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THE NEWS OF THE MELBOURNE BUSHWALKERS INC.

EDITION 617

JULY 2002

60 CENTS

Congratulations to Jean Giese

on the award of the Medal of the Order Of Australia (OAM)

"for services to education through the Hawthorn campus of the University of the Third Age, and to the community."

Of course, part of the services to the community includes Jean's contribution to this club.



Club Wine & Cheese Night

***Wednesday 24 July
7.00 - 9.00 pm, Clubrooms***

Film Night

***Friday 26 July
7.30 pm, Clubrooms***

As part of your committee's policy to try to use the clubrooms more we present **Friday Night Entertainment**. If the club finds this successful then we shall do this on a regular basis.

Our 1st film will be the 1934 Australian musical, *The Hayseeds*. Australia had a booming film industry up to the mid thirties. *The Hayseeds* stars Cecil Kellaway who went on to Hollywood for a successful career. Of course, this film is very dated and the acting is stilted by modern standards. Overall it is rather corny, (*The Bank* it ain't) but it has some wonderfully amusing bush walking scenes.

Numbers will be limited! A simple supper will be served at interval but bring your own refreshments if you desire to partake during the screening. Tickets will be \$2.00 (for supper), available from Carol Criddle, Social Secretary

We look forward to your input in what you would like for further entertainment. E.g. films on a monthly or two monthly regular basis. What sort of films? Something on a different night perhaps? We hope to have another "trivial pursuit" night later in the year if people want this. Please let Carol know your views.



Slide Show

**Wednesday 31 July
8.00 pm, Clubrooms**

Ray Thomas, from NRE

will show pictures & talk about the habitat restoration for the endangered Regent Honeyeater in preparation for our 7 - 8 September Tree Planting weekend near Benalla.

Come to hear about this tree planting project focusing on habitat restoration, salinity control, better water quality and preserving ancient trees. (More information on page 2)

N.B.: Bookings for walks, etc. to be made between 7.00 & 8.00 pm on this night please.

**Marika Jagow
Vice President**

INSURANCE ON SKI TRIPS

Many members will be aware (and all should be) that the Club has insurance cover for its activities. This is arranged through the Federation and takes two forms: Personal Accident, which protects individuals in case of injury, and Public Liability which protects the Club, its officers and members against liability claims.

The insurance industry is currently in turmoil, particularly over Public Liability, and this is affecting the operations of many groups such as ourselves. The Federation has been able to maintain cover for the coming year, but the insurers are refusing to cover the 'more dangerous' outdoor activities. This includes 'skiing and any other activities above the snow line'. The upshot is that the Club has declared all ski trips to be 'unofficial' trips and therefore not covered by insurance; participants go at their own risk - just as you would if you took off for the day with a few friends.

There has also been a significant increase in the insurance premium which may require us to increase subscriptions next year.

**PEARSON CRESSWELL
PRESIDENT**

ENQ.:

CLUB OPEN: 7 - 9 PM WED., HORTICULTURAL HALL, 48 MACKENZIE ST., MELB.

WEBSITE: www.melbournebushwalkers.org.au

EMAIL: info@melbournebushwalkers.org.au

Members of the Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc.
meet on Wednesday evenings
between 7.00 & 9.00 pm in the Clubrooms,
Victorian Horticultural Society Hall,
48 MacKenzie Street, Melbourne.

Visitors are always welcome.



General correspondence should be directed to:

The Secretary,
Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc.,
PO Box 1751Q,
Melbourne, Vic., 3001.

The News of the Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc.
is the newsletter of the Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc.
& is published monthly.
Editor: Vicki Scrivenger.

Walk previews & reviews, articles, poems, news items,
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 contributions
where space, clarity or propriety dictate
& to maintain editorial consistency.

Contributions to *The News* may be sent to the Editor by:

- ★ Emailing to:
- ★ Placing diskette or hand written material
in the "Red Box" in the clubrooms
- ★ Posting diskette or hand written material to either:
The Editor, Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc.,
PO Box 1751Q, Melbourne, Vic., 3001
or V. Scrivenger, *News* Editor,

Electronic mail is preferred.

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

Advertisements in *The News*
Only advertisements directly relating to bushwalking
will be accepted (e.g. gear, maps, trips, tours, etc.).
Members' ads are free.

Advertising Rates (Artwork Ready) in:
printed edition only: as below, or
printed & on-line editions: as below + 25% or
on-line edition only: as below + 25%.

Size:	1 Issue:	3 Issues:	12 Issues (1 Year):
¼ Page	\$35	\$90	\$330
½ Page	\$55	\$150	\$550
Full Page	\$100	\$250	\$900

CLUBROOMS DUTY ROSTER

3 Jul.: D Henry & V Scrivenger 10 Jul.: C Lee & V Scrivenger
17 Jul.: P Cresswell & C Criddle 24 Jul.: P Beers & T Elmore
31 Jul.: M Jagow & Q Tibballs 7 Aug.: W Cone & C Criddle

NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday 5 August at 7.00 pm in the clubrooms



Regent Honeyeater Project Tree Planting Weekend

7 - 8 September

in the Lurg district near Benalla
to help restore some of the winter feeding areas
(Ironbark Forest) of the Regent Honeyeater.

This is a chance to help with a great project,
and meet some locals who care
about the bush and wildlife
that we so love experiencing as bushwalkers.
It's not hard work, is fun,
something a bit different and very rewarding.

Accommodation, hot showers, some meals
and a folk dance on Saturday night
will be provided and we'll aim to car pool
like other weekend club trips.

Please come to the slide night in the clubrooms
on Wednesday 31 July to find out more
or contact me on

Marika Jagow
Vice President

Accommodation in Portland

The property consists of two, all new,
double studio apartments
with basic cooking facilities.

It is situated in a quiet location,
on the seafront,
with 180 degrees elevated sea views
of Portland Bay.

Ideally suited for *walking,*
reflection & reading.

Local knowledge is available on *orchids,*
and access to *The Great South West Walk.*

Reasonable rates.

For further information:
phone Jeanne on (03) 5523 6930 or
email: jelle@hotkey.net.au or
write to: J. Elleway, PO Box 824,
Portland, 3305.

JULY/AUGUST DAY WALKS, ETC.



Sunday Bus: Switzerland Ranges

DATE	Sunday 28 July
STANDARD	Easy/Medium & Medium
DISTANCE	Approx. 14 & 17 km
LEADER(S)	David Arnold & Peter Havlicek
TRANSPORT	Bus - South Bank Blvd at 8.30 am
RETURN TIME	Approx. 7.00 pm
AREA	Yea/Molesworth
MAP REFERENCE	Dropmore, Yea & Molesworth 1:25,000

Starting near a township with the descriptive name of "Highlands", & finishing near Molesworth down by the Goulburn River, the E/M walk is mostly downhill. This will no doubt be of interest to some people! If the weather is clear, there will be some great views as we descend the Switzerland Ranges spur. About 5 km of this walk is within the Switzerland Ranges Flora Reserve, an area of native forest, the remainder being in or near open farmland.

The Medium walk will begin with a climb to the summit of Mt Broughton, and will then continue through the Flora Reserve and down along the spur as for the Easy/Medium.

For your own comfort be sure to bring adequate clothing, as sections of both these walks are open and exposed, and this is winter, after all! So fleece, gloves, beanie, etc, are all appropriate to carry and to wear as needed.

N.B. 8.30 am start.



Private Ski Trip: Mt. Stirling

DATE	Saturday 3 August
STANDARD	Medium
LEADER(S)	Trish Elmore
TRANSPORT	Private

Please Note: This is not an official club trip. All persons going on this trip do so at their own risk and are not covered by the Club's insurance policy. This trip will not have an official leader.

Snow conditions will determine our destination on the day, it could be a wonderful ski out to Craigs hut or we could enjoy a day exploring some of the trails, either way we will have fun. So bring along all the usual warm gear, food and lots of energy.

Please give me a call at home to indicate your interest in the trip.



Sunday Bus: Anglesea to Bells Beach

DATE	Sunday 4 August
STANDARD	Easy & Easy/Medium
LEADER(S)	Paul Beers & Paul Wakefield
TRANSPORT	Bus - South Bank Blvd at 8.30 am

Please see the leaders in the clubrooms about these walks.

N.B. 8.30 am start.



Sunday Bus: You Yangs

DATE	Sunday 11 August
STANDARD	Easy/Medium & Medium
DISTANCE	Approx. 14 & 16.5 km
LEADER(S)	Jean Woodger & John Coe
TRANSPORT	Bus - South Bank Blvd at 9.00 am
RETURN TIME	Approx. 6.30 pm
AREA	Lara near Geelong
MAP REFERENCE	You Yangs 1:25,000

The distinctive granite peaks of the You Yangs can be seen to our right as we head out along the Princes Freeway. The tallest is Flinders Peak at 348 metres, but there are many others, Gravel Pit Tor being one of the more exotically named. The land around was once quarried extensively, but these water filled pits have since been landscaped with native trees and shrubs, attracting varied bird life. Afternoon tea may possibly be shared with Mr & Mrs Superb Fairy-wren.

The walks are mostly on tracks, with some off track diversions, and certainly some ascents, Flinders Peak being the first. It's an energetic day's walking for both groups, with the medium group heading further north. There is a newly established shooting range (very active at weekends) in the area beyond the confines of the Park where we have previously walked, so we'll take an interesting alternative.

Be sure to wear some light weight warm clothing, bring a rain-coat, and remember to leave a change of shoes in the bus. A thermos of hot tea or coffee is an extra treat to return to.



Sunday Bus: Loddon Falls - Vaughan Springs

DATE	Sunday 18 August
STANDARD	Easy & Easy/Medium
DISTANCE	Approx. 12 & 16 km
LEADER(S)	Sue Ralston* & Jan Palich
TRANSPORT	Bus - South Bank Blvd at 9.00 am
RETURN TIME	Approx. 7.00 pm
AREA	West of Malmesbury
MAP REFERENCE	Guildford, Daylesford 1:25,000

A typical goldfields area north of Daylesford and near Castle-maine and Malmesbury. Both walks are in the Upper Loddon State Forest, mostly on track, with a little bush walking.

The Easy walk will be met by the bus two-thirds of the way and transported to another section of the bush where this walk will join up with the Great Dividing Trail walk into Vaughan Springs.

The Easy-Medium walk strike across country then follow roads and 4WD tracks to Sebastapol Creek where we will join up with the Great Dividing Trail to walk through to Vaughan Springs.

*Change of leader (Please note Sue Ralston replaces Ian Langford as leader & her phone no. is .)



Wednesday Walk: Kinglake National Park

DATE Wednesday 21 August
STANDARD Easy/Medium
DISTANCE Approx. 13 km
LEADER(S) Jerry Karbownik
TRANSPORT Private

This walk covers some of the ground in the western part of the Kinglake NP...specifically, we will begin at Mason's Falls and then proceed down to Sugarloaf lookout. From there we will be walking along Running Creek northwards back to Mason's Falls. Total time taken is expected to be of the order of 5 hours, plenty of time to make a leisurely return back to the city.

The overall area is expected to be quite lush, with any forthcoming rains only adding to the beauty of the Falls. All walking is along established tracks and forest roads...no creek crossings involved! Rangers at the Park suggest that we should be lucky...lyrebirds are apparently quite active at that time.

All enquiries and bookings to the leader on . Please note there is a charge of \$5.50 per car for entry into the NP in this area.



Sunday Bus: Mt. Gordon Ridge - Marysville

DATE Sunday 25 August
STANDARD Easy/Medium & Medium
LEADER(S) Alan Miller & Hans Edlinger
TRANSPORT Bus - South Bank Blvd at 9.00 am

Please see Alan Miller or Hans Edlinger in the clubrooms about these two Sunday Bus walks.



Dandenongs Explorer: By The Beach

DATE Saturday 31 August
STANDARD Easy
DISTANCE Approx. 14 km
LEADER(S) Rod Novak
TRANSPORT Train
RETURN TIME Approx. 6.00 pm
MAP REFERENCE Melway p.76, 85 - 87

This trip will continue on from last year's Dandenong Explorer by the beach. We will start at Mordialloc visiting the jetty and rotunda then walking along the beach to join the Coastal Art Trail at Beaumaris. Continuing along the cliff tops and past Rickett's Point we will be admiring both the view and the art of Streeton, Roberts etc. (on signboards!).

This walk will be along sandy beaches and walking paths so a pair of runners are suggested. Be prepared for cold, wet and windy weather. Bring your lunch, and the walk will finish with an afternoon tea in Hampton.

We use public transport to start and finish the walk - you need a zone 1 & 2 all day ticket. Telephone Rod Novak on to book in. Meet the leader under the clocks at Flinders Street Station at 9.45 am.

Kakadu Highlights

something special

Year after year, more people go on our Kakadu Highlights trips than on anything else we offer. **Why?**

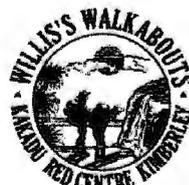
Every trip

- > takes you to beautiful, wilderness places which vehicle based tourists can never see.
- > consists of two to four walks, any of which can be done on its own. You choose exactly what you want.
- > is different. Limiting our visits to each location ensures we minimise their effect on the environment.

The individual walks have been carefully chosen to complement each other and show you the best that Kakadu has to offer. Many of the walks take you to areas we cannot visit on our longer trips.

Check them out on our website or ask for the brochure and trip notes.

www.bushwalkingholidays.com.au



Willis's Walkabouts 12 Carrington St Millner NT 0810 Email: walkabout@ais.net.au

Phone: (08) 8985 2134 Fax: (08) 8985 2355

AUGUST WEEKEND & EXTENDED WALKS, ETC.



Base Camp: Mt. Kooyoora SP (Melville Caves)

DATE Friday 2 - Sunday 4 August
STANDARD Easy/Medium
DISTANCE Approx. 26 km
LEADER(S) Max Casley
TRANSPORT Private
RETURN TIME Late Sunday Evening
AREA Inglewood, N-E of Bendigo
MAP REFERENCE Rheola North 1:25,000

This will be a base camp in a good camping area with a water tank, fireplaces & excellent composting toilets - what luxury! Preferable to bring some firewood if we can, & water.

This is an area of open forest with a rich variety of plants & bird life. We will do day walks from the base camp to places such as White Swan Mire, Mt. Kooyoora & surrounding granite boulders from which there are magnificent views. We also go to Melville caves which sheltered the robber, Captain Melville & before that the Jaara aborigines who left stone artifacts in the caves.

We will share entrees Saturday evening.



Lodge: Ski & Walk at Rawson

DATE Friday 9 - Sunday 11 August
STANDARD Easy/Medium
LEADER(S) Pearson Cresswell
TRANSPORT Private

Please Note: This is not an official club trip. All persons going on this trip do so at their own risk and are not covered by the Club's insurance policy. This trip will not have an official leader.

Every year we do a trip to Rawson which lies just beyond Erica. The pub provides comfortable, but economical accommodation. (B&B is \$33 per head per night, twin share.) The skiers go skiing on the Baw Baw plateau and the walkers go wandering around the valley of the Thomson River or up to Walhalla. At the end of the day we all get together in the pub for a good dinner and a few glasses of whatever you please, around the roaring fire. How can you miss it?

The skiing is Easy to E/M grade, but not suitable for absolute beginners. Gear can be hired at Erica but is probably best brought from Melbourne.

Please call me early on _____ if you are interested, so I can advise the Lodge of likely numbers.



Pack Carry: Warby Ranges

DATE Friday 16 - Sunday 18 August
STANDARD Easy/Medium
LEADER(S) Mike Lowe
TRANSPORT Private

Please talk with Mike Lowe in the clubrooms about this pack carry or phone him on _____



Private Ski Trip: Mt. Buffalo (Porepunkah)

DATE Friday 23 - Sunday 25 August
STANDARD Medium
LEADER(S) Marilyn Whimpey
TRANSPORT Private
RETURN TIME Sunday Evening
AREA North East Victoria
MAP REFERENCE Mt Buffalo Nat. Park - Algona

Please Note: This is not an official club trip. All persons going on this trip do so at their own risk and are not covered by the Club's insurance policy. This trip will not have an official leader.

Mt Buffalo covered in snow is very pretty, although the skiing isn't particularly challenging. I plan to drive up the mountain on Saturday and ski the prepared trails, or maybe do the trip to Mt McLeod, depending on the fitness and enthusiasm of the group. Then we'll drive back to Porepunkah and camp in the caravan park, or maybe hire a cabin or onsite van. We can have dinner at the Porepunkah pub, which was pretty good last time I was there. We can discuss what we want to do on Sunday - whether it's worth going up Buffalo again, or Hotham, or whatever.



Pack Carry: Grampians (Mt. Rosea area)

DATE Fri. 30 August-Sun. 1 September
STANDARD Medium
DISTANCE Approx. 18 km
LEADER(S) Jerry Grandage
TRANSPORT Private
MAP REFERENCE Northern Grampians
Outdoor Leisure Map

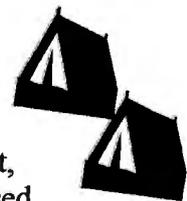
This walk will involve mostly off-track walking, so be prepared for some scrub-bashing and rock-hopping. The route will be Mt. Rosea - Sanderson Gap - Castle Rock (campsite) - Eastern Wall, finishing somewhere on the Moora Track.

There will be a limit of eight people due to the rather small campsite.

New Club Tents for Hire

To upgrade & add to our range of hire equipment, the club has recently purchased **2 MacPac Eclipse (2-man) tents.**

These are available now for hire at just \$10 per weekend - fantastic value and a great way to "try before you buy" for base camps or pack carry trips.



QUENTIN'S QUIZ

LESSON 3: DRAINAGE (IE. THE BLUE DETAIL)

All the blue lines on a map relate to water. The reason we are studying them at this stage is because they help map users to get a picture of the country without using contours.

The vast majority of the thin blue lines represent gullies which would only have water in them when it is raining. At the end of summer, almost all of the single line streams would be dry, and perhaps many of the double line streams as well (those with a blue infill between the blue lines). You may ask, "If most of the blue lines are dry most of the time, why are they shown blue, suggesting water?" There is a very good reason, and that is to help the map user to decide which are gullies and which are spurs, and to show the general shape of the country. Without the blue lines it would be harder to tell. Also the blue lines help us to define a watershed which is all the land upstream of a given point on a stream, and thus all the rain falling in the watershed will flow past that point.

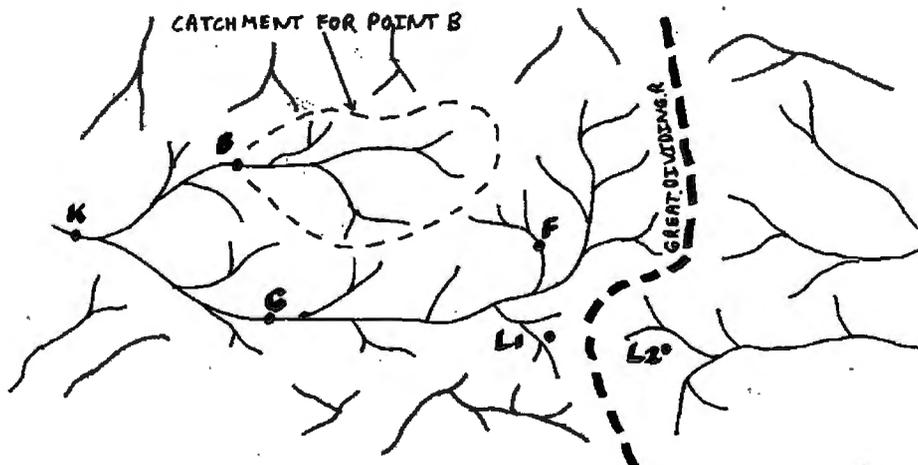
You need to be able to identify the main watersheds in an area, because the most desperate form of being lost is when you think that you are in one watershed when you are actually in another. This can be avoided by identifying the watershed boundaries so that you don't inadvertently cross from one into another. Note that a watershed boundary never crosses a stream, no matter how small.

Another use for identifying watershed boundaries is for determining the likelihood of finding water. Ignoring for the moment any considerations of geology or the presence of moss beds or springs, the bigger the catchment, the more likely it is that a given stream will have water in it. It is often said that if you are lost, follow water downstream and you will eventually come to civilization. Whilst this is true, streams often have the thickest scrub so the advice needs to be modified to suit the area.

Questions for Novices: Now to test what you have learnt, try these questions referring to the map:

- 1) You are lost, but after examining the gully pattern, conclude that you are at L1. It is foggy, so you decide to follow the streams down to K where you left the car. The country has open timber. Would it work?
- 2) What if you were actually at L2 in another catchment? Note the similarity of stream patterns.
- 3) I have sketched the catchment boundary for point B. (It doesn't cross any streams and all the water flows past point B). Sketch the catchment boundary for point G.
- 4) Rank the points B, G, K and F in the order of probability of finding water. Most to least probable.
- 5) Get out one of your own maps - either a 1:25,000 or 1:50,000 scale that shows hilly country or access one of the club's maps, (perhaps the 1:50,000 Bogong Alpine Area map which is a good example). Trace your finger around the watersheds of various streams without referring to the contours. If you do several, you may begin to notice something about tracks and watersheds. What ?

Question for Experts: A friend has given you a compass from the Northern Hemisphere. Will it work here?



QUENTIN TIBBALLS
TRAINING CO-ORDINATOR

Answers to Questions for Novices: 1) Yes. 2) No, you would be in deep trouble. 3) Correct if you didn't cross any streams and arrived back on the opposite bank. 4) K, G, B and F. 5) Most tracks follow ridges which are of course watershed boundaries.

Answer to Question for Experts: No the compass will not work perfectly although it will work. The reason is that the magnetic lines dip into the earth at opposite ends for the north & south hemispheres. To compensate for this compass needles are slightly heavier at one end. If you use a northern hemisphere compass here one end will scrape around under the glass because it will be out of balance. On a compass with no liquid it is quite noticeable.

HAVING A BALL AT THE PROM REFUGE COVE CIRCUIT PACK CARRY: 10 - 12 MAY

Paid fees at the Ranger's ticket box at about 10.30 pm, her warning to look out for wildlife well heeded as we threaded our way through uncountable wombats, rabbits, roos, wallabies and even a young deer.

As usual, Friday night camp at Tidal River was wet, full of noisy schoolkids, sticky, black sand (Friday night tents recommended!) and "aggressive" wombats. But better things lay ahead.

As we car shuffled up to the Mt Oberon car park, the Prom's natural beauty started to appear, its imposing, granite sentinels peering out from a Saturday morning fog and light drizzle. We hoisted packs and set off for our lunch destination - Sealers' Cove. The fog lifted on a brilliant sunny day as we trekked through verdant, ferny gullies (leechy) and over boardwalks through swampy areas which, in earlier days, required a lot of muddy wading. A salesperson from Kathmandu passed us leading a group of young Americans out here on a landscaping study tour. He regularly reads Melb Bushies' *News* during his shop's quieter times. Suddenly, the stunning vista of Sealers' Cove appeared as we emerged from the bush - this natural safe harbour, its clear blue waters contrasting with its ribbon of sandy beach, the rocky shoreline and natural bush. We walked up into the camping area for lunch, attracting the close attention of crimson rosellas and fairy wrens.



Cove appeared as we emerged from the bush - this natural safe harbour, its clear blue waters contrasting with its ribbon of sandy beach, the rocky shoreline and natural bush. We walked up into the camping area for lunch, attracting the close attention of crimson rosellas and fairy wrens.

Then it was a dash to Refuge Cove to snare the best camp spot before the other 47 or so campers arrived. According to the Ranger, The Prom is busy all week every week with school and other groups. Along the way, we paused to enjoy some fantastic viewing points looking back onto Sealers. Claiming a nice campsite close to the beach at about 3.30 pm, although it was warm enough, none of us braved the water, unlike some lads diving off the rocks. After setting up tents, we indulged in some entrée sharing and cocktails of reds, ports and muscats. Dinner, then a stroll onto a moonlit beach to enjoy shooting stars amidst a panoramic star shower. At the waters edge, tiny spots of glowing phosphorescence shone out in the dark, probably some form of algae. Although fires are not permitted, we enjoyed a long yarn in the warm glow of candlelight, punctuated by visits from bushy tailed possums, wallabies and wombats, before turning in.

Sunday presented another sunny, clear day as we got on our way, again with great views back to Refuge and the Northern Prom. More photos. A side trip to Kersop's Peak is well worthwhile and recommended, presenting superb views of the chain of rocky outcrops & islands linking down to King Island and eventually Tassie. And across Waterloo Bay down to Rodondo island and the Lighthouse, its outbuildings, wind turbine and boat landing area all clearly in view. Hugging the coast, we negotiated the track around to Little Waterloo camp for an early lunch at this popular camp site which accommodates some 8,300 campers every year. Then it was on to the road junction and decision time - strike out to Oberon Beach and beach walk up to Tidal River (an extra 2 hours) or go directly north up the hill to the car park? With a few drops and dark, threatening clouds, it was unanimous - make all haste to the car park. We did the uphill 6.6 km in just 1.5 hours, catching showers for just the last 30 minutes and confirming our route decision as the heavens opened up on the return to Tidal River. Warm showers and a change of gear.

A superb 3 course, totally home-made roast dinner for just \$13.50 was enjoyed by all at the Aurora Hotel in Korrumburra before returning to Melbourne in driving rain with 60 photos securely in the digital. (I took the photo above at a viewing point 15 minutes walk south of Refuge Cove). Thanks Max, for organising a great trip and the weather. We shall return!

Group: Max Casley (leader), Deb Henry, Martin Mowbray (visitor), Rod Novak and me.

PAUL BEERS

KEEP THE *CAMP* FIRES BURNING?

The cheering camp fire is a traditional part of camping and the outdoor life. But as with many things, practice is changing. Fires are totally banned in some areas. Many land managers have rules governing where, when and how fires may be lit. We are becoming more aware of the environmental impacts of camp fires. Few walkers now would expect to have a roaring blaze at every opportunity. Many actually prefer to cook on a stove.

It has been suggested that the Club should have a **policy on camp fires**, just as we have policies on rubbish, toilets and other issues of walking etiquette. These policies serve to educate walkers in good practice, protect the environment - and avoid arguments on trips.

The Committee will be looking at this over the next couple of months. Anyone who has strong views on the subject should make them known to me, **Pearson Cresswell, President** or **Gina Hopkins, Walks Secretary**. Now, where were those matches?

THE SPRING PROGRAMME

The **Spring Programme**, out with this month's *News*, has a range of different weekend activities for you to get involved in. First off in September we have a **Tree Planting weekend** to help restore the habitat of endangered species such as the Regent Honeyeater. A very enjoyable and worthwhile weekend which you will hear more about in coming months. Then we have the **Federation weekend** in the Otways, co-hosted by the Geelong Bushwalking Club and the Otway Ranges Walking Track Association, where you can meet members of other clubs in the Federation and have a huge choice of different day walks to go on.

There are a number of trips planned for the **Melbourne Cup weekend**, including another great opportunity for people to discover our wonderful lodge in the alpine country, **Wilky**, or else travel to the far corners of our state for some great walks by the sea. Also in November, there is a **cycling weekend** planned, and for the socially minded you should look out for the **President's weekend** and the **Mt. Feathertop Formal Dinner**.

We are even putting on another **Navigation Training day** to give you all the chance to become more practised at map-reading, an important skill for those who enjoy bushwalking. All this as well as your usual weekly **Sunday walks**, monthly **Dandenongs Explorers** and **Wednesday walks**, and not forgetting the two **Historical walks** in Melbourne.

Spring is a beautiful time of year to be out in the bush. Happy walking everyone!

GINA HOPKINS
WALKS SECRETARY

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MAY WALKS STATISTICS

May 2002	Trips	People	Average	May '01
Sunday Bus	4	152	38	41
Other Day	3	65	22	14
Pack Carry	2	19	9.5	6
Base Camp	1	13	13	12.5
Total	10	249	-	237/11 trips

In May we had good numbers of walkers on all the programmed trips, particularly the Dandenongs Explorer (30 people) & the Wed. walk (26 people). The third "other" day trip was the Navigation Training day which 9 people attended. We will be having another Navigation Training day in November & I hope that we can encourage a few more of you to come then.

NEW MEMBERS

CORAL-LEE & RUSSELL KEEP
SANDY MATTINGLEY
KENNETH WOOLARD

MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS

Life Members 11
Honorary Members 10
Single Memberships 296
Family Memberships 98 (= 2 x 49)
Total Membership 415
This Time Last Year 419

PETER HAVLICEK
MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY