

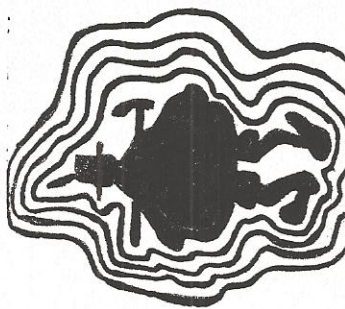
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April 1983

# MOUNTAINEER

The magazine of the Melbourne University Mountaineering Club

THE WEEK THAT WAS ....  
SHOCK GOLDEN BOOT LOSS.....  
MUMC 50<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY....





3-11-1904 08-1100 14-11-1904

# --- EDITORIAL ---

That was the week that was .....

At last another issue has made it to the 'newstands'!

As we enter the month of May it seems inappropriate to welcome 'new' MUMC members who signed their lives away during O'Week. Club activities have been in full swing for some time and its great to see so many keen participants and new faces on trips. Already numerous rockclimbing, kayaking and bushwalking trips have gone underway; skiing and even 'huger' kayaking to be added to this list in the event of snow and rain! Don't forget about caveing and mountaineering either - the possibilities are endless.

As an ensuing article details, the Golden Boot Award has been removed from Club archives and amusingly bestowed upon one game (nuts? no pun!!) American exchange student. (for the uninformed the award is given to one so brave that he or she feels inclined to abseil naked down Redmond Barry) One can only guess at the discomfort experienced as he edged his way down Redmond Barry, inviting incredulous stares, keen photographers and a fast acting fellow exchange student down the bottom!! Funny, we haven't seen Mr Golden Boot 1993 around the clubrooms lately!

As Editor my job is made enjoyable by the high standard and quality of articles that mysteriously appear in my file every week. If you enjoy reading the Mountaineer and have been on a trip lately, cast away those inhibitions and put your thoughts down on paper.

Anticipating lots of great reports,

Kind Regards,

Cathy Sealey

(Publications)



### From the Prez

The number of keen and enthusiastic new members who joined MUMC this year is outstanding. While the club has regularly enjoyed a membership base of over 500 members, only a small proportion have been active members. Thanks to regularly run trips and enthusiastic trip participants, the number of active members is at a record level. Congratulations to the convenors and trip leaders.

The club will be celebrating its 50th Anniversary in October 1994 and planning is already underway. The venue for the anniversary dinner will hopefully be the Melbourne Town Hall. Ex-members from all over Australia and overseas have expressed interest in the event. (Ex-members include Sir Ninian Stephens and the Governor of Victoria). The night should be a great opportunity to discover the history of the club, meet past club legends, and discover what could happen to you in 50 years! Also in the planning stage are a number of 50th anniversary events such as slide shows, bushdances, barbecues, and day walks.

Things have changed considerably since the club was founded 50 years ago. Hemp has turned into nylon, fibreglass into plastic, activities have diversified and the number of members grown, but the same spirit of adventure which founded the club still runs it today.

Steve Carter  
President.

### **Bushwalkers phone home**

People going bush alone should carry at best a mobile phone. Even noise makers, whistles, beepers could save vast sums spent in search.

Elizabeth Stewart,  
Cheltenham.



...wait till MBC shares drop to  
\$4.25 then buy, buy, buy...



## **Secretary's Report**

### **Committee Meeting Monday April 26**

At the last committee meeting we decided that a report of committee meetings should appear in The Mountaineer. This will ensure that clubmembers don't miss out on any interesting/important/ juicy matters arising from committee meetings. For an unabridged rundown of committee meetings, see the minutes that are posted next to the blackboard. All clubmembers are welcome to attend committee meetings. If you're interested in checking out the way the club runs, or you've got suggestions, criticisms, or ideas come along and have your say.

I was on the verge of printing the Secretary's report when a message appeared on the computer screen - "Sorry, System Error. Do you want to restart?" My report was no longer of this world. Since my enthusiasm and humour were considerably reduced by the incident, I'm afraid the report appearing here is not as creative and inspired as its lost predecessor.

#### **1."Type-in Night"**

Monday May 3 at 5pm. Mac Lab in the Maths Building.

Everyone needed to type the names of all the MUMC members into the computers. Free pizza at La Por's afterwards.

#### **2.BBQ**

Andy Gaff has kindly offered to organise an MUMC BBQ  
Wednesday May 12 at lunchtime. Thanks Andy!

#### **3.Club tidy-up**

Bin needs to be emptied. Table needs to be tidied. Can everyone please help to "Keep the clubrooms beautiful".

#### **4.Inventories - it's that time of year again!!**

Rosemary has validated the boatshed inventory prepared by Euan. She wants a new gear hire system. One page for each boat. Euan thinks it will work.

Bushwalking, rockclimbing, caving and mountaineering inventories need to be validated by the sports union on the same day because Rosemary (current Director of the Sports Union) will only make one trip to the clubrooms..

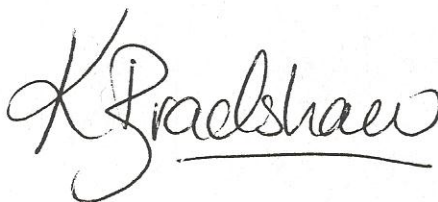
#### **5 Slide Show - Friday May 7 at 7pm**

Charlie Hobbs coming to Melbourne from NZ to give a slide show for the club about climbing in NZ and Antarctica. Don't miss this absolutely legendary man and his absolutely legendary slides.

#### **6.Buying Night at Bogong**

Wednesday May 26. 7.30- 9.00pm  
Lots of ace discounts.

#### **7 Next Meeting - Monday 17th May, 6.30pm.**





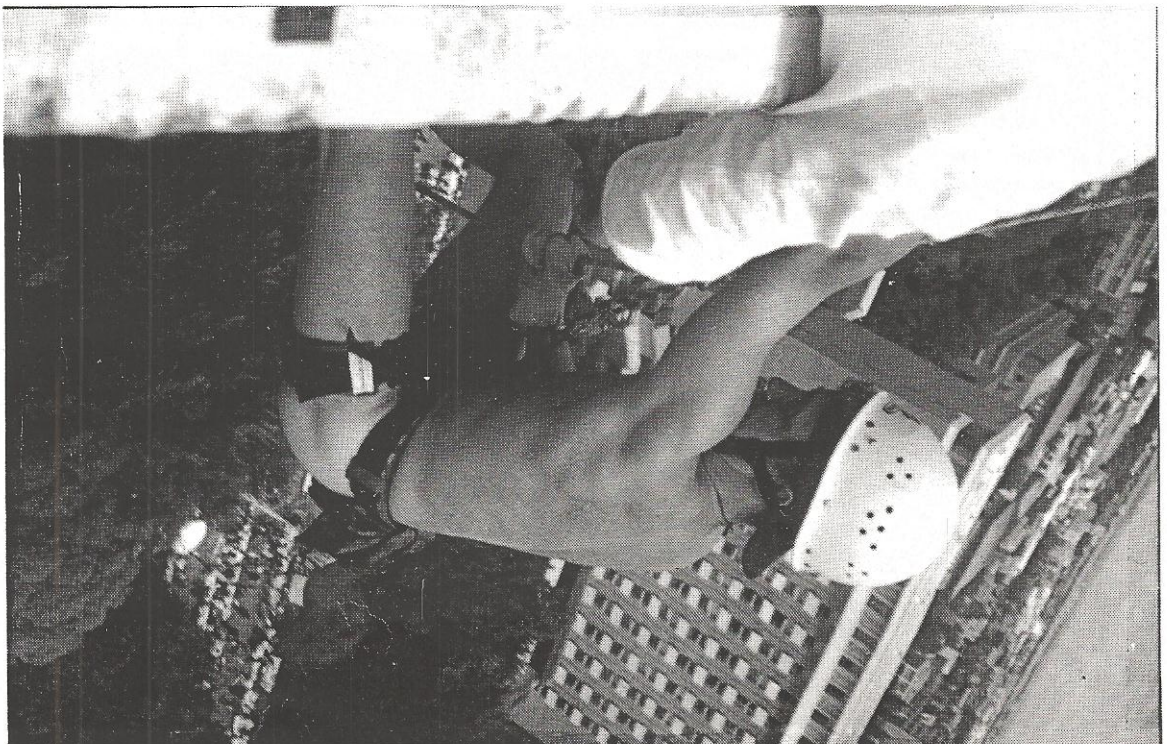
## O-WEEK 1993 REPORT

Including: 'Shock Loss of Golden Boot'.

In keeping with fine MUMC tradition, the Mountaineering Club put a spectacular effort into O-week this year. Through the superb sales technique of the O-week crew, about 450 people were persuaded to join up. Of course, with such an impressive group of members stationed at the table, who could be in any doubt about which club was the best at Melbourne Uni.? Congratulations, thanks and other appropriate homage should be given to everyone who helped out - especially all those that hauled tables, toys and photo boards backwards and forwards each day.

Abseiling was particularly eventful this year. Steve Bird did an ace job of ensuring everything ran smoothly, and showed great enthusiasm for leaping off the edge to rescue stranded abseilers. The club achieved Australia-wide fame when journalists from The Australian and The Herald-Sun photographed a man abseiling the Redmond Barry on a unicycle. Then Nick Gust impressed the crowds with a smooth descent of the Redmond Barry in a canoe. The big shock of the week was the unexpected loss of the 'Golden Boot' to an American Exchange Student. Risking rope-burn, harness rash and conviction for indecent exposure, his descent was completed in compliance with the conditions of the 'Golden Boot' award - ie. starkers. Why no one - not even Mad Mike - had previously declined to risk life, limb, dignity, and .....everything else for an old spray-painted boot will remain an MUMC mystery for many years to come.

Kate Bradshaw



NAKED ABANDON!

MR GOLDEN BOOT 1993



WHAT WILL THEY

THINK OF

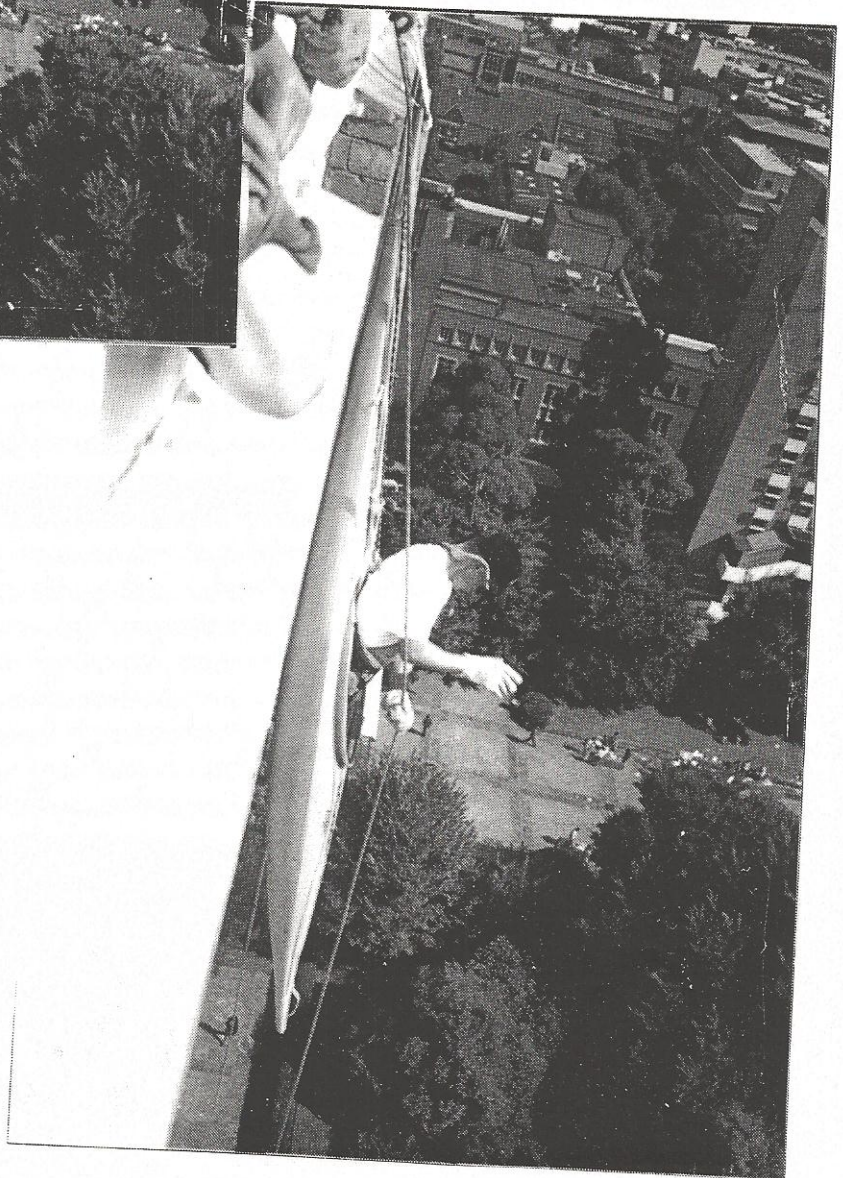
NEXT

?



ICK TRIES HIS  
HAND AT  
AB-KAYAKING!

.O-WEEK '93.





## Bushwalking Convenor's Report

Well..., what can I say? Last summer was just H-U-G-E! There were trips every weekend, and some week long trips, and some very, very long walks. Nobody could argue that bushwalking is still MUMC's most popular sport, where climbers, paddlers, cavers and mountaineers all come together to get away from it all.

The biggest trip of the summer undoubtedly was Anton Weller and Keryn Paul's epic ten week traverse of Tasmania. They were joined by several others along the way. Read Anton's article in this issue of *The Mountaineer* for tales of that adventure. There were two other small trips to South West Tasmania for several weeks duration.

Late last year Niki Munro lead a large party to the Little Desert National Park, a semi-desert region north of Mt Arapiles near the town of Nhill. Highlights of the trip included waddling across a salt mud lake, and experiencing a very unexpected thunder storm! The arid environment was a rewarding change from the lush forests of eastern Victoria, and certainly worth the visit. Such an environment can often be uncomfortable and unsettling at first, but a secluded night's camp amongst the scrub and soon we learnt the hidden appeal of such a harsh, isolating place.

The diabolical duo, Loopy Lara and Jovial Julie, led a warm, fuzzy sort of a walk to the scenic Mitchell River. Highlights included pack rafting, heaps of swimming and a formal luncheon party!

Tracey Mitchell took a group to the well-trodden Wilson's Promontory to do the Sealer's Cove circuit. A hefty park entrance fee, the presence of scouts, and an unnecessarily long stretch of ankle-wrecking board-walk across the swamp, confirmed in my mind that the Prom has fulfilled its role as a safe and scenic place for the inexperienced to try their hand at bushwalking, but it sadly lacks the wilderness appeal suitable to run overnight walks. The Prom however still offers terrific beaches, lush green hills and great views out to sea. The highlight of the trip was an impromptu skinny-dip at Squeaky Beach at midnight!

It's good to see new leaders running trips. Those keen to run their first trip are encouraged to attend the Leadership Weekend late in April, where participants enjoy an action-packed, fun-filled two days of participating in discussion groups, attending talks, improving navigation skills and completing a full Level 1 First Aid course. The aim of the weekend is to give those with bushwalking experience the confidence and skills to lead their own walks with the club and beyond.

While most of you spent New Year's Eve partying away at somebody's house or in the streets, eight MUMC walkers revelled the night away miles from anywhere on the beach of the Croajingalong National Park. Bush dances, singing, champagne, streamers, party hats, and happy shiny people. This week-long walk involved following the beach from Pt Hicks to Mallacoota, with the occasional jaunt in-land. The more adventurous in the party completed an truly epic twelve hour high-tide traverse around Rame Head, involving rock climbing, swimming and wading through high seas! The rugged, wild coastline of the park surely ranks as one of Victoria's best extended walks. If you are considering attempting the journey, ignore the guide-books' recommendation to take five days to make the journey,



and do it in eight instead. This allows you to take as many swims, wades, extended lunch breaks and siestas as you can along the way. With this attitude soon we slipped into a relaxed, enjoyable (if not slightly lethargic) state of mind, drugged by the sand, sea and salt, determined never to leave the coastal paradise.

Other walks included a weekend to the Otways, a circuit of the Cathedral Ranges, some high-alpine walking around Mt Jagungal and Mt Kosciusko, a Snowy River-walk, the classic Lake Tali Karng circuit, an aborted attempt at the Little River Gorge which ended in a lazy Snow River bludge, and plenty of day walks.

The holidays ended with an O'week beginner's daywalk to Mt Sugarloaf and the Razor-back. Highlights included some precarious rock-climbing over wet, slippery rock, a squeeze through Howell's Cave, and an embarrassed leader who led the group off course not once but twice!

There are heaps of trips planned for the up-and-coming semester. There should be a trip every weekend! So forget your studies/job/loved one/social engagements, and pack your bag and head off to the wilds with MUMC. Every trip guaranteed to be an epic!

Happy Bushwalking,  
Stuart





## Trip to the Otway ranges.

The trip to the Otway ranges went ahead with 5 of us, although 33 had put their names down for it. Fitting 5 people and gear into one car was an experience in itself. We were pretty squashed as Peter's car is not very big.

On the Friday night we went and visited a cave on the coast with some sleepy bats in it. It was about 4 metres high and 10 metres wide. Bernadette is planning to have a party there sometime.

For those of us that don't like roughing it, the camp site was good. It had a hot shower. While we were there a large group of students from a Toorak primary school were there. We are talking serious rich here, they were playing gameboys all weekend, and the place was awash with BMW's and Toorak tractors. We were all relieved when the last luxury car left.

Saturday included a swim in one of the coldest waterfalls this side of the Antarctic. Everyone went in, but only after persuasion. The bush air echoed with primordial screams as the cold water soaked away all heat from our bodies. Then the perpetual lie of all time was uttered....

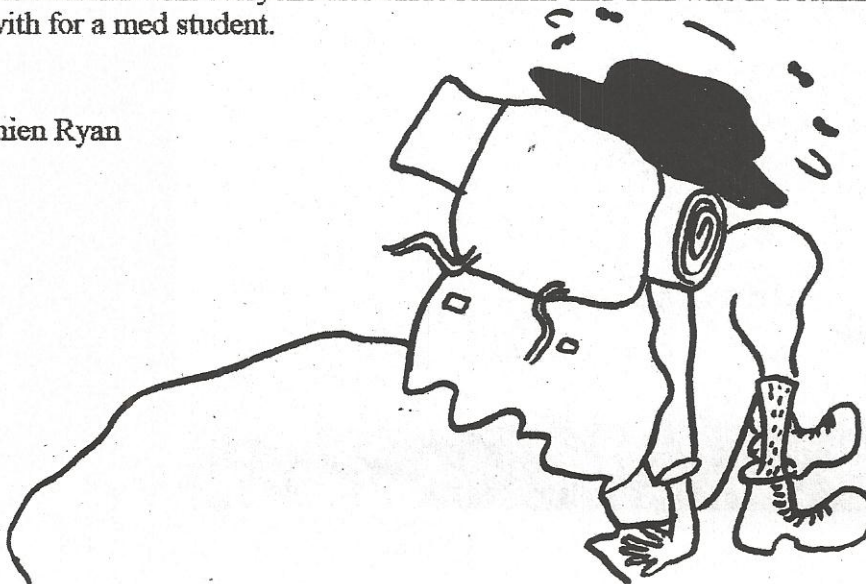
"It's quite nice, once your in"

Saturday night included a large gossip time. We also ran into the ranger's wife who was bedraggled looking from keeping a horde of spoilt kids in line, while at the same time trying to ingratiate herself enough to get a free glass of wine from the parents.

Sunday was a serious bludge day. We finally left for a 7 km day walk at 11:30 am. When we came back we voted on whether to go home for pizza or do another walk. The walk almost had it until a couple of drops of rain hit us. We went to Toto's for pizza.

Thanks to everyone who came, Peter without whose car we wouldn't have gone, Nicki who helped organise a rather chaotic lead up to the walk, Bernadette the lone arts student who had to contend with everyone else snide remarks and Tim who is a remarkably great guy to be with for a med student.

Damien Ryan





## Mountaineering

**Cracked Crabs:** I recently received a letter from the New Zealand Alpine Club (NZAC) regarding CRACKED CARIBINERS. Please see the letter published in this edition.

**Guiding in New Zealand:** On another note, people have been asking me about guiding in New Zealand. Briefly, all guides in New Zealand are UIAA qualified, and hence are highly professional. The cost of doing a tailor made course with a guide will usually be between NZ\$1000 and NZ\$1500 for about five days per person for three people. This may sound expensive... but it's your life.

**Correspondence:** For those of us who've been around long enough to remember Paul O'Burne; He's living in Calgary and taking full advantage of frozen waterfalls. Over the next year and a half, he has a tour-de-world planned; Canadian Rockies (mountaineering), US(rock), Euro. Alps.(mountaineering), Himalayas (mountaineering) and Thailand (rock).

**Slide Show:** Charlie Hobbs, internationally qualified UIAA Mountain Guide, is visiting Melbourne and will be giving a slide show for MUMC on Friday, May 7 at the Sports Union Board Room at 7pm SHARP.

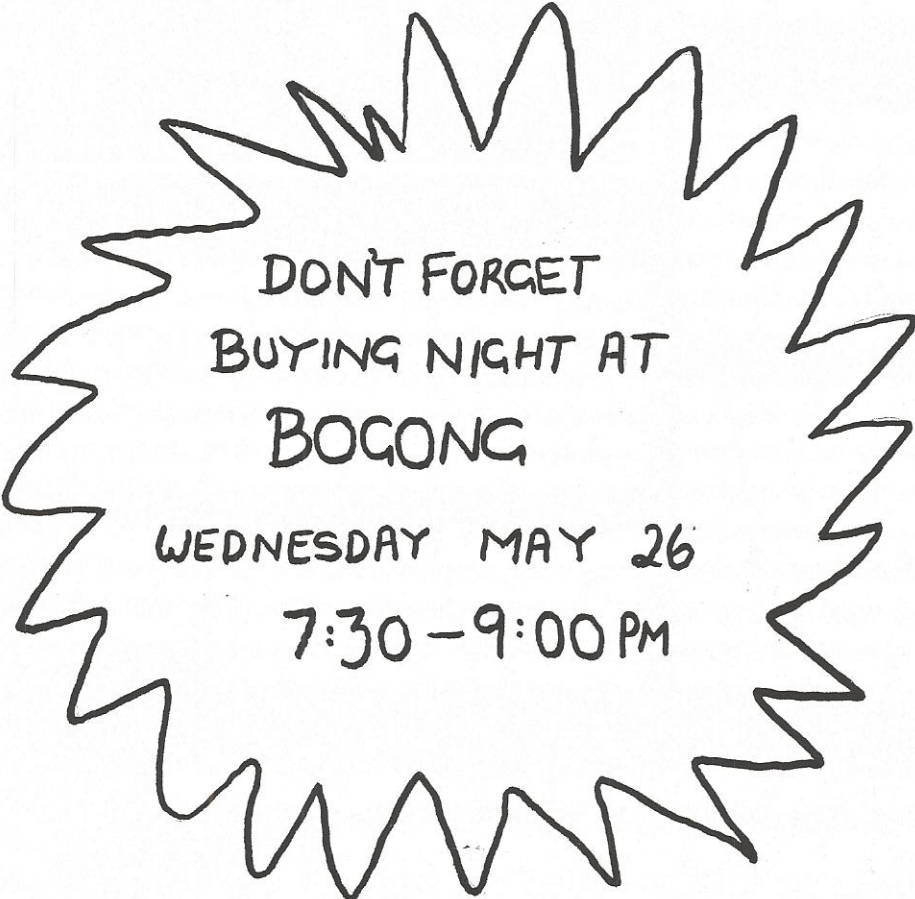
Charlie has been to Antarctica several times with the New Zealand and the U.S. Antarctic programs, and has made several first ascents of mountains in Antarctica. He works as a mountain Guide based in Mt. Cook, New Zealand. Slides of his climbing adventures are well worth seeing. He is certainly worth listening to. Come along (Charlie's also a pretty funny guy).

*Andy Roberts*  
Mountaineering Convenor

## Search and Rescue

Steve Bird is the new S & R coordinator for MUMC. Anyone who wishes to join should see Steve. Applicants need a fairly solid bushwalking background and first aid training. Skiing, Rock climbing etc. are also favourable attributes.

*Andy Roberts*



DON'T FORGET  
BUYING NIGHT AT  
BOGONG

WEDNESDAY MAY 26  
7:30-9:00 PM





# New Zealand Alpine Club Inc.

Founded 1891

## Attention all Climbers Check your Carabiners Cracked Carabiners

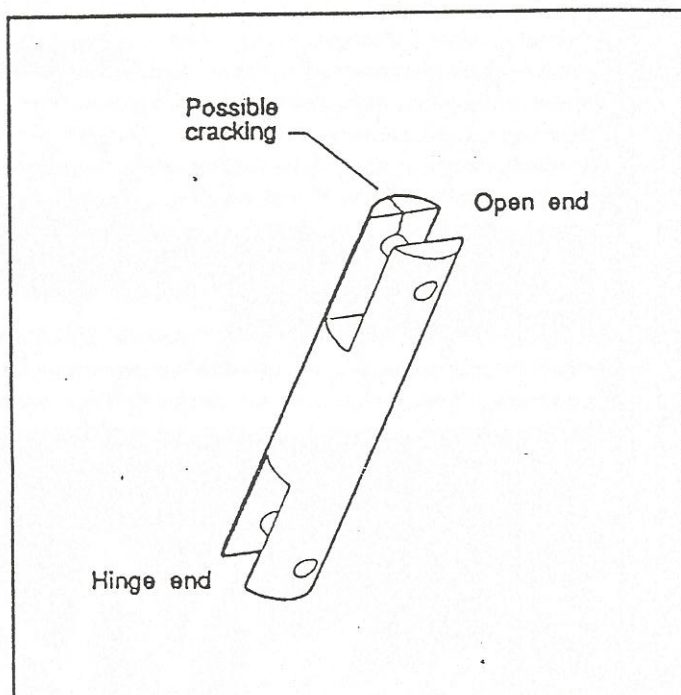
Carabiners are taken from granted by every climber. Large numbers of Crabs are sold each year, we use them every time we go climbing and they've always been solid and reliable; right?

Well, not anymore.

The overseas climbing media (August/September 1991) have carried reports from Black Diamond Inc, concerning cracking in some Black Diamond and Chouinard carabiners. This cracking is not unique to Black Diamond and Chouinard Crabs and we must be grateful to Black Diamond for notifying the climbing community as soon as they became aware of the problem.

A New Zealand climber subsequently checked his gear rack and found that two of his Chouinard Liteweight D's had such cracks. These were brought in New Zealand about six years ago, and have been used extensively since (the climber reports that he probably should have retired them some time ago).

The hairline fractures occur in the open end of the gate between the pin and the end of the gate (see below). Black Diamond found that crabs with such cracks failed at near normal strength well above the peak impact force generated by the UIAA tests. Black Diamond will accept and replace any Black Diamond and Chouinard Crabs that have the cracks. These crabs should have either the Black Diamond



logo or the Chouinard logo accompanied by an additional diamond within a box (Black Diamond, PO Box 110, Ventura CA 93002, USA). If you do send back your crabs, make sure you detail its history, how old is it? any falls? has it been dropped? used in rock climbing? used for ice climbing? used near the sea?

Remember, all climbing gear has a finite working life. Routinely inspect your gear and retire old, over used, or over stressed equipment. Carabiners are no exception to this important rule.

Everyone, please check your carabiners for cracks and retire your old or suspect ones where appropriate.

Issued by the New Zealand Alpine Club in the interests of safe and enjoyable climbing  
New Zealand Alpine Club P.O. Box 3040, Wellington, New Zealand  
Sponsored by the Hillary Commission



CLIMBING IN NZ..... Yet another trip to the land of the long white cloud....but this time by an expat NZ'er returnong home!!

After pillaging the club gear that had just been brought back in various states of disarray by Andrew and Derek after their epic trip to Mt Cook National Park I headed off to NZ myself to meet up with some climbers where we all had the aim to climb some of NZ's most famous and photographed peaks. These peaks all had megahuge views and had tended to be put off by all of us before as "for another day".

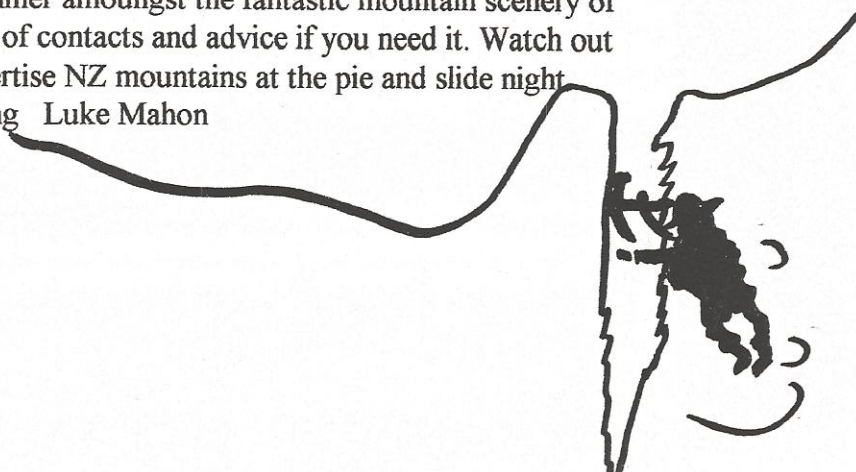
We met up in Twizel and started 10 days of full on adventure by making the most of the good weather at Mt Cook National Park and headed out for an attempt on "The Nun's Veil" an 8975 ft peak in the Liebig Range where some of the classic shots of Mt Cook itself have been taken from in the past. After bivviing out the night at the head of Gorilla Stream we started at 4am the next morning heading up the Nun's Veil Glacier to the col and then up the southeast face of steep hard ice to be greeted by a fantastic view of the main divide and the east face of Cook as well as a 360 degree panarama of what could possibly be in store for us over the next 9 days.

We then headed off out to Haast Pass on the West Coast and did a two day assault of Mt Brewster, one of the highest peaks in Westland. This was a beautiful peak with magnificent rock pitches, icecliffs and glacier travel ending in a rocky pyramid at the top that proved to be totally rotten and fell apart around us in chunks the size of desks. This neccessitated an abseil off the summit back to the snow ridge. However the summit gave us huge views of Mt Cook from the west side as well as the Landsborough Valley over 8000 ft below where the MUMC intrepid paddlers had endured their "epic" the month before.

After this we headed off to Milford Sound and on a spectacular day climbed Mitre Peak, probably the most photographed peak on the tourist's itinery. This peak is exactly one mile high and rises directly out of Milford Sound at sea level to the top. The first third involves an amazing bush bash through bush so dense you hardly ever touch the ground. Following this there is an incredible rock ridge all the way to the summit where some parts are near vertical and the only thing between you and the tourist boats in the Sound is 1000's of feet of free air. The tourist planes buzzed past us as we hung on the cliff and I'm sure there are a few amazing photos that have gone winging their way back to Japan. The view was fantastic and the only concern was descending the peak and getting back to the pub across the sound in one piece!!

Having exceeded all expectations at this stage and having had the best weather of the season to date we tackled Mt Talbot the next day but by now the bad weather had come and beat us back to Homer Hut. Replanning we headed back to Queenstown to play around the rocky cliffs of The Remarkables better known for skiing in winter while the weather got better. It never improved enough to climb Mt Earnslaw at the head of the Rees/Dart so we headed back to Mt Cook and finished the trip with some climbs off the main divide in the Sealey Range and around Mt Annette. So all those wanting to do a climbing trip next summer amoungst the fantastic mountain scenery of NZ. get into it and I have a whole lot of contacts and advice if you need it. Watch out for the awesome slides to furthur advertise NZ mountains at the pie and slide night later in the year!!

Good climbing Luke Mahon





## THE NEW YEAR'S MYSTERY TRIP

The biggest mystery of this trip is that we ever reached an agreement about where to go and how to get there.....The Budawangs, The Cobberas, some Gorge or other, The Budawangs again, 2 cars, the train, 3 cars, 2 cars .....In the end, after an obscene number of late night phone calls and changed plans, we went to Croajingalong National Park for an eight day hike from Pt Hicks to Mallacoota.

As ever, the chaos preceding the trip was well worthwhile. Our walk was relaxing, refreshing and heaps of fun. Since we were taking rather a long time to cover a rather short distance, we managed to find time for a "Bludge Day", regular three hour lunch breaks and frequent one hour "Quick Swim" stops. Of course, the sun was so hot, and our packs were so heavy, and the water was so incredibly enticing that it would have been criminal to just keep walking. Admittedly our rather relaxed pace at the beginning of the trip did result in the necessity of completing a large proportion of the trip in the second last day, followed by a 100km midnight car shuffle on wombat infested roads so that Lara could catch a bus to Sydney at 3am on Saturday morning<sup>1</sup>.

We spent most of our trip beach-walking along the wide expanses of sand that stretched from point to point. There were intermittent sections of rock-hopping, and we occasionally took inland tracks for a change of scenery. When the sun went down we camped in the shelter of the sand dunes. It was magic to spend long days in the salty spray of the clean, wild ocean. As our hair took on interesting straw-like characteristics, our skin became completely impregnated with 15+ sunscreen, and our packs accumulated about 1kg of sand, we became less and less inclined to return to the smog and sewerage of the city.

New Year's Eve on the beach was a huge night, complete with champagne, balloons, party hats, whistles and a campfire. (No marshmallows unfortunately - they'd been used to bribe a fisherman to row us across Wingan Inlet.) As the sun went down, we entertained a quiet family group camping perilously close to us with some traditional MUMC song and dance. Packet cheesecake was ceremoniously shared as the new year dawned. What better way to start 1993?

Kate Bradshaw

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<sup>1</sup>It was later discovered that Lara's bus ticket was booked for Sunday morning at 3am, not Saturday morning. The 3am Saturday bus drove straight past.



## CROAJINGOLONG NATIONAL PARK

26 th Dec to 3 rd Jan 1993

Stuart Dobbie

Jenny Wolswinkel

Lara Ross

Damien Ryan

Tracey Mitchell

Kate Bradshaw

Nicki Munro

Yuri Frenklah

The Croajingolong walk was a relaxing beach holiday - MUMC style. We walked from Point Hicks to Mallacoota (a leasurely 50 km), in 7 days full of sun, sand and swimming.

We began our walk on Sunday, and had two river crossings first up. We walked along the beach, then camped in the sand dunes (sand adds an interesting flavour and texture to the food!) It rained a bit overnight, but fortunately stopped in the morning. However the wind during the morning was incredibly strong, and at one stage Kate was sitting in her tent to keep it down, but it blew over anyway, with her inside it! It made for interesting packing, because if something wasn't held down, it was likely to be several dunes away very quickly, so there was much running after escaping equipment.

We had a leasurely day beach walking, with a bit of bouldering. Our lunch stops were very long and included swimming as a matter of course. We spent the night at an OXO campsite - a hikers paradise.

Tuesday was a bludge day, spent swimming, building idiotic things with sand, playing cricket, exploring, bouldering, and rockclimbing for the more adventurous.

The following day we took the track around Rame Head, and had the usual fun and photos on the trig point. We were going to swim across Wingan Inlet with our packs, but a kind fisherman rowed us across instead.

On Thursday we walked inland on the Easby track. When we stopped for rests we noticed these funny little insects running over us. We later realized what they were when one had its head buried in Damiens leg. We were a little more cautious about ticks after that.

We had a long lunch at the Big River swimming and relaxing. There was a makeshift canoo on the bank, and Lara tested its "floatability" - it failed the test miserably, but gave us great entertainment watching.

New Years Eve was spent on the beach, dancing, yelling, blowing whistles, wearing party hats and hitting each other with balloons, (ie quite normal things for New Years Eve). We celebrated with a fire and champagne, and talked and sang around the campfire until the New Year arrived (we may have been a bit out with the rest of the world as there were only two watches amoung us, whose times didn't agree, but of course that didn't matter).

The following day we split into 2 groups of 4. One group took the track inland, while the other took the coast.

The coastal route proved to be a mega walk, bouldering and rockclimbing all the way as well as wading through waist deep water many times. There were a few hidden treasures there else. We found a few caves with clear, fresh water (we had been drinking tannon water up till then), and a

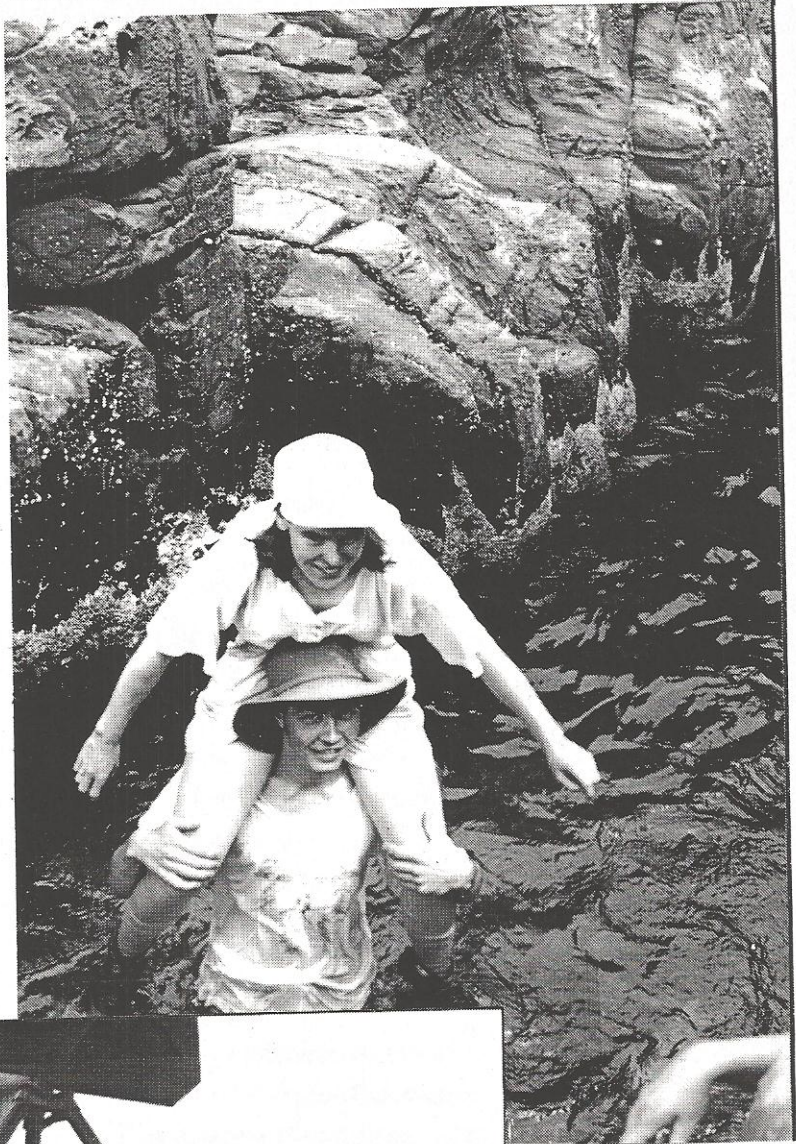


shipwreck that we explored. We got to the campsite where the others were on dark. It took us 11 hours to "walk" 8 km.

On Saturday we had a long walk into Mallacoota. The closer we got to town the more crowded the beaches became, and the more we cursed the crowds because we were used to the freedom of changing into bathers behind rocks and toileting behind trees.

Once in Mallacoota, we all went in different directions in search of fresh fruit, then to the pub which came a poor second to the fruit. We drove home the following day, after the best beach holiday many of us have ever had.

Nicki Munro





# SOUTH-WEST TASMANIA

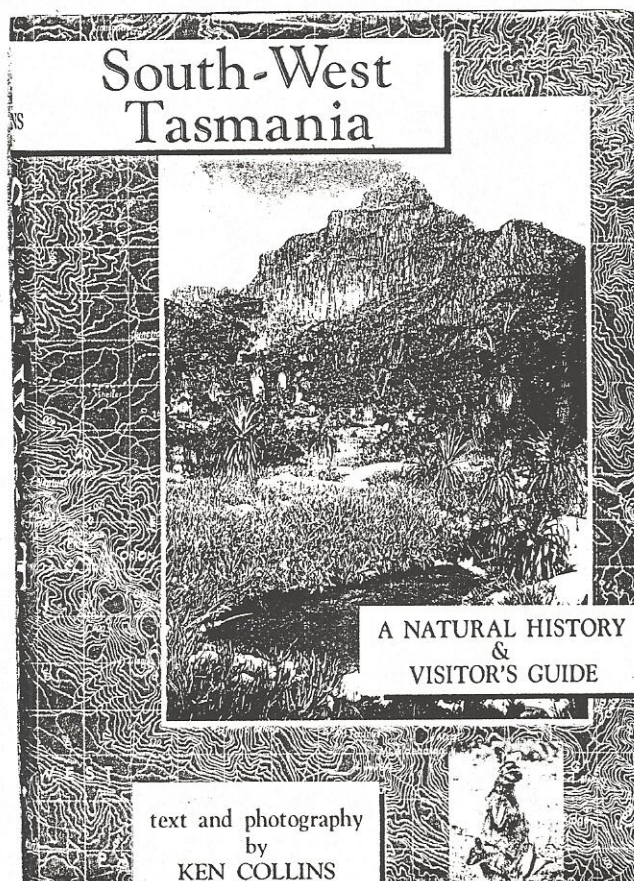
## A Natural History & Visitor's Guide by Ken Collins

A review by Sue Baker

This would have to be one of my favourite books. In Melbourne, I sit and day-dream over it - reading and dreaming about mountains I've climbed and the ones I want to climb. When in Tasmania, it is an indispensable field guide containing route descriptions as well as everything you want to know about the geology and glaciation of the different ranges, as well as field guides to the identification of the plants and animals of the area. It's full of fascinating bits of information which makes a trip to the mountains much more than simply a peak bag.

The route descriptions in this book tend to be briefer than those in John Chapman's "South-West Tasmania" making the two books good companions. However this book includes extra information; for example the fabulous north-east ridge route to Mt Anne, and access to the little climbed peak 'The Thumbs'.

For me, the best aspect about this book is the photos and the natural history information. I even consider it good enough that I carry it with me when I'm hiking: now that's a compliment if ever I've heard one.





# ...SLUSH...

'How big is an egg? About this big isn't it? (indicating size) Gee, you could certainly boff a chicken then couldn't you? (Phil)

'If I could extend it i'd be the happiest man alive'  
(Dan Colborne talking about cave lead)

'There's a sucker in the orgasmadome!' (G.Sealey - did I really?!!!)

'I'm not on heat' (D.C again!)

Successive swims on the Goulbourn at 7P.M ie: freezing!!

'Looks easy'.....

'Oh gawd'.....

'Oh F....k'.....

'How to look sexy when you're freezing your tits off.....

'It's steep' (Beg. on Grade 16)

'That's environmentally unconscious' (E the B)

'No, that happens after the Vodka tonight' (Jono)  
- pre Mitchell River overnight camping trip.

'Do we have to carry our own packs'? (pros. Beg.)

'Hey, can you....hic! shine your eyessh into the tentsh'! (Stu. Richardson on a drink or two)

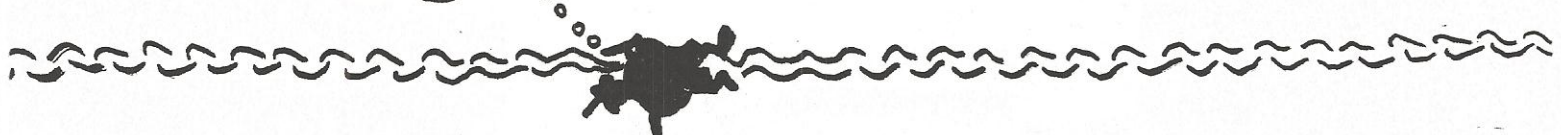
'The weather here is diurnal' (Prof. Burnett)

'What's the difference between Sunday and Thursday?' (A.Gaff)

'The simple things in life are often the best -sleep is one of them' (R.Hewitt)

'Boy this feels good' (unnamed female sitting in harness - Araps)

HOW DO I  
GET IN THESE  
SITUATIONS?





# TALI KARNG BUSHWALKING TRIP

SETTING - Lake Tali Karng - about two hours drive up a winding, unsealed forestry road north-east of Licola (a small town in Gippsland, three hours from Melbourne), and a relatively easy, enjoyable four to five hour walk though scenic alpine terrain. The only natural lake in the Victorian Alps.

Thankfully, low cloud, precipitation, and chilling winds don't seem to have any significant impact on the spirits of stalwart MUMC members. Otherwise, the beginning of the Tali Karng walk and the trek along Spion Kopje Walking Track to the head of Gillios Track would have been utterly miserable!

Descending Gillios after prolonged and heavy rainfall, the repeated combination of poor foot placement, lack of traction, and momentum was covered by some with the lame excuse, "It's easier sliding down on your bum than walking!"

We camped at the western end of the lake. On our arrival, a momentarily relieved Karen noticed the misleading "Toilet" sign, (come on, Karen, what did you really expect, way out there in the bush?), and brave souls Lara and Julie hacked a hole through the ice covering the lake to enjoy (so they said) a quick swim.

Around the campfire that night, we engaged in the ageless tradition of the "Tim-Tam slam" (actually, some of us didn't know what a Tim-Tam slam was, until given careful instruction) and savoured hot chocolate. Stuart tried unsuccessfully to rouse interest in what would have been a legendary game of 500.

The next day saw an improvement in the weather and us walking out from the lake via the Wellington River Walking Track. Jane and Hannah periodically rocketed off, leading the way, with the rest of us "slowies" following not too far behind. Julie developed a sore knee and began walking "like an old man" (her words) and with every crossing of the Wellington her knee seized up a little more.

After fifteen uneventful, yet epic (anything associated with a MUMC trip is "epic", of course) knee-deep river crossings, we reached the Wellington River bridge and the end of our walk.

## EPILOGUE

On the way home, Julie's Datsun decided to empathise with her knee, and packed it in as well. Avoiding the rain, we sat at the picnic table under the verandah of the general store in Licola, waiting til 12:30am (by candle-light) for a RACV mechanic to arrive...

Greg Ralls.



## MUMC ROCKS THE BOAT.

MUMC Debacles International was formed recently to overcome the sinister overtones carried by a previous MUMC pseudonym, "FARSCLO". In previous reports regarding the Federation of Arapilies Rockclimbers Shining Liberation Organisation it was noted:

*"Dave Burnett is the well known leader of a shadowy vigilante guerilla group calling itself the Federation of Arapilies Rockclimbers Shining Club Liberation Organisation, who has been an active rockclimber agitator since his arrival at Melbourne University. In a special court hearing Dave Burnett pleaded not guilty to a charge of trafficking illegal drugs and possession of illegal firearms, claiming (in typical style) the three tonnes of opium was for personal use only and that the weapons were to be used in the placement of bolts on climbs".*

These reports also noted the growing incidence of violence surrounding well known MUMC fugitives

*"that left two rival brothel owners dead and Steve Carter unconscious".*

In a bold initiative aimed at restoring confidence in the traditionally stable MUMC, MUMC Debacles International ("MUMC DI") yesterday held a press conference disclosing that former links with organised crime and characters of ill-repute had been closed.

The spokesman at the conference, Russell Smith, a close confidant of the group's ultimate leader, went on to note that the current MUMC committee had indeed been operating as a puppet regime and that total control for major group policy decisions rested squarely in the hands of MUMC DI. In a clean up of its public

profile, the people with overall power of the group will shortly be publicly announced. Mr Smith went on to note that the MUMC Committee in its present form will shortly be disbanded.

MUMC DI's stated objective is to arrange low cost, high value, big adventure overseas and interstate holidays.

MUMC members are known to be currently involved with the planning of two new elaborate and innovative international trips: to Chile and Canada. These initiatives are seen as continuing proof that the group has finally shed its shadowy past.

Senior officials have held high-level discussions with members of the arch-rival outdoor expedition group at Monash University which commonly trades under the banner "Sponge Grips Inc.". Under previous circumstances it was believed that these two groups never exchanged communication, however, this impasse appears to have been recently overcome.

Commenting on the group's previous links to illegal drugs and firearms, Mr Smith noted the only drug permitted on MUMC DI expeditions was a medicinal measure of Scotch.

In a further measure to boost the public image of DI, Mr Smith outlined the timetable for the soon-to-be-released expedition film from New Zealand, *Canoe Odyssey*, which has won significant sponsorship from a number of major credit card suppliers. The spokesman refused to comment on the proposition that the film has been significantly underwritten by a powerful right-wing educational institution.

The release is expected to involve the usual fanfare – most likely a reception for 4000 at the *Hyatt*, with U2 as a cover band.

Melbourne, Bear Media



## MT. FEATHERTOP SUNRISE WALK.

17-18 April 1993

Steve Curtain	Tessa Letcher
Michael Ratcliffe	Simon Collins
Jenny Wolswinkle	Tim McIver
Nicki Munro	Richard Hewitt

At 3 o'clock Saturday afternoon, 8 eager MUMC members set off for Mt. Feathertop. We had tea in Myrtleford, then headed for the hills. One car was low on petrol, and at that time of night there were no petrol stations open. At each town, the situation became progressively worse. Our last hope, Harrietville, fell as flat as the previous towns. We siphoned some petrol from the other car, then set off up the mountain. We got a fair way before the petrol ran out, and again took some from the other car.

At Diamantina Hut, we left the cars and their associated problems, at about 11:30 at night, and started walking along the razorback. There was no moon to light our way, it was just a mere sliver - great for studying stars. Looking back on the line of walkers, all that could be seen was a trail of bobbing head torches.

We arrived at Mt. Feathertop summit at 5 in the morning. The Eastern horizon was getting pale, so there was little point in going to sleep if we wanted to see the sunrise, though some of us tried to squeeze in a bit. We set up camp just below the summit and watched the dawn, and uttered exclamations like "awesome, unreal, fantastic.....etc", then we all succumbed to the lack of sleep, and dragged mats and sleeping bags out to lie in the sun. It looked like colourful cocoons dotted over the mountain.

The weather was absolutely perfect. Not a cloud in the sky, not even the valleys. It felt quite unusual actually, not to have rain on a bushwalk.

We had a few visitors to the mountain while we tried to sleep. Slowly the colourful cocoons came to life, and a brunch was had of some amazing food. Forget the muesli; there were pikelets, muffins, cold chicken, and a cheesecake, to name a few.

After lunch we visited the MUMC hut. A great hut, despite someone calling it a pimple on a mountain.

Then we headed back along the razorback - it was nice to see it in daylight - to see the awesome views we missed out on the night before. The last part was walked in the dark. We got back to the cars at about half past 9, did the usual exchange of petrol between the cars, and set off back for the big smoke - and some sleep! Dare I say that we broke Steve's old record of getting back late - it was 3am before most got to bed that night.

Nicki Munro.



## SKI TOURING : CONVENOR'S REPORT.

Although still a fair way down the academic track..... it's gonna' be XC skiing time in a matter of months!! Last year's activity was pretty active with many single and multi-day trips taking place in a number of alpine locations and terrains. This season coming, with the emphasis on starting from scratch, it doesn't matter if you've never skied before. Trips will hopefully range wide and far as they have in the past, to Lake Mountain, Mt. Stirling, Baw Baw and through the Bogong and Wonnangatta areas of the Alpine National Park, up to the Snowy mountains.

Just imagine waking up and peering out from the snowtent, to view absolutely humungous views from the Bogong High Plains, or touring the spectacular summit of Mt. Stirling; fall on your face as you thought you had the telemark down to pat, or just glide silently through snowguns to see the trail disappear in white-out on Baw Baw.

**HAVE SNOW, WILL SKI !!**

*Steve Curtan*

