

# BUSHWALKERS OF NEW SOUTH WALES

The N.S.W. Federation of Bushwalking Clubs  
G.P.O. Box 2090, Sydney, 2001.

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## THE FUTURE OF SOUTH WEST TASMANIA

South West Tasmania has been described by Sir Edmund Hillary as being 'one of the last great wilderness areas of the world' and by UNESCO as 'a unique wilderness of incomparable significance and value'. It is the last remaining wilderness area of any size in South East Australia. For over 60% of Australia's population it is the closest large wilderness area.

It is also a paradise for bushwalking and other types of wilderness recreation.

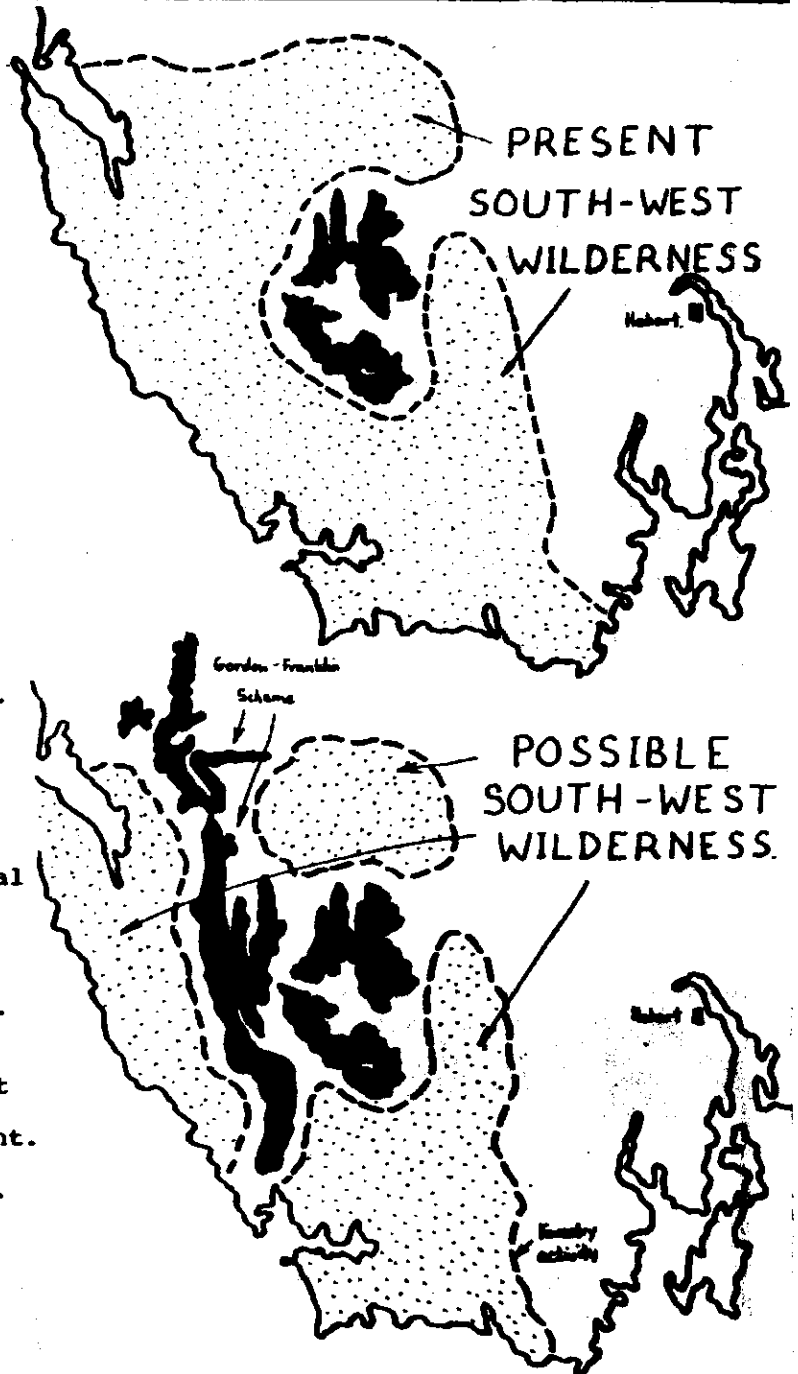
However the future of the South West Wilderness is uncertain. The Tasmanian Hydro Electric Commission (H.E.C.) plans to flood the Lower Gordon River, the Franklin River and many of their tributaries. As well forestry activity is taking place along the South Coast and in the Huon, Weld and Picton Valleys. The disastrous effects of both these possible future activities is shown on the accompanying maps.

All bushwalkers, whether familiar with South West Tasmania or not should be concerned about the future of this great wilderness area.

### What you can do now

1. Write to Tasmanian Premier, Hon. D. Lowe, MHA, Parliament House, Hobart, 7000 expressing your objections to these activities and asking for all of South West Tasmania to be preserved as a National Park.
2. Join the South West Tasmania Committee, P.O. Box N204 Grosvenor St, Sydney 2000, phone Dave Kelly 662-2424 (W).
3. Buy a 'Franklin River' Poster and booklet. Available at Paddy Pallins, N.S.W. Environment Centre etc. or from the Tasmanian Wilderness Society, 102 Bathurst Street, Hobart 7000.
4. Come to the South West Tasmanian film night. September 15 or 16 at the Law School Theatre, Cnr. King & Elizabeth St, Sydney.

DAVE NOBLE



D.W.N.  
N-7-78

## A CHANGE IN THE RAMBLERS

The Y.M.C.A. Ramblers Bushwalking Club is no longer affiliated with the Y.M.C.A. Henceforth it will be known as

### THE RAMBLERS BUSHWALKING CLUB

The club now has a general business meeting on the 1st Tuesday of each month in the Environment Centre, 399 Pitt Street, Sydney with social activities on each other Tuesday of the month.

For further details please contact the Secretary - Rose Adams 827 1010

## WILDERNESS - KEEP IT ALIVE BUY A CAR STICKER

The following vehicle window stickers have been produced by the Federation, and are available from your Club Secretary, the N.S.W. Environment Centre, or send large-stamped S.A.E. to the Secretary, Box 2090, Sydney, G.P.O. N.S.W. 2001.

- "Save the Cold-Our Greatest Wilderness" \$1.00
- "Keep the Extreme Wild" \$1.00
- "Wilderness - Keep it Alive" \$1.00

Help us preserve wilderness - buy a sticker.

A new iron gate has been constructed across the Ettrema Firetrail, contained within the property 'Ennis Clare' - Sassafras.

Word has it that whilst this gate is presently unlocked, it will shortly be locked by the landowner, to prohibit motor vehicle access into the Ettrema Wilderness, and the Morton National Park.

The Federation has always regarded this road as an intrusion into the defined core Ettrema Wilderness, and has always advocated its permanent closure to allow for the regeneration of fragile heathlands and swamplands currently affected by the existence of this firetrail.

However, it is our belief that the road is being closed only on a selective basis, and that motor vehicles will be permitted into the Ettrema Plateau and Jones Creek areas, at the discretion of the property owner (Mr. Oscar Saek).

Should a process of selectivity occur, the Federation will make the strongest possible protest.

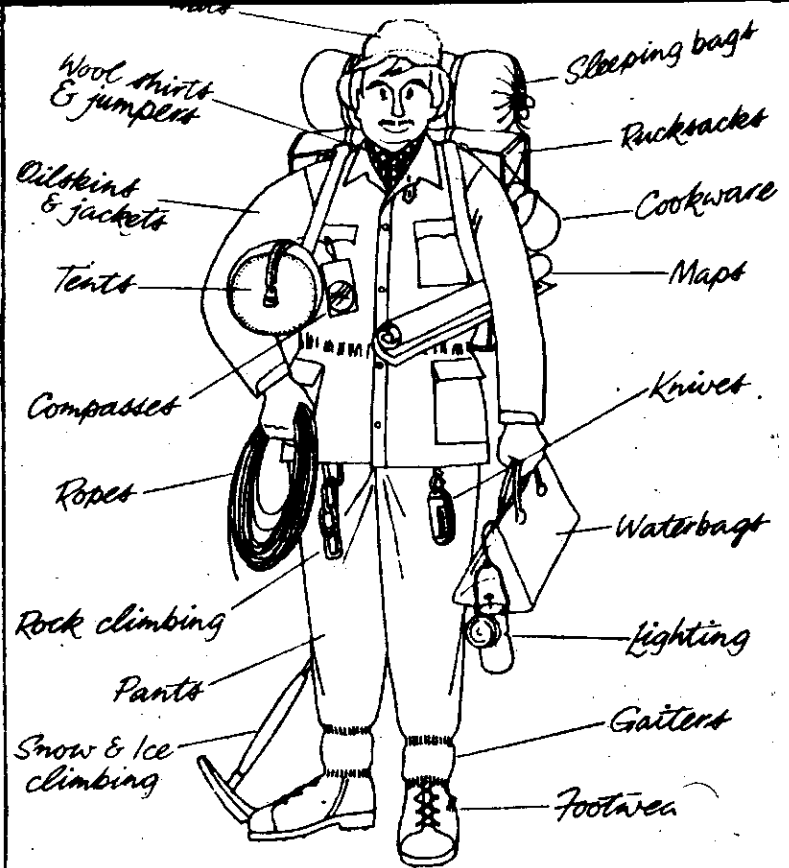
Similarly, the Federation has always advocated that the important walking access points into the Ettrema Wilderness, should be acquired and reserved as part of the Morton National Park. This particular access point has the highest usage, and it is imperative that the small cleared area, at the head of the firetrail, be thus dedicated. This would then allow for the parking of bushwalkers vehicles off the main Nowra-Braidwood road, and ensure that the Ettrema Firetrail is closed to motor vehicle traffic.

Bushwalkers who insist on motor vehicle access into the Ettrema Plateau area, should seek permission from: Mr. Oscar Saek, 'Ennis Clare', Sassafras, via Nerriga NSW 2622.

The other main access point into the Jones Creek Canyon area is from 'Quiera Clearing', down Myall Creek, to Ettrema Creek, thence down Ettrema Creek to the confluence of Jones Creek.

Would bushwalkers on the Ettrema Plateau who sight motor vehicles in the region, please record the number plate, and advise the Federation.

PETER HARRIS



WE'LL EVEN SHOW YOU HOW TO PACK IT ALL!

*Paddy Pallin*

67-69 LIVERPOOL STREET, SYDNEY, NSW 2000. 26 2485  
JUST DOWN FROM GEORGE ST  
46 NORTHBUCKLE AVENUE, CANBERRA, ACT 470049  
55 HARDWARE STREET, MELBOURNE, VIC 3000. 674845

### A NIGHT IN THE WILDERNESS

The South-West Tasmania Committee (N.S.W.) has again organised the Launceston Walking Club to present its annual Tasmanian film night. It will be held on 15-16th September, starting at 7.30 p.m. at the Law School Theatre (corner Elizabeth and King Streets, Sydney).

Tickets are:

Adults \$3.00  
Children \$1.00

and are available at the door.

### NEW OFFICER BEARERS

At the Annual General Meeting last month, the following were elected as officer-bearers:-

President	Peter Harris	888 7316
Senior Vice President	Dave Noble	660 7858
Junior Vice President	Ed Hanvin (W)	219 1843
Treasurer	Jim Calloway	520 7081
Secretary	Keith Maxwell	827 3919
Assistant Secretary	Warwick Blayden	
Minutes Secretary	Len Newland (W)	43 2419
Education Officer	Peter Tuft	85 7440
Public Relations Officer	Rose Adams	827 3919
Tracks and Access/ Information Officer	Tim Hager	78 5518
Newsletter Editor	Bob Sault	498 7897
Production Officer	Bruce Vote	399 9452
Distribution Officer	Chris McGowan	236 6111
Conservation Convenor	Dave Noble	660 7858
Search & Rescue Director	Bob Pallin (H)	467 1334
		(W) 26 2685
N.C.C. Delegates	Dave Noble	660 7858
	Joan Hand	

All phone numbers are home numbers unless otherwise indicated.

### DATES TO REMEMBER

19th August - Search and Rescue Practice  
Wahroonga Rocks

6th October - Federation Ball,  
Sydney Town Hall

TDRRE MOUNTAIN CRAFT

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**ROBERT STASZEWSKI**  
P.O. BOX 404  
MELBOURNE, VIC 3000

The words of Henry David Thoreau were the beginnings of the concept of wilderness, as a viable, sacrosanct land use; and as a scarce, but precious, resource.

In New South Wales, the wilderness 'idea' blossomed with the publication of the "Wilderness in Australia" report, published by the Dept. of Geography, University of New England, in 1976 and subsequently it became fully realised that only twenty sizeable wilderness areas remained intact in our State.

The Federation, in recognising the great importance in preserving these areas for the national Australian heritage, took a critical interest in efforts to secure both the Colo/Hunter Wilderness, and the Ettrema Wilderness, from various cataclysmic development proposals.

At the same time, the concept of Outdoor Recreation Education came to fruition with the Federation's sponsorship of the 2nd New South Wales Workshop, designed primarily to introduce novices into wilderness sports by appropriate counselling and practical training.

In detail, the following information on matters is provided for the interest of readers.

**NEWSLETTER** - Became virtually self-sufficient through the innovation of paid advertising, and remains as our most tangible means of communication.

**SEARCH AND RESCUE** - A new-look group has emerged, structured to cope with any emergency which might arise to bushwalkers in wilderness situations. New radios were purchased.

**FUNDING** - The Federation was successful in its bid for funds for Outdoor Recreation Education, provided by the Paddy Pallin Foundation, and the N.S.W. Dept. of Sport & Recreation, the appeal for the preservation of the Ettrema Wilderness has raised over \$2,000 in an emergency fund.

**ETTREMA** - Federation took the forefront in efforts to preserve the Ettrema Wilderness, currently before a Mining Wardens Court of Inquiry. The importance of winning this case cannot be underestimated, as it is developing into a test case for mining in wilderness areas generally. A leaflet and car transfer is in the process of distribution.

**COLO/HUNTER** - Again, our greatest wilderness area is under threat from coal-mining, power lines, and dams. The Federation has become actively involved in the conservation of the Colo/Hunter Wilderness which will inevitably be the conservation issue for 1978-79. Leaflet and car stickers have been produced.

**BINGHI** - Mining application in the Binghi Wilderness have required the Federation to lodge objections.

**BORDER RANGES** - In conjunction with the Colong Committee the FBW urged the creation of a Border Ranges National Park, and continues to advance its view that the park should include Gradys Ck and Wiangarie State Forest.

**DEUA-TUROSS** - Federation has asked the Govt. why the Deua Wilderness is largely proposed as a State Recreation Area for 4WD usage.

**OUTDOOR RECREATION EDUCATION** - Booked out in the period of one month, supported by Government and Commerce, bushwalking now advances FORWARD.

**POLICIES** - Draft policies have been created for 4WD vehicles, Wilderness Usage, Policies Camping

**A.H.C.** - Many N.S.W. Wilderness Areas have been nominated to the Aust. Heritage Commission

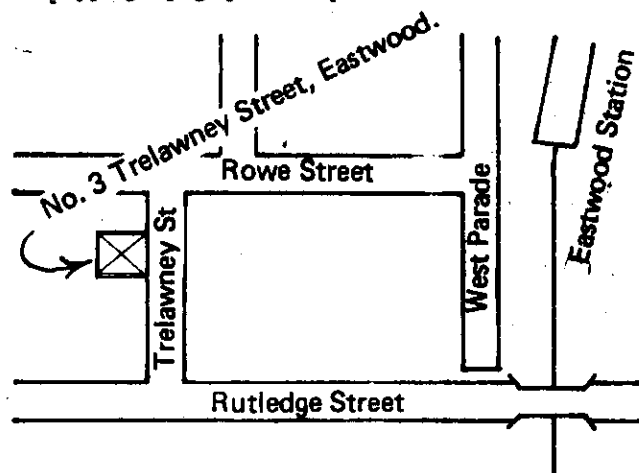
The year ahead is equally a creative challenge, particularly in the field of bushwalking promotion, and conservation, as the FBW continues to advance itself as a significant community voice. We need your support, and encouragement. We need you in

## EASTWOOD CAMPING CENTRE

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Agents for Lands Department and Division of National Mapping topographical maps.



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3 TRELAWNEY STREET, EASTWOOD.  
PHONE: 858-2775

## SEARCH & RESCUE PRACTICE JULY 15-16

On Thursday, 13th July, the Committee received a request to participate in the search for the missing person Trudie Adams.

As many clubs as could be contacted were notified of the change of location. There were also community broadcasts on the radio. The Committee would like to apologise to any persons who could not be contacted and made the (fruitless) drive to Bungonia.

Around 35-40 persons were in the field each day. They represented the following clubs, National Parks Association, Mt. Druitt, Ramblers, Span, Scope, University of N.S.W. and the Catholic Bushwalking Club.

While the police were in overall control they allowed us to organise how we carried out their instructions. Several police radios were distributed throughout the search parties allowing quick notification and checking of anything suspicious located.

On Saturday we began searching both sides of Mona Vale Road, working from the Ba'hai Temple back towards St. Ives.

This job was completed on Sunday morning and a further area off The Forest Way was searched. Mr. Adams and one of Trudie's brothers joined one of Sunday's search parties.

An excellent lunch was provided both days by the Police Rescue Squad.

As I had guessed we did not find any clues to the missing girl but just before lunchtime Sunday a sawn-off shot-gun was found by a member of Mt. Druitt Bushwalking Club.

Relations with the police were relaxed and friendly and the location of such a small item as a shot-gun helped reinforce the excellent impression they had gained of our ability. Mr. Adams was also impressed with our thoroughness and expressed his appreciation for our efforts.

I would like to thank all those who participated especially those who searched both days. They were very full days.

## BITS AND PIECES

**CAMPING IN MONOLITH VALLEY:** Following a request from the Budawangs Committee and the Superintendent of Morton National Park Federation has decided to ask all walkers not to camp in Monolith Valley. This hopefully will ease the pressures on campsites, vegetation and wood. At present camping in Monolith Valley can only be possibly tolerated if a stove and aluminium tent poles are used. Not camping in the valley should not be difficult for walks as there are several pleasant (and more secluded) spots nearby.

**CHANGE OF NAME:** At the Annual General Meeting last month, the name of Federation was changed to "The Federation of Bushwalking Clubs (N.S.W.)". This name was chosen firstly as it uses the word 'Clubs', secondly as it is concise, and lastly as it preserves the initials 'F.B.W.'. Neither the previous name (New South Wales Federation of Bushwalking Clubs) nor another proposed name (Bushwalkers Federation of New South Wales) satisfied all the three requirements.

**FEDERATION BALL:** The Ball this year will be held at Chatswood Town Hall on Friday, 6th October, starting at 7.30 p.m. Cost for a single is \$8.00. Raffle prizes this year are:-  
1st Prize: \$120 worth of Goods from Paddy Pallin  
2nd Prize: \$120 worth of Goods from Mountain Equipment  
3rd Prize: A sleeping bag from Southern Cross Equipment  
4th Prize: \$25 worth of Goods from the Outdoor Scouting Centre  
The main door prize at the Ball will be a candle lamp and candles from Jorski.

Any club requiring extra Ball or Raffle tickets should ring

Joy Scott 520 0750  
or Jim Calloway 520 7081

**SEARCH AND RESCUE PRACTICE:** There will be a one day abseiling and stretcher hauling practice on Sunday 20th August, at Wahroonga Rocks. Wahroonga Rocks are behind the oval at the end of Cliff Ave (three miles north-west of Wahroonga station). The practice should start at about 8.00 a.m.

## EDITORS NOTE

The aim of the Newsletter is to keep bushwalkers up to date with current matters of interest. It will do this best if its articles come from a reasonably large range of walkers, not just the regular contributors. Articles for the Newsletter are always wanted. Any articles for the Newsletter can be sent to

Bob Sault,  
4 Clarence Avenue,  
Killara 2071  
(Phone 498 7897)

Closing dates for articles will generally be very early in the month. All other correspondence should be sent to

Federation of Bushwalking Clubs  
Box 2090, G.P.O.,  
Sydney. 2001

## BOB BUCK RELIEF ACCOUNT

While returning from a Catholic Bushwalkers walk at the end of Easter, Bob Buck (a bushwalker particularly well-known for his Colo sketch map) was involved in a car accident. Bob lost his right leg below the knee, and sustained injuries to his left leg, arms and body. He is receiving care at the Royal Prince Alfred Hospital, Camperdown, where he will be for some months.

A group of Catholic Bushwalkers have organised a fund for Bob's welfare. Any contributions to this fund would be gratefully accepted. Cheques should be made out to "The Bob Buck Relief Account" and sent

C/o The Catholic Bushwalking Club,  
P.O. Box C59,  
Clarence Street,  
Sydney, 2000

Alternately Vincent Mahon (55 5453) or Tim Hager (78 5518) could be contacted.

## WHATS NEW

An updated soft cover edition of the Trampers Wilderness is now available and is selling for \$11.00. For anyone who has or intends to visit Tasmania, the book offers an interesting amount of the history of Tasmania in areas generally now visited by bushwalkers.

Also seen in the shops "An Introduction to Ski Touring" by the N.S.W. Ski Association and this book sells for \$2.50.

It appears that bushwalkers aren't the only ones who have problems with sandals. Apparently the synthetic tennis courts are taking their toll on the soles. Incidental to most disposal shops are selling Dunlop O.C. Valleys at \$6.50 (seconds), however a sports store at 314 Pitt Street still has them at \$5.95 a pair. The G.T.s and the newer blue lines are also at a cheaper price.

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