

# BUSHWALKERS OF NEW SOUTH WALES

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

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## COLO PIGGERY PROPOSAL

An Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) has been released for a proposed piggery on land fronting the Putty Road north of Colo Heights. The piggery is proposed on the property which straddles the track which leads to Parr Spur and towards The Island. The property is in the catchment of Angorowa Creek, a tributary of the Colo River.

The proposal would involve housing for approximately 2,000 pigs initially with expansion to twice that size at some future date. The EIS fails to adequately assess the potential impact of the proposal on the water quality of Angorowa Creek. No information is included on size of effluent dams or design standards. The piggery has the potential to cause serious pollution of Angorowa Creek.

Those wishing to oppose the proposal should write to the Hawkesbury Shire Council, George Street, Windsor, by 5th July, outlining their objections. Further information on the proposal can be obtained by reading the EIS at the Environment Centre, 399 Pitt Street, Sydney.

## OXLEY NATIONAL PARK

The Premier of NSW, The Hon Neville Wran, QC MP, has announced the NSW Government's firm commitment to the establishment of Oxley National Park in the Macleay-Apsley Gorge area.

"This spectacular gorge country has magnificent wilderness, scenic, recreation and conservation values." Mr Wran said. "My Government is firmly committed to the establishment of Oxley National Park to protect these values for this and future generations."

"Australia is one of the most urbanised countries in the world. We must protect some of our wild and scenic land to be wilderness for all time. The value cannot be measured in dollars and cents - it is for the spirit of our people."

Mr Wran said the proposed Oxley National Park would be vacant Crown land and existing national parks and nature reserves in the area which together totalled over 32,000 hectares.

Mr Wran said 15,000 hectares of vacant Crown land would be combined with the existing 3,456 hectare Yarrowitch Gorge National Park, the 6,718 hectare Apsley Gorge National Park, the 1,659 hectare Rowleys Creek Gulf Nature Reserve, and the 5,587 hectare Hole Creek Nature Reserve.

The Premier has indicated that the Government is not prepared to dam the Apsley or Macleay Rivers.

## CLOSURE OF BARRINGTON ROADS

The Director of the NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service, Mr John Whitehouse, has announced the temporary closure of all four-wheel drive trails in the Barrington Tops National Park from Saturday, June 1.

Mr Whitehouse said the annual winter closure was a protective measure for both the public and the trails.

"In winter weather conditions, these trails can become hazardous with use", he said.

"By closing them, we reduce the need for maintenance, which can be very expensive, and ensure that the trails remain safe.

We are asking members of the public to co-operate with park staff, as they have done in the past, by observing the closed period."

The trails will be re-opened, weather permitting, on October 1st.

Ed's Comment: It's about time the Service became serious about preventing the damage caused by use of the trails in Barrington. Erosion on the Lagoon Pinch-Carey's Park section is horrific. Bushwalkers should write to the Service suggesting the road closure becomes permanent.

### PRICKLY WOOLLEN SHIRTS

- Q I've just bought a woollen shirt and it's so itchy on my skin I can't wear it. Is there a way to take itch out of wool?
- A A touch of vinegar is said to make wool feel like silk. This is an old, old suggestion. Try 10ml of white vinegar in a litre of water. Use the solution as a rinse.

### DOCTORS' CONCERN ON GAS BURNS

Camping stove accidents are causing increasing concern to specialists in burn injuries who say the butane gas stoves involved are "intrinsically very hazardous."

At least three people died last year from burns after such accidents while camping in tents or caravans.

Research at the Wessex regional burns unit and the Odstock Hospital, Salisbury, has shown that of 31 victims of stove fires admitted to the hospitals in the past 10 years, most spent more than 10 days in hospital, and four needed skin grafts. One died.

### CLUB NOTES

The River Canoe Club, for a long time a member of the Federation, celebrates its 50th Anniversary this year. Planned is a Camp in June, a Dinner in July and a Gala Day at their Clubhouse in August.

For further information, contact Liz Burke 569-0629 or Helen Brownlee 816-5229.

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# WHAT'S NEW?

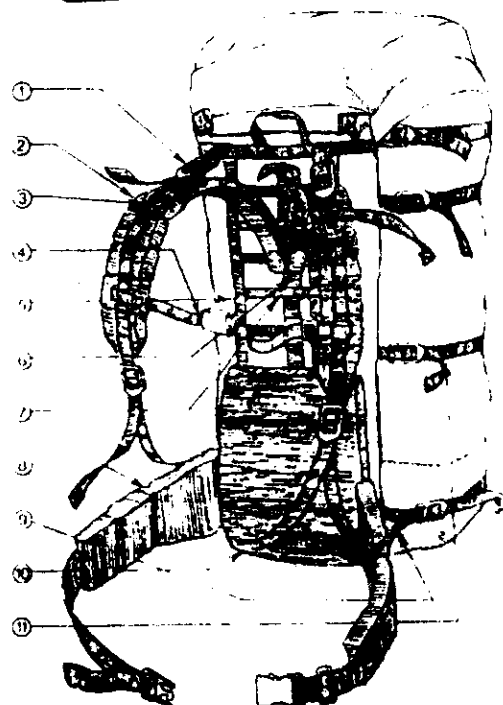


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# THREE PEAKS

# GEAR NEWS

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liquid butane. The gas is released to the burner after the canister has been pierced by a sharp point of the burner-valve unit.

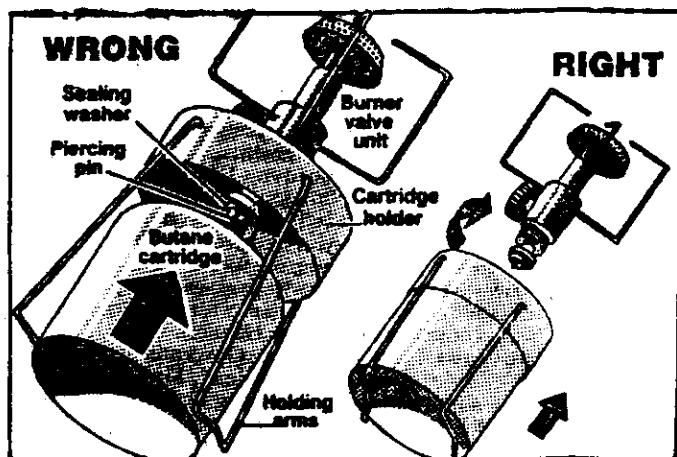
If the burner-valve unit is not properly fixed into the appliance, gas will leak from the canister, and if there is a naked flame nearby will cause an explosion.

According to Dr Peter Shakespeare, of Odstock Hospital, at least 18 of the accidents he helped investigate happened while, or immediately after, the canister was being changed.

"Even when the appliance is changed in accordance with the instructions, pressurized and uncontrollable leakage of the butane gas occurs from the moment the canister is pierced until a tight seal is established by screwing home the canister holder", he and Mr Peter Saxby, a consultant surgeon, say in a report of their research. "Further leakage of the explosive gas is only prevented by a small sealing washer pressed onto the canister."

There were 18 deaths involving butane or propane gas during 1982-83, according to Department of Trade figures. They included seven explosives from heaters, three from cigarette lighter refill tubes, two from gas pokers and one from a camping stove.

Between November 1983 and February 1985, there were 76 non-fatal accidents involving gas or propane appliances.



Wrong: The cartridge is fitted into the assembled appliance and pierced without being held securely in place.

Right: The butane cartridge should be placed into its holder before it is attached to the valve unit and then pierced.

The Department of Trade has written to 20 burns units in England and Wales seeking details of other such accidents to help decide what action might be required.

Dr Chris Laurence, director of a Medical Research Council group at the Birmingham Accident Hospital, said: "Victims say it is a very frightening experience. They describe a slow, explosion in which they see a roll of flame coming towards them, but they cannot escape from it."

A man who became a quadriplegic in an accident at a Sydney yacht club is suing more than 100 people who were members of the club at the time of the accident six years ago.

Hermanus Van Ryan, aged in his 50s, of Caringbah, fell while lowering a dinghy into the water from a jetty at the Vaucluse Yacht Club on March 29, 1979.

Mr Van Ryan, who was not a club member, broke his neck and became a quadriplegic, Master Greenwood said in the NSW Supreme Court yesterday.

At the time the club was not incorporated. It was only incorporated as the Vaucluse Yacht Club Ltd from January, 1981.

The statement of claim alleges that the club members were the occupiers of the premises and that Mr Van Ryan went to the premises at their invitation and with their permission.

Master Greenwood granted an application by Mr Van Ryan that certain club members be appointed as defendants to represent all those who were members at the relevant time.

Master Greenwood named the representatives as Mr David G. Green, now the club's treasurer and Mr Douglas McBean Cameron, its vice-commodore. (AAP)  
DAILY TELEGRAPH 28.3.85

ED'S COMMENT - So much for all the clubs who ignored Federation's insurance proposal. They'd better hope the Government introduces its new rules for incorporation soon or they could be in the same boat if an accident occurs on a club trip.

The Newsletter is an occasional publication distributed free to members of clubs affiliated with the Federation of Bushwalking Clubs. Mail list subscription to others is \$3.00 per annum.

Contributions to the Newsletter are welcomed. They should be accompanied by the name and address of the 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, N.S.W., or its member clubs.

Correspondence (articles, letters, subscriptions, advertisements) should be addressed to The Editor, Newsletter, Federation of Bushwalking Clubs, 399 Pitt Street, Sydney, NSW 2000.

THE ENVIRONMENT

CENTRE OF N.S.W.

## WHERE TO NOW?

For some time now the Environment Centre of New South Wales and the Nature Conservation Council have been making representations to the State Government seeking its assistance in acquiring suitable, adequate and secure long-term premises for the Environment Centre. Specifically, our request has been in terms of the Government providing for the use of the Environment Centre of NSW a suitable Government-owned building at a nominal rental, in the same way that it has assisted other community-based bodies. While we have received expressions of sympathy and support, no satisfactory, firm proposal has been made.

The situation has now reached a critical point.

The Environment Centre has received notice that it will be REQUIRED TO VACATE its present premises by 29th SEPTEMBER, 1985.

For the Centre to most effectively and efficiently fulfil its role as a base for conservation organisations including the Nature Conservation Council and as a focal point for environmental information and advice, it is essential that it be located in, or at the very least on the fringes of, the Central Business District. In addition, the better located a Centre is, the better able it is to generate its own income. Up until now we have been in the fortunate situation of paying a rent considerably below market rates. The prospect of having to pay market rental and at the same time maintain the same level of operations, let alone expand, is irreconcilable.

The Environment Centre provides a service to the community which would cost considerably more if it were provided by the Government directly and which would not be as effective. Many people today are concerned about environmental quality and it is important that they have a central place where they can find out about their environment and how to protect it. If the Government is concerned about achieving a balanced approach to development then it is important that it provide the resources to enable the conservation movement and the community generally to give professional responses on environmental issues.

By providing premises as requested for the use of the Environment Centre of N.S.W. the Government has an opportunity to provide a secure base for the conservation movement of this State. **NO ACTION MUST BE TAKEN NOW.**

### WHAT YOU CAN DO

- Most importantly, write to:

The Hon. N.K. Green, QC, MP  
Premier of N.S.W.  
State Office Block  
Phillip Street  
Sydney N.S.W. 2000

The Hon. R. Carr, MP  
Minister for Planning & Environment  
10th Floor  
137 Macquarie Street  
Sydney N.S.W. 2000

urging the Government to provide suitable premises at a nominal rental to the Environment Centre of NSW.

- Write to and/or visit your local member of Parliament urging them to support the Environment Centre's request for premises and to make representations to that effect to Mr Carr and Mr Carr.
- Make a donation to the Environment Centre's "Education Fund".

THE ENVIRONMENT CENTRE OF NEW SOUTH WALES

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By providing premises as requested for the use of the Environment Centre of N.S.W. the Government has an opportunity to provide a secure base for the conservation movement of this State. **BUT ACTION MUST BE TAKEN NOW.**

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The Hon. N.K. Wran, QC, MP  
Premier of N.S.W.  
State Office Block  
Phillip Street  
Sydney N.S.W. 2000

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The Hon. R. Carr, MP  
Minister for Planning & Environment  
10th Floor  
139 Macquarie Street  
Sydney N.S.W. 2000

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- \* Write to and/or visit your local member of Parliament asking them to support the Environment Centre's request for premises and to make representations to that effect to Mr Wran and Mr Carr.
- \* Make a donation to the Environment Centre's "Relocation Fund".

**THE ENVIRONMENT CENTRE IS YOUR CENTRE - PLEASE WRITE TODAY**

## ABOUT THE ORGANISATIONS

### THE ENVIRONMENT CENTRE OF NEW SOUTH WALES

The Centre was established in July, 1974 as a direct result of the Australian Government's Inquiry into the National Estate and is today an integral part of the conservation movement of this State. With a basic aim of the promotion of conservation in NSW it has a unique role as an apolitical, non-issue orientated community service centre. It provides information, resources and advice on a wide range of environmental and conservation matters.

The Centre receives a very large number of visitors each year and additionally handles a very high level of telephone and mail inquiries. As part of its information services it maintains a comprehensive reference library containing books, periodicals, Environment Impact Statements, Hansards and newspaper clippings.

The Environment Centre also provides a wide range of services and facilities for use by conservation organisations, ranging from the provision of office space and telephone answering to telex facilities, offset printing and meeting rooms. Many organisations who are today prominent members of the environment movement in this State received much assistance in their formative stages from the Environment Centre and links are still maintained.

### THE NATURE CONSERVATION COUNCIL OF NEW SOUTH WALES

The Nature Conservation Council is the umbrella body for the conservation movement in NSW. Its Annual Conference and elected Executive represents the major policy formulating mechanism for the conservation/environment movement in NSW and the Council presses for the adoption of agreed policies by appropriate authorities. At present it has 78 Member Bodies representing a minimum of 140,000 individual members.

The Council and its Executive closely watch developments affecting the conservation of natural resources in the State, engage in research, and make submissions to government departments, committees and inquiries. By such actions, the Council's activities provide a significant opportunity for the community to make their views widely known.

The Nature Conservation Council is keenly concerned with such specific issues as wildlife protection, environmental education, habitat preservation, resource usage, pollution, land degradation and sound land-use planning.

### THE LINK BETWEEN THE TWO ORGANISATIONS

The Environment Centre of NSW is managed by the Nature Conservation Council of NSW through a Management Committee, elected by the Council's Executive. The Management Committee has the responsibility for the day to day operation of the Centre and for decisions on policy and on its activities.

Any further information that you may require can be obtained from:

THE ENVIRONMENT CENTRE OF N.S.W.  
399 PITT STREET  
SYDNEY, N.S.W. 2000  
Ph: (02) 267 7722