





THE MOUNTAINEER

Vol 21 No 4

September 1982

Official Journal of the Melbourne University Mountaineering Club

Contents

1982 Committee Positions

News

FVWC Report

Twenty-four hour walk report

24 hr walk results

Canoeing Report

Rock Climbing in the Barkly

Supplement - Membership list

Phil Waring

Janet Rice

Doug Haig

Anonymous

2

3

5

7

9

13

14

All Correspondence to

The Editor

'The Mountaineer'

Melbourne University Mountaineering Club

c/o Sports Union

University of Melbourne

Parkville 3052

Cover Design - Jenny Gardner (as was last edition. Many thanks Jenny!)

# COMMITTEE POSITIONS 1982

President	Andrew Rothfield	Ormond College Parkville 3052	347 4461
Vice President	Richard Smithers	Trinity College Parkville 3052	
Treasurer	Peter Smillie	7 Miller Street West Melbourne	328 4019
Assistant Secretary	Kim Adshead	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		
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	Ian Houshold	61 Hoddle Street Richmond 3121	41 6268



## NEWS & ODDS & ENDS & A BIT OF EDITORIALISING

- \* The campaign to save the Franklin is hotting up, and needs every ounce of support that you can possibly give it. The public meeting on August 22nd was a great success, but continued action is vital.
  - \* If you are not a member of T.W.S. NOW is the time to join (\$7 for student membership)
  - \* If you haven't yet written to your local M.P. NOW is the time to do it.
  - \* Public Rally at the city square on Saturday October 11 at 11.00 am. Rallies will be held all around Australia on this day to support the blockade/peaceful direct action being held on the river.
- Further details on any of the above from:-
- T.W.S.  
Shop 6 399 Lonsdale Street  
Ph 67 5804
- \* Next committee meeting is in the clubrooms on September 22 at 5.05 pm. All members are most welcome to these meetings if only to satisfy your curiosity about what us bureaucrats get up to. If you have any feelings you want to express about the club, committee meetings are a good place to air them.

- \* We now have a new caving convenor in the person of Ian Houshold, taking over from Sue White who has bowed out for at least a while after x years of faithful convening - not to mention virtually every other committee position possible to hold. Anyone wishing to know more about caving in the club can contact Ian (see list of committee positions on page 2) or if you can't cope with the change, Sue is still contactable via the geography department or on 326 4154.

- \* The club is noticeably lacking vigour at present - the clubrooms are virtually empty at lunchtimes and anyone who is there is more

than likely bemoaning the lack of activity about. I know it's third term and I know the skiing season has bombed, but the situation seems even worse this year than in the last few. How about a few trips in the book, folks? If anyone out there in anonymous-reader-land has any ideas about what the club can do to improve its health, please, please let us know. The next committee meeting will probably consider the issue - p'raps a royal commission is what we need.

- \* Two track clearing weekends for the Eskdale & Staircase Spur tracks up Bogong and the Bungalow and Nth West Spur tracks on Feathertop have been arranged by FVWC. Our club's interest in the alps is significant, and it is our interest to help keep the tracks in good condition. Although the idea of a mountain to yourself is an appealing one it is in our political interests to encourage as many walkers to the alpine area as possible - we have more power and say over the area in that case. These weekends are on October 16/17 and November 27/28 - don't say we didn't give you enough prior notice! More details in the clubrooms, or from Tom Kapitany, our bushwalking convenor.
- \* The 1983 TWS calendar will soon be available at a discount rate to members. It really looks excellent - just the shot for Christmas presents for absolutely everyone from the dog to Great Aunt Mabel.



The FVWC represents the interests of all bushwalkers in Victoria, both as a coordinating body and as a central point of reference.

Probably its best known activity is its search and rescue role, in which all member clubs combine to field a contingent of experienced walkers to assist Police when someone is lost in the bush. Excellent relationships exist between Police S&R and Federation S&R members, and this reflects the reliability and self-sufficiency exhibited by our members, especially off the track in thick bush and rugged terrain.

Another well-known Federation activity is the maintenance of walking tracks. Track clearing weekends, at which members of all clubs participate, are organised intermittently. There has been one already this year and others are programmed for October and November, all in the Bogong National Park. Details are on the Club noticeboard, and elsewhere in this issue of "The Mountaineer".

Less prominent Federation activities are those where it acts as a point of reference for Government agencies who seek the views of bushwalkers as a whole. This work, carried on behind the scenes as it were, is vital in attempting (& often succeeding) to maintain acceptable conditions for walking and walkers in the face of stiff competition from other users, and sometimes abusers, of the bush. Some of the more interesting activities that the Federation has been involved in the last three months are:-

- . The Forests Commission asked for our (ie. bushwalkers') perception of their fire management practices, ie. the construction of fire access tracks and use of controlled burning, amongst other things. We were given only four days to submit a written reply, but thanks to the input from an ex-MUMC member, this was achieved.
- . The National Parks Service asked for our views on the proposed cutting of a bridle track, for use by Mittagundi, through Bogong Park. The views of several clubs were obtained (via a request in FVWC Council minutes) and a reply was formulated, generally against the proposal.
- . The proposal by the Mt. Beauty Chamber of Commerce for a road up the West Kiewa valley to Hotham, together with associated ski resort development, could visually destroy a large slice of Bogong Park, particularly Feathertop. Several letters of protest were sent out to appropriate State Ministers & other bodies.
- . Discussions were held with the National Parks Service on "user access to parks", and the requirements of bushwalkers for access and quiet overnight camping sites away from roads were spelt out.

- Information was provided to the Victorian 150th Anniversary Committee to assist in the planning of a Hume & Hovell Re-enactment track and trek, from the Murray to the sea.

Phil Waring  
MUMC Federation Representative  
Tel 615 1056(B), 836 3282(H)

\* FWVC needs your help. They are currently in need of:

- a Treasurer
- a Publicity Officer
- an Editor
- and any other enthusiastic people

If you feel you could be of some assistance, contact Phil or any FWVC rep.



The 36th annual MUMC 24 hour walk was held at Taggerty, near Alexandra on the 3rd and 4th July. Due to the enthusiasm of all competitors, and the excellent organising skills of Paul Sharp and his merry band of helpers (see below) the event was, without doubt a great success. Fog and the twenty-four showed their propensity for one another once again this year, which added just that touch of confusion so helpful in making a weekend truly memorable. In particular, climbing up onto the Cathedral was an effort worth making with terrific views looking down onto valleys full of fog.

Fifty teams competed in all, with the winning men's team of David Rowlands and Rob Edmonds completing the whole course in 22 hrs 13 mins. The winning mixed team of Martin Hall and Christine Arnold finished with 184 points; the winning womens team was Margaret McCarthy and Brenda Moon.

And what did people remember/recall/think of it all?

'...crying on fence-posts, wondering where we were

- Kim Adshead

'...shining a torch at a duck, and finding it was a check-point'

- Rod Costigan

'...being chased by a bull; ready to jump into a dam'

- Nick Hallebone

'...three beautiful moments; the sun setting over the cloud; looking across an ocean of cloud in the moonlight, and the sun rising over the cloud.'

- Andrew Rothfield

'...helping the publications officer (who shall remain unnamed) put out the first checkpoint and getting lost.'

- Jim Halkyard

'...it was a good course, with the first leg set out well, though the second, in the middle of the night was too easy.

'...sleeping for three hours straight.'

- Jon Miller

'...getting lost setting check-point 30.'

- Paul Sharp

LONG, LONG TIME AGO... (CONT.)

Special Thanks to:-

Paul Sharp

Andrew Walker

Jon Miller

Jim Halkyard

Mrs Sharp & fellow caterer

Darren Fawkes

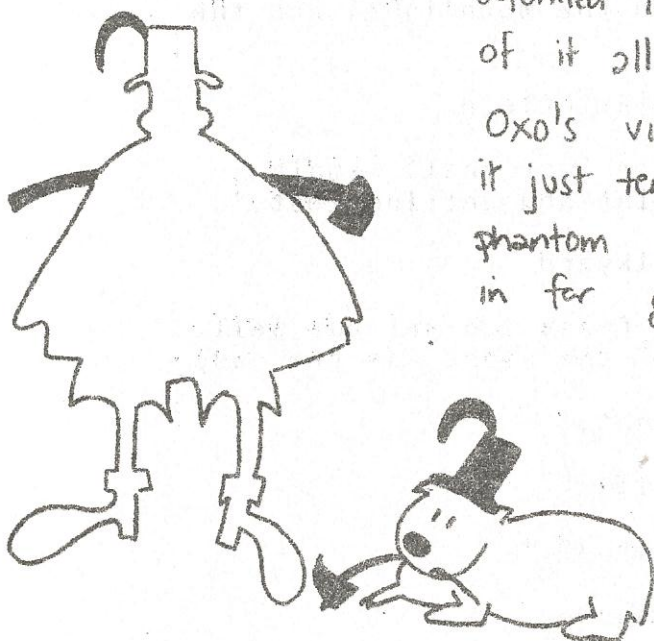
John Joyce

Judy Baker

Peter Smillie

and lots of others whom I've probably forgotten!

Henri, the sad and gentle wombat  
sat sadly and gently, chewing his  
deformed ice-axe. What was the meaning  
of it all? What had happened to  
Oxo's vigour? Was it terminal? Was  
it just temporary malaise, or had the  
phantom drooping-boot disease settled  
in for good?





# 36th ANNUAL MUMC 24 HOUR WALK

3-4 JULY 1982

## RESULTS

Score	Overall Placing	Section Placing			Team No.	Team Members
		Mens	Mixed	Women		
250	1	1			M-39	David Rowlands, Rob Edmonds (22hrs 13mins)
218	2	2			M-15	David Church, Andrew Garnham, John Cormack
184	3		1		X-19	Martin Hall, Christine Arnold
175	4	3			M-10	Andrew Rothfield, Rod Costigan, Warboys (113pts)
169	5		2		X-02	Darren Fawkes, Jenny Fawkes
143	6		3		X-50	Jill Stephanson, Geoff Shaw (23hrs 48mins)
143	7		4		X-27	Helen Edmonds, Daniel Edmonds (23hrs 53mins)
132	8	4			M-47	Michael Terry, Bruce Graham
125	9		5		X-18	Janet Rice, Peter Whetton
113	10	5			M-13	Mark Jenkins, Steven Burke (11hrs 55mins)
113	11		6		X-24	Rebecca Ford, Michael Walters (23hrs 36mins)
108	12	6			M-11	Bruce Davie, Morgan Littlewood, Peter Summers
107	13	7			M-38	Kevin Piercy, Fred Cumming, Guy Matters, Bruce Wehner.
104	14	8			M-43	Mike Clarke, Nick Hallebone, Trevor Hausler
96	15	9			M-44	Garth Coverdale, Allan Davis (Disqual Leg 3)

Score	Overall Placing	Section Placing			Team No.	Team Members
		Mens	Mixed	Women		
94	16	10			M-46	John Christie, Brian Stephens (16hrs 54mins)
94	17	11			M-41	Andrew Heath, Ian Hurley (23hrs 45mins)
89	18		7		X-01	Janet Blackwell, Graham Blackwell, Robert Vesetas, Steven Spence (74pts)
83	19	12			M-28	Donald Staudte, Fergus Fitzwater, Nicky Zehner (23hrs 29mins)
83	20	13			M-34	Arthur Day, Allan Sargent, Chris Burk (24hrs 32mins)
81	21		8		X-08	Jo Richards, Tom Millar, Michael Rheinberger (Disqual. Cpt. 15-16)
79	22		9		X-12	Peter Ashby, Cynthia Ashby
77	23	14			M-36	Grog Weston, Richard Sargent, David Gossip (23hrs 34mins)
77	24	15			M-06	Andrew Larkin, John McKelvie, Gavin Knight, David Johnson (51pts), Michael Donato (51pts) (23hrs 51mins)
75	25		10		X-20	David Trotter, John Snowdon, Mauree Trotter (68pts), Bill Snowdon (68pts)
74	26	16			M-45	Bill Borrie, Nick Haslam
69	27	17			M-35	Allan Hadlow, Ralph Hadlow
67	28		11		X-49	Therese McCarthy, Peter Cebon
66	29	18			M-23	Alan Rice, Brendan McCarthy, Phil Ciddings
64	30	19			M-42	Bruce Greaves, Michael Katz
63	31	20			M-48	Mark Paris, Simon McMahon, Phillip Riska (9hrs 11mins)



Score	Overall Placing	Section Placing			Team No.	Team Members
		Mens	Mixed	Women		
63	32		12		X-14	Andrew Kelly, Simon Gell, Peter Hopkins, Lynette Williams (12hrs 34mins)
59	33		13		X-30	Kathleen Fox, Stephen Platt
58	34	21			M-33	Richard Bean, Johnathan Bean (23hrs 21mins)
58	35	22			M-05	Paul O'Brien, Ron Flynn, Michael Pattison, Jarl Larsen (23hrs 50mins)
57	36			1	F-03	Margaret McCarthy, Brenda Moon (12hrs 11mins)
57	37		14		X-32	Michael Mitic, John Lohman, Heather Williams, Mark Ward, Sue White (23hrs 18mins)
53	38		15		X-55	Sally Cox, Andrew Kelly, Simon Gell
45	39		16		X-31	Bruce Dean, Judy Dean
44	40			2	F-04	Cathie Allen, Leigh Showell, Elizabeth Barber (30pts) (20hrs 3mins)
44	41	23			M-52	John Wills, Tony Browne (23hrs 53mins)
43	42	24			M-25	Gerard Garlick, Don Hopping (9hrs 28mins)
43	43		17		X-54	Gerard Garlick, Therese McCarthy (15hrs 30mins)
43	44		18		X-51	Justin Butley, Helen Read (23hrs 26mins)
43	45		19		X-17	Diana Rice, Kim Adshead, David McDonald, Martin McNamee (24hrs 13mins)
38	46			3	F-37	Sally Cox, Kate Brown, Louise Gell
23	47		20		X-40	Joseph Tsalanidis, Suezy Zicopoulos
0 (69)	48	25			M-09	Damien Thomas, Graeme Smith, Martin Dix (Disqual. Split up on leg 1)

Score	Overall Placing	Section Placing			Team No.	Team Members
		Mens	Mixed	Women		
0 (30)	49		21		X-21	Heather Latter, Phillip Brown, Mark Jones (Disqual - car ride leg 1)
0 (31)	50		22		X-29	Leanne Audsley, Janet Nicholls, Rod Watson (0), Ian Kuster (0) (Disqual - split up chpt 1)



## ROCK CLIMBING IN THE BARKLY

Canoeing? Sounded like fun, they told me it was fun, but I wasn't sure that I liked the sniggers when they talked about the high water level in August, and a passing reference to rock bashing passed straight over my head.

An absolute novice in all things canoeing, I walked around pretending to be useful while the 3 men tied on the boats, 3 single man kayaks, and a 2 man effort casually referred to as "the slug". Naively asking who was to travel in this, the unequivocal answer was that I was, and in the front. Steering the nose was, apparently, my business.

Still undaunted, even by the thought of setting up camp at 11.30pm, and stumbling around in pitch black, erecting tents and organising sleeping bags, we set off at around 7pm. Stopping for a quick hamburger in Traralgon, we pressed on, and met up with some Whitehorse members in Licola who gave us the great news. An unopened envelope left by the Secretary in his file at MUMC clubhouse for the following Monday contained the information that the Barkly River Race had been cancelled. Ah well, at least the Secretary suffered equally. He was one of the three male members of the party.

Rising bright and early, the men at around 6.30am, and myself presenting bleary-eyed at 6.30, breakfast was enjoyed slowly, and a car trip up an incredibly slippery road ensued at around 11.00am. Well stocked with canoes, stock hats, paddles, spray covers, and, not to be forgotten, food, we arrived at the starting point, and I looked in dismay at the boulders littering the stream they laughingly called a river.

Press ganged now, I clamboured into a boat, was instructed into such minor details as sweeps and draws, shut my eyes, and we were off.

I can't describe the emotional swings between elation at a well-executed draw, and avoiding the rock dead ahead, the despair when we met up with a log we had to climb around, and the incredible frustration of ending up suspended three feet out of the water on a slanting rock face, having negotiated the washing machine not quite correctly.

The whole trip was just one excitement, frustration and gut panic after another. Thankfully, we didn't go over once.

Five hours later (the record: 1 hour, 5 mins), after virtually pushing the slug over the rocks for the last 3 miles, we finally reached camp. Quickly stripping out of wet gear, wonderfully warm, we sat around a fire, eating combinations of lasagne and Nasi goreng, laughing, talking, drinking, with an easy camaraderie which extended well into the early hours. Finally bidding each other a friendly, contentedly weary goodnight, we hit the sleeping bags, and slept like the proverbial dead. And so ended my initiation into a form of self-torture I'll willingly undergo again if and when opportunity presents itself.



## CANOEING

The canoeing section will be holding a Snowy River Bludge after the exams. This is the annual climax to the year's canoeing and extends over a week as soon after exams as possible.

The Snowy is paddled from the Vic-NSW border down to Buchan. "The river offers one of the most spectacular canoe trips in Australia with its rugged gorges, excellent rapids, numerous flat sections with sandbars and beautiful scenery."\*

During November the river is usually at a good canoeing level and is warm. Yes, due to its many miles of flowing over sandbars warmed by the sun it is not nearly as cold as the name suggests. On previous trips the worst problems to the group going down have been, sunburn, flies, and no cold water to keep the tinnies cool. Those paddling have varied in standard from "which way do you sit" to "wasn't the Pigtrough on the Franklin good".

Some basic skills are needed to negotiate the flat sections and minor rapids (the raw beginners have been in 2 man boats during previous years). The large rapids are easily portaged, swum, or some of the more advanced paddlers will try their luck for a second time.

The actual date of the trip is decided by you, to fit in with exams and work commitments. It is a great way to relax after the exams and meet new people or to see a bit of Victoria's interesting country. If interested contact Doug Haig ph 347 3961 or put your name in the trips book in the MUMC clubrooms 1-2pm any weekday.

\* From "Canoeing in Australia"



## Bushwalking Convenors Report

Tom Kapitany

People are probably dismayed and wondering why fewer and fewer trips are being planned as the year goes on. The problem is primarily due to the lack of volunteers to lead the walks. With so many people interested in ski-touring during second term, and studying during third term, this is understandable, but lamentable. The only two trips that were organised during the second term were led by Bill Taylor, to whom I owe many thanks. Bill, by the way, is a farmer near Maffra.

Just as vexing a problem is what appears to be a general lack of interest in bushwalking altogether. If it is any consolation, this does not appear to be restricted to the MUMC, as the Queensland University Bushwalking Club's latest newsletter expressed the same sentiments.

Unfortunately I cannot devote much time this term to bushwalking and I am grateful to Tony Williams for agreeing to be co-convenor. Due to the lack of response to the previous trip lists this year, one will not be produced this term. Perhaps the absence of it will be a kind of reverse inducement to people to lead some walks. At the moment only two day-walks have been planned, one being the presidents day-walk; details of which can be obtained by phoning me on 793 2226.

\*\*\*\*\*

## Photo-competition and Pie-night Extravaganza

Janet Rice

MUMC's annual slide competition and pie-night was held on July 7 in that focus of the university social scene- the sports pavillion. The delicate green tint of the weatherboards, decorated with the names of the football club's best and fairest over the last fifty years typified the ambience of the evening as we tucked into our curried steak pies and potato salad.

In actual fact the pies and salad were great; it's a pity more of you weren't there to enjoy them. After all, there's a limit to how many meals of meat pies, tomato and onion and steak pies, chicken pies, egg and bacon pies, etc. that one can endure in the days following such an event.

The slides were great too. Jutta Hosel, our special-guest-star-judge had great difficulty making her decision, but when pressed settled on the winners below.

Landscape-	Richard Thwaites
Action-	Andrew Rothfield
Personality-	Rod Costigan

The prize each received was a poster of the Franklin, pretreated by Richard Smithers with a little spilt water, undoubtedly for added realism. With plentiful cheap beer and cider as well, the evening lived up to its reputation as a good night out. Next year, be there, or be square!



Stop Press...

\*\* Next committee meeting probably in late October.

All welcome. If you want to know exactly when, give one of the committee members a call, or corner us in the clubrooms, and we'll give you the details I don't presently have to hand.

\*\* More Franklin River film nights

Melbourne's premiere showings of the Sydney Audio-Visual Programme.

Including films, speakers and slides.

Tuesday 12 October

8pm

Malvern Town Hall, cnr Glenferrie Rd and High St

Wednesday 13 October

8pm

Karralika Theatre, Ringwood Council Community Centre  
Braeside ave.

\*\* The club needs you!

Stay tuned for some radical proposals on how we can put some life back into it!!!

\*\* Radical proposals are now radical policy

(One thing about the magazine being late, you get all the very latest news.)

1. From now on, club gear is only to be hired out to people going on club trips. If you had wanted to hire some gear for a private trip, you'll have to turn it into a club trip. Put it in the book, or ring a committee member if you can't get into the clubrooms to do so, a week or so before the trip.

2. There will be a financial incentive to the leader of any trip, of 50 c per person on the trip

These changes were decided at the last committee meeting. If you want to comment on them, come along to the next meeting or write us a letter.

\*\* The public rally being organised by T.W.S. in support of the Franklin is now to be held on November 13. More later.

REGISTERED BY AUSTRALIA POST  
PUBLICATION NO. VBH 33