

My association with Bob goes back to my very first walk to the Lederberg Gorge about 7 years ago and we soon became firm mates. It was Bob, in the cold and foggy Macedon Ranges, who leapt out of his driver's seat and picked me up out of the mud after I skidded and bounced down the bus steps on my back. I landed in a heap, completely winded and unable to move or breathe. I don't know who got the biggest fright me or Bob!

A lot of my good times in the Melbourne Bushies have in one way or another been connected to Bob and *The Old Girl* (a McKenzie's Bus). To me the very best sight in the world at the end of a long, tiring and perhaps wet walk is the cream and green *Old Girl* with Bob standing by the front door wearing a big welcoming smile and asking the inevitable question "How was the walk, Luv?"

Clare Lonergan



Meetings are held in the Clubrooms, MacKenzie Street, 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

# From the President

Well, here we are at the start of a 'new' year with a remodelled committee all raring to go. My thanks go to the retiring members and especially to Derrick Brown, who set a great example in his leadership of the Club.

The big issue at the AGM was the subscription rate, with the meeting agreeing to a substantial increase to \$35 for ordinary members and pro-rata increases for other membership categories. While nobody likes to pay more, the increase was necessary for the Club to maintain the services that we provide to our members. We have been running a deficit for two or three years now due to gradually increasing costs, particularly in the production and distribution of News which accounts for 40% of expenditure from the 'Club Account' (which is funded by subscriptions). We also pay about \$2 per head for insurance cover and no increase had been made previously to cover this. We anticipate that many of our costs will increase again with the introduction of GST, but the new

subscription rate should see us on a firm footing for at least a year or two.

The second item of concern is numbers on the Sunday walks: Where are you all? Average attendance over the last three years has been 38.5 and you may recall our concern a couple of years back when the bus was always full to overflowing. But in the second half of 1999 the average dropped to 33.9; the lowest turnout was only 19! This is a worry because we pay the same whether the bus is full or empty, and we need them full to keep the individual fares down. It is not clear why things have changed. Are we doing something wrong? Anyone with ideas or comments should contact me or one of the Walks Secretaries (Rod Novak & Alan Miller). Meanwhile, get out there! The walking's lovely!

*Pearson Cresswell*

## Day Walks for March & April, 2000

<b>Monday 13 March</b> <b>Easy</b>	<b>Sandringham</b> <b>Labour Day Walk</b>
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Leader	Lance Mobbs
Transport	Private

This walk is one of Athol's old walks around Sandringham. We will be meeting at Flinders Street Concourse Clocks at 10am on Monday 13 March.

This should be an enjoyable walk, so if interested, please phone me Monday to Friday after 7pm on \_\_\_\_\_ or see me in the clubrooms on Wednesdays.

<b>Sunday 2nd April</b> <b>E/Medium &amp; Medium</b>	<b>Hughes Creek North</b> <b>8.30 AM START</b>
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Leaders	Brian Crouch & Jean Woodger
Map Reference	Dropmore, Mt. Bernard
Approximate distance	14 & 17 km
Transport	Bus from South Bank Boulevard at 8.30am
Area	N/E of Seymour
Expected time of return	7.30pm

**PLEASE NOTE 8.30 AM START!!!!**

This will be a very enjoyable but challenging walk in open country above Hughes Creek. We will be on ridge tops for most of the day.

Both the easy medium and medium walks involve a 300 meter climb at the start – over 3 km in distance. We then stay on hilltops for most of the day giving us spectacular views of the surrounding country. This is a very spectacular walk.

<b>Sunday 9 April</b> <b>E/Medium &amp; Medium</b>	<b>Dom Dom Saddle– Mt</b> <b>Vinegar – Fernshaw</b> <b>8.30 AM START</b>
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Leaders	William Cone & Jerry Karbownik
Map Reference	Juliet North & Juliet South 1:25 000
Approximate distance	To be decided
Transport	Bus from South Bank Boulevard at 8.30am
Area	Healesville/Black Spur
Expected time of return	7pm

**PLEASE NOTE 8.30 AM START!!!!**

This walk is in an area I like a lot with towering mountain ash and surrounded by impressive tree covered hills. So please join Jerry and I for a good day out.

There is interesting wildlife in the area too. I saw beautiful crimson rosellas on both previews.

Both walks will be along pleasant forest tracks and roads. The exact routes for the walks haven't been determined yet – but distances will be suitable for easy/medium and medium walks.

<b>Saturday 15 April</b> <b>Easy</b>	<b>Training Day: Leading a Walk</b>
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Leader	Brian Crouch
Approximate distance	17 km
Transport	Private
Area	Brisbane Ranges
Expected time of return	7pm



We need your active participation in the Leaders' Training Day on Saturday 15 April. We would like new, experienced or potential leaders to come along and share their knowledge, thoughts and suggestions on how we can maintain and improve our leadership skills.

The Saturday will be a fun day as well as informative in a pleasant area close to Melbourne. We also plan on holding an information night at the Clubrooms on Wednesday 12 April to allow leaders to meet and share ideas.

**Please make an effort to come to either one or both of these events.**

Call me for details – Brian Crouch

<b>Sunday 16 April</b> <b>Easy &amp; Medium</b>	<b>Anakie Gorge/Little River – Steiglitz</b>
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Leaders	Stephen Bentley & Max Casley
Map reference	Eclipse Creek, Staughton Vale, Lethbridge 1:25 000
Area	Brisbane Ranges National Park
Transport	Bus from South Bank Boulevard at 9am
Expected time of return	7pm
Approximate distance	14 & 20 km

Two walks are planned for the day, an easy grade of 14 km and a medium of 20km. Both walks will pass through the impressive Anakie Gorge. This area of the Brisbane Ranges is well renowned for the koala population and boasts the highest density in Victoria. We should see plenty of these native friends in their favourite tree the Manna Gum.

The medium walk will include following a section of the Little River which is within a small gorge also. Be

prepared for a bit more hill climbing and some off-track walking with the medium group. This is not difficult as the area has quite an open forest. During the day the outlook - lookout point will be visited to see a great overview of the gorge. Both walks will finish at the historic town of Steiglitz.

<b>Wednesday 19 April</b> <b>Easy</b>	<b>Blackwood – Byers Back Track – The Tunnel – O’Briens Crossing</b>
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Leader	Sandra Mutimer
Map Reference	Vicmap, Lerderderg & Werribee Gorges, 1:35 000
Approximate distance	10 km
Transport	Private
Area	Blackwood – Byers Back Track – The Tunnel – O’Briens Crossing
Expected time of return	5pm

Lerderderg State Park is an interesting bushwalking area so close to town. Originally it was a small forest park consisting of natural forest that remained after the land had been cleared but has been extended over the years and is now a State Park of 14,240 hectares that includes a Conservation & Recreation Zone, a Conservation Zone and a Heritage River Area.

When gold was discovered here in the 1850s this brought many prospectors and other settlers to the area. The town of Blackwood grew and prospered and small townships such as Simmons Reef, Golden Point and Red Hill developed along the Lerderderg River. Apparently very little gold was found here but quite a bit of evidence remains from the 10 years miners and traders were in the area. This includes mine shafts, piles of tailings, stone chimneys and many of the walking tracks have been developed from former water races.

The walk will also take us on to the Tunnel that miners cut through solid rock to divert water from a bend in the Lerderderg River to make it easier to search for gold in the exposed dry river bed.

This will be an enjoyable walk and I promise those that suffered on my last Lerderderg walk that there won't be any long climbs, that is unless you want to taken on an optional extra challenge!

I would appreciate if those going would let me know so that I will be able to help with transport arrangements if required and it would also help me to organise the car shuttle. Ring me on but don't leave it until the last minute because the chances are high that I'll be out!!

### Bus fares

The bus fares for the Sunday walks are as follows :

**Members \$15.00 Concession \$10 Visitors \$20**

Late fee of \$2.00 (for both members & visitors who attend on Sunday without having booked on the walk).

**Saturday 22 April Dandenongs Explorer**

Leader Michael Humphrey  
 Transport Private



Please telephone Michael on [redacted] for more details with respect to this walk

**Sunday 23 April Bostock Reservoir-E. Moorabool R.**

Leaders Peter Havlicek & Jill Dawson  
 Map Reference Yaloak (7722-4-2) and Cleever Hill (7722-4-1), 1:25 000  
 Approximate distance 14 & 17 km  
 Transport Bus from South Bank Boulevard at 9am  
 Area Ballan (Western Highway)  
 Expected time of return 6.30pm

The walk has not been previewed yet. However the area abounds in mineral springs (Ballan Mineral Springs), water views (Bostock Reservoir), tightrope walking (a broad spillway over the dam wall); deep forests (pine plantations – breathe it in!), strenuous walking in creek beds (Moorabool River, E/M group only), animal life ('roos, koalas) and generally all the things that make us bushies happy (weird!). Come along and join us in this walk on Easter Sunday (bring your best bonnet)!

**Saturday 29 April Little River Gorge (Cathedral Range)**

Leader Alan Ide  
 Map Reference Cathedral Range Outdoor Leisure Map 1:25 000  
 Approximate distance 9km  
 Transport Private (220 km return @ 6c/km)  
 Terrain Difficult cross country  
 Total Climb 740m

This walk starts from near Cooks Mill on the banks of the Little River.

Initially we will head up the Little River Fire track before branching off into the Little River valley. From here we leave the track and start heading up to the falls along the banks of the Little River. There are several difficult sections here which require some bouldering and will probably result in wet feet.

The scenery is quite spectacular as the river tumbles through the dense forest. After climbing around the waterfall we will try to continue up-stream as far as possible. This is rough going as there is no track at all. At some point we will scramble up the sides of the valley to one of the tracks that will take us back to Cooks Mill.

This is not an easy walk, but it certainly is a memorable one! Remember to bring a change of clothes & footwear – you will need it. (PS. If we have heavy rain I will have to change this walk to somewhere else nearby).

**Sunday 30 April E/Medium & Medium N.E. Lerderderg**

Leaders Sally Bouvier & Stuart Mann  
 Map Reference Trentham 1: 25 000  
 Approximate distance 14 & 18 km  
 Transport Bus from South Bank Boulevard 9am  
 Area Castlemaine  
 Expected time of return 6.30pm  
 Popular walking taking in Blackwood/Lerderderg features including mineral springs, Shaws Lake, the Tunnel and O'Brien's Crossing. A couple of creek crossings and some steepish uphill and downhill bursts.  
 A guaranteed good time!!!

## Subscriptions - Renewal 2000

Ordinary	Single Membership	\$35.00
Concession	Single Membership	\$24.00
	(Proof required)	
Family/Couple	Membership	\$50.00
Concession Couple		\$28.00
	(Proof required)	

**The above includes receiving the News**  
 Non-member NEWS subscribers \$18.00

If your mailing label is marked 'Subs Due', your renewal is now due

Renewal is due within 3 months of AGM = before end of May 2000

**Please pay promptly.**

**Duty Roster**

15 <sup>th</sup> March	Fiona & Rod
22 <sup>nd</sup> March	Debbie & Pearson
29 <sup>th</sup> March	Alan I. & Pam
5 <sup>th</sup> April	Trish & Brian C.

**Date of next committee meeting**  
 Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> April, 2000 at 7PM

# Himalayan Travel Centre

"LET TENZING PUT THE WORLD AT YOUR FEET"

## TENZING BIRTHPLACE TRIP (TIBET)

Join Tashi Tenzing (Grandson of Tenzing Norgay Sherpa) on a tour to Lhasa and four wheel drive back to Kathmandu, visit the old Tenzing family & Rongbuk. 09 July - 29 July 2000 ex Kath \$4640

## PILGRIMAGE TO MOUNT KAILAS (TIBET)

Walk the ancient pilgrims' route over the Himalaya from Nepal into Tibet. Visit Lhasa & Potala Palace.

Fly from Lhasa over Himalayan range back to Kath. 03 June - 03 July 2000 ex Kath \$6800

## MUSTANG TREK (NEPAL)

A trek to the remote and restricted area of Lo Manthang following ancient trails.

Fly in and out of Jomsom. 18 May - 07 June 2000 ex Kath \$4115

## ULTIMATE EVEREST (attempt ISLAND PEAK) (NEPAL)

Trek from Lukla to Gokyo lakes, cross Chugima and Kongma pass's. Attempt Island Peak (6189m).

16 Oct - 13 Nov 2000 ex Kath \$4000

## MANASLU/ANNAPURNA CROSSING & CLIMB OPTION (NEPAL)

The ultimate trek, three options on the one trek. Trek the Manaslu, Annapurna Circuit's & attempt Pisang Peak (6091m) followed by a crossing of Tilicho Lake area. Fly out of Jomsom. 01 - 29 Oct 2000 ex Kath \$2775

## TENZINGS EVEREST (NEPAL)

Follow the old expedition route from Jiri up to Everest base camp, via Namche. Trek up Kala Pater for outstanding views, visit Tenzing family in Tami village. 13 Oct - 11 Nov 2000 ex Kath \$2780

## CHOMOLARI TREK (BHUTAN) (other trips available in Bhutan / Sikkim, call for details)

A classic trek in a classic area. Untouched forests, virgin peaks, clean air, pure rivers, culturally fascinating, Bhutan has it all. 04 Oct - 25 Oct 2000 ex Kath \$5570

Darren Miller (also after hours) ph 9395 1210 fax 9395 1216 email parbat@mira.net

## Walks Secretary February Report

Hi. My name is Rod Novak and I am the newly elected Walks Secretary having taking over from Pearson. Thank you Pearson for your contribution and enthusiasm with the Walks programs over the past three plus years. Attention all Melbourne Bushies - If you need any help with running a club trip/activity, then contact me on Suggestions, improvements, alternatives, new routes, locations, new leaders and opportunities are most welcome.

The Winter Program is currently being organised. If you can help with leading a walk then contact Alan Miller and/or Jean Woodger for Sunday bus trips and Rod Novak for weekend trips. Training, support and mentoring is available for our current walkers who would like to help the Club by leading a trip. A Training Day will be held in April for Planning / Leading a Trip and Navigation practice



## WANTED

### Sunday Bushwalkers for our 'magical' Sunday Bus

- ✓ Low Cost Sunday walks - \$15 is great value.
- ✓ Central Melbourne location, public transport and parking friendly,
- ✓ Just Relax, and leave the driving to our experienced coach captain,
- ✓ 2 grades of walks on each trip,
- ✓ Each week we go to a different location
- ✓ Meet new friends
- ✓ Get fit
- ✓ Enjoy our wonderful bush..



# Weekend Walks for March & April, 2000

**31 Mar – 2 Apr**  
**Medium**

**Viking-Razor**

Leader **Ralph Blake**  
Map reference **Howitt-Selwyn**  
Transport **Private**  
Area **Alpine National Park**  
Approximate distance **25km**  
Expected time of return **Late Sunday night**

This walk will be a circuit taking in The Razor and The Viking. From the Buffalo River Valley we will walk up the Razor Track to a steep spur. This spur will take us onto the Razor. From there we will pick up the Alpine Walking Track and camp at Viking Saddle. Next day we will continue to The Viking, and then to Barry Saddle. After that it's a rather straight forward descent to the Buffalo River. There may be cliffs and rocks to be negotiated on this trip.

**7-9 April**  
**Easy**

**Mt. Samaria Beginners Pack**  
**Carry**

Leader **Merilyn Whippey**  
Map reference **VicMap 1:25 000**  
Transport **Private**  
Expected time of return **7.30 pm Sunday**  
Approximate distance **8 + 8 + 3 = 19 km**

## Note: Beginners Pack Carry

Mt Samaria State Park is near Mansfield and offers tremendous views, waterfalls, lovely forest and autumn is a great time to visit. We will walk the "Wileman Walking Track", visiting the Wild Dog falls and then on to Camphora campsite (fireplace and pit toilets), covering the grand total of 7 kms with heavy packs. Camp should be reached around lunchtime. In the afternoon we will explore an adjacent waterfall and forest without packs. On the Sunday we will return to the cars (8kms) with packs, then climb Mt Samaria for the view – without packs. This is an ideal trip for Sunday walkers looking for an "easy" pack carry to try. Some equipment (eg packs, tents, sleeping bags, stoves) can be hired from the Club

Life Members	11
Honorary Members	9
Single memberships	376
Family memberships	98 (= 2x 49)
Total membership	494

**20-25 April**  
**Medium**

**Mallacoota-Cape Howe-**  
**Nadgee**

Leader **Pearson Cresswell**  
Map reference **Mallacoota (Vicmap) & Nadgee (1:25 000)**  
Transport **Private**  
Expected time of return **Late Tuesday**

As Easter and Anzac Day link up this year we have a longer holiday and can go further! This trip will explore the far south-east corner of Australia. Starting from Mallacoota we will follow the beach to Cape Howe, then around the corner into the Nadgee wilderness area. Everybody who has been there raves about it!!!

The party limit is 8, so anyone interested should book with the leader ASAP. Ring \_\_\_\_\_ or see me in the clubrooms.

**20-25 April**  
**Easy**

**Murray River**  
**SUITABLE FOR**  
**BEGINNERS!!!**

Leader **George Zamora**  
Map reference **River Murray Charts – Maureen Wright**  
Transport **Private**



250 km

Alas!

Woe!



Due to an editorial error, the preview in this space was not the correct one. The right preview, if it exists, is not available.

So, if you want to get the right gen on this trip, you will have to come to the club rooms at the right time or contact George

# Welcome to the second summary of Vicwalk News.

**Duty of Care** - In response to several inquiries from clubs the Federation has decided to seek legal clarification of duty of care. Some of the issues we are canvassing are:

1. Disclaimers - value and wording
2. Leaders' responsibilities
3. Duty of club committees

Clubs will be informed of the advice as soon as possible.

**Tracks and Huts** - Dave Rimmer, the conservation convener, is interested in receiving information from clubs on tracks in State Forests. It is our aim to start compiling a database to inform DNRE on tracks to be recognised and protected. Contact Dave via the Federation office.

**Car Rallies and Road Closures** - CAMS (Confederation of Australian Motor Sports) hold weekend car rallies, often in Victorian forests. To ensure your club doesn't schedule a walk in the areas affected you can obtain a fixture from

CAMS by phoning (03) 9593 7777 and asking for the Victorian rally calendar 2000.

**State Forests** - In West Victoria it is proposed there be a 40% increase in the reserve system, approx 168,000 hectares. This is mainly scattered pockets of forest and small additions to existing parks. A major area of concern to Federation is the Otway Ranges. We would like to see waterfalls, river valleys and rainforest gullies protected. We would like to see walking tracks protected and documented. It appears the Department has little idea what tracks are in the state forest.

In Gippsland it is proposed there be a 51% increase in reserves, again mostly in small pockets. Federation would like to see the Lower Wongungarra included in a reserve (preferably the Alpine Nat Park) and a National or State Park in the Strzelecki Ranges.

## Fraser Island

Depart Brisbane



**5 Day Sand Island Wilderness Safari**

Explore 8 different lakes

- Walk in a rainforest & eerie sandblows
- See dingoes, turtles, wild dolphins and humpback whales (in season)
- Birdwatching

**All inclusive \$700**

Address: 1 Eversleigh Road, Scarborough, Qld. 4020  
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Quote "Bushy" for 10% discount in 1999  
Group (5 or more) discount 15%

The most extensive hiking and walking tour of world Heritage listed Fraser Island. Two great National Park campsites. Experienced Eco-guide/ driver and first class equipment. Delicious meals (including wine) and secure outdoor living with comfortable 4WD transport. We'll look after you!

## Carnarvon Gorge

### 6 Day Outback Explorer

Depart Brisbane

Camped in Carnarvon National Park under a palm and cycad forest: native animals abound, platypus in Carnarvon Creek, birds galore.

**10% discount**

*This is Queensland's Outback Oasis*

And more - from the campsite depart magical walking and hiking trails to the moss garden, hell hole gorge, the amphitheatre, cathedral cave, aboriginal rock art, and on and on..... For the best walking in Outback.

**All inclusive \$770**

Quote "Bushy" for 10% discount in 1999

For registration or a brochure please contact Terry Howard

## Sunover Expeditions

10 years touring service



# Walkers' Wanderings (or Wonderings)



## SOCIAL CLIMBERS CAUSE A RIOT ON THE HIGH PLAINS !

Marm Point, elevation 1800 metres on the Bogong High Plains, exploded into a riot of colour at approximately 5pm, Sat Feb 19th. Deep purples, crimson reds, soft sweeping blues, cool greens and swish black were the sparkling mix of the ladies evening wear for the inaugural formal dinner at 1800ft on the Bogong High Plains, celebrating the Club's 60th anniversary. Gentlemen were sartorially resplendent in either formal tuxedos with bow ties or in lounge suits & tie. It did take some getting used to the slightly hilarious sight of a purple feather boa and long evening dress appearing suddenly out of the rugged aussie bush while stage left, a neatly pressed tuxedo, bow tie and formal scarf struggled out of a hiking tent, complete with rugged walking boots!!

Our party of ten gathered on a lovely, grassy clearing with a stunning backdrop of mountain peaks and valleys. Mark Tischler and Therese Pollard got things grandly underway when they produced a magnum of delicious, icy cold champagne - what a wonderful ice breaker! And then over the next four hours we ate, drank and laughed our way into the night, a grinning full moon compensating for the total fire ban. The 'menu' was superb -

### Menu

**Hors d'oeuvres:** caviar, avocado dips, smoked trout brie cheese & crackers

**Entree:** avocado halves stuffed with seafood, sundried tomato quiche

**Main Courses:** cold cuts of lamb & beef, turkey, honeyed chicken wings, chicken in saffron rice, ham & bacon quiche, garden fresh salad, taboulie & coleslaw

**Desserts:** chocolate cups of fresh berries & cream, strawberries & fresh cream, glazed fruit tarts with custard Pecan Pie & cream

**Wines:** champagne, white burgundy, shiraz, cabernets & port

So much gorgeous food! Then it was time for the entertainment. A door prize (Tyronne Thomas's - The Best 100 walks in High Plain Mountains) was won lottery style by Therese Pollard. This was followed by a speech from President Derrick Brown, who reminded us of the fact that a thousand years ago, our dinner site would have been pretty much as we were seeing it now, and that our objective should be to ensure it remains that way for another thousand years. Looking out on that wonderful vista well underscored his point. Alan Clarke then conducted a quiz, its theme being the history of the club.

Needless to say, club stalwarts like Max Casley and Derrick Brown won the lion's share of chocolate bar prizes, but a great way for a newcomer like myself to learn a little about the club's background and history. Then it was over to Ralph Blake to award the best dressed prize. Tough job!!

Deb Henry looked fabulous in a short, very red, fitted cocktail dress, stockings (no, not the fishnets) and heels (wow). Theresa Parnell looked stunning in a sparkling bustier and satiny, long blue skirt, with superb make-up! Tracy looked wonderfully elegant in a flowing, green, polka dot long dress. Joy Carver from Albury appeared in a silk dress topped with a remarkable, floating purple feather boa - which must have caught the judge's attention as it took out the prize - a blue polar tech cap. And the guys? Very well done chaps, perhaps a few of us lacking in some of the finer detail - like when I discovered I had forgotten my shirt studs and cuff links, and had to improvise with sprigs of local flora - oh well, it WAS fashion week, so anything goes!

By 9pm 'ish', the breeze had picked up and the temperature was down to a chilly 13°, so after a sobering tea & coffee, we turned in and quietly returned the bush to its natural fauna.

Next day was overcast and cool, so we set off to Johnson's and Edmunson's huts, a lovely walk in ideal conditions. Both huts are in good, sound and clean condition. On the track, we bumped into a young couple who were walking the Alpine Trail to Canberra, a journey for them of 8 - 12 weeks, and they had started from Walhalla, 3 weeks previously. They had made good progress and high spirits - good luck and God speed guys!

Back at camp, lunch was very hearty, it being the abundant left overs from our dinner. Then it was pack and trek back down to the cars (this time much lighter without all that food and water!)

The evening was a resounding success and is now being touted as a regular annual event. Thanks to organisers Deb Henry, Alan Clarke, Ralph Blake and Anne Wilkins - it really was a lot of fun!

*Paul Beers*

### Request for backcopies of *Walk: Journal of the Melbourne Bushwalkers*

Chris Baxter has written to the Club requesting backcopies our *Walk* magazine. He is "willing to pay a fair price for them and/or swap them for duplicate copies of other issues" that he has.

Issues requested are 1950, 1960, 1967, 1970, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1975, 1976, 1977, and 1984 on.

Issues he has available to swap are 1953, 1955, 1957, 1961, 1963, 1965, 1966, 1968, 1969, 1978, 1980, 1982.

Chris can be contacted at:

1 Fairview Grove, GLEN IRIS, 3146  
Ph. 9826 8482 (bh)

60 years on and...

# Congratulations Melbourne Bushwalkers

May you walk through  
the next 60 years with  
as much enjoyment as  
you have the last.

And now the commercial. If you  
decide that the Melbourne winter  
is a bit too long and cool, why not  
come up and join us on a walk  
where every break brings  
yet another irresistible swim.

Best wishes to all.  
Russell Willis



**still walking strong!**

**Willis's Walkabouts**  
12 Carrington St Millner NT 0810  
Email: [walkabout@ais.net.au](mailto:walkabout@ais.net.au)

Phone: (08) 8985 2134

Fax: (08) 8985 2355

## First Aid Kits - For Your Safety

Sprained ankle? Snake bite? Perhaps just a headache? Of course we hope that none of these things happen on a walk, but if they do then the most important thing is to be prepared for it! The leader of any club walk is expected to carry a first aid kit which is equipped to a level appropriate for the walk, and which may be used for the treatment of any member of their party. (Sometimes the leader may delegate the actual carrying of the kit to another member of the party such as the whip.) For overnight walks, walkers should also carry their own basic first aid supplies, and even for day walks it is advisable for each walker to carry items such as band-aids and Panadol, rather than being dependent on the emergency supplies in the leader's kit.

The club maintains three first aid kits. Two of these are for the Sunday walk leaders and are stored on the bus (McKenzie's move them from one bus to another if they provide a different bus on the day). The third kit is stored in the clubrooms and may be borrowed by the leader of any other club walk if they do not have their own, or do not wish to use their own. Note also that walk leaders should carry a thermal blanket, which may be required as part of the first aid treatment of an injured walker. For the Sunday walk leaders, these are stored on the bus along with the kits themselves.

Each kit contains an inventory list (which is about to be updated due to the addition of some new items). The

contents of the kits are checked periodically, but in order to ensure quick replenishment, it is important that leaders report any used or missing items to the first aid supply officer as soon as possible after their walk. The first aid supply officer is appointed from time to time by the committee, and is currently myself (David Arnold, phone ).

Finally, don't forget that in addition to having a well-stocked first aid kit, you also have to know how to use it! All members interested in undertaking first aid training are encouraged to contact the Training Coordinator as per the notice on page 13 of February News.

*David Arnold*

### Treasurer:

#### Accounts for December 1999

Opening Balance	\$49,433.95
Receipts	\$1,880.35
Payments	\$4,516.60
<b>Closing Balance</b>	<b>\$46,797.70</b>

#### Accounts for January 2000

Opening Balance	\$46,797.70
Receipts	\$2,607.86
Payments	\$3,069.43
<b>Closing Balance</b>	<b>\$46,336.13</b>

*New members:*  
PAUL BEERS

ED LAWTON

MAREE E MC KEOWN

ALAN TRAVELL

GEORGE ZAMORA

MARGOT MARASCO

*Add to membership list:*  
HOWARD FRIEND

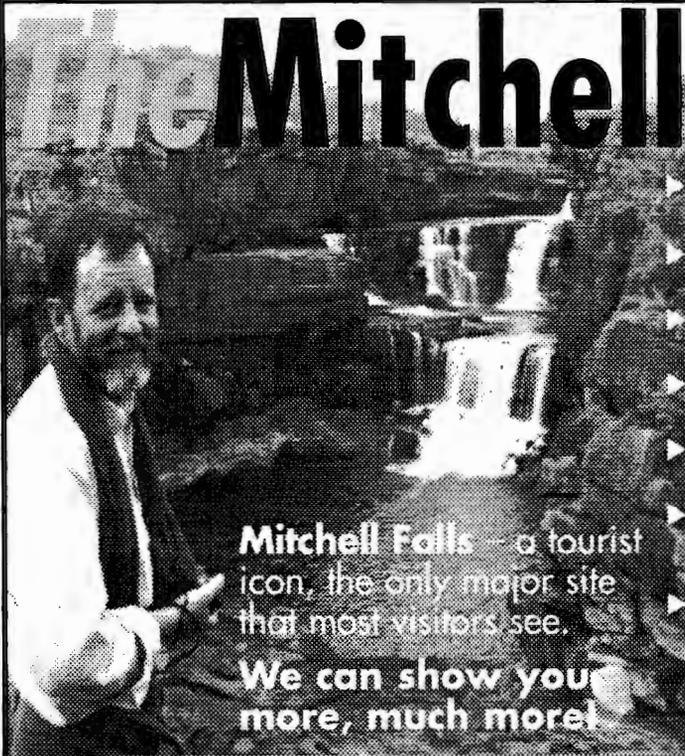
*Altered Address/Phone:*  
CAROLYN M & GERHARD BRAUN

SYLVIA HARRIS

DONALD JAMES

## EQUIPMENT FOR HIRE

With the Moomba long weekend approaching, as well as some great Easter trips, here is your chance to try overnight camping on our weekend trips. We have tents, sleeping bags with silk inner sheets, rucksacks and Trangia stoves available for hire. Forget the five star accommodation – give the “million star” outdoors experience a go. If you need help / advice with hiring the Club equipment, then contact Rod Novak at Wednesday Clubnight or telephone AH 9561 2407. We also have a Food Drier to help you prepare fine cuisine for those long weekend trips.



# The Mitchell Plateau

**Mitchell Falls** – a tourist icon, the only major site that most visitors see.  
**We can show you more, much more!**

- ▶ **Lower Mitchell Falls** – a series of falls, cascades and pools – swim in them all.
- ▶ **Tidal Rapids** – a waterfall that flows upstream or down with the changing tide.
- ▶ **Western Gorge** – 5 km of narrow, spectacular gorge headed by a 70 m waterfall with four drops.
- ▶ **Donkins Falls** – a sheer drop of over 100 m into a narrow gorge that meets the sea.
- ▶ **Unnamed Falls & Gorge** – something this big should be on the map, but it's not.
- ▶ **Aboriginal art** – dozens of sites in a variety of styles show that this has been a popular place for the last ten thousand years or so.
- ▶ **More?** Of course...please ask for our brochure and trip notes.

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No one knows the area better than we do — we'll show you the best the region has to offer.

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**March 2000**

10-13	SNOWY BLUFF	Private	M/H	Gina Hopkins	
10-13	DARGO HIGH PLAINS	Private	E/M	Alan Ide	
10-13	CANOE TRIP: MURRAY RIVER	Private	E	George Zamora	*
12 Sun	FRASER NATIONAL PARK 8.30AM START	Bus	E/M & M	David Arnold & Bill Donald	#
13 Mon	HISTORICAL WALK AT SANDRINGHAM	Private	E	Lance Mobbs	*
15 Wed	BARWON RIVER - BUCKLEY FALLS	Private	E/M	Trevor Thomson	
17-19	HELICOPTER SPUR- MT HOWITT	Private	M	Jerry Grandage	
17-19	BOGONG NP WORK PARTY	Private	E	Doug Pocock	
19 Sun	CAPE WOOLAMAI	Bus	E & E/M	Lynda Larkin & Jan Palich	#
25 Sun	DANDENONGS EXPLORER	Private	E	Michael Humphrey	
26 Sun	SHIP ROCK - KURTH KILN - 60 <sup>TH</sup> ANNIV. PICNIC.GILWELL PARK	Bus	E & E/M	Vicki Scrivenger & Ian Hoad	#

**April 2000**

21Mar-2	RAZOR VIKING	Private	M	Ralph Blake	
2 Sun	HUGHES CREEK- 8.30AM START	Bus	E/M & M	Brian Crouch & Jean Woodger	#
7-9	MT SAMARIA, BEGINNERS P/C	Private	E	Merilyn Whimpey	
9 Sun	ACHERON WAY - MT VINEGAR - DOM DOM/ FERNSHAW 8.30AM START	Bus	E/M & M	William Cone & Jerry Karbownik	#

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