

THE

# BUSHWALKER

Newsletter of the Federation of Bushwalking Clubs (NSW) Box 2090 GPO Sydney 2001 ISSN 0313-2684 May 1989

## EDITORIAL

Federation is on the move. If you haven't heard, Federation will become the Confederation of Bushwalking Clubs of NSW to be known as Bushwalkers Federation, when as has been agreed, the Federation Incorporates.

This will bring to clubs with a small membership the acquisition of Public Liability insurance and depending on discussion and decision there may be the option of taking out accident insurance for \$2 per head. I think this is a paltry sum to pay for some sort of accident insurance (sorry I can't be more specific at the moment).

### *The Political Scene*

Mr Greiner, Wal Murry and Co. who have the temerity to claim they (the Lib/Nat. Party coalition) have a mandate to do what they choose with our state have not taken into account that many of the electorate did not vote Lib/Nat. but voted against Labour, a vastly different concept to that of an absolute majority mandate.

Wal, who has publicly aired his very antagonistic views on those of us he labels as "Greenies", better take heed of what has happened in Tasmania and pay more attention to the protests over the logging in the Eden area.

To think that the Diamond Creek area is going to be raped by the woodchippers is a concept which is enough to make all environmentalists shudder and resolve even more than ever to try in whatever manner they may, to stop this carnage.

*Gordon Lee.*

## FEDERATION NOMINATES DEUA WILDERNESS

The Federation has submitted its first nomination of a wilderness area under the NSW Wilderness Act. The nomination covers the Deua Wilderness in southern NSW.

The area is currently threatened by forestry operations in Diamond Creek area and by off-road vehicle use. The Forestry Commission have brought forward proposed logging operations in the Diamond Creek catchment, when they previously es-

timated that logging would not have to occur before 1997.

The Federation has called upon the Minister for the Environment, Tim Moore, to prevent logging pending the consideration of the Federation's nomination by the National Parks and Wildlife Service.

*Roger Lembit  
Conservation, Tracks and  
Access Officer*

## WET AND TIRED

Over the second and third of April S&R had a major callout in the Morton National Park.

A group of 7 Venture scouts from Canberra were overdue on a walk from Nerriga to Jindelara Ck.

They were due out on thursday the 30th of May and when there was still no sign of them on the saturday S&R was contacted.

While the majority of the S&R group was assembling at Sassafra on sunday morning the field officers were at a 4.00am briefing at Nowra police station.

The briefing was very quick and efficient, with Chief Inspector Harry Hiscock presiding, we were then offered transport to help move S&R personnel out to Newhaven Gap.

Search parties were moving into the field not long after 7.00am to retrace sections of the scouts proposed route and possible escape routes.

Two separate log book entries, left by the scouts, were soon found, enabling us to reduce the size of the search area.

By about 12.45pm a search party from Sutherland B.W's, on the Talaterang Plateau had established voice contact with the scouts.

After joining the scouts it was decided that they should stay the night in a cave and we would bring them out on Monday.

Sunday night was a long night for the other parties as the base was moved around to the east at Pointer Gap and an advanced relay group was established on Wombat ridge.

With a slight improvement on Monday morning the relay was able to guide a helicopter in to evacuate the scouts and our searchers.

Finally from the whole S&R committee we appreciate the effort and dedication shown by the 65 members from Bankstown, Catholic, Camden, Canberra, CMW, Fairfield, Span, Sutherland, Sydney Uni, NSW Uni and Three Peaks bushwalking clubs. (I hope no one has been left out).

Your skill has demonstrated again that even in the most atrocious conditions S&R is able to successfully organise and run a search and that with cooperation between Police, National Parks and Bushwalkers we can all benefit.

*Bob Cavill*

## CONSERVATION

### BLUE MOUNTAINS

The Blue Mountains City Council has prepared a draft Local Environmental Plan to implement the strategies of the Environmental management Plan. Stage 1 has been released defining the future of the non-urban areas of the Blue Mountains:

Berambing and Mounts Wilson,  
Irvine and Tomah.

Megalong Valley

all non-urban land zoned rural, urban fringe areas and all environmentally sensitive lands.

Stage 2 will be released later in the year and will cover the Town Character Study

### MONOLITH VALLEY

The Canberra Bushwalking Club a few months ago donated \$1000 to the NPWS for work in Morton National Park. Following discussions with the Service, the club agreed that the funds would go towards material to upgrade the track system in Monolith Valley and that the club members would volunteer to do the labouring.

### KANANGRA ROAD CLOSURE ?

A nomination of the Kanangra Wilderness by the Colong Foundation for Wilderness includes a proposal to close the Kanangra Walls Road close to its junction with the Oberon-Jenolan Caves Road. Whilst this proposal would benefit conservation of the wilderness values of the Kanangra Wilderness, it would also have a significant impact on recreational use of the area. The Federation would like to receive comments from member clubs and individual walkers before formulating a policy on this matter. Comments should be forwarded to myself at the federation's address.

*Roger Lembit*

## CLUB NEWS

Canberra Bushwalking Club's Newsletter "IT" was born in December 1965. In the publication of February '89 IT gives some of the background and details of the birth pains of their newsletter's title. The controversy continued till February 1968 when a notice of motion to change the name to "Corroboree" was defeated.

The Bush Club Inc. new address is now:

c/- B Purkis  
1/1 Horden Ave.,  
Petersham 2049

The Catholic Bushwalking Club had 160 people attend the celebration of their 45th Anniversary last December. Congratulations to CBC. May there be many more. Also CBC has decided to become CBC Inc.

Newcastle Bushwalking Club whose main walking area of interest is Barrington Tops National park needs support from ALL bushwalkers in its fight to preserve the barrington from the devastation that is taking place in the park. The Plan of management comes out soon. Whispering Gully HAS to be included in the park. A letter to Tim Moore could be a start.

Brisbane Water Outdoor's Club's Newsletter has an article on the Kowmung which notes the presence of cattle at Ferny Flat. Why don't you report these illegal beasts to the Water Board or NP&WS?

The Sydney Bushwalker. WE - The Federation - agrees with the editor "spitting chips" over the "aborcide" taking place in Tasmania and Eden/Bega. this calls for greater effort from all of us "Greenies".

The Barrier Ranger's newsletter Mulga Wire (*an explanation please - Ed.*) shows that the Club (*in Broken Hill*) is alive and well and its membership is on the increase.

Peculiar: Both IT and The Sydney Bushwalker are complaining about the lack of Day Walk leaders. What is there about day walkers that they seem to produce so few leaders??

### INTERSTATE

"The Brisbane Bushwalker" asks their members to write to the Premier drawing attention to the poor performance of Mr. Muntz the Minister for Environment, Conservation and Tourism. They are asking for the repeal of the Recreation Areas Management Bill. Also in Queensland the Government has introduced a system of charges for camping in National Parks from November. these fees vary from \$2-5 per night.

The Victorian Federation of Walking Clubs newsletter reports the Australian National 4WD Council's editorial guidelines for 4WD club newsletter/magazine editors;

"A source of interest to our opponents and members of land management agencies who often point our articles and photos that only discredit the 4WD movement by highlighting some irresponsible activity. Four-wheel-driving in Australia is being subjected to many restrictions and loss of access to public lands. In fighting for our continued access it is essential that we do not only act responsibly on the tracks but, report our activities selectively and with the best interests of our recreation in mind. It is therefore essential that no club publishes any material which

(a) discredits four-wheel-driving as a responsible recreation, and

(b) can be used by our opponents as supportive of what they desire to perceive our recreation entailing (e.g. 'bush bashers', etc.)."

### Family Bushwalkers

They are a sydney based club with little bureaucracy, for families with young children.

For a years subscription send four, stamped, self addressed envelopes and a note with your phone number and ages of kids, to

Family Bushwalking Club  
10 Mons Street  
Russell Lea 2046.

## TO THE EDITOR

### THE RETURN OF THE EMPIRE

What is S&R's role? What should be its role?

My view is that we, as members of the Federation should willingly supply personnel to help with searches. Our great benefit to those in charge or search operations (Police) is our experience in the bush, the fact that we are self reliant, self sufficient, etc.

I seriously question whether under the existing situation (where we are not in charge and never will be in the foreseeable future - and do we really want to be!) that we should become involved in the purchase of rescue hardware resources (radios, trailers, pocket pagers, stretchers, ropes, etc.)

I feel we should concentrate on the supply of personnel who are trained to use the government's equipment (they run the show) and work with their full time professional personnel (police, fire, ambulance, NPWS, etc.). This way the authorities would get a good deal (free labour & expertise) and we would not be committing Federation to an open ended equipment acquisition program which would be never ending (lets face it you can never have enough!).

Why should we as volunteers provide the equipment as well as the free labour (time). members of the Bush Fire Brigades for example use equipment supplied by government authorities and provide their time and enthusiasm free. Is it possible that some people involved in S&R think that by purchasing more and more equipment we will present a better image to the authorities and therefore have more influence, callouts, etc. This may be true to a certain extent but our police, etc. now have excellent resources, equipment, etc. (including a very sophisticated radio network). Fifteen years ago it was a different story.

Surely if we are willing to front up on searches and the necessary training days (which are important as they ensure that all groups can work together to the best advantage) the authorities can supply us with the necessary equipment (radios, specialised stretchers, helicopters, etc.). If they feel we can not be trusted with their radios etc. then they can send some of their personnel with our groups and they can carry the radios! (or is it that we don't want the police in our groups?).

Talking to fellow bushwalkers I get the feeling that there seems to be signs of empire building going on in the S&R section. This may or may not be true but the perception seems to be out there.

S&R over the past year have raised and spent a fortune on new radios justifying this on the fact that the old ones were worn out (quite likely) and that the frequency S&R uses is far superior to the police frequencies (debatable). Recently pocket pagers and ex-police car radios have been purchased or leased - what's next? - a big 4WD to pull the S&R trailer.

We are not a first response rescue organisation and I don't think we should try to be one. When authorities see fit to call us out it is often as a last resort after a couple of days of unsuccessful searching by them. Do we really need pocket pagers and ex-police radios, surely a large phone network is sufficient. (If a number doesn't answer, ring the next). If more sophisticated communications are deemed necessary by the authorities then let them provide them at their own expense.

The majority of callouts seems to be for members of the public rather than for members of affiliated clubs (thank goodness). This does provide us with a great public relations weapon to use if the suggestion of 'user pays for rescue' ever gets up. We can then argue that our members freely give up their time and energy to help the authorities so in the rare instances that affiliated club members do need assistance they surely would not be expected to pay.

I feel some basic questions need to be asked:

- Should S&R continue spending large amounts of money on equipment under the current arrangements?

- Is the broad membership of FBW happy with the way S&R is going? (We often hear that clubs are not supporting practice days etc. Has anyone thought to ask why?)

It is interesting to note that S&R gets no mention in the official aims and objectives of Federation which were recently published in The Bushwalker but it is the part of Federation we hear most about. When S&R started up there was a real need as there was no one else to call upon except for local farmers, etc. Whether we like it or not things have changed and now

there are professional government authorities set up with the legal responsibility for search and rescue. Lets assist these bodies to the best of our ability, making use of our special expertise (bushwalking) but lets not try to compete with them with equipment, etc.

Please don't think I am leading a personal crusade against S&R. Those involved are obviously an extremely dedicated group giving up heaps of their time on our behalf. They appear to be the 'active' part of Federation who get things done. My concern is that maybe this effort is a little off track and that Federation's membership should think carefully at what they want from S&R and Federation itself for that matter.

*Col Halpin*

### THE EMPIRE STRIKES BACK

Having just read the previous letter I felt forced to reply to a number of points mentioned.

Space and time prohibit a complete discussion, this can only be covered by going to one of the S&R committee meetings, or inviting us to talk at your own club meeting (both of which are welcomed by S&R).

Anyhow here goes,

S&R feels that to be a fully self reliant and self sufficient organisation requires not only the skills of walkers in field parties, but also the skills of organisation and control at our base. The success of our searching to some extent is helped by base personnel who are familiar with bushwalking and bushwalkers. To supply labour is only part of the problem involved in a protracted wilderness search.

Empire building is an interesting concept. If it is empire building to acquire the tools to competently do a job, or to raise money ourselves and not hold our hands out for federation or government money, then long live the Emperor.

I feel it is most unfair to talk about federation being committed to purchasing etc, when the major items of equipment (radios etc.) have been obtained through the fundraising efforts of a dedicated few, not through use of your small subscription fee to the federation.

>

I will not spend much space on a technical discussion of the merits of our radios as opposed to different systems (eg. police), other than to say that both have been designed to do separate jobs. Both types of communications gear work well. Our sets work in bush searching circumstances, other frequencies work well out of the varied terrain of a bush search.

To be called first second or last is not important, what matters is the ability to do a job well. When the police feel we are the most appropriate response they call us first, if we are not needed they do not waste our time. The police have always been in charge and we organise a search to achieve the objectives they set us.

Obviously if a large enough body of federation felt that maybe S&R should only provide a labour force and that it

should rely on others for money then steps can be taken. We are a democratic service, all committee members are volunteers. S&R would not wish to stand in the way of more capable organisers with the backing of the "majority".

We would hate to feel that we have been wasting our time.

S&R is a capable self sufficient organisation that can respond to any authority that needs us and provides a form of insurance for club members (like most insurance we hope not to use it but you look pretty silly without it). I don't think my time has been wasted.

P.s. Does anyone know a group willing to donate a 4wd to S&R.

*Bob Cavill*

## BITS & PIECES

### RELOCATION

The Environment Centre has moved to 39 George Street, The Rocks (phone number unchanged).

### N.P.W.S.

On February 25th a meeting was held in Queanbeyan between Mike McGrath, Regional planner for the South Eastern Region N.P.W.S. and three federation representatives.

This was the first meeting of what is to be an ongoing consultation with the federation.

The NPWS objective is for direct liaison to effectively deal with problems and other matters that are important to those involved with National Parks.

A number of issues were discussed, one of which was the plans of management that are being prepared for Kosciusko, Murrumbidgee, Mimosa Rocks, Deua, Wadbilliga and Morton N.P.'s.

Roger Lembit has accepted one of the positions as a federation representative to future meetings.

### GOOD NEWS

S&R is in possession of a new 30 watt radio for use as a high powered relay.

The set has been donated as a kit from Dick Smith Electronics, as soon as our radio literate committee people can, they will assemble and test the new addition to our growing empire of gear

In addition a fund raising weekend at the Three Sisters and Echo point in February raised just over twenty two hundred dollars for S&R.

### GO GET LOST

Navigation is a skill all bushwalkers can appreciate and one that S&R would like to encourage and develop.

The June S&R training weekend is therefore going to be a full scale navigation exercise near Nerriga (Morton N.P.)

Other volunteer groups will be going along as well as police and ambulance teams. We hope that teams of all abilities can gain something from the weekend. So get together a group of 4 or 6 and fill in our entry form. There is a one day event for Sunday and an overnight event for the more confident people. We are asking a \$2 registration fee to help cover some of our costs and we will purchase maps if they are requested (Endrick 1:25000). The date is the 24th & 25th of June, so come along to learn more or to show us up.

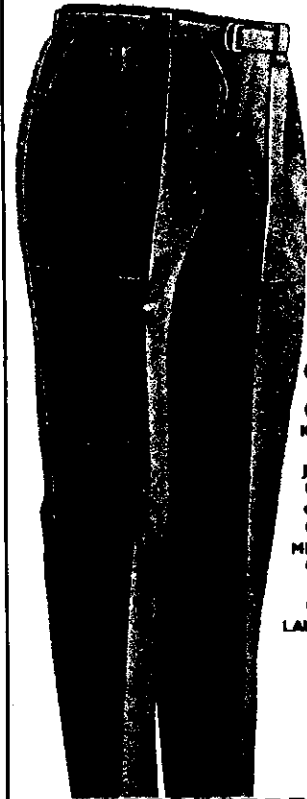
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*Paddy Pallin*

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MAPS (Minimum 2) @ \$4.75 ea.:	\$												
Commemorative T-Shirts:	\$												
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## GEAR A NEW APPROACH

*Here are three different ways to look at a much loved topic (not altogether seriously I suspect).*

### STAYING DRY

If you want a good argument anytime along the track, or around the campfire at night, bring up the subject of staying dry.

Bushwalking is an all weather recreation. You have to be ready for the worst and sooner or later you'll get it. Come to think of it, we got it just the other month, north of Rules Point.

This was on the four hour walk along the Long plain dirt road from Coolman Caves to Peppercorn Hill, in the North Kosciusko Park; the last day of a seven day walk, and straight into the teeth of continuous driving rain.

Boots, of course, were soon saturated, squelching socks, and chilly wind. How exhilarating, just as long as you stayed dry underneath. And that we did, all four of us, due to our life-long adherence to the ground-sheet cape system. A piece of good time-honoured low-tech.

Look at past history. Paddy Pallin long ago supplied bushwalkers with ground-sheet capes of oiled japara, oil saturated in his bath tub and hung to dry in his garage. A row of press studs along one side to connect up at the front, and it was like walking inside a collapsed umbrella with your head through the top.

But it kept you totally dry, and your pack too. Especially with a special matching hood over your head and neck, you could walk all day, and perhaps only the ends of your shorts got wet from the surrounding scrub. I thought it was perfect.

Then came Kiwi jackets. I'd seen them when living some years in New Zealand in the early 1960's and thought they were too heavy for bushwalking. Black oiled japara, they were ideal for a wet country and every N Zedder seemed to own one. They had their day here till the magic material Goretex arrived. Today no one seems to have heard of ground-sheet capes. Unfortunately for them.

I've got a lovely Goretex coat but wouldn't take it bushwalking except perhaps to Kosciusko at late season. It's a good snow country coat, but it's another pound weight in the pack.

I've been out on Tiwilla Plateau in fine dense rain that almost needs scuba gear, and seen walkers in coats with the rain running down their necks and out the leg of their shorts. Tough young men it seems have no need to worry about hypothermia..at least until the temperature drops. One party in tag with us returned along the Gangerangs, in rain coats, solved it all by a complete change to dry clothes in a cave overhang for lunch and change back to wet gear for the afternoon walk.

No sir, I'll stick to ground-sheet capes; and seeing as you can't buy a quality one anywhere these days, I make my own. I'm always looking for even better lightweight 100% waterproof material for the next model, though each one lasts probably 6 to 10 years.

Clark Rubber has been a good source in the past. Eastwood Camping Centre supplied my present yellow poly and weave material, while my good friend Milton Way sniffs out the best blue poly tarps to cut down for his.

But it's still worth doing. I still enjoy the story my old bushwalking mate, Bruce Gordon, tells of the time he arrived at Mobb's Soak cave near Splendour Rock in a saturating rain fall. If you know that cave, it's out of sight till you're in it.

Lo and behold it was full of bushwalkers in rain coats and semi-drenched, packs dripping. Arriving five minutes before him they'd copped it heavily.

He removed his cape and hood and stepped out bone dry, clothes, head and rucksack. the effect was instantaneous. How did you arrive bone dry like that; why aren't you saturated too?

Ah well! If you can't buy one try making it yourself. It's only a simple rectangle of maximum 213cm x 137cm, and weighing perhaps 570gms. Remember it's your ground-sheet also.

Put in eight press studs to close the front together. Allow about 45cms to circle your neck, and 5cm apart for the top studs spreading out to 15-23cms for the bottom studs. Just like buttons on a coat.

Don't be fooled by the rubbish on sale these days. Green Taiwan plastic lasts about 10 minutes and is too small, while blue coated nylon peels off inside by the second trip. Your friends

might laugh, you'll look like a camel with your pack underneath. But you'll have the last laugh, emerging dry at the end of any wet trip.

*Brian Saunders (N.P.A.)*

### OP SHOPPING

Equipment for bushwalking needs to be carefully selected and lightweight. Lightweight does have two meanings though - light to carry and light on the pocket.

Equipment (gear) from the specialist bushwalking shops always fails on this second point. Your local op shop (e.g. St. Vincent de Paul) can provide an amazing amount of lightweight, lightweight gear.

Naturally, St. Vinnies don't carry tents, rucksacks or sleeping bags but can provide, with careful selection, a complete wardrobe; a kind of bushwalker's boutique. The size range is not always complete but a regular check in will also keep you up to date on prices.

My local has business (read bushwalking) shirts for \$2.50. Top this with a tie, 50c and a woollen jumper, \$4, (jumpers and long woollen underwear will become more common in your shop as winter approaches). Other essentials available include beanies, shorts, long trousers and sandshoes. Round off the outfit with a nicely clashing imitation leather vinyl belt at 50c.

For those occasions where you must accompany the family to the local RSL club, coats are a very lightweight price.

For lady bushwalkers full length nighties at \$2.50 are obviously much cheaper and in a wider range of styles and colours than inner-sheets.

St. Vinnies can also provide a complete cooking set in a wide range of mostly unfashionable styles. Knives, forks and spoons at 20-50 cents each, plastic cups and plates (often as sets), and pots and pans. Cut the handles off (don't make the spoon too short!!) and drill holes in pans for wire hooks. Compliment your cooking set with a jam tin billy from Franklins.

Other specials you may find with regular visits to your local op shop include cameras, slide projectors and jaffle irons. Finally don't forget the

mind. St. Vinnies often stock a wide range of Readers Digest, old school text books and the occasional gem. At 20c to \$1 not as cheap as borrowing from your local library but you don't have to worry about library fines in the middle of that long trip to South America.

*Written by Australia's Stingiest Man*

### GORETEX - MYTH or MIRACLE

As an advocate there is nothing worse than a converted smoker or a converted religious body. I have to confess that I have joined their ranks - not as either of the above but as a converted Gortex user.

As most of those in the club (SBW) who know me are aware I was one of the first of the Gortex users, advocates and evangelist having been caught up with this 'answer to a maiden's prayer' miracle and, having got 'the faith - Hallelujah brother, praise thee', I imported from the USA a number of expensive Gortex items. These of course were first generation Gortex having the idea in the back of the mind that there'd be a bright new and improved second generation to come.

Oh! woe unto ye, ye Gortex users, for the wrath of Gore will descend upon ye when ye least expect it. Veri-

ly I say unto thee that fate will liken unto mine before the cock croweth 365 times.

Gortex was great when new. It worked the way it ought. My tent worked, my bivvy bag worked, my cap worked, my parka worked.

Then one rainy night in N.Z. my tent failed, water actually passed through The Material. If I had any doubts about my parka, these were savagely confirmed on an abseiling trip to Thurat Rift. I was thoroughly soaked. Water passed through The Material.

Simple Simon was not satisfied. After dutifully washing the parka again I took it to N.Z. In a four hour walk I once again got back soaked to the skin. Water passed through The Material.

This meant I had to buy a new parka in Queenstown, the dearest town in N.Z. However, neither the salesman's glib talk nor the attractiveness of the garment had any effect. The hatred that can only be experienced and expressed by the converted saved me from any gorfate that may have been my lot, and I purchased the less expensive, most waterproof, non-breathable parka I could find. Its heavy, it doesn't breath BUT it doesn't let the water in.

Now, secure in mind that no matter how the wind blows or the rain rains, I'll only get wet with my own perspiration. No longer will I have to worry about when it will be before the

thing fails - perhaps in a life or death situation as it could have been in N.Z. No longer will I have to attend my gear with TLC every time I use it and no longer will I have to pay double for a replacement.

*Gordon Lee*

*(Come on all you gear freaks don't take this quietly, let's hear from sensible users of our wonderful modern gear.)*

## HELP WANTED

The federation has a new position vacant, we are in need of a minute secretary.

**Qualifications:** Just to write quickly despite all the distractions and to have access to a typewriter or printer.

**Duties:** To take the minutes of federation meetings and then mail out the typed copies to all clubs that do not collect them. The minute secretary is also the person who mails the newsletter to clubs that do not pick it up.

**Remuneration:** Nothing but thanks and if you're lucky we may pay for the postage. (just a joke we do pay the costs involved)

**Ring:** Gordon Lee for further information on 744-1824 (between 3 & 7pm)

### REMINDER

The AGM is coming up in July, so if you would like to take a more active part in the development of federation keep it in mind and decide what you can do to help.

### QUIET ACHIEVER

There are some quiet achievers without whom the Federation would be far less effective. One of these, Spiro Hajinakitas, who for many years was the Minute Secretary has slipped quietly out of the scene to become Treasurer to the Sydney Bush Walkers.

Thanks for all your effort and good luck with the new job.

## CALENDAR

<b>Jun</b>	
6	S & R Meeting, Marrickville
20	FBW General Meeting, 39 George St., Sydney
24/25	S & R Practice
<b>Jul</b>	
4	S & R Meeting, Marrickville
18	FBW Annual General Meeting
<b>Aug</b>	
1	S & R Meeting, Marrickville
15	FBW General Meeting*
<b>Sept</b>	
4-10	National Sports Exhibition
5	S & R Meeting, Marrickville
19	FBW General Meeting**
22	FBW Ball - Petersham Town Hall

\* Deadline for contributions for next 'Bushwalker'

\*\* Next issue of 'Bushwalker' due

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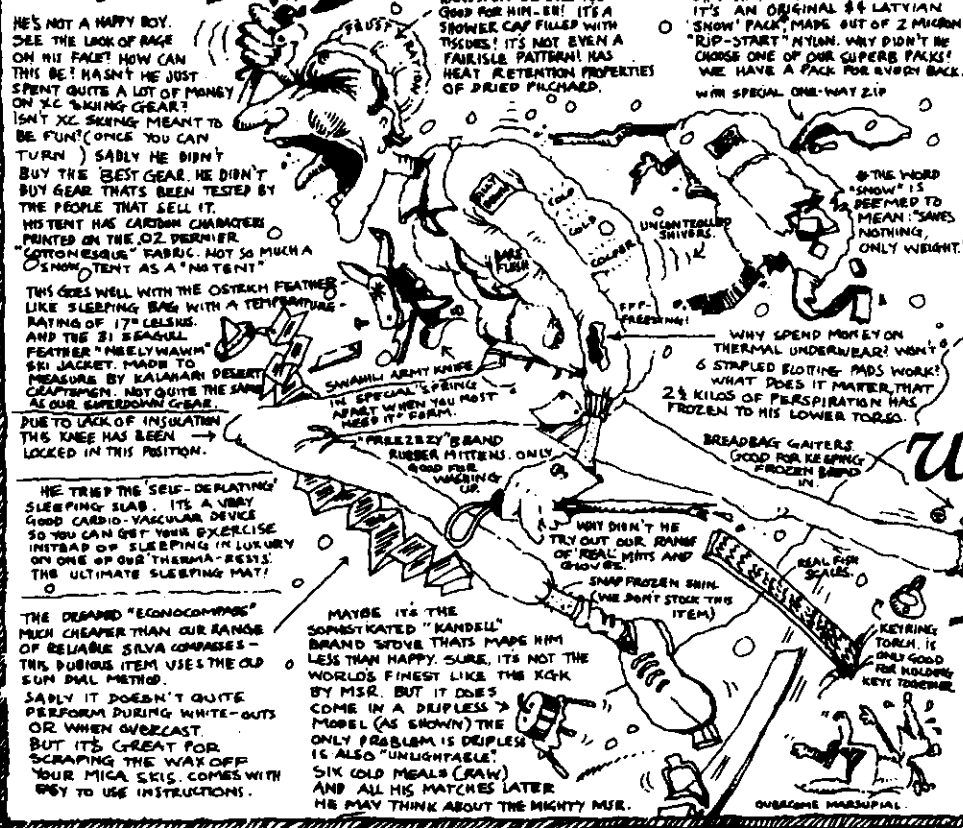
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HE'S NOT A HAPPY BOY. SEE THE LOOK OF RAGE ON HIS FACE! HOW CAN THIS BE? HASN'T HE JUST SPENT QUITE A LOT OF MONEY ON XC SKIING GEAR? ISN'T XC SKIING MEANT TO BE FUN! (ONCE YOU CAN TURN) SURELY HE DIDN'T BUY THE BEST GEAR. HE DIDN'T BUY GEAR THAT'S BEEN TESTED BY THE PEOPLE THAT SELL IT. HIS TENT HAS CARBON CHARACTER PRINTED ON THE OZ DENIER "COTTON MESH" FABRIC. NOT SO MUCH A SNIFFER AS A "NO TENT".

THIS DOES WELL WITH THE OSTRICH FEATHER-LIKE SLEEPING BAGS WITH A TEMPERATURE RATING OF 17° CELSIUS. AND THE 21 SEAGULL FEATHER "MISLEWAWH" SKI JACKET. MADE TO MEASURE BY KALAHARI DESERT CRAFTSMEN. NOT QUITE THE SAME AS OUR SUPERDOWN GEAR.

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

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

THE DEERPAD "ECONOCOMPASS" MUCH CHEAPER THAN OUR RANGE OF RELIABLE SILVA COMPASSES - THIS DUBIOUS ITEM USES THE OLD SUN DIAL METHOD.

SURELY IT DOESN'T QUITE PERFORM DURING WHITE-OUTS OR WHEN OVERCAST. BUT ITS GREAT FOR SCRAPING THE WAX OFF YOUR MICA SKIS. COMES WITH COPY TO USE INSTRUCTIONS.

HANDSPUN BEANIE TOO GOOD FOR HIM-ER! ITS A SHOWER CAP FILLED WITH TISSUES! ITS NOT EVEN A FAIRISLE PATTERN! HAS HEAT RETENTION PROPERTIES OF DRIED PULCHARD.

OH DEAR! LOOK AT THE PACK. YES, ITS AN ORIGINAL 3/4 LATTYIAN "SNOW" PACK, MADE OUT OF 2 MICRON "RIP-START" NYLON. WHY DIDN'T HE CHOOSE ONE OF OUR SUPERB PACKS! WE HAVE A PACK FOR EVERY BACK. WITH SPECIAL ONE-WAY ZIP.

THE WORD "SNOW" IS BEEMED TO MEAN: "SAVES NOTHING, ONLY WEIGHT."

WHY SPEND MONEY ON THERMAL UNDERWEAR? WHY? 6 STAPLED CLOTHING PADS WORK! WHAT DOES IT MATTER THAT 2 1/2 KILOS OF PERSPIRATION HAS FROZEN TO HIS LOWER TOOLS.

WHY DIDN'T HE TRY OUT OUR RANGE OF REAL MITTS AND GLOVES.

MAYBE ITS THE SOPHISTICATED "KANDALL" BRAND STOVE THATS MADE HIM LESS THAN HAPPY. SURE, ITS NOT THE WORLDS FINEST LIKE THE KOKA BY MSR. BUT IT DOES COME IN A DIPLESS MODEL (AS SHOWN) THE ONLY PROBLEM IS DIPLESS IS ALSO "UNLIGHTABLE". SIX OLD MEALS (RAW) AND ALL HIS MATCHES LATER HE MAY THINK ABOUT THE MIGHTY MSR.

UNINSTALLED SKIERS

SWAMI'S ARMY KNIFE

FREEZEZY'S BAND

RUBBER MITTENS ONLY GOOD FOR WASHING UP

BREADBAG GAITERS GOOD FOR KEEPING FROZEN BAND ON

KEYRING TORCH IS ONLY GOOD FOR HOLDING KEYS TOGETHER

GUSACONE MARSHMALLOW

## WHAT'S A ROGAIN ?

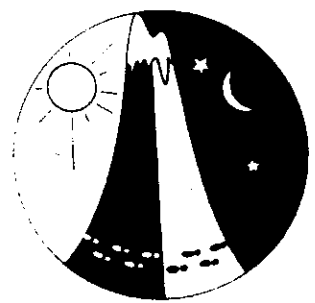
Rogaining is a fun way of enjoying the bush and testing your navigation skills. In essence, rogaining is a sport of long distance cross country navigation. Teams of two to four members visit as many checkpoints as possible in an allocated period. You do not have to train or be a super athlete, just travel at your own pace. Events can be 6, 8, 12, or 24 hours.

Bushwalking with a little extra challenge to test your night navigation!

Some coming events:

- June 18 Sth'n Highlands (6 hour) Warwick Marsden (02-399 7814)
- July 22 Sth'n Highlands (6 & 12 hr) Peter Wherry (02-525 4865)

The NSW Rogain Association INC exists to organise and run the rogains in this state. It is a body much like the federation. There are a number of events each year, both in NSW and other states.



## PAIN

Interested in a quiet moonlight paddle down the Hawkesbury? The annual Hawkesbury Canoe Classic will be held on Oct. 14/15.

This 111km. event caters for all grades of paddler, those out to break records and others happy (!) just to finish.

The main aim is to gain sponsorship for research into Multiple Sclerosis. Over \$460,000 has been raised by paddlers to-date.

If you would like more info. ring

(02) 580 8908.  
 Entries close end Sept.

This Newsletter is an occasional publication and is distributed through its member clubs, to the members of those clubs. 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