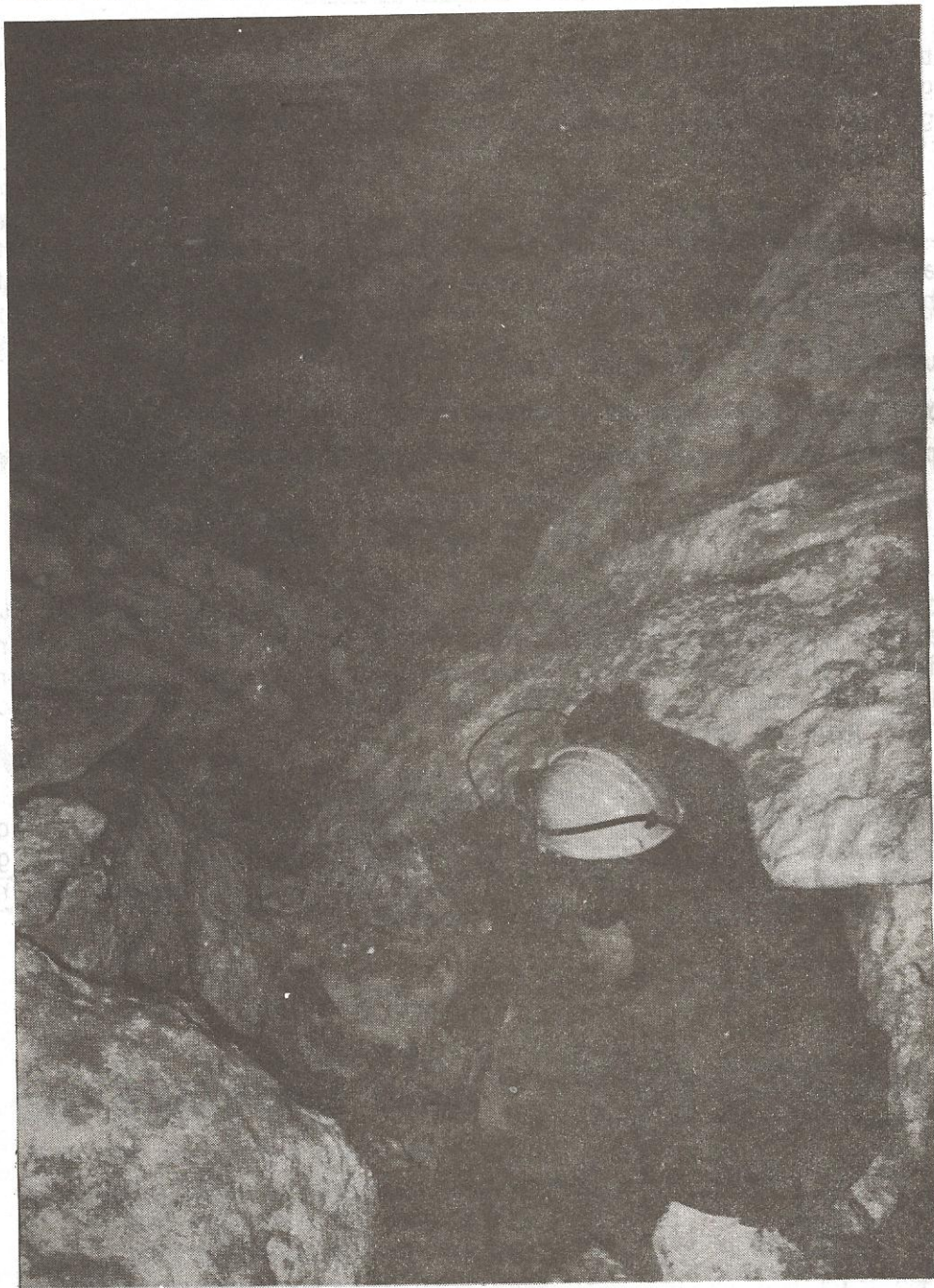


NICK AND SUE WHITE
123 MANNINGHAM ST
PARKVILLE

3052

the **MOUNTAINEER**



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december 1974

20c

BUSHGEAR PTY. LTD.

ADVERTISEMENT

Loch is currently doing the rounds of our suppliers in Europe, seeing what is now, new things are done, and generally organising better supplies for the shop. So I am taking this opportunity to have a rant about some of the more interesting new lines.

Check out the KZ pack range. These are a brilliantly thought out range of lightweight H-frame packs ranging from the KZ Junior for loads to 40lb. (at 21lb.10oz. the best ultra-light pack on the market), to the big KZ Special for loads to 100lb. Features of these packs are:

1. Welded aluminium alloy contoured frames.
2. Heavy duty coated nylon bags with throat and adequate pocket space.
3. Padded hip belt (except on Junior, but you can fit one on that model if required)
4. One-piece mesh back apron is far more comfortable than the traditional 2" webbing lattice.

Brixia boots are in stock again. An excellent range of Italian boots which we have not had for several years, but are once more in regular supply. They cover the full range from padded lightweight walking boots (resolvable, unlike most of this genre) to heavy double boots for high-mountain work. They have the added draw of being among the cheapest of their type of boot.

Here at last are the Cagjac lightweight nylon parkas. There have been several nylon parkas on the market here in recent times, but none have been much good. Cagjacs seem to be the answer. We have seen samples of the cloth used, and it is good. We have also seen reports of official field tests carried out for the makers in Australia and the models tested were given very good reports.

Good climbing,
Peter Watling.

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COPY DEADLINE NEXT EDITION APRIL 20TH

OUTGOING HEAVIES:

President	Peter Kissane	49-1862
Vice-presidents	Laurie Patrick	387-3764
	Mark Spain	850-3175
Secretary	Gill Hume	38-5987
Treasurer	George Kuczera	
Trips Secretary	Rex Niven	24-9751
Stores Officer	Ian Moore	(Home) 82-6029
		(Int) 341-6798
Assistant Secretary	Greg Davies	99-3338
Editors	Marcia McDonald	
	Peter Treby	329-8769
General Committee	Steve Bennet	82-6065
Members	Bruce Rigby	836-1029
Climbing Convenor	Nicholas Reeves	82-6211

EDITORIAL

Here at last is that "more comprehensive" issue which the "October Mountaineer" promised you. We hope you get it sometime before or during O-week, despite its being labelled "December 1974" (never believe a title).

Two raging debates have come to a sort of a head in this edition. The first fills up the wad of a section on Constitutional Amendments. Don't be put off by that dastardly word "Constitution". The amendments which are going to be proposed at this year's AGM mainly centre on the composition of the committee. Important and worth reading, but a bit tricky to make editorial comment on since your present (interim) editor wrote the article which accompanies them. The second thing is in the Bushwalking section and is about "beginners". After last year's schemozzle of a skiing expedition let's hope this year turns out to be the improvement that we are promised. And to the newcomers to the club this year, "welcome!", and the best of British luck to us all for this year of the Rabbit.

CONGRATULATIONS NICK

Nicholas White has been elected President of the Australian Speleological Federation for 1975-6. The ASF is a federation of about 20 speleological clubs and co-ordinates caving activities in Australia. It produces such things as the speleohandbook, and its President is the major spokesman on Australian speleological concerns. Nick is the third Victorian in a row to hold the position.

COVER PHOTO: Nick White in Weebubblie cave.

NEWS, GOSSIP AND TRIVIA

1. Some of the Committee's deliberations over the last little while.... Inflation strikes again, so delve deep into those emptying pockets - you are being asked for another 50c to belong to this Club this year. New Rates Are:

Sports Union Members	\$1.50
Non-Sports Union Members	\$2.00
Married Couples	\$2.50

And full marks are being forwarded to the Forests Commission for closing the tracks into Lake Tarli Karng to vehicular traffic, i.e. 4-wheel drives and trail bikes. Those of us who have sat on the top of Mt Wellington and heard the intruding whine of bikes echoing round the valley can only cheer and say "at last".

Page Missing

3. The Federation Day Walk is going to be MUMC-organized bonanza this year. The route is not yet determined, but helpers on the day are going to be required in their dozens. A few hundred people could well come along if its a nice day, and refreshment stops along the way will have to be manned, for a start - besides helping hands before and during to make sure no-one gets lost. So please read any notices you may see about it in the next few weeks, and be as helpful as you can. This is MUMC's effort which won't need repeating for another 15 years or so, since all Federation Clubs take it in turns - help to make it memorable.

4. Will the Lake "win" after all? Skin divers are at present living a worried 24 hour shift life at the Scotts Peak Dam wall, which has begun to show signs of a definite weak spot.

5. BUY YOUR T-SHIRT NOW! 3 colours, 3 sizes. Oxoman on the front. 0-week special at \$3.00 each.

6. A footnote to Edward Kynaston's review of Alps at the Crossroads (National Review Feb 7-13) reads:

"What a pity it is that the Guide to the Victorian Alps, published by the Melbourne University Mountaineering Club, is still out of print after a too long two years. The guide would be an ideal accompaniment to the Alps at the Crossroads."

What can we say, but that we heartily agree. For all those who keep inquiring after the guide's progress, the typesetting has been finished and the printing press is rolling.

7. Publications

New releases:

Alps at the Crossroads	\$2.60 (at clubrooms)
MUMC Club History (unbound)	\$6.00

Still on sale:

Equip for B & M	\$1.75
Songbook	\$1.25

and be patient -

the guidebook is coming.....the guidebook is coming....(now called "Bushwalking in the Victorian Alps).

8. PARTY - There'll be a party on at 30 St Vincent's Place, South Melbourne/Albert Park after about 7 pm on Thursday 15 March - that's the first Thursday of term. See you there?

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The 1975 AGM will be held on FRIDAY 4TH APRIL at 7.30 pm in the SISILKRAFT THREATE. That's the Friday after Easter. Supper afterwards!

Nominations for committee positions should be given to the Secretary (Gill Hume), or left in the envelope (marked "NOMINATIONS"!) at Aikmans Rd, at least SEVEN DAYS beforehand - with signatures of the nominator, seconder and person nominated (plus the position nominated for, of course). It's a pretty open field this year so the elections should be interesting.

One of the complications with nominating this year will be the possible effects of the amendments of the Constitution, which are set out at length over the next few pages. If these amendments are passed at the AGM then there will be only one Vice-President, one Editor, and no General Committee representatives. There will, on the other hand, be caver, canoeist, climber, skitourer and conservation representatives to be appointed by their Sub-committees. Probably the best thing to do about nominations is to include ones for General Committee; those for Vice-President(s) and Editor(s) are not really affected, and the other positions won't come up at the AGM anyway. Keep them rolling in!

The reasons for the proposed changes to our antiquated Constitution are explained and argued for in an article following the amendments. It is important that the changes concerning clauses 10 to 18C be seen as a whole, so they are set out in full for you to read first. They are listed in their "order of the appearance" in the Constitution.

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

1. That clause 10, which presently states:
"The governing body of the Club shall be a committee of enrolled members which shall consist of a President, one or two Vice-presidents, a Secretary, an Assistant Secretary, a Treasurer, one or two Editors of the Club Journal, a Trips Secretary, a Stores Officer and three other members; provided that where the President, Vice-presidents, the Secretary, the Assistant Secretary, the Treasurer, the Editors of the Club Journal, the Trips Secretary and the Stores Officer are all men, one at least of the remaining elected Committee members shall be a woman. The Committee shall have the power to co-opt persons in an advisory capacity, but such co-opted advisors shall not have the power to vote at Committee meetings."

be altered to read -

"The governing body of the Club shall be a Committee of enrolled members which shall consist of the following elected members -

- (i) President
- (ii) Vice-president
- (iii) Secretary
- (iv) Assistant Secretary
- (v) Treasurer

(vi) Trips Secretary

(vii) Stores Officer

(viii) Editor of the Club Journal

provided that both men and women be represented; and a special member appointed by each of the following Sub-committees -

(ix) Conservation

(x) Rockclimbing

(xi) Caving

(xii) Canoeing

(xiii) Skitouring

provided that if a Sub-committee fails to appoint a representative, the Committee may co-opt a member to represent that activity if there is sufficient Club interest to warrant the move.

The committee shall have power to co-opt persons in an advisory capacity, but such co-opted advisors shall not have the power to vote at Committee meetings."

1A. That clause (10(C)), which presently reads:

"The Assistant Secretary shall keep full and accurate minutes of all Committee meetings, and shall deal with subscriptions and the membership list"

shall be amended by the insertion after the first "shall" the words "assist the Secretary," and the second "shall" will be deleted, so that the clause shall read -

"The Assistant Secretary shall assist the Secretary, keep full and accurate minutes of all Committee meetings, and deal with subscriptions and the membership list."

2. That clause 10(e), which presently reads:

"The Editor(s) of the Club Journal shall take full responsibility for the editing and distribution of the Club Journal." be altered so that "Editor(s)" becomes "Editor".

3. That a new clause, 10(F), be added, reading:

"The Trips Secretary shall represent and be the Convenor of the Bushwalking Sub-committee, and shall be responsible for the general co-ordination of the Trips Programme."

4. That clause 11, which presently reads:

"The Committee shall have power to form sub-committees from among enrolled members for the purposes of implementing any of the aims of the Club. The decisions of such sub-committees

shall, unless over-ruled by the governing body, be binding on all members. One member of each sub-committee shall be a member of the Committee."
be deleted.

5. That clause 12, which presently reads:

"The Committee, apart from one of the "three other members" shall be elected at the Annual Meeting. On the notice sent out in respect of the Annual Meeting, as provided in Clause 26 below, the Secretary shall invite nominations, which shall be returnable in writing, signed by the nominee, proposer and seconder at least seven days prior to the Annual Meeting. At the Annual Meeting the President shall appoint scrutineers to conduct such ballots as may be necessary, in the manner they see convenient or desirable."

be altered so that its first sentence becomes -

"The elected members of the Committee shall be elected at the Annual Meeting."

6. That clause 13, which presently reads:

"The Committee shall co-opt the convenor of the Climbing Sub-committee or his proxy appointed by a full meeting of the Climbing Sub-committee as its remaining members."

be deleted.

7. That clause 15, which presently reads:

"No member of the Committee may hold the same office for more than three successive years, office in this context to apply only to the President, Vice-presidents, Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Editors of Club Journal, Treasurer, Trips Secretary and Stores Officer. But this prohibition shall be without prejudice to his right to hold other office on the Committee."

be altered to read -

"No member of the Committee shall hold the same office for more than three successive years, but this prohibition shall not prejudice the member's right to serve on the Committee in a different capacity. No member may hold more than one Committee position at a time."

8. That the following clauses be inserted after clause 18:

"18A. The Committee shall have the power to set up Sub-committees, either permanent or non-permanent, from among enrolled members in order to implement any of the aims of the Club. The decisions of such Sub-committees shall, unless over-ruled by the Committee, be binding on all members.

One member of each Sub-committee shall be a member of the Committee"

"18B. Permanent Sub-committees

(1) The Rockclimbing Sub-committee shall consist of all Climbing Leaders, and shall have immediate control of all rock-climbing activities.

"Competent slimbers" shall be appointed by this Sub-committee and shall be members whom it considers to be safe and reliable climbers.

"Climbing Leaders" shall be appointed by this Sub-committee and shall be climbers of advanced standard whom it considers to be safe and reliable in all conditions.

(2) The Canoeing, Caving and Skitouring Sub-committees shall be structured in a similar way to the Rockclimbing Sub-committee but may also include non-Leaders.

(3) The Bushwalking Sub-committee shall consist of competent bushwalkers and shall assist with the formulation of the walks programme."

"18C. With the exception of the Bushwalking Sub-committee, each Sub-committee, both permanent and non-permanent, shall elect from amongst its members a Convenor. Each Convenor shall ensure that decisions of his Sub-committee are communicated to the next Committee meeting."

9. That clause 33, which presently reads:

"The Committee may organise and conduct such excursions and tours to mountains at such times and to such places as it considers fit provided that such excursions shall be under the control of a leader appointed by the Committee who shall have absolute power of discipline for the duration of such excursions."

be altered to read -

"The Committee may organise and conduct such trips as it considers fit provided that each be under the control of a leader approved by the Committee. The leader of an approved trip shall be responsible to the Committee for the satisfactory completion of the trip and the safety of the members on it; to this end, he shall have absolute power of discipline for the duration of the trip.

Rockclimbing, caving, canoeing and skitouring trips must, in addition, be led by a Leader approved by the relevant Sub-committee, and that Leader must be consulted and his permission granted before members may pursue any unscheduled activities.

Unadvertised Club trips the composition of which is the choice of the leader require the approval of the Trips Secretary."

10. That clause 34, which presently reads:

"The Club does not take responsibility for accident, mis-adventure or injury to members resulting out of a Club excursion and the Committee reserves the right through the leader of a Club excursion to whom right may be delegated to refuse admission to a Club excursion to any person whom they consider incapable of completing or insufficiently experienced to complete the excursion without injury or inconvenience to himself or other members."

be altered to read -

"The Club does not take responsibility for accident, mis-adventure or injury to members arising out of a Club trip, and the Committee reserves the right to exclude any member it considers unsuitable for a given trip from that trip. This right to exclude may be delegated to the leader of the trip."

WELL THEN EH, WOT'S ALL THIS ABOUT?

Early last year (1974) there were a few moves and formal discussions about changing the MUMC Constitution, but nothing really happened because no-one could put a finger on anything major that was wrong with anything. The pot wasn't boiling so no-one wanted to stir it! But although nothing has been happening on the bureaucratic level of meetings and suchlike, there has been a bit of thinking and talking going on which has finally hit on the flaw in the arguments at those meetings. The error of judgement has really been the assumption that there must necessarily be something radically wrong with the way the Club has been functioning for any changes at all to be worth contemplating. And no-one at present seems to want a revolution. Maybe it's got something to do with the general failure of Government Referenda that has made us super-cautious about changing our Constitution without a revolutionary underground liberationist movement. Nevertheless there is a definite feeling amongst the members of the 1974 Committee and many others that a few improvements to the status quo would be a good idea. And to hold elections at this AGM without trying to implement them would be something of a betrayal of our commitment to the Club.

Really it has been canoeing that has forced the issue. Canoeing is a Club activity that has grown a lot in popularity over the last 12 to 18 months, far beyond what it was a few years ago when a few bushwalkers went for a paddle every couple of months. One could almost say that it is now a "booming" activity, and it seems to have been pretty well organised. Except that the Committee, there being no ardent canoeists on it, hardly knows the first thing about what MUMC canoeists are doing. Cavers, also, are far more active than the bulk of members realise, and only by the luck of a few Committee members knowing a few of the active cavers does the Committee hear anything of what they are up to.

The Committee is supposed to be the "governing body" of the Club and to be its organisational arm. Its prime concern ought to be the Trips Programme - the planning, approval etc. of future trips and the discussion of the success or otherwise of past ones. Although the organisation of trips is largely left up to the Trips Secretary, this should not (and does not) stifle discussion of them. Furthermore, canoeing and caving trips are usually organised by someone other than the Trips Secretary (who is usually a walker, and rarely a Jack of all trades) and these trips rarely make the discussion table either before-hand or afterwards. Skitouring is also a growing branch of the Club with increasing organisation of it becoming necessary. The two in charge last year happened to be Committee members, but the present Constitution does not guarantee this.

Various solutions are possible. The canoeists have discussed but rejected the idea of forming a separate club (to MUMC's and their benefit I believe). The caving section of the Club would not survive in the University outside MUMC. Skitouring is so much a winter extension of bushwalking that it is sensible that it remain a part of MUMC. It has been suggested that the convenor of each Sub-committee, i.e. Climbing, Caving, Canoeing etc., meet periodically with the Trips Secretary, so that there in effect be a "Trips Sub-committee" co-ordinating things. But how much bureaucracy can a Club stand? The solution offered by the proposed amendments is that each major activity indulged in by the Club be represented on the Committee. The Trips Secretary should still be responsible for co-ordination where necessary and look after the trips lists for insurance purposes etc., but if he ever fails to bump into the canoeing or skitouring rep. between Committee meetings he would at least then find out how they are getting on and get full details of planned trips. This way of doing things is something like that being successfully pursued at Monash, and is in a sense the easiest way out - not so much a change as an improvement of the status quo.

So much for the canoeists et al. with respect to the Committee. What about this Conservation bod? The proposal to make the Conservation Sub-committee officially represented on the Committee arises from the very importance of the Sub-committee. It may not always seem so, but it is a fairly permanent entity, and a lot of correspondence that comes into the Club gets channelled to it. If Conservation is to be treated seriously by the Club, then the Sub-committee specialising in it deserves direct representation on the Committee.

The other changes to the composition of the Committee are proposed in an effort to have people on it who actually have something concrete to do, some worthwhile reason for being there. It is also partly an attempt to keep the size of the Committee down to a workable level - the changes taken as a whole leave the Committee at its present size. The idea behind having two General Committee members was to "teach them the ropes" - an apprenticeship system. Perhaps this gentle introduction to Committee life has been putting people off? Only about one in five General Committee members have ever gone on to

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ADDITIONS AND LATE ALTERATIONS TO THE TRIPS LIST

- 12 March (Wed): this is now the date of the Orientation slides and barbeque (previously Friday 14th). Same time . etc. etc.
- 11 March (Tues): Newcomers talk about Bushwalking - Come on this day instead of Thursday. Will be held at lunchtime - watch the Activities Sheet for location.
- 5-6 April: Bushwalk.
Place - Murrurrindi R.
Transport - Private.
Leader - Don Fell
- 19-20 April: Bushwalk.
Place - Poley Range.
Transport - Private.
Leader - Don Fell.
- 27 April: Beginners Orienteering Instruction
- Swedish experts talking.
Ring Don Fell for details (ph. 398 3607).

- 15 March(Thurs): PARTY! at 7pm or thereabouts, onwards...
at 30 St Vincents Place, Albert Park.
That's the first Thursday of term.
See you there?

BUY YOUR T-SHIRT NOW! 3 colours, 3 sizes.
Oxoman on the front. 0-week special. Really
good value at only \$3.00 each.

hold another position on the Committee. General Committee members are usually given a few odd jobs to do, but nothing that no-one else, on the Committee or off it, would be unable to manage, and rarely something that they would not offer to do regardless. The Vice-president has no portfolio and could easily be engaged to do any odd tasks that "require" a Committee person. But two Vice-presidents? Last year we elected two because of the possibility of both the President and single Vice-president being absent from meetings - but what an idiotic reason! The Committee can then easily select someone else to take the chair. (Clause 10(A) of the Constitution even expressly suggests this.) As for the duality of Editorship, it is felt that even if two people want to work together on the Mountaineer only one need be on the Committee. Then at least one person is made to feel responsible and is unable to indulge in buck-passing. In general there is something to be said for having a flexible Constitution, but the tendency has previously been to have as large a Committee as the Constitution will allow; this being the case, we should take this opportunity to introduce some reasonable limits. A Committee of 13 is plenty; 14 or 15 would be impossible and is unnecessary.

Since it is vital that the particular amendments proposed should be seen as a whole, many of them being inter-dependent, I will now discuss them in a bit more detail.....

Clause 10 is the main clause dealing with the composition of the Committee, and at the moment should be read in conjunction with Clause 13 (which puts the Climbing Convenor on the Committee). It is proposed that Clause 13 be deleted (amdt. 6) and that Clause 10 be the only one dealing directly with the make-up of the Committee. This is merely so that the set up is simpler and easier to understand. The Committee would be made up of two sorts of members - ones elected at the AGM, holding down general administrative positions, and special members who are appointed by the particular Sub-committee they then represent. The idea of Sub-committees is not really a change, but is more an expression of the way things are already being done by the climbers and an extension of that to caving, canoeing and skitouring. The proviso that if a Sub-committee fails to put anyone on the Committee then the Committee can co-opt someone, has various functions and possibilities. A Sub-committee could be divided into two (or more) factions which refuse to agree on one person - and for the sake of administration (and peace) the Committee would have the power to make the choice; an activity may lapse completely, making a Committee position redundant, and the Committee need not co-opt anyone if it did not seem sensible; or an activity previously in a state of lapse may appear to be reviving but still be without a working Sub-committee in charge of it, in which case the Committee could co-opt someone and so encourage the revival of the activity.

Amendment 5, which deals with the opening sentence of Clause 12, must follow naturally if the new structure of the Committee is accepted, as must the deletion of Clause 13 (amdt. 6). Clause 10(E) must also be changed if the Club approves the cutting back of the

number of possible Editors to one only.

Amendment 7, dealing with Clause 15 (i.e. the prohibition on holding the same office for more than three years running), must be changed to fit in with the new scheme. Also, it contains an anomaly at present in that it does not prevent the climbing convenor, nor the General Committee members, from holding their positions till the year dot. Surely in the interests of spreading responsibility and preventing the old guard from getting a stranglehold on organisation (introduce new blood etc. etc.), every position should be subject to the same restriction. Three years in one position is surely long enough in a University club. Note, however, that there is still nothing wrong with someone staying on the Committee in a different capacity.

Returning to amendment 3, which proposes the addition of a Clause 10(F). In the present Constitution there is no mention of the duties of the Trips Secretary, and in a way there has not been any real need for one. Since the new way of organising things incorporates a Bushwalking Sub-committee however (to help the Trips Secretary with ideas, research and so on for the walks programme), and since there will also be different representatives on the Committee, it would seem desirable that it be made clear what the role of the Trips Secretary is. It is not envisaged that that role be very different from the present, but the fact that he should be the Convenor of the Bushwalking Sub-committee must be stated and his general co-ordinating role made clear lest he think he is only responsible for bushwalks.

The new composition of the Committee makes direct reference to Sub-committees, so some clarification of what they are is necessary. Clause 11 at present makes some attempt to cover this, but it does not go very far and the new Clauses 18A, 18B and 18C do the job much better. Amendment 4 therefore is that Clause 11 be deleted, and amendment 8 introduces the three new clauses grouped after all the general ones dealing with the Committee. New Clause 18A is in fact virtually the same as old Clause 11 except that it introduces the concept of permanent and non-permanent Sub-committees. New Clause 18B deals with five of the permanent Sub-committees - rockclimbing, canoeing, caving, skitouring and bushwalking - and describes to some extent how they should be structured. (No mention is made of the Conservation Sub-committee; there seems no need to set down any special rules for it as there is in the case of the trips-orientated Sub-committees.) The structure laid down for the Rockclimbing Sub-committee is just a constitutional expression of the way things have always been (more or less); the Canoeing, Caving and Skitouring Sub-committees, for safety reasons, should also follow the concept of "Leaders" but it is a recognition of the sensible (and working) present system that they include other people if that seems desirable. The Bushwalking Sub-committee is a slightly different concept, since it is Club policy not to have a "Leaders" List, and since it is designed more for ideas and as a general help to the Trips Secretary than for

the administration of bushwalking. New Clause 18C deals with the election of Convenors and their responsibility to make sure the Committee finds out what their Sub-committees have been doing. Note that there is no need for the Convenor to be the same person as The Committee Representative, though at times it might be convenient for this to be the case. The Bushwalking Convenor is excepted in this Clause because he is the Trips Secretary and is elected at the AGM.

The last two amendments, to Clauses 33 and 34, are necessitated by sheer common sense. They change little but their own wording, but while we are mending the Constitution it would seem ridiculous not to do something about them. The present clauses are hopelessly unwieldy, and their proposed replacements attempt to make things much clearer. There is little point in having a Constitution that takes hours to understand.

I hope these changes do not seem too pedantic or confusing. It is all quite simple really. The thing is to see them in relation to one another. The amendments themselves are so numerous that the most sensible way of listing them is in their "order of appearance" in the Constitution; I hope these annotations have linked them sufficiently - and that you agree with the idea behind them, because to me it seems "eminently sensible" (as Gough would say).

- See you at the AGM - Laurie Patrick.

P.S. The fact that no other (!) amendments have been included or discussed here does not mean you can't propose your own - these just happened to be at hand in time for this Mountaineer. But don't forget that notice to move an amendment must be given to the Secretary at least 28 days before the AGM. (Ed.)

BUSHWALKING

There has been a lot of discussion in the Club during the past year over so-called "beginners trips", which have in recent times constituted mass assault on Wilsons Promontory and involved as little instruction as possible. This year we hope things may be a little different and that those who haven't experienced bush-life or carrying a pack before will get a pleasant and helpful introduction to it.

Here are some of the thoughts of the Trips Secretary.

"OH TO BE IN ENGLAND, NOW THAT BEGINNERS ARE HERE"

Since MUMC is a University club, we have a virtually complete turnover of people every four years and this gives rise to large herds of animals rare in other walking clubs : beginners. These are a constant source of annoyance to those devoted over-experienced heavies

who run the club, for they must then interrupt their own tripping to run "Beginners Weekends". These weekends involve a lot of running around trying to organise a lot of people who seem ungratefully aware of what is going on. And what do they learn? Certainly the fact that they arrive at an appropriate place with appropriate gear is not enough.

One problem with Beginners Trips is that they only teach one thing - how to go on a Beginners Trip; whereas I feel they should help one discover whether or not one likes the particular activity, and how to be competent on a normal sort of trip. "Normal trip"? What's that? An activity consists, of course, of normal trips, and the only real way to discover whether one likes the activity or not is to go on one.

Another problem to overcome for a successful beginners trip is the leader. What noble qualities this person must possess! She/he must be enthusiastic, tireless, patient, expert, helpful, organising friendly, etc. etc. Such paragons are rare to the point of being a protected species. (And may I thank John Retchford and Greg Martin for countless snow and ice weekends!)

For both these reasons I propose that no longer be there an assumption that beginners trips will occur every year in canoeing, caving, climbing, skitouring etc., although both bushwalking (i.e. camping on a beach somewhere) and the Feathertop Alpine weekend should remain fixtures. If a great white leader emerges in any field who is truly the Albert Schweitzer of eskimo rolls (very tasty I believe) or whatever, then by all means have a beginners weekend - but otherwise it is a waste of time. Whenever possible trips will be marked "Beginners Welcome" or some such condescending phrase, to signify that the leader will make some attempt to help.

Evening talks have been another part of the beginner-education process - "attendance compulsory for all those going on the weekend." Hmph. Perhaps if they are held at lunchtimes we might get a 50% turnup.

THIS YEAR'S BEGINNERS BUSHWALKS

From various points of view the annual Prom mammoth straggle scoffing "ratouille and claret" is undesirable, as it achieves little (as evidenced by those remarkable Crisfield sisters who come year after year on the Prom weekend but on nothing else!) and the large numbers are unwieldy. Besides, in a finite-sized national park they are unwelcome.

This year a number of smaller trips is envisaged. The first will have an "instructional" emphasis on lightweight camping in a nearby worthwhile area, namely the Cathedral range. Two parties will attempt a traverse of the range, meeting at the middle for a Saturday night camp, with a minimum of sherry before the dehyd. The following weekend there will be several alternative places to be a Beginner at, namely -

Otways (Cumberland River - Allenvale)

Lake Tarli Karng (McFarlane's Saddle - Wellington R.)

Wilson's Prom, for those who can't possibly miss a Prom weekend.
Possibly Mt Cole also.

Old timers will be tolerated at the Prom and encouraged anywhere else.

Astute observers of the calendar will note Easter then a short distance away, four days in fact. Since it will be so early, the Bogong/Feathertop area seems the best choice for the main horde, and, for those who think two years wasn't long enough ago, a van will also go to the Snowy Plains area for walks to Moroka Gorge and the Crinoline. To make certain that newcomers are equipped, the trip list will be chained to myself or substitute for the preceding week and names of suspect people may only be entered after they have presented essential equipment for inspection, i.e. -

- (a) down sleeping bag
- (b) parka
- (c) either wollen trousers, or overpants and jeans
- (d) woolly hat and gloves
- (e) previous experience.

Efforts to have heavies around for talking to newcomers in this week will also be made. MUMC bureaucracy? Well, hopefully this will mean everyone might bring their own food at least, this year.

A word also on "evening meetings". The last evening meeting was the most interesting for a long time, i.e. Charles McCubbin on the Simpson Desert. Turnup? A miserable fifteen, all undergraduates. This ended evening meetings.

Rex Niven
Trips Secretary.

Meanwhile, some time ago, late last year, there was a very interesting experiment conducted - a NIGHT WALK (beneath the full moonlight!!!)...

A LITTLE NIGHT WALK, OR HOW ALL (JIM) HOPE WAS LOST

It was to be a simple trip - merely a drive to Wonthaggi; a two mile beach walk to a prearranged fire and hut for a barbecue. Nothing complicated or difficult.

It was a normal sort of trip - everyone had arrived by half an hour after the prescribed time; the people present and those on the list correlated somewhat, but of course, not entirely; packs and cars were shunted about and disorganized, but at about 7 we all managed to leave, overtaking and jesting each other as we went. Nothing unusual.

Perhaps the trip was a little odd when Ian (better known as the Minister for Supply) managed to leave Pakenham and follow a recommended short cut for about 20 km, only to be greeted by a sign post pointing

dead ahead : "Pakenham 15 km". (Cop Out : the trip leader - Minister for Trips, Aborigines and the Arts - took no navigational responsibilities 'till Wonthaggi). Also Jim (later to become famous) cheerily remarked in Berwick "Is this Frankston?" This was perhaps a little more unusual. But enough of travel anecdotes.

The trip began about the usual time, i.e. 2 hours late, at Harmer's Haven, with the Minister of Supply's high jinks in the sand hills with Laurie (Minister without Portfolio), Kaye and Barbie. (Nick and Sue were meanwhile keeping the fire hot and the beer diminishing). Once on the beach proper, we strolled along under the brilliant moon, putting on moon-burn cream and of course wearing pointed hats.

Time passes (very pleasantly, I might add). We had the usual sort of instructions - a rough sketch on the back of an envelope where Sue had drawn in all the coastal bumps (a few extra appeared after bumping her tea) plus all obvious landmarks like "mine", "the rocks end here", and "Thingamee's place - don't go in there : wild dogs, angry bulls, and electric fences."

We had a normal sort of map - military, late '30's, the area behind the beach marked as swamp and scrub. Once we thought we had come far enough, we ascended the dunes to take a look at the farms in the area - only to see a suburban street with beachhouses. Hmmm. Press on.

Well the cliffs became cliffier, the rocks rockier, and the tides tidier. When the waves were breaking at the base of hundred-foot craggy walls, we retreated to the top dunes. We found farms at last - about five miles further on than we should have. As we told ourselves "distances are deceptive."

Well this was not that unusual, and we struck back along a goat-track, a jeep-track, a dirt-track, and at last the main drag into Cape Paterson, found a street map, went back out of Cape Paterson, missed the turnoff, returned to the turnoff, traversed the town to open farmland, and headed off across the fences until on a distant hilltop Kaye saw lights flashing. Lighthouse? No, it flashed back our signals. Good enough, we thought, and trotted off across another fence.

At this stage, things became quite unusual. Jim disappeared.

Like a good show pony, he baulked the third fence, and then vanished in the middle of flat paddocks at 2 AM, three hundred yards from the destination.

This was unusual. Nevertheless, we had quite a pleasant barbecue, occasionally speculating on the whereabouts of Jim, and honking horns and flashing lights. Cries of "Hopeless situation" and "We've lost ole Jim" lost their novelty after awhile and about 4.30 AM we went to bed.

Next morning, Jim was still missing, despite a candle in the window, and after a while we thought we might try a search. We searched Cape Paterson; we searched the beach. We searched the paddocks; we searched the swamps. We searched the roads; we searched Wonthaggi. We rang Melbourne. We gave in.

Meanwhile tension mounted; and Dave (ex-Minister for Supply) giggled uncontrollably. The others ate and laughed hysterically, with a kind of glazed look. Large numbers of cups of tea and doughnuts were consumed, almost mechanically - a sure sign of overtaxed nervous systems. It was too incredible to be true! Eventually we went to the police. Conversation ran something like this:

US: "Rhubarb - Explain - Rhubarb - Mumble"

Him: "And you've lost someone - a Mister, ah, let me see, (consults pad) - a Mister Hope?"

US: (Excitedly) : "That's the one!"

Him: "Well, he's"

But perhaps you'd better ask him yourself.

Rex Niven,
Minister for Trips, Aboriginals,
and the Arts.

For an Indian's account of this same event, see "Orienteering?"

"Sir Rex"

As self-appointed custodian of "The Broken Compass", I am pleased to bestow it a second time. The adventures of a certain Trips Secretary on a night walk rival the orienteering exploits of the first recipient - Iain East.

With warnings of "vicious dogs followed by electrified fences and wild bulls" still fresh in our minds, eight people set out on what was supposed to be an easy three mile walk along the beach, finishing at a nearby farm for a B-B-Q. Seven of us let Dave Caddy lead - just in case there were wild dogs.

The idea was to look for a derrick above a mine shaft and follow a ramp off the beach soon after. It wasn't till later that we learnt that one landmark no longer existed and the other wasn't visible from the beach. However, finding a ramp, we followed it and found ourselves in the middle of what looked like a township. Fearless leader Rex climbed onto some public conveniences, to check out the situation, and confirmed that it was indeed a township.

Picture the situation : eight people with a 45-year-old map standing, at midnight, in the middle of a town, not marked on the map,

not knowing where either the start or finish was located on the map and looking for landmarks which didn't exist. It takes a rather special skill to land people in a situation like this and it should not go unrecognised. For this reason I dub thee "Sir Rex" of the Order of the Broken Compass.

Needless to say, other adventures followed before seven survivors finally arrived at the farm, very much closer to daybreak than expected.

Ian Mor.

SUMMER + VAC = SOUTHWEST

(This trip occurred shortly before the flooding of the lake in 1972).

"There's Mt Anne and the Thumbs - and that range is the Sentinels - we'll camp on the other side. Here's the Pedder carpark - what a bloomin' mess!"

"Right, everybody ready?" ... and another expedition begins in the "South West".

A rather late virgin camp in the long grass - and already we have a taste of Tasmanian scenery. Smooth purple slopes sweep up to rugged quartzite outcrops, now tinged with pink above the broad creek valley; tomorrow we'll be walking along it.

In dry weather the track is tolerably firm and after a short jump up a quartzite rise we see our initial destination - Lake Pedder. In sunshine it is a delightful blue and cameras are out in force. Across the water lie the rugged Franklands while further around stands Mt Solitary, already resembling an island in the deceptively flat-looking "sea" of buttongrass. This sea gives way to the line of gums bordering the famous beach of fine pink sand of the shallow lake - a good spot to spend a lazy afternoon. Graham and John however choose to climb into the Franklands to view the Western Arthurs. From up there one sees a sobering sight - water backed up against the Serpentine Dam clearly approaching the lake; this is probably our last view of the previously timeless Pedder.

Next morning we are off early - spurred on by racing squalls. Even so, we reach the Port Davey Track in humid hot weather as we head off to Junction Creek. The eighty-year-old track is a real credit to its surveyor; it winds effortlessly through a maze of buttongrass-covered hillocks and by lunchtime we can see the Western Arthurs more clearly : green buttresses leading up to grey walls, clouds pouring through the jagged parapets - our destination for tomorrow. We reach the Junction Creek "bus shelter" in drenching rain and manage to light a sock-toasting fire under a huge log. The frequent bad weather in Tasmania always comes from the West and all Southwest huts are built with the Eastern side open, where a fire is usually built. This enables

one to sit in the dry "bus shelter" watching one's hard-won fire slowly being drowned outside.

The following morning we begin the climb to the North end of the range in heavy mist. After a while the top of the old moraine is reached but then the route climbs steeply through the cliffs. The top of the range is a real surprise - an alpine garden with mosses, cushion plants, mountain orchids and crazy rockstacks - the chips and packs of cards left by a giant's poker evening. The sun shines warmly for lunch and the afternoon is spent finding our way along the range to Hesperus - "can we see the sea from here?" - and thence to our camp at Lake Cygnus - only one of dozens of alpine lakes scattered on both sides of the range at various heights, walled by cliffs and steep slopes. Next day we climb Mt Hayes in the usual mist and then by scrambling through the shattered rock and low scrub we reach Square Lake. Camp is on a shelf high above this cliff-enclosed point - quite spectacular as dozens of waterfalls cascade down the grey walls.

After a wet windy morning in our exposed position and an early lunch we scramble and bash our way back down to the plains. A new day brings good weather and we climb eagerly up to the beautiful Promontory Lake, and our first airdrop. John and Graham rush off towards the distant horn of Mt Scorpio and report enthusiastically on the spectacular centre portion of the range. In good spirits we turn south from the lake and climb the Phoenix - "can we see the sea from here?" - but have a tiring morning along to the West Portal and on through to the Crags of Andromeda. The extra-terrestrial names are appropriate to this unearthly landscape of steep quartzite outcrops. The way down is worse than ever, through thick scoparia while sidling the Lucifer ridge - "I knew the devil had to come into this somehow" - and then a steep buttongrass descent interrupted by sudden rises or thick scrubby cliffs. Finally at the bottom we lie comfortably and enjoy a "steaming grondel of throt" after an eleven hour day.

After breakfast the next day our female contingent deserts on the grounds of a sore knee. Nevertheless the stronger-kneed males climb the 3,000 odd feet on to the Smart Saddle in the Eastern Arthurs, assisted by the strange phenomenon of a long winding clearing in the scrub - almost as if others had been there before us. The afternoon is spent scrambling through the needles - "Jesus, you'd be going to lose one of these in a haystack, wouldn't you, eh?" - to Coon Moor, from where we see the sun set over Port Davey for a clear night. (Which is more than can be said for the billies after a fine example of tapioca pudding. Having laboriously scraped out the remains, the camp is renamed "Goo Moor" as a memorial.)

Next morning, the four peaks are first on the day's agenda - a jumbled mass of spires through which one must slide, jump, squeeze and pack-haul. However, Thwaites Plateau is eventually reached revealing our first close view of the great ugly monolith of Federation. Here we find our other airdrop and our camp at Hanging Lake. Over the edge we see the New River leading down to the South coast and Precipitous

Bluff - plenty of good trip-planning material there. We climb Greeve's Bluff for a closer look - "Hey, you can see the sea from here!" - only to be forced off the peak by a swarm of the dreaded green beetles; it seems the only thing left to do is lighten our loads with a wash in the lake.

In the morning the mist is back and having little enthusiasm for either Thwaites or Bechervaise plateaux we head down the Moss ridge. This ridge is punctuated with sudden earth lifts, some over ten feet in height, down (or up) which one must scramble holding on to the remaining vegetation. As if this isn't enough the lower section of the track is a jungle of trees, pandanus, moss and fallen logs, none cut through. By the time one reaches the bottom one almost cries out for a simple buttongrass plain. The next day, though, spirits have returned and we head off down the Cracroft -

"Hey, Federation looks good from here."

"Camera stop."

"Hm, three weeks at f8... needs a tele... better write all this down or Marion will kill me..."

Next lunch time is in the dolorite Pictons, and for a few hours we stroll through Victorian High Plains Country - a relaxing experience of putting one foot in front of the other without caring particularly where it goes. Back in Tassie again though, as we descend through scratching, tearing scrub, most unpleasant on sunburnt hides, to Pine Tree Saddle and a rather dry camp. Water is therefore stockpiled and the morning's fire doused with about two gallons, an example of water storage which the H.E.C. could well envy.

We climb Picton, our highest peak, and look back at our journey - but we smell home and speed at breakneck down Red-Rag Scarp to the Huon - find your own pace, we're in a hurry. Here the hut is a favourite meeting place of several squares miles worth of mosquitoes and sandflies - not to mention a known feeding place for possums, who think nothing of chewing through several layers of plastic and tinfoil.

But now we need a dramatic ending.

Graham gets up, and on a rather "ticklish" matter decides to leave for Geeveston immediately - which he does. At 3 AM. He was picked up about thirty miles later.

We set off at a more usual hour and stroll out to the road where we meet Mendel, a sort of bushwalkers' saint. He meets you on the track, guides you to his car, drives you to Hobart (supplying coffee en route) and cheerily bids you farewell at the Airline Terminal. By evening we are in Melbourne.

And what do we learn from this experience? Merely to go back again the next year, and the next....

Rex Niven.

CAVING

Caving or Speleology in MUMC is carried out in close association with the Victorian Speleological Association (VSA), and most MUMC cavers are also members of VSA. This has happened due to two main factors. Firstly the number of active cavers in Victoria is very small and fragmentation of such a small group is hardly in anyone's interest; and secondly caves in Victoria seem to involve either a 250-300 mile trip either west or east of Melbourne except for some small limited areas e.g. Labartouche, Parwan and Skipton.

However despite (or because) of this situation MUMC has a number of active cavers who are willing to take anyone on trips and other VSA members are also willing to take inexperienced MUMC cavers.

VSA has a hut at Buchan and much of its activities are based there. Other areas frequently visited include the Glenelg River, Bats Ridges (near Portland), New Guinea Ridge (north of Buchan), Limestone Creek (Benambra) and Northern Tasmania. Other interstate trips by MUMC members in the last 12 or 14 months have included ones to Nullabor Plain, Queensland and Kempsey (Northern N.S.W.), and Yarrangobilly (Snowy Mts).

Caving activities include not just exploration and sporting caving but also surveying and mapping of caves, biological and meteorological surveys, geomorphological studies and conservation. Often a caver will be particularly interested in specific caves or areas with the view to a more scientific study of it. Adrian Davey, for example, is always looking for people interested in botanical work which he is doing in East Gippsland and is also doing a more intensive study of Anticline Cave at Buchan. Miles Pierce is involved in a detailed study of Bats Ridges, where new caves have been discovered only recently. Nick White is VSA's conservation officer as well as the Australian Speleological Federation's President.

Caving trips are run with VSA, i.e. MUMC members are welcome on most trips run by VSA except the very difficult or specialized trips such as Scrubby Creek or M125, and this means there are many more trips available than MUMC alone could organise. These trips are usually run the weekend after the first Wednesday in the month : on the first Wednesday evening VSA has its monthly meeting and trips are organised then. If you are interested, contact Sue or Nick White (phone 328-4154) for details.

Sue White
Caving Convenor.

ROCKCLIMBING

By the 'Fool on the Hill'

Recent efforts of 1974 by MUMC climbers have been such that it may well be possible to soon talk in terms of a climbing renaissance within the club. Half a dozen climbers are beginning to tackle, usually successfully, hard climbs. At least in composing this piece of literature for this issue, the convenor does not have to resort to sick humour in a desperate effort to disguise the alarming lack of hard climbing which previously characterised the club over the past few years.

As usual, Werribee Gorge has been popular. Climbs such as 'Big Ears' (16), 'Veni Vicli Vinci' (17) and 'Conscientious Pontius' (17) have been led a few times by various climbers. Steve Glen put in a fine effort when he led 'Androcles' (16), a climb upon which he and others have stretched ropes many times. Mike March, seconded by John Chapman slowly climbed up the mighty 'Golgotha' (17) at the rate of one foot per minute. However the best climb done to date at the Amphitheatre has been Keith Egerton's lead upon 'Octavial' (18) in the fading light of a Sunday afternoon. It is not often that one can see the rising moon through the climber's legs! Over at the North side 'Strider' (16) has been led by Mike March, Peter Treby and John Chapman. Bilbo (16) was led by Nick Reeves and John Chapman and Jim Keary followed. Jim on his first climbing trip led 'Nyctophobia' (12) which was a fine effort. 'Daydream' (13) was climbed by Mike March, Mark Spain and Jim Keary. Serendipity (17) at Pyramid Rock was led by John Chapman, Nick Reeves and Mike March. Dave Mudie and Peter Jacobs followed. It is a pleasant climb in superb surroundings.

Mike March and Anne Bevan spent two weeks in N.S.W. They climbed in the Blue Mountains, Booroomba Rocks and at the Warrumbungles. As well as climbing some long climbs at the 'Bungles' they ascended the classic 'Carthaginian' (15) at Wirindi and the ego trippers delight, 'Mankleshtf' (13) before scores of tourists, one one of the 'Three Sisters' near Katoomba. Soon after that, Mike returned to the Bungles with VCC climber Peter Jacobs. They did two good climbs 'Out and Beyond' (15) and 'Caucasus Corner' (17). The latter is a long climb and they had to bivvy. Peter, apparently was not amused at the sight of Mike's duvet appearing out of the haul sack just as the chill of the evening came on. He was so put out he almost spilled their water. Back home the same two did 'Skink' (18) at Mt Arapiles.

At Staunton Vale, Nick Reeves led the first free ascent of the 'First Commandment' (18). This effort was a fine testimony to the stirring qualities of John Chapman, his second's mouth. Nick Reeves, and George Kuczera climbed the classic 'Xanthene' (17) at North Jawbones. They found it a really fine climb and well worthy of the three stars it is given in the guide. George took a spectacular fall while seconding the last pitch. Undeterred he led 'Travellers Slab' (12) with Gill Hume. At the VCC 'turn' at Buffalo, Nick Reeves and Reg

Marron climbed the fantastic, 'Where Angels fear to tread (direct)' (17). This climb is over 900' long and is very spectacular. Nick took a fall while leading the bulge, and later on Reg attempted to brain him with his peg hammer. At \$18 it was a dramatic but expensive trundle.

Unfortunately the proposed beginners day was cancelled as there was no day when enough instructors could come. This was mainly due to exams which continued late in November for some people. However there will still be climbing trips over the vacation and throughout 1975 and if anyone wants to climb, then ask and come along. There will be a beginners course in March - watch the Trips Book.

Nicholas Reeves

(Next issue may include something of summer exploits, in Vic, Tas and N.Z.)

ORIENTEERING

Sunday 6th October 1974 saw 200 people converging on the wild and rugged Cobaw Ranges (?) for orienteering's glamour event - the Victorian Championships. MUMC's "fashions on the field" brought forward entries ranging from Fiona Shaw's ½ pair of jeans to Ian Moore's ½ pair of football shorts. The event was a real crowd pleaser because of a steep, muddy descent from the last control to the finish. Every competitor seemed to have his own technique for the last stretch - some of them even stayed upright. John Yuill's antics on this leg won the plaudits of the crowd.

As for the results : MUMC's Women were very highly placed with Cath Kerr 2nd in a time of 2 hrs 1 min 34 secs, and Ros Escott 3rd in 2-06-19, followed by Fiona Shaw (3-13-43) and Liz Brown (3-59-20).

Tony Kerr turned in the fastest time among the men - finishing 8th out of 77 competitors, in a time of 2-14-02. He was followed by Ron Frederick (2-28-15), Ian Moore (2-40-03), "Twinkletoes" Fell (2-50-58), Bob Cannon (2-51-59), Geoff Lawford (3-09-50), Andrew Walker (3-41-57) and John Yuill (3-55-06).

Numerous people were "geographically embarrassed", to a greater or lesser extent, throughout the day - rather severely so in the case of a certain Geoff Fagan Memorial Prizewinner (who shall remain nameless). It was felt fitting that Hughie saved up all his rain till the end of the day, so that he could dump it on our Met. Bureau representative - Tony Kerr. Incidentally Cath and Tony have been named in the squad from which the team to visit New Zealand will be chosen.

Bob Cannon is organizing MUMC's next event in the Brisbane Ranges on 17th November. Many helpers will be required.

Ian Moore.

CONSERVATION

This notice has been on the door of Aikman's Rd for the last few weeks but in case you haven't seen it, here is some frightening news:

The Second Report of the Board of Inquiry into the Victorian Public Service (The Bland Report) -

1. Recommends abolition of land conservation council with only 1/3 of its task completed.

2. Proposes establishment of a commission for conservation, the environment and land use planning.

The commission to consist of 18 "regular" members of whom only one is to have an ecological/conservation background.

The proposed commission is heavily weighted on the side of development.

3. Recommends as ad hoc members of the commission representatives, on various occasions only, of forests commission, national parks service, crown lands.

4. Suggests centralisation of all conservation organisations.

In short, a huge monolithic bureaucracy with little or no opportunity for public participation.

Further, in preparing the report, there has been no consultation with any major Victorian conservation organisation, so far as we can discover.

The notice suggests that all those concerned write immediately to:

The Premier, The Minister for Conservation, your local members of Parliament, the Leader of the Opposition, Mr Clyde Holding, the Press, to urge -

- (1) Retention of L.C.C. as presently functioning.
- (2) Full public participation in forming land use policies.
- (3) Rejection of objectionable features of bland report.

How do you feel about it?

BONESEED

How do you ruin the bush without really trying? Do nothing about Boneseed!

Almost everyone who reads this article will at some time or another have seen Boneseed. Many however will not have recognised it as such. And many who have recognised it will have wondered why there is so much fuss about it and how any such attractive shrub could arouse the feelings of concern, horror and even awe which Boneseed certainly does.

Boneseed is a yellow-flowered shrub which was introduced to Victoria from South Africa as a garden plant in about 1858. It seems to have become a problem only in the last twenty or so years, during which time it has spread alarmingly throughout the You Yangs, the Mornington Peninsula, and the southern Otways, not to mention Lake Hindmarsh, Portland, the Dandenongs and Phillip Island.

How is it a problem? Boneseed is a fast-growing, vigorous perennial which seeds prolifically. The seeds germinate readily to form dense thickets of new plants which choke out native vegetation, extract moisture from the soil, kill mature trees and produce more seed which in turn spreads the infestation further. Adult bushes may shed as many as 40,000 seeds every season.

Boneseed, also called Jungle Flower or Bitou Bush, is one of the few introduced plant species which seems to be able to compete successfully with native vegetation in undisturbed bushland. For this reason, for its tolerance of a wide range of soil and climatic conditions, and its free-seeding ability it has the potential to become a pest of staggering magnitude.

It is not a pest of farming land and little research has been carried out on it. Being introduced, it is out of balance with the Australian bush and has no effective natural predators. So concerned has the Association become about the rapid spread of this proclaimed Noxious Weed that with the support of the Conservation Council of Victoria and the Vermin and Noxious Weeds Destruction Board, it has initiated a publicity campaign in order to alert people of the threat which the plant poses to our native bushland.

Much of this article is extracted from leaflets issued by the CCV and the Board and VNPA Newsletter.

Characteristics

Habit. A woody perennial shrub, 1-3 m high; shallow rooted, with no distinct tap root.

Leaves. Oval to paddle shaped, 2-8 cm long, irregularly toothed along the edges, tapered at base, with a cottony down on the younger leaves.

Flowers. Yellow daisy-like flowers, about 2 cm in diameter, with 4-8 petals; formed in July to October.

Berries. Spherical, about 5 mm in diameter, hanging in clusters at the ends of branches. During ripening the green fleshy skin turns black and the seeds become bone-like in colour and texture.

Life Cycle. The seeds germinate at any time of the year but mainly in autumn.

Dispersal. In the past Boneseed has been planted intentionally. Seeds are now spread by birds, animals and also in contaminated soil.

Control. Small plants can be pulled up by hand; large plants may be grubbed or pulled out with a tractor. This treatment should only be used when soil conditions allow the bulk of the root system to be removed with each plant. Slashing does not kill Boneseed as strong regrowth occurs from the cut stumps unless they are painted with bromide. If plants are pulled near the seeding stage they should be burnt. It is essential to remove the new seedlings that emerge after old plants have been destroyed.

Boneseed does not survive when grazed and trampled by stock or when cultivated. However these methods, and chemical control, are generally not suitable in situations where it is desirable to conserve the native vegetation.

Overall spraying of bushes with a one per cent solution of amine 2,4-D (50% active ingredient) is reasonably effective but should only be used for large dense infestations where desirable vegetation won't be affected.

Very many infestations, however, can be controlled or eradicated fairly readily by hand-pulling. Large plants can be cut off near ground level and the stumps sprayed or painted with undiluted amine 2,4-D.

There is no prospect of effective biological control in the near future.

Action You May Take

Will you carry your share of the load in containing this pest?

- . Control activities should be planned and organised now rather than when the short spring flowering period arrives.
- . Identify the extent of the weed in your district. Advise the CCV so that a complete inventory may be compiled.
- . Establish ownership of land involved and obtain permission for working bees to eradicate the weed. Arrangement of continuing projects such as the clearing of particular reserves is important.

- *****
- . A canvass of residents in certain localities may be practicable to inform people who may unwittingly be cultivating the weed in their gardens.

Lands Department inspectors should be advised of infestations, particularly those which cannot be tackled by a personal approach. The inspectors are empowered to require private landowners to remove boneseed, and they also have responsibility for eradicating it on public land.

- . Make representations to municipal authorities, members of Parliament, or the managers of infested land such as cemeteries, road reserves and parks. Send a copy of any written advice to the CCV so that the matters can be followed up if necessary.
- . Arrange for articles and advertisements in local newspapers.
- . Don't forget that any control measure you take must be maintained or else your good work will be lost.

For further information contact -

Geoff P. Edwards, 13 Benson Street, Belgrave 3160, Telephone 754-4277.

Mr W. Craven, 3 Wandin Court, Forest Hill 3131.

Mr R. English, 10 Reserve Avenue, Mitcham 3132.

Mrs A. Faithful, 67 Athelstan Road, Camberwell 3124.

Mrs J. Ross, Lot 55 King Street, Montrose 3765.

To arrange activities at the You Yangs

Mr H.R. Johnson, 14 Macleod Parade, Macleod, Telephone 45-2841.

Mr T. Pescott, 4 Victoria Terrace, Belmont (Geelong) 3216.

To arrange activities in Churchill National Park

Mr R. Jones, 3 Ferris Avenue, Box Hill North 3129, Telephone 88-1755.

To report Boneseed infestations

Mr A. Jelley, 10 Fortune Street, Box Hill 3122, Telephone 89-7828.

or the local Lands Inspector.

WARNING: Anyone contemplating taking their Snilda's T shirt into the bush - beware! Wave the white variety in the breeze and it won't be charged by the nearest bull, but it will be snatched, before your eyes, and chewed, eaten, munched on and regurgitated in shreds by the nearest cow! Just ask Rex. (Maybe N.Z. cows prefer Australian salt?)

An article reprinted from 1969 'Walk' with kind permission of MBW.

THE HIGH COUNTRY By Sue Taylor

It's cold. Stars glitter in the black velvet above the air is chill. Tents mushroom in the moonlight on the frosty grass. Crawl into that bag quickly ... get warm and go to sleep, for the dawn will be scattering the stars soon enough.

"C'mon, y' can't sleep all day! We're going in an hour."

"Hell, where's m' boots? Gosh, what a day! Righto, what's for breakfast?"

"Ten minutes ... !"

Boots crunch on the gravel track leading to the spur we'll follow up Mt Feathertop. It's still fresh, and there's ice on the puddles. But the promise of a glorious mountain day is there, and we are happy.

It's a narrow track we're following, dappled with leaf patterns and fringed with ferns. The signpost informs the tourist that this is Bungalow Spur and he'll need five hours to climb to the top. We're lucky - it won't take us quite so long, and anyway, once up, we don't come down again for another twenty-odd miles and quite a few days.

It's summer now, but in winter the snow comes a long way down the track, and if you're quiet you'll hear, perhaps see, a lyrebird scratching his dinner from under the white carpet.

We can hear the lyrebirds, now, fluting clearly through the still bush.

It's early yet, but already the woollybuts are giving way to tall snow-gums. Up top they're stunted, but here the weather is kinder, and their limbs are longer and straighter.

"There it is!"

"Eh? What?"

"Feathertop Hut."

A little sad and forlorn, the grey hut stands beneath beautiful snow-gums, a reminder of the old days when a chalet existed here.

"Right. Let's go up to the top and see what we can see."

Warm sun on our backs, clean air to breathe and a gold carpet to walk upon; we've crossed the five-thousand feet ring, and now we can sit on the pointed top of the mountain.

Who needs a map when it's all there in front of you?

Let your eyes wander up and down the Razorback to Hotham; slide down the slopes to Dibbins and run up the other side to the High Plains;

It's summer now, but in winter the snow comes a long way down the track, and if you're quiet you'll hear, perhaps see, a lyrebird scratching his dinner from under the white carpet.

We can hear the lyrebirds, now, fluting clearly through the still bush.

glide over them to the other side for a look at Big River, and scramble up Bogong's shoulder to his head.

That's our route; sounds easy, doesn't it? Come with us, for this is a time to live, and you'll gather memories to last a lifetime.

The sky is streaked with the feathery wisps which, perhaps, have given the mountain its enchanting name. The ranges have caught the blue, tossing it from peak to peak, and as evening draws its folds closer the valleys deepen and fill with misty peace.

It's a good walk over the Razorback. On skis it can be quite exciting. When the snow is crisp and hard and the skis clatter as you skim the surface, it's cold comfort to know the trees will catch you if you slip. They're a hell of a long way down! The golden everlastings we're pushing through now are buried, and the dense mint-bush clumps peep through only where the snow is not so deep.

But today it's a world of colour and delicate fragrance. A track threads between the trees, and up and down the bumps. Behind us, Feathertop grows smaller and more pointed as we near Mt Hotham, and on our left the valley of the little Diamantina rises to meet us.

A stiff breeze blows as we climb to the domed top of Hotham. There's Feathertop again - looking a bit different now. There's Buffalo, too, sleeping in the sun. Behind us, Buller nods a greeting, and through the haze you can just identify Wellington. Round to the south the ridges stretch away towards Nunniong and further over to the Cobberas; Kosciusko's just beyond.

"Hey, you chaps, shake a leg! You's sit there all day given the chance."

As we near Mt Loch the basalt columns which crown its top become clearer. Fascinating to poke about, they hide the little crannies where the Broad-toothed Rat loves to make his home, and in places you'll find the half-digested remains of the moth dinner he's enjoyed.

Now we swing down Loch's shoulder, following the snowpole line, and before long we're in the trees. There's a hut here, the Charles Derrick Memorial Hut, erected in memory of the lad who so tragically lost his life in the winter of 1965.

The track winds down amid snowgrass and billy buttons, and the trees are gradually becoming taller. Below you'll see a brilliant green patch, strangely out of character amid the subdued tonings of the gums. It's the saddle between the heads of the Cobungra and West Kiewa Rivers, and near the foot of the track stands Dibbins' Hut. A creek gurgles swiftly past, icy and sparkling. Great to wash off the grime, and cool the feet. It's a perfect camping spot, too - soft grass, water, wood.....

Across the creek we start to climb immediately. Before long we're into the snow-gums again, carpeted about with everlastings and

snow-daisies. The tiny green valley below is visible only occasionally, and for but a brief second. The view is opening out now, south towards Gippsland and west to Feathertop and the West Kiewa Valley.

Nearly on to the High Plains.....

Look out, or you'll find yourself nose to nose with a Hereford, especially if you smell salty! Towards the end of summer large blocks of salt are put out in open places known to the cattle, to draw them together and so make the April mustering less difficult.

It's a grand sight, the gathering of the cattle clan. For a week or so prior to the day of cutting-out the men are rounding up the five-thousand odd head, herding them into Pretty Valley. You can sit on a hill for a whole day, watching the basin slowly fill with bellowing Herefords.

Lunch over, the cutting-out begins, as exciting and absorbing as any Northern Territory round-up. From the seething brown and white mass each owner retrieves his cattle, nibbling at the edges of the huge herd. For a time progress is slow. Then you become aware that the central core is smaller, and groups are growing in certain spots in the valley, each belonging to a different cattleman.

Four or five hours later, the weary men, horses and dogs are strung out behind their plodding charges. And mustering is over for the year - the snow can come now.

But we - we haven't reached Tawonga Huts yet, and our afternoon is wearing on, too. Up with the pack, for it's not so far, and we've got another lovely campsite.

Close your eyes, and again you'll see "the white stars fairly blaze" above the flickering firelight....smell the frosty air, the wood smoke...hear the murmuring voices, the crack of laughter....tomorrow we'll climb the Niggerheads and Fainter.

Dawn is a fluting currawong and crisp sunshine - and up to the Niggerheads we climb, for a pleasant scramble along the tumbled rocky tops. It seems not long before Fainter rises in front of us, its grassy top inviting us for lunch. Eat, and let your eyes wander over the tracks we've travelled. Just across the valley is Feathertop - a different mountain again, and almost close enough to touch. We've time enough to drop down the side of Fainter North to Bogong Jack's, and in a small grassy flat we find the remains of the old hut.

Back on the track up to Fainter, over the summit again. It's icy and windswept in winter, and the wind sweeps you in a series of endless turns down the slopes to the foot of the Niggerheads. Let's go back along them, shall we? It's more interesting than the jeep track.

From Tawonga Huts we stroll up the broad slopes to Mt Jim, quite a little peak under snow but just a gentle bump in summer.

Across the wide expanse of Pretty Valley we walk, and occasionally little groups of lazy, sun-soaked Herefords lift their heads long enough to decide that we're not likely to disturb the peace. The sun glints on myriad shallow pools and bubbling streams; the world is warm and sweet-scented.

"What about the top of Cope?"

"O.K. Won't take long, and it's a good view."

So we swing across the valley and start the gentle climb up Mt Cope. A startled fox leaps away through the dense bush; there's a surprising amount of wild life up here, even in winter. Summer will attract the dingoes up to feed on grasshoppers and hares. Even emus have been seen in twos and threes. A wombat occasionally ambles his confused way up in winter, and of course the cheeky hare leaves his tracks in many a place.

But come, we musn't dally too long on the summit if we're to reach Wilkinson Lodge tonight. Especially as the clouds are rolling in from the south.

We stop on the way for a quick visit to Cope Hut, sheltered below the hill and as sturdy as the day it was built. Down further, by the aqueduct, stands the Rover Scouts' Lodge - peaceful now, but a scene of frenzied activity in winter as hordes of aspiring young skiers hurl themselves up and down the slopes around their Lodge. And just over the hill is our own beloved lodge - "Wilky". There we'll spend a couple of days; and great is the temptation to spend them around the fire!

It's an easy walk to Rocky Knobs from "Wilky", and from the cluster of small peaks one has a grand view of Rocky Valley Dam. Strongly reminiscent of a Scottish loch, it lies cradled amid gentle, purple-tinged hills. Mt Mackay is silhouetted sharply against the sky - we could finish our day by climbing its steep scrubby slopes. Of course you could drive up it, too!

Just up the hill from Wilkinson is Wallace's, a quaint, rather charming old hut. Built in 1889 by the Wallace family, who were cattle-owners, it still offers warmth and shelter both to little furry fellows and to their larger two-footed brethren. In its day it's made an admirable ski-jump, too! A good winter piles the snow well over the roof, and intrepidly we've cast stocks to the wind and ourselves to an abrupt halt, ostrich-style, some few yards past the take-off point. Ah well, good clean fun....

Other cattlemen's huts are scattered across the plains - Kelly's, Fitzgerald's, Johnson's, Roper's - each with its own personality and character, and each witness to generations of men of the high country.

As we bid farewell to "Wilky", the lovely valleys below the High Plains, towards Omeo, are filled with deep lakes of mist.

From Basalt Hill you'll see Rocky Valley Dam, blue and sparkling in the early sunshine, and ahead lies Bogong, sleeping giant of the high peaks. Mt Nelse rises smoothly, and from its summit, across a blue valley, we see Mt Wills, and the ridges to Kosciusko and the Snowies.

We've time for a short trip to Spion Kopje. Leave your pack by these rocks, and let's have a look at the route we've traversed. A broad, flower-scattered summit is Spion Kopje, dropping steeply down on its western side to the East Kiewa River. Below is the ski village under the Frying Pan; Mt Kackay points skywards, and Fainter rolls away in front of Feathertop.

Pause and ponder awhile, for the High Plains you see before you have changed greatly since the time of the Aborigines....

The Ya-itma-thang were the people of the high country; Mt Buffalo, the Ovens, the Kiewa, the Mitta Mitta and the Gibbo Ranges their territory. They lived peacefully enough, feeding on game, reptiles, insects, roots, seeds and berries. Particularly fond of the Bogong moth, the tribes would congregate on the high plains when the snows melted, there to wax fat upon the thousands of tasty insects which accumulated in the rock crevices. But with the discovery of gold in 1852 came the milling hordes of miners, and ten years later only about four Aborigines remained.

The Bogong High Plains, according to record, were discovered in 1851 by two stockmen, James Brown and John Wells, who looked after George Gray's run at Cobunga. Though it is generally believed that Baron von Mueller discovered the High Plains, it is actually more correct to describe him as the first official visitor rather than the original explorer.

Grazing has been practised for about a hundred years on these plains, rather spasmodically in the early years for drought relief, but later decades of extensive grazing led to serious problems developing, particularly those of erosion and damage to water catchments. Fortunately control of land use is now exercised by the Soil Conservation Authority in collaboration with the authorities responsible for engineering works.

But the winds of change have blown strongly. Only the older generations will remember the plains unscarred by roads and bulldozers, and the trappings of man and his amusements. Keep your memories, those of you who were privileged to know the unspoilt plains, and for those who cannot have such memories, come a little further with us, to Big River and Bogong. The bulldozer hasn't quite caught up with this part. True, there's a road by Nelse, but we'll leave it, and go down to Roper's Hut.

Smooth grass among the snow-gums....pink spears of Trigger-plants....frost on the tents and ice on the water-bucket....sleep well, for tomorrow we climb Mt Bogong.

The Bogong High Plains, according to record, were discovered in 1851 by two stockmen, James Brown and John Wells, who looked after George Gray's run at Cobunga. Though it is generally believed that Baron von Mueller discovered the High Plains, it is actually more correct to describe him as the first official visitor rather than the original explorer.

It's a good climb, steady but not hard, as we follow the T-spur up from the gurgling Big River. Dense scrub persists for a while, but soon magnificent Eucalyptus regnans stands stretch upward, and as we climb, these in turn give way to snow-gums. So pleasant is the ascent (in good weather) that you are mildly surprised when the terrain eases to a gentle rise, and before long you're on the track to Cleve Cole Hut and day's end.

Evening glows pink and golden, the first star twinkles suddenly; and gradually the moon bathes the mountains in silver.....

This, then, is Mt Bogong....journey's end.

"It seems to me that God made this region for all people and all the world to see and enjoy forever. It is impossible that any individual should think that he can own any of this country for his own in fee. This great wilderness does not belong to us. It belongs to the nation. Let us make a public park of it and set it aside....never to be changed but to be kept sacred always."

- Cornelius Hodges, American Conservationist, to Congress in 1872 pleading for a Yellowstone National Park.

Search and Rescue Notes

1. All current or intending members of S and R wanting to find out more about their Practice Weekend (to be held in April) come to Aikman's Rd and read the noticeboard or ring David Caddy - 341-6688 work, 53-9840 home.

2. Any current members who change their address, call status, qualifications, etc will help the system along greatly by telling me as soon as possible.

David Caddy
S and R Delegate.

TRIPS PROGRAMME

- 2 March (Sun): Orienteering Fun Run : Details contact Ian Moore.
- 13 March (Thurs): Newcomers Talk about Bushwalking - find out how we operate. Compulsory if you are going on trips this year for the first time.
- 14 March (Fri): 5.30 PM. Football Pavillion. Orientation slides and Bar-B-Que. Dangerous drinks PROVIDED! See details elsewhere.
- 15-16 March: Bushwalk. Standard - Very Relaxed
Place - Cathedral Range
Time - 9 AM (North Court of Union Bldg)
Transport - Van.

Parties will traverse the range from each end and camp in the middle at "The Farmyard". Special emphasis on putting up with a pack, putting up a tent, putting down a dehyd. meal, and sleeping on the cold, hard, creepy-crawly infested ground. The easy way to break into the only worthwhile 'sport' - bushwalking!

For further information ring Rex Niven 24-9751 or Gill Hume 48-5986.

- 16 March (Sun): Strath Ck Plateau. Orienteering.
- 22-23 March: Annual "Beginners" Bushwalk. Trips to various places, all leaving North Court at 6 PM by van. If in doubt about experience, equipment etc. ring Trips Secretary, Rex Niven 24-9751.
- (a) Tarli Karng : McFarlanes Saddle-Spion Kopje-Tarli Karng.
Tarli Karng-Wellington R.-Wellington Bridge.
Standard - medium (i.e. reasonably energetic).
 - (b) Otways : Probably Cumberland River (in the river)-Mt Cowley-Phantom Falls-Allenvale.
Standard - Medium-short (i.e. not too bad).
 - (c) Wilson's Prom : Yes, the Annual Prom Stagger, if you must go. Young girls beware of smooth-talking old men, especially if they wear kilts or leather head bands. SMALL groups will go all over the ruddy place.

Anyone who wishes to do that ULTIMATE ego trip and join the ranks of MUNC heavies - i.e. lead a trip - will be gratefully and joyously greeted by the Trips Secretary. Standards Bludge-Medium long (i.e. bludge to exhausting).

EASTER 28 March - 1 April

The best time of year for bushwalking - the weather is usually ideal. Being so early in the academic year, forget that Biol prac and make the most of your 5 days. If demand exists more trips can be invented! All transport is by van, leaving North Court at 6 PM on Thursday 27th March. Once again, any keen and bright young leaders are urged to take one step forward, compass and map in hand.

But be warned! Two years ago at Easter, snow and rain raged for two days. This can happen at any time in the mountains, a full blizzard can blow up in half an hour out of clear skies! Down sleeping bags, wind proof and woollen clothing are essential - proof of ownership (or hiring) is the only way to book on an Easter trip. Its not that I really care whether you have a whole lot of gear; its just that mothers get awful angry when theirs sons and daughters are left frozen stiff on mountain tops. See other article about Beginners, Trips and stuff like that there.

DEPOSIT WHEN BOOKING 42.00.

5 DAY TRIPS 28 March - 1 April

(a) Bryces Gorge - Conglomerate Ck/- Minogues Lookout - Caledonia River/- Dingo Hill - Shaws Ck/- Mt Tamboritha - Long Hill/- The Crinoline - Wellington River. Standard - Medium-medium. Wide range of mountain scenery, from lofty rugged peaks and breath taking cliffs to waterfalls and mountain rivers. Only one hill!

(b) Stonehenge - Dark Hill - Billy Goat Bluff/- Mt Kent - Moroka Gorge/- Cromwells Knob - Moroka Gap - Tarli Karng/- Rest day - climb the Sentinel/ to road along Wellington River. Magnificent views, including the superb Moroka Gorge, the last word in unspoilt wilderness. Standard - medium-long.

(c) Doolans Plain - Moroka River - Snowy Bluff low camp/- Snowy Bluff - Dawson Range - Shanty Hollow/- Mt Kent - Moroka Gorge/- Cromwells Knob - Moroka Gap - Tarli Karng/- Wellington River. Standard - Hard-rough-long. A magnificent trip in real wilderness but very demanding - heavies only.

(d) Guys Hut - Harrietteville via Barry Range. Standard - Suicidal (no need to bring tents, there won't be time to sleep!) Any takers?

4 DAY TRIPS 28 March - 31 March

(a) Mountain Ck - Mitchell Hut/- Mt Bogong - Cleve Cole - T Spur - Big River/- Duane Spur - Ropers Hut - Paradise/- Spion Kopje - Bogong Village. The highest High Plains around! Scenery from the awe-inspiring to the beautiful. Standard - Medium-medium.

(b) Harrierville - Bungalow Spur - Feathertop/- Razor Back - Hotham - Loch - Dibbins Hut/- Basalt Temple - Mt Jim - Tawonga Huts - Niggerheads - Mt Fainter - Bogong Jack Saddle/- Spungs Saddle - Bogong Village. Standard - Easy-medium. One of the best alpine trips there is and not too tiring either!

(c) Bogong Village - Spungs Saddle - Bogong Jack Saddle/- Fainter - Niggerheads - Tawonga Huts - Mt Cope - Wallaces/- Longford aquaduct - Nelse - Ropers Hut/- Timm's Lookout - Bogong Ck - Bogong Village. Standard - Medium-long.

3 DAY TRIPS 28 March - 30 March

(a) Harrierville - N.W. Spur - Feathertop (MUMC Hut)/- Razor Back - Bon Accord Hut OR Diamantina Hut/- Bon Accord Spur - Harrierville. Standard - Medium-short.

(b) Bogong Village - Bogong Jack Saddle - Tawonga Huts/- Westons Hut - Diamantina Spur - Feathertop/- Bungalow Spur - Harrierville. Energetic but rewarding. Standard - Medium-long.

(c) Harrierville - Bungalow Spur - Diamantina Spur - Blairs Hut/- Machinery Spur - Hotham/- Bon Accord Spur - Harrierville. For those who like ups and downs. Standard - Medium-medium.

EASTER PRIVATE TRIPS : COBBERAS

For details contact Ian Moore 82-6029 or Andrew Walker.

CAVING : Buchan - For details contact Sue or Nicholas White 328-4154.

ORIENTEERING : Kareelah 3 Day Event N.S.W. For details contact Ian Moore 82-6029.

- 2 April (Wed): Caving meeting. A.C.F. Building, 8.00 PM.
- 2 and 3 April: Henry Barber US Climbing Genius Talk. For details contact P. Treby or the Victorian Climbing Club.
- 4 April (Fri): A.G.M. 7.00 PM
Sizalkraft Theatre.
See article elsewhere. Speaker.
- 6 April (Sun): President's Day Walk.
Venue - depends on new President!

For details contact Ian Moore 82-6029 or Andrew Walker.

- 6 April (Sun): Orienteering. Details - contact Ian Moore 82-6029.
- 5-6 April: Caving trip. For details - contact Sue White 328-4154.
- 8 April (Tues): V.O.A. A.G.M.
- 12-13 April: Bushwalk - Baw Baw Plateau. Watch Trips book for details.
- 20 April (Sun): Orienteering. Contact Ian Moore 82-6029.
- 22 April (Tues): Instructional Evening and Slide Show. Orienteering. Swedish orienteering instructors!
- 25-27 April: Anzac Day Weekend.
The Bluff. Leader Mike Feller.
Transport - Van. Medium-Hard.
- 25-27 April: Swedish Orienteering Instructors' National Workshop/
Clinic. Details from Ian Moore 82-6029.

IF YOU WANT TO GO

- CAVING - Ring Nicholas and Sue White, 328-4154.
- CANOEING - Ring Canoeing Convenor.
- CLIMBING - Ring Nick Reeves, 82-6211.
- ORIENTEERING- Ring Ian Moore.

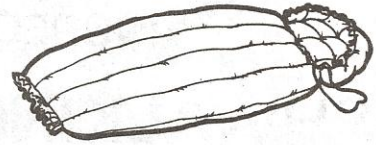
OR if you have any queries with regard trips contact Rex Niven, 24-9751.

Incidentally, we have drawn the Federation Day Walk this year, which means we must invent a fascinating series of day walks for all sorts of people from all clubs with transport by train, so we don't need to worry about numbers. Any bright ideas about day walks or organization or if you want to HELP - see Trips Secretary, Rex Niven (24-9751). It's on May 4.

Kimpton SLEEPING BAGS

arctic bag

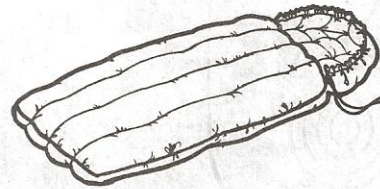
For sub zero temperatures and high altitudes. Cellular walls form lengthwise flutes, this stabilises the filling, ensuring even insulation and maximum resistance to cold throughout. There are no cold spots on the stitching, not even on the side seams because of these walls. The quilted flap hood is fitted with a draw tape and permits almost complete envelopment of the sleeper except for a small breathing aperture. When tied, the end allows no heat loss, however, in hot weather, the down can be compressed to the bottom and the end left open for ventilation, this makes the Arctic a dual purpose bag.



Filled with 2½lb. superdown.

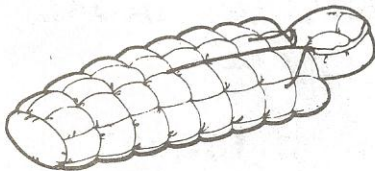
Body of bag cut 6'6" long x 32".
Total weight of bag 5¼ lb.

walled, hooded combination bag



Walled construction, the same as our Arctic bag. This hooded bag unzips to open into a blanket. Or, you can zip two bags together to make a double bag. Superdown filled

snow bag



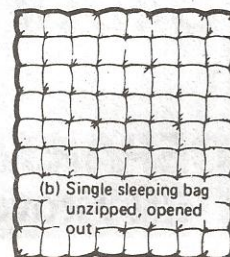
For skiers, bush walkers and sportsmen who want warmth without weight: Fitted with an inside closing zip and adjustable hood. An added feature is the heavily padded, circular foot panel, for protection in cold conditions. Supplied with our special waterproof container bag.

combination sleeping bag

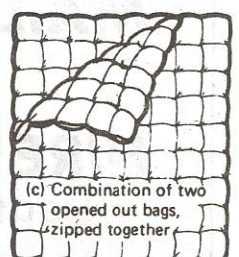
opened out to make a 6' 6" x 5' warm, light eiderdown, equalling the warmth of two pairs of blankets. For caravanning or camping purposes, it is simply zipped together, forming a single sleeping bag, or two bags opened out, can be zipped together, forming a perfect roomy double bag, capable of accommodating two adults or three children. Needs no bedmaking.



(a) Single sleeping bag zipped up



(b) Single sleeping bag unzipped, opened out



(c) Combination of two opened out bags, zipped together

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