

"HEY, COME BACK...  
WE HAVEN'T REACHED  
THE TOP YET!!"

# The MOUNTAINEER

*Handwritten signature*



# THE MOUNTAINEER

Vol 21 No 3

June 1982

Official Journal of the Melbourne University Mountaineering Club

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All correspondence to:

The Editor  
'The Mountaineer'  
Melbourne University Mountaineering Club  
c/o Sports Union  
University of Melbourne  
Parkville 3052

# COMMITTEE POSITIONS 1982

President	Andrew Rothfield	Ormond College Parkville 3052	347 4461
Vice President	Richard Smithers	Trinity College Parkville 3052	
Treasurer	Peter Seillie	7 Miller Street West Melbourne	328 4019
Assistant Secretary	Kim Aishead	36 Hornby Street Beaumaris 3193	99 1084
Secretary	Doug Haig	St. Hildas College Parkville 3052	347 3961
Publications	Jonathan Miller	66 John Street E. Brunswick	380 1994
Stores Officer	Tim Hatten	9 Pine Ridge Donvale 3111	842 1403
Editor	Janet Rice	54 Maidstone Street Altona 3018	398 2549

## CONVENORS

Bushwalking	Tom Kapitany	52 Joffre Street Noble Park 3174	793 2226
Canoeing	Tim Hatten	9 Pine Ridge Donvale 3111	842 1403
Climbing	Steve Howden	51 Greeves Street Fitzroy 3065	419 4853
Orienteering	Peter Turner	20 Crathie Avenue Park Orchards 3114	876 1128
Ski-touring	Peter Robins	13 Lucerne Street Vermont 3133	874 1630
Conservation	Ben Gawne	4 Belmont Avenue Balwyn 3103	80 5741
Caving	Sue White	123 Maningham Street Parkville 3052	328 4154

- \* One of the biggest events in the club calendar is the 24 hour walk. This year's event is on July 3 & 4 and promises to be as enjoyable, well at least memorable experience, as ever. You don't need to be a marathon runner to compete, all that is required is average fitness and enthusiasm. Entry fee is \$9.00, which includes all food. Transport will also be provided. To enter, post the entry form in this magazine to us, or drop into the clubrooms any lunchtime. Further enquiries: Paul Sharp 347 8075.
- \* Another date which has been set is Wednesday 7th July which is our annual pie night and slide competition. This social gathering should not be missed, involving as it does cheap food, cheap grog and a good time. This year's judge is well known photographer, Jutta Mösel, who has a world-wide reputation for her photographs of the environment, including Antarctica where she spent a year as the official Australian Antarctic Division photographer. One slide will be selected to appear on the front of the forthcoming edition of 'Equipment for Bushwalking and Mountaineering'. Expected cost: under \$2-.
- \* The Tasmanian Wilderness Society is, even more than ever before, in desperate need of your help in the drawn-out but far from lost battle for the Franklin. Join the society if you are not yet a member, donate every last cent you possibly can and give them your time and effort.

Write to your local MP, write to the Prime Minister telling him of your views and how it is to their political advantage to support no further dams in South-west Tasmania. The next Loans Council Meeting is on June 24, 25 which is when a decision regarding funding will be made. A plethora of letters before then just could have the desired effect.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FOR TASMANIAN WILDERNESS SOCIETY

NAME:

ADDRESS:

POSTCODE:

PHONE:

I enclose \$7 for student membership

Mail your Membership Application for Tasmanian Wilderness Society to:

Tasmanian Wilderness Society  
129 Bathurst Street  
Hobart 7000.

TWS's new shop at Shop 9, 377 Lonsdale Street is well and truly open for business. It's just the place to find information on Tasmania and buy books on conservation, Australian cards and wrapping paper, furry toy wombats, and platypus handpuppets amongst many other wares. Drop in and have a look around.

- \* We are still looking for a Hut Warden whose duties are only to visit our memorial hut on Mt. Feathertop 2 or 3 times this year and make people aware of any work that needs to be done.
- \* More positively, we have a few new faces appearing in positions of responsibility. Thanks to the people below who have filled these important positions:

Tom Kapitany

Bushwalking Convenor

Ben Gawne

Conservation Convenor

Nick Hallebone

First Aid Officer

Merrin Moore

Duplicating Officers

Richard Thwaites

David Dowe

- \* Help is still required for our publications in the pipeline. The new edition of 'Equipment for Bushwalking and Mountaineering' is progressing well, but your help would be much appreciated. Laying-out and diagram drawing will need to be done in the next month or so - let Jonathan Miller know if you are willing to help.

- \* The club still has things for sale in the clubrooms, at very reasonable prices:

3 remaining Vic Alpine Calendars - name your price

T-Shirts in all sizes - \$6.50

1978-1981 editions of Mountaineering - varying prices

These make excellent reading.

MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY MOUNTAINEERING CLUB

36TH ANNUAL 24 HOUR WALK

3rd & 4th JULY, 1982

Start 1 p.m. Saturday.

Finish 1 p.m. Sunday.

A 24 Hour Walk (or Rogaine) is an activity involving cross-country navigation on foot for an extended period around a course of previously set checkpoints. Competitors must find as many checkpoints as they can within 24 hours, using only map, compass and resourcefulness.

Location: This year's event will be held in beautiful, undulating countryside, and only a 2 hours drive, (approx. 100km NE) from Melbourne. The course is ~~centered~~ on a small hall ('Hash House') in a quiet country town so that walkers can be served their meals in warmth and shelter.

Transport: Low cost transport will be available express between Melbourne University and the Hash House (start). Competitors are encouraged to travel by the van provided to avoid driving back to Melbourne when short of sleep. For competitors travelling by private transport, directions to the start will be detailed in the final instructions.

Course: All teams will use the same course which has been carefully set to be suitable for competitors of any standard. A full moon is provided to aid night navigation. This year's course traverses about 50% open forest, 50% farmland.

The Map: The Map has been specially prepared, water proofed, and checkpoints are already marked on. Scale - 1:50,000. Contour interval - 50 feet.

Equipment - compass, pen/pencil, torch and spare batteries, sturdy footwear (runners are O.K.), warm and waterproof clothing, sleeping bag and tent, energy foods, Saturday's lunch.

Entries are invited from teams of 2 to 4 persons. Walkers under 15 years must be accompanied by an adult. Teams are classified for placings as:

Mens                      Womens                      or                      Mixed

Cost - \$9.00 per person.

\$3.00 surcharge for entries received on or after June 26.

\$4.00 per person for return transport by van.

Enquiries - preferably by mail to the address below. Otherwise to:

- Paul Sharp 347 8075

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ENTRY FORM - MUMC 36TH ANNUAL 24 HOUR WALK 3-4 JULY, 1982.

Team Members (First named will be team contact)

Name

Address

1. ....  
Phone No. .....
2. ....
3. ....
4. ....
5. ....

Section: Mens/Womens/Mixed

Transport is required for ... persons.

Enclose cheque to MUMC for total entry fees and transport cost of \$ .....

Include a stamped self-addressed envelope for posting of final instructions in the week prior to the event.

Post to: The 24 Hour Walk Organiser,

MUMC,

Sports Union,

University of Melbourne,

PARKVILLE, VIC. 3052

Start 1 p.m. Saturday. Finish 1 p.m. Sunday.

A 24 Hour Walk (or Roadbike) is an activity involving cross-country navigation on foot for an extended period around a course of previously set checkpoints. Competitors must find as many checkpoints as they can within 24 hours, using only map, compass and resourcefulness.

Location: This year's event will be held in beautiful, undulating countryside and only a 2 hour drive (approx. 100km) from Melbourne. The course is set on a small hill ('Hash House') in a quiet country road where walkers can be served their meals in warmth and shelter.

Transport: Two foot transport will be available express between Melbourne University and the Hash House (start). Competitors are encouraged to travel by the way provided to avoid driving back to Melbourne when short of sleep. For competitors travelling by private transport, directions to the start will be detailed in the final instructions.

Course: All teams will use the same course which has been carefully set to a suitable for competitors of any standard. A full moon is provided to aid night navigation. The year's course traverses about 50 open forest, 50 farmland.

The Map: The map has been specially prepared, water proofed, and checked for accuracy. Scale - 1:50,000. Contour interval - 50 feet.

Equipment - compass, pen/pencil, torch and spare batteries, sturdy footwear (minimum are 0.5), warm and waterproof clothing, sleeping bag and tent, energy foods, Saturday's lunch.

Entries are invited from teams of 2 to 4 persons. Walkers under 15 years must be accompanied by an adult. Teams are classified for placings as:

Mixed or Men's

Cost - \$2.00 per person.

\$3.00 surcharge for entries received on or after June 30.

\$4.00 per person for return transport by van.

Entries - preferably by mail to the address below. Otherwise to:  
- Paul Sharp 347 8072

ENTRY FORM - DUE 30th JUNE 24 HOUR WALK 3-4 JULY, 1982.

Team Members (First named will be team contact)

Name Address

Phone No.

Section: Men's/Women's/Mixed

Transport is required for ... persons.

Enclose cheque to MUMC for total entry fees and transport cost of \$ .....  
Include a stamped self-addressed envelope for posting of final instructions in the week prior to the event.

Post to: The 24 Hour Walk Organiser,

MUMC,

Sports Union,

University of Melbourne,

PARKVILLE, VIC. 3052

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editors,

I recently joined this club and was presented with a copy of the last issue of the 'Mountaineer'. I was horrified by a letter in this by Dick Thurgood, which laid bare the immoral activities of members of the committee. Further evidence of the depths to which the committee has fallen was provided by a conversation which I accidentally overheard in the clubrooms.

A recent ex-president of this club led a walk early this year on which, it is rumoured, he not only condoned but deliberately encouraged nude bathing. I shudder at the effects of such immoral activities on the minds of the impressionable young freshettes present on that walk.

By coincidence, I overheard another conversation that very same day which leads me to believe that the situation is not yet hopeless. On a recent walk in the Victorian Alps all jokes were tirelessly vetted by an upright young man in a valiant attempt to keep the level of conversation above the gutter.

This young man clearly has potential as a member of the morals sub-committee, and I am led to believe that one of his first actions as such would be the replacement of all suggestive songs in the MUMC songbook by 'Land of Hope and Glory'.

This news should certainly lift Dick Thurgood's despair. He is not alone in his battle against the immoral influence of the committee. I, too, am prepared to fight for the cause of decency and morality.

Yours sincerely,

*Gerry Bartlett.*

P.S. Dick Thurgood, MUMC needs you!

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### \* DICK THURGOOD IN COMPETITION WIN

Richard Thurgood was one of a select 20 who won a copy of '150 Bushwalks Near Melbourne' in Sandra Bardwell's Age competition. MUMC is indebted to Richard for donating his copy to the club.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Hi,

I support Dick Thurgood on the much debated "Red Couch Issue". It should go now! If the club could get hold of a modern, orthopaedically designed model, we could all be assured of better health in future. It is a disgrace that we should have to put up with such unsafe, antiquated furniture in the name of frugality.

Yours,

*Violet King*

Arts (Hons) - Human Movement Studies.

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Sir,

I wish to register a protest in the name of justice and good will to our fellow man.

I think it is an absolute outrage that a nice, well-meaning, up-standing gentleman like Richard Thurgood should have to feel compelled to resign his valuable membership on what he quite rightly feels and firmly believes to be a moral issue of some importance.

I stand behind him firmly in this issue and would like him to know that come-what-may, I will always be with him on the "Smutty" couch. While I am firmly in the belief that the women of this club have the presence of mind and moral strength to reject the disgusting advances of some of the confused, misguided and immature boys now finding their way into the club, I also know that, through no fault of their own, some of them haven't. This is why every good-thinking man, woman and student should support moves for a thorough cleaning-up of the club and its premises.

I happen to believe that the loss of Richard to the club will be great as he has given us much philosophical and intellectual guidance in the past. We all know that certain types, who might indeed be called "salacious individuals" and "morally dissolute dregs", have had many a vindictive jibe to sling at him. That he has always stayed aloof from such petty mud-slinging is much to his credit. Furthermore, I personally can vouch for his high-mindedness as I was lucky enough, indeed, honoured to have first made his acquaintance by chance at Portsea last summer. In the time we spent together, he introduced me

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

to a whole new and noble way of viewing the world and its impure inhabitants. If only all those people, bushwalkers, rockclimbers and so on could have known him as I did, they could not doubt his limitless love for all that is perfect and good. In moments of abstract intellectualism he often told me himself of his burning desire to experience the perfect being in body and soul, and I don't think you can understand this until you have shared with him moments of total bliss and ecstasy - and only then (in a way that cannot be explained) you do.

I think I have already said too much.

Yours faithfully,

*Una Calliptis*

c/o Melbourne School of Divinity.

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-NEWS-

\* MUMC performed more than creditably in the intervarsity rogaining held last month near Anglesea. First place in the men's competition was taken out by a Melbourne team, as was third in the mixed event. Further results are still being finalised, so stay tuned!

\* MELBOURNE WINS I.V. 24 HOUR WALK.

The golden boat returned to its rightful place when Paul Sharp, David and Ian Church easily defeated all opposition. The 1982 intervarsity championships were held in conjunction with the Victorian championships on May 8/9. Full results will be included in the next 'Mountaineer'.

\* The club has recently acquired a copy of Harry Stephenson's 'Skiing the High Plains', a most worthwhile addition to our library. Club members may also be interested to know that there are only a hundred remaining copies of 'Cattlemen and Huts of the High Plains' by the same author, and a reprint seems unlikely at this stage.

# BUSHWALKING - PROPOSED TRIPS AND DATES

July	3, 4	Ben, Cruachan Creek, Avon River, Wombat Crossing. Easy/medium
	10, 11	Wilson's Prom., Tidal River, Sealer, Refuge, Little Waterloo, Tidal River. Easy/medium
	17, 18	
	24, 25	Nothing planned at present, contact Tom Kapitany if you want to lead anything
August	31, 1	on these weekends
	7, 8	Exams
	14, 15	Alpine Instruction Course
	14- 21	} Major Trip(s) 1-2 weeks
	21- 29	
		Open to suggestion, i.e. Interstate
	27- 29	Wellington River, Tarli Karng, Sentinel, Muller Hut, Riggolls spur. Medium
September	4, 5	---
	11, 12	Mt. Cobberas, Tin Mine Hut, Ingeegoodbee area. Easy/medium
	25, 26	Grampians. Daywalks Easy/medium
October	2, 3	---
	9, 10	Wilson Prom. Easy/medium

These trips are not final, and unless leaders for them volunteer will not go. Contact Tom Kapitany if you want to lead a trip, whether it be one listed here, or any other. Day trips are not listed - check the trips book about 1 week beforehand.

The Mt Feathertop Midnight Ascent will also be held in this period, probably on the weekend ~~July 31~~ August 1. Although further details are not to hand at present, this traditional MUMC trip is not to missed.



# Pie Night Slide Compet<sup>n</sup>

6pm

Wed July 7

Sports Pavilion

(Between the cricket oval & Ormond College)

Cheap!

prizes! (Judge: well known  
photographer Jutta Hesel)

Be there!



## WINTER ACTIVITIES

Around about every June MUNC has a resurgence of activity. The clubrooms become crowded with people who have suddenly decided to join, the storeroom becomes filled with people eager to hand over their money. The reason of course is that funny white stuff, snow. It seems to affect many of us the same way; I found myself practising striding across the snow whilst waiting for a hamburger in Twins the other night.

The club has about twenty pairs of skis available for hire at incredibly reasonable rates. First preference is given to club beginners trips, then other club trips and finally the odd pleb who wants to go off on a private trip. It is not surprising that if you want to have a good chance of hiring skis then you also go on a club trip. This way as well, you get to meet new people, and know that there are experienced skiers in the party who can give you a few hints if necessary, and probably encourage you to attempt things that you might feel a little hesitant about trying.

Club skiing trips have already begun this winter, even though there is a little less snow than would be ideal. A beginners trip for 3-4 July has already been planned and booked out; others are sure to appear once the snow becomes a little more substantial. Watch the trips book and get in early. Other trips are also already planned, but dates as yet are rather tentative.

Skiing is not the only winter activity that the club is involved in, however. The Alpine Instruction Course is held every August on Mt. Feathertop. Instruction on using an icepick, glacier travel, belaying, self arrests, amongst other skills is taught by members of the New Zealand Alpine Club. First hand experience at building an igloo or snow cave then follows! This year's course will probably be held on August 7-8; further details will be available later.

The Midnight Ascent up Mt. Feathertip is also generally held in the depths of winter. Climbing up the NW Spur in the dark, through snow, has to be experienced to be believed. Of course, the formal dinner in the MUNC memorial hut the following night casts aside any doubts that it wasn't worth it!

Other club activities continue on as normal during the winter months. Canoeists put on an extra woollen jumper under their wetsuits to enjoy wild winter water, in fact an extra layer of clothing is generally the only concession other activities make towards winter. With end of year exams far away, now is the perfect time to be active! May the article by Andrew Danks about a trip last winter serve to whet your appetite.

## JAGUNGAL - WINTER WILDERNESS

North of the Kosciusko main range lies the high undulating country of the Rolling Ground, the Kerries and the Brassy mountains leading north to Mt. Jagungal which dominates the skyline. In mid-July I was part of a group of five: Jim 'Iron Man' and Bill "Legs" Hewley, Alan "Frosty" McNabb and Rob "S.S." Beavis - who headed north from Guthega into these exposed uplands.

After staying overnight at Rutledge's hut on the Thredbo R. and battling the rude and aggressive skiing traffic in to Guthega down on the Snowy R. it was a joy to start the steep switchback towards Horsecamp and White's River hut. With fresh "purple-stick" snow and bright sunshine, conditions couldn't have been better. Next day, we climbed up to Schlink Pass, then north up onto the Kerries. There conditions were even better, with packed cold snow affording excellent kick and glide. Here we had our first views of Jagungal some 12-14 kilometres to the north, beyond the upper reaches of the Valentine and Geehi rivers.

After more skiing around the Cup and Saucer in a golden sunset, we made ourselves at home in cosy Mawson's Hut; rather hard to find amongst the trees. Deaths have occurred very close to the hut when parties not equipped with tents were unable to locate it.

Our early start the next morning was unbelievably rewarded with cold clear still skies yet again. With some fresh snow on the frozen base, skiing was very fast, and Jagungal was ours in under 2½ hours. The air was clear as a bell, allowing clear views to the main range, Bogong and the high plains, north to the Torlong and Happy Jack plains, and Mt. Selwyn and east to the dry plains around Jindabyre. Closer at hand the massive cornices on the Grey Mare and Stumbo ranges testified to the heavy falls that season. Jagungal itself was completely covered in windblown snow and ice.

The south face of Jagungal offers some of the best skiing for cross country enthusiasts. We revelled in the fast conditions, carving long turns down the unmarked slope, and even negotiated a few ginger Telemark's. The other run we enjoyed greatly was the next day on our way from Gurgarter back down to Schlink pass. That day the wind was icy and furious. The sculpture of rock and ice on that high peak was stupendous, with long eddy patterns and parabolic forms in the lee of the dark granite.

On our final day, we realized how kind the weather had been to us when we ascended up onto the Rolling Ground on our way to Mt. Tate. The wind and blowing ice particles made the prospect unattractive, so we skied around finding more protected slopes. I think we had been spoilt.

It had been a magic week, up in the high country which we had almost to ourselves and we found it really difficult to drag ourselves back in the sunshine to grimy Melbourne and not stay up in this beautiful wilderness. One fellow we met was planning on staying up there until his money ran out, restocking from Jindabyre every now and then. Good luck to him.

## EQUIPMENT FOR SKI-TOURING/SNOW CAMPING

### PARKA

This must be both windproof and waterproof. The best material is heavy duty proofed nylon. Oiled japara jackets are okay, Gore-Tex can be good in that it breathes, but unless kept very clean may leak badly.

### OVERPANTS

Light proofed nylon ones are okay. Zippered sides are an advantage.

### JUMPERS

Two light woollen jumpers provide better warmth than one heavy one. One extra jumper should be kept dry for sleeping in.

### PANTS

Jeans are not acceptable. Woollen pants are the best. Breeches, cut off at the knee are comfortable to ski in, if worn with long socks.

### UNDERWEAR

Woollen or air-cell underwear is best.

### SOCKS

Thick woollen socks are best - preferably long. One or two pairs should be worn (do not cramp your feet in your boots). At least one dry pair must be kept for sleeping.

### MITTENS

Thick woollen ones are best. e.g. Dachstein

### GAITERS

These are very useful for keeping snow out of your boots. They are not essential but most tourers have them.

## EQUIPMENT FOR SKI-TOURING/SNOW CAMPING

### GOGGLES/SUN GLASSES

These are essential to prevent snow-blindness on sunny days.

### BALACLAVA

In cold conditions this is an essential item for maintaining body heat and preventing hypothermia.

### OVERMITTENS

These are a good idea as they prevent snow sticking to your mittens. If not wearing the thickest mittens they are essential.

### TENT

A top quality double skinned nylon tent is best. A japara tent will suffice. A sewn-in floor is very helpful in keeping out draughts and snow. If you don't have a sewn-in floor, a groundsheet is essential.

### SLEEPING BAG

A thick walled superdown bag with about 5" loft is best. Of the synthetic bags, only the thicker models constructed of fibrefill II, Holofill or Polarguard are adequate. Your sleeping bag must be kept in a plastic bag in addition to its own stuff bag to ensure that it stays dry.

### FOAM MAT

This is an essential item to ensure a comfortable nights sleep on the snow. Liles and air beds are not satisfactory. They do not insulate and are heavy.

### PACKS

The frameless varieties are best but a framed model is okay. Do not rely on its being waterproof.

### STOVES

Shellite and kerosene are the only adequate models (Optimus, Svea and MSR). Butane stoves do not perform

### SKIS

Beginners should use only waxless varieties until they have gained confidence in skiing. Waxing is an art quite separate from skiing but which will increase your appreciation and knowledge and enjoyment of the snow. Wrongly applied, wax can be an absolute misery.

### BOOTS

These must be a comfortable fit. Make sure they fit your bindings. (Most tourers use 75mm).

### STOCKS

Cane stocks are the best compromise. They usually last two or three seasons.

Falls Creek - Ropers Hut - Clove Cole Hut - Mt. Bogong -  
Spion Kopje - Howman's Gap.

We had gathered at the clubrooms by 5:30 p.m. on Friday, all prepared for the adventure about to be undertaken. By 6:00 p.m., we had departed.

That night, we camped in a "no camping" area a few miles below Falls Creek, with the most significant and exciting occurrence of the trip up being undoubtedly, Denis Roussos on the Seymour Juke box. Our thanks are extended to Nick for that stimulating episode.

Saturday morning we drove a few miles just past Falls Creek, where we were to begin our trek into all things crude and disgusting. We wandered across the Rocky Valley Reservoir wall, and then up into the hills, well covered by snow by now. It had been a prominent part of the scenery since Howman's Gap, but now we were walking in it. There was not enough for skiing, but the cover was substantial enough to hinder one's pace, and for those new to the snow, it was momentarily a novelty.

For lunch we raided Edmondson's Hut. It was hardly a mansion, but it was cosy, and imaginably a haven for frost-bitten, hypothermic nordic idiots (or anyone else wanting to get into someone else's sleeping bag). Urine tests here indicated a snow depth of about 3 inches.

After lunch we climbed Nelce, where we encountered our first views of the surrounding terrain. On the way to Nelce North, a hill to the west was given a new title. The most obvious name of course was "Riddle-Ed-A Day Day Eidle Eidle Eidle Ay Ry Dy Ry Diddle Ee Ay Day" Bump, so that it became Riddle Ee Day Bump for short.

Soon after, the clouds closed in rapidly, and our illustrious leader, Peter, guided us to the safety of Roper's Hut, alias Groper's Hut, Roper's Gut, and Raper's Hut. As it turned out, some of these names were very nearly accurate.

We all managed to find somewhere to sack down, in this cosy inn, except Nick and Peter, who, wanting to spend the night alone, together, pitched their tent. Cooking was slightly cramped in the hut but Nick did have a possible way of resolving this problem - however, it was decided that blowing the hut to pieces with his choofa was impractical.

This was the night when true personalities were revealed, via the reciting of numerous crude jokes the subjects of which ranged from nuns to scabs, and all things crude and horrible. I was appalled. We went to sleep that night, with many-a-thing on the mind, one of which was the Big River crossing to take place the following day - stories about which included wading through water at armpit level. As it turned out, it was only thigh level, and it did have a hand chain across it. This privilege John Chambers almost regretted denying himself of.

That next day, after crossing the river successfully, we started gaining altitude - rather rapidly at first, with really\* good chorus of "Land of Hope and Glory" giving us the necessary energy to reach the summit. Soon Madison's Hut came into view, and I found all but myself misled by the popular myth that kinky conservationists had burnt it down. I decided that, as morals officer for the trip, it was my duty to inform the others of the existence of the Coroboral Woodpecking Budgerigar, which chose to build its 40 sq metre nests in the area. They were still unaware of the greater peril yet to be encountered.

With a bit of time to spare, we took a peek at Howman Falls which were promptly renamed "Riddle Ee Day" Falls. This proved worthwhile inspite of the fearful Budgies' close proximity.

That night was spent in the well established Cleve Cole Hut which even provided a shower and (more importantly) a toilet which had a splendid view of the surrounding ranges. It was here (ie. the hut - not the loo) that I decided to take the initiative and test Nick's proposal from the night before concerning roomspace (or lack thereof). The table on which I had my choofa, however, refused to burn; so once again cooking was slightly cramped. Smoke also proved a bit of a problem, as the chimney appeared somewhat reluctant to perform its designated duties.

The next day we got an early start and by 10:30 we reached the summit of Bogong, passing on our way, the route which took Cleve Cole and his group off their merry way. It was agreed that to have accomplished what Cleve Cole did, required him to have a rather high silly coefficient. Upon realising this, I became momentarily worried, as it struck me that our own silly coefficient was dangerously high. Over Bogong, urine tests showed a snow depth of at least six inches.

By lunch, we were well out of Budgie territory - only, however, heading into far more treacherous terrain. We chose a most scenic spot for lunch - right in the middle of a road, anxiously anticipating a drastic reduction of our beings to mere road statistics. We were well below the snowline, at this point.

That afternoon, we headed up the road for about 200m before turning off at the helipad, which yes, was real. (Having no fuel, my helicopter was of little use.) After turning off, we followed a track, only occasionally though, because Nick was 'leading'. This track had an incline (Trevor noticed), which persuaded people to stop and admire the view more frequently than usual. We were, in fact, climbing Mt. Arthur to get onto

\* REALLY IS PRONOUNCED "RARELY" WITH THE SECOND "R" BEING SILENT.

the Grey Hills, an area infamous for its phenomenally high Kamahl population. On learning this, some of the group became frightened, but we decided to take on this awesome prospect as a challenge. (I considered it suicidal.)

Just after Mt. Arthur, we found a superb camping spot, so we walked on. ("But that's not logical", you say, ignorantly. "That's right", I reply even more so.) We walked on into the afternoon until we came to a busy, exposed, sloping, rocky site - the obvious spot to spend the night. Peter was convinced that there was a better campsite a bit further on, and when he almost had the group persuaded into continuing, I decided to help. I donned my pack, shouting words of encouragement, and walked on enthusiastically. So it was final, we stayed there the night. We had great weather, and the Kamahls left us alone, so we were comfortable.

The next day, we saw a most spectacular air-battle between a pair of Kamahls, as we made our way up to Spion Kopje. It was that morning also, that the last of my marshmallows disappeared down the cavernous mouth of Peter Smillie and Nick's wildberries saw their last days as well.

On the last hill before Spion Kopje, just up from Riddle Ee Day Creek, opposite Riddle Ee Day Cave, it was decided by a group majority after a suggestion from Bruce Wyward that a memorial hut be erected in my honour. I was flattered (momentarily). It was here also that the great nutritional value of the 'slurpie' was discovered, whilst clouds closed in around us at a great rate. (A slurpie, for the ignorant few, consists of snow and some suitable flavouring such as 'Tang' or Robinson's Lemon Parley. The others became quite excited over these.)

A significant event was the snow ball fight on top of Spion Kopje, which was under a good snowcover. Strangely, they all centred on Nick, although I do remember vaguely, being hit by a few obvious misthrows.

After that, it was down a track and back to Howman's Gap, indulging on the way, in such sophisticated conversation as a complete analytical discussion of Star Trek and its infamously (hopelessly) 'nice' characters.

The final obstacle was a fast running river which had to be crossed. Nick was ready to swim it, but James saved Peter the hassle of electing somebody to save Nick, by finding a suitable place to cross, via logs etc.

It was undoubtedly a great trip and, speaking for everyone, our thanks are extended to Peter.

The participants (in order, highest to lowest, of crudeness coefficient):

1. Peter Smillie
2. Trevor Hauster } Equal 2nd
- John Brownstein }

3. Bruce Wymond
4. Chris McArthur
5. John Chambers
6. James McIntosh
7. Bruce Davies
8. Nick Hallebone
9. Tony Williams (Morals Officer)

Anthony M. Williams

MORALS OFFICER.

P.S. Dick Thurgood don't leave!

I can't do it all by myself!

That's All Folks!  
Contributions for further editions  
always welcome!

Stop press!!

Help is still urgently needed for the 24 hour walk, on the 3,4 July. Hash House staff are still required, as are people to help with tasks such as handing out and collecting checkpoint cards. This work is not at all arduous, and all people helping get an absolutely free weekend

Any enquiries, contact Paul Sharp 347 8075