

THE

BUSHWALKER

Newsletter of the Federation of Bushwalking Clubs (NSW) Box 2090 GPO Sydney 2001 ISSN 0313-2684 Vol. 14 No 1

PRESIDENT'S PRATTLE

One of the Federation's services to Bushwalker's and to the community generally of which we can be duly proud is our Search and Rescue Unit. This dedicated bunch of bodies spend a considerable amount of their time in the 'behind the scenes' duties so necessary to keep the unit viable. And perhaps it is not realised by the average Club member that the S & R practices also requires considerable effort to be put in by the Unit members in organising this very important activity.

It would be rewarding to the members involved if more support were forthcoming from the Club's at practices. These practices can actually be a lot of fun. They are also the vehicles through which we establish a rapport with other organisations who are involved when a search is instituted, for whatever reason - bodies such as VRA units, Police Rescue Squads, NP&WS rangers.

Was our face red when at the last practice a total of 25 bodies turned up. Six of these were the hard working people mentioned above. This practice took the form of a rogain which took hours over a number of weeks to set up. The reason for the red faces was that 4 Police Rescue Squads had sent along 8 members to take part. In addition we had the two Rangers from Nowra District one of whom was the senior ranger from that district.

One of the reasons given for non-attendance was that it was too far to go. How many walks from time to time are on programmes of Clubs in the Federation in this or similar areas, just as far from Sydney?

We do not expect every walker to drop what they are doing on the weekends of the four practices a year that S & R holds but I'm sure that Club's whose membership's are among the largest in Australia and only have 2 or 3 of their members

1988/89 FEDERATION OFFICE BEARERS

The AGM has been held and we now have a new committee. the following is a list of present positions. Do we have anyone that can help with the unfilled positions?

The Bushwalker gives a special vote of thanks to the retiring treasurer Jim Callaway. Jim has done the thankless task for the last 11 years.

President	Gordon Lee
Snr Vice President	Jan Wouters
Jnr Vice President	Michael Maack
Secretary	Maureen Cavill
Treasurer	Rosemary Maxwell
Minute Secretary	Spiro Hajinakitas
Newsletter Editor	Gordon Lee
S & R Director	Keith Maxwell
Conservation Officer	Herb Lippmann
Publicity Officer	Gary Phillpott
Ball Convener	Jan Wouters
Tracks & Access	Roger Lembit
N.C.C. Delegates	Unfilled
Auditor	Unfilled

PAY FOR RESCUE

On Monday 15th August, the Daily Telegraph ran a story suggesting that the state government is considering a fee for police rescues of people they consider have embarked on foolhardy or dangerous ventures.

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Mr Pickering (police minister) is quoted as having said,

"We are looking at the possibility of having provisions which will give police a range of powers to stop activities they consider dangerous."

This appears to have blown up mainly as a result of the around Australia Yacht Race and the problems involved. However the legislation could also cover bushwalkers and their activities.

The search and rescue unit has written to both Mr. Greiner and the police minister, requesting some clarification on just what is intended.

The bushwalker is keen to have some correspondence from our readers on this problem. The possibility of restrictions on what bushwalkers are able to do should be taken seriously, who is to decide what is foolish? what criteria will be used?

When we have heard more from the government on this matter we will let you know.

(The address to write to is on the back page)

FROM THE MINUTES

Following his successful fund raising for the S & R radios, Peter Treseder planned a climbathon of the Three Sisters in April to raise more money. He climbed the west wall 21 times in twelve hours but wet weather kept away tourists.

The FBW has written to the NPWS to have Taro's Ladder upgraded. Past attempts have not been successful because the authorities refuse to accept the responsibility (of being sued if someone is subsequently injured).

The Federation is still battling with the insurance and incorporation problem and will be calling for a special meeting to discuss this matter.

The new State Government have said that they will establish a National Parks Access Committee which will have every group interested in national park usage. Obviously the bigger groups will have the louder voices.

The 'foolish persons' legislation (which proposed that lost or injured persons could be made to pay for their rescue) is to be scrapped. (Or so we thought). The emotional feelings expressed by the Police over the recent Bicentennial Round Australia sailing event has probably revived this proposition.

S & R has purchased three ex police car radios. These are to be used to co-ordinate vehicle movements. FBW is to supply instructors for the next Duke of Edinburgh training weekend.

The Federation is to participate in the Australian National Sports Exhibition

BITS AND PIECES

In 1981 John Blay received the inaugural Park Writer's Award based upon his experiences in the Deua Wadbilliga National Park. His book 'Trek Through the Back Country' has now finally appeared in the book stands.

The WEA Ramblers (foundation members of the FBW) plan to be the first official party to travel along the Great Northern Walk. This trail commences from Macquarie Place in Sydney and ends in Newcastle. It passes through four national parks, seven State forests and numerous nature reserves along its

250km length. Ferries will be used to cross the Parramatta and Hawkesbury Rivers, and the summits of Mt Wondabyne, Scopus Peak, The Bar, Heaton Gap and Mt Warrawalong will be climbed along the way.

The WEA party will commence their walk two days after the official September 24 opening and will take 21 days to cover the distance. The trip however can be completed in segments and further information can be obtained from WEA House, 72 Bathurst St., Sydney.

The owners of Belowra property on the edge of Wadbilliga National Park are conducting 5-6 day walks up the Tuross River to Tuross Falls for the public.

Recently a letter appeared in the S.M.H. calling once again for bushwalkers to carry two way radios or beacons. While some people believe this idea has merit, anyone who has been to an S & R practice would realise some of the disadvantages, eg. High cost, limited range, fragility etc. Who would maintain a listening watch to check for trouble? Quite a few years ago one contributor suggested that hikers could leave a trail of paper, so that they could retrace their steps if need be. Come to think of it, I think some visitors to the bush already practice this. Education, experience and walking with a club are far better safety aids than technological gimmicks.

Bushwalkers should keep an eye open for The Wilderness Society's film 'The Tale of Ruby Rose' when it appears in the Chauvel Cinema (Paddington) in late September. Henry and Ruby Rose and their adopted son, John, trapped for animal skins in the Tasmanian high country of the 1830's. The film was shot at the Walls of Jerusalem.

Reality imitates fiction - late in May Dave Drohan's S & R practice with the Canberra Bushwalking Club had a member of a search party slipping and 'spraining' his ankle. It took the rescuers five hours to cover the five kilometers through rough country and in damp conditions to return to base. After checking in at the Canberra hospital, the patient was treated for a fracture to the tibia.

The Budawang Committee are celebrating the fiftieth Anniversary of Morton National Park with a new publication 'Fitzroy Falls and Beyond' - a guide to the Shoalhaven and Ettrema Wilderness and the Bungonia State recreation Area.

Nice to see in 'The Waysider' (Catholic Bushwalking Club) an editorial calling on their members to give more

ested in Federation matters. "If the relationship is one-sided why then does the Club continue to stay a member of the Federation? The answer here lies in what Federation is all about. That in Federation the Club has an official body interested in the common good of all Bushwalking Clubs". (Thanks for these kind words - FBW President), (P.S. Support also recorded by Brisbane Waters Outdoors Club - Ed.).

Canberra Bushwalking Club has offered \$1000 to the NPWS (NSW) for specific track upgrading, erosion control and regeneration of the Monolith Valley area in Morton National Park. They have also expressed a willingness to provide work parties to assist in this project.

Following several successful walks, the Sydney Teacher's College Club was formed in March 1946, and the following year was renamed the Kameruka Bushwalking Club - in Arunta language, Kameruka means 'wait till I return'.

Membership was primarily for students at the college but reformed in 1952 as an open club when a new college Principal objected to males and females spending weekends away together.

Like most clubs, the KBC had their ups and downs, their personalities, but in recent years membership had been down. Earlier this year the club called it a day.

LOST AND FOUND

Found at campsite on Mt Tarn. One roll of exposed Soulcolor film (35mm 24 exp.) Also spoon, name of K. Woof. Same party?

Contact
James Nethery

639 3032

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Sir,

I am writing in regard to Views expressed in "political corner", over the use of 4wd vehicles in national parks.

I am a member of Sutherland Bushwalking Club and also occasionally use 4wd vehicles to reach inaccessible and out of the way places.

As a member of a bushwalking club I am therefore aware of minimal impact bushwalking and environmental responsibility, something very few other 4wd owners seem to be aware of.

National Parks are for the use of the community *, of which 4wd owners form a part. 4wd vehicles when operated by an environmentally conscious person, on tracks, do little damage to the environment.

Unfortunately however most 4wd owners tend to act in a devil may care manner, paying little attention to the environment i.e. using tracks after heavy rain, driving off track (both evident in northern Kosciusko National Park and around Cooleman Plains) and employing siege camping techniques.

Legitimate 4wd owners are being discriminated against because of the actions of the irresponsible idiots who feel they have a god given right to the bush (we must remember however there are many bushwalkers who operate in the same manner).

The answer lies in a sensible balance that satisfies all parties. If we decide to allow 4wd's to operate in national parks we must have better control over them.

Firstly a permit system for off road vehicles in national parks should be considered. This would serve several purposes. It would allow the NPWS to control the number of vehicles in an area at any time and any fees charged to obtain permits could be used to fund the maintenance of tracks. This system could be supplemented by the use of blocking gates at the trailheads to prevent the entry of unauthorised vehicles. As part of this permit system enforcement of regulations and higher penalties must be considered.

For too long irresponsible drivers have been able to get away with blue murder, mainly due to lax policing. If heavier fines were introduced, ie a minimum fine of \$1000 for a first offense and increasing fines for subsequent offenses, plus more policing, then there would be a real deterrent.

Also regular closures to allow regeneration and permanent closures of sensitive areas would be necessary. Furthermore only designated parks should be open to 4wd's.

Above all any debate on park access needs to be rational. At present the debate is too emotional. We need to have all parties involved in discussions concerning our parks.

Michael Merrett.

* *We are making a mistake if we think the parks are only for the use of people. One of the main purposes of a park must be the continued preservation of natural ecosystems and not just the satisfaction of our wants. Ed.*

WARRAGAMBA DAM

The following is a reply from the Minister of the Environment, to concerns that Federation holds about future changes to Warragamba Dam.

Dear Mr. Wilson,

I refer to your letter of 18th of April, 1988 to the Premier concerning the Warragamba Dam Flood Protection Programme.

The five metre raising of the dam wall, currently being constructed as part of the interim or first stage of the programme is for increased temporary flood storage and to reduce the risk of overtopping of the dam during an extreme flood *. This additional height of the dam will not increase the dam's normal water storage level or capacity. The operation of the spillway gates during floods will not be altered.

The Environmental Impact Statement (E.I.S) being prepared for the major or second stage of the flood protection programme will consider construction of flood control dams on major rivers within the Warragamba catchment as an option. At this stage they appear to be unsuitable on both economic and environmental grounds. (*Federation needs to make sure that it never becomes suitable Ed.*) The investigation will also consider construction of a flood mitigation dam, either immediately upstream or downstream of the existing dam.

While augmentation of Sydney's water supply is not part of the current Warragamba Flood Protection Programme, a review of the present and future water supply requirements is currently in progress. Preliminary indications are that no water storage augmentation is required until early next century. Before any option could be adopted, however, it would be necessary to undertake the preparation of a comprehensive E.I.S.

* *Large flows of water over the dam wall can cause damage to the base of the dam, during floods (ed.)*

BUSHFIRES

(A piece of advice of unknown origin that we found)

With the approach of a possible hot summer, and the build up of foliage, it might be worthwhile keeping the following points in mind.

Construct your campfire so that flames cannot spread to the surrounding environment. (*the best way to do that is to make sure your fire does not use wood, that means use a stove*) Never leave a campfire unattended. Before breaking camp totally extinguish your fire.* Obey the current fire lighting regulations.

If a bushfire ignites DON'T PANIC, keep your party together. Decide upon an escape route and make sure every member knows where they are heading.

Drink as much water as possible to counter increased perspiration. Fill all available water containers.

Radiant heat causes most bushfire deaths. Plan an exit route

DOWNHILL and to the rear (upwind) of the fire. Move quickly but do not run. Aim for open spaces away from trees or vegetation, or to running streams, pools and dams - but not elevated tanks. Keep to vehicle tracks if possible.

Shield your body with clothing; preferably wool (not nylon or other synthetics). Protect your head from radiated heat. Watch out for spot burns on clothes and hair caused by flying sparks and debris

**the advice about fires is probably reasonable, but why do many walkers have an almost religious dependence on fires. In these times of increasing use of wilderness areas it would be nicer to leave the environment as it is and take a stove. (just a thought, do you think you can?).*

SEARCH AND RESCUE NEWS

The Search and Rescue Section was called out by Katoomba Police on Tuesday, July 5, to assist in the search for an overdue person in the Jamison Valley.

David Williams, 26, of Blacktown had last been seen leaving his hotel room at Katoomba on Saturday. He was reportedly walking in the direction of Echo Point. At the time he was last seen he was wearing light clothing and carrying a day pack.

The weather on Saturday in the mountains was fine and warm but by Sunday was deteriorating and by Tuesday had turned to very wet, cold and windy.

Our group which included nineteen searchers from eight different clubs was given two creeks to search in the Mount Solitary area - Cedar Creek and Causeway Creek. The equipment trailer was set up at the Flat Rock on Narrow Neck.

All S & R search groups were away from base by 0800 and in their search areas by 0900.

At 0930 a radio message was received that the missing person had been located at the South Katoomba Sewerage Treatment Works below Leura. He was physically unharmed but was found to be suffering from hypothermia and high blood pressure.

Due to his condition it was finally decided to leave David at the Sewerage Treatment Works overnight to stabilize his condition and we were stood down at 1500.

My thanks to members of the following clubs - Camden, Three Peaks, Sydney Uni., Span, Macquarie, Sutherland, NPA and Mt. Druitt.

Tony Parr

MISSING PERSON

On Friday 12th August S & R joined the search for an 82 year old missing person at Woodford.

Sixteen members of S & R arrived on the Friday morning to begin searching the area assigned us by the police.

We were to intensively cover an area around the last confirmed sighting of the missing person.

With little wasted time our groups were in the field and at 11.00 am base was informed that a party had found the missing person.

The police then assisted by winching in two officers who took charge of the body and arranged the lift into the

helicopter, from a suitable location upstream.

All groups made their own way back to base and were ready to leave after 3pm.

Thanks need to go to Springwood, Sutherland, University of NSW and Macquarie Mountaineers for fielding personnel and also to those who helped at base.

Bob Cavill.

COMMUNITY SUPPORT FOR S & R

Helicopter

The last practice at Nerriga saw the first flight of S & R's new helicopter support unit.

Thanks to the very public spirited attitude of Mr. Alan Clark of Apollo Freshwater Fisheries we can now call on independent helicopter support when needed by S & R.

Mr. Clark has a number of helicopters based near Camden and is within a short flying time of most Blue Mountain walking areas. This may be an advantage when we are trying to move advanced search parties into an area quickly, or site a remote communications relay.

It is a considerable expense to donate time and money in this way and it gives us further incentive to make S & R as efficient as possible to justify this faith. Remember our main strength is the skill of the people we can put on the ground.

The next chance to see Mr. Clark in operation will probably be the October practice at Barrington.

Vanguard Insurance

Another company to give support to S & R has been Vanguard Insurance (see ad on page 7) with a \$500 donation.

OCTOBER PRACTICE

Another reminder that the next S&R practice is fast approaching. Ring your club's S&R contact and see if a party has been organised for your club. This time we are attempting to follow up further information in the continuing search for the Barringtons lost plane. If you have not yet done a practice in rainforest areas then this should be most interesting. We will have the helicopters from Alan Clark assisting during the practice, to give the group some experience in working with aerial support.

There is a bus being organised for those who would prefer not to drive. If you would like to get on (it's only \$ 10) then ring:

Keith Maxwell 622-0049
Date: 8th 9th Oct

WEATHER FOR WILDERNESS WANDERERS

There will be a one night seminar on weather for all interested persons to be run by the Australian Meteorological and Oceanographic Society (AMOS)

Location:
MAQUARIE UNIVERSITY
LECTURE THEATRE
7.30 pm. 26th October

Cost:

There is a six dollar fee which covers some lecture notes, a colour cloud chart and supper

Registration:

To ensure your place on the night write to,

Registration Officer:
Mr Alan Gray
44 Orange Grove Rd.
Cabramatta NSW 2166

The purpose of the night will be to provide some basic understanding of the weather along with surviving and avoiding the more extreme weather phenomena such as flash floods, bushfires and blizzards.

There will be 4 key speakers on a panel to be chaired by Mr Laurie Williams (Chairman of AMOS, Sydney Centre) and Mr Keith Maxwell (Director of Search and Rescue Section, Federation of Bushwalking Clubs NSW)

The speakers will be

Dr Rodger Badham - Observational Weather

Dr Steve Riley - Flash Floods

Ms Julie Evans - Blizzards and mountain weather

Ms Jenny Dickens - Bushfires

THE AUSTRALIAN TRILOGY

On Thursday, June 2, Peter Treseder, flew to Cairns on what he hoped to be his greatest test to date - to run from the tip of Cape York to Wilson's Promontory.

It was not an auspicious start. The trip was to have commenced the previous day but bouts of vomiting induced by a virus upset these plans. Add to this that Peter had wanted to do this trip round September/October (to avoid monsoons and snow falls) but could only organise leave for June /July, and that at short notice.

Friday morning was spent flying to Bamaga and catching the tourist resort bus for the 40km trip to the tip of Cape York. At midday, after a couple of photographs of our northern most landfall, and hoping that the worst of the virus was over, Peter set off on his 5497km 'jog'.

Believing that he should be self sufficient and not rely upon support team, Peter spent several weekends previously driving up and down the eastern coast placing caches at 500km intervals. These contained four day's food, clothing, head lamp batteries, maps for the next section and specific environment gear.

His diet was composed basically of light weight dehydrated food with at least one tinned meal for consumption at the cache.

A trip such as this requires tremendous planning especially when you wish to keep away from man-made intrusions. Thus Peter had to investigate many routes in country with which he was totally unfamiliar. Eventually by following part of the proposed national horse trail, using walking trails in 57 national parks and identifying 'green' corridors linking those parks, a suitable route was identified.

Basically it meant following the old telegraph track down to Cairns then keeping roughly parallel to the coast line. Nearing the north of Brisbane the route moved inland and down through the New England National Park. From Barrington Tops he would be repeating his run of November 1986 through the Blue Mountains, over Kosciusko and the Alpine Track to Walhalla (north of Moe in Victoria) and on to Wilson's Promontory.

The result was that some 150 maps would be required to cover the route though Peter feels that nearly four times as many were used in the initial investigation.

Passing tourists had told him that the Cape country was experiencing a drought and this lead him to follow the Old Telegraph Road, rather than the new bypass, since it crossed a number of creeks.

It's not surprising then that he should encounter feral pigs grazing beside the road, numerous reptiles (taipans, death adders, tiger and black snakes), wasps, stinging trees, lawyer vines as well as the unaccustomed heat.

Probably one of the most dangerous sections of the journey was the fifty metre night swim of the Jardine River - a stream that had witnessed a number of crocodile attacks in the past.

For Peter, far northern Queensland "was a real surprise. It's just so vast and lonely, that when you're running it, when you're tired, that one of my main problems was that I found myself getting very depressed. Depression caused by fatigue mainly".

Peter maintains that 70-90% of long distance running is psychological - that there has to be a dedication of the mind, as well as the body, to the job. The only way he could counter strain, and what long distance runners often refer to 'hitting the wall', was to keep pushing on.

"But I found that I was going past that (breaking point) where it was getting almost impossible for me to keep on going because I was extremely fatigued, I was having to look after myself, in a kind of strange environment - a hot environment, and having to navigate at the same time. I was constantly having to think where I was going".

However it was not all bad. Peter recalls the pleasure of seeing beautiful Broilgas standing in the lagoons of Lakefield National Park.

Peter estimated he could initially cover 140km per day in the warmer climate and gradually reduce this to about 70km per day when passing through snow covered alpine country (on snow shoes). To accomplish this would require running about 18-19 hours a day.

He slept in the clothes he wore which offered little protection from the mosquitoes and sandflies of northern Queensland. As he moved southwards the colder it became. Carrying no shelter there were a couple of nights when he was exposed to rain, hail and snow. By the time he was getting close to the NSW border the water in his drink bottle was regularly freezing overnight.

However if he fell behind schedule (such as when he lost time going over Mt. Bartle Frere) then sleep was sacrificed.

His southern food dumps each contained progressively warmer sleeping bags. But as the nights grew colder, and body heat was harder to retain due to the

loss of body fat, Peter started taking his rests during the day (and running throughout the night, when possible).

Realising the general run down condition of his body, his depressed mental state and the extra motivation needed to meet his daily goal, made him realise that he would not be able to complete the entire journey as a single effort. So too did news of heavy snow falls during June.

All of these factors convinced Peter that to continue would increase the risks to a level that even his abilities and training might not cope with. So, to avoid concern to others (and danger to himself) when nearing Toowoomba Peter rang Beth, his wife, asking her to pick him up at Barrington Tops. He eventually arrived at 2pm that day after completing nearly 40 hours of non stop running.

As a result Peter failed in his goal of running from the northern most tip of Australia to the southern most tip of the mainland in a single effort. That it was required to be completed in three sections (or as Peter now refers to as his Australian Trilogy) to run the east coast of Australia is still a magnificent achievement.

In 1986 he had taken 10 days to run 1439km from Barrington Tops to Walhalla, and the 3904km run from Cape York to Barrington Tops took 30 days. Four weeks after finishing at Barrington, he had recovered enough to complete the remaining 154km to Wilson's Promontory in one day.

Peter had four goals in mind with this run;

- i) To focus attention on the National Parks and wilderness areas of eastern Australia and their conservation. As we are the generation that will decide if there is any wilderness to be left for our children. Or destroy the last few remaining remnants, for a very short term gain.
- ii) To encourage people to a sense of adventure in Australia.
- iii) The knowledge gained of these areas will help him with his S & R work, and
- iv) As a challenge to himself.
- v) To show that adventure can be done without the constraints of government legislation and still be "safe".

To mention everyone who supported Peter and his trip would take too

long. Certainly even if it was moral support it was all welcomed. To highlight some of the major contributors, there was Australian Geographic Society (financial), the Commonwealth Bank (two months leave with pay), Paddy Pallin (clothing and maps) and There was also Keith Maxwell (FBW's S & R Field Director) who acted as Peter's point of control. Keith had a duplicate set of maps and Peter would periodically phone in his check point so that should anything happened en route, then help could be directed to a certain defined area.

Most importantly was Peter's wife Beth, who has survived the trials of being a "training widow" as well as meeting Peter at odd times and hours at the finish of runs. Without her support Peter could not have achieved what he did.

FOUNDATIONS OF A FEDERATION

The formation of the Sydney Bush Walkers (SBW) in late 1927 filled a need in the public for a combined social and walking club. Till then the few clubs that existed were all-male and exclusive. The biggest and most active of these, the Mountain Trails Club (MTC), had for some time been receiving enquiries for walking information mainly from females which they had been unable to handle.

Following the success of SBW a number of other clubs were formed and those main stream (viz. bushwalking) clubs considered at various stages forming a controlling organisation.

On August 15, 1930 a committee met in a cafe to investigate the matter of a Federation of Recreational Walkers and to report back to their respective clubs. Present were Jack Debert and Laurie Drake from SBW, Harold Chardon and Myles Dunphy from MTC.

Notably the Mountain Trails Club were not particularly interested in this idea. However they decided that should such a body be formed then they wanted equal representation on any council. The MTC felt that they could have been out-voted on any motions adopted and would have had to abide with unsympathetic decisions. The problem of subscriptions was also raised so ultimately the matter was allowed to lapse.

Then came that momentous Easter in 1931. Alan Rigby was leading a combined MTC/SBW trip into the Grose Valley when they came upon two men

preparing to ringbark a stand of eucalypts.

Clarrie Hungerford was prevailed upon to stay his hand but said that he could not do so indefinitely. He was however prepared to relinquish his Blue Gum lease for \$300 if the money was ready within three months.

The MTC and SBW formed a Blue Gum Committee in July to try and raise these funds. At that stage the MTC had 27 members and the SBW about 140 members. Eventually they succeeded and Mr. Hungerford settled for \$260 - leaving the Committee repay a generous benefactor (during the Depression) his interest free loan.

It has often been suggested that the *raison d'être* for the Federation was the Blue Gum Forest campaign. However the first time that this issue is mentioned in the Federation's minutes was in early 1933. (This is not to say that the minutes were fully comprehensive).

It has also been suggested that the Garawarra campaign (which pre-dated Blue Gum) "was made the first plank of the Federation's platform, whilst next in importance came the betterment of facilities at Lilyvale Station and the vicinity".

Whatever the reason, Harold Chardon (as the pro tem secretary) wrote to every club asking for two delegates to meet and discuss a proposed Federation of Walking Clubs. On July 21, 1932 a meeting was held at the Royal Life Saving Society's Club room in Sydney.

Mr. C Ritson presided the meeting with Harold Chardon as secretary. Delegates from the Hikers Club, SBW, MTC, Bush Tracks Club, Bushlanders Club, Sydney University Bush Ramblers Soc., YWCA Ramblers and the WEA Ramblers attended whilst the YMCA Ramblers sent their apologies.

It was moved that the name of the organisation should be 'The Federation of Bushwalking Clubs of New South Wales'.

Its Objectives were to be;

1. To unite all recreational walking Clubs with a view to protection and promotion of mutual interests.
2. To accumulate knowledge and information re;
 - a) Technique of Walking and Bushcraft.
 - b) Information re Routes and Country.
 - c) Statistics.
3. To promote the resumption of suitable areas for the formation of walking parks and for the protection of tracks.
4. To prevent the incursion of roads into recognised walking areas.
5. To protect our native Fauna and Flora.

6. To prevent spoliation and vandalism in any shape or form and to educate the public to a greater appreciation of the bush.

7. To co-operate with other bodies for the furtherance of the objects of the Federation.

8. To encourage good fellowship amongst Federated Clubs.

A meeting a week later resolved that Affiliation shall be open to all established recreational walking clubs whose aims and objectives are in accord with those of the Federation. Affiliation fee was set at 75c for the first year.

On Aug 26, 1932 Harold Buckland was elected as President. Myles Dunphy (for the MTC) read out a letter suggesting the necessity and benefit to be derived from the resumption of an area of land adjoining the Lilyvale Railway Station. It was moved that a sub-committee be formed "to collect information and to do all they deemed necessary to proceed with this matter".

The meeting also moved that the Federation delegates should be appointed honorary rangers to (Royal) National Park following vandalism and littering in the park. Likewise a letter proposing same to be sent to Kuring-gai National Park.

Early in September, the Honorary Secretary wrote to the Sunday Sun announcing that a Federation had been formed and detailed its aims and goals. Clubs affiliated at that stage were the Mountain Trails Club, Sydney Bush Walkers, Hikers Club of Sydney, NSW Amateur Walking Club, Bushlanders Club of NSW, Workers Educational Association, Ramblers Club, YWCA Ramblers Club and the Bush Tracks Club (Wagga).

CLIO

COMPUTER NEWS

Life is never simple. There has been a number of problems with the computer version of the Bushwalker. When the modem and power supply are more co-operative we should be able to resume the electronic transfer of files for the Bushwalker (remember it is a big advantage for the overworked volunteers who produce this, if the articles come in typed as a text file).

If you are interested in the idea then give Mel a ring on (046-668253) after hours and talk about it.

ABOUT YOUR CLUB**CMW - COAST and MOUNTAIN WALKERS**

If you can read this sentence you're intelligent enough to join the CMW! Probably the most active, and of course interesting, club in NSW. We meet fortnightly at Concord High School and walk almost everywhere. For more information, glossy brochures and bureaucratic forms, ring;

Garry Phillpott 745 3634 (h)
or
Dave Torrance 419 7126 (h)

THE NATIONAL PARKS ASSOCIATION

The NPA has a membership of around 7000 distributed in branches located in most regions of the State. Its primary aim is to advance the cause of conservation, particularly within the

State. In addition to its conservation activities, each branch of the NPA has a strong programme of Field Activities. The Sydney Branch programme is presently produced every two months and contains, on average, 60 activities. These cater for a diverse range of interests and a wide range of fitness levels. Activities include day walks, weekend full pack walks and trips of extended duration.

Membership Information can be obtained from the NPA Office;
P.O. Box A96
Sydney South 2000
phone 267 2873

BANKSTOWN BUSHWALKING CLUB

Are you interested in joining a group of people involved in a range of outdoor activities, from bushwalking to canoeing. From abseiling to skiing, as well as regular social events?

We offer for you :
Day walks for beginners and experienced people alike on most sundays,

to areas such as the Royal National Park or the blue mountains.

Weekend activities such as overnight backpacks, camping, canoeing or skiing trips to areas throughout NSW

For further information come to one of our meetings at the bankstown arts and crafts center (cnr. marion and meredith streets) at 8.00 pm on monday 13th or 20th october

Or phone :

Geoff Bovard
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Do you have any information about your club that you would like us to print? The Bushwalker gets to many people who are not already in clubs, this could be one way you will attract new members.

Send information to

The Editor (address on back page)

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Contributions to the Newsletter are always considered (and should be accompanied with the name and address of author). All material not otherwise acknowledged can be attributed to the Editor. Any opinions expressed are those of the individual authors, and do not necessarily represent the official views of the Federation of Bushwalking Clubs, NSW.

Correspondence concerning the Newsletter should be addressed to

The Editor,
Federation Newsletter
2/22 Sunbeam Av. Enfield 2136

CALENDAR

Oct

4
8/9
12/16

18
29/30

Nov

1
15

Dec

6
13 or 20

Jan

17

S & R Meeting, Marrickville
S & R Practice at Barrington Tops
Australian National Sports Exhibition - Manufacturers Pavilion, Sydney Showground
FBW General Meeting, 176 Cumberland St., Sydney
First Aid Course

S & R Meeting, Marrickville
FBW General Meeting*

S & R Meeting, Marrickville
FBW General Meeting**

FBW General Meeting

* Deadline for contributions for next 'Bushwalker'
** Next 'Bushwalker' due

The very Cross Country Skier.™

HE'S NOT A HAPPY BOY. SEE THE LOOK OF PAIN ON HIS FACE? HOW CAN THIS BE? HASN'T HE JUST SPENT QUITE A LOT OF MONEY ON THE SKIING GEAR? ISN'T HE BEING MEANT TO BE FUN? ONCE YOU CAN TURN SABLE HE DOESN'T BUY THE BEST GEAR, HE DOESN'T BUY GEAR THAT'S BEEN TESTED BY THE PEOPLE THAT SELL IT. HE'S NOT THE CARBON CHARACTER PRINTED ON THE 02. PREFER "COTTONMERCER" FABRIC. NOT SO MUCH A "NO TENT" TENT AS A "NO TENT"

THIS GEAR WILL WITH THE OXYGEN FEATHER LIKE SLEEPING BAG WITH A TEMPERATURE RATING OF 17° CELSIUS AND THE 31 SPECIAL FEATHER "NEELYWANN" SKI JACKET, MADE TO MEASURE BY KALAMARI DESIGN CRAFTSMEN. NOT QUITE THE SAME AS OUR SUPERBOMBER GEAR.

DUE TO LACK OF INSULATION THE KNEES HAS BEEN LOCKED IN THIS POSITION.

HE TRIED THE "SELF-DEFLATING" SLEEPING SLAB - ITS A VERY GOOD CARBO-YACQUING DEVICE SO YOU CAN GET YOUR EXERCISE INSTEAD OF SLEEPING IN LUXURY ON ONE OF OUR THERMA-SEALS. THE ULTIMATE SLEEPING MAT!

THE BRAND "SANOCCO-TRIE" IS MUCH CHEAPER THAN OUR RANGE OF RELIABLE SILVA COMPASSES - THE DUBIOUS ITEM USES THE OLD SUN DIAL METHOD.

SADLY IT DOESN'T QUITE PERFORM DURING WHITE-OUTS OR WHEN OVERCAST. BUT IT'S GREAT FOR SCRAPING THE WAY OFF YOUR PINEA SKIS. COMES WITH WEY TO USE INSTRUCTIONS.

HANDSPUN BEANIE THE GOOD FOR HIM. BE! IT'S A TENSER CAP FILLED WITH TENSURE! ITS NOT EVEN A FALSIBLE PATTERN! HAS HEAT RETENTION PROPERTIES OF DRIED FILCHARD.

OH DEAR! LOOK AT THE PACK. YES, IT'S AN ORIGINAL \$4 LATEMAN "SNOW" PAK, MADE OUT OF 2 MUGEN "RIP-START" NYLON. WHY DIDN'T HE CHOOSE ONE OF OUR SUPER PAKS? WE HAVE A PAK FOR EVERY BACK. WITH SPECIAL ONE-WAY ZIP.

THE "NOOP" "SNOW" IS PERMEABLE TO MEAN: "SWEAT" NOTHING, ONLY WEIGHT.

WHY SPEND MORE ON THERMAL UNDERWEAR? WHY? 6 STAPLED STITCHES. THIS WORKS! WHAT DOES IT MATTER THAT 2 1/2 KILOS OF PERSPIRATION HAS FROZEN TO HIS LOWER TORSO.

BREADBAG GATERS. GOOD FOR KEEPING FROZEN SAND IN.

WHY DIDN'T HE TRY OUT OUR RANGE OF REAL HATS AND GLOVES?

COMPRESSED SKI (WE DON'T STOCK THEM)

MAYBE ITS THE SOPHISTICATED "HANDS" BRAND GLOVE THAT'S MADE HIM LESS THAN HAPPY. SURE, ITS NOT THE WORLDS FINEST LIKE THE MOK BY MSR. BUT IT DOES COME IN A REPLESS MODEL (AS SHOWN) THE ONLY PROBLEM IS PEOPLE IS ALSO "UNLIGHTABLE". SIX OLD MEALS (RAW) AND ALL HIS MATCHES LATER HE MAY THINK ABOUT THE MIGHTY MRE.

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