

CLOSURE OF THE ETTREMA FIRETRAIL

A new iron gate has been constructed across the Ettrema Firetrail, contained within the property 'Ennis Clare' - Sassafras.

Word has it that whilst this gate is presently unlocked, it will shortly be locked by the landowner, to prohibit motor vehicle access into the Ettrema Wilderness, and the Morton National Park.

The Federation has always regarded this road as an intrusion into the defined core Ettrema Wilderness, and has always advocated its permanent closure to allow for the regeneration of fragile heathlands and swamplands currently affected by the existence of this firetrail.

However, it is our belief that the road is being closed only on a selective basis, and that motor vehicles will be permitted into the Ettrema Plateau and Jones Creek areas, at the discretion of the property owner (Mr. Oscar Saek).

Should a process of selectivity occur, the Federation will make the strongest possible protest.

Similarly, the Federation has always advocated that the important walking access points into the Ettrema Wilderness, should be acquired and reserved as part of the Morton National Park. This particular access point has the highest usage, and it is imperative that the small cleared area, at the head of the firetrail, be thus dedicated. This would then allow for the parking of bushwalkers vehicles off the main Nowra-Braidwood road, and ensure that the Ettrema Firetrail is closed to motor vehicle traffic.

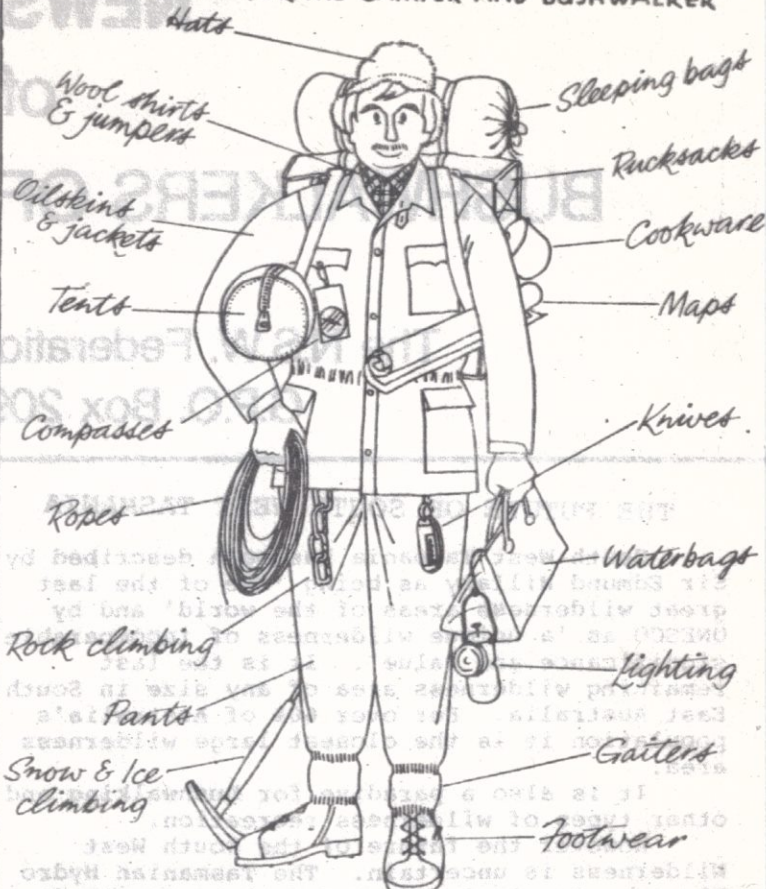
Bushwalkers who insist on motor vehicle access into the Ettrema Plateau area, should seek permission from: Mr. Oscar Saek, 'Ennis Clare', Sassafras, via Nerriga NSW 2622.

The other main access point into the Jones Creek Canyon area is from 'Quiera Clearing', down Myall Creek, to Ettrema Creek, thence down Ettrema Creek to the confluence of Jones Creek.

Would bushwalkers on the Ettrema Plateau who sight motor vehicles in the region, please record the number plate, and advise the Federation.

PETER HARRIS

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A NIGHT IN THE WILDERNESS

The South-West Tasmania Committee (N.S.W.) has again organised the Launceston Walking Club to present its annual Tasmanian film night. It will be held on 15-16th September, starting at 7.30 p.m. at the Law School Theatre (corner Elizabeth and King Streets, Sydney).

Tickets are:

Adults \$3.00
Children \$1.00

and are available at the door.

NEW OFFICER BEARERS

At the Annual General Meeting last month, the following were elected as officer-bearers:-

President	Peter Harris	888 7316
Senior Vice President	Dave Noble	660 7858
Junior Vice President	Ed Hanvin	(W) 219 1843
Treasurer	Jim Calloway	520 7081
Secretary	Keith Maxwell	827 3919
Assistant Secretary	Warwick Blayden	
Minutes Secretary	Len Newland	(W) 43 2419
Education Officer	Peter Tuft	85 7640
Public Relations Officer	Rose Adams	827 3919
Tracks and Access/		
Information Officer	Tim Hager	78 5518
Newsletter Editor	Bob Sault	498 7897
Production Officer	Bruce Vote	399 9452
Distribution Officer	Chris McGowan	236 6111
Conservation Convenor	Dave Noble	660 7858
Search & Rescue Director	Bob Pallin	(H) 467 1334
		(W) 26 2685
N.C.C. Delegates	Dave Noble	660 7858
	Joan Hand	

All phone numbers are home numbers unless otherwise indicated.

DATES TO REMEMBER

19th August - Search and Rescue Practice
Wahroonga Rocks
6th October - Federation Ball,
Chatswood Town Hall

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BITS AND PIECES

CAMPING IN MONOLITH VALLEY: Following a request from the Budawangs Committee and the Superintendent of Morton National Park Federation has decided to ask all walkers not to camp in Monolith Valley. This hopefully will ease the pressures on campsites, vegetation and wood. At present camping in Monolith Valley can only be possibly tolerated if a stove and aluminium tent poles are used. Not camping in the valley should not be difficult for walks as there are several pleasant (and more secluded) spots nearby.

CHANGE OF NAME: At the Annual General Meeting last month, the name of Federation was changed to "The Federation of Bushwalking Clubs (N.S.W.)". This name was chosen firstly as it uses the word 'Clubs', secondly as it is concise, and lastly as it preserves the initials 'F.B.W.'. Neither the previous name (New South Wales Federation of Bushwalking Clubs) nor another proposed name (Bushwalkers Federation of New South Wales) satisfied all the three requirements.

FEDERATION BALL: The Ball this year will be held at Chatswood Town Hall on Friday, 6th October, starting at 7.30 p.m. Cost for a single is \$8.00. Raffle prizes this year are:-
1st Prize: \$120 worth of Goods from Paddy Pallin
2nd Prize: \$120 worth of Goods from Mountain Equipment
3rd Prize: A sleeping bag from Southern Cross Equipment
4th Prize: \$25 worth of Goods from the Outdoor Scouting Centre

The main door prize a the Ball will be a candle lamp and candles from .orski.

Any club requiring extra Ball or Raffle tickets should ring

Joy Scott 520 0750
or Jim Calloway 520 7081

SEARCH AND RESCUE PRACTICE: There will be a one day abseiling and stretcher hauling practice on Sunday 20th August, at Wahroonga Rocks. Wahroonga Rocks are behind the oval at the end of Cliff Ave (three miles north-west of Wahroonga station). The practice should start at about 8.00 a.m. (no.00 in an

EDITORS NOTE

The aim of the Newsletter is to keep bushwalkers up to date with current matters of interest. It will do this best if its articles come from a reasonably large range of walkers, not just the regular contributors. Articles for the Newsletter are always wanted. Any articles for the Newsletter can be sent to

Bob Sault, 4 Clarence Avenue, Killara 2071 (Phone 498 7897)

Closing dates for articles will generally be very early in the month. All other correspondence should be sent to

Federation of Bushwalking Clubs
Box 2090, G.P.O. Sydney 2001

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BOB BUCK RELIEF ACCOUNT

While returning from a Catholic Bushwalkers walk at the end of Easter, Bob Buck (a bushwalker particularly well-known for his Colo sketch map) was involved in a car accident. Bob lost his right leg below the knee, and sustained injuries to his left leg, arms and body. He is receiving care at the Royal Prince Alfred Hospital, Camperdown, where he will be for some months.

A group of Catholic Bushwalkers have organised a fund for Bob's welfare. Any contributions to this fund would be gratefully accepted. Cheques should be made out to "The Bob Buck Relief Account" and sent

C/o The Catholic Bushwalking Club,
P.O. Box C59,
Clarence Street,
Sydney, 2000

Alternately Vincent Mahon (55 5453) or Tim Hager (78 5518) could be contacted.

WHAT'S NEW

An updated soft cover edition of the Trampled Wilderness is now available and is selling for \$11.00. For anyone who has or intends to visit Tasmania, the book offers an interesting account of the history of Tasmania in areas generally now visited by bushwalkers. Also seen in the shops "An Introduction to Ski Touring" by the N.S.W. Ski Association and this book sells for \$2.50.

It appears that bushwalkers aren't the only ones who have problems with sandshoes. Apparently the synthetic tennis courts are taking their toll on the soles. Incidentally most disposal shops are selling Dunlop O.C. Volleys at \$6.50 (seconds), however a sports store at 314 Pitt Street still has them at \$5.95 a pair. The G.T.S. and the newer blue lines are also at a cheaper price.

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