

# BUSHWALKERS OF NEW SOUTH WALES

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

ISSN 0313-2684

## OFFICE BEARERS 1979/80

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Ball Convenor: Bruce Vote (Kameruka BWC)

## OFF ROAD VEHICLES

The following is "lifted" from the June edition of the "Land Rover Owners Club News" as part of an item concerning a forum on off road vehicles hosted by the Australian Conservation Foundation with speakers from different sides of the issue.

"Address by Roy to Aust. Cons. Found.

- 30 in audience
- audience appear radicals with own interests
- not Australians at heart
- quoted passages from club magazine out of context
- plus own interpretation

**Bushwalkers want roads defined in their terms."**

Our contributor assures us that the above is an exact replication, and also quotes from the LROCN Federation Report "NPWS submission distorted views and ratbagery". He goes on to suggest that this stuff is good for a giggle.

This last comment notwithstanding, I have not read the LROCN nor attended the forum. For all I know, each of the above charges could well be perfectly correct. In an issue of such deep conflict (i.e., how much to restrict off road vehicles), it can be very easy to appear to stand a long way over the fence. No doubt the above extreme view is not shared by all ORV drivers.

However, that third point (not Australian at heart) brings sharply to mind a newspaper article of a couple of years ago, in which no less than one half of the front page was devoted to a headline asking "Aren't you proud to be Australian?". The rest of the page contained photographs, and page 2 or 3 told us how a bunch of fools on a picnic were happily engaged in hoisting their garbage in all directions into

the bush. Sometime during the day, a religious group entered the scene and cleared all the surrounding bush of cans, bottles, etc., and stacked this litter ready to be removed. Our typical Australians were enraged and promptly scattered the stuff back into the bush.

Does this mean, then, that to be Australian is to destroy the small amount of "virgin" land remaining to us? Fortunately, starting with the dedication of the Royal National Park, Australians have been showing increasing interest in preserving natural landscape for the repeated appreciation and enjoyment of ourselves and our descendants. Unfortunately, the percentage of our population even capable of being interested in such things is terrifyingly small. Public education is thus of paramount importance in dealing with any conservation issue, and that includes ORV drivers and bushwalkers.

Bushwalkers can be relatively easily educated. FBW policy sheets on such subjects as bushwalker ethics in wilderness is a step in this direction, and the "carry out what you carry in" slogan is now fairly well established amongst bushwalkers. However, the Monolith Valley cease-camping request shows that even well-behaved bushwalkers can overuse an area. And overuse is the real problem involved in the ORV situation. An ORV causes a lot more damage than a bushwalker, or say a horserider. It is all a question of degree.

So, the sooner the various parties stop bickering over who gets what area, and realise that we are all Australians on the same side of the fence, and get down to detailing limits of use of each activity in each area, the better off we'll all be.

## SCHOOLS PROJECT - WESTERN SYDNEY

The western suburbs and lower Blue Mountains area has long felt the need of environmental education for many of the children living in that area. On any weekend, and particularly during school holidays, young people can be seen travelling to the mountains from the western suburbs to go camping.

It is essential that the potential bushwalker of tomorrow be educated in the value of appreciating and wisely using our limited bushland resources.

The Blue Labyrinth Tent Camping and Environmental Experience Committee has been formed, comprising teachers from the Blue Mountains and Outer Western Suburbs, and has the following aims:

1. The establishment of a fixed training area near Glenbrook Primary School where groups of 30 or more children can be accommodated to be educated in environmental principles and basic bushcraft;
2. The production of a manual for user groups explaining resources of the area, and methods by which teachers can use the outdoors to study natural sciences - flora and fauna, ecology, bushcraft, orienteering, etc. - and merge it into their curriculum.

The first aim is already well on the way to being established, but assistance is required from experienced bushwalkers, resources people and people who can contribute natural science information.

If you are interested in promoting bushwalking training and environmental awareness in schools in that area, and would like to be one of a sub-committee, please contact principal Frank Key on 047 7391274 (work) or 047 391156 (home), or Ted Hartley (Mt. Druitt BWC) on 6222416.

Do you care for kids?

I recently received a phone call from Jim Griffin concerning difficulties he had encountered in walking with clubs. Jim has to take medication which slows him down and this has in turn held up a few medium/hard trips with SPAN, The Ramblers, and CMW. In one case, he injured a knee attempting to hurry and was eventually lifted out by helicopter. Trip leaders from these clubs are understandably reluctant to accept Jim on hard trips until he gains sufficient experience and condition to keep up the necessary pace.

So far, the story is reminiscent of a hundred other prospective bushwalkers too keen and impatient to serve their "apprenticeships" on easy and medium trips. But Jim is not a raw beginner; he knows which areas he wants to visit, and feels they are within his capabilities if he could travel at a slower pace, notwithstanding the heavier pack required to take an extra day over such trips. Unfortunately, other bushwalkers weighing up this compromise usually decide to go light and fast. Jim has difficulty finding suitably designed trips on club programs to give him the experience required to plan and lead his own trips.

So Jim would like to contact other walkers similarly frustrated with rushed trip schedules, whether because of medical conditions, preoccupation with photography, botany, etc., or a simple preference for relaxation.

Contact: Jim Griffin (phone 708 2587)  
3 Sealy St., Greenacre. 2190.

Murray Scott

## SOUTH WEST TASMANIA

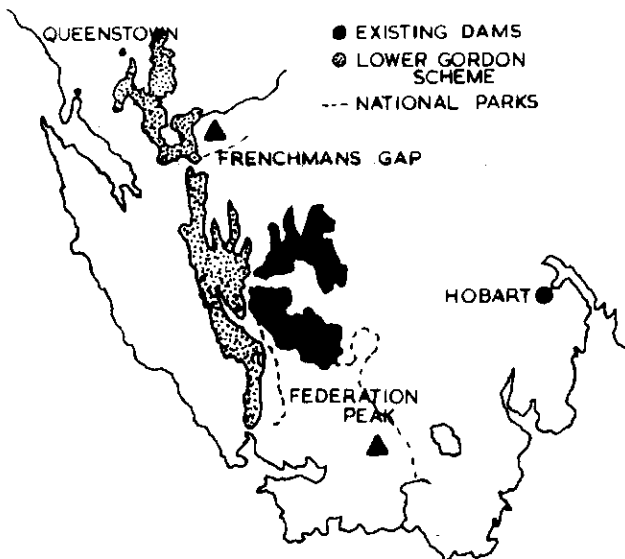
The Tasmanian Government called an election in late July resulting in the Labor Government being returned with a larger majority. However, both parties leave much to be desired in the area of protecting the south west.

With the Hydro-Electricity Commission presenting their scheme before the Parliament in late August for approval, it is important to pressure Tasmanian politicians. Letters from the mainland carry a lot of weight, so get to it. (Unfortunately, there was no August issue of this Newsletter, but don't let that stop you.)

The Lower Gordon Scheme would flood the Franklin, Jane, Denison, Davey, Olga and twenty other rivers.

### Newspapers:

The Mercury, 93 Macquarie St., Hobart, 7000.  
The Examiner, 71/75 Paterson St., Launceston, 7250



### Politicians:

The Hon. D. Lowe (Premier), Messrs. A. Lohery, N. Batt, H. Holgate, M. Barnard, D. Baldock, B. Miller, E. Barnard, all c/- Parliament House, Macquarie Street., Hobart, 7000.

Urge the preservation of the south west Tasmanian National Park on the Australian Conservation Foundation boundaries.

Mr. P. Harris  
Project Officer

June 14 1979

Dear Mr. Harris,

I refer to your letters of 30th January 1979 and 29th March 1979 in which your Federation objects to vehicular access being granted to certain mining leases within the Etrema Wilderness area.

The matter concerning access to the mining leases is still being considered by the New South Wales Planning & Environment Commission. As promised in my previous letter, the views expressed by your organisation will be taken into consideration. However, until the Commission has concluded its investigations and submitted a report to me, it would be inappropriate to meet representatives of the Federation of Bushwalking Clubs.

Meanwhile, it may be of interest to your members that the State Pollution Control Commission, National Parks & Wildlife Service, and New South Wales Planning & Environment Commission have raised the issues concerning the applicant's rights-of-way applications with the Chief Mining Warden and have requested an Environmental Impact Statement before any consideration is given to granting the applications. In addition, the National Parks and Wildlife Service and the Planning and Environment Commission have objected to the rights-of-way proposals on the grounds that inadequate information is contained in the applications upon which any approval could be given.

Furthermore, the Planning & Environment Commission has objected to the proposals on the basis that the likely impact of the mining claims and access thereto would jeopardise the integrity of the Morton National Park and the Etrema Wilderness area, and that there is no evidence to suggest that the operation of the mining claims will be of sufficient economic viability to ensure proper environmental safeguards are considered or maintained.

However, it is not considered necessary or appropriate at this stage for the State Pollution Control Commission to conduct a public inquiry, having regard to the Inquiry held by the Chief Mining Warden in 1978.

I have also noted your comments concerning the defamation action brought against several conservation and bushwalking associations by the applicant, and the proposal by the Federation of Bushwalking Clubs to form a United Etrema Society.

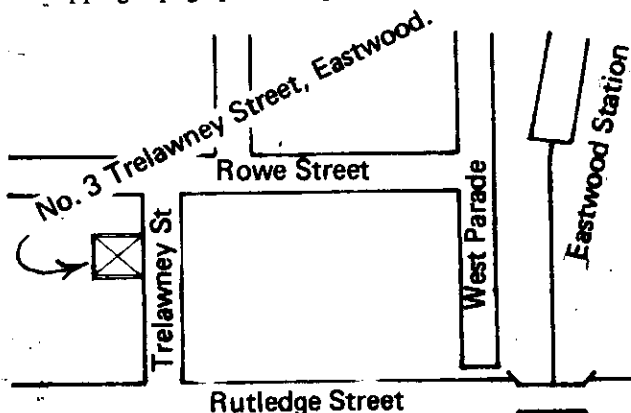
Yours faithfully,  
PAUL LANDA,  
Minister for Planning  
and Environment

## EASTWOOD CAMPING CENTRE

### ALL THE USUAL GEAR:

Fairydown sleeping bags, abseiling gear, parkas, packs tents, boots, groundsheets, lightweight food, AND MUCH MORE.

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



EASTWOOD CAMPING CENTRE

March 22nd/23rd 1980 - Large Scale  
General Search

June 7th/8th 1980 - Arduous Rescue

(ii) Annual Report

The S&R group was involved in six incidents over the past twelve months. One search was at the request of the Police to assist them in their search for Trudi Adams (still missing). Another search was successfully conducted in the evening in the Colo area. A rescue in the Colo area was completed with the aid of the Wales/Channel 10 helicopter, and a walker was carried out of the Red Rocks area (Wolgan) complete with broken ankle. An accident in the Barrington area was referred to the Police as it was felt that S&R would be unable to respond quickly enough. At our request, the Police also checked on an overdue party in the Kanangra area.

Four training exercises were conducted and attendances were dominated by members of Uni of NSW, Span Unlimited and the Ramblers. The lack of interest by some metropolitan clubs is to be deplored. Keynote for training was the last training exercise where Dick Smith carried some lucky walkers as observers in his new helicopter. A great deal was learned by all, relating to air searching and visibility from the ground.

This opportunity is taken in thanking Judy Johnson (Uni of NSW), Mrs. Adams and Span Unlimited for donations received.

No major items of equipment were purchased. However, after much paper warfare, we are protected by a \$½ m public liability policy and \$30,000 personal accident cover. As may be apparent from the first paragraph, co-operation with the Police has been excellent. Members are reminded that all communication with that Department should be through the S&R Committee.

Club contacts are still required and the early completion of the club contact advice forms (circulated at the AGM and with the minutes) will help ensure that your club is not overlooked at the next callout. Remember that high standards of ability are required of participants. Persons who feel they can serve S&R should approach the Director.

Walk safely!

PHONE SECRETARY 799 4013

For the last two years the FBW has been listed in the telephone directory under the Environment Centre's number, and the phone Secretary's number has been separately advertised in the Newsletter, newspaper articles, etc. A dramatic increase in enquiries has been generated, particularly via the directory listing.

Each month, FBW now receives approximately 60 enquiries about club membership, most of these being answered directly by the Environment Centre which has the "green list" and phone numbers of clubs. About 10 other calls are received per month from walkers requiring information about gear, maps, access, etc., and from the media.

If club leaders want these enquirers to be channelled to their clubs, they must keep the Environment centre staff and the phone secretary informed of their current activities, phone contact and new member details.

Some clubs forward a copy of their club programs, but clubs are reminded that FBW requires several copies, to be distributed to the several contact points for enquirers.

**BUSHSPORTS BALL \$6.00**

It's on October 5th, at Balmain Town Hall. Tickets now available. Write to Ball Convenor (address at rear of Newsletter) or ring phone

parties are invited to support this worthwhile cause.

The water of the upper Grose is polluted (black), particularly creeks on the northern side, from coal mining as it would appear. Enquiries will be made of the National Parks and Wildlife Service and of the Minister for Mines.

Discussions have been proceeding between NPA and the Minister for Planning & Environment concerning Mann River and Guy Fawkes Wilderness areas. FBW is also urging a moratorium on logging in Mumbilla-Eden and Border Ranges.

PRIORITIES 1979/80:

1. Recommendation for Plans of Management of:
  - (a) Morton National Park
  - (b) Deua National Park
  - (c) Wadbilliga National Park
  - (d) Wollemi National Park
  - (e) Kanangra-Boyd National Park
2. Recommendations for the review of the Plan of Management for Kosciusko National Park.
3. The conservation and reservation of
  - (a) Ettrema/Bundundah Wilderness
  - (b) Apsley/Yarrowitch Wilderness
  - (c) North Coast National Parks
  - (d) The finalisation of boundaries and gazettal of Wollemi National Park.
4. The conservation and reservation of the South West Tasmanian Wilderness.

BUSHSPORTS

Twelve people attended the Cross-country Skiing Weekend. The weekend was a success, but not financially so.

Despite leader difficulties, the Mountaineering Weekend was undertaken. Of the eight people who booked, four paid, and there were only two who participated. Joe Fringe is thanked for leading the party.

The mid-September Canoeing Weekend is booked, and arrangements are proceeding smoothly as of this writing.

If you are new to outdoor sports and wish to learn please send s.a.e. to Bushsports '79, GPO Box 2090, Sydney, 2001.

TRACKS AND ACCESS

A public road to Bindook is being built by property-owner Lang (who presently charges \$5 access). FBW has decided to support in principle that the Scott's Main Range Road and the Yerranderie area be closed to public vehicular traffic.

It has been reported that vehicle parking is now being charged for at Carlon's farm (Megalong Valley). T&A is ascertaining details.

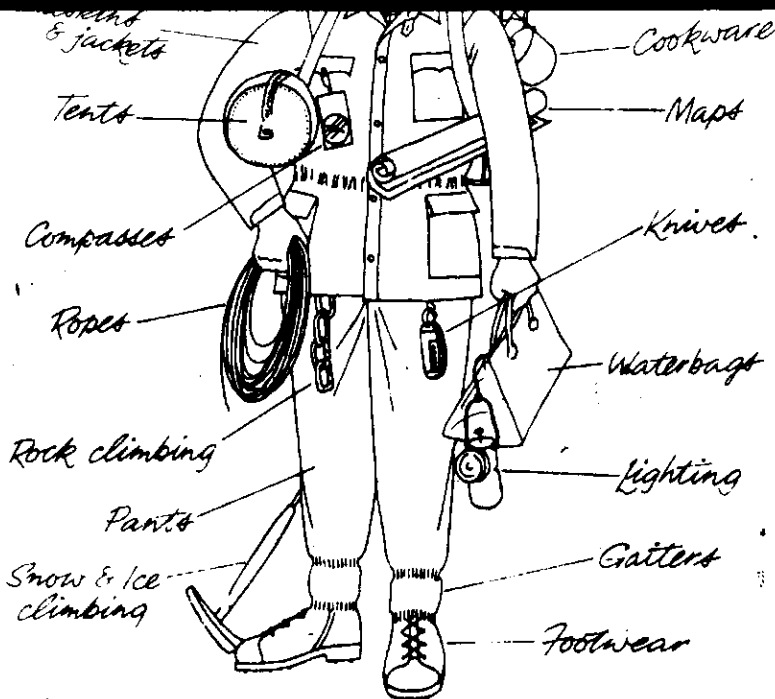
GENERAL

A 24 hour orienteering event called "rogaining" will be held on October 6th/7th. Enquiries and participants welcome. Contact our phone secretary.

NPA (ACT Branch) is now an affiliate of FBW. We extend our welcome and best wishes to that group.

In response to FBW concern over its Reunions, seven clubs have written to support retention of the event, with some improvements nominated. Nevertheless, lack of attendance in recent years has resulted in the decision not to hold the 1980 Reunion unless a particular club undertakes to organise it.

Donations for the Ettrema issue should be made out to "ACF Ettrema Fund".



WE'LL EVEN SHOW YOU HOW TO PACK IT ALL!  
**Paddy Pallin**  
 97-97 LIVERPOOL STREET SYDNEY, NSW 2000 26 2685  
 JUST DOWN FROM GEORGE ST  
 46 NORTHBOURNE AVENUE CANBERRA ACT 478949  
 55 HARDWARE STREET, MELBOURNE, VIC 3000 674845

**MORTON NATIONAL PARK  
 RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PLAN OF MANAGEMENT**

Preliminary Submission Extracts

(a) Budawang Section

(i) Area. These recommendations take into consideration the eventual inclusion of lands proposed as extensions to the Budawang Section of Morton National Park. These include protection for Yabboro Creek and Little Belowra Creek; portion of the Clyde River and Boyne Creek; the upper Endrick/Corang River catchments; land currently in Tianjara Firing Range; and currently vacant land west of the existing boundary and abutting freehold land up the Mongarlowe Road.

The Budawang Section and any future parkland in the area should be part of Budawang National Park, of which the headquarters should be the Yabboro property.

(ii) Zonation. Budawang National Park as extended as above should be zoned wilderness up to all access points.

(iii) Access points, track heads and facilities. Picnic facilities at Yabboro Station, Pointer Gap, North of Mt. Tianjara, Newhaven Gap, Colombaco Creek, Wog Wog Station, Pigeonhouse (at present car park), and Dirty Swamp Creek (Sawmill).

Primitive camping at Newhaven Gap, Colombaco Creek, Wog Wog Station, and Clyde Mountain.

Minimum camping facilities at Yabboro Flat, Colombaco Creek, Wog Wog Station, and Newhaven Gap.

(iv) Closure and revegetation of roads. Jindellara Creek Road, Wombat Ridge Road from Longfella Pass to Little Forest Trig (with walking track from L.F. Trig to Rusden Head, and from L.F. Trig south to escarpment), Roads north of Yabboro Creek to escarpment (walking track on Kalianna Ridge Road), Deadman Gulch Road, Little Forest Plateau (including military airstrip), Newhaven Gap Road (from N. Gap to Colombaco Creek via The Vines), Styles Creek Road (from The Vines to Colombaco Creek via S. Creek, retaining walking track from N. Gap to S. Creek and Folly Point), and all roads in the proposed extensions to the park except Yabboro Station to Kalianna Ridge along Yabboro Creek (with Service trail to Mares Hill).

Ettrema Creek, the Boodie, Danjera lands, portion of Shoalhaven Valley and Coolumburra Creek, and the present Yalwal State Forest.

All in-holdings should be added. Of extreme importance are leasehold lands and mining reserves in Jones Creek area, lower Ettrema Creek Valley, and the Tolwong area.

(ii) Zonation. All land within the Ettrema Section should be zoned wilderness up to all access points. The Shoalhaven River should be managed in its own category.

(iii) Access points, track heads and facilities. Picnic facilities at Tianjara Falls, Tallowa Dam, Danjera Dam and Quiera Clearing.

Primitive camping at Blaydon's Pass, Yalwal Creek, Tallowa Dam, "Ennis Clare", Quiera Clearing, and The Jumps.

Minimum camping facilities at Tianjara Falls, Danjera Dam, Yalwal Creek, Tallowa Dam and Quiera Clearing.

(iv) Closure and revegetation of roads. Wombat Road, Blackwood Road, all roads from the Yarramunmun Fire Trail to Yarramunmun Creek, Ettrema Fire Trail at "Ennis Clare", Tmboolina Trail (from Grassy Gully to Tolwong property), Lower Ettrema Track (from Grassy Gully to Cooees Flat), Yalwal Creek Track (from Grassy Gully to Danjera Dam), Yalwal State Forest (except Grassy Gully Road), and Tolwong Trail (from Tolwong property to Tolwong Mines).

(c) Shoalhaven River

(i) Area. These recommendations take into consideration the eventual inclusion of lands as extensions in the Shoalhaven Valley of Morton National Park.

The Shoalhaven River Valley should form the first Zoned "Wild and Scenic River" contained within the park. Owing to anticipated usage by canoeists and walkers, it is not apt to consider this area as Wilderness.

(ii) Access points, track heads and facilities. Tallowa Dam: primitive camping and facilities. "Coolendel": camping and facilities. Badgerys Lookout: primitive camping, no facilities. Long Point Lookout: as above. Bungonia S.R.A.: camping and facilities. Sewells Point: primitive camping, no facilities. Fools Point: as above.

Please send articles to: All other FBW Correspondence to:  
 Len Newland,  
 68 Congressional Drive,  
 LIVERPOOL, NSW. 2170  
 Federation of Bushwalking Clubs,  
 G.P.O. BOX 2090,  
 SYDNEY, NSW. 2001

## TWO

### SERVE YOU BETTER!

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- \* More stock than ever before on display to select from.
- \* We can make larger purchases, often at a better price and pass the savings on to you.
- \* If an item is out of stock at one shop, we can usually obtain it from the other within a matter of hours.
- \* Our new shop in the city now makes it unnecessary for many to make that trip across the bridge.
- \* Running two shops keeps our small staff on the ball.

**MOUNTAIN EQUIPMENT**

17 FALCON ST., CROWS NEST, 2065  
 Ph. 438 2454, 438 1647

82 CLARENCE ST., SYDNEY, 2001  
 Ph. 55 0029

