

YETI

SUMMER 1998

Number 3

THE NEWSLETTER OF YHA BUSHWALKING

Walking since 1939

YHA Bushwalking and Cycling Marysville Breakup Weekend '98

*DECEMBER 11th (Friday night)
to Sunday 13th December*

*Set in the beautiful Marysville State Forest and staying at the
Marysville caravan park nestled by the Steavensons River.*

Cabin Accomodation - \$10 per night

Camping \$5 per night

BBQ on Saturday night

organised by the Marysville CFA \$10

YHA booking fee \$7

Walking and cycling trips organised both days

*For further information come to clubnight or call John and Jean on
9598 8619*

CLUBNIGHT SPECIAL EVENTS

**All welcome. Come along for an enjoyable evening.
Proceedings start 8.15pm sharp!**

December

7 Irian Jaya slides & talk. With John & Jean
Braakhuis

14 Last clubnight for 1998. Bookings taken for
Christmas trips.

21 NO CLUBNIGHT

28 NO CLUBNIGHT

January

4 NO CLUBNIGHT

11 First clubnight for 1999

18 Slides and supper

25 NO CLUBNIGHT Monday before Australia Day

February

1 General clubnight

8 Talk on Goretex products. Guest speaker from
Gore Australia.

15 General clubnight

22 Christmas trips slides and supper.

March

1 General clubnight

8 NO CLUBNIGHT. Labour day

DAYLESFORD RAMBLE AUGUST 1998

It was a beautiful pre-spring, spring day when we set off to explore the spas and creeks around Bryce's Flat in the Daylesford area. For some of us the scenic tour started much earlier - ensuring a later than expected start to the walk. Despite this, we were able to grab some food in Daylesford before starting the walk at Tipperary Springs. Being blessed with two leaders, we followed Neil and Richard in opposite directions - up hills, across fields, along creek beds, past springs, around the Blowhole and some would say, up the garden path - covering a total of 17 kms in 5½ hours.

Those of us in Richard's group had lunch by a lovely running creek with a spectacular mine shaft cut into the cliff behind us. Shortly afterwards we came upon Henderson Springs - most notable for the heavy park bench which had been carried down by local titans for visitors. It was just after passing the idyllic farm, straight from the set of Babe, that we met up with Neil's group who, fresh after an extended lunch, were bemused by our lack of vim, vigour, vitality and even conversation. They soon found out why we were such a subdued mob.

The last half of the walk was comparatively easy with the highlights being another mine shaft, the Blowhole and a long rest at walks end. We all got back safely with great memories of a fun day thanks to our leaders Neil and Richard.

(Thanks Moira the cheque is in the post! Ed.)



YETI

Our little furry friend first appeared on YHA Bushwalking's program sometime in the seventies and was drawn by Ken McInnes then the chairman of YHA Melbourne Regional Group. Around this time the MRG (the forerunners to Bushwalking) were looking to promote the activities through display posters and the like. One prominent display was at Flinders Street Station in a glass fronted display cabinet. At the same time a change in the printing of the program took place from a spirit printer to offset printing which made the inclusion of graphics and fancy letterheads (using letaset) much easier to reproduce. It was decided that a logo was needed and Ken drew a furry figure which was an adaptation of the British cartoon Maximillian then published in Penguin books. Yeti was eventually drawn on to a stencil to which extra parts like a camera, skis, ice axe could be added or removed. The name Yeti was suggested after he was drawn and Ken to this day uses a similar Yeti as his personal logo.

WALKS PREVIEW

A selection of trips from the program on which information was available at time of printing.

**END OF YEAR BUSHWALKERS DINNER
SATURDAY DECEMBER 5th 1998**

At the Unicorn Club Melbourne High School 7.30pm
Cost \$25

This years dinner should be one of the best held. Great food and entertainment. End of year awards for best club walker etc. Juke box.

All Bookings to Neil Gebert 9525 6462 or at clubnight

**YHA BUSHWALKING and CYCLING END OF YEAR
BREAKUP WALK AND CYCLE TRIP.**

12th -13th December

Weekend staying at Marysville camp-site. Cabins or camping. Easy or medium day walks or cycling trips. All bookings please to John & Jean Braakhuis Ph. 9598 8619.

CHRISTMAS / NEW YEAR TRIPS

□ 26th Dec - 1st Jan. Alpine Walking Track extended walk, Options for 4 or 6 day walks or complete the whole trip. Thredbo to Beunba Ck., using mini bus for transport shuffle. Grade Medium. Leader Mark Beyer Ph. 9596 4906.

□ 26th Dec - 30th Dec. Vaughan Springs Base camp. Camping by the river at low cost camp-site. Easy day walks, BBQ or eat out, late night camp-fires, swimming. Come along for 1,2,3 or 4 days. Stay the night or do a day walk. Day walkers please book in advance. Phone Margaret Clark on 9766 4442.

□ 1st Jan - 3rd Jan. 3 day walk. Mt Reynard / Snowy Plains exploratory walk. Limit 8. Grade M. We will explore Mt Reynard, the Snowy Plains and the Caledonia River. Visit some of the areas that were burnt in last year's fires. Great swimming hole on last day. Leader Richard Miller Ph. 9756 7419.

JANUARY

9-10th Tarli Karng

9-16th Kosciuszko base camp staying in units at Jindabyne. Easy medium day walks in area using skitube or chairlift. Cost approx \$100 Ph. Ron Bell 9338 4057.

23-26th Australia Day long weekend. Razor - Viking circuit with Simon Walliss. Ph. 9816 9541.

FEBRUARY

13-14th Mt Baw Baw area

13-14th Walhalla base camp. Easy to medium day walks. Visit goldfield relics. Staying at the old railway station campsite (Free). Walking to the Alpine track, the Thomson River, and the Chinese tunnel. Train ride on historic railway. Ph. Ron Bell 9338 4057

20-21th Bogong High Plains. Easy, Medium and Hard trips to suit the beginner to more experienced walker. Ph. Neil Gebert 9525 6462.

UPCOMING TRIPS

□ Labour day long weekend 6-7-8th March 1999. Bryce's Gorge / Wonnangatta.

□ The Federation of Victorian Walking clubs will hold its annual day walk on Sunday 21 March 1999. All walkers are welcome to participate.

□ YHA 60th anniversary bushdance will be held on Friday 28th May 1999. Celebrate 60 years of walking at the biggest bushdance in years. Details Ron Bell 9338 4057.

□ Easter 2-3-4-5th April 1999. Extended bushwalk. Kosciuszko starting at Dead Horse Gap.

□ Bushwalkers Search & Rescue. Next years search practice will be held at Mount St. Gwinear on July 31 to Aug 1st. All BS&R members and prospective members are encouraged to attend. If you are thinking of joining BS&R the practice is a good way to experience what it is all about. Contact a committee member for details of membership.

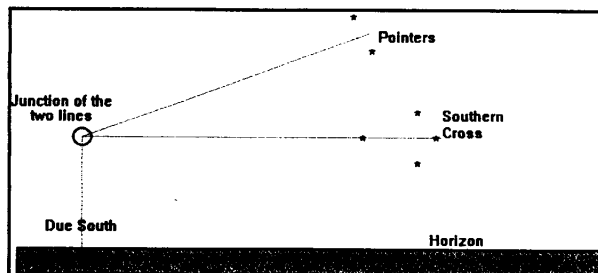
□ BS&R Navigation theory practice and 12 hour rogaine will be held before winter. Dates to be confirmed soon.

INSTANT NAVIGATION

So you've forgotten the compass, or it's stuck at the bottom of the pack and you're too slack to dig it out, but you'd still like to know what direction you're headed. You can do this easily by day or night.

In the day it is especially easy to find your way if you have a watch. Simply point the 12 at the sun and the spot half way between the 12 and the hour hand is due North. Obviously you will have to adjust this by an hour during daylight saving and it doesn't work in the tropics in summer or late spring.

At night find the southern cross. Then imagine a line drawn from the star shown at the top on our flag running through the bottom and hanging out the end, Then imagine a line drawn at right angles to the pointers. Extend this line until it joins the line you have drawn coming from the bottom of the cross. The point on the horizon directly beneath this junction is due south. This method works no matter what angle the Southern Cross is in the sky.



But what if its daytime and you only have a digital watch available? Not a problem! Take off your watch, do up the band and hang it from your index finger. Then spin the watch around your finger rapidly until it flies off. Your watch will always go West. *(I tried this and two times out of five it flew West, one time South, one time North and on the 5th throw my watch smashed on a rock. I knew I shouldn't have believed the the last bit. Ed)*

**Dr. TELEMARCS TALL TALES**

Bushwalking stories inspired by actual events.

Views or opinions expressed in this column are not necessarily those of YHA Bushwalking, the committee or the editor of this newsletter. Any resemblance to real people or events is not imagined. Address all complaints to Dr. Telemark, Cleve Cole Hut, Mt. Bogong Vic.

Dear Dr T Recently I have been looking to buy a new down sleeping bag to replace my old worn out Dacron bag. Frankly I am confused. Salespeople in the outdoor shops mention such things as 'slant wall baffles', 'mummy shape' and 'pertex liner'. Also fillings such as duck down, goose down and I overheard one of my workmates mention fairy down. Could you advise me which is the best sleeping bag for all round use and is fairy down lighter than other downs and what are its advantages.

J.A. (Mr) Melbourne

Dear JA

You certainly are confused. The purchase of any equipment is always confusing due to the proliferation of styles, models and manufacturers. When purchasing gear first get advice from fellow walkers before visiting the shop. That way you will be much better informed on the styles and types of equipment available.

Dr T

Dear Doc I have recently purchased a Macpac Microlight tent to supplement my Wild Country Quasar and I am thinking of going on a winter ski touring trip to the Main Range. Which tent would you suggest I take above the snow-line?

Battered Shelter (Mr) Melbourne.

Dear BS

One of the dangers of camping on the Main Range at any time of the year is the incidence of bad weather. I suggest that you take the Quasar, which is a good strong mountain tent, above the snow-line and use the Microlight for Friday night's accommodation. It is always tempting to travel light but on this occasion it is just not worth the risk. By the way, moving a tent into the wind in the middle of the night in a blizzard is certainly not recommended, it may take off like a kite and end up at the bottom of the valley. **Dr T.**

**CAPTAIN CACTUS'S QUICK QUIZ**

There may be more than one answer to each question !

1. In wet weather tents should be pitched:

- a) On slightly sloping ground
- b) On the highest level ground
- c) In a hole
- d) Facing Mecca

2. Which walking areas are not in a National Park:

- a) The Bastard's Neck
- b) Lerderberg Gorge
- c) Mt Macedon
- d) Mt Buffalo

3. Closed gates should be:

- a) Vandalised
- b) Opened and closed behind you
- c) Swung upon
- d) Crossed at the hinge if locked

4. Suggan Buggan is:

- a) A special high energy food
- b) Aboriginal for slow bushwalker
- c) Aboriginal for fast bushwalker
- d) A place to walk in NE Victoria
- e) Dried food flatulence

5. The Great South West walk is at:

- a) South Pole
- b) Albert Park Lake
- c) Portland
- d) Cape Horn

6. When you have 'to go' in the bush:

- a) Do it in the middle of the track
- b) Dig a deep 'cat hole' and cover
- c) Keep well away from water sources
- d) Pray you don't get sprung

7. The Bushwalkers motto is:

- a) Burn, bash, blast
- b) Carry it in, carry it out
- c) Nil illigitimus carborundum.

8. The term 1:50000 is:

- a) Gradient of a mountain
- b) Ratio of walkers to flies
- c) Proportion of population that goes bushwalking
- d) Scale of a map

9. Rubbish should be:

- a) Pitched out of sight in the bush
- b) Buried
- c) Left for animals
- d) Stored in your pack to carry out
- e) Hidden in someone else's pack to carry out

10. The mirror on a compass is for:

- a) Checking out your pimples
- b) Reducing parrallax error
- c) Watching walkers behind you
- d) Putting on your make-up

11. Ideal pack weight for a 2 day walk is:

- a) 17kg
- b) 50kg
- c) 5kg
- d) 25gm

12. Walking Victorias NE Alps you would expect to see:

- a) Red Kangaroos
- b) Bikies
- c) Currawongs
- d) Yobbos

13. A Trig Point is:

- a) Summit of a high point
- b) Reference point for land surveyors
- c) An itchy finger

14. The Whip is the person:

- a) Who flogs the slowest walker to make him go faster
- b) Chosen to chase the farmer's sheep
- c) Nominated for safety to be always last

CONTRIBUTIONS

Contributions to YETI are welcome subject to editorial approval. You may send news, articles, gossip, letters etc relating to bushwalking to YETI, GPO Box 25A Melbourne 3001. If you do not have the time to write why not phone the editor direct **Deadline for Autumn edition 19th February 1999**

TRIP LEADERS

You are welcome to have a brief description of your trip printed in YETI. Please phone editor.

THE SGROGGIN EATERS

A great book on the history of bushwalking in Victoria is now available for only \$21 yes \$2. At that price why not buy two in case you lose a copy. Phone Jenny at Vicwalk office 332 Banyule Road Viewbank 3084 or Ph 9455 1876 Fax 9457 5438.

Answers to quiz, 1(b), 2(b,c), 3(b,d), 4(d), 5(c), 6(b,c,d), 7 (b,c), 8(d), 9(d, or e optional), 10(b), 11(a), 12(c), 13(b), 14(c).

BUSHWALKING NEWS**From Vicwalk News**

❑ Volunteers are required to help with track work on the Two Bays track between Arthurs Seat and Point Nepean Nat Park. Vicwalk along with The Friends of Arthurs Seat has been granted \$12,000 to complete this work. If you think that you may be able to help please ring Elsie Anderson on 9583 6099.

❑ Some tracks in the Grampians Nat Park have been closed after a recent risk assessment by Parks Vic. Broken handrails, unstable cliffs and falling rocks were some of the problems found. Info Parks Vic 131 963

❑ On June 1st the Vic Government passed regulations that make it a criminal offence to enter areas defined as forest operation zones without written permission. There are 7 zones in East Gippsland and 2 zones in the Otway Ranges. There are no signs or fences to mark these areas, however, there is a penalty of \$200 for entering them. A permit can be issued for walking in these areas only after a direct conversation with the DNRE office in the area the applicant wishes to visit. The permit may take up to a week to be issued.

❑ Vicwalk (Federation of Victorian Walking Clubs) have moved to 332 Banyule Road Viewbank 3084 (ORC Centre) New Phone No 9455 1876 Fax 9457 5438.

❑ The Victorian Government has established the Victorian Tracks and Trails Coordinating Committee (VTCC) to develop a strategy to position Victoria with one of the world's most recognised, utilised & integrated non-vehicular track & trail networks. Information on the strategy can be obtained from VTCC Paul Ablone Ph. 9653 9752.

From the VNPA

❑ The Really Great Prom Walk will culminate on Sunday 29th November at Parliament house in a public rally. The public rally starts at Noon at the Queen Victoria Gardens and proceeds, led by Rod Quantock, to Parliament house for the rally. Music will be provided in the Treasury gardens afterwards. The rally will be a protest at changes at Wilsons Prom and other Victorian National Parks. The VNPA will present to the Government its alternative management plan for Wilsons Prom at the conclusion of the rally. All walkers are welcome to attend this rally. Details from VNPA phone Leslie 9650 8296.

❑ The VNPA offered to purchase some cattle grazing licences in the Alpine National Park for the equivalent of \$16 head which was much higher than the \$5 head currently charged cattlemen. The offer was rejected by the Government despite independent scientific reports showing that grazing was detrimental to the Alpine Environment.

From the Sun

❑ Mon 19th Oct. Flooding on 15 Sept caused major damage to the Circuit Road at Mt Stirling & washed away the wooden bridge to Sheeppyard Flat (Access to The Bluff). At the time of writing the roads were blocked and it was suggested that access would not be restored until next Autumn (See below for more info)

❑ The Sun May 17 1998. Carried a report on a European wasp attack at the Cobungra River near Mt. Hotham. A horse rider was severely stung by many wasps and his horse later died from wasp stings. It was suggested that people entering remote country carry medication for wasp attack.

❑ Parks Victoria has issued a leaflet concerning flood damage to parks in the Gippsland and Howqua regions which occurred during September. Many areas have been affected and access is restricted to some areas due to washed away roads and bridges. More details are available from Parks Vic Ph. 13 1963 or <http://www.parks.vic.gov.au>

❑ Although this piece isn't strictly about bushwalking many male walkers also cycle. Researchers in the US have discovered that narrow bicycle seats can, how can we put this tactfully, errr, cause erectile dysfunction. Body weight on the saddle can block blood flow to the penis and cause short or long term damage resulting in cycling induced impotence. Symptoms may disappear with a break from cycling or in severe cases by-pass surgery is required. It seems that the ideal bicycle seat should be shaped like a toilet seat with a big hole in the middle. Adding padding to your existing seat or resorting to a wider, softer style seat will also help. (We passed this story on to long distance cyclist Dr. Telemark who recalled that on a recent cycle trip to India he suffered the above symptoms, but a full recovery was made while enroute from Delhi to Calcutta Via Agra.)

❑ And while on the subject of cycling, an article in The Age 9 Sept 1998 reported that one southern Dutch council is investigating the construction of an 8km long air assisted cycling tunnel which will blow cyclists along at up to 50km/hr. Cyclists using the tunnel will use the same amount of energy to cycle 10km as they would to cycle 1km outside.

YHA BUSHWALKING COMMITTEE

Chairman	Neil Gebert	9525 6462
Secretary	Simon Walliss	9816 9541
Treasurer	Keryn Lientschnig	9555 2512
Walks Secretary	Neil Warden	9546 6318
Search & Rescue	Ken Sussex	9853 1017
Social Committee	Wendy Davidson	9726 5168
Committee	David Sisson	9347 1487
	Rob Adams	9383 4352
	Mark Beyer	9596 4906
	Warren Young	9568 2274
	Ron Bell	9338 4057
	Geoff Gartly	9557 8387
Newsletter editor	Richard Miller	9756 7419
Emergency mobile (not always in range)		018 313 880

It is important to the committee that walks and activities run smoothly and are enjoyable and safe. If there is any aspect of a walk, including the behaviour of other walkers that causes concern, please contact the Chairman. All matters will be treated confidentially.