

CAEX bushwalking club

Newsletter No 4

"Bushwalking for pleasure"

Greetings ! Ho Ho Ho and all that at this time of year. Our club goes from strength to strength with 31 fully paid up members, money in the bank and an active walking program with good attendances. Congratulations everyone. This newsletter contains snippets of news, details of future events and descriptions of past happenings. I hope you find it interesting. Your contributions welcome, typed if possible.

Thanks to Brian Churchill and Telecom we now have a computer prepared mailing list and labels for walk leaders to use when posting walk details. Ring Brian when you need them. List of members included in this newsletter.

An issue of walk etiquette. Please remember that it is the walk leader who determines the pace and route taken. No racing ahead or trail blazing from the ranks. A leader will try to keep the group together, provide for slower ones, allow for scenery gazing etc and appoint a "tail end charlie". Our motto is "bushwalking for pleasure", not a route march.

Congratulations to Alison and Chris Leihy on their recent marriage.

Special mention for our bird identification expert Felicity Nicholls for her interesting article on our Phillip Island walk enclosed.

A financial statement from our capital cautious custodian of the club coffers, Hon Treasurer Robyn Walsh is enclosed for all to see.

Rumour has it that the Adult Education Association are to raise their fees to \$8 each p.a. for 1983. We may need to rethink our affiliation with them. AEA membership provides use of club rooms for meetings, low cost printing, CAE library membership on presentation of AEA receipt, publicity and new member referrals ex CAE classes. Lets discuss at next meeting on March 1st 1983.

Brian Churchill has suggested that the club buy a good first aid kit for the walk leader to carry. Good idea. Alison Leihy has agreed to make it up for us.

Guests are always welcome on our walks provided they can handle it and properly equipped. New club members welcome too.

My best wishes for a happy Christmas and prosperous New Year.

David J Leihy
Hon President.

NEW YEARS EVE PARTY

Lynne Standing, 7 Renmuir Crt FRANKSTON) is having
a New Years Party at her place at 8pm. All CAEX members and friends
welcome. BYOG and a plate.

NEXT BUSHWALK

January 16th at Werribee Gorge National Park. Details enclosed for those
who haven't received it from leader Des Burns.
) Promises to be a great family walk, for newcomers too.

NEXT GROUP MEETING

7.30 p.m. on Tuesday 1 st March 1983 at the AEA Club Rooms, First floor, CAE, 256 Flinders Street Melbourne. Put it in your diary now! Please attend and bring your slides and photos and supper. Agenda items needed so ring them through to David Leihy.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Due and payable now to Robyn Walsh. \$15 single, \$25 couples.

FUTURE WALK PROGRAM

January 16th Day walk. See overlaf

February 12/13 Weekend walk. Leader Wayne Emmins

March 12/13/14 Long weekend walk on Mt Bogong Plateau. Leader Alison Leihy

April 9/10 Weekend base camp walk. Leader David Nicholls

FLINDERS RANGERS SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

David Leihy is thinking of organising a walking trip to the Beautiful Flinders Rangers over a week and 2 weekends in Spring 1983. not school holidays. Needs a car load or more to make it worthwhile. If interested please ring him

TREASURERS REPORT

		\$	\$
RECEIPTS:	Donation J & I PURNELL	5.00	
	Subscriptions 4 couples @25	100.00	
	Subscriptions 23 single @15	<u>345.00</u>	
			450.00
EXPENSES:	Walk and newsletter expenses		
	.. paid to date	49.72	
	.. due for Nov and Dec	26.00	
	AEA subs due in Feb 1983		
	31 @ \$5 each	<u>155.00</u>	
			<u>230.72</u>
SURPLUS:			<u>\$ 219.28</u>

AEA Subscriptions in fixed deposit and other funds in current account with RESI Building Society in club account @ 10%.
Have a good Christmas. See you next year!

Robyn Walsh
Hon Treasurer.

MEMBERSHIP LIST - CAEX BUSHWALKING CLUB

1 R. BRADLEY.	EAST MALVERN 3145.
2 J. BARRAS.	CANTERBURY 3126.
3 W. & B. BONNICK.	MITCHAM 3132.
4 K. BUDGE.	HIGHETT 3198.
5 D. BURNS.	MURRUMBEENA 3163.
6 J. CAIRNS.	BALWYN 3103.
7 B. CHURCHILL.	BLACKBURN 5TH 3130.
8 A. COLLINS.	DONCASTER EAST 3109.
9 W. COOPER.	COLLINGWOOD 3066.
10 R. DAVEY.	NTH FITZROY 3068.
11 W. EMMINS.	EAST BENTLEIGH 3165.
12 P. FAGER.	RINGWOOD 3124.
13 C. GEIKOWSKI.	EAST RINGWOOD.
14 K. GROVE.	EAST MALVERN 3145.
15 P. HIND.	KEW 3101.
16 L. JOHNSTON.	NTH BALWYN 3104.
17 A. KEMPE.	BOX HILL 5TH 3128.
18 C. & A. LEINY.	ORMOND 3204.
19 D. LEINY.	TOORAK 3142.
20 M. MARWELL.	MITCHAM 3132.
21 R. MARSHALL.	ESSENDON 3040.
22 D. & J. NICHOLLS.	GLEN WAVERLEY 3150.
23 L. STANDING.	FRANKSTON 3199.
24 P. TIERNEY.	BALWYN 3103.
25 C. TONERS.	FRANKSTON 3199.
26 R. WALSH.	BLACKBURN 5TH 3130.
27 P. WILKINSON.	RESEARCH 3095.
28 M. ZAJICEK.	BONBERCH 3196.

WEEKEND WALKNOVEMBER 13th - 14thHOWQUA HILLS

With the promise of very warm weather ahead, thirteen club members set out on November 13th from Sheep Yard Flat on the Howqua River. Three members of the group had arrived the previous night, the rest of us left Melbourne around 6 am to get to S.Y.F. by 9 am. It was a very steep haul up from the Howqua Valley to the top of the range and water bottles were in great demand. Beyond the saddle the track surprisingly petered out and we made our way through light bush along a contour. Later, when we found the walking track it became clear that we had crossed the range at a saddle too close to S.Y.F.

We had lunch at the first sign of running water since leaving the Howqua. After lunch we set up camp on a flat site near where the track crossed Lickhole Creek (which turned out to be a substantial and beautiful, fast flowing mountain stream, much appreciated on a hot day). In the afternoon we walked upstream along the valley, generally to see what was there and also to look for other camp-sites. Two good sites were found at half hour walking intervals. We returned to camp and later got stuck into the evening meal. Royalty, racial issues and queen-bees were discussed; we remained divided.

Next morning we returned to S.Y.F. by following the track, crossing the Howqua Hills at a second saddle and then down the hill to the Howqua Valley at Frys. Back at S.Y.F. chocolate cake and tea were enjoyed at the cars and we left for home at lunchtime. In summary, Lickhole Creek Valley is an interesting and isolated part of the Victorian bush which is worth revisiting.

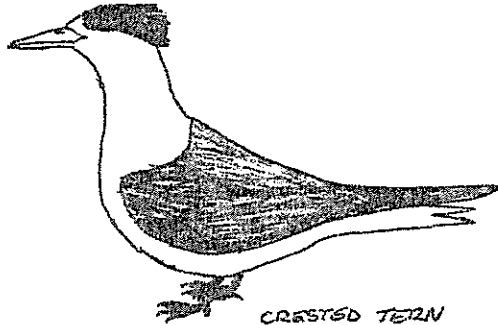
Bill Bonwick

December, 1982

BIRDS OF THE PHILLIP ISLAND WALK, 19/6/'82.

Some of the walkers on the hike from Cowes to the Knobblies on Phillip Island might be interested in the birds observed on that day. The types of birds seen reflected the coastal environment, with a total of 13 species identified.

In the company of silver gulls, a small flock of crested terns was seen resting on a rocky outcrop. Crested terns are seabirds similar to silver gulls but adorned with a black feathery cap, long narrow wings and a forked tail. Several black faced cormorants were seen sitting on an old pier and one bird was



seen on a rock pool with its wings held out to dry. Cormorants have to dry their feathers because unlike most aquatic birds, they are not water proof.

A small flock of pelicans was seen flying very gracefully across the water with strong wing beats, alternated with soaring. Another graceful flyer was the welcome swallow which provided entertainment while we ate our lunch. These small birds

acrobatically swooped and dived in front of us as they caught various flying insects.

As we walked up the beach, a pair of hooded dotterels ran swiftly in front of us. These are small, shy birds with characteristic black heads and red eye rings. When we approached too closely, they rapidly flew ahead and landed further up the beach, bobbing their heads while standing still.

Several fairy penguins were seen squatting in their burrows on the hills and we were amazed at the long distances they had to travel to get to the water. Just after we left the penguins I found a dead beach-washed bird. I was asked to identify it on the spot, but much to the horror of everyone I decided to take it home to identify it. David Leihy gave me a plastic bag to put it in and told me to walk behind everyone - down wind!. On the way to Lynne Standing's B.B.Q. I identified it as a diving petrel and to decide which one it was, I had to look closely at its beak. Imagine the amazement of the people driving beside Dad, seeing a girl staring down the nostril of a dead bird!. I finally eliminated South Georgian diving petrel and identified it as a common diving petrel, although it's not so common. The other birds seen were spur-winged plovers, immature pacific gulls (large brown gulls, often seen soaring along the beach), black cormorants, a brown falcon, and a swamp harrier (a large brown eagle with a white rump).

FELICITY NICHOLLS.

WILSONS PROMOTORY BUSHWALK - 9/10 OCTOBER 1982

Nine people attended the bushwalk weekend at Wilsons Prom, four travelling down on Friday evening. The planned route was from Mount Oberon car park to the lighthouse via half way hut and Roaring Meg camp site, return via half way hut and Oberon Bay to Tidal River. Total distance 45 kilometers.

From the car park the walk commenced with a long gentle pleasant easy downhill stroll (Yes, they do exist) for an hour to half way hut with views of Mt Oberon on our right and glimpses of Oberon Bay in front. Walked in pleasant sunshine but not too hot. Stopped for a rest and food (some said they would rest forever). Goodbyes said to two people returning to Tidal River to camp.

The main party started the tough part of the walk up a gradual but long incline. Taken in easy stages it wasn't too bad and there was always the compensation of beautiful views of the hills, bush and ocean. Roaring Meg campsite reached around 1 pm and other than some scouts we had a good site close to the creek all to ourselves. Tents pitched, a long rest and on to the lighthouse sans packs.

After an hours walk the lighthouse was sighted from the top of the final steep decline. Four of the artistic walkers stayed at the top of to admire the view of lighthouse buildings gleaming white against a blue background and framed by gum trees. The three intrepid record setters descended to have a closer view.

A pleasant walk back to Roaring Meg for a wash and dinner. By a camp fire an amazing variety of food was produced. Bill Bonwick provided a bottle of red that was accepted by all included yours truly who drank it from his billy (forgot my mug). Tired limbs early to bed.

Early rise, walk back to halfway hut by a slightly different route. Crossed over to Oberon Bay via some heavy going over sand dunes. Repairs to feet, rest and along the bay to little Oberon Bay and lunch at Freshwater creek. Around the beach and hill track in constant sight of the Ocean to Norman Bay and Tidal River to arrive at 1pm.

But where were the base campers to take us back to the car park. No trace. After a shower Peter Faber hitched a ride to the car park and saved the day. The base campers arrived at 3.30 pm as arranged after a days outing all ready to give a hearty welcome to the weary hikers only to find the leader. The rest had gone home.

Jim Barras

BUNRATTY CASTLE IRISH REVEL

After welcoming glass of mead, 22 CAEX and friends let their inhibitions go at our Xmas do at Bunratty Castle on December 14th. Highlights were:

- * belated recognition of the new irish record set by the CAEX Bushwalking Club for climbing half of Mt Everest (Which half you may ask)
- * An irish revel between Margret Maxwell and a 6ft 6in irish leprechaun:
- * a four course without the aid of fork or spoon - Irish style I guess.
- * 4 hours entertainment in song, dance, jokes and general tomfoolery.
- * Development of bushwalking to a new art form holding hands around a table dancing.

Good time had by all. Thanks to Arlis Kempf for organising.

David Leihy

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