

CAEX bushwalking club

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"Bushwalking for pleasure"

March 1983

Dear member,

We had an excellent roll up at our March meeting. Considerable discussion occurred on walking practices, social events, safety, finances etc. A film on nordic skiing was shown, slides and photos exhibited and supper held afterwards. Major decisions reached were:

1. Club to continue membership of the Adult Education Association (AEA);
2. For weekend walks a leader and an assistant would be required;
3. Guests on walks to pay 50 cents per walk whilst new members half way through the year to pay reduced subscriptions;
4. Car pooling to be encouraged. Travellers to reimburse drivers, without being asked, for petrol used;
5. Where safety, management or Park rules require, a leader may set a quota on walk numbers on a first come first in basis. Size of overall Club not to be restricted at this stage;
6. Walking program for next six months or so set (see below);
7. Intending walkers to advise leader a week in advance so transport and equipment can be organised;
8. Base camp leaders to provide day walk option where possible.

FUTURE EVENTS

- * Lynne Johnston to organise bush dance in June, date to be advised
- * New member David Main to be asked to organise a horse riding day, including instruction. He virtually volunteered anyway.
- * Country Fire Authority to be asked to talk to us at our next meeting in August regarding fire prevention and bushfire survival.
- * Federation of Australian Bushwalking Clubs to be asked to send a representative to our next meeting to talk to us about affiliation.
- * Sub Committee of Lynne Johnston, Jane Cairns and Chris Towers to organise combination nordic ski and optional bushwalking weekend (if no snow) in August.
- * Sub Committee of Jane Cairns, David Leihy and Chris Towers to prepare draft guide for leaders for discussion at our next meeting.

NEW MEMBERS

We now have 37 fully paid up members. Welcome to new members Rosemary Lade, Kate Rooney and David Main. We still have room for more new members.

CAE LIBRARY

Members are advised that they can join the Council of Adult Education Library at the 4th floor, 256 Flinders Street, Melbourne and their regional libraries. The CAE Library hold magazines, books and maps on bushwalking and has an excellent general library too. Proof of address required. No membership fee.

NEXT CLUB MEETING

7.30 pm, Tuesday 16 August 1983 at AEA Clubrooms, 1st floor, 256 Flinders Street Melbourne. Please put it in your diary NOW!

David J Leihy
Hon President.

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CHANGE OF ADDRESS

If you change your address or home/work phone numbers please ring Brian Churchill on (work) 541 6190 or (home) 878 7064 and let him know. Brian maintains our computer prepared mailing list and label system.

CAEX CLUB CAKE TRADITION

Leaders are reminded that the club has a long long (all of 3 years) standing tradition that requires them to bake a cake for afternoon tea at the end of the walk. To feed the multitude and all that! Banana cake looked on particularly favourably.

FLINDERS RANGES SOUTH AUSTRALIA

If you haven't heard, David Leihy is organising an expedition to the Flinders Ranges in South Australia for bushwalking and sightseeing over a week and two weekends in September 1983. To share driving and transport costs. Spring weather should provide interesting flora and fauna whilst not being too hot. The walks will mostly be from a base camp or car park with day packs so it should suit the less experienced. A meeting of interested people to be held in April. Eight people already coming. Ring David interested.

FUTURE WALK PROGRAM

April 23/24/25	Long weekend walk at Grampians or Wilsons Promotory depending on whether rain falls. Note change of date. Overnight and day walk options provided. Leaders: David and Jean Nichols.
May 22 Sunday	Day walk. Leaders: Lynne Johnston/Penny Lane
June 11/12/13	Long weekend walk. Leaders: Michael Zajicek/Wayne Emmins
July 9/10	Weekend walk. Leaders: Peter Faber and as yet undefined friend.
August 13/14	Nordic ski weekend plus optional bushwalk. Base camp probably at Warburton. Leader: Jane Cairns and subcommittee (see above)
September 10/11	Weekend walk. Leaders: Allan Collins/Brian Churchill

FINANCIAL REPORT

From Robyn Walsh, Hon Treasurer. Statement as at 28 February 1983

RECEIPTS:

5 couples @ \$25	125-00
26 singles @ \$15	390-00
Donation	5-00
Interest to 31/12	8-59
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	528-59

DISBURSMENTS:

Cost of production and mailing of newsletters and walk details from July 1982 to March 1983	97-76
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528-59

SURPLUS:

\$	430-83
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NOTE: Affiliation fee to AEA of around \$280 to pay in March 1983.

DESCRIPTIONS OF PAST BUSHWALKS

DAY WALK

DECEMBER 12th

MT. STRICKLAND-MT. RITCHIE WALK

Twenty-two eager bushwalkers set out at 8.30 a.m. on a Sunday morning to conquer Mt. Strickland and Mt. Ritchie. There is no truth in the rumour that the mountains conquered the bushwalkers in spite of reported sightings of a group of sagging bodies by the roadside awaiting their lift back to the city.

The walk was only 17 kilometres (measured with an elastic band). Two groups were ~~soon formed while~~ staggering up the gentle incline of the Mt. Strickland spur. These groups remained intact throughout the walk, meeting every now and then at rest stops. After lunching atop Mt. Strickland, we meandered along the track through the dense bush towards Mt. Ritchie, listening to the numerous lyre-birds which are a feature of the area. Unfortunately none were seen.

The final climb to the peak of Mt. Ritchie was accomplished by a heroic crawl. The path then descended to the finish, with a similar result to the walkers.

The feature of the day was the pancakes and hot drinks at Warburton before heading back to Melbourne to rest the weary bodies.

Brian Churchill.

Robyn Walsh.

WERRIBEE GORGE NATIONAL PARK

On Sunday 16th January, 23 men, women, children and a baby set out in overcast but mild weather to conquer the wilds of Werribee Gorge National Park. The intrepid walkers were escorted by Park Ranger Mr Ian Smith who proved to be an invaluable source of information, answering many questions on the flora and fauna and the fascinating geological formations found in the Gorge. Many thanks are extended to Ian for the time and effort he took with the group.

The walk started at a quarry on the boundary of the Park and proceeded to the rim of the Gorge for some spectacular views. We then walked down along the rim of the Gorge into the Gorge proper. We followed the Myrniong Creek which runs through the Gorge until we came to Meikle Point Picnic Ground where the walk ended. The total distance for the day was about 8km, which with a long lunch took us about 5 hours to complete.

The Gorge is about 8km west of Bacchus Marsh and has been reserved for public use since 1907. Although the Gorge is rugged the walking is quite pleasant with a well marked trail running through it. The day ended on a high note with a Devonshire tea at a Tea House in Bacchus Marsh.

DES BURNS Trip leader.

CAMP ETIQUETTE

A reminder. Before you go to bed or leave a camp site make sure you have put the fire out with water or dirt.

12th - 13th FEBRUARY - MT BUFFALO

Fourteen eager bushwalkers braved the summer heat and drove to Mt Buffalo on The Friday evening. Times of arrival varied between 7.30 p.m. and 1.30a.m. on the Saturday morning, your leader and his crew arriving the latter. Robyn Walsh had been nominated to have a cup of Milo ready for my late arrival but was found to be warm and snug in her sleeping bag asleep. Saturday morning saw the arrival of the Nichols Family. Now seventeen enthusiastic patient bushwalkers now stood silently in a circle while I gave them a briefing on the days activities. The troops as I called them were now ready. We walked single file past Lake Cantani towards a large rocky area where everybody scrambled on rocks and ladders to view the Buffalo Valley, we returned via Mt Dunn and back to camp for tea and a camp fire.

Sunday saw the troops going on a small walk to the chalet then onto a nature walk to see Australia's native fauna and flora. Six of Australia's top racing horses were grazing on pasture near the chalet and were quickly snapped up by the troops to try out there riding skills. With stiff limbs it was time to saddle up and head for home for that roast dinner and to Jim Barras to greet his wife with a set of salt & pepper shaker. Many thanks for a good turn up and a great week end.

Wayne Emmis

SNOW CAMPING

John Steel is organising a snow camping 5 days on the Bogong Plateau out of Omeo during the first or second week in September 1983. For bushwalkers or previous snow campers who want to experience and learn more about this form of recreation and survival. No fee involved - shared cost basis. Designed for a group of 8 to 10 people. Contact John at home on 435 7231.

CHANGE OF WALK DATES

You will notice that we have changed the previously set dates for our April and May walks. This is not our usual practice but was done for good reasons that hopefully will suit most people. The April date was changed to take advantage of the long weekend for Anzac Day when a long trip was involved whilst the original May 15 date clashed with that hallowed tradition, Mothers Day. Hope you can still come on the new dates - see page 2 - put them in your diary now.

SALE OF BUSHWALKING GEAR

Roslyn and John Steel are clearing out their garage of accumulated new and second hand (in near new condition) bushwalking gear. Includes tents, packs, sleeping bags, cooking gear, jackets, clothing, etc. Ring them on 435 7231 at home to arrange inspection and to enquire as to items available. Market type dickering acceptable.

TEMPORARY PHONE NUMBER

From now till end June 1983, David Leihy's work phone number will be