FEBRUARY GENERAL MEETING

8pm Wednesday 18th

Ski Mountaineering in the Yukon
Speaker: Nic Bendeli

Nic (a past member) will be sharing his slides on his recent ski mountaineering trip to the Yukon Territory (Alaska) to climb Mt Logan. Come and see snow and glaciers, tents and igloos, skis and sleds.

For further information check www.netspeed.com.au/bendelin

Robertson Room, St. John's Church Hall
Constitution Avenue, Reid

Make the most of the evening and join other members at 6.00pm for a convivial meal at the Vietnam Restaurant, 8-10 Hobart Place, Canberra City (opposite Canberra House Arcade, next to Aussie Home Loans)

Try to be early to ensure there will be ample time to finish and still get to the meeting in good time

PRESIDENT’S PRATTLER

Welcome to the New Year, its challenges and opportunities. I hope you all enjoyed the Christmas break. I know that many of you did walks during that period. I had Christmas on the Overland Track between Cradle Mt and Lake St Clair in Tasmania, with snow on Christmas night.

I look forward to a good year’s walking. We should see Namadji returning. You can see evidence of this in Di Thompson’s lovely book, Ring of Fire, which records photographically the beginnings of renewal in Tidbinbilla, Namadji and Kosciusko. At least the fires have cleaned out a lot of blackberries and other rubbish so that some walks normally difficult due to scrub will be easier for a couple of years.

Perhaps the most important group in the club are its leaders, without whom there would be no club. Last year four people took the plunge and led their first walks - Bob Vickery, Michael Robbins, Lucinda Prickett and Diana Terry. I did the first walks led by both Michael and Lucinda and I was on Diana’s second. I will catch up with you soon, Bob.

I am also pleased to welcome Sylvia Flaxman, Chris Leslie and Frank Bergersen back to the leaders’ list. Sylvia led my first club walk in March 1995, where I did everything wrong; had to borrow a jumper from someone to avoid dying of the cold and ended the day with a badly sprained ankle. I shall book now on her Dromedary weekend as I have tried to book on it three times in the past without success and I missed it again last year because of other commitments.

Chris Leslie has led about 130 club walks but he moved away for a while so new members may not know him. Now he is back and if you like off track, Chris is your man. I met Frank Bergersen soon after coming to Canberra in 1979. We were colleagues in those days but not bushwalkers. I have done several of his recent walks and hope to do more.
I invite prospective leaders to contact Rob Horsfield. Start with something simple and go on from there. I led my first walk, Boxvale, with some trepidation but two long time leaders, Janet Edstein and Chris Roper, came that day to see that I didn’t do anything too stupid and it went well. It wasn’t long before I tried a second and a third. It grows on you. Leading is an extra responsibility but it is also extra fun.

Come along to the General Meeting on Wednesday, 18 February at the Robertson Room, St John’s Church, Reid, for a presentation by Nic Bendeli on his recent trip to Alaska. Even better, join us beforehand for a meal with your walking friends at our regular transport person - responsible for the following tasks

1 transport person - responsible for the transport of the team to the starting point and collection at the finishing point, (several 4x4 or AWD vehicles would be useful). In addition each team will need a digital camera and GPS.

I am also looking for someone to co-ordinate catering as we might gather at Orroral Valley for a short celebration at the end of the day. The main objective will be to check the status of track, and locate and photograph markers and any areas needing attention, eg erosion problems.

All information will then be compiled into a report and a cd of all photos will be given to the park management.

More information will be provided at the February Monthly meeting.

John Thwaite
Conservation Officer

Membership Matters

Prospective members: Lea and Michael Baltzinger, John Cowper.

Roger Edwards
Membership Secretary

Duty of Care Documentation

At the May 2001 general meeting, the Club endorsed two documents, entitled ‘Guidelines for Participants in Club Activities’ and ‘Guidelines for Activity Co-ordinators and Leaders’, which address duty of care issues. They set out in some detail the things a person needs to know regarding leading and taking part in Club walks. Copies were distributed to all leaders and members at the time and have been provided to all new leaders and members since.

Although only 2 ½ years old, these documents are now out of date in many places as a result of changes within the club and outside it. They have been updated in particular to reflect the fact that we now have an Acknowledgment of Risks and Obligations form which must be signed.

I will move the following motion at the club’s February general meeting:

‘That the club endorses the updated ‘Guidelines for Participants in Club Activities’ and ‘Guidelines for Leaders’ as published in the February 2004 IT’.

I seek your support for this motion.

Stan Marks
President

Alpine Walking Track

“Mega” Inspection
Saturday 21 March 2004

As outlined in the December it we propose to undertake a complete inspection of the ACT section of the Australian Alps Walking Track which starts at the Namadgi Visitors Centre and ends at Murrays Gap on the NSW - ACT border. There is approximately 50ks of track to be inspected and I propose that it be divided in to 5 sections and that we form into 5 teams of 5 people with the following tasks

1 team leader -

3 team members

1 transport person - responsible for transport of the team to the starting point and collection at the finishing point, (several 4x4 or AWD vehicles would be useful).

Visit Murrays Gap on the NSW - ACT border. There is approximately 50ks of track to be inspected and I propose to undertake a complete inspection of the ACT section of the Australian Alps Walking Track. Contact John and offer your services for 20th March.

Stan Marks, President

Trip Report

Mount Gingera
Sunday 14 December 2003

A party of 15 led by Stan Marks drove into the Brindabellas through severely burnt trees where the only sign of life was at ground level. From the carpark at 1,660m on Mount Ginini, we walked along a fire trail, in the shade of snow gums where fire had burnt scrub but not the canopy. The forest floor was carpeted with flowers including billy buttons, white and yellow daisies, and orchids that looked like violets. Prior’s Hut and the adjacent arboretum were untouched by fire.

Brilliant emerald jewel beetles studded the track up to Mount Gingera. Our hot 200m climb was rewarded by extensive views including the snow clad Main Range. Thank you Stan.

Cynthia Breheny

Notice of Motion

At the February Meeting it will be moved:-

That the club authorize the committee to spend up to $130 per year for domain registration and commercial hosting of a Canberra Bushwalking Club website.

For explanation, see "The Club Website" on Page 9.

Canberra Bushwalking Club IT February 2004 page 2
An Alpine Tale

Sixty years ago this year the goals of two men were achieved and an alpine national park came into fruition. Though they lived worlds apart their formative years were not all that dissimilar.

Though he had spent most of his life in the city, William McKell had concerns over the problems of erosion and poor water supply. (He had practiced soil conservation at his own small property in the Goulburn district from 1933). As Leader of the Opposition McKell announced, in April 1941, his plan for the re-organising the rural industry.

In January 1942 McKell, now Premier, spent ten days inspecting Australia's high country by car and horseback. Appalled at the devastation McKell instructed his officers to review the current grazing practices.

Myles Dunphy, and his National Parks & Primitive Areas Council, had been working upon the concept of a Snowy-Indi [Rivers] Park from about 1931. Having set aside this work for the duration of the War Dunphy then received word that his plan would be favourably received if submitted by June 1943. Upon receiving the report McKell announced, in September, that he would set aside 506,250 hectares, an area 160 kilometres long by 35 kilometres wide.

The Department of Lands proceeded to draft the bill which, despite obstructions, passed both Houses and came into effect in mid-1944.

Both men were born in 1891 - McKell the elder by twenty-four days. Both spent part of their childhood on the south coast of NSW: McKell at Pambula, Dunphy at Kiama. Both had fathers who, for various reasons, were unable to hold down permanent jobs.

Both families subsequently moved to Sydney: the McKells (to Surry Hills) in 1899 and, about four kilometres away, the Dunphys to Annandale in 1907.

Both boys had done well in geography at school together with history (McKell) and descriptive geometry (Dunphy). Whilst both families regularly attended church (Mrs McKell was a devout Anglican, Mrs Dunphy a devout Catholic) neither lad retained an interest in adult life.

Both fathers left their respective families, forcing their eldest child to leave school and assist in providing an income, for McKell this occurred in 1904 when he was thirteen, for Dunphy (15) this was 1907.

McKell came from a sporting family and, in regular contact with his father's brothers, had some paternal guidance. He played sport at school and had a lifelong interest in all aspects of sport. McKell saw the visiting English cricketers (1901-02) and subsequent British football and cricket teams thereon.

The larger Dunphy family had hardly any support. Dunphy doesn't really comment upon his sporting activities at school - only starting a cricket team with the local Annandale lads as a means of burning off energy. Dunphy had only a slight interest in sport.

McKell was employed as a messenger boy until he turned sixteen when he was indentured to be a boilermaker - five years to complete his apprenticeship. Dunphy hold various day jobs whilst attending night school in architecture - a nine year course. It should come as no surprise then that each daily walked to work to save the tram fare.

Both fathers were interested in politics. A sympathetic unionist gave McKell Thorold Roger's Six Centuries of Work and Wages. Dunphy snr gave his son The Boy's Book of Natural History by Rev J G Wood. Their sons acquired an appetite in reading: McKell purchased cheap books on the writings of great thinkers; Dunphy joined a library where he read only works on exploration.

Having set upon their chosen paths the comparisons in their lives diverged.

McKell joined the Labor Party in 1908. In his later years Dunphy snr resided in Redfern and joined the Labor Party and occasionally did typing for the party. Possibly he knew the young McKell who, in March 1917, was elected to the seat of Redfern.

McKell, who married early in 1920, became a barrister. Premier of New South Wales, then eventually Governor General of Australia. Dunphy, who married in late 1925, gave a life's worth to conservation.

Dunphy had argued that there was no peoples' reserve of useful size between Mark Morton's Bundanoon-Tallowa Reserve and the Victorian border. McKell's desire for a park was primarily aimed at protecting the catchment of various major streams. (From about 1934/5 the State had experienced a succession of very severe droughts reaching their maximum intensity in 1938, 1940 and 1944).

McKell also dreamed of a scheme to transfer westwards the waters that rushed east from the Great Dividing Range, and ultimately to the establishment of the Snowy Mountains Hydro-Electric Authority. Dunphy identified and prepared the plans for a number of national parks throughout the State. Most, if not all, were eventually adopted.

Sir William McKell died during 1985. Nineteen days later Myles Dunphy OBE passed away. I am unsure whether either man ever actually met.

Sources: Cunneen, C - William John McKell.
Meredith, P - myles and milo
Trip Report

Ettrema - 27 December 2003 – 1 January 2004

Party: Allan Mikkelsen, Alan Davey, Kim Hello, Margaret Cooper, John Kelly, Noel Ryan, Eddie and Mandy Cheetham

What an amazing place Ettrema is, the scenery is spectacular with magnificent cliffs and clear water in the rock pools below. It is certainly a privilege to have just spent the last six days in this pristine wilderness.

I type this while nursing my war wounds from the trip advertised as ‘slack’!!!!.

The party arrived in the Morton National Park on Saturday to a chilly start, most wearing water-proofs while waiting for the drivers to locate the vehicles near the finish. This cooler weather was a blessing for the climb into the gorge. The decent was made by a previously unused (by Canberra Bushwalking Club) creek, 300 metres to the right of the day trip route – now to be known as the ‘Allans’ Creek’. The incline steepened sharply as the decent was made into the upper end of Sentry Box Canyon. Camp was made at the Myall Creek junction where we spoilt the peace of Elinor and Andrew who were enjoying a quiet weekend.

After a late start the following day, we moved on to the junction with Jones Creek where camp was set up and the billy boiled. Some of the party explored Jones Creek and the copper mines while others got into the volumes of reading material brought for the purposes of whiling away time on this ‘slack’ trip. The main mine entrance had collapsed, leaving only a small gap which Kim entered for about 50 metres, the equipment which included a wheelbarrow was lost forever.

Day three saw the party move downstream to the junction with Tullyangela Creek. The magnificent Hamlets Crown hovered above us for a large part of the day and generated various stories of attempts to climb it. With the Crown behind us, good progress was made down stream but the sandy beaches marked on the map were conspicuous in their absence. Above us, the cliff line gleamed in the sun and warranted the breaks to stop and admire their glory. The regular paddles gave the feet a much needed cool off. Walkers from the Span Bushwalking Club of Sydney overtook us and a black Swamp Wallaby rushed past the group! One wonders how it managed to get down into the canyon?

The fourth day was very hot and we were glad to stay put for the day. With a swim hole just below the camp site, the draw of the water broke up the reading activities. The more energetic (or mad) undertook a couple of shorter trips to explore the surroundings, locating more crystal pools, snakes and a great diving rock while others chose to admire the scenery of this wonderful spot. Several members of the group explored the lower reaches of Cinch’s Creek and located two alternative campsites for future use if need be.

Dungeon Canyon called on the fifth day and an early start was made. The weather stayed in our favour and the predicted heat did not materialize. The going was steady in the lower reaches of Tullyangela Creek but as the valley narrowed and the climb begun, the pace dropped. Just about every obstacle that nature could have put in place was there and certainly tested the group in its ability to negotiate these features. Packs on and off, passed up the line and in and out of their plastic bags for the compulsory swims. After 11.5 hours of battling, it was established that 4 km had been travelled and not possible to exit that day therefore New Years Eve was spent at a wonderful little campsite amidst a coachwood forest approximately half way up the canyon. The fire was set out on a large flat rock above the water giving a panoramic view of the valley below. Goodies accompanied by scotch and muscat materialised from various rucksacks including a special rice pudding baked by John Kelly to celebrate our achievements and the coming of the new year. Resolutions were made. However no-one managed to stay up to see Midnight! Alan Davey’s resolution (liberal use of adjectives?) was quickly broken when bitten on the nose by a mosquito at 12.30am while sleeping under the stars.

The canyon continued to occupy the party’s energies for the following morning. The sun was out in all its glory and the temperature rapidly rose to 36 degrees, the lunchtime swim and cool off was most appreciated before the long climb out. It seems wrong to be thankful for a bushfire but it made the visibility for the crossing of the plateau much easier, you could maintain contact with those in front while bashing your way through the burnt remains. The down side was that we were all very black when eventually hot, thirsty and completely knackered we arrived at the road at 6 pm.

On the return drive home, we stopped to cool off in the Endrick River under the bridge, however it was necessary to avoid a dead cow carcass which was stuck on the rocks so we entered the river on the other side of the abutment.

Thank you Alan and Allan for a memorable trip and the party for their companionship and assistance.

Oh, by the way, have you heard of the Trades Description Act (as we covered both itineraries as stated in it)?

Amanda Reynolds

[Photos from the trip can be seen at www.pcug.org.au/~amikkels/galleries/ettrema/]

Canberra Bushwalking Club IT February 2004 page 4
Arrange for your Club-related activities to be included in the program with

Rob Horsfield (Walks Secretary)
Ph: 6231 4535 (h), E-mail: horsfield@ozemail.com.au, Post: 11 Studley St Kambah ACT 2902

Please see " INFORMATION FOR PARTICIPANTS IN CBC ACTIVITIES" in the December 2003 It, or on the Club website

7-8 February-Queens Pound River - M/R
This is a beautiful wilderness circuit in the Wadbilliga National Park. We walk up Lake Creek, climb (400m) over a watershed, then return down the delightful Queens Pound River to its junction with the Wadbilliga River. There are many idyllic pools and good views on the crossover. **Map:** Yowrie 1:25000. **Leader:** George Carter 6251 2130 (h), 0419 603 334 (mobile). **Transport:** ~$28.

Wednesday 11 February: Wednesday Walk
The regular mid-week walk series continues, close to Canberra with a destination to be decided. Contact the leader before 8pm Tuesday to find out destination and meeting place. **Leader:** Allan Mikkelsen 6278 3164(h).

Thursday evening, 12 February - Pinnacles Nature Park S/E
Meet at 6.45pm in the car park at the end of Dungowan St, Hawker. No need to book. **Map:** n/a **Leader:** Stan Marks 6254 9568 (h), 6274 7350 (w), email: stan.marks@dotars.gov.au **Transport:** drive yourself

Saturday 14 February- Kambah Pool- Bullen Range- Red Rock Gorge- Kambah Pool- M/R
This involves a long climb onto the range, along to Boyle Trig, descent to Red Rock and back along to the pool. The swim at the bottom of the gorge is optional. **Map:** Natmap Canberra 1:100,000. **Leader:** Rob Horsfield 6231 4535 **Transport:** N/A(meet at the pool)

14- 15 February- Durras Mountain-S/M
A pretty location: day walk Saturday, camp locally, surf Sunday before the drive home. **Map:** Durras 1:25,000 **Leaders:** Leanne Aust, Jenny Horsfield 6231 4535(h) **Transport:** ~$25.

Wednesday 18 February- Monthly Meeting
Nic Bendel
Ski mountaineering trip to the Yukon Territory (Alaska) to climb Mt Logan
8:00PM St Johns Church Hall, Reid.

Thursday evening, 19 February - Ainslie/Majura S/E
There is an entrance to the nature park on Mackenzie St, Hackett, just north of the Grayson St intersection. Be there at 6.45pm for a walk in the reserve in the area between Mt Ainslie and Mt Majura. No need to book **Map:** n/a **Leader:** Stan Marks 6254 9568 (h), 6274 7350 (w). Email: stan.marks@dotars.gov.au **Transport:** drive yourself

Saturday February 21st - Gigerline Gorge - S/M
A short summer walk along a little rocky gorge on the Murrumbidgee River near Tharwa. There is some rock hopping but nothing too difficult. We should be able to sample a number of good swimming holes as well as natural Jacuzzis (if the river is flowing at the right level). We will be able to see this section of the river post bushfires. **Map:** ACT 1:100000, **Leader** Vance Brown 62513997 (h) email vanceb@austarmetro.com.au, **Transport** ~$6

21-22 February Kanangra Boyd N.P. S / M-R
Kowmung R - Box Ck Falls. This walk is a good introduction to overnight walking for those who enjoy swimming and a bit of rock scrambling. Leave early Saturday morning for 3 1/2 hr drive to Kanangra Walls area. Drop 300 metres from Gillespies Lookout to the upper Kowmung River and camp at junction with Box Ck. Walk up-stream without packs to view Chardon Canyon. There is a km of scrub up Box Ck followed by a spectacular scramble up the granite slabs beside the Falls. Plenty of time for relaxation. **Map:** Shooters Hill 1:25 000. **Leader** Meg McKone 6254 5902. **Transport:** $38 + NP entry fee. Limit of 8.

21-22 February 2004 - Shoalhaven Crossover Walk and Canoe the Shoalhaven in one trip. M/M
This popular trip from last four years traverses a very picturesque stretch of the Shoalhaven with the opportunity to cool off in some delightful pools. It involves a canoe paddle of 15km and a 14km walk with a decent/ascent of 500m. Half of the party will descend to the Shoalhaven from Badgery’s Lookout then walk downstream to camp at Fossickers Flat. The rest of the party will paddle hire-canoes from Tallowa Dam to Fossickers Flat. On the Sunday the walkers and paddlers will swap roles. A car swap is required. Please book early, as canoes need to be organised. Photos:
2 –7 March 2004 - Croajingalong Coastal Walk
M/E
A 5 day walk from Thurra River to Mallacoota in Victoria’s East Gippsland. Experience long sandy beaches, rocky headlands extensive heathlands and river crossings. Car shuffle necessary.  
Maps: Croajingalong National Park (Stuart R Brookes), Cann 1:100000 (NATMAP), Mallacoota 1:50000 (VICMAP).  
Leader: Mark Hopkins 6282 8481 (h), markhopkins@bigpond.com.au  

Sunday 7 March - Corang Cascades - M/M
We start walking from the Wog Wog entrance to the Morton Nat P for about 2 1/2 hours on a pleasant undulating track through stringy-bark woodland to a picturesque site beside the Corang River. From here we have lunch and swim/explore the cascades, and waterfalls. Return the same way.  
Map: Corang 1:25000.  
Leader: John Kelly - 6241 3814 (h)  
Transport: ~$22

Monday 8 March – 22nd
Most of the fire damage occurred in the alpine environment is recovering from the bushfires. Nearly 5 hrs actual walking. Nearly 5 hrs actual walking. 
Map: n/a  
Leader: Stan Marks email: stan.marks@dotars.gov.au 6254 9568(h), 6274 7350(w), 0419 603 334 (mobile).  
Transport: about $20.

Wednesday 10 March - IT Collation
8pm at the home of John and Judith Webster  
22 Tambo Street, Kaleen.

Sunday 14 March - Moonlight Hollow M/E
This is a loop walk from Bull's Head off Mt Franklin Road. It follows good tracks through eucalypt forest affected by the fires but there are substantial parts where the canopy remained intact and only the ground cover burnt. Lunch at Bendora Arboretum, which did not burn. See how the area is coming back. Nearly 5 hrs actual walking.  
Map: Tidbinbilla 1:25,000 Leader: Stan Marks email (work): Stan.Marks@dotars.gov.au 6254 9568(h), 6274 7350(w).  
Transport: ~$12

Maps: Caoura 1:25000, Burrier 1:25000. Leaders: Steven Shaw, 6161 6767 (H), 0413 606 783 (M), sshaw@acslink.net.au Peter Henderson 6251 3608 (H), peter@pcug.org.au  
Transport and Canoe hire: ~ $60

Thursday evening, 26 February - Flat Black Mt S/E
Meet at 6.45pm in car park at the electricity substation at the end of Frith St for a wander around the hill to the north of Black Mt itself. No need to book.  
Map: n/a  
Leader: Stan Marks email: stan.marks@dotars.gov.au, 6254 9568 (h), 6274 7350 (w).  
Transport: drive yourself

Saturday 28 February - Mt Lincoln- M/R
Smokers Gap fire-trail, dog-proof fence, Mt Lincoln, Blue Gum Creek, Smokers fire-trail. This is a popular round with a good view spot for lunch.  
Map: Corin Dam 1:25,000 Leader: Jenny Horsfield 6231 4535(h)  
Transport: ~$8.

Sunday 29 February - Mt Gingera - M/E
From the locked gate at Mt Ginini, along the fire trail to 1857m Mt Gingera, which has excellent views to Canberra in one direction and the Snowies in the other. A chance to see how the sub-alpine environment is recovering from the bushfires.  
Map: Corin Dam 1:25,000 or ACT or Cann 1:100000. Leader: Jeff Bennetts 6231 5899(h), 6240 9704(w), 0418 662870(m) (use w or m if h n/a).  
Transport: about $15.

Thursday evening, 4 March - Bruce Ridge S/E
Meet at 6.45pm in the car park adjacent to the bush opposite the Accident and Emergency Centre of Calvary Hospital for a wander over these ridges before they go. No need to book.  
Map: n/a  
Leader: Stan Marks 6254 9568 (h), 6274 7350 (w), email: stan.marks@dotars.gov.au  
Transport: drive yourself

Monthly meeting is now at St. John's Church Hall
Constitution Avenue, Reid

Wednesday 25 February- Committee Meeting and it closing
8:00PM at the home of Gary Trevean, 11 Shann Place, Chifley.

Wednesday 10 March: Wednesday Walk
The regular mid-week walk series continues, close to Canberra with a destination to be decided. Contact the leader before 8pm Tuesday to find out destination and meeting place.  
Leader: Allan Mikkelsen 6278 3164(h).

Wednesday 1 March - Coringa Lagoon and Beyond.
A two hour hike to our campsite besides the Coringa cascades. Reportedly, 'the best swimming hole in the Buddawangs' (A. Davey). Optional walks to some spectacular rock formations or bring a book and enjoy. Sunday - we could get active and visit Corang peak and get some stunning views of the escarpment to the sea or.......
Map: Corang 1:25000. Leader: John Kelly - 6241 3814 (h)  
Transport: ~$22

Wednesday 1 March - Corang Cascades - M/M
We start walking from the Wog Wog entrance to the Morton Nat P for about 2 1/2 hours on a pleasant undulating track through stringy-bark woodland to a picturesque site beside the Corang River. From here we have lunch and swim/explore the cascades and waterfalls. Return the same way.  
Map: Caoura 1:25000 or CMW Budawangs. Leader: Janet Edstein 6288 1398  
Transport: $22
Shoalhaven / Lower Ettrema. Visit the Shoalhaven below Tallowa Dam and the lower Ettrema area. We'll be walking in on Saturday and setting up a base camp on Ettrema Creek, about a km up from the junction of the two waterways. Sunday we'll explore this area and its side creeks. We'll return Monday via a slightly different route that will include a ridge walk, above the river, along an old track. We'll be crossing the river from time to time, so best to bring appropriate footwear, such as Volleys or gumboots. Map: Burrier 1:25000. Leader: John Kelly - 6241 3814 (h). Transport: ~$30. Limit of 8.

13-15 March- Canberra Day long weekend- Ettrema- L/R
Tullyangela Clearing - Torture Gully - Rack Creek - Pintannie Saddle - Cabbage Tree Creek - Ettrema Hill - Leyden Creek - Cinch Creek - Broad Arrow Gully - Tullyandela Clearing. Maps: Touga and Yalwal 1:25,000 Leader: Keith Thomas 6230 1081(h) Transport: ~$35

Wednesday 17 March- Monthly Meeting
Di Thompson
8:00PM St Johns Church Hall, Reid.

20-21 March- Rock Shelters of Namadgi - M/M
The aim of this trip is to overnight under an appropriate granite rock shelter. For this purpose some of the best I have seen can be chosen from the south-west side of Mt Mavis facing Mt Namadgi. A scramble up to the narrow summit boulder of Mt Mavis for the superb 360 degree views of all of the main peaks of Namadgi N.P. is envisaged before returning. Map: Rendezvous Creek 1:25000 Leader: Chris Leslie 6251 6123 (h) 6246 5713 (w) chris.leslie@csiro.au Transport: about $10

Saturday 27 March - Brindabella NP S/M/R
From Top Crossing via Hume Saw Mill we climb up to Sardine Flat, then descend to California Creek and back via Mountain Creek. It is interesting to see how well the bush has survived in this area where the Jan 2003 firestorm came from. The walk is short if we get 4-wheel drives but medium if we have to park at Dingo Dell Flats. If the wind is strong, the trip will be postponed. Map: Umbrura 1:25 000. Leader: Gösta Lyngå - 6288 7009. goto@webone.com.au Transport $8

Sunday 28 March- Fishing Gap- Billy Billy Rocks cross-over- M/R
Appropriate transport arrangements would be necessary and hopefully the two groups would lunch together at the Rocks. The scrub understory is minimal post-fire and views are terrific. Maps: Corin Dam, Tidbinbilla 1:25,000 Leaders: Jenny and Rob Horsfield 6231 4535(h) Transport: ~$8.

27-28 March- Tantangra Creek- M/E
Subject to NPWS approval, a post fire look at this beautiful area around the source of the Murrumbidgee. Maps: Tantangra and Yarrangobilly 1:100,000 Leader: James Ashburner 6254 1666(h) Transport: ~$35

2-4 April- Mt Kelly Spur, Mt Namadgi and Mavis Ridge - M/M
This is a classic circuit again made possible by the clearing of scrub by the bushfires. While the vegetation may be damaged, not all the magic has been lost. The views, the boulders and the interesting ridges remain. Even the birds are still to be heard. Map: Rendezvous Creek 1:25000. Leader: George Carter 6251 2130 (h), 0419 603 334 (mobile). Transport: ~$9.
3- 4 April- Car camp at 'Carlaminda' (private property near Cooma) M/M
Saturday: Mt Wellington and Mt Nelson, approx 11k, 300m climb. Depart Canberra 8am, drive to Carlaminda via Cooma, park cars by Numeralla River, cross river (with old sand shoes) open bush walk to top of Mountain for lunch and views, ridge walk and back by circular route. Sunday: Tuross river gorge or similar, returning via Numeralla and Captain's Flat. Maps: Numeralla and Kybeyan 1:25,000 Leader: Lucinda Prickett Phone: work: 6239 2220 email: lucinda@jaymacpromo.com.

Sunday 11 April- Nattai Gorge/Boxvale Tramway (M/M) -
Walk through light forest then traverse the spectacular and beautiful Nattai Gorge near Mittagong. Lunch at Boxvale Creek then back to the cars along the historic tramway alignment. All on track but a steep climb out of the gorge. About 4 ½ hrs actual walking. Map: to be provided Leader: Stan Marks 6254 9568 (h), 6274 7350 (w), email: stan.marks@dotars.gov.au Transport: ~$30

(Easter) 10- 11 April- Rendezvous Creek from Cotter Gap- M/M
Maybe the fires have opened up this route. Talk of scrub has deterred me in the past but maybe it is feasible; I plan to find out. We walk up to Cotter Gap and Split Rock, and then camp over towards Rendezvous Creek. On Sunday, follow Rendezvous Creek down awhile and then go over to the Nursery Creek carpark. Map: Rendezvous Creek (mainly) and Corin Dam. Leader: Steve Galliford AH 62865744 or srgal@webone.com.au Transport: ~$6.

Wednesday 14 April: Wednesday Walk
The regular mid-week walk series continues, close to Canberra with a destination to be decided. Contact the leader before 8pm Tuesday to find out destination and meeting place. Leader: Allan Mikkelsen 6278 3164(h).

17- 18 April- Northern Brindabellas - Dingo Dell to Bells Camp - M/M
This circuit through the Brindabellas will cross Mountain Creek and California Creek on the way to a rocky volcanic outcrop overlooking the Betty Brook gorge to the west. The area is characterized with mature tall forests clean creeks and numerous rocky outcrops on the hill tops which generally provide great views. Much of this area has also been spared from fire damage. The walk is about half on tracks. Map: Umburra 1:25000 Leader: Chris Leslie 62516123 (h) 62465713 (w) chris.leslie@esiro.au Transport: about $10

Sat-Sun 17-25 April- Tasmania - Tanglefoot Special- S-M / M, R ?W
The Deciduous Beech (Tanglefoot) is one of Australia's few deciduous plants, and it can put on a striking display of colour. We'll walk its home territory in the marvellous scenery near Lake St Clair, either around the Du Cane-Labyrinth circuit or from the Walls of Jerusalem, depending on transport. For a foretaste look up your Peter Dombrovskis calendar for April, and while we'll avoid getting too entangled the walk will have some demanding sections, as well. Maximum five. Maps: 1:100,000 Cradle Mtn - L St Clair. Leader: Rupert Barnett, 6242 5241, email: rupertb@cyberone.com.au Enquires: during the week 6-12 March, I shall NOT be available until then. Transport: tba

(23), 24&25 April- Bargo River Gorge and Blue Gum Creek weekend, M/M (Sat) and S/E Sunday
On Friday night, drive to Mittagong, cabin accommodation. On Saturday, via a good track to the Mermaid's Pool and then along the top of the Bargo Gorge before dropping into the gorge, which is dramatic. The floor contains some easy walking over flat rock sheets with a few more difficult parts. About 5 hrs actual walking, 60% on track. On Sunday, walk down the creek which is in a sandstone gorge through a beautiful Blue Gum forest, lunch at Little River ford. 4 hrs actual walking. Probably a pub meal on Sat night. Map: Picton and Nattai 1:25,000 Leader: Stan Marks email: stan.marks@dotars.gov.au 6254 9568 (h), 6274 7350 (w), Transport: ~$30

24,25,26 April Anzac weekend Budawangs walks- Castle Arch S/E, Green Room L/R, and Pigeon House M/M
Enjoy 3 day walks visiting areas the bushwalkers rave about, car camping by the Yadboro River. Leave Canberra early on Saturday, setting up camp near the Yadboro R. After lunch walk up and along the spectacular track to the Castle Arch with views of Byangee Walls and the coast if clear weather. On Sunday leave early (~7am) for the long day trip to the magnificent Green Room, a small gorge covered with moss, lichens and ferns. We walk up the Kaliana Ridge and onto the saddle ridge of the Castle (600m) then continue along the track to the Green Room. After lunch return the same way. On Monday pack up camp and drive to Pigeon House. This peak is on a wellworn track and has metal ladders near the top. Map: CMW Budawangs Sketch Map Leader: Janet Edstein 6288 1398 Transport: TBA
24-26 April- ANZAC day weekend - Northern Budawangs- M/R
From the Nerriga entrance we walk via Hoddles Castle to camp on Mt Haughton. On the Sunday we go over Mt Tarn and aim to camp at Burrum-beet Brook with various side trips on the way. Monday we go out to Wog Wog over or around Corang Peak. Car shuffle required. Maps: Endrick and Corang 1:25 000. Leader: Gösta Lyngå - 6288 7009. gusta@webone.com.au Transport ~$24

Saturday 1 May- Queanbeyan River- S/M
Park on Woolcara Lane near Captains Flat, then walk about 2 ½ km on good track until we meet a tributary of the Qbn River which we follow for nearly a km, then along the river itself for about three km before going across country about a km back to the cars. The walk is not hard but will take about four hours. Map: Captains Flat Leader:

Stan Marks 6254 9568 (h) 6274 1398, email: stan.marks@dotars.gov.au Transport: ~$10

Sunday 16 May Corang Peak and Arch L/M
This is a 20+km track walk to Corang peak and onto the Arch. There are great views of this area and from the top of Corang look over to the spectacular Budawangs to see the Castle and other mountains. Map: Corang 1:25000 or CMW Budawangs Leader: Janet Edstein 6288 1398 Transport: $22

12- 14 June- Queens Birthday Weekend- Boboyan car park- Gudgenby- the ridge- Burbridge- Namadgi- Big Creamy Flat- Mavis- Rendezvous Creek- Boboyan car park- L/R
A strenuous trip in some of the best of Namadgi. Map: Yaouk, Rendezvous Creek 1:25,000 Leader: Stephen Thearle 6253 9351(h) Transport:~$8:50.

The Bulletin Board
‘This page is provided for members to advertise (at no cost) goods for sale, private trips or other personal bushwalking-related matters. The Club is not involved in, takes no responsibility for, and does not endorse, the activities or goods advertised here. Hence, if people participate in any activities advertised here, they do so as private individuals, not as members of the Club, and they will not be covered by the Club’s insurance arrangements’.

Open Invitation- Walking in the Budawangs-
Phone and express an interest and we’ll organize something suitable. Alan Davey (02) 4845 9127(h)

MUMC 60th.
We have been asked to advertise the fact that the Melbourne Uni Mountainering Club is having its 60th anniversary Dinner in March. If this interests you, contact is Jim Newlands 03 9802 7702 or mumc_sixtieth@yahoo.com.au

Kayak for Sale
Sea Wasp (Estuary Plus) locally manufactured fibreglass kayak, complete with rudder, deck lines and neoprene skirt.
As new $1500 ono
PH: 6297 4352 after 6pm
Mob: 0418 600 785

Keith Aubrey

The Bulletin Board

CLUB WEBSITE

For several years the Club website has been hosted as part of my personal web space. It is now probably time that the Club obtained its own domain name and moved the site to a place where it can be maintained and updated by anyone authorized by the committee.
I have researched options for the Club and have found a plan which for about $125 per year will handle the club needs and allow development of a more attractive and up-to-date website. I thus seek your support for the motion detailed on page 2.

Allan Mikkelsen

TEMPORARY IT EDITOR

I will be away during the production cycle for the March it and Tom Gosling will be editor for that edition. Please send all material to Tom at the Club PO Box or by email to iteditor2004@hotmail.com

Thanks to Tom and to the other members who volunteered to help.

Allan Mikkelsen

Anyone for Lunch?

A red-bellied black makes short work of a rather large rat.
Photographed by Steven Shaw in ”Cathedral Cave” on the recent ”Rivers and Rainforests of the Budawangs” trip.
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MEMBERSHIP INQUIRIES: Ring ROGER EDWARDS on 6288 7863 (h)
CHECK IN: Ring KEITH THOMAS on 6230 1081 (h)
For Internet users, the Club Home Page is at:
http://www.pcug.org.au/~amikkels/cbc/ and the latest activity program is at: