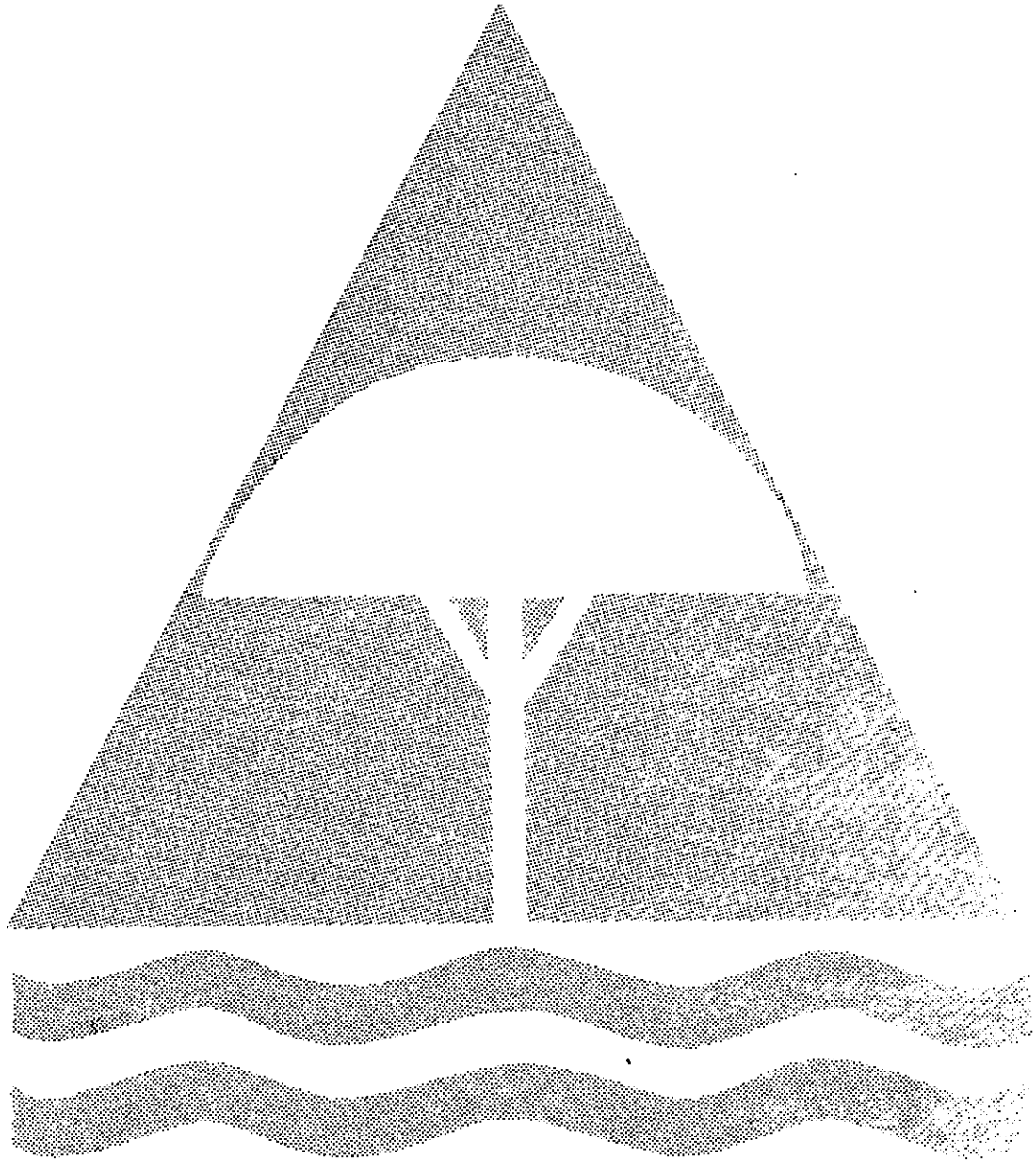


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PRESIDENT'S FOREWORD

The Gudgenby Nature Reserve is the official name of the ACT's 'national park' proclaimed by the Minister for the Capital Territory, Mr Bob Ellicot, on Thursday 26 April to coincide with the centenary of the Royal National Park near Sydney which was the first national park established in Australia.

Our Association would like to make known its appreciation to those in government and the Department of Capital Territory who have made the park a reality. The initial declaration encompasses 51,000 hectares which is approximately 20% of the ACT. This will be increased in several phases until the final foundaries firm in excess of 70,000 hectares. As the western boundary is contiguous with the Cotter River catchment area which in turn is the border of the Koskiusko National Park, Gudgenby will be a Nature Reserve of immense value to Australia.

The inspiration for the Park goes back twenty years to 1959 when a group which included Dr Nancy Burbidge discussed the possibility of a National Parks Association in the ACT. On 1 March 1960 a public meeting was held in the Institute of Anatomy under the chairmanship of Professor L.D. Pryer at which Dr Burbidge moved that an association be formed. Three months later the Constitution had been accepted and the inaugural committee elected.

The early attention of the Association was focussed on the preservation of the Westbourne Woods, the establishment of reserves at Tidbinbilla and the Molongio Gorge and a wilderness area in the Cotter Catchment.

In 1961 the formation of a national park in the Mt Kelly area had become the prime object of the Association. A Committee with Miss Julie Henry as convenor was appointed. Other members included Professor D. Brown, Dr N. Burbidge, Dr R. Story and Mr Slater. Through the work of this committee, with the assistance of other members who provided information, the Association was able to hand a submission to the Minister for the Interior on 17 June 1963 proposing the park.

It is appropriate that our Association pay tribute to those early members who set the direction which others have followed. We were all saddened by the death of Dr Nancy Burbidge in March 1977 before the proclamation of the Reserve. On account of her personal endeavours in connection with the Gudgenby proposal and her achievements in Australian botany it is hoped that some fitting memorial will perpetuate her name in the Gudgenby Nature Reserve.

CAN YOU HELP?

Have you any special interests, experience or expertise that you would like to follow or put to good effect for the Association? Would it interest you to -

- Lead walks, field excursions
- Join committee/s
- Help with typing, clerical work, collating papers
- Write for the Bulletin
- Help with exhibitions
- Address meetings
- Project slides, films?

If so, PLEASE let the President, Secretary or a member of the Committee know.

NEIGHBOURS OF NATIONAL PARKS

'Why on earth don't we stop arguing from these polarised points of view? Why don't we get together, get some common ground and say there is a problem here? The farming community sees itself on one side, a besieged group of people that have to fight off all these things that have been shoved on them from city people, and conservationists see themselves as crusaders. It really is time they got their heads together and started sorting these things out.'

This plea by Brian Lee, of the NPA, was one of the few positive points to emerge from a very disappointing discussion with Janice Franklin of Neighbours of National Parks over the problems posed by national parks to landowners. The discussion, broadcast on 2XX, intended to clarify the debate, instead confused it. The chairman regrettably failed to intervene sufficiently, so important issues were lost in a morass of rambling diatribe. The major point of agreement to emerge was the need for more efficient management of national parks so that the problems of falling land values of adjoining properties, noxious weeds and feral animals can be better combatted. But beyond that confusion still reigned as to what sort of national parks the Neighbours of National Parks would like to see in Australia.

Janice spoke of the need for a re-evaluation of the goals of conservation. 'I think that in Australia we should be more concerned with a broader conservation attitude, be more interested with culture, both European and aboriginal past as well. At the moment our wilderness type attitude that we must preserve in its natural state is probably defeating the purpose of preserving not only our natural heritage, which is there and is vital, but we have got to try and preserve our cultural past.' It would appear Janice's priorities are adequately catered for in present national parks.

Does her association really believe national parks should be retained in the present manner with improved administration, or do they privately favour the Moriarty concept, opening them to mining, agriculture and logging? The vagueness of her prescription for the future leaves us wondering. If she only wants better administration under the present framework, then surely the problems can be ironed out with less divisive argument than at present.

The old city-country ill feeling emerged very strongly in the discussion. Janice: 'We feel really that the conservationists, perhaps the movement, comes from the city. The conservationists at heart are in the country. Let's face it, the national parks are going to be created where people have been looking after the land. We're not going to have national parks in your backyards, we're going to have national parks in country people's backyards. We're going to have to disinherit one group to satisfy another under the present system, there's no way around that.' Anyone who has heard country people talk with contempt about those 'so-called conservationists in the city' will realise that Janice's view is shared by most country people. It is regrettable and further indication of the need for the two sides to get together.

The first specific point of agreement to emerge was the need for better compensation for property owners adjoining national parks. Brian: 'I would agree that farmers around national parks should be very adequately compensated. I don't think they have been in NSW and the ACT. I feel that some of the farmers around those park borders have had a poor deal.' On the question of noxious weeds the basic consensus that they were a problem which required control was obfuscated by disagreement on the question of origin. Brian said blackberries in particular had spread from Victoria. Janice disagreed. She said black-

berries had always been in the area of the Kosciusko National Park but had only spread with the termination of grazing. Similarly, Janice said, feral animals had always been around, but the problem had grown when national parks were gazetted. Here again consensus was hidden by argument over whether pig numbers were controlled by dingos or not. Brian said an Australian Meat and Livestock Council survey had found that there was a high correlation between dingo population and low pig numbers. He further voiced doubt whether the apparent dingos were in fact domestic dogs gone wild. Janice denied these claims and took issue with Brian when he said that the pigs intruding on to her property, Brindabella, came from the ACT and not the Kosciusko National Park. Taken by themselves, they are all interesting points of debate, but only of academic interest. They have no direct bearing on the fact that there is an acute problem for both national parks and landowners of noxious weeds and feral animals. This was agreed upon by both Janice and Brian. So, the only real question is how can we eradicate or at least control the problem. Janice said staff at National Parks were almost entirely concerned with tourism and noxious weeds were only tackled when extra staff were employed. All right then let us ensure that the priority is changed and there are adequate staff to counter the weeds. It is not easy to change public service thinking, and certainly a lot less easy to get extra finance for additional staff. But a united front of environmentalists and landowners calling for increased action to combat the problem is far more likely to succeed than small groups making individual approaches.

At this point of the discussion, agreement again emerged on the choice between extending and increasing national parks, or managing the existing ones better. But sadly again, consensus was almost buried by quibbling over relatively minor points. Brian: 'Paul Landa is a politician, he presumably interprets the pressures as saying that we will have more acquisitions. I personally don't, I'd far rather see what we have properly managed.' Janice: 'Yes, there's no doubt about that. I would be, to put it mildly, upset if the government continues to gazette national parks at the present pace because the more parks that are going to be gazetted over the next decade, the less chance we have of seeing any real management in parks we have.' The discussion ended on a related point: the present system in NSW of notification and rights of appeal by landowners against the gazettal of national parks.

Janice claimed that the NSW government was blindly accepting the advice of conservationists, extending or creating parks and then delivering a fait accompli to the landowners. Brian suggested that this was part and parcel of the cruel world we live in. Janice returned to the point that the country people were being attacked by the city-based conservationists. There was a need for a complete re-evaluation before any more parks were declared or extended, she said.

While this particular issue has many divisive aspects, it still remains that there is far greater room for consensus than at first appears. If conservationists in Australia, in the cities or in the country, wish to avoid a backlash resulting in the loss of much that we have so far achieved, then THEY must make the first move to bridge the gap. Landowners and conservationists will almost inevitably be opposed on some points. But if the irrationality, confusion and misunderstanding that has so far characterised the relationship, as was evident in the 2XX discussion, is to be removed then dialogue should replace abusive monologue.

The contact by NPA members with the Franklins at Brindabella is one small step on the road to common understanding.

THE APPLICABILITY OF REGIONAL PARKS IN AUSTRALIA

In the past, the Australian conservation movement has lobbied for a system of reserves which will preserve the recreational, ecological and scientific values of the Australian landscape. In recent years the Association for Regional Parks and Countryside Commissions of Australia (ARPCCA) has argued to have existing reserves replaced by a land-tenure called regional parks, based on the British concept for National Parks, which are not conducive to strict nature preservation. This lobby is calling for a change in the preservation status of all National Parks in Australia so as to allow and encourage intensive land-uses incompatible with the preservation of the natural environment in these reserves.

In this abridged version of a paper by J. Trigg to the Queensland Conservation Council the differences between National Parks and Regional Parks and the applicability of Regional Parks in Australia are discussed.

The world's second 'National Park' was declared just south of Sydney in 1879. Along with early American examples, this precedent recognised that there is recreational, ecological and scientific value in preserving part of the 'natural' landscape. The International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN) defines a National Park so as to ensure that in designating and managing a National Park these values are maintained:

"A National Park is a relatively large area -

- 1) where one or several ecosystems are not materially altered by human exploitation and occupation, where plant and animal species, geomorphological sites and habitats are of special scientific, educative and recreative interest or which contains a natural landscape of great beauty and
- 2) where the highest competent authority of the country has taken steps to prevent or to eliminate as soon as possible exploitation or occupation in the whole area and to enforce effectively the respect of ecological, geomorphological or aesthetic features which have led to its establishment and
- 3) where visitors are allowed to enter under special conditions, for inspirational, educational, cultural and recreative purposes."

The IUCN is explicit in describing areas which Governments should not designate as 'National Park':

- "1) a scientific reserve which can be entered only by special permission (strict nature reserve);
- 2) a natural reserve managed by a private institution or a lower authority without some type of recognition and control by the highest competent authority of the country;
- 3) a 'special reserve' as defined in the African Convention of 1968 (fauna and flora reserve, game reserve, bird sanctuary, geological or forest reserve, etc.);
- 4) an inhabited and exploited area where landscape planning and measures, taken for the development of tourism have led to the setting up of 'recreation areas' where industrialisation and urbanisation are controlled and where public outdoor recreation takes priority over the conservation of ecosystems. Areas of this description which may have been established as 'National Parks' should be redesignated in due course."

Thus for a country to designate land as National Park, there should be relatively large areas comprising near-pristine ecosystems within its borders suitable for preservation. Because there are few such remaining areas in Britain, reserves in that country have been developed according to a different concept.

Prior to World War II, the intensely used countryside of Britain was largely under tenure of private ownership. Apart from footpaths, roads, 'ways' and certain 'common lands', the picturesque countryside was not accessible to most people. British social history had deemed that the right to enjoy the country be vested in a power elite, which traditionally had been the rural land-holder.

But along with the change in social structure and traditions, came pressure to make the British countryside accessible to city dwellers. In response to this community lobby, in 1945 the Government commissioned firstly a report by John Dower, a well-known National Park advocate, and subsequently in 1947 a committee under Sir Arthur Hobhouse to evaluate Dower's ideas.

The Government responded to these Reports by legislating for the National Park and Access to the Countryside Act of 1949. This legislation provided for the establishment of the National Parks Commission (England and Wales), whose role it was to plan for the establishment and management of National Parks. The legislation accepted the idea of adopting the wilderness concept of a National Park to preserve the privately-owned settled countryside of Britain and assumed that much of the scenery of Britain has evolved over the centuries and is dependent upon the history of farming and forestry. In this sense, the British legislation preserves and makes accessible to the public a 'cultural landscape', rather than a 'natural landscape' as is the case for the traditional National Park concept.

Under the legislation, National Parks in Britain were proclaimed by the Countryside Commission, after approval from the Minister and after a public inquiry. Areas declared as National Park are maintained in private land tenure and existing land-uses, although regulated, are not necessarily prohibited. The Commission was also empowered to allocate funds to local administering bodies to plan and manage the various National Parks and to negotiate with land-owners to establish public access under certain conditions. The legislation provides for the local administering bodies to comprise a majority of representatives of Local Authorities, as well as appointees by the Government on the recommendation of the Commission and a minority membership representing outside interests (e.g. recreationalists, conservationists).

At present, there are seven National Parks in England and three in Wales comprising a total area of 13,620 sq km, which amounts to nearly 10% of Britain's land surface.

Under the Countryside Act of 1968, the Commission's powers were widened so that it could encourage and provide funds for the establishment of reserves other than National Parks (these areas are designated as Country Parks and Picnic Sites).

The Nature Conservancy Act of 1973 charged a national conservation body, The Nature Conservancy Council, with the task of establishing Nature Reserves in England. Nature Reserves are comparable to small Australian National Parks, although their recreational aspects are much less emphasised than is the case in Australia.

In summary, the British National Park was a response to a need to make Britain's countryside accessible to the public for recreation, rather than a need to preserve large near-natural ecosystems for their ecological, recreational and scientific values. The latter concept of a National Park is inappropriate in Britain and in much of Europe because of the intensive history of land-use.

Recently, the ARPCCA has been vocal in arguing to apply the British concept of National Parks in Australia. The ARPCCA originated in 1975 with the formation of the Mt Lofty Ranges and Precincts Regional Parks Association - a community organisation whose aim was to protect prime agricultural land in the Adelaide Hills from urban encroachment. Such was to be achieved by the declaration of a Regional Park. In 1976, the Committee decided its aims could best be fulfilled by forming a national organisation and the local group became the ARPCCA. This organisation is comprised of groups which traditionally have confronted the National Park lobby and nature conservationists in Australia.

The aims of the ARPCCA are stated as follows ,

- "a) for the production of fresh food and other horticultural and agricultural products;
- b) to maintain a beautiful countryside for the recreation of the people of the region and of the cities and for the relaxation of tourists;
- c) to preserve a rural community with traditional experience and craftsmanship;
- d) to regulate housing areas to fit in with scenic and environmental amenities;
- e) to minimise environmental pollution and deterioration ,
- f) to encourage conservation of natural vegetation and natural resources including water from rainfall and underground sources."

Although the details of the ARPCCA proposal for Australia are vague, its theme relies on advocating the British National Park concept as the basis of Australian National Park management. The Research Secretary of the organisation suggests that the history of British land-use is comparable to the way the Australian aborigines manipulated their environment mainly through fire control. The organisation argues that aborigines created a landscape which was without extensive underbrush and scrub, and thus was conducive to human occupation, and in a sense 'like an English Park' and thus concludes that rural land-use is a necessary aspect of a desirable Australian environment for human activity.

The Association's objection to setting aside National Parks free from direct human impact is that such reserves deny that the history of land-use in this continent is an integrated and inalienable part of the existing cultural landscape. The ARPCCA claims that without a balanced interaction between humans and their environment, the land will necessarily degrade. As evidence of this, the Association refers to our existing National Parks which they consider are susceptible to invasion by noxious weeds, pests, and subject to disastrous fires, much to the detriment of adjacent properties. The Mt Kosciusko National Park is often cited to illustrate the lack of National Park management and the need for land-uses such as grazing and farming so as to maintain a desirable human/environment stability. The organisation claims that the land adjacent to National Parks is especially susceptible to pests and fire.

As well existing National Parks are unproductive land, except to a small fraternity of bushwalkers, and can only be 'afforded' by society in areas which are unsuitable for people to live. Otherwise, the ARPCCA claims that existing National Parks should be put to 'productive' use.

Whilst the ARPCCA continually presents these arguments in its public statements, it is not specific on the proposed administration of Regional Parks. Generally, the proposal is that Regional Parks would be similar to the English National Park concept in that land-uses other than recreation and preservation would be permitted but regulated. As in Britain, the planning and management of these reserves would be encouraged by a Countryside Commission and administered by local bodies. The proposed Australian Commission would differ from Britain's Countryside Commission in that the majority of its members will represent 'land-holders', with a minority of representatives of Government and Government instrumentalities. Whilst it has been implied that some National Park wilderness areas could exist in areas unsuitable for human inhabitation, the Association has failed to describe the exact status of these National Parks within the proposed Regional Parks. Also, there is no mention in the proposal as to whether existing National Parks will be revoked for private land tenure. More generally, the Association has not described the controls over land-use or the rights and obligations of land-holders and recreationists in proposed Australian Regional Parks.

But the ARPCCA has manipulated the concept of British National Parks in other ways to apply it inappropriately to Australia. The concept of the British National Park has never denied the preservation value of 'natural' areas. Rather, it correctly assumes that in Britain most available land has been farmed and forested to an extent that the option to preserve large sections of the countryside in a near-natural state has been foreclosed. Over the centuries, intensive land-use has significantly changed the natural landscape to an extent that its preservation value is not diminished by the continuation of past activities. This is not the case for the many valuable large, almost natural, ecosystems in Australia. Whilst Australia has been inhabited for a long period by Aborigines, and in the recent past by Europeans, the intensity and extent of land-use is not comparable to the history of habitation in Britain. Although the reason for, and the effects of, Aboriginal burning of the countryside has been the subject of a major anthropological and ecological debate, it is certainly misleading to suggest that Aborigines 'harvested' the whole of the Australian continent 'like an English Park'.

Regardless of the ARPCCA debate concerning past land-use in Australia, the existing large expanses of valuable near-natural bushland in this country are adequate evidence that British style National Parks would not appropriately replace the existing system of Australian National Parks.

The proposals of the ARPCCA are particularly alarming, for example, when the subject of effective wildlife management in Australia is considered. British National Parks came into being at a time when the countryside had reached a period of relative stability in terms of man's impact. Consequently, the wildlife which inhabited the parklands when they were gazetted consisted of those species which had survived perhaps 1,000 years of habitat alteration by man. Species which have disappeared from the British Isles, especially the larger species such as the brown bear, wolf and Irish Elk, could not sustain competition with humans and would not survive today in the British National Parks in competition with human activities.

Australian wildlife has not yet stabilised after 200 years of European settlement. Over 50 species have become extinct in this period and there are many others which, while still surviving, have shown a lack of adaptability to European impact. The survival of these species is dependent on the maintenance of reserves from which the usual rural activities are excluded. The Ground Parrot, the Noisy Scrub Bird, the Numbat and the Queensland Hairy-nosed Wombat are just a few of the species which would meet with certain extinction if land usage suggested by the ARPCCA was permitted in the reserves designed to protect those species.

Another major concern of the ARPCCA is that our nature reserves harbour 'pests'. The idea that Australian native flora and fauna constitute a nuisance which should be eradicated reflects a lack of appreciation of the Australian environment. Most Australians have realised that it is a mistake to try to impose a total European landscape on the Australian environment. The greater the ecological monoculture which we create (either in an urban or agricultural context), the more likely that certain 'pest' species will become dominant. Large populations of particular species are associated with simple and dynamic ecosystems heavily modified by humans, rather than a diverse natural ecology in relative equilibrium. Whilst it is true that National Parks provide habitats for certain species which neighbouring landowners may consider pests, the diversity of species in nature reserves contributes in general to a 'balanced' ecosystem.

The fire threat posed by National Parks is another major concern of the ARPCCA. Whilst it is agreed that fire risk is significant in our existing parks, there is no reason why fire management could not effectively prevent serious fire hazards within and near parks.

The above-mentioned arguments contribute to the ARPCCA's mistaken proposition that, as in Britain, it is no longer possible or desirable to preserve part of the Australian natural landscape. It is this proposition which distinguishes the ARPCCA from the rest of the anti-National Park lobby. In refuting the arguments of the ARPCCA, there should be no need to again justify the value of nature preservation. That value has been established elsewhere and is a premise accepted widely by individuals, organisations and governments. For the ARPCCA, the argument to preserve the Australian 'cultural landscape' rather than the 'natural landscape', is in addition to a traditional tactic of the anti-National Park lobby to underrate the value of nature preservation. It is this confusion which might potentially draw support for the ARPCCA.

Although the ARPCCA proposal to replace Australia's National Parks with Regional Parks would be inappropriate and costly, there may well be a need for British style National Parks to preserve aspects of our cultural landscape so as to complement our existing nature reserves. These regional parks could be developed to alleviate the increasing recreational pressure on our National Parks. But in considering the status of these areas which preserve our rural countryside, we should ensure the continued existence of a system of Nature Reserves. Regional Parks are not an appropriate means of preserving valuable natural areas, whether of regional or national significance.

Regional Parks in Australia could fulfil two specific land-use objectives.

- 1) The preservation of valuable recreational, historical and aesthetic aspects of our rural countryside for public use, by regulating and prohibiting incompatible land-uses and by providing recreational facilities.
- 2) The establishment of buffer zones near National Parks in which land-use is regulated so as to minimise impact upon the nature reserve.

There are many areas in which a Regional Park concept might be appropriate in complementing existing National Parks. Yencken (1975:71) describes a method currently being formulated in the USA which designates critical areas 'of special environmental value'. In the USA in addition to nature reserves, critical areas can be designated where development is regulated but not prohibited.

Two alternative methods are suggested for designating and protecting 'major critical areas', which are not within public reserves but require special planning and management:

- 1) Critical areas could be identified either by the State Government or by Local Authorities. Statutes would apply to protect such designated areas by strict planning and management controls.
- 2) As with the British system, a State Commission could encourage the designation of critical areas and fund local administering bodies to manage and protect these areas of 'special environmental quality'.

The effective implementation of a system of critical areas would have four requirements:

- 1) The undertaking of an inventory of land-resources and land-use in each State.
- 2) The enactment of protective legislation on a State level.
- 3) The establishment in each State of an independent statutory body, which would have clearly defined powers to advocate the declaration of critical areas. Private citizens should comprise the majority of such a statutory body.
- 4) A financial commitment by the Australian Government.

Whilst a system of 'critical areas' which incorporated both National Parks and Regional Parks is probably appropriate in Australia, three matters should be considered.

- 1) If Regional Parks status was proclaimed in Australia, the Government might attempt to placate conservationists by declaring Regional Parks in areas which require National Park status. For this reason, if Regional Parks status is proclaimed, the establishment and management of National Parks should remain the highest priority of the National Parks and Wildlife Service. The authority of the National Parks and Wildlife Service should not be usurped by any Government organisation whose principal function is to establish Regional Parks.
- 2) Because of different historic and cultural backgrounds to Britain, Australian rural landowners may be reluctant to accept land-use controls or provide public access to their land. Alternatively, recreationalists may not be agreeable to a 'Country Code of Behaviour' as is publicised and encouraged by the British Countryside Commission.
- 3) Although the problems which have been experienced in Britain may not apply in Australia, the British system should not be portrayed as perfect. The British system has experienced problems in relation to farmer and visitor attitudes and behaviour. Also, before the Countryside Commission Act 1968, Local Administrative Bodies were often reluctant to declare National Parks because they were thought to be not in the local interest. As well, the

Nature Conservancy in 1977 has expressed concern that 'so many plant and animal communities and populations have become so reduced in parts of Britain that further quite small reductions could have critical effects upon them'.

The ARPCCA movement presents three aspects of concern for Australian conservationists:

- 1) The group's proposals are contrary to nature preservation.
- 2) The lobby is attempting to diminish the political influence of the Australian conservation movement.
- 3) The group is attempting to syphon Government grants to conservation organisations.

These threats should be taken seriously because the proponents of Regional Parks in Australia have manipulated an English concept of a 'reserve' and applied it inappropriately in an Australian context. Because there appears to be a need for Regional Parks to complement our National Parks, the ARPCCA will appeal to the public and to politicians who lack an understanding of the historical differences between the concepts.

Conservationists should present to the public a clear concept of the potential of Regional Parks in Australia and the role that they should fulfil.

The Queensland Conservation Council, P.O. Box 238, North Quay, Queensland 4000, would be pleased to receive comment on the policy which should be adopted on regional parks.

PERISHER VALLEY PLANNING STUDY

In June 1977 the Minister for Lands (NSW) appointed a Task Force to report by 31 October 1978 on the planning and management of the Perisher Valley ski resort in the Kosciusko National Park. Planning consultants were appointed by the Task Force to examine:

- . The capacity of ski slopes in each of the existing resorts to take an optimum number of skiers;
- . Traffic capacity of the roads and public demand for access and based on the above to make recommendations on what further snowfield development is desirable and practicable over a ten year period, where such development should take place, and how it should be planned in detail and carried out.

The report has now been released to encourage public debate. Comments received from interested parties together with the report will provide input into the current review of the Plan of Management for Kosciusko National Park which is due for completion in 1980.

The principal findings of the study are that there is a twelve per cent per annum rate of growth for skiing in NSW compared with a six per cent growth rate for non-skiing winter recreation. The capacity of the ski slopes within the existing development zones is sufficient to cater for twice the present number of users and will meet demand to 1985. Main road 286, subject to some improvements, will meet peak demand to 1985.

The study developed three related strategies for access, development of the Perisher Range and the development of Perisher Valley.

Main recommendations for access are improvements to the carrying capacity of MR286 and park entrance gate capacity with its relocation at Sawnit Creek; distribution of car parking spaces to meet skier requirements and traffic management measures; construction of bus terminal facilities at Perisher Valley and increased bus and car sharing; encouragement of link lift systems; and increased accommodation in Perisher Valley to reduce daily traffic volumes.

Other recommendations were the development of additional slopes for the Blue Cow area with a lift system; parking area and other facilities for day skiers with tenders being called in 1980; introduction of a common ticket (at minimal extra price) for all lifts on the Perisher Range be required prior to the construction of any additional lifts; capacity for parking vehicles to be approximately doubled and 1,400 additional beds be permitted in Perisher Valley (to be reviewed when limit is reached) and 200 additional beds at Guthega, Island Bend be investigated for cabin or camping accommodation.

Recommendations on public safety were made for emergency procedures in the event of blizzards to be discussed, and for no further parking areas to be provided until emergency procedures are approved.

In addition it was recommended that survey and mapping of the Perisher Range be undertaken to identify significant constraints on development. Criteria, guidelines and procedures for control and monitoring of the location and construction of ski towns and access routes are also to be formalised.

Copies of the brochure are available from the Association and the full report for perusal from the National Parks and Wildlife Service, Fallick House, Morrisett St., Queanbeyan. Interested members are invited to make comment for inclusion in the Association's submission.

Mr Love of the National Parks and Wildlife Service addressed the Association in place of Mr Erskine on 15 February. His address covered policy in the administration of National Parks and included details of the above study.

ECOFEST

Ecofest Schools aim is through taking a disciplined look at a field site or area, to develop a general framework within which to study our natural environment. The Schools are conducted by the University of New England's Department of Continuing Education and enquiries should be directed to Ecofest, P.O. Box 591, Tamworth 2340.

Unfortunately information has come too late for details to be included for the early part of the year in our March issue of the bulletin, but brief details for the remainder of the year are:

Plant Identification 15-18 June at Port Macquarie - \$35
Mt Kaputar National Park 18-21 August at Narrabri - \$50
Tweed Valleys 3-7 September at Murwillumbah - \$65
Macquarie Marshes 28 September - 5 October at Quambone - \$80
Wild Food, 2nd half of 1979 on the North Coast - \$30
Down the Castlereagh 5-9 July at Coonabarabran - \$50
Down the Wilson 29 September-1 October from Wauchope - \$60

COLORADO'S PARKLANDS (This article supplements the talk that Professor Beidleman gave to the Association on 15 March 1979.

The rectangular State of Colorado, straddling the continental divide in western United States and larger than Victoria, is made up of an eastern high-plains section, a central Rocky Mountains portion, and a far-western canyon-plateau region. Four major American rivers trace their headwaters to the Colorado mountaintops: the famous Colorado, which starts on the west side of the Rocky Mountain National Park, will later carve through the Grand Canyon, and flows into the Pacific; the southern Rio Grande which later will form the boundary between eastern Mexico and the United States and flow into the Gulf; and on the east the Arkansas and Platte Rivers which pour eventually into the Mississippi and the Gulf. With more than fifty peaks beyond 14,000 feet in height, a range in elevation of more than two vertical miles, and an average elevation higher than 6500 feet, Colorado exhibits a high ecological diversity, from lowland countryside with the climate, plants, animal life and scenery of northern Mexico, through Canadian-like climates, into peaktop arctic tundra. Indeed, despite the claims to gigantic size by the State of Texas, Colorado contains 225 million more CUBIC miles than Texas!

It is not surprising that today many representative portions of this bountiful natural landscape have been set aside as public parklands. The idea of natural-area public parks really dates from 1872, when the Yellowstone geyser wilderness of Wyoming was established as the world's first National Park. This year, of course, Australia is celebrating the establishment of the world's second 'national park', Royal National Park near Sydney. Colorado could almost boast of having the third group of national parks, because in 1886 bills were introduced into the U.S. Congress to set aside three Colorado sites, including the striking Pikes Peak-Garden of the Gods area near Colorado Springs, as national parks. Unfortunately, the bills were rejected.

However, by 1916, when the National Park Service itself was started, Colorado already had two famous national parks. Mesa Verde in the southwestern portion of the state had been set aside to preserve, especially, spectacular Indian cliff-dwelling 'apartments' which date back centuries. Rocky Mountain National Park, on the other hand, included a representative section of the southern Rocky Mountains.

Rocky, dominated by 14,256-foot Long's Peak (named in honor of Major Stephen Long, leader of an 1820 scientific expedition to Colorado, one of whose members, Titian Peale, later would explore Australia's Argyle area), not only contains rugged, glaciated continental-divide mountain scenery, with some 200 lakes, but also five active glaciers, as well as a geologically interesting unglaciated section characterized by granite domes, balanced rocks, and pothole ponds.

The unique feature of Rocky Mountain National Park is the ready access by Trail Ridge Road to alpine tundra. For more than ten miles this highest through-highway in the United States goes across an undulating skyline landscape right out of Alaska (and reminiscent of the Snowy Mountains high-country in Australia), four of the miles being higher than 12,000 feet above sea level. The alpine flower gardens, as at Mt. Kosi, are spectacular during the brief summer, and the associated animals are equally interesting, whether the Pika (a tailless relative of the rabbit which also lives in the Himalayas) or the White-tailed Ptarmigan (a grouse which turns white in winter and also occurs in Alaska). Two of the Colorado tundra birds, nicely enough, also frequent Australia's alpine peaktops: the raven and the pipit. Trail Ridge Road, incidentally, follows in part the route of an ancient Ute Indian trail.

Rocky Mountain National Park affords its several-million annual visitors a variety of activities, from camping and picnicking to all-day naturalist hikes

crossing some of the Park's glaciers, and a diversity of evening naturalist talks. On your own you can become familiar with the Park's many intriguing animals, seeing herds of Wapiti (elk) at timberline, Bighorn Sheep on rocky crags, a beaver dam 1000 feet long, and with luck a majestic Golden Eagle (a counterpart of Australia's wedge-tailed eagle) soaring overhead.

American national parks are established by acts of Congress and are administered by the National Park Service in the Department of the Interior. Also administered by the Park Service are national monuments, established by presidential proclamation. Colorado's several national monuments are 'gems'. Black Canyon preserves one of the deepest, narrowest canyons in the world, carved by the Gunnison River. At one point the gorge is 1000 feet across at the rim, 2000 feet deep, and about 50 feet across at the bottom. Sand Dunes National Monument preserves the highest sand dunes in the United States and is considered one of the choicest camping areas in the country, nestled against the imposing Sangre de Cristo Range. Colorado National Monument along the western Colorado border is characterized by striking red sandstone sculpturing readily visible from a beautiful rim-road drive, while the Colorado portion of Dinosaur National Monument preserves spectacular river wilderness canyons, first made famous by Major Powell of Grand Canyon fame. The western portion of this Monument, in Utah, includes significant dinosaur remains within a unique museum covering the actual fossil outcrops where paleontologists continue to excavate the bones while visitors watch.

The federal government also administers other natural areas in Colorado, including national recreational sites (reservoirs), wildlife refuges (at our Monte Vista Wildlife Refuge in winter one can often see up to 100 Bald Eagles, national bird of the United States), national historic sites (such as frontier forts)... Much of the scenic mountain countryside is included within National Forests, which are multiple-use areas administered by the U.S. Forest Service within the Department of Agriculture; and now our Bureau of Land Management, which holds unassigned public lands, is setting aside 'parks for people'.

In addition to the United States Government, the state government of Colorado preserves a variety of public areas. The new Colorado Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation administers a series of choice State Parks, such as Lathrop State Park with its lakes, rock outcrops, and natural pinyon-juniper woodland; as well as a variety of recreational reservoirs, and one of the best bird-sanctuary lakes within the state. Also, the Park Division makes available Federal Land and Water funds to local communities for the purchase and development of local parks. The Colorado State Historical Society maintains a group of historic sites such as the Ute Indian Museum on the camping grounds of the great Indian Chief Ouray, and Fort Garland where the famous Kit Carson once was commandant.

Not to be outdone by the federal and state governments, local governments in Colorado have set aside their own parks. El Paso County (where Colorado Springs is located), for example, has developed a most appealing foothills creekbottom park with a unique solar-heated visitor center and an excellent series of nature trails; while a number of Colorado cities have not only the familiar type of urban park but also natural parks, the most famous being Colorado Springs' 'Garden of the Gods' and Denver's Mountain Parks, the latter even including herds of American bison (wrongly called 'buffalo').

Today, Colorado, 'energy capital of the United States', is one of the fastest growing states, population-wise. Despite her existing bounty of parklands, public-minded citizens, the same kind who make up the A.C.T. National Parks Association, energetically press plans to increase our parklands for the enjoyment of future generations.

OFFA'S DYKE PATH

As part of my recent overseas holiday, I stayed for a fortnight in Wales and whilst there walked 60 miles of the Offa's Dyke Path.

Offa's Dyke Path, Britain's fourth long-distance footpath to be officially opened, runs approximately along the Wales-England border for a distance of 168 miles. The path was approved in 1955 but little progress was made for some years because of the many rights of way needed and local authorities being concerned with more pressing problems. In 1966 the then National Parks Commission with the help of local councils gave greater encouragement to the proposal. Responsibility for approving proposals lay with the Minister of Housing and Local Government and at local government level the creation of rights of way could be undertaken by either county or district councils. The provision of stiles and general clearance lay with the highway authorities.

The Offa's Dyke Association was set up to promote interest in, and conservation of, the Border area along the path and to work for the eventual completion of the route. A target date was set for 1971 and in July of that year it was formally opened by Lord Hunt with an inaugural walk along part of the path.

Offa reigned from 757-796 AD and achieved unprecedented power in southern England. He was the first ruler to be styled King of the English. During the first half of the eighth century there had been a protracted struggle going on along the border as the frontier was gradually driven back to a more settled region which was to be marked by the great running earthwork of Offa's Dyke. This was constructed probably between 784 and 796 under the direction of men trained in military tradition. Each landowner along the route would have been responsible for a particular length of the Dyke according to the extent of his lands or labour resources available. The running earthwork of the Dyke is traceable today for 81 miles. It consists of an earth bank, ditched, usually on the west side, sometimes on both, averaging in height some 6 feet and in breadth almost 60 feet.

The Path does not exclusively follow the Dyke although it is the theme for the Path. Detours are made to give a scenically more attractive walk by providing open walking country over the Black Mountains and the Clwydians. The Path is rich in scenic variety, historic and literary associations. Many books, pamphlets and leaflets have been published on the Path with varying degrees of details of direction and what is to be seen en route.

The official government book contains extracts of 1:25,000 Ordnance Survey maps and advice that the complete coast-to-coast walk could be made in a fortnight averaging about 12 miles a day. This would leave little time to stop off but with three weeks, there would be more time to explore. Even with the official guide there have been local variations and one must be alert to the possibility of losing the path, as in many places it is not a worn track or the signs may be missing or obscured. The waymark sign is a white stencilled acorn about 2" high or a wood carved sign post. The sign post often did not point in the precise direction over a field nor were the waymarks readily discernible at a distance of several hundred yards over a field (or behind a bush). Although one may not get lost, it is essential to follow the approved route if one does

not want to get into bother with briar hedges, landing up in someone's farmyard or on a lane heading in the wrong direction. Doing the walk on my own meant I had to be particularly alert during rain and mist squalls for the little acorn on a post or tree trunk.

I walked from Chepstow to Hay-on-Wye in three stages, a distance of 60 miles, using bed and breakfast accommodation for the overnight stays. On the second night after an afternoon of rain, it looked as if it was going to be a night under a tree or in a barn, as the plentiful accommodation listed for Pandy just wasn't there and I had to go back two miles to a farm. The walk was well worth doing, although the second day involved many stiles and ploughed fields which didn't have the same interest as the high moors of the Black Mountains or following the Wye River escarpment.

The walk is reasonably popular. I passed seven walkers on the Saturday, none on the Sunday and nine walkers on the Monday. The lack of walkers on Sunday is probably accounted for because it was not a particularly interesting section. Even with these numbers, the worn path is not particularly well delineated over fields because of lush summer growth and farmers having no respect for rights-of-way when they plough their fields. Finding the way out of Monmouth was difficult (because of no signs) as a new housing estate had been built over the map route. Asking at a house, I was told (graciously) they had had about 20 recent enquiries for the path - so I must have reached the common point of confusion. Bushes growing up obscure its waist high acorn signs and there were some signs of vandalism with the carved signs.

The making of the path is a commendable effort because of the terrific amount of work which must have been necessary to choose a route following existing rights-of-way and to negotiate new ones. To walk the whole route would have been well worth while. Two ladies I met were taking three weeks over the full walk.

Reg Alder

LOCAL NEWS

Annual General Meeting. Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting will be held on Thursday, 16 August, at 8 p.m. in Room 1, in the Griffin Centre, Civic.

Business:

- To receive from the Committee a report on the affairs of the Association, together with the audited Statement of Accounts for the year ended 30 June 1979.
- To elect a President, Vice-President, Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Treasurer, Publicity Officer and six members of Committee.
- To appoint an Auditor.
- To transact any business which may properly be brought before the meeting.

Nominations are called for the twelve positions listed above. Nominations in writing should be signed by the proposer, the seconder and the nominee, and should be in the hands of the Secretary before the commencement of the Annual General Meeting.

World Wilderness Congress 1980. The second congress is being held in Cairns, Queensland, from 9-13 June 1980. The principal objectives of the congress are to establish worldwide understanding of the need for wilderness areas, to provide a platform for those who have a profound understanding of the wilderness concept and to provide greater understanding that industrial and commercial growth must go hand in hand with the setting aside of more wild and natural areas. A brochure is available from the Association.

Perisher Valley planning study. The Association has replied to the National Parks and Wildlife Service planning study with suggestions for improvement and requesting additional information so as to form the basis for a further submission.

Huts in Parks. A draft policy for comment has been received from the National Parks and Wildlife Service. The Association has prepared a submission.

Nature Reserve in Jervis Bay. A copy of the draft development and management plan is being procured and a sub-committee has been formed to study the plan and submit recommendations.

Extreme Wilderness. The defamation case brought against this Association and several other associations by Mr J.A. Doyle is still in court.

Australia's Wilderness. A 307 page book with 70 illustrations covering the first comprehensive statement on the progress and plans for conserving the nation's wild places is available from the Australian Conservation Foundation, 672B Glenferrie Rd, Hawthorn, Victoria 3122 for \$6.00 postage included. A copy is held by the Association.

Membership Renewals. Hill & Gwen Worner; P.D. & M.R. Cooper; L.C. Lawrence; J.W. Doyle; Garry Medaris; V. King; D.B. & H.J. Buchler; J. Czajor; G.H.L. & J.M. Rothschild; G. Watt; M. Rafferty; J. & J. Webster; K. & J. Crawford; N. Weeks; A. Curtis; K. Gilmour; D. Lowe.

New Members. Dr L. Day; P. Goddard; M.L. Porter; J. & W. Wright; P. Carron; R. Arthur.

Outings Sub-Committee. Jan Kiek, convenor of the Outings Sub-Committee, has taken up a position in Melbourne and will be a loss to the Association for the work which she has done on the Committee. Our new convenor is Leigh McClintock (telephone 474587) and elsewhere in this issue he is seeking members' co-operation to make the Outings Programme a full and satisfying one for all tastes.

Map News

Tumut and Yarongobilly. 1:100,000 map should be available in July. Work by the C.M.A. on 1:25,000 maps covering the ACT and surrounding areas is well advanced and some should be available by September.

Australia Nature Conservation Reserves. Over 500 national parks or other nature conservation reserves of over 1,000 hectares are shown on this map at 1:5,000,000 scale published by the Division of National Mapping.

Talbingo. 1:25,000 scale topographic map. The C.M.A. of NSW has now completed its coverage of the north-west portion of the Kosciusko National Park.

Warrumbungle National Park. A special map at 1:30,000 scale by the C.M.A. in association with the National Parks and Wildlife Service of NSW.

OUTINGS SUBCOMMITTEE

Members will notice that the meeting places for outings other than camps have been moved to the edges of town. This reflects our feeling that we ought to be doing more to stop waste of petrol. I know many members have been concerned about this.

As usual, we need more ideas for outings, especially special-interest ones, and we need people to lead outings from time to time. All you need to be a leader really is common sense and a willingness to spare the time, so if you can help why not contact any Committee member. Or, better still, come to the next meeting of the subcommittee at 19 Fawcner St, Braddon, at 7.30 p.m. on Thursday 14 June. Membership of the subcommittee is very flexible - everybody is welcome.

Leigh McClintock (convenor)

A Membership Application form has been prepared and is now in use. It also gives information on the aims and objectives of the Association and what we do. New members are being asked: 'Have you any special interests, experience or expertise that you would like to follow or put to good effect for the Association?' and 'Would it interest you to - lead walks, field excursions; join committees; help with typing, clerical work, collating papers, write for the Bulletin, help with exhibitions, address meetings, project slides or films?'. It would help if existing members could re-affirm their interests in any of the above categories by completing the back section of the application form.

Black Mountain Walking Trails: Although permanent walking trails are to be established on Black Mountain, careful planning is required before trails can be established in this type of environment. While planning is under way, three interim trails (1, 2.75 and 5 kms) have been established but confined to existing fire trails and management roads so that impact is restricted to areas already disturbed. In order to minimise impact on the surrounding plant and animal communities, the public is asked to assist by keeping to marked trails as much as possible. The Department of Capital Territory 'Nature Guide' for Black Mountain Reserve and Ainslie-Majura Reserve is available for sale at 75¢ at the Department's Information Centres and details of the trails are available on sheets at the Reserve entry points.

CONSERVATION IN NEPAL

Two messages from the monarchy in Nepal displayed in the Kathmandu Natural History Museum:

"H.M. King Birendra

"To prevent soil erosion, afforestation is not the only answer, it should be backed at all levels by the conservation of our green wealth and where possible by expansion."

"H.R.H. Prince Gyanendra.

"Every type of fauna and flora has a part to play in the maintenance and advancement of universal laws and prosperity. The creator is no fool. Let us understand and observe the laws of nature's God before it is too late. We can by concerted actions make conservation the living legend. We will be remembered in history as preservers, not as destroyers."

NATIONAL PARKS ASSOCIATION OF THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY
INCORPORATED

CONSTITUTION

1. Name

The name of the Association shall be the National Parks Association of the Australian Capital Territory Incorporated.

2. Aims

The aims and objects of the Association shall be:

- (i) The promotion of National Parks and of measures for the protection of fauna and flora, scenery and natural features in the Australian Capital Territory and elsewhere, and the reservation of specific areas.
- (ii) Interest in the provision of appropriate outdoor recreation areas.
- (iii) Stimulation of interest in, and appreciation and enjoyment of, such natural phenomena by organized field outings, meetings or any other means.
- (iv) Co-operation with organizations and persons having similar interests and objectives.
- (v) Promotion of and education for nature conservation and the planning of land-use to achieve conservation.

3. Membership

Membership shall be open to persons who subscribe to the aims and objects of the Association, subject to the approval of the Committee and the payment of the appropriate subscription. Membership may consist of:

Ordinary Members
Family Members
Junior Members
Student Members
Corporate Members
Honorary Life Members

Ordinary Members shall be individuals paying the full annual subscription.

Family Membership shall cover not more than two adults and dependent children, who shall be called Junior Members.

Student Members shall be persons undertaking a recognized full-time course of study.

Corporate Membership may be open to local government and statutory bodies, schools, clubs, organizations, companies and firms. Corporate Members may take part in all activities through a representative, notice of whose appointment must first have been received by the Secretary.

Honorary Life Membership. Any person who has rendered meritorious service to or on behalf of the Association may, on the recommendation of the Committee, be elected a Life Member by a General Meeting, and for all purposes shall be considered a financial member of the Association.

Members are entitled to participate in all activities of the Association except that Student Members and Junior Members shall not vote or hold office.

Members are entitled to receive one copy of each Bulletin, notice or report.

Appointed representatives of corporate members shall each be entitled to one vote at meetings but may not hold office.

Application for membership shall be made in writing.

Members shall observe all rules authorized by the Committee.

The Committee shall have the right of revoking the membership of any member who has acted contrary to the constitution or rules of the Association, subject to appeal to a meeting of members.

4. Subscriptions

Subscriptions shall be fixed at a General Meeting provided that the meeting shall be held at least one calendar month before the commencement of the period to which the subscriptions will apply.

The annual subscription for each class of membership shall include a charge for one copy of each quarterly issue of the Bulletin.

The Committee may apply a concession of half the rate specified where for financial reasons special consideration is warranted.

The annual subscription shall be due and payable on 1 July of each year. Members joining on or after 1 January shall pay half the subscription for the current year.

Members whose subscriptions are unpaid at 31 October shall be deemed to be unfinancial and be debarred from privileges of membership but may on payment of the overdue subscription be reinstated.

5. Committee

There shall be a committee which is empowered to make rules, to conduct the affairs of the Association, subject to direction by members at meetings.

The Committee shall consist of President, Vice-President, Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Publicity Officer, Treasurer and six Committee Members. The immediate Past President shall be ex-officio a member of the Committee.

The Committee shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting and shall hold office until the next Annual General Meeting.

Any casual vacancy occurring during the year may be filled by the Committee.

A quorum for a Committee Meeting shall be seven members.

6. Meetings

Meetings shall be held as arranged by the Committee, when a quorum shall be fifteen financial members.

The Committee may, at any time, and must within one month of the requisition of not less than five members of the Association (such requisition being in writing addressed to the President, or the Vice-President or the Secretary of the Association) convene an extraordinary General Meeting to consider a matter of special or urgent interest.

The Annual General Meeting shall be held not later than 31 August.

Notice of all meetings of members shall be given not less than two weeks beforehand. Notice of extraordinary meetings shall be given in writing to each member.

7. Voting

Each eligible financial member shall have one vote.

In the event of an even vote, the Chairman shall have the right to make a casting vote in addition to his deliberative vote.

The election of the Committee shall be by ballot.

8. Finance

All moneys received for or on behalf of the Association shall be paid to the Association's account in such bank as is determined by the Committee.

Payments shall be made by cheque drawn on the Association's bank account, signed by any two of the President, Secretary or Treasurer.

There shall be accounts maintained, records kept of financial transactions of the Association, and audited statements of the

accounts of the Association shall be presented at each Annual General Meeting.

An auditor who is not a member of the Association or the Public Officer shall be appointed annually.

9. Public Officer

A Public Officer shall be appointed and shall hold office according to the provisions of the Associations Incorporation Ordinance, and shall perform the duties required under that Ordinance.

10. Bulletin

The Committee shall produce a Bulletin regularly, at least each quarter, for the information of members and in furtherance of the aims and objects of the Association.

11. Badge or Emblem

There shall be a badge as approved by the Committee.

12. Income and Property

The income and property of the Association however derived shall be applied solely towards the promotion of the aims and objects of the Association.

13. Liabilities

The liability of each individual member of the Association in respect of any claims arising out of the activities of the Association is restricted to the amount of the annual subscription of that member.

14. Amendments

Amendments to the Constitution may be passed by simple majority at a General Meeting provided not less than two weeks' notice of such amendments has been given in writing to each member.

15. Seal

The seal, bearing the name of the Association, shall not be affixed to any instrument except by the authority of a resolution of the Committee and in the presence of two members of the Committee and these two members of the Committee shall sign every instrument to which the seal of the Association is so affixed.

NATIONAL PARKS ASSOCIATION OF THE A.C.T. INC.

Inaugurated 1961

'A National Park for the National Capital'

President:	Darryl Hawke, 8 Emery St., Chapman, 2611	883763(H)	897098(W)
Vice-President:	John Banks, 9 Furphy Pl., Garran, 2605	816641(H)	493632(W)
Secretary:	Sheila Kruse, 50/C Currong Flats, Braddon, 2601	486104(H)	
Treasurer:	Neville Esau, 11 Rymill Place, Mawson, 2605	864176(H)	494554(W)
Asst. Secretary:	Fiona Brand, 11 Dyson St., Lyneham, 2602	479538(H)	
Publicity Officer:	Cynthia Hook, P.O. Box 580, Manuka, 2603	959666(H)	
Committee Members:	Reg Alder, Penny Hebbard, Charles Hill, Leigh McClintock, John Schunke, Lyn Leader		
Past President:	Ian Currie, 10 Arnhem Place, Red Hill, 2603	958112(H)	958107(W)
Editor:	Reg Alder, 45 Starke St., Higgins, 2615	542240(H)	

All Correspondence to Box 457, P.O., Canberra City, 2601

National Parks Association Phone Number: 486104 or 956937

Subscription Rates: Family - \$10 Corporate - \$5
Single - \$8 Student - \$3

Subscriptions fall due on 1 July

AIMS AND OBJECTS OF THE ASSOCIATION

- * Promotion of National Parks and of measures for the protection of fauna and flora, scenery and natural features in the Australian Capital Territory and elsewhere, and the reservation of specific areas.
- * Interest in the provision of appropriate outdoor recreation areas.
- * Stimulation of interest in, and appreciation and enjoyment of, such natural phenomena by organized field outings, meetings or any other means.
- * Co-operation with organizations and persons having similar interests and objectives.
- * Promotion of and education for nature conservation and the planning of land-use to achieve conservation.

Membership exceeds 300.

The problems posed by the conservation of the environment and the exploitation of natural resources are not always seen in the same way. In the industrialised countries, city dwellers are taught at an early age to respect and care for trees and greenery. Wood is often imported, even if this sometimes leads to the deforestation of the tropic regions. The establishment of a new international order means that environment problems, like those of development, must be approached in a spirit of solidarity, for there is still too much injustice in the management of mankind's common resources.

NATIONAL PARKS ASSOCIATION OUTINGS

Please notify leader of intention to come on all weekend outings.

June 3 - Sunday Mt Stromlo: Walk
Leader: Cla Allen 953824 Ref. ACT 1:100,000
Meet: At barbeque, 11.30 a.m.

Take Stromlo Forest Rd to the right for 700m, turn left to barbeques. After a barbeque, short walks in the area.

June 10 - Sunday Mt Booth: Walk
Leader: John Banks 816641 Ref. ACT 1:100,000
Meet: Gudgenby Bridge (past Rendezvous Ck), 9.30 a.m.

Mt Booth is the highest point in the Booth Range which forms the watershed between the Murrumbidgee and Naas valleys in the southern ACT. This walk is through open forest country along the foothills of the Booth range, a gradual ascent is then taken to the summit. Some of the most pleasant forest walking in the ACT (easy/medium).

June 16/17/18 - Queen's birthday Durras Lake: Camp
Leader: Les Pyke 812982 Ref. Bateman's Bay 1:100,000
Meet: At camping area, 11 a.m.

A camping weekend in the Murramarang National Park. Local walks along the foreshores and through the coastal forests. A trip to Pigeon House will be included if the mood and weather are right. Contact leader for detailed directions to camping area.

June 24 - Sunday Mt Palerang: Walk
Leader: Frank Clements 317005 Ref. Braidwood 1:100,000
Meet: Hoskintown, 9.30 a.m.

An easy day walk in the hills east of Canberra. Good views of the Clyde Range and over the Braidwood areas. Walking easy (10 kms).

June 30, July 1 - Sat., Sun. Araluen/Moodong Ck: Pack walk
Leader: Bob Story 812171 Ref. Araluen 1:100,000
Meet: Braidwood War Memorial, 8 a.m.

A medium/hard walk, approx. 25 kms.

July 8 - Sunday Clyde Mountain: Walk
Leader: Ian Currie 958112 Ref. Araluen 1:100,000
Meet: Canberra Railway Station, 8.30 a.m.

Ever wish you could take a closer look as you glimpse the views from the top of the Clyde? Well, here's your chance. Easy rambling along the top of the escarpment, say 10 km.

July 14 - Saturday Mt Majura-Mt Ainslie: Walk
Leader: Cla Allen 953824 Ref. Bushwalking near Canberra p.33
Meet: Mt Majura end of Anthill St., 1.30 p.m.

An old favourite which needs no introduction. Much of Mt Majura was burnt last summer and it should be interesting to see how regeneration is progressing. Easy walking through open bush.

July 22 - Sunday Fitz's Hill-Glendale Crossing: Walk
Leader: Hela Lindemann 864920 Ref. ACT 1:100,000
Meet: Cnr Mugga Way and Monaro Highway, 8.30 a.m.

A medium walk in open country along the ridge over the Gudgenby River. Good views of the Tinderries.

July 28/29 - Sat., Sun.
Leader: John Webster 476769

Orroral Valley: Walk
Mt McKeahnie: Pack Walk
Ref. ACT 1:100,000

Meet: Cnr Mugga Way and Monaro Highway, 8.30 a.m. Saturday

Mt McKeahnie has proven a bit much for a day trip, so John has agreed to devote an extra day to the task. Those who only want a day walk can go part of the way along the track. Grades: easy (12 km) for day walkers; medium-scrubby for pack-walkers.

August 5 - Sunday
Leader: Frank Clements 317005
Meet: Cnr Mugga Way and Monaro Highway, 9 a.m.

Mt Tennant: Walk
Ref. ACT 1:100,000

Another well-known easy/medium walk. Great views over Tuggeranong Valley from the top which is reached by track. Come down the same way or, if people are prepared to do a simple car shuffle, down the scrub on the eastern side.

August 12 - Sunday
Leader: Trevor Plumb 813258
Meet: Canberra Railway Station, 10 a.m.

Googong Dam: Walk
Ref. ACT 1:100,000

An attractive picnic site has been built at the dam with short signposted walks. Bar-B-Qs available. Ideal for families.

August 18/19 - Sat., Sun.
Leader/ Reg Alder 542240
Meet: Gudgenby Bridge (past Rendezvous Creek) 8.30 a.m.

Sam's Creek: Pack Walk
Ref. ACT 1:100,000

A camp at Sam's Creek with packless walks around the Mt Scabby and Mt Gudgenby area. Come and enjoy a week-end pack walk in the spiritual centre of our new reserve.

August 25/26 - Sat., Sun.
Leader: Leigh McClintock 474587

Wombeyan Caves & Wollondilly River: Camp

Meet: Wombeyan Caves Camping Ground, 12 noon (allow 2 1/2 hours)

We will have a look at the caves and on Sunday walk in the lovely valleys of the Wollondilly and its tributaries. Grades to suit all tastes. Good facilities available at the camping grounds. Please notify leader as far in advance as possible of your intention to come.

September 2 - Sunday
Leader: Les Pyke 812982

Smoker's Flat: Walk
Ref. ACT 1:100,000

Meet: Cnr Eucumbene Drive and Cotter Rd., 9 a.m.

Some tracks, some scrub, very interesting hanging bog - medium.

September 9 - Sunday
Leader: Neville Esau 864178
Meet: Cnr Mugga Way & Monaro Highway, 8.30 a.m.

Sentry Box: Walk
Ref. ACT 1:100,000

Recent attempts on this rugged mountain have been beaten by weather. Hope for a fine day this time. A stiff climb for those who want some exercise. Excellent views - overall grade medium.

September 16 - Sunday
Leader: Ross Carlton 863892
Meet: Cnr Eucumbene Drive and Cotter Rd., 9 a.m.

Mt. Coree: Walk
Ref. ACT 1:100,000

A relatively steep climb from Blundell's Flat, wonderful views from the summit.

September 22/23 - Sat., Sun.

Currockbilly Mt: Pack Walk

Leader: Leigh McClintock 474587

Ref. Braidwood, Ulladulla 1:100,000

Meet: Canberra Railway Station, 8 a.m.

An exploratory hard walk in an area we don't know much about. The plan is to go over the edge and spend the night in the lowlands, then climb back again on Sunday.

September 23 - Sunday

Honeysuckle Ck: Walk

Leader: Lyn Richardson 412425

Ref. ACT 1:100,000

Meet: Cnr Mugga Way & Monaro Highway, 9 a.m.

Some spectacular rock formations in the peak south of the tracking station, with excellent views. Medium.

September 29/October 1 -

Araluen: Camp

Saturday - Monday

Ref. Araluen 1:100,000

Leader: Ian Currie 958112

Meet: Araluen Hotel, 12 noon

A bush camp in a lovely setting but without amenities. Programme flexible but we will take the chance of exploring the Upper Deua area. Bring water. Ring leader of intention to come and for instructions.

October 6 - Sunday

Black Mountain: Nature ramble

Leader: George Chippendale 812454

Meet: Belconnen Way entrance to Black Mountain Reserve, 2 p.m.

Learn more about the local flora under the guidance of an expert.

NATIONAL PARKS ASSOCIATION

GENERAL MEETINGS

at 8.00 p.m. in Room 1, Griffin Centre
Bunda Street, Civic

THURSDAY 21 JUNE 1979

Roy Pullen - 'From Snow to Snow' - an illustrated talk on a solo walk from Mt Kosciusko to Mt Bogong

THURSDAY 16 JULY 1979

Frank Ingwersen, Biologist, Conservation & Agriculture Branch,
Department of Capital Territory - 'Reserves and Conservation'

THURSDAY 16 AUGUST 1979

John Baker - an evening of prize-winning slides - 'Beautiful Australia'

DON'T FORGET

Annual Subscriptions are due

1st July

ROCKY MOUNTAIN NATIONAL PARK, COLORADO

Rocky Mountain National Park of about 410 square miles of mountain scenery and upland meadows, split and gouged by gulches and canyons dotted with glacial lakes, was created in 1915. It includes much of the front range of the Rockies, the eastern slopes of which are rugged with many sharp rises and cliffs. There are 107 named peaks in the park over 11,000 feet, the highest being Longs Peak at 14,255 feet.

A road follows approximately the east, west and southern boundaries and about the centre cuts across over the Trail Ridge climbing to 12,183 feet at the Fall River Pass.

Regulations governing the management of the park are of interest since they contain some features which we have yet to become used to.

Dogs, cats and other pets must be under physical control at all times. They are not allowed on trails or in areas not accessible to automobiles.

Camping is permitted only in designated areas and at designated sites.

A written permit is required for all back country overnight stays and for technical climbs. These free permits, limited in number, can be obtained at Park Headquarters etc. The permits are given out on a 'first come' basis unless reserved in writing well ahead.

Wood fires are permitted in established firegrates in designated roadside campgrounds and picnic areas only. Wood gathering is prohibited. A written permit is required for all fires outside these designated areas.

Vehicles must remain on roads or in parking areas. Parking any vehicle or leaving unattended property for longer than 24 hours without prior permission is prohibited.

Hitchhiking or soliciting transport is prohibited.

All wildlife is protected from hunting or harassment. No attempt should be made to feed or to touch a wild creature as it is not good for them and they may inflict injury or transmit disease.

Firearms or any other devices capable of destroying animal life are prohibited unless unloaded and cased or broken down.

Do not pick wildflowers or damage plants. Law prohibits the destruction, injury, disturbance, or removal of public property or natural features - including twisted treeline wood or rock specimens.

Use artificial lures or flies only: children 12 years of age and under may fish with bait in specified places.

NAME CHANGES

The NSW Federation of Bushwalking Clubs has changed its name to The Federation of Bushwalking Clubs (NSW).

The YMCA Ramblers Bushwalking Club is no longer affiliated with the YMCA and is now known as The Ramblers Bushwalking Club.

National Parks Association outings summary

JUNE

3 Sunday	Mt Stromlo	Walk
10 Sunday	Mt Booth	Walk
16/17/18 Queen's Birthday	Durras Lake	Camp
24 Sunday	Mt Palerang	Walk
30/1 July Saturday- Sunday	Araluen/Moodong Ck	Pack Walk

JULY

8 Sunday	Clyde Mountain	Walk
14 Saturday	Mt Majura-Mt Ainslie	Walk
22 Sunday	Fitz's Hill-Glendale	Walk
28/29 Saturday- Sunday	Orroral Valley	Pack Walk/Walk

AUGUST

5 Sunday	Mt Tennant	Walk
12 Sunday	Googong Dam	Walk
18/19 Saturday- Sunday	Sam's Ck	Pack Walk
25/26 Saturday- Sunday	Wombeyan Caves	Camp

SEPTEMBER

2 Sunday	Smoker's Flat	Walk
9 Sunday	Sentry Box	Walk
16 Sunday	Mt Coree	Walk
22/23 Saturday- Sunday	Currockbilly Mt	Pack Walk
23 Sunday	Honeysuckle Ck	Walk
29/30/1 October Saturday, Sunday, Monday	Araluen	Camp