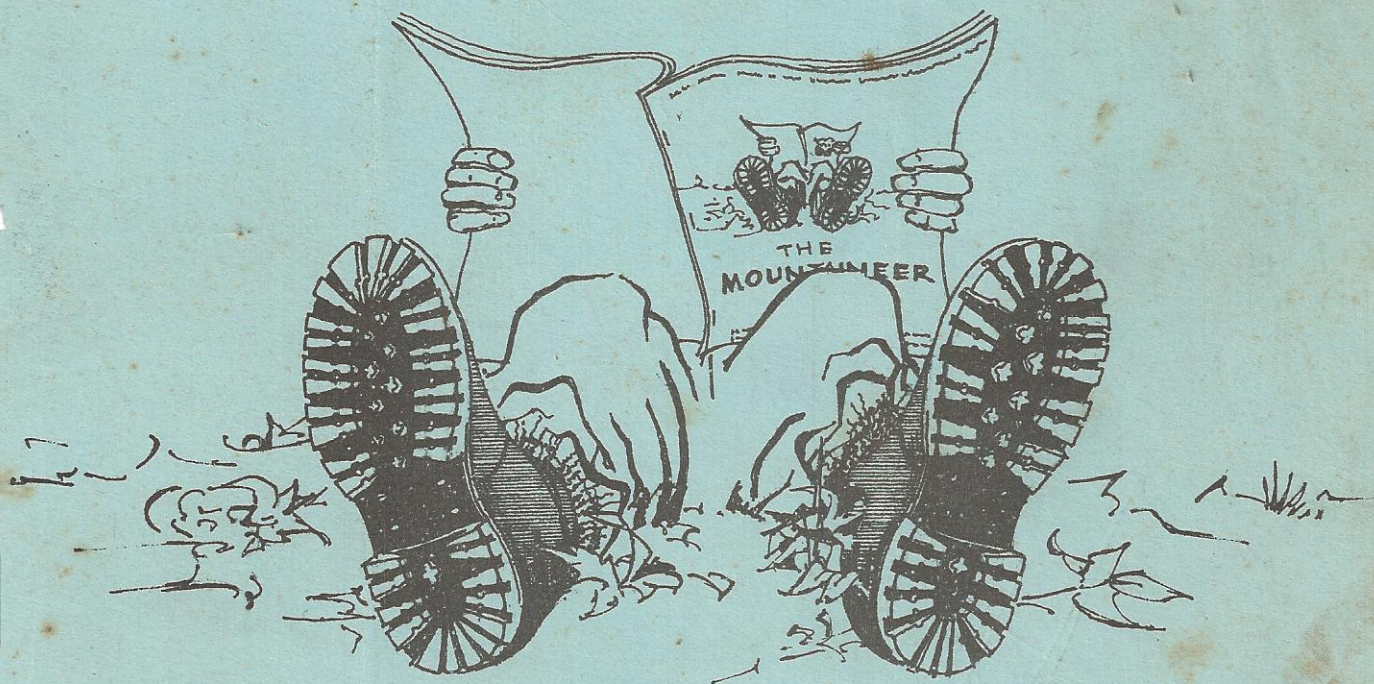


The Official Journal of the Melbourne University Mountaineering Club



THE MOUNTAINEER

Number 2



1963

Registered at G.P.O. Melbourne for transmission by post as a periodical



'THE MOUNTAINEER'

Journal of the Melbourne University Mountaineering Club.

Correspondence: Union House, University of Melbourne, Parkville N.2.

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No. 2. 1963

Price 6d

This is the first issue of "The Mountaineer" since the annual general meeting of 1963. For those who were not at this meeting, there is printed in this edition the Secretary's report for 1962-63, a list of the committee members for this year, and the Treasurer's statement.

Important Notices

Important Notices

1. MONEY OWED BY CLUB MEMBERS.

If you owe money for club stores, food, trips or the like DO NOT put it in the Club Box. There are three ways one can pay this money:-

- a) Personally to a committee member in the University.
- b) To one of these members at Aikman's Road, if you cannot find them in the Uni.
- c) For those who fear the traverse at Royal Parade, you need not walk further than the Old Arts Building. Cash can be left at Barry Smith's room - room 121. As there may be a tutorial in the room, don't knock but just slip the money under the door.

2. TRIP BOOKINGS.

All of these must be done by phone via Fred Mitchell.

The day trip on Anzac Day emphasised the fact that YOU MUST BOOK EARLY if you want to go. 15 people were turned away from this day trip because they tried to book on the day before. This is too late to hire another van.

3. "CONTACTS" FOR CLUB TRIPS.

These are:-

- i) Peter Morgan, 437 Buckley Street, Essendon. 33 8120.
- ii) Bill Bewsher, 1 Ailsa Avenue, Malvern. 211 1641.

The contact is given all details before the trip and he must be notified as soon as the party is out of the area.

Should an emergency occur the contact will do all he can.

Enquiries by parents etc. should be directed to him.

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Melbourne University Mountaineering Club Committee for 1963-64.

President	- Viv Pulford
Vice Presidents	- Barry Smith Ellen Davies
Treasurer	- Chris Davis
Secretary	- Peter Morgan (temporarily)
Assistant Secretary	- Bill Abud
Committee Members	- Tony Kerr (stores) Peter Smith (rope) David Hogg

There were no nominations tendered for Secretary before the Annual General Meeting. Peter Morgan consented to fill this post for a short while. Before you receive this Mountaineer there will be a general meeting so you probably know more about this than I do now.

Trips and Meetings Programme

May 3rd - 5th	<u>General Meeting.</u> Trophy Hall, Beaurepaire Centre, 7.30 p.m. <u>Business:-</u> Election of a new secretary and constitutional changes. After the business has been dealt with, Peter Morgan will give a talk, illustrated with slides, about his recent trip to New Zealand.
May 12th	<u>Day Walk.</u> Watch notice board for further information. This trip is to the You Yangs. Van leaves Batman Ave at 9.00 a.m.
May 17th - 19th	<u>Digger's Island - Walkerville.</u> Leader:- Barry Pullen. Van leaves 6.30 p.m., Friday evening, from front of Union.
May 18th - 19th	<u>Search and Rescue Practice Weekend.</u> For S & R personnel only. Map - Kinglake Ordnance. 1:50,000. Meet at the Police Scout Hut (Grid Reference 134 819) at 10.00 a.m. Saturday. TV and the Police Rescue Squad will be in attendance. For further details, see the club notice board or contact John Cole at WF 8150.
May 20th - 26th	<u>Snowy Plains - Howqua.</u> A hard trip for experienced male members only. Route will be as follows:- Bennison Spur, Snowy Plains, Mt. Howitt, the Bluff, Howqua River. For further details, contact the leader, Bob Monkhouse at P.O. Box 152, Birchip, Vic.

- May 24th - 27th Wilson's Promontory. Leader -- Bill Abud.
If you want an easy trip, this is it. A complete lazy long weekend of doing what you like provided it is legal. A van trip if numbers are sufficient. Return on Monday.
- June 7th - 10th Queen's Birthday Weekend - Gramoians. Climbing and walking trip. Further details later.
- June 14th Easter Slide Night. Men's Lounge 7.30 p.m. Bring your slides to show your mountaineering activities over Easter.
- June 21st - 23rd Walhalla Area. Leader - Richard Schmidt. Further details later.
- July 5th 24 Hour Walk "Pep" Talk. Men's Lounge, 7.30 p.m. Hints and other details about the '24' will be given by a leading club personality.
- July 6th - 7th 24 Hour Walk. Start training now for this big event.
- July 12th Meeting. Men's Lounge, 7.30 p.m. The guest speaker for meeting will be announced at a later date.
- August 2nd - 5th Snow Trip. Celebrate the end of second term by coming on this trip which will be to Bogong.
-

Anyone wishing to lead a trip of any nature is asked to contact the trips secretary (Max Corry) as soon as possible.

Two limited club trips to South West Tasmania are proposed over the long vac. One will be around Christmas - New Year period and the other in February. For further details contact the Trips Secretary.

Organizers for 24 Hour Walk

Applications are now being received for the following positions.

- i) Catering organiser - responsible for all catering requirements including purchase of food and equipment and supervision of Hash Houses.
- ii) Controller - responsible for the planning and setting out of the route, transport and supervision of all aspects except catering.

Prior experience (either as an organiser or a competitor) would be an advantage but is not essential.

Applications may be left in the Club Box addressed to the Trips Secretary.

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The Trips Secretary (Max Corry) may be contacted as follows:-

8.45 a.m. - 12.45 p.m., 1.30 p.m. - 5.00 p.m. 86 5321,
ext 226, 227 or 228.
After 6 p.m. 34 5620

Secretary's Report 1962-63

The year 1962-63 for the club has been one of ups and downs; many of the difficulties encountered were a result of the peculiar university situation of a large club catering for a wide range of activities, with a disproportionate number of members interested in administration and these members suffering from effects of quick recruitment and rapid turnover in numbers. It seems that the primary purpose of service to undergraduate members must be kept well in hand.

MEMBERSHIP

The 1962 total of 277 members was somewhat lower than the 1961 total of 363. However with the addition of approximately 50 new members in 1963, the current total now stands around the 330 mark.

JOURNAL

The club now has at its disposal a photographic copying process which has enabled the journal to be put between soft covers and the publication of sketch maps of climbing routes on The Temple, The North Jawbones and Hanging Rock. Copies of these are still available.

One problem associated with high numerical membership is the amount of time and money spent through printing, stapling and posting large numbers of journals. It is therefore proposed to publish only 3 or 4 large editions of the journal and to limit the rest to a circular informing members of approaching events only.

COMMITTEE

10 meetings were held during the year to attempt to dispose of club business. A high attendance rate of 90% was maintained. Apologies were duly received from absentees.

SPORTS UNION GRANT

The annual grant (amounting this year to £130) was used to purchase the following club equipment.

1 - 4 man tent	£12	0	0
2 - Kiandra extra-long sleeping bags	£22	0	0
1 - Inner liner	£1	0	0
4 - H-frame packs	£44	0	0
360' BS 3104, No. 4 nylon climbing rope	£30	0	0
16 assorted Karabiners	£14	10	0
Printing and stationery	£6	10	0
	<hr/>		
	£130	0	0

One of our own club members is producing the H-frame packs which should all be completed by Easter.

One other item which the Sports Union has agreed to finance is the purchase of a durable utility mountain-rescue stretcher which was specially designed by the Swiss Mountaineering Federation for rescue work under cliff and/or snow and ice conditions.

CLUB STORES

These operated efficiently throughout the year although there have been times when more members could have used club equipment if it had been returned more promptly after a trip. Another problem was that on the few occasions when club first aid kits were taken on trips (though they should be taken on all club trips) the kits were often returned minus bandages and sometimes complete tubes of antiseptics etc. It is only fair to demand a certain degree of responsibility from trip leaders and the Trips Secretary in seeing that a fully equipped first aid kit is carried on a trip and furthermore that the kits are used with discretion and the use of bandages etc. duly reported to the stores officer.

ROPE

This year a considerable loss was incurred on the sale of nylon climbing rope through the club. This loss came about through the withdrawal of a number of orders placed with the club. One of the club's main customers Paddy Pallin Pty. Ltd. withdrew substantial orders and at one point the club was threatened with legal action because a buyer who had payed a deposit and had written a number of letters to the rope officer had at no stage received any formal (or informal) acknowledgement of receipt of the money.

Club rope business involves a lot of time-consuming work and the pressure on an undergraduate rope officer is such that either rope business or his studies must be adversely effected. It is with this knowledge in mind that I suggest the club consider taking this responsible away from students and form a separate sub-committee of graduate members of the club to take responsibility for this section of club activities. The only alternative to taking responsibility from under-graduates is to strictly limit rope sales to a few select customers (a move which defeats the purpose of the M.U.M.C. controlling sales of quality climbing rope in Australia). On the other hand the club could relax its monopoly of quality climbing ropes in Australia.

SEARCH AND RESCUE

John Cole has completely overhauled our club S and R lists and system and it now remains for the body of experienced members to become aware of the importance of S and R service. Other clubs are not as well endowed with experienced leaders as ours and university students are well able to volunteer for this type of community service.

MEETINGS

The number of meetings for the year fell away compared with previous years. However, illustrated talks by Bill Melbourne at the Annual General Meeting and Herbert Schlipper at the Club Dinner, were outstanding.

Other first rate evenings were the two movie films belonging to Warwick Deacock, one of an expedition to Alaska and another taken in the Karakoram area of the Himalayas, and Sir Percy Wyn-Harris who commented on five reels of movie film taken by him during the 1936 attempt on Mt. Everest.

TRIPS

There were a number of very good club and private trips organised in 1962. Amongst these were the club climbing course which was initially very well-supported but final results in terms of ardent converts to the art of climbing was not so good.

There were three Easter trips:

Hotham - Bogong

Moroka Gorge

Dargo - Howqua

in which a total of 90 people participated and thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

Other outstanding trips were the mid-winter trip to Mt. Feathertop where 33 people gained valuable experience in snow conditions. This trip could, and I feel should, become a regular winter feature.

Finally the 24 Hour Walk which catered for over 100 entrants was very well organised and successful.

Private trips included climbing on the North Jawbones, The Temple, Mt. Rosea, as well as one winter trip to Pine Valley in Tasmania. During the long vacation two parties ventured into S-W Tasmania and a number of parties visited the Reserve region of Tasmania.

The outlook for 1963, however, has been very poor so far. Unfortunately none of the trips approved by the General Committee at the beginning of the year have been followed up and organised with the result that freshers have only had one opportunity to date to go on a weekend trip to the Baw Baw area.

CLIMBING SUB-COMMITTEE

A report will be read for this sub-committee by the Convenor, Ian Guild.

MARRIAGES

I have been constrained to mention that there have been a number of marriages celebrated amongst members of our club. This very day, our committee member Lindsay Ingram, has announced his engagement to Helen Begg - Our Congrats.

Finally I would like to say that during the past year I felt some of the committee members were not pulling the weight that was required in order to do the club's business efficiently. On the other hand, however, certain other committee members and ordinary members as well did vastly more than their fair share. Whilst thanking these few I would like to make special mention of our typiste - Carolyn Robertson.

Thank you,
Frank Hicks.

Climbing Sub-Committee Report 1962-63

The climbing sub-committee organised climbing trips throughout the year to Sugarloaf, The Jawbones, Hanging Rock and the Grampians, there being six open and many restricted club trips.

In May, a short climbing course was conducted with some success.

Throughout the year, three members were appointed to the leader's list, they being Bill Melbourne, Rod Coles and Peter Smith.

ADVERTISEMENTS

For Sale

A compass in excellent condition, with leather case, for inspection come to Room 236 in the Old Arts Building (above the Sub-Dean's office).
Price - to be decided.

For Sale

Rucksack - Paddy Pallin. Bushwalker model - £4. Judy Maynard, 25 3408.

Engagements

It seems that before long the only tents on club trips will be two man tents.

Best wishes to Maree Hall and Scott Vickridge on their engagement. (Scott has now been initiated into the noble art of Mountaineering).

Helen Begg and Lindsay Ingram have announced their engagement - congratulations to both of them.

A. E. Spiegelmann is engaged in considering the pros and cons of a certain type of sports car with wire wheels.

Another oxo fan has left for distant lands. Sir Dallas Brookes is reported to have chosen the Iberia for his trip to England because he would then have the company of Judy Maynard. We all hope she thoroughly enjoys herself overseas.

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MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY MOUNTAINEERING CLUB

Statement of Receipts and Payments

March 20th, 1962 to March 22nd 1963

RECEIPTS

Balance on Hand 20.3.62	£164 0 6
Less to Subs for 62/63	30 0 0
	<hr/>
	£134 0 6
Subscriptions 62/63	
195 @ 6/-	£58 10 0
49 @ 10/-	£24 10 0
15 @ 12/6	£ 9 7 6
	92 7 6
Subs in Advance	26 14 6
Song Books, Pack Badges and equipment reports	55 7 10
Rope	386 8 4
Stores	169 5 5
Hire	47 18 0
Trips	418 6 8
Annual Dinner	60 0 0
24 Hour Walk	248 7 8
Sundry receipts	26 11 5
	<hr/>
	£1,665 7 10

Rope	£476 17 8
Stationery	8 16 11
Postage	16 7 7
Duty	18 0
Circulars	60 9 0
Stores	167 13 5
Trips	429 10 0
Annual Dinner	64 8 0
24 Hour Walk	232 9 2
Sundry Payments	78 17 9
Balance - being cash on hand 22.3.63	129 0 4

£1,665 7 10

Each subscription includes 3/- for dues to 'The Mountaineer'.

Cash owing to Club £29. 14. 0.

R. HAWTHORNE
Hon. Treasurer

22nd, March 1963.

TRIP REPORTS

Cradle Mountain - Lake St. Clair National Park. Dec 29th - Jan 10th.

Party - Don Allison, Dave Hogg, Max Corry.

After arriving in Waldheim in pouring rain some 4 hours or so after leaving Melbourne, camp was made in the Day Hut along with several others of all shapes and sizes. An early start the next morning saw us at the top of Cradle Mountain and down to the Kitchen Hut for lunch. After moving further south and climbing Barn Bluff, we reached the campsite at Waterfall Valley just on dusk. Old Pelion Hut was reached the next night and the following day a successful day trip to the summit of Pelion West was made. The second day at Pelion was spent climbing Mt. Oakleigh and catching up on some sleep.

We had hoped to climb Pelion East and Ossa en route to Du Cane Hut, but adverse weather conditions foiled our attempt, so the afternoon at Du Cane was spent exploring the waterfalls to the south-east of Du Cane. As the next day dawned clear, a successful trip was made to the summits of Mt. Ossa and Pelion East. As it was still fairly early when we arrived back at Du Cane, it was decided to push on to Narcissus, where we staggered in some two hours or so after sunset. As our food dump arrived at Narcissus via launch the following day, a rest day was taken and the food sorted out.

Mt. Gould was climbed the next morning from Nichol's Hut and in the afternoon camp was shifted to Pine Valley where day trips were made to Walled Mountain, the Acropolis and the Guardian. After a late afternoon walk to Nichol's we were picked up by launch early the following morning and thus we spent the rest of the day lazing around Cynthia Bay.

After celebrations in the local at Derwent Bridge we decided to see how the other half lives and so we turned tourists for a couple of days in Hobart before flying back to Melbourne.

"Across the Summer Snows" - a journey from Cradle Mt. to Lake St. Clair via the Du Cane Range. 10th - 23rd Feb. 1963.

Party - Tony Kerr, Ross Smith, Richard Schmidt, Robert McNaught.

The first stage of the journey was more or less orthodox. Camp spots were made at Lake Dove, Windermere, and Pelion Hut. The highlights of these three days were Cradle Mt., the Forth Gorge and West Pelion, which was well worth all the scratches accumulated during the climb.

The next day we dashed through pouring rain and swarming leeches to the Du Cane Hut, where we spent the afternoon and the next day. That night, a light snowfall started and continued throughout the night so that we awoke to find the valley blanketed with four inches of snow! Full of wonder, love and praise, we waded back to Pelion Gap and spent the day climbing Pelion East and Mount Ossa in about a foot and a half of snow. The view from the top of Ossa was non-existent,

but the snow afforded us a marvellous view from the lower slopes and made the trip very unique.

The next day was fine, and the snow had almost gone, so we finally left the Du Cane Hut and its notorious possum(s) and leisurely ambled on to Windy Ridge Hut via the waterfalls. The following morning was the start of the "scrub-bash". The day's hike took us up Falling Mountain, over Mt. Masoif, down to "Big Gun Pass" and then up to Lake Helios, where we made camp.

The dawn brought with it swirling mists and the promise of a cold day. We stumbled off into "The Labyrinth", almost groping along, as none of the surrounding mountains could be seen. Our lunch was dramatically interrupted by a howling blizzard which whipped us on down to the Pine Valley Hut that night. The next day, two of us spent the day in the hut creating a steamed pudding while the less adventurous pair climbed the Acropolis.

The next dawning blossomed into beautiful sunshine so we returned to the Labyrinth and climbed Mt. Gould. During the afternoon, two of us sat nursing our feet and soaking in the beauties of Mt. Geryon while the fleet-footed couple set a speed record for the climbing of Walled Mountain.

The remaining two days were relatively unadventurous though the country was very pretty. We stayed for the night at the Echo Point Hut and on the last day, strolled out to Cynthia Bay feeling very much overfed and very refreshed after a thirteen day excursion through some of Australia's most glorious, most unique and most varied country.

Club's First Snow Trip for the Year - in March.

Stronach's Camp - Baw Baw Plateau - Mt. Baw Baw - Neulyne's Mill. 30-31 March.

"An easy trip", "very suitable for beginners", or so the notice on the club notice board said, and so twenty-one mountaineers, several on their first trip, left from the Union on Friday prepared for an easy Autumn walk across the Baw Baw Plateau. And it might well have turned out that way, but

The party left Stronach's Camp at 9 o'clock on Saturday morning with the clear blue sky pointing to a day of perfect bushwalking weather. The climb up to the plateau along a rather indistinct track was made more difficult by a large amount of log-hopping over logs which were very slippery from the previous night's rain. During this little stretch, several members of the party found out just how easy falling off a log really is!

The track soon improved, however, and was fairly well defined once the plateau was reached. By this stage it had become obvious that the weather was not going to be as perfect as expected. The sky had been clouding over and now light rain started to fall. Then the rain became heavier and later gave rise to hail, a mist settled across the plateau and a cold wind sprang up as the group continued along the track, stopping as little as possible to avoid getting too cold. By half past one, however, the empty stomachs were starting to tell and a halt was called at a comparatively sheltered spot just south of Mt. Whitelaw. The party had barely removed their packs when a few flakes of snow started to fall. Rather than risk going on and getting caught in a snow storm, it was decided to bivouac there for the night with the intention of making up the lost time next day, weather permitting.

Camp was hurriedly pitched and except for a few valiant souls who managed to start a fire in the drizzling rain, everyone retired to their tents for a cold lunch or one cooked over choofers. During the afternoon while everyone was keeping warm in their sleeping bags, the snow really started to fall and by evening about three inches covered the ground.

Next morning, although the snow and rain had stopped falling, the weather showed no sign of clearing and a change in plans became necessary. Three of the fittest members of the party were sent on to Ezard's No. 1 Mill, the original destination of the trip, to bring the van round to Neulyne's Mill, while the rest of the party headed out for Neulyne's over Mt. Baw Baw.

Following in the footsteps of the other three, the main party found its way to the Mt. Phillack saddle and then proceeded to follow the snowpoles to Mt. Baw Baw. The snowpoles, however, became non-existent at some stages but eventually the party found itself on top of Baw Baw where the ski-tow hut was a most welcome sight.

From here it was plain sailing down to Neulyne's where, after a rather belated lunch, the party was greeted with the arrival of the van with the three remaining members on board.

The trip was quite an experience for most of those that went along and the leader would like to thank not only those who assisted in route-finding, "whipping", fetching the van etc. but the whole party for the way they pushed on without a complaint despite the highly unpleasant conditions.

David Hogg

President's Opening Day Walk

At 9.15 a.m. in Batman Avenue, passersby saw an astonishing collection of people with packs, parkas, lunches, transistor radios, cameras and a president named Viv Pulford.

Almost on time, very good by M.U.M.C. standards, the two wagons left Batman Ave, added another one to their number in Swanston Street and proceeded on the trek to the Lerderderg Gorge.

When the wagons stopped rolling, these strange types (some whispered "oxo-men") went through the mysterious rite of name-calling. All the warriors and the maidens formed a ceremonial circle and each called out two magic words.

With the great strength derived from their ancient rite, the tribe then set out along the Lerderderg Gorge. After walking many hundreds of feet along the age worn track, these natives gathered at some secret pools and sent magic stones dancing on the water.

After they had finished with stone dancing the tribe returned to their wagons and came back to the hunting ground named Melbourne, singing their ancient songs and telling folk-tales on the way.

Feathertop - Hotham - Bogong. Easter Trip 11th-16th/4/63

At 7.15 Thursday night we left the University grounds, "we" being 36 squashed bodies in a 33 seater van. The majority of the "sardines" were heading for Harrietville, planning to hike from Harrietville to Feathertop - Hotham - Towonga Hut via Bogong High Plains and on to Mt. Beauty township via the Fainter Ridge. The remainder, led by Barry Pullen, were heading for a trip on the high plains. Of the 28 on the Feathertop trip, 13 were girls - young women, sorry! - and the rest were young men. A majority of the young women were freshettes or beginners hoping for an easy trip.

Camp was made outside Wangaratta that night and an early start in the morning saw us in Bright at 9.10 a.m. sitting down to a tourist breakfast that was looked back upon during the next four days.

Harrietville was reached by 11 a.m. and, as packs were slung on, many began to wish that luxuries such as lilos, choofers etc, had been left at home. This wish became more apparent as the $4\frac{1}{2}$ thousand foot pull to Feathertop hut was begun in reasonably warm weather. Some fast talking was necessary to prevent a walk 5 minutes, rest 10 minutes, routine setting in with some of the female members. (Sorry, no names as I have not taken out a life insurance policy).

The tailenders reached the hut by 4.30 p.m. and, after an edible tea, everyone joined in a campfire sing-song during which a more experienced member (teacher by trade) let loose with some verse that would never pass the censorship board. (Name withheld because of a possible scandal in a small town by the name of Birchip). "Up at 6.30 in the morning" rang in everyone's ears as they headed for their tents at about 9.30 p.m.

6.30 a.m. Saturday morning. Everyone was awakened by the fearful statement, "the longer you stay in bed, the heavier the tents get!" as the overcast misty conditions had thought fit to spew forth a little drizzle. By 6.45 all tents were down (!) the drizzle had ceased and breakfast was well on the way. At 9.30 a.m. the majority of the party was groping its way towards the summit of Feathertop while two of the more experienced members set off to retrieve seven straying "sheep" who had taken off along the lower path that by-passes the summit of Feathertop and heads towards the northern end of the Razorback. By 10.30 the party was together again and heading south along the Razorback towards Hotham.

The well defined track allowed the leaders, at times, to gain $\frac{1}{2}$ a mile on the tailenders. Lunch was eaten under an apparently clearing sky, within sight of the Hotham road, and by 1.30 p.m. we were on the track again. When 500 yards from the road a biting wind carrying minute ice crystals caused the temperature to plummet to 34°F, a foretaste of what was to come.

On reaching the road we lowered ourselves to talk to a few tourists and found that at the Hotham Heights Chalet they were expecting snow to fall on the Bogong High Plains. Not wanting to take beginners (especially the few with cold sleeping bags) through possible snow conditions, word was sent, via tourists, to have the van pick us up the following morning. In the meantime Hotham was climbed in sub-zero temperatures with visibility again being practically zero.

That night 18 of the party slept in Diamantina Hut which had bunking space for four. This hut was beside the road about $\frac{1}{4}$ mile from the Razorback. Community cooking was the order, and by 9 p.m., with everyone in their sleeping bags, the floor looked like a newly opened sardine can. Broken windows ensured plenty of cool ventilation. The outside temperature nose-dived to a mere 24°F (8°F below freezing) while inside the hut all liquids except blood and shellite turned solid. Canvas water bags, inside the hut, were as hard as steel and outside the $\frac{1}{4}$ " of frozen frost gave the impression of an ice-age. Each person averaged 2 hours sleep that night, which was by no means a silent night. If it was not one of the talkers, it was one or more of the numerous snorers that kept the air vibrating. (Names withheld, but will be released confidentially to those looking for tent-space on future trips).

Morning was clear and very cold. The sun helped to thaw out three animated blocks of ice, once members of the party, that pitched their tent a few hundred feet from the summit of Hotham. Hotham was once again conquered and tremendous

views of Buffalo and Feathertop were the order of the morning. The tourist (UGH!) car parked not ten yards from the summit brought forth many hisses.

The van arrived at about noon and lunch was eaten on the banks of the east branch of the Owens River in Harrietville. We then toured through and past Tawonga to a perfect campsite about $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles from the staircase route to Bogong. We all enjoyed a leisurely tea, a camp fire got together and then to sleep for nearly 8 hours.

Monday morning: a 6.15 rise to a perfect day. A usual M.U.M.C. breakfast followed, allowing us to leave for Bogong by 8.15 a.m. with day packs. After about 3 hours slogging, the first clouds began to cover Bogong.

Packs were left at the hut, about an hour's walk from the summit, and the summit was raced for. Three young women were first to reach the summit (two experienced and one beginner) which offered glorious views of grey mist. Although fleeting glimpses of the valleys below could be seen, the mist, with a temp of 34 F, was not inducive to a long stay on the summit. After 20 min we headed for a $1\frac{1}{2}$ hour lunch.

We were halfway down when the last of the clouds left Bogong and we began to plod into camp from 4.30 p.m. onwards under a clear blue sky.

One of the party, who had travelled to Feathertop in his own car, had an unfortunate accident, a hole knocked in the sump of his car, and remained in camp on the Monday to effect repairs after which he journeyed to Tawonga where he acquired refreshments for the rest of the party.

After an early tea, everyone gathered around the main fire for a final get together. By 11 p.m. many of the hikers were engaged in spirited arguments. All those that were still awake at 2 a.m. which was the majority of the party, would have been able to pick out the raucous voices of one or two scientists, a teacher (with teacher's pet) and an engineer trying to explain the meaning of infinity to a (c.f. illiterate) third year commerce student.

The next morning was perfect; no clouds, no hangovers and it was reasonably warm. It was spent eating breakfast, preparing for lunch and eating lunch. At 2.45 p.m. the party from the Bogong High Plains began arriving and we left our "party" grounds at 3.15 p.m., heading for Benalla for tea. The cries of dismay, especially from Barry's mob, echoed around the van when it was realised that we would not reach Benalla until after six p.m. As usual, the van burst forth into song on the homeward trip and also a few budding romances were either broken or consolidated.

Melbourne was reached at approximately 10.30 p.m. and 36 weary travellers made their way home in anticipation of another tea, a hot bath, a comfortable innerspring mattress and probably to relate to their parents and friends the story of the Easter trip (with, and possible without deletions) and how they enjoyed it as I hope they did.

Tony Kerr

Mountaineers and their activities have been using some space in the Press in recent weeks.

A couple of reports concerned the American attempt on Mt. Everest. They have had some bad luck, seven porters being killed in an avalanche and one of the climbers was fatally injured in a fall.

Mount Everest was also mentioned in another article telling of a proposed Japanese expedition.

"The Sun". Tues March 19th. World News Round-up

"Spider" Climbing Killer Mountain

Rome, Mon., AAP - An Italian climber, known as "The Spider of the Dolomites," is scaling a killer peak in the Italian Alps for his nine year old son.

The climber, Cesare Maestri, said: "I had to show him he had nothing to be ashamed of in his father".

He said his son had faced accusations against him at school.

Late yesterday Maestri and a companion, Claudio Baldessari, were spotted 650 feet up the sheer face of the 9840-foot Western Lavaredo peak's north wall.

The pair abandoned a similar attempt after two days on February 28th. They later received hundreds of letters urging them to try again.

Maestri added: "Some of the letters cast my good name in doubt".

Maestri and Baldessari are following the route of three young Germans who became the first to climb the north wall in January.

The hazardous peak has claimed a number of victims.

Our Roving Correspondent reports that there is a disposals shop in Elizabeth Street, near Latrobe Street, which has packs for sale. These packs are very similar in design to those produced by the club. According to our colleague these packs are of good quality and worth considering if one wants to buy a pack.

A Dissertation on the one-upmanship of Logs

(Here is presented a synopsis of a report which was made at the April meeting of the Royal Society of Yetis and Similar Creatures. It was presented by that eminent yeti-type A. Tuft D.I.L.L. Mr. (?) Tuft wishes to point out that he recieved much help at a conference in the Lerderderg Gorge on April 7th. It is the most up to date review of the subject).

"The very first work in this field was done by Choleus Gubb some six thousand years ago. By means of a mural, Mr. Gubb described how he wandered off the track one day and noted a scarcity of fallen logs in the immediate vicinity of the track. Upon a statistical examination, it was found that of logs falling near the track, instead of the expected 50%, 80% fell across the track. A further 15% attempted to fall across it but finished up being parallel to it.

"After Mr. Gubb's pioneering effort, interest in this field lapsed for some two thousand years. Then Mr. Hretzius Getzus noted in a papyrus dated 2001 B.C. that the position of the logs across the track was not as haphazard as might appear. He records that 75% of all logs he came across in the period of two full moons were placed at such a height that one couldn't very easily get under them, ncr get over them without considerable effort.

"With this papyrus, interest in the field was re-awakened and many examples of the one-upmanship of logs were cited, e.g. -

1. Some logs were in such a position that one was forced to go over them, but immediately one reached the highest point on them, the rotten things broke.
2. Some logs are so large and slippery one has to go round them; to do this however, entails going through prickly scrub one man's length high.
3. Logs placed across rivers do not go rotten until immediately following a heavy downpour and/or thaw.

There were many similar examples discovered in that era.

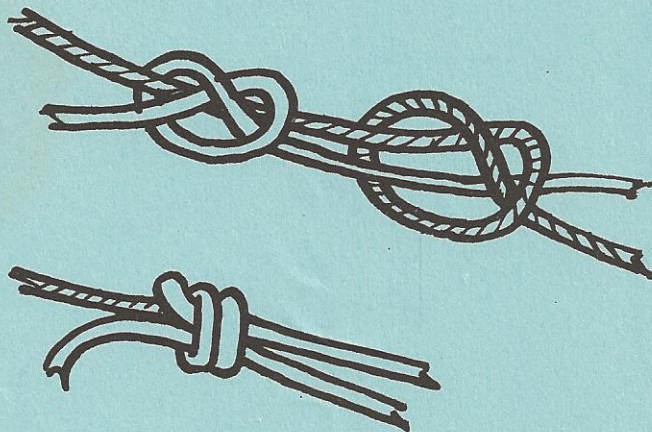
"The latest development however, follows the production of a means of communication between nearby trees prior to their falling. Often one finds two logs very close together, one which is very easily got under but cannot be climbed over, the other vice versa. Hence one has to climb under one, squeeze up through a very small space, and climb over the other. Another time one finds two logs close together. The first one can be easily climbed on to, but the second can be climbed over only by virtue of the fact that the first is so close by. The leader of the push is glad to find the lower log so well placed that he jumps on it with joy. Alas! this log is rotten to the core and the poor leader crashes to the ground. The rest of the push, not wishing to go round the big log walk over their

leader on to the log and down the other side. The leader then scrub bashes around the end of the log and reaches the track only to find that all the others are well ahead and completely bushed.

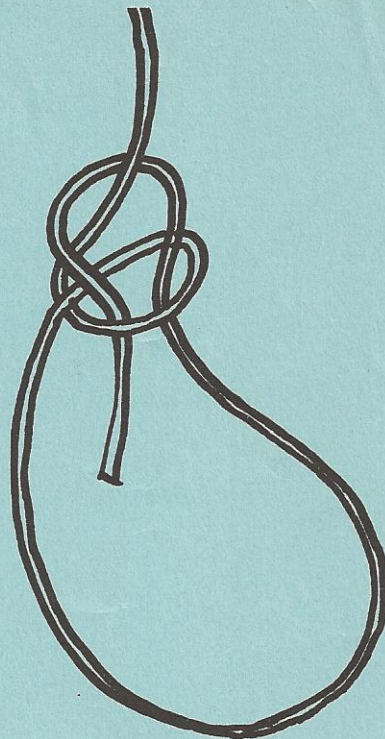
"In the latest issue of the Proceedings of the Royal Society of Yetis and Similar Creatures, we find the most subtle and recent trick by these cunning adversaries. Small logs, virtually still adolescents fall on the track in such a way as to suggest that the track takes a turn. i.e. they are arranged thus [→] This usually occurs next to an obvious gap in the bush, probably provided by trees that have given their bit in the cause of the anti-walker campaign. The poor walker follows the new "track" which gradually becomes nothing, and cannot be recognised when one retraces one's steps.

"Before this war is allowed to develop any further, it is hoped that some enterprising research worker will find out just how these creatures communicate. For this reason, the A. Tuft Research Fellowship has been inaugurated. It is hoped that some Yeti or similar creature will accept this offer."

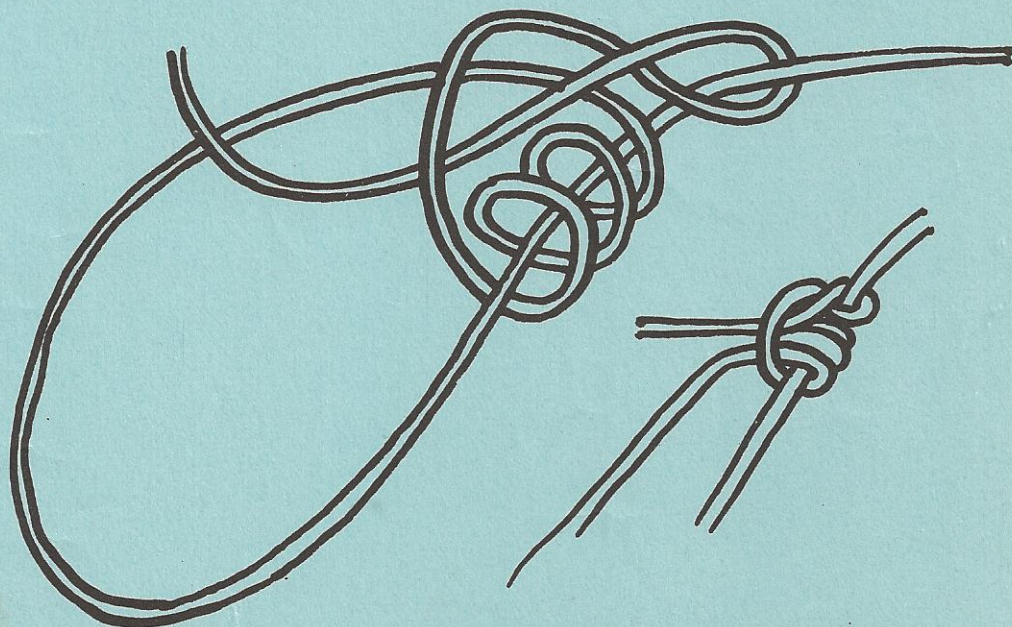
Ed's Note: We are glad to see that some positive action is at last being taken instead of just the compiling of examples of these arboreal injustices. We know that all oxo-men will rally to the cause. (oxo-women, of course, can go to the hills too).



'FISHERMAN'S
KNOT'



'BOWLINE'



'TARBUCK'

