

of the BUSHWALKERS OF NEW SOUTH WALES

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

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EDITORIAL

With the current deadlock between the two Tasmanian Houses of Parliament over where to place a dam on the Lower Gordon River (and thereby deciding the fate of the Franklin River), conservationists have been placed in a no win situation. The outcome whether by referendum, election or backdown by one of the houses, will almost certainly mean another major power scheme in the South West.

From a conservation viewpoint the 'Gordon above Olga' scheme favoured by the Tasmanian Government is less destructive than the 'Gordon below Franklin' scheme. However even the former is unacceptable. The largest remaining wilderness core will only be about the size of N.S.W.'s Colo/Hunter wilderness. The Gordon Splits and Denison Gorge would be lost forever.

The Federal Government can and should take action to save the South West wilderness. Mr. Fraser promised pre-election 1975 and again in 1980:

"... to assist the Tasmanian Government to establish a national park of world significance in South West Tasmania which would include a substantial wilderness area."

Also, recently, the South West was added to the National Heritage Register and the Federal Government has announced that it is considering nominating the area for the World Heritage List.

For the South West to retain international significance there must be no further hydro-electric development within its area. The Federal Government should begin with a major inquiry into the future of the South West. The South West belongs to all Australians not just Tasmanians.

David Noble

PADDY PALLIN PHOTO CONTEST

The entry date has been put back to 5th March and a public showing of slides and photographs will be held in the Law School Hall, cor. King and Elizabeth Sts., 7.30 p.m., 20 March, admission free.

Entry forms available at Paddy Pallin shops.

The judges are John Davies, Dennis Rittson and Frank (Paddy) Pallin.

AUDIO-VISUAL

The Federation has received a grant for an audio-visual display. We hope to be able to gather slides and information and to record a tape cassette to be played in conjunction with the slides. Say Federation was to support an issue affecting the Wollemi area, one way of getting the message over would be for clubs to receive a cassette and a box of slides explaining the problems involved.

We are initially looking for slides to support the theme "What is Bushwalking" and are calling for slides on all activities involved in bushwalking - tent pitching, cooking, abseiling, simple climbing, wet weather walking, etc. Preferably these photos should include people doing some sort of activity.

If anyone has any slides that they think would be suitable would you please forward them to the Federation's Public Relations Officer. These slides will be duplicated (and kept as spare) and thus should be treated as a donation. If you feel that you have a specific slide which would be useful for the collection but which you want returned, please indicate this and all care will be taken to ensure that it will be returned.

WE NEED LOTS OF SLIDES.

PUBLICITY

One of the advantages of a Federation (or a representative body) is that the general public have a central point of contact when information is required (as opposed to contacting a single club). Over the years, various members of the media have approached us for information/articles to which we have been able to comply. This has generally been followed by an increase in enquiries into bushwalking and to what clubs are available.

An example of this publicity was a recent issue of "Cleo" magazine. The influx of mail soon rose especially stimulated by the photographs included in that issue (the bushwalking photos I'm referring to). One club President was heard to bemoan the influx of enquiries his club had had from females.



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ONE NINE EIGHT TWO

1982 sees the 50th anniversary of the Federation and Dave Noble has suggested the "The Bushwalker" magazine should be resurrected to commemorate the event.

Already some work has commenced in this direction and hopefully a publication will be produced (and perhaps again become a regular issue). In the meantime we are a long way short of articles, ideas, etc. and by raising the matter here, we would like to stimulate interest and comments.

The Bushwalker was last issued in 1964 (and sold for three shillings). It first appeared in 1937 and appeared annually till 1948. In 1961 it reappeared with its distinctive red cover and ended with Vol.2 No.3 (c.1964) with a distinctive blue cover. Whilst it was reconsidered at various times since then, the cost has always been a deterrent.

I have been rather disappointed by the lack of material produced by N.S.W. on its parks and bushwalking. Look at Victoria, far smaller than N.S.W. and yet more prolific in publications. The Melbourne Walking Club, Melbourne Bushwalkers and M.U.M.C. have all produced annuals (or occasional) magazines of interest to all. It even took a Victorian (Tyrone Thomas) to write and publish "100 Walks in New South Wales".

It is not intended that this publication become a walking guide to each and every area in the State but more of a general information guide. There may be special features on different parks, book reviews, conservation issues, historic features and hopefully not cluttered with interstate articles.

If you can contribute or have any views on this matter, will you please convey same to me via the Federation's address.

Warwick Blayden

located at Lismore and over the recent years has been exploring this area. Their report comes at a most important time.

Search and Rescue is a member of the N.S.W. Volunteer Rescue Association, and as such has certain benefits and obligations stemming from this membership. One of the obligations is that (search) squads must hold current certificates in first aid - failure voids the \$2 million public liability cover. S & R are arranging a First Aid Course in March (two days in Sydney \$20), to satisfy this requirement.

Whilst on this matter, S & R has prepared a First Aid Kit - excellent value at \$12. It is understood that when current supplies run out, the new kits will cost round \$20.

A loan of \$500 was given some time ago to produce a film on South West Tasmania. Now the loan has been repaid, and the money has been donated to the 25M/ National Trust Rainforest Action Fund.

The bushwalkers newsletter is published approximately every 2 months. The views contained inside do not necessarily represent the views of the Federation of bushwalking Clubs (NSW). Distributed free to affiliate clubs and by subscription to individuals. Circulation 2,000.

Please send articles, correspondence, book reviews, details of unusual or epic walks etc. to:



The Editor,
bushwalkers newsletter,
Federation of Bushwalking Clubs NSW,
G.P.O. Box 2090,
SYDNEY, NSW, 2001

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BUSHWALKERS

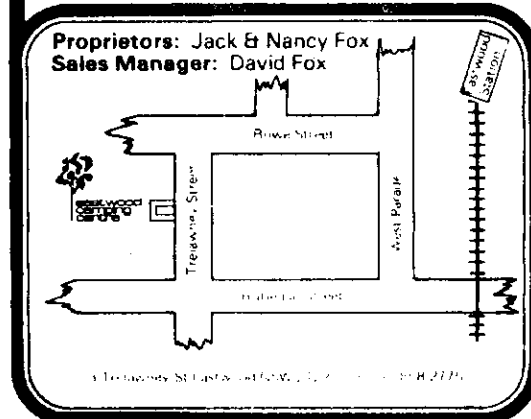
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country on the future management of this important park.

Of importance to bushwalkers are some of the following questions:

1. Should road access into the park be improved? (e.g. sealing the Cradle Mtn. Road or upgrading the road to the Wolfram Mine near Mt. Oakleigh - making the centre of the park more accessible)
2. Are the present tracks appropriate? Would you like to see additional tracks? What do you see as acceptable means of track construction and maintenance? What do you think of Duckboarding?
3. Do you think a commercial boat service on Lake St. Clair should be retained? If so what form should it take? Should small private boats be restricted?
4. What do you think of the cabins available for hire at the ends of the park (more or less, what fees)?
5. Do you think that there should be huts along the walking tracks? More or less? Should fees be charged? What do you think should be provided in them?
6. Other comments, e.g. kiosks, camping grounds, amenity blocks, picnic shelters at the ends of the park, visitor centres, search and rescue . . .
7. Do you think numbers should be limited on the Overland Track? Should group numbers be limited? How should limits be set?
8. What is your attitude to fire protection?
9. Do you approve of regulations such as prohibiting the carrying of axes, limiting size of parties? The imposition of fees for use of the track and huts.

Many N.S.W. bushwalkers visit this park. Make your views known to:

Mr. John Burgess,
Planning Officer,
National Parks & Wildlife Service,
P.O. Box 210,
SANDY BAY. TAS. 7005

SNAKE BITE

Common sense can avoid most snake bites. Avoiding snakes is the best prevention - don't try to kill them (you are a visitor in his country, give him a certain amount of respect).

With 80% of snake bites, little or no venom is actually injected into the victim.

Symptoms

- a) local - There is rarely any pain at the bite site. Puncture marks may be difficult to see, and vary in pattern. Some **persistent bleeding may occur from the bite.**

that is our aim, and the reason we now have two shops in Sydney. The advantages for you include:

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- * 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

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Ph. 439 2454, 438 1647

62 CLARENCE ST., SYDNEY, 2001
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- b) early - The following may appear in 15 minutes to 2 hours after bite: headache, nausea, vomiting, sweating, faintness, diarrhoea, drowsiness.
- c) later - Swelling of "glands" in groin or under arm (depending on which limb was attacked), double vision, drooping eyelids, slurred speech, difficulty in swallowing, generalised muscle weakness, paralysis of the tongue, and finally difficulty in breathing, coma and death from asphyxia. Occasionally convulsions may precede coma.
- d) other - may include haemorrhage, e.g. vomiting or coughing of blood, and blood in urine or faeces.

First Aid

- 1) Avoid panic, this only increases the spread of venom.
- 2) Try and kill snake. This will aid identification, and treatment of bite (try not to damage head of reptile).
- 3) Victim should have complete rest - i.e. carried out.
- 4) Bandage entire limb with a firm 15 cm. crepe bandage (2 for leg) about as firm as for a sprain. A torn up shirt or inner bag will substitute for a crepe bandage but should be broad (at least 15 cm.). This can be kept on indefinitely and is not painful like a tourniquet.
- 5) Splint and completely immobilise bitten limb. This is as important as the constrictive bandage (which is ineffective without the splinting).
- 6) Do not lacerate wound, just wash wound to remove excess venom (remember to wash away from the puncture). Transport to hospital as soon as possible, without removing splinting or bandaging.

Education Committee,
 F.B.W.
 G.P.O. Box 2090,
 SYDNEY. NSW. 2001

Tentative dates are:

- Bushwalking: June
- Cross Country Skiing: 18/19 July
- Ski-Touring/Snow Camping/Mountaineering:
 22/23/24 August
- Canoeing: 19-20 September
- Rockclimbing: 10-11 October
- Caving: November
- Canyoning: 5-6 December

BOOK REVIEWS

Two books on Tasmanian wilderness.

Late 1980, two books were published on Tasmanian Wilderness - 'A Time to Care', text by Norm Sanders, photos by Chris Bell and 'Cradle Mountain, Lake St. Clair National Park' text and photos by John Chapman.

These books are mainly photographic essays, though 'A Time to Care' does have a substantial, informative and hard hitting, text. Both are expensive (\$25).

Chris Bell has gone to an immense amount of trouble to capture the essence of Tasmania's wildlands on film and bring it to the average person in the form of a coffee table book - from the snow covered crags of the high peaks to the fine detail of tiny plants pushing their way up between ice crystals. What has resulted is the finest book of photographs of Australian wilderness. Printing quality is excellent although some of the colour plates could be larger. Available from South West Tasmania Committee, 399 Pitt Street, Sydney, 2000 (\$25) or Sydney book stores.

Tents

Packs

Food

Clothing

Sleeping Bags

Sale & Hire



153 SUSSEX STREET
 SYDNEY 2000
 Phone 297792

John Chapman's photos of Cradle Mtn. - Lake St. Clair National Park do not stand up to those of Chris Bell. Most of them are fairly standard photographs of the park's peaks and lakes with too much repetition (e.g. several plates each of Cradle Mountain, The Geryon and Mount Gould). The photographer has restricted himself to 35mm equipment and the quality of the printed plates has suffered accordingly. However, there are some fine photographs within this book, but possibly too few for \$25. This book does not seem to have been distributed in N.S.W. yet.

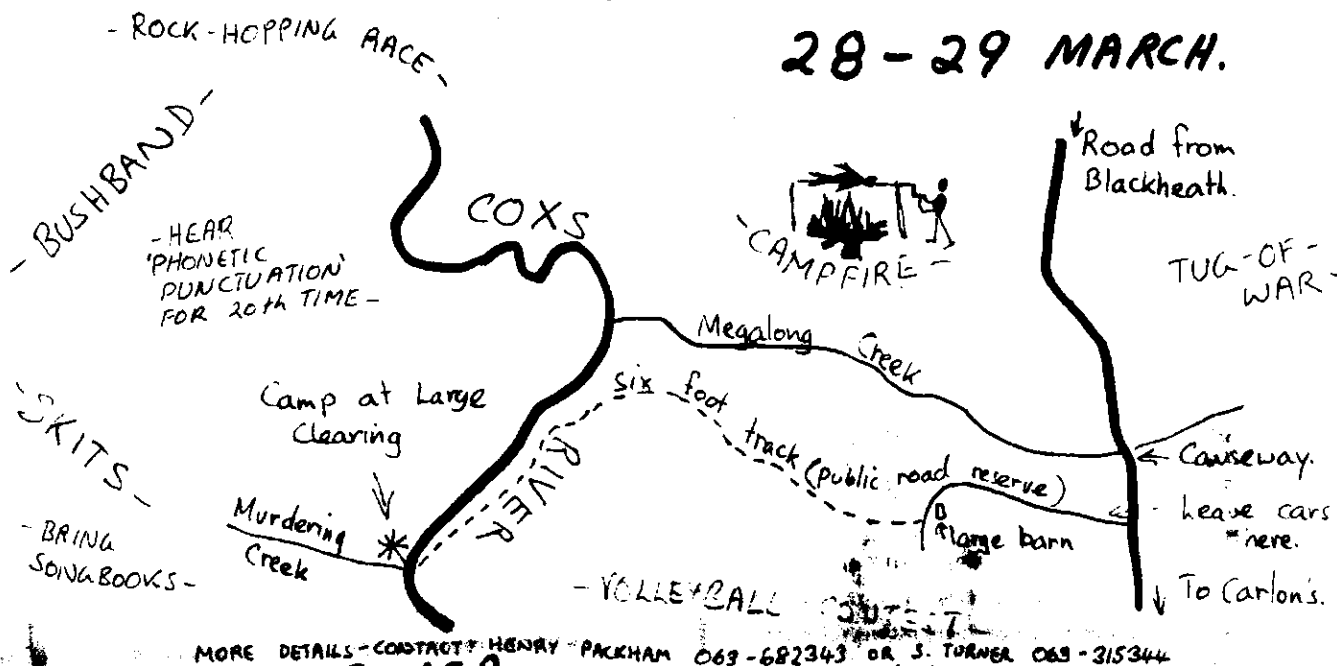
David Noble.

1981 BUSHWALKERS

REUNION

28-29 MARCH.

ORGANISED BY CENTRAL
 WEST BUSHWALKING
 CLUB.



Education Committee.
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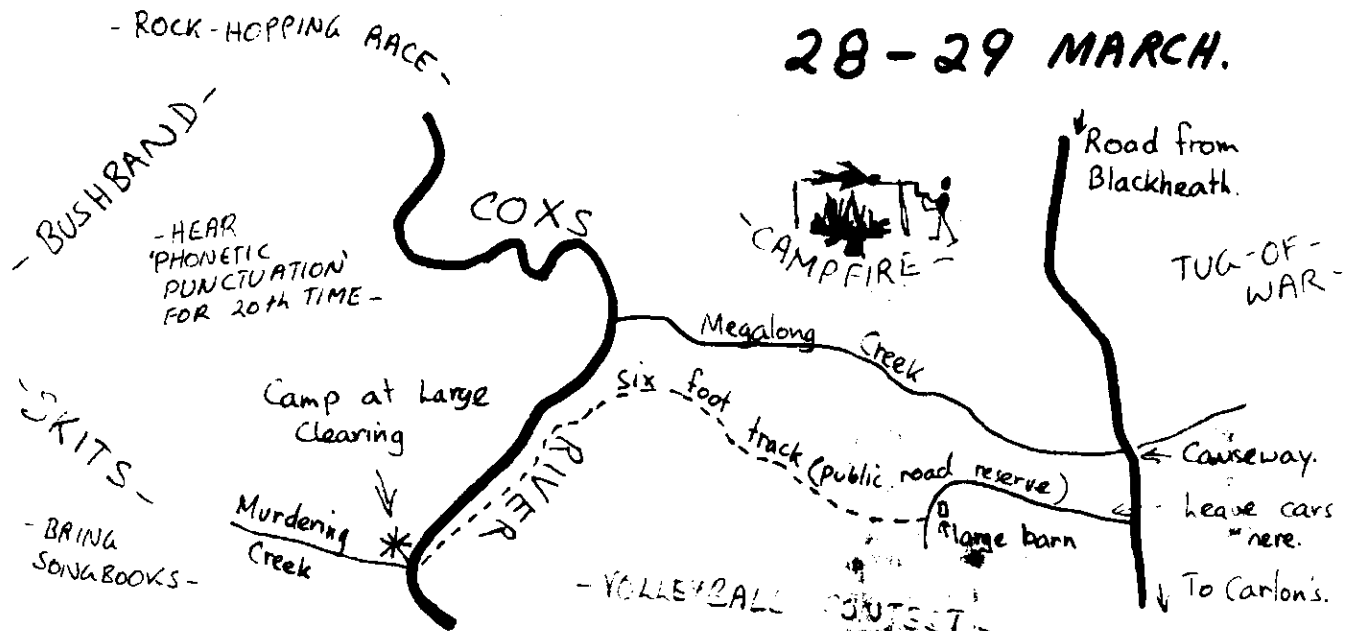
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MORE DETAILS - CONTACT: HENRY PAKHAM 063-682343 OR S. TURNER 063-315344

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F.B.W.