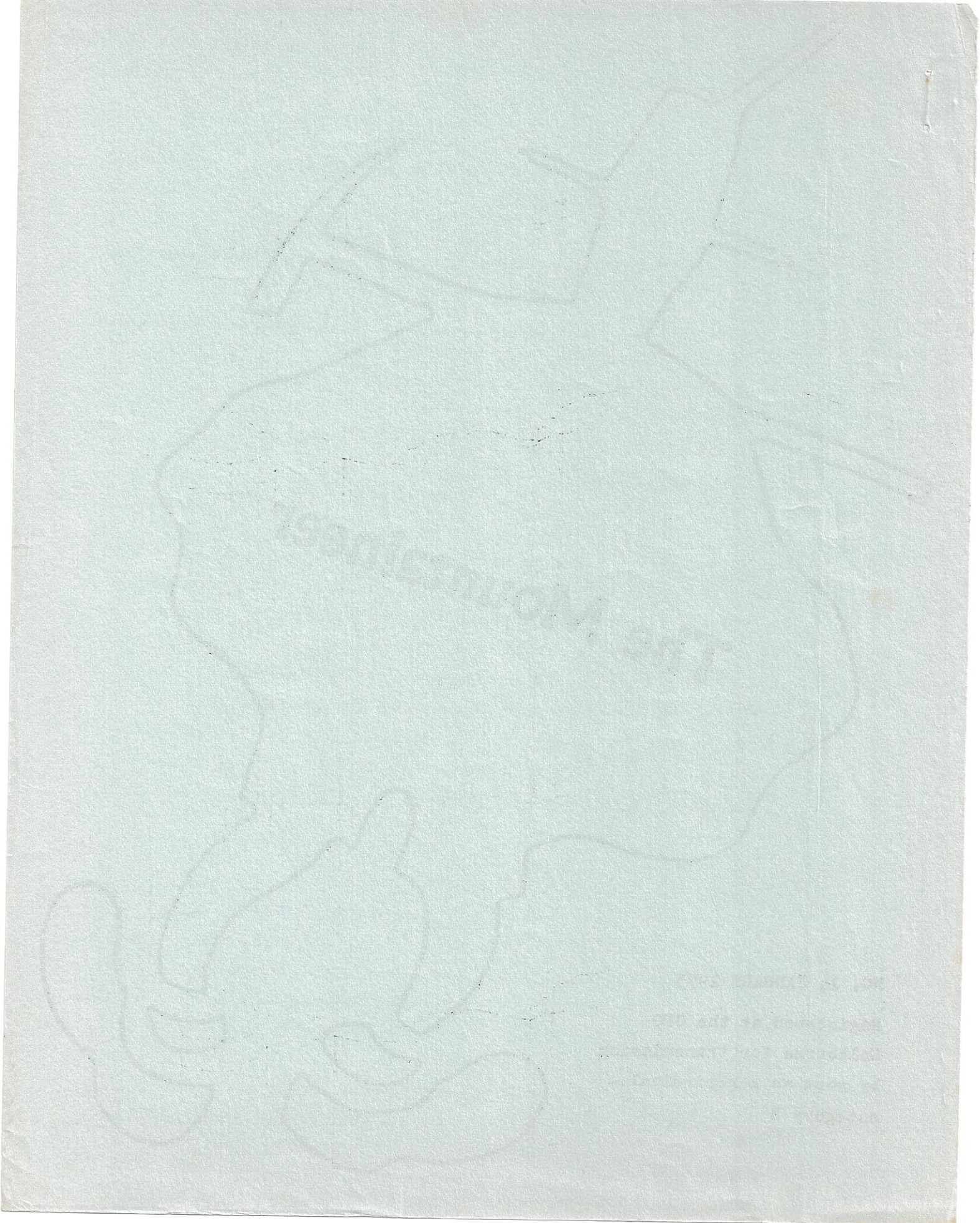




# The Mountaineer

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

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This issue has the following content;

1. A questionnaire prepared by the Equipment testing Sub-Committee.
2. A revised trips programme, includind hut work parties.
3. Some comments by the Secretary on Club management.
4. Some items provided by Bob Cannon.

#### THE QUESTIONNAIRE

Sue White has been appointed as the editor of the next edition of 'Equipment for Bushwalking and Mountaineering' which is expected to be published in July or August. She will be assisted by Adrian Davey, Rex Niven and Laurie Patrick. In order to update this very popular publication, a questionnaire has been devised as part of the edition of THE MOUNTAINEER. We urge all members to complete the questionnaire immediately and return it to the editor of E. for B. and M. C/- M.U.M.C., Sports Union., University of Melbourne, Parkville, 3052.

PLEASE HELP THE CLUB BY RETURNING YOUR COMPLETED QUESTIONNAIRE NOW.

#### HUT WORK PARTIES.

A special meeting will be held on Thursday, 1st of February 1973 in the Sports Union Activities Room, Sports Union Offices, at 8.00pm. This meeting will be conducted by the Hut Wardens, Robyn Fraser and Dave Crewther, and will discuss a co-ordinated programme of work parties for the pre-winter season. It is expected that the hut will be painted in this period in order to reduce it as a source of visual pollution. Extensive renovations to the stone wall are also necessary. And for people with a special fondness of the little house, including Fearless Fagan, Penguin Pete or Bruno the runner, there will be plenty of work digging the new hole. PLEASE ATTEND THIS MEETING.

REVISED TRIPS PROGRAMME

Jan. 13-15 Hut work party

Feathertop Hut work party

Leaders; The hut wardens,  
Robyn Fraser (851261) and  
Dave Crewther. Prepare the hut for  
painting and other small jobs.

Jan. 13-15 Canoeing

Canoeing, surfing and exploration  
Phillip Island.

Leader; Marg Harrison.  
Cradle Mountain-Lake St. Clair.  
Leaders, Dave Crewther and Martin  
Wardrop. (878 0469)

Jan 20-26 Bushwalk

Jan. 20-22 Track Clearing

Clearing of the Alpine track  
and Bon Accord track.  
Organised by the Federation.

Jan. 20-22 Canoeing

Goulburn downstream from Eildon.  
(see trips-book at Aikmans)

Jan. 27-29 Bushwalk

Australia Day Weekend. Bryces Gorge  
Mt. Darling

Leader, Craig Devlin (288 1762)  
Standard; medium-hard.  
Transport: Private.

Bushwalk

Kosciusko National Park.  
Leader, Penguin (Peter Griffiths)  
Standard: Easy.  
Transport: Private

Feb. 1-28 Bushwalk

P.P. Wardrop's Guided Tour of Queensl.

Leader: Martin Piker Wardrop (leave  
phone messages C/- 878 0469)

Standard: Medium

North Queensland: Hinchinbrook Island  
Herbert River Gorge and Wallaman,  
Garrawalt Falls etc., etc.

Transport: Rail to Ingham then hitch-  
hike north. About \$50.00 return.

Feb. 10-12 Work Party

M.U.M.C. Mt. Feathertop Hut.

Application of Chromate primer  
and if possible first top coat.

Feb (late) Bushwalk

Cradle Mt.-Lake St. Clair.

Leader: John Yuill  
Contact leader for details (379 8826)  
Feathertop Hut.

Feb. 17-19 Work Party

Top coat finishing and dig holes

Feb. 24-26 Work Party

Mt. Feathertop Hut. Finish painting.

Feb. 24-26 Canoeing

Goulburn River near Molesworth

Leader: Tony Kerr (320 8040)

Transport: Private.

Note: Members wishing to go on this trip must attend at least one work party. Work parties will be held on Thursday, 22nd and Thursday, 15th Feb. at 7.30pm in the old weight lifting room (near the Pavillion at the University)

Mar. 14 Instruction talk Beginners Bushwalk

Time: 7.30 Sports Union Activities Room  
Sports Union Offices. All beginners must attend.

Mar. 17-19 Bushwalk

Beginners Bushwalk - Wilson's Prom.

Transport: Van,

Many excellent trips, 150 limit with preference to leaders and beginners.

Mar. 24-26 Canoeing

Beginners Canoeing Course - Lake Nagambie

Transport: Private.

Leaders: Rod Tucker and Gary Whipp.

Bookings Monday to Friday 1.00-1.30pm. ClubRooms or ring the trip leader or ring the Trips Secretary (Dave Crewther on 340 5465 bus. and 347 1541 a.h.)

STORE HOURS The store will be open Monday to Friday, 1.00-1.30pm. and Tuesday evening from 7.30 to 8.00pm.

Secretary's Comments;

The Club has grown to such a large size that during the vacation period it becomes very difficult for the few Committee members left at the University to carry out Club duties. Fortunately, there are always people like Bob Cannon, Dave Caddy and Graeme Oakes who are willing to assist. It would be a great help to us if members come to the store promptly at 1.00pm to obtain gear and food. There is always plenty of work to be done at Aikmans and members are asked to volunteer for some jobs as well as getting their own stocks at the store. Next time you are at Aikmans ask a Committee members for a job - he or she shall be glad to give you one.

One of the suggestions I would like to make to Club members is that M.U.M.C. appoints an elected part-time paid Secretary/treasurer. Such a person would be extremely useful during the Vacation period who could hold the club together and keep Committee members fully informed. At the moment the position of Secretary would be far too demanding and time consuming for an under-graduate student particularly with a greater number of exams due to unit systems. The work load of the Secretary is increasing and it will become increasingly difficult to get a club member to nominate for the position.

Harry Schaap,

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## GUIDE TO THE VICTORIAN ALPS

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TRACK NOTES

COMMENTS

CORRECTIONS

ARE WANTED NOW

If you have been to any of the areas covered by the guide book (especially on private rather than club trips) notes comments and corrections for the guide book would be appreciated.

Areas covered by the guide book are:

Baw Baws

Aberfeldy - Woods Point - Walhalla

The Divide: Skene - McDonald - Howitt - The  
Barry Mountains

The Howqua, King Jamieson River Watersheds

Snowy Plains - Moroka - Wonnangatta Areas

The area to the east and north of Dargo

The Bogong High Plains

Buffalo

The Cobberas - Gibbo - Pinnibar Area

Hints on collecting track notes:

1. The 'function' of track notes is to indicate the best walking route or routes between points. (Best in this regard may mean easiest or most interesting, and in some cases, there may be two or more best routes depending on how one considers them.) Notes should be concise, comprehensive and not ambiguous and quite suitable for use by someone walking through the area for the first time.

2. The following items in particular should be noted:-

Track junctions, indicating which track should be followed, and the type, type, condition and direction; e.g. jeep track, overgrown walking track.

Water sites, noting whether the water is perennial and if not, at what seasons it is dry or stagnant.

Suitable campsites and lunchsites - these will depend to a large extent on water, but also availability of firewood, suitable tent sites, etc.

In high country, where ridges and spurs rather than tracks are being followed the nature of the spur being followed (e.g. wide or narrow, scrubby or open) its direction, and, where the spur branches, which branch should be followed

Signposts, snowpoles, blazes, marker plates or tapes and any other devices used to indicate the direction or route of a track. It is useful to record the exact wording on signposts, and where snowpoles are numbered, to note the number of the pole nearest a track junction or landmark. The general condition of pole lines should be noted i.e. whether poles are missing, and also the average distance between poles.

Huts, their condition, whether they are locked, how many people they will accommodate, proximity of water and its direction from the hut.

Any points of historical or scenic interest, particularly if they are a little way off the track and would normally go unnoticed.

Approximate distance and times between points. These are not necessarily proportional and depend on the steepness of the track, the amount of scrub, the rockiness of the ground, the hotness of the weather and the fitness and enthusiasm of the party.

Map inaccuracies and omissions, which are common even on the most recent maps. Similarly any ambiguous parts of any track notes should be pointed out

3. When referring to a landmark as a reference, make sure it is conspicuous and permanent e.g. an unusual shaped tree in a forest may be difficult to describe unambiguously and may fall down in the next storm anyway.

4. Don't attempt to memorize all the details of a walk, then write it up at a later date. Carry a notebook with you and jot down your observations as you go.

MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY MOUNTAINEERING CLUB TRIP REPORT FORM

(to be completed by trip leader<sup>✓</sup> and handed to Trips Secretary)  
or anyone who feels like it

Area - hike route : . . . . .

. . . . .

Leader: . . . . . Date: . . . Standard: . . . . .

No of people: . . . Transport: . . . . . Club or private trip?

Maps used:                      Edition                      Comments on inaccuracies, omissions etc.

. . . . .                      . . . . .                      . . . . .

. . . . .                      . . . . .                      . . . . .

. . . . .                      . . . . .                      . . . . .

. . . . .                      . . . . .                      . . . . .

Source of trip information : . . . . .

. . . . .

Report: Please include details as suggested  
in the hints on collecting track notes.

Should the space below be not sufficient for your notes  
feel free to use another piece of paper as well.

EQUIPMENT FOR MOUNTAINEERING AND BUSHWALKING

The Melbourne University Mountaineering Club is in the process of revising its handbook "Equipment for Bushwalking and Mountaineering" to bring it up to date with recent improvements in equipment and technique. The revision covers not only new food and equipment lines but will include chapters on Ski-touring, snow and ice climbing, importing equipment from overseas and a new chapter on canoeing.

For an accurate revision of equipment and techniques could you please fill in the following questionnaire and return it to

Editor for E.for B.and M.

Sue White

Melbourne University Mountaineering Club

c/- Sports Union

University of Melbourne

Parkville 3052.

When filling out the questionnaire please make the comments as quantitatve as possible, and note any defects and improvements which could be made. Reasons for buying one product rather than another would be helpful, as would be the performance of an item under different conditions.

Thanking you in anticipation

Sue White (Editor)

P.S. It is not necessary to complete the whole questionnaire.

Additional questionnaires are available from the above address or from Aikman's Rd the Club Rooms.

Revision of Equipment for Bushwalking and Mountaineering1. Rucksack

Brand and Model.....

How old is it?.....

Wear and Tear - Indicate on the following table signs of wear that are noticeable and if worn after light, medium or heavy usage

e.g. Buckles x medium usage - replaced after 2 years.

Frame

Sack or bag

Pockets

Zips

Straps

Shoulder Straps

Buckles

Extension or throat

Webbing

Comment on its comfort for carrying

a) light loads .....

b) medium loads .....

c) heavy loads .....

Any other comments . . . . .

. . . . .

. . . . .

2. Sleeping bag

Brand and model . . . . .

Type of filling . . . . .

Length of zip . . . . .

Warmth fill in the following table

Conditions	Poor	Fair	Satisfactory	Good	Excellent
Snow (cold & dry)					
wet and cold					
cool					
warm					
Hot and dry					
Hot & wet, humid					

Comfort - please fill in the following table

Conditions	poor	Fair	Satisfactory	Good	Excellent
Roominess					
Comfort of hood					
Bulky to carry					
Heavy to carry					

Wear and tear - Indicate any wear and tear of the following , with the length of time and frequency of use of bag.

Outside fabric  
walls collapsing  
stitching  
condition of down i.e.  
becoming thinner  
container (stuff bag)  
hood  
zip

Any other comments . . . . .  
 . . . . .  
 . . . . .  
 . . . . .

### 3. Tent

Brand and model. . . . .  
 Material . . . . .

How many persons will it sleep comfortably

- a) with rucksacks
- b) without rucksacks

Waterproofing and related conditions

Conditions	poor	Fair	Satisfactory	Good	Excellent
waterproof in heavy rain					
" light rain					
" strong wind					
Sweating on the inside					
waterproof in heavy rain after reproofing					
Ease of pitching					

Indicate waer and tear and age of tent when maintenance required

water proffing

Holes in fabric needing pat ching

Guy ropes

flaps

Ties on flaps

Air vents (if any)

Zip

Does it have a sewn in/zipped in groundsheet ? . . . . .

Comment on its effectiveness . . . . .

Comment on tent poles used . . . . .

Any other comments. . . . .

#### 4. Ground sheet

Material . . . . .

Dimensions . . . . .

Approx. weight . . . . .

Is it commercially made? . . . . . Brand . . . . .

Fill in the following chart on performance

Conditions	poor	Fair	Satisfactory	Good	Excellent
------------	------	------	--------------	------	-----------

Moisture proof

Ease of Tearing

Damage by hot objects

Abiltiry to stay in position  
without slipping.

Weight

Any other comments . . . . .

. . . . .

. . . . .

5. Air mattress and/or Foam mattress

Brand and model. . . . .

Approx. dimensions when inflated . . . . .

weight . . . . .

Comment on performance

Condition	poor	Fair	Satisfactory	Good	Excellent
-----------	------	------	--------------	------	-----------

Ease of inflation

Susceptibility to holes

Ease of repairs

'warm' in snow conditions

Any other comments . . . . .

.....

.....

6. Stove

Brand and model. . . . .

Fuel used . . . . .

Performance	Poor	Fair	Satisfactory	Good	Excellent
-------------	------	------	--------------	------	-----------

Stability

Ease of filling

Speed of cooking

Compact to carry

Safety ie ability to  
blow up

Fuel consumption

Carbonization ie.  
frequency of pricking.

Any other comments. . . . .

.....

7. Clothinga) Boots

Brand and model . . . . . weight . . . . .

Performance	poor	fair	Satisfactory	good	Excellent
-------------	------	------	--------------	------	-----------

Ability to be worn without breaking in.					
---	--	--	--	--	--

No. of trips for breaking in.					
-------------------------------	--	--	--	--	--

wear of uppers in rough conditions					
------------------------------------	--	--	--	--	--

wear of soles in rough conditions					
-----------------------------------	--	--	--	--	--

waterproofness					
----------------	--	--	--	--	--

keeping their shape					
---------------------	--	--	--	--	--

gripping on rock					
------------------	--	--	--	--	--

logs					
------	--	--	--	--	--

wet conditions					
----------------	--	--	--	--	--

comfort in snow					
-----------------	--	--	--	--	--

ability to find your size					
---------------------------	--	--	--	--	--

general comfort					
-----------------	--	--	--	--	--

Any other comments . . . . .

. . . . .

. . . . .

b) Parka

Brand and model . . . . .

material . . . . . weight . . . . .

Performance	poor	fair	satisfactory	good	Excellent
-------------	------	------	--------------	------	-----------

waterproofness new.					
---------------------	--	--	--	--	--

" after wear					
--------------	--	--	--	--	--

Sweating inside					
-----------------	--	--	--	--	--

does material rot easily					
--------------------------	--	--	--	--	--

condition of stitching					
------------------------	--	--	--	--	--

after some wear					
-----------------	--	--	--	--	--

general comfort					
-----------------	--	--	--	--	--

warmth & windproofing					
-----------------------	--	--	--	--	--

Ease of finding size					
----------------------	--	--	--	--	--

Any other comments . . . . .

c) Have you any other comments to make on other articles of clothing?  
e.g. overtrousers, stop tout, shirts, socks etc.....  
.....  
.....  
.....

8. Have you any details as to ~~with~~ how to make home made equipment?  
.....  
.....  
.....

9. Although a detailed questionnaire is not being prepared on the following topics details of new equipment and techniques and/or criticism of the present text of U.for B.&M. is most welcome. please attach any information to this questionnaire or send it separately to the Editor. The topics are -Ski touring, caving rockclimbing, winter mountaineering orienteering, first aid, maps and compasses, canoeing, tripplanning.

#### 10. Books

Can you suggest any good books on bush walking and mountaineering, especially with regard to equipment and techniques? .....  
.....  
.....

11. Are there any other articles of equipment, especially those which have come onto the market over the last 2 years, on which you could give helpful comments.  
.....  
.....  
.....

## 12. Food

Have you any comments on the following list for an extended trip?

Food	Daily ration per person	Comments
Porridge, cereal	2 oz.	.....
Powdered egg	$\frac{3}{4}$ oz.	.....
Bacon	2 oz.	.....
Biscuits, flour	3 oz.	.....
Cheese	2 oz.	.....
Butter, margarine	$1\frac{1}{4}$ oz.	.....
Spreads	$1\frac{1}{2}$ oz.	.....
Chocolate	2 oz.	.....
Scroggin	$2\frac{1}{2}$ oz.	.....
Sweets	1 oz.	.....
Soup	$\frac{1}{2}$ oz.	.....
Dehydrated vegetables	$1\frac{1}{2}$ oz.	.....
Meat Salami	$2\frac{1}{2}$ oz.	.....
Dehy	$1\frac{1}{2}$ oz.	.....
Dried Fruit	2 oz.	.....
Rice, Instant pudding	$1\frac{1}{2}$ oz.	.....
Powdered milk	$1\frac{3}{4}$ oz.	.....
Tea, coffee milo	1 oz.	.....
Sugar	3 oz.	.....
Salt, vitamin tablets	$\frac{1}{4}$ oz.	.....

Saline, lemon and lime, etc. oz. ....

Please list any other foods you find suitable for a long trip . . . .

.....

.....

What foods do you find suitable for short e.g. weekend trips? . . . .

.....

.....

Have you any recipes for the making of dehydrated food more palatable?

Please attach them by a separate sheet.

Have you any other comments on food including good menus to follow and new foods on the market in the last 2 years? . . . .

.....

Have you any general comments on the last edition of Equipment for Bushwalking and Mountaineering and how it could be improved we would be pleased to hear from you. ( please note that we do not want to overlap with IMC 's booklet Safety in the Bush .