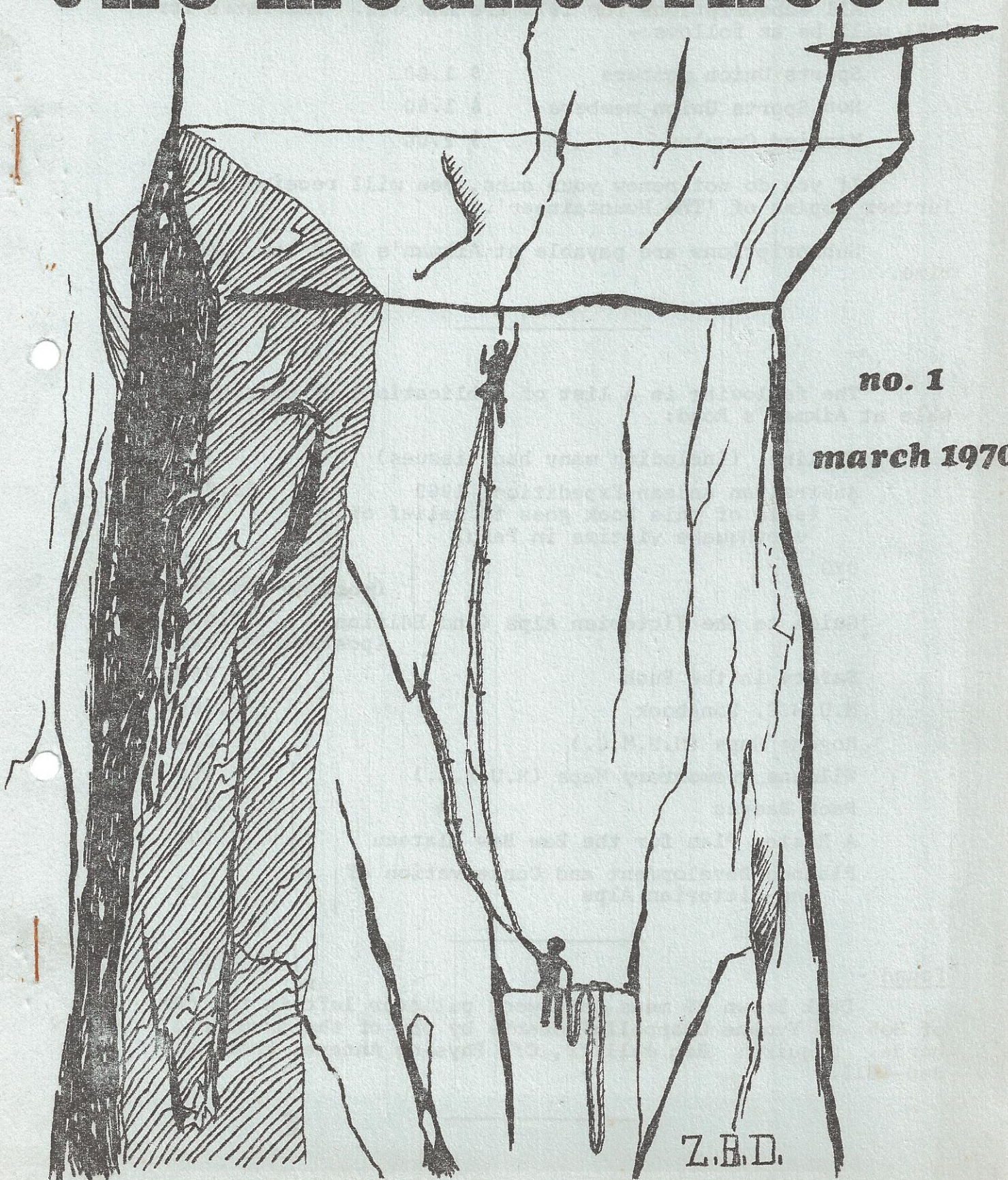


the mountaineer

no. 1

march 1970



Z.B.D.

REGISTERED FOR TRANSMISSION BY POST AS A PERIODICAL—CATEGORY B.

* * * * SUBSCRIPTIONS * * * *

All subscriptions for 1971 are now due. The rates for 1971 will be as follows:-

Sports Union members	\$ 1.00
Non Sports Union members	\$ 1.50
Married Couples	\$ 2.00

If you do not renew your subs, you will receive no further copies of 'The Mountaineer'.

Subscriptions are payable at Aikman's Road any lunch-time.

The following is a list of publications at present on sale at Aikman's Road:

Skyline (including many back issues)	.35¢
Australian Andean Expedition, 1969 (sale of this book goes to relief of earthquake victims in Peru)	\$1.00
OXO	.35¢ (postage 12¢ extra)
Guide to the Victorian Alps (2nd Edition)	\$2.00 (postage 24¢ extra)
Safety in the Bush	.25¢
M.U.M.C. Songbook	.50¢
Bogong Maps (M.U.M.C.)	.65¢
Wilsons Promontory Maps (M.U.M.C.)	.45¢
Pack Badges	.35¢
A Master Plan for the Baw Baw Plateau	.20¢
Planned Development and Conservation of the Victorian Alps	.30¢

Found:-

Dark brown OS mens lambswool pullover left in the car of Bob and Yvonne Chappell (Hobart) by one of the oxometric horde. Enquire: Ron Jelliff, C/- Physics Annexe, Phone - 340-6815.



The Mountaineer

MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY MOUNTAINEERING CLUB

Official Journal of the Melbourne University Mountaineering Club.

Number 1, March 1971.

Price : 10¢

Correspondence: The Editor, C/- M.U.M.C.,
Sports Union, University of Melbourne,
Parkville. Vic. 3052.

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The new academic year should bring with it a large influx of members to M.U.M.C. Despite the fact that we do not enrol people willy nilly at the Orientation Week display as is done with many other clubs, we can still claim to be one of the largest clubs on the campus. This is not really surprising when one considers the wide range of tastes in outdoor activities catered for: Bushwalking, Canoeing, Caving, Ski-touring, Rock Climbing, Orienteering, Snow and Ice Climbing and even Touristing. The new member, even if not a "raw beginner", is recommended to attend at least one Club beginner's course. These courses are considered as an essential part of the Club's activities, and as well as providing instruction in the essentials of a Club activity, enable a person to meet the more experienced members of the Club. This year, beginners will not be permitted to attend the Easter walks unless they have attended at least one walk with the Club.

For those members who have been around Aikman's Road a little longer, I bring to your attention the call for nominations for Committee and Non-Committee positions for 1971. (see page 7). The running of a club of the size of M.U.M.C. is a bigger task than it may seem, and requires the efforts of a large number of people. If you think you could do a certain job, or know someone you think could do it, send your nomination to the Returning Officer.

This being the last 'Mountaineer' of which I will be Editor, I should like to close with a word of thanks to everyone who helped in its publication over the past year. These people include the contributors who are far too many to name, the cheerful band of giddy collators (who collated over 100,000 pages of 'Mountaineer' in the one year), the postcode sorters, and Margaret Somerville, the typist.

Rod Tucker

TRIPS PROGRAMME

There are only two ways to book for a Club trip:

- (a) Place name and other details in Trips Book;
- (b) Only if the above is not possible, ring Trips Secretary before 9.00 p.m. (Harry Schaap, 80-3581).

- February 28 (Sunday) Day Walk - Rye - Portsea back-beach.
A bludge and swimming trip.
Leader: Tony Kerr.
Transport: Private.
Standard: Easy.
- March 6-7 Canoeing - River not decided.
Leader: Mike McNicol.
Transport: Private.
- March 7 (Sunday) Orienteering - Twilight Score Event.
You Yangs.
For details phone Tom Andrews (29-3100 a.h.).
- March 10 Talk - Compulsory for all beginners attending the Beginners Walk at Wilsons Promontory.
7.00 p.m.,
James Crow Theatre, Architecture Building.
- March 13-14 Beginners Bushwalk - Wilsons Promontory.
Standards: Easy to impossible.
About 10 trips to suit all tastes.
Transport: Van.
Cost: \$4.50 approximately.
Vans leave Union Car Park 6.30 p.m. Friday.
Choice of 10 leaders (male and female).
- March 16 (Tuesday) a) Rock Climbing Course - Lecture, compulsory for all attending course over the weekend.
7.30 p.m.,
Sports Union Activities Room.
b) Monthly meeting.
7.30 p.m., Sports Union Offices.
- March 19 (Friday) Annual General Meeting of M.U.M.C.
Elections, reports, films.
supper - see elsewhere for details.
8.00 p.m.,
Sisalkraft Theatre, Architecture School.
- March 20 (Saturday) Beginners Rock Climbing Course.
Hanging Rock
Transport: Private.

March 21
(Sunday)

President's Day Walk - Cape Schank - Bushrangers Bay.

Standard: Easy, with lots of time for swimming.

Leader: The New President.

Transport: Van which leaves Princess Bridge (city) at 10.00 a.m.

Cost: \$2.00 approx.

March 27-28

Walk - The Cathedral Ranges, Little River Area.

Standard: Easy, semi-fixed camp.

Leader: Duncan Stevenson.

Transport: Private (only 60 miles from Town).

April 3-4

a) Walk - Woods Point - Jordan River Area.

Standard: Medium.

Leader: Arnold Wheeler.

Transport: Private.

b) Climbing - 2nd Beginners Climbing Trip.

Arapiles.

All welcome.

Transport: Private.

April 3
(Saturday)

c) Canoeing - Yarra River.

Leader: Roger Little.

Transport: Private.

Standard: Pollution.

April 4
(Sunday)

d) Orienteering.

See Peter Whitmore for details.

April 9-11
and 9-13
(Easter)

Walks - 5 day medium trip, 5 day hard trip,
3 day medium trip, 3 day easy trip.

Leaders: include Duncan Stevenson, Tony Kerr,
Jeff Rossely, Rod Tucker.

Area: Mt. Buller, Stirling, Bluff, Howitt,
Speculation, Cobbler Area.

Note: No beginners allowed unless approved
by Trips Secretary.

April 10-11
or 18-19

Canoeing - Beginners Course.

Run by Bryan Scott.

Contact Tony Kerr.

24 places available.

April 20
(Tuesday)

a) Monthly Meeting - film, supper, etc.

7.30 p.m.,

Activities Room, Sports Union.

b) A.G.M. of Victorian Orienteering Association.

7.30 p.m.,

Activities Room, Sports Union.

New film - "Thomas the Orienteer" will be shown.

N.B. Any similarity between the dates, times and venues of these meetings is purely coincidental.

- c) A.G.M. of Federation of Victorian Walking Clubs.
Room 56, Victorian Railways Institute Building.

April 25 Day Walk - King Lake National Park.
(Sunday) Leader: Cath Kerr.
Standard: Easy.
Transport: Van.
Cost: \$2.00 approx.
Van leaves Princes Bridge at 10.00 a.m.

April 24-25 Climbing Trip - Arapiles.
Leaders: Richard Schmidt, Gordon Talbott.
Transport: Private.

April 28 Caving Lecture - for all beginners attending
the caving course.
7.30 p.m.,
Sports Union Activities Room.

May 1-2 a) Beginners Caving Trip - Buchan Caves.
Transport: Private.

b) Walk - Strezlecki Ranges.
Leader: Brenda Kaye.
Standard: Medium.
Transport: Private.

c) Canoeing - Murray River - Barmah Forest.
Leader: John Bennett.
Transport: Private.

May 2 Orienteering - M.U.M.C. organized contest at
(Sunday) Bullarto Reservoir.
See next 'Mountaineer' or notice board for
details.

May 8-9 Search and Rescue Weekend.

May 15-16 a) Caving - 2nd Beginners Caving Trip at Buchan.
Transport: Private.

b) Climbing - Grampians.
Leaders: John Zmood, Andrew Thomson.
Transport: Private.

c) Walk - Grampians.
Transport: Van (see next 'Mountaineer').
Leader: Dave Crewther.
Standard: Medium.

May 18 Monthly Meeting.
(Tuesday) 7.30 p.m., Sports Union Activities Room.

For further Vacation Trips - see next 'Mountaineer'.
A trip to the Cobberas and a 5 day trip to N.S.W. are planned.

REGULAR MONTHLY SOCIAL EVENINGS3rd TUESDAY EACH MONTH, 7.30 P.M.SPORTS UNION ACTIVITIES ROOM

Come along - there may be a speaker or movies, bring your slides, come for the free supper at least.

Meet the leaders of coming trips, be dubbed to lead coming trips.

Come and criticise your committee if the Club is not being run to your liking.

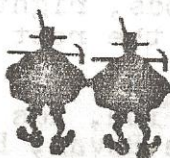
See you there.

In 1818 the explorer Oxley, on his second journey, explored the Castle-reagh River and other parts of western N.S.W.

After being defeated by extensive swamps he turned east again and discovered the Warrumbungles. Since this year is the 153rd anniversary of this event, publication of this information is in order.

It has recently been discovered that his real name was Oxoleigh. This was misspelt by an illiterate immigration officer and the other form has persisted.

On the shores of magnificent Pedder
Ron told Judy he wanted to wed her,
A remark from the crowd
Of a double-bunk shroud,
Caused Judy to go a shade redder.



"TURN LEFT AFTER THE FIRST FLOODS"

or

"MACALISTER SPRINGS SPRUNG A LEAK"

The Australia Day weekend trip to Macalister Springs - Viking - Razor - Despair - Speculation - Cross Cut Saw certainly involved all those things, although not in the peak-bagging manner that its leader, GLAY, had anticipated. We should have realized when he boasted of 1800 points recorded on his past 2 trips (Queensland and the Cobberas) that he meant rain. He seemed so determined to reach 3000 before he set off to sink Tasmania, and (with a little help no doubt from Tom Kneen who organizes the floods at the Weather Bureau) he certainly achieved his target - the worst floods for 30 years. (What we could have done to him with the RAZOR).

Driving up Australia's No.1 highway on Friday night, we hit rain about Warrigal, the variety that brings down 12 inches in 24 hours. Then outside Traralgon we went through roadworks with an average of 1-8" deep pot-hole per square foot - good exercise for the suspension. The first car washing from below on the Glenmaggie Road was welcome, but we soon began to wonder if the road that went to the weir also went through the weir. It was then that DESPAIR came into the picture; the car stalled. Fortunately, we were being followed by the CRB Road Patrol and one of their intrepid members dived (literally) under the car and attached a tow rope, and we were soon on our way to Glenmaggie.

It was an exciting trip - visibility was nil; we discovered we had no brakes; the rope was too short and finally broke, leaving us abandoned in another (deeper) flood. We were eventually re-rescued after they had got to their destination and found us absent.

We spent the night in an abandoned, vandalized, but relatively dry house, and were reunited next morning with the rest of the party who had slept in a barn. GLAY declared the trip officially cancelled as the road on to Licola was now in 3 distinct parts, minus two bridges and plus three land slides. We all moved into the Community Hall and set up residence among the drip-catching billies, buckets, 4 gallon drums, etc. Needless to say, the rain continued. Retreat was now impossible with the Heyfield Bridge down, and there was mounting SPECULATION that we would be stranded another 48 hours (with more floods forecast for then!). Ever played 7 handed Five Hundred ? !

On Sunday came the news that we might get out through Seaton, but the Heyfield Police said there was too much timber down. Not having a CROSS CUT SAW we decided on the only other alternative:- "Turn left after the first floods, right after the second, then just follow the road through the rest till you get to Maffra and then Sale."

7 Vikings

Geoff Lay, Pat McBride, Ros Escott, Arnold Wheeler, Ann Bevan, Elizabeth Schnyder and Duncan Stevenson.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting will be held on Friday, 19th March, 1971 at 7.30 p.m. in the Sisalkraft Theatre (Architecture School).

After the presentation of the Secretary's and Treasurer's Reports a motion passed by the Committee to increase Membership fees will be put before the meeting for ratification.

Nominations

Nominations for the following Club officers are now called for and the nominations, signed by the nominee, proposer and seconder, should be in the hands of the returning officer, Ron Frederick (C/- MUMC Pidgeon Hole, Sports Union) by 7.30 p.m., Friday, 12th March, 1971.

The positions to be filled by election at the Annual General Meeting are:

- | | | | |
|--------|---------------------|----|----------------------------|
| 1 | President | 1 | Trips Secretary |
| 1 or 2 | Vice President | 1 | Stores Officer |
| 1 | Treasurer | *1 | Editor of The Mountaineer* |
| 1 | Secretary | 2 | General Committee Members |
| 1 | Assistant Secretary | | |

One, at least, of the above to be female.

R. CANNON,
A. Hon. Sec.

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In addition to the above elected positions, many other people are needed to look after the Club's interests. In order to ensure continuity it is necessary for the following positions to be filled at the first meeting of the new Committee. If you would like to help by filling one or more of the positions listed below please apply in writing to the current Secretary and your application will be passed on to the 1971/72 committee.

Federation of Victorian Walking Clubs: Delegate
Observer
Track clearing delegate
Mapping delegate
S & R Delegate
S & R Observer

VNPA: Delegate
ACF: Delegate
CCV: Delegate
VSA: Delegate
Sports Union: Delegates (3 needed)

Map Librarian

Librarian

Hut Warden

Publication Sales Officer

Duplication Officer

Assistant Editor

Catering Officer

(suppers for night Meetings)

Public Relations Officer

Farrago Liason Officer

SRC Liason Officer

First Aid Officer

Stores Officers (4+ needed)

Poster Writers (4+ needed).

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COULD YOU DO THIS ?

It is interesting to note that many of the Australian explorers in the past were complete novices and these are the ones who are commonly known. Some of the "real professionals", however, would put our present top-class orienteers to shame and these are the ones whose feats are not common knowledge.

Alfred Canning was a West Australian surveyor at the turn of the century, who was surveying the No.1 Rabbit Proof Fence and later the Canning stock route through the centre of Western Australia. One of the typical incidents occurred on his Rabbit Fence Survey when, on one occasion, he heard from a native of a rock hole 40 miles N.W. of their campsite. So while the party was moving on in a northerly direction, he walked N.W. to the rock hole, doing the 40 miles in 11 hours (he always walked at 4 m.p.h.) but found no water - the rock hole was dry. After about a half hour spell he set out in an E.N.E. direction to intercept the party. About 3 a.m. he estimated he was on their line of route so he slept on the ground till dawn when he found the party only a half mile from him. An 80 mile straight walk WITHOUT WATER. The question is - How much handicap would you give him in the 24 Hour Walk? One packet of Happy Ade for the nearest correct answer.



LAKE MOUNTAIN

Imagine ski-touring across a gently undulating snow-field, dotted with snowgums and picturesque frozen lakes. On a brilliant spring day, filled with the sound of running water and the plop of melting snow falling from the trees. And, only 80 miles from Melbourne.

This is one of the several possibilities offered by Lake Mountain, an area of the Cathedral Ranges not commonly visited by the Club.

Lake Mountain, easily accessible to above 3500 feet, over a very good road via Marysville, is a small plateau, a few miles in extent, at about 4500 feet altitude, with scattered peaks or mounds rising to almost 5000 feet.

The plateau, Echo Flat, is a relatively sheltered alpine meadow, sparsely covered with snow gums and alpine shrubbery, and has numerous small streams and, depending on the season, lakes, puddles or ice-blocks, from which the mountain takes its name.

The peaks are more thickly vegetated, but can provide some good views over the surrounding countryside.

Considerable areas of the sides of the mountain have been burnt out and are now covered with low and very dense regrowth, often in contrasting colours.

While there are several old ski runs cleared on the side of the mountain, these are quite short and for ski-touring the plateau and peaks are of greatest interest. There are some old vehicle tracks over the mountain and these can provide useful ski-trails.

Due to the low altitude, snow conditions are rather unreliable and good conditions will probably only last a few days after a snowfall. No lifts have been installed and probably are unlikely to be, and apart from the few fire access tracks, there has been little desecration.

However, due to the mountain's easy access, the lower sections are subject to plague proportions of the dreaded touristus alpinus obnoxia during fine weekends and visits would be best made on weekdays or during blizzards.

Snow conditions experienced on a trip last winter were variable - morning crust and afternoon mush, often at the same time depending on the shade position, with an additional hazard of knee deep footprints on the approaches to the plateau. Consequently, waxing may pose some difficulties.

For that odd weekend when nothing much is happening, this area is definitely worth considering, for ski-touring, picnics and instruction trips and general easy day walks.

Peter Griffiths

THE MOUNTAINEER SOCIAL COLUMN

Congratulations to Don Vanselow and Elizabeth Hall on their engagement.

The 3AK cuddly couple for 1970, Ron Frederick and Judy Whitaker, announced their engagement last month. Congratulations to you both.

Congratulations also go to Brendan Holland and Cathy Blood on their engagement.

Dave and Sandra Hogg have left for Canberra where Dave is to do a conservation course at the A.N.U.

Congratulations to Ross and Kay Smith, and to Val and Geoff Banter, on their marriages.

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SITUATIONS VACANT : ORIENTATION WEEK !

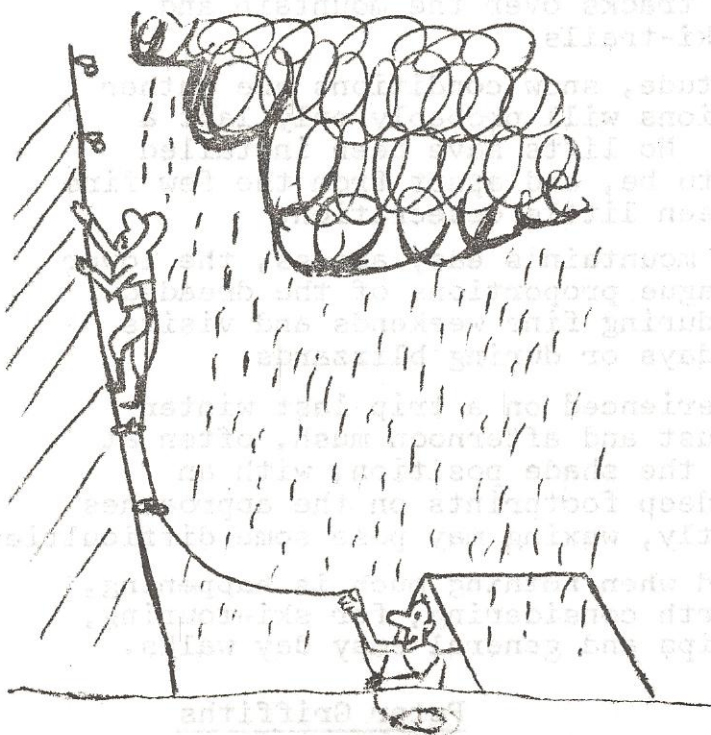
Oxoites to help man the Orientation Week Stand should give their names to Martin Wardrop or put their names on the list at Aikman's Road.

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INTERVARSITY ORIENTEERING

The Intervarsity 24 Hour Walk this year will be held near Newcastle during the weekend 22nd-23rd May. We will be most likely entering two teams of 4 - as Men and Women.

Since entries close 24th April, anybody interested in participating should apply in writing to the Secretary before Easter.



Equipment Testing Sub-Committee Report No.1GLUES FOR THE REPAIR OF PLASTIC AIR MATTRESSES

Replies to the 'E for M' revision survey showed that most owners of plastic airbeds found them hard to repair, particularly along the seams. It appears these lightweight airbeds would be more popular if a suitable repair glue was known.

The main features of the glue would be:

- (a) It would adhere strongly and uniformly to the surface;
- (b) It should be reasonably flexible when dry or the curving of the airbed plastic would help the corners of the patch to lift. In worse cases the glue would crack;
- (c) It should be cheap.

For use while hiking the glue should also dry quickly.

Three glues were selected, each costing 30-40 cents.

1. SELLEY'S KWIK-GRIP Type 66 Contact Adhesive
2. GOODYEAR PLIOBOND 20 Super Adhesive
3. DRICLAD REPAIR OUTFIT - A kit for all inflatable plastic products containing one small tube of Driclad Plastic Glue, 9½" x 2¼" of thin plastic patching material and also two spare airbed plugs of ¼" diameter.

Tests and Results

The tests were carried out on a Clark Plastic Airbed. Its surface has a pattern made up of two crossing sets of parallel lines about ½ a millimeter apart. This surface can be hard to adhere to as some glues stick to the lines leaving most of the patch area protected by small air bubbles. There were no creases through the patches after inflation. Pieces of plastic from the edge of the airbed were used for most patches, applying the glue to the smoother inner surface of each patch. In plastic airbeds, holes and splits generally develop in the plastic immediately next to the seams, but seams do not pull apart so it is safe to cut off all the plastic around the edges for patches. The surface was cleaned by rubbing with a dry cloth. In each of the tests, a patch overlap of 3/8" all around the hole was found to be adequate - no patches leaked.

Results

Test	Glue	Patch*	Adhesion under pre-scribed conditions	Flexibility
1	KWIK-GRIP	C	Very good, uniform. Plenty for normal conditions.	Reasonable

Test	Glue	Patch*	Adhesion under pre-scribed conditions	Flexibility
2	PLIOBOND	C	Excellent, uniform. Will fix any hole or split.	Quite good
3 a	DRICLAD	Plastic supplied	Good, uniform ample for holes.	Excellent
3 b	"	C	Good, uniform May be too weak for some seams.	Good

*C = a piece of plastic sheet from a Clark Plastic Airbed.

Conclusions

DRICLAD was found to be good for holes but may not be strong enough for some seams. No tests were made on split seams.

KWIK-GRIP seems best for hike use. It dries fast (a hole can be fixed and slept on in about twenty minutes) and has strong uniform adhesion. It will fix seams safely if the patch covers at least one inch of unsplit seam on each side of the split.

PLIOBOND has an even stronger grip - unnecessary except for the most troublesome seams. It seems the best of the four provided it is given a day to dry.

Brien Cohn,
for E.T.S.

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DINNER DANCE ORGANISERS

At present we are looking around at various possible venues for the Dinner Dance. (If you have any suggestions send them to the Secretary.) We also want some people to organise the Dinner Dance; anyone interested please tell the Secretary.

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24 HOUR WALK

ORGANISERS WANTED - PLEASE SEND NAME TO THE SECRETARY BY MARCH 11th.

KOSCIUSKO HUTS

Last September the Kosciusko National Park circulated a questionnaire to various clubs and individuals concerning the future of huts in the Kosciusko National Park. A meeting was held at Sawpit Creek early in December to discuss the results of this survey. Dave Hogg and I, together with John Poppins and Anne Hartnett of the Winter Group, were the only people from Victoria to attend. About 70 people from a large number of clubs and associations attended.

There had been a large response to the questionnaire and the answers showed a surprising amount of agreement. These were summarised as:

1. Huts are needed.
2. Over 90% of answers were in favour of public huts.
3. Facilities in huts should be minimal. Sleeping space for 10-12 was considered enough.
4. There was majority support for the idea of pack in - pack out for rubbish.
5. Huts should serve a dual purpose for summer and winter.
6. An honour fee system was generally favoured.
7. The only vehicles allowed to huts were to be service vehicles and these should be restricted.
8. No locks on huts as they are public huts. This also applies to locked boxes in huts.
9. Single huts only. No groups of huts at the one location.
10. The majority felt that local materials should be used in construction and that huts should be unobtrusive.

These views seemed to accord well with the N.P.W.S.'s ideas so they were fairly happy. During discussion it quickly became clear that they were eager to have some form of association formed by interested parties to help them administer and maintain the huts. The upshot was that the meeting voted to form such an association and elected a steering committee to draft a constitution and do other spadework. The steering committee met again in January and a meeting of the Association is planned in about May.

Basically the idea is that the N.P.W.S. will be responsible for siting and designing of huts and supplying materials, while the Association will probably act as an advisory body, organise group assistance for labour and maintenance, and collect hut fees if these are instituted. The details of the relationship between the N.P.W.S. and the Association have yet to be worked out.

There was a lot of discussion on various points, most of it rather rambling as these things often are. Some ideas tend to mean all things to all people too, with the result that there is often agreement on generalities but not on particulars. One important point that came out is that the N.P.W.S. is going to be rather starved for funds for the next few years so there is unlikely to be much change in the physical state of huts. This, of course, gives the opportunity to collect information and plan future developments. At this stage the most likely immediate developments are the introduction of a uniform hut fee system and organisation of maintenance.

Several speakers were against the demolition of any huts mainly on the grounds that they might be useful at some time. The rangers were more open minded about this, regarding some as a nuisance and others an eyesores. I would think that some huts will be unchanged, others will be renovated, some others may be built, and some will be removed.

There is one particular case on which there has been a lot of misunderstanding. There have been a lot of rumours and assertions that Lake Albina Hut would be removed. This is not so, though it has not been decided how it will be operated. At present it can be booked through the K.N.P.

In general it was an interesting discussion covering many aspects of a complex problem. One difficulty is the large number of interests and attitudes involved. The questionnaire replies seemed to give a basis for future policy and it is to be hoped that the Association and the N.P.W.S. can work out a sound plan for the future. We in Victoria will watch with interest, although without a single controlling authority it is rather unlikely that a similar thing can be done here.

Copies of the questionnaire, the minutes of the meeting, and a draft constitution and hut policy, are available from me or at Aikman's Road.

Tom Kneen



Trip Report: THE LOWER GLENELG CANOEING TRIP

Canoeing, is it for me? The Canadian canoes are quite large and can take all of my luxuries - canned fruit, lilo, jaffle iron, the works. And, what's more, the current carries you downstream - no effort. And the Lower Glenelg trip seemed more attractive - no whitewater so no chance of tipping out.

On Friday night I set out with a car load of passengers heading for a clearing just over Moleside Creek, a tributary of the Glenelg, some 260 miles from Melbourne, marked clearly with a tick on the zeroxed map that was thrust into my hands on the day before.

An early start the next morning! By 10.30 we were in the river after having left two cars at Nelson, twenty miles downstream. Alas, the river was motionless, so some rudimentary points on pushing the paddle through the water were received. The 'jay' stroke - most aptly named - was supposed to allow one person to paddle a Canadian canoe in a straight line. Also, with two in the boat, who is boss and who sits where? Ah, we were told, the person in the back has much more control over the direction of travel so he is the captain. Also, the stronger stirrer, sorry - paddler, sits aft and, one more, to prevent 'jay canoeing' it is best to paddle on opposite sides of the canoe. However, as in each of the four Canadians (there was also a one man kayak on the trip) there was one girl and one bloke, it was impossible for the more prolific stirrer to sit aft as well as the captain. I mean, well you married blokes will understand, if she is up front then so is the captain! This paradox was solved in one case by the erection of a brilliant yellow sail and the elimination of all paddling.

The river wound underneath precipitous limestone cliffs and past many old boat-sheds each with its own dilapidated jetty jutting out over the water. Saturday night was spent at Canoeman's camp; a collection of huts beneath a huge walnut tree and a large cyprus tree populated with possums. The limestone cliffs behind gave a sense of isolation; a secluded spot well away from the roar and smog of the city. The drinking of tea preceded the rising of an almost full moon. Its rays silvered through the silhouetted gangling gums standing guard on the cliffs opposite. The night was still, the river warm and the soft splish of the fishing lines hitting the water hyphenated the melodies from the harmonicist and vocalist in canoes somewhere out there amongst the splashes of moonlight.

Psssst went the Aeroguard and then a pleasant night under the stars. A cloudless sky and beaming sun beckoned us into the canoes for the last 10 miles into Nelson. A diversion to one of the caves in the cliffs before lunch, and playing chicken with power boats after lunch as we neared Nelson brought a most enjoyable trip to an end.

Yes, I am a canoeist! by: Noel or Gaye or Ian or Liz or
Tony or Cath or Bob or Greg
or Ellen.

WHAT REALLY HAPPENED DOWN THE SERPENTINE

After the party we were with left Lake Pedder for Mt. Anne, Les and I headed off around the lake to where the Serpentine flows out. Les wanted to have a look at the Serpentine and get out to the Gordon Road via the Stillwater Valley. I deny all responsibility for the idea.

We left the lake and climbed a little way above the flats to avoid the swampy ground. The going was quite easy with only a few small scrub-choked creeks. We were moving quite fast and began to think we could get out by early next afternoon. Then we came over the top of the ridge. Our hearts hit the bottom of our boots with a noise like a thousand pentaxes going off at once. The whole valley was choked with scrub, thick, nasty, impenetrable-looking swampy scrub, and the route went across it and it looked as if there would be more further on.

At times like that the true measure of a man shows out. Once, I suppose, there would have been little hesitation, but you get older and wiser and less intrepid. We both carefully explained that neither was in the mood for heroics, that we had only come to have a look at the Serpentine, and now that we had seen it we didn't like it, and that it didn't really matter if we didn't go down it anyhow. Besides, we wanted to be in Hobart the next night. In the end we compromised and sloshed about a third of the way across before getting entangled in a mess of titree. From the top of a tree we could see nothing but more of the same, so discretion got the better part of valour and we returned to the lake.

To make matters worse, Les' exposure meter played up and I had to take all his readings. All of them! But we now know where Tolkien set the Land of Mordor. It is in South-West Tasmania somewhere hard under the jagged quartzite ranges and ringed by vast swamps.

In the Land of Mordor where the shadows lie,
In the Land of Mordor where the shadows lie.

Tom Kneen

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This ad is inserted not only on our own behalf, but also on behalf of Bushgear Pty. Ltd., who are associated with us and have set up a retail shop at 66 Hardware St, City, phone 67-3354. This address should not be confused with that of any other establishment in the vicinity. The proximity will enable you to shop around and compare service and range of goods available.

The range of goods presently available from Bushgear is limited, but will expand with time and your custom if you approve of our approach to the business. What there is is of good quality and selected for suitability to the purposes of outdoor people.

It is always a problem to maintain continuity of stock where it is desired to maintain a high standard both as to quality and suitability because the manufacturers of such gear are few in number, and their products are usually much in demand. They are also scattered around the world.

We are currently out of stock of our N.Z. Tramper boots and Mountain Mule packs. The Tramper boots have proved very popular and suitable for Australian bushwalking and we have been promised at least a small shipment very soon. We are told that Mountain Mule packs will not be available for some time yet. Over the last few years we have made various packs with aluminium frames and Kordux bags to meet special needs, so have gained some experience in making them, as well as the chance to watch their performance in use. We are now making some up as a stock line to fill the Mule gap; we expect to have some available within 2 weeks. The bag will be 6oz. Kordux, the 50% cotton/ 50% terylene canvas which has proved a durable pack material without being overheavy. The complete pack should weigh about 4½ lbs. - heavier than the Featherlite Mules, but lighter than the Expedition model and certainly lighter than any steel frame pack of comparable capacity. Price will be about \$40.00 with flap map pocket and 2 rear pockets as standard. Other configurations can be made to order. A high load frame will be available a little later.

If you wish to make up your own gear we normally have Kordux for sale by the yard at \$5/72" yard. Also good quality coated nylon at \$1.20 or \$1.80/54" yard, depending on grade; we have black polythene in rolls 10 feet wide priced at 30 cents/10' yard for the .004" thick and 60 cents/10' yard for the .008" thick. This makes for cheap groundsheet material which can have a reasonable life if treated carefully.

We and Bushgear also stock tents, sleeping bags, steel-frame packs; camp gear and of course rockclimbing gear, rope and footwear.

Loch Wilson

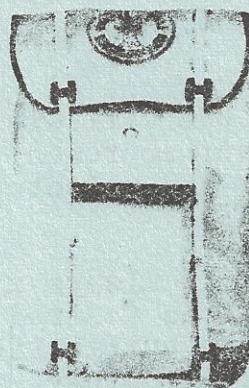
FEATHERLITE

KIMPTON'S 'MOUNTAIN MULE' PACK

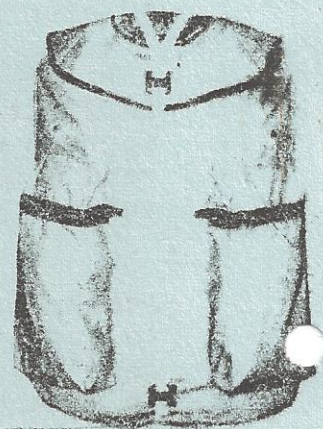
Weight-Saving Starts
with the PACK!



Terylene strapping is used for greater strength, less weight and its non-stretch properties.

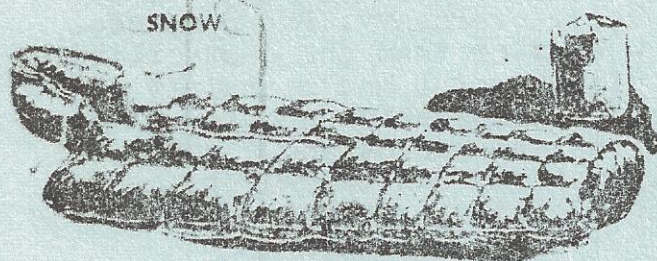


Featherlite II has double bag-strap, one outside pocket, and a waterproof nylon plastic outer double bottom. Map pocket under the flap. Weight approx. 3lb. 4ozs. Price:



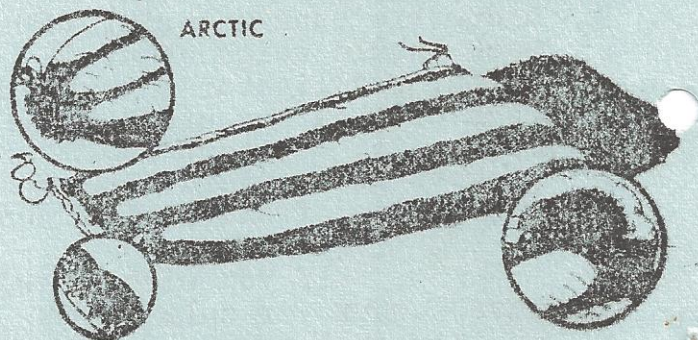
Featherlite I has single bag-strap and two outside pockets and waterproof nylon plastic outer double bottom. Weight approx. 2lb 14ozs. Price:

KIMPTON'S "EIDERLITE" SLEEPING BAGS



Snow: Tailored hood - 36" neck chest zip. Circular insert for feet. Cut 6' x 30" plus hood filled with Super down, Feather down.

Combination quilt - Sleeping bag: Designed for all-the-year use as either an eiderdown quilt, or sleeping bag. Simply fold in half and zip the bottom and side and presto! your quilt becomes a



sleeping bag. A double sleeping bag can be made by zipping two of these quilts together - Super down or Feather down filled.

Arctic: FOR SUB-ZERO TEMPERATURES. Cellular walls form length-wise flutes top, bottom and at the side joins,

thus a complete cell of super down gives the sleeper warmth all-round. When tied the end allows no heat loss, however in hot weather the down can be compressed to the bottom of the bag and the end left open for ventilation. This makes the Arctic a dual purpose bag. Cut 6'6" x 30" plus hood filled with super down.

Obtainable all good sport stores and scout shops - if not contact -

KIMPTON'S FEATHER MILLS, 11 Budd Street, Collingwood, Victoria, 3066
PHONE: Melbourne 41-5073, Sydney 389-1239, Adelaide 57-8624, Brisbane 2-2354.