

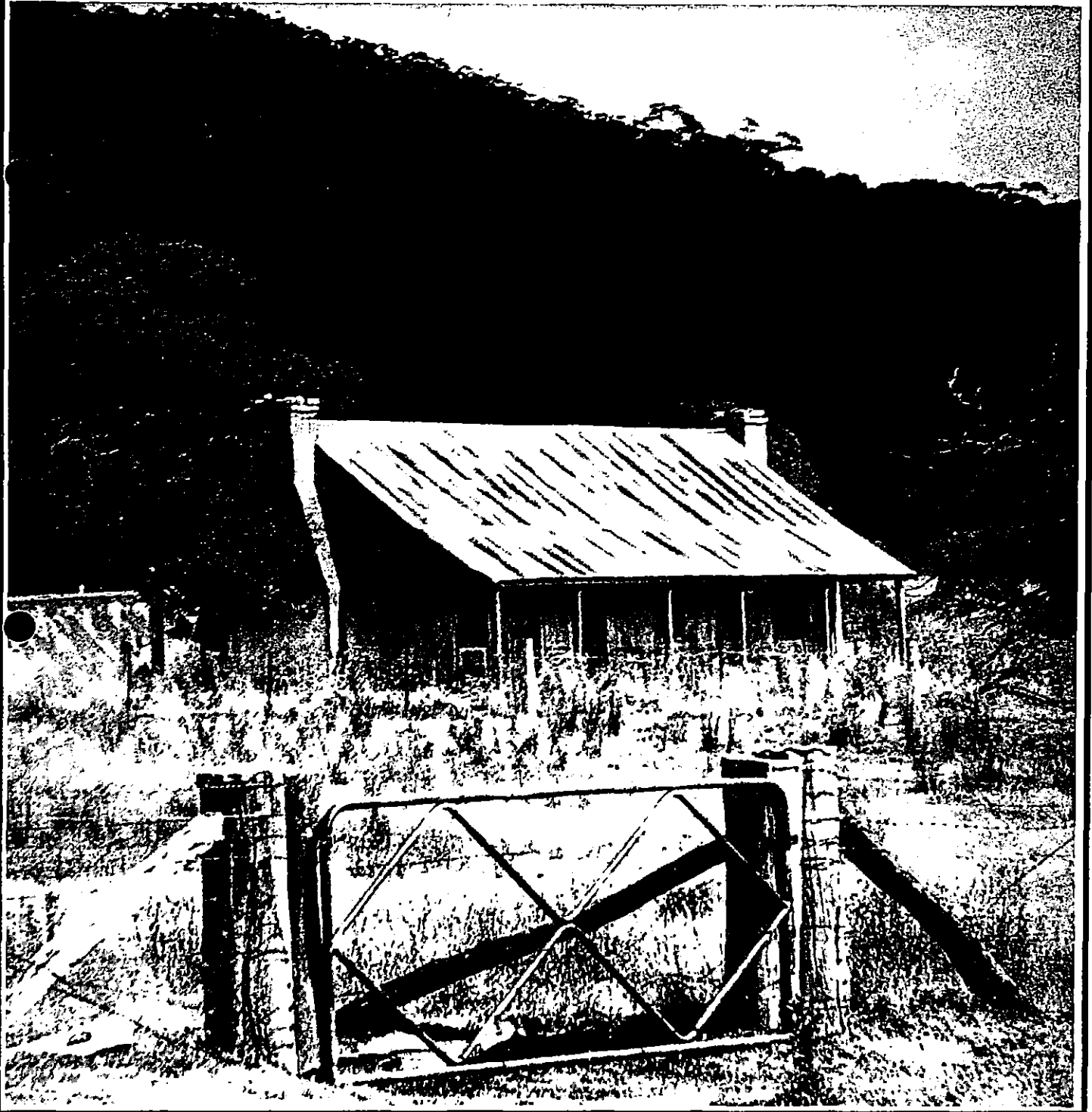


NPA Bulletin

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National Parks Association ACT

Vol 20 No 1 September 1982



Orroral Valley Homestead

PRESIDENT'S FOREWORD

THE YEAR OF THE TREE

On World Environment Day, June 5th, the United Nations Association of Australia officially launched the Australian Year of the Tree. The aim of the Year is to make all Australians more aware of the importance of trees in our environment. To try and achieve this aim many voluntary groups throughout Australia are supporting a variety of tree related projects.

Trees are an important part of the Australian environment in many ways both practical and aesthetic. One of the main aims of conservation organisations, such as N.P.A., will be to focus attention during the year on trees in the natural environment; on the importance of native forests, including rainforests, as a rich and varied resource which we must act to preserve.

As a largely arid continent, Australia has a naturally low proportion of its area, about 5%, under native forests. In the two hundred years since European settlement more than half the original forest has been cleared for rural and urban development. If rainforest is considered alone, some 75% has been cleared in the same period. The remaining areas of forest are a precious resource. Currently many areas of native forest are under threat from mining and forestry operations and rural subdivision. Some of the most critical areas are rainforest in North Queensland and Northern N.S.W. and the Karri forests of Western Australia. In our local area the greatest threat is the expansion of pine plantations. Since planting of pines began in Australia in the 1920's over 500,000 hectares of pine plantations have been established and there are plans to double this area by the year 2000. Writing in a recent issue of Australian Natural History, Dr Harry Recher called this plan 'a million hectare miscalculation'.

Another native forest right on our doorstep, the ash and brown barrel forest of the lower Cotter is now also under threat. At a forum on the Cotter forest earlier this year a proposal was put forward to recommence commercial logging in the lower Cotter catchment. It is indeed ironical that such a proposal should be put forward at such a time. The N.P.A. wrote to the Acting Director, A.C.T. Forests opposing this proposal and pointing out the value of these forests for scientific and recreational purposes – the N.P.A. schedules a number of outings in this area each year. In reply the Acting Director has said he is still undecided about the logging proposal. He has put forward a number of options for the area which will involve logging to some degree. None of these would be acceptable to the N.P.A. Its value as a scientific and recreational resource far outweighs timber values; N.P.A. will continue to press this view on the D.C.T. and we urge you to do likewise.

As you can see there is no shortage of issues to occupy the Year of the Tree and N.P.A. will be pursuing many of those mentioned above during the year. As a special effort however, we are embarking on two special projects. The first is to plant up to five hundred eucalypts in the Gudgenby Nature Reserve near Glendale Crossing. The area chosen was formerly cleared for grazing but has now become part of the Reserve. We hope that by replanting the area we may help restore it to a natural condition in keeping with the surrounding areas of the Reserve.

Already a survey has been made to identify the tree species indigenous to this area; seed has been collected from suitable trees growing close to the site and is now being prepared for planting in seed boxes. Once the seed is germinated and seedlings are ready they must be potted and cared for until ready for planting out next Spring. We will be asking as many members as possible to help in these two steps. If willing members could care for up to ten trees and then help to plant them out, we will be on the way to making this project a success. If you can help please contact a committee member.

As a second project, the N.P.A. will prepare and publish a field guide to the native trees of the A.C.T. Although much information on our local trees already exists it is scattered through various publications, some of which are out of print, and is often too technically oriented for the lay person. We hope this little book will fill a need for a concise easily read field guide specifically for the local area. We hope also this booklet will become widely available and will increase public interest in our native trees and the natural areas in which they grow. We have received a grant from the A.C.T. Heritage Committee to help defray the costs involved in preparation and publication. To keep costs within a budget we will need however to call on members with appropriate skills to help in preparation. If you feel you can help in any way please contact committee members.

I hope members will participate in the Year of the Tree activities; your contribution will help to ensure the preservation of one aspect of our unique Australian flora.

THIS ISSUE

Rising costs in the publication of the Bulletin and consciousness of the need for them to be constrained within our budget precipitated a wide investigation into our present and other methods of presentation.

This issue is typeset and although it is initially more expensive than the typing format which has been used, it is economical in space, more easily read and gives the Bulletin a professional appearance. The initial additional cost of the typesetting, while still maintaining the same textual content, is offset by a 20% saving in printing costs.

The presentation of the Bulletin could be made more attractive by the inclusion of line drawings of column width to illustrate or separate articles. Maps could at times be also used with advantage and if not suitable in the original format they could be re-drawn to smaller scale with place names added by the typesetter. Photographic reproduction is expensive, but if of particular relevance to the article, the committee may consider authorising the additional cost. Volunteers are sought from members with the necessary skills to provide drawings of flora and fauna or scenes of their choice or to make illustrations of particular subjects.

The Bulletin can only become of greater interest if members could spontaneously contribute articles from their own range of expertise or experiences. I need assistance to make the Bulletin a worthwhile and readable publication.

The DEADLINE for the next issue is the 15th of October.

Editor

The cover photograph of Orroral Homestead is by Reg Alder

VOLUNTEER WORK IN NATIONAL PARKS

In the Nature Conservation Society of South Australia Newsletter of May 1982, there is a report on a public meeting on the theme of 'National Parks for the People'.

At this meeting the Minister of Environment and Planning remarked that two-thirds of the people surveyed in a State-wide sample had visited a National Park in the previous month. As a recreational resource, the National Park system obviously meets a significant need. He also outlined details of future planning objectives which include detailed corporate plans setting out objectives, strategy and specific targets. By June 1983 there will be 24 draft management plans for the most important parks. A Wildlife Management Manual on the habit and characteristics of native animals has been produced for the use of field staff.

Increased emphasis on off-park conservation so that National Parks will not become islands is becoming increasingly popular with landholders under the Vegetation Heritage Agreements Scheme. Under this scheme landholders are encouraged to retain stands of native vegetation. Some 330 applications are being processed.

Consultative committees are being established for each of the parks and the aim is for these committees to increase the liaison between the public and the National Parks and Wildlife Service. The committees consist of representatives of conservationists, local councils, fire services and other interested groups. The establishment of these committees has caused a dramatic reduction in the number of critics of parks because of the public input to the management of the parks. Agreements with the co-operation of the Public Service Association and the Federated Miscellaneous Worker's Union have been formalised whereby voluntary community groups can now have a direct input to the national parks. Individuals who want to help in parks will be encouraged to join interested groups and this could generate new interest in National Parks. The government recognises that conservation is not only a government responsibility and goals can only be achieved in conservation minded communities. Proposals from these consultative committees will be considered to determine their manageability and whether they are in accordance with the park objectives as well as determining whether there is any conflict with the full-time work opportunities of the N.P.W.S. staff.

GUDGENBY NATURE RESERVE

For some time this Association has been concerned that no publicly accessible management plan exists for the Gudgenby Nature Reserve.

Obviously some priorities have been officially determined as quite a lot of work has been carried out over the past 12 months. This has included provision of camping facilities, relocation of roads, construction of parking areas, construction of a works depot and information centre.

All these developments are necessary if the Reserve is to fulfil its role as a major recreation resource for the A.C.T. As far as this Association knows, however, they are taking place without any appreciation of an overall planning scheme for the Reserve. Although we maintain a close liaison with D.C.T. staff on common areas of concern for the Reserve, without access to a proper management plan we have no guide to the overall planning and management objectives being followed. The publication of a management plan would also allow opportunity for public comment and debate on planning objectives. The Association looks forward to participating in this exercise.

We have written recently to the D.C.T. and the N.C.D.C. (who carry the prime responsibility for preparation and publication of the policy plan) to protest at the lack of action in making this plan publicly available. Lack of staff and financial constraints have been cited in part as reasons for the delay in publication. It is now over three years since the declaration of the Reserve, however, and the need for a

plan is becoming urgent.

We will continue to urge the Government to expedite the publication of the policy plan and invite members to add their voice to this call.

ORRORAL HOMESTEAD

The Association has recently received a grant from the A.C.T. Heritage Committee for the preservation of the Old Orroral Homestead in the Gudgenby Nature Reserve. Members will recall an earlier article in the Bulletin detailing our concern to save the homestead which we see as part of the cultural heritage of the Reserve.

With the receipt of the grant we can now move from planning to action. The first task to be carried out is the preparation of a conservation plan (for which we have received an additional amount). Here we have enlisted the aid of the C.C.A.E. and the work probably will be carried out by students under the guidance of Peter Corkery of the C.C.A.E. The first working bee will have already been carried out before you receive this Bulletin.

Our convenor for this project is Ross Carlton and members who can help in any phase of the work are vitally needed. Please get in touch with Ross as soon as possible at meetings or on 863892 and register your interest.

OLD BOBOYAN ROAD

On the northern end of the Old Boboyan Road, a survey is being carried out to re-route the road from the Tharwa-Adaminaby Road to the parking area on the fringe of the pine forest. There is also a proposal to increase the size of the parking area.

On the southern end, the first gate at the Boboyan property is now being locked by the owner. The locking of this gate, which is 5km from the Reserve boundary at Sheepstation Ck., adds a considerable amount of walking to any visit to Sentry Box, Mt Scabby or Mt Kelly. The question of access to the Gudgenby Nature Reserve in this area is being discussed with the Department of the Capital Territory.

A TREE OF HISTORY

Returning from an Association week-end pack walk to the mountains at the head of Middle Creek to view an aboriginal stone arrangement, I was imbued with all things aboriginal especially since I had studied a number of subjects on them at the A.N.U.

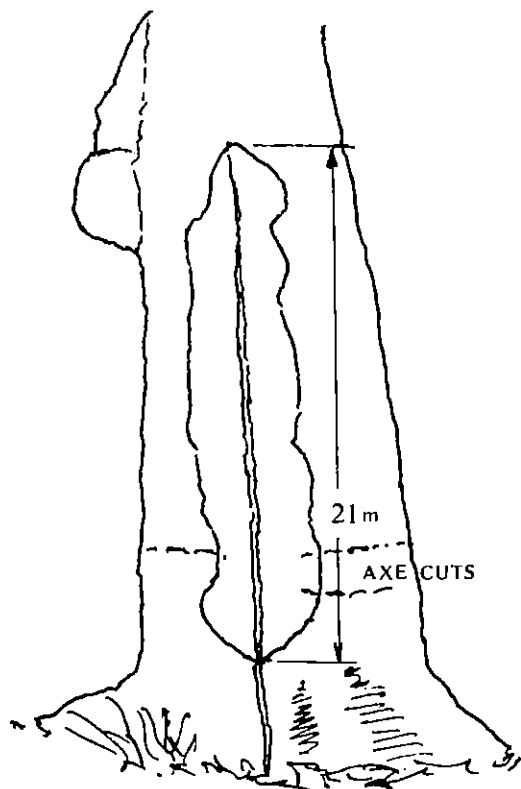
It was rather a surprise to be confronted, as we broke out of the rough section of the creek into the start of the cleared section, with a large ring barked tree which had all the markings of having had a large bark piece carefully removed from it. As it was getting late and some of the party had already disappeared into the trees, there was little time to carry out a detailed examination except for Penny to take a photograph in the late afternoon sun.

Recently several members made a special trip to examine the tree further, since it may have some significance in the 'Year of the Tree'. The tree was found easily enough as it was not far westward from a very large boulder and the piece removed faces one on approach.

The removed section is low down, about 2.1m long and by the growth of the scarred sap wood it is obvious before the tree died that the bark had been removed. There are two ring bark axe marks, about 20cms apart, which had been made with a sharp steel axe near the base of the removed section. The lower marks had been made after the bark scar had healed to form a rounded edge and at some time before the tree died. There is an axe cut under the edge of the sap wood which shows that the scar had had further growth after the ringbarking attempt. The upper ringbarking shows that it was successful in killing the tree as there has been no further growth over the axe cut which was made into the sap and heart wood interface.

From this arises the query was it made by aboriginals or an early settler. It could be either. The pointed ends of

the cut appear to have an aboriginal origin but it would hardly have been cut for a canoe to be used on the shallow streams of the area. It is of further interest that within quite a small area in the clearing about this particular tree there are many trees which have had bark removed from them before ringbarking.



LOWER SECTION OF 'TREE OF HISTORY'

The bark could have been removed to mark the route to Namadgi or for a ceremonial place for the groups before going up to the stone arrangements there. It could have been used for a large shield or a particularly large coolamon for holding gathered food. Only by cutting back the growth sap wood could it be possible to determine whether the bark cuts had been made by a stone or steel axe.

FIONA BRAND

A.C.T. NATURE CONSERVATION ORDINANCE

Coinciding with World Environment Day on 5 June 1982, the A.C.T. Nature Conservation Ordinance came into operation to replace previous A.C.T. wildlife protection legislation and provide for the conservation of animals and plants in the A.C.T. and Jervis Bay Territory.

Permits or licences are required for the keeping, taking, capturing, trapping, killing or selling most native animals, birds, reptiles or amphibians as well as picking plant wildlife growing on unleased land and picking any restricted plant wildlife.

The exempt list of animals for which a permit is not required is small and comprises:—

Peach faced love bird; partridges (*Alectoris* and *Perdix*); European gold finch; pheasants (*Chrysolophus* and *Phasianus*); common, Californian and king quail; canary; galah; budgerygah; cockatiel; zebra finch; common long-necked tortoise; marble gecko; common grass skink; eastern blue-tongued lizard; all indigenous species of frogs except the Corroroboree frog; dog; cat; guinea pig; domestic poultry; stock; laboratory varieties of white mice and rats.

JUST BRIEFLY . . .

Olive Buckman, for the third time in twelve months, responded to a request for an NPA speaker on conservation. The latest came from the Yarralumla Cub Pack, who asked for a talk on national parks in the ACT and elsewhere to Cubs trying for their World Conservation Badge.

We've heard from the Environment Centre that Darryl and Jan Hawke, and their children, have settled happily into the tranquil life of Christmas Island. We're writing to Darryl and hope he'll send us something for the Bulletin. We remember that for the 1980 ANPC Conference he drafted a motion urging the Commonwealth to extend the boundaries of Christmas Island National Park to take in the prime habitat of the Abbotts Booby (*Sula abbotti*).

Neville Esau is replacing Bob Story this year as our delegate to the ANPC Annual Conference in September. By then Bob and Sybil will be revisiting Greece and Crete and will be about two-thirds of the way through their three months' in Europe. By the time you read this they will have had a few week's walking in Austria and dined with Patricia and Neville Windeyer in Vienna. Some of you will know that about this time last year Neville began a two-year posting to the International Atomic Energy Commission in Vienna.

Another member spending some time in Austria, his native country, is Erwin Koch-Emmery, who sends greetings from Vienna to his many NPA friends. His bushwalking there embraces not aboriginal rock paintings or disintegrating Orroval Valley homesteads but Roman ruins, 12th century churches, and of course taverns.

And another heading for Greece is Ross Carlton who, on the way to attending and organizing a railway engineering study tour through half-a-dozen European countries, will be spending two weeks cruising around the Greek islands in a 30 ft yacht. Ross is co-author of a recent proposal for a high-speed railway to Canberra.

"Just Briefly . . ." seems to be developing into a report on "Who's Going Where Now" but what's wrong with that when our members go to such interesting places. The latest we've heard is that Margaret Aston is to go on a camping trip from Cairns to Cape York in September, while Charles and Audrey Hill are at present travelling north on the other side of the continent, up as far as Port Hedland, from which region Jean and Ian Currie have not long returned.

For the third year running some NPA members will be studying birds of Booligal in the spring with Sonia Tide-mann. Betty Campbell, John Payne and Neville Esau are to attend the ANU Continuing Education school at Tom's Lake Station in October. Those who heard Sonia's talk at the July General Meeting and those who attended the earlier schools will wish they were going along also.

NPA T-shirts are now on sale at General Meetings. \$6 each for sizes 14-22, \$5.50 for 8-12, a few cream but mostly white. When the initial 50 are sold we will be happy to arrange for your own T-shirt or windcheater to be printed with the NPA logo. 50c per print at current prices.

The membership list has been retyped and will in future be on the table at General Meetings for members to scrutinize. A copy will be available for members to borrow if they wish to make their own photocopy.

EASTER IN THE PARK

Easter is a fine time for the mountains – the heat of summer has gone, the snow of winter not yet arrived, there's a full moon, and long enough to stroll into the solitude of the heart of the Park.

Nevertheless, before abandoning our cars in a fire trail off the Tooma Road, the 13 strong NPA group watched with some apprehension a steady stream of backpackers setting forth from a cluster of cars and coaches nearby. Happily for us, the Park is spacious enough to provide at least an illusion of solitude for all.

Our route took us to Cool Plain (or Ogilvies) hut for a lunch stop, with views of the undulating country we were to traverse, and memories of a sudden overnight snowfall one Christmas a few years ago. Crossing open ridges and following the course of Ogilvies Creek, we came to an early campsite against the shelter of a low ridge, by the headwaters of Hell Hole creek. Eucalypts in the area were flowering abundantly.

While afternoon tea merged into dinner and later supper, the affairs of the world and other people's menus were earnestly investigated.

Next morning, having done what was possible to dry the heavy dew from our tents, we continued on towards Pretty Plain, avoiding the horrors of Hell Hole Creek, making a successful crossing of its Pugilistic neighbour, and following the course of Bull's Head Peak.

Pretty Plain hut, a solid log cabin construction which has stood its ground for some 50 years, fits harmoniously into the vista of the narrow valley. Something of the atmosphere of past days was evoked by the sight of the three horses which had brought in the visiting occupants of the hut. Also evoked were some misgivings about the impact of 12

sharp hooves on the fragile terrain.

Our camp was further up the valley beside the ruins of an older hut, and with Bulls Head Creek just below. Another lengthy session of mental and physical nourishment lasted well into the evening, at least for those who could weather the chill, while the moonlight swept dramatically across the slopes on the other side of the valley and a mope called occasionally in the distance.

Next morning's frost spurred us on to a brisk walk up through stringybarks and black sally to Ryries Parlour, and then on to Town of Ross, with tempting views from Jagungal around to Cup and Saucer Hill. Having lunched, appropriately, in Ryrie's Parlour, we struck camp and set off for the return journey. Increasingly dark and thundery skies made one reluctant to linger, even to watch a yellow corroboree frog on the bank of the creek.

Keeping feet dry while crossing the final creek before our campsite became rather an academic exercise when the downpour finally and dramatically arrived. Providentially, four stout posts support a small iron roof (but no walls) at our chosen spot, and it is now possible to put on record the fact that this roof is capable of providing shelter for 13 bushwalkers in a vertical position, plus packs. The shower having passed, we took up our normal evening pursuits, eating, talking and rotating as necessary in front of the fire.

Another heavy frost, and next morning we woke to find the moon still with us and mists filling the valley. As we walked out along fire trails, Lyre birds were sounding in the distance.

A brief call at Patons Hut, well hidden among the trees, to inspect the successful repair work on it, and then back to the cars.

THEA EXLEY



Sybil and Bob Story 'at home' in the cattlemens hut by Pugilistic Creek. Kosciusko National Park pack walk Easter 1982.

Photo Babette Scougall.

THE EFFECTS OF BURNING AND LOGGING ON SOIL EROSION IN FORESTS - EDEN AREA

(Lecture to the Association on 17 March 1982, supported by slides and diagrams)

Since 1975 a series of experimental catchments near Eden, N.S.W. have been monitored in an attempt to establish the hydrologic changes that occur following clear-fell log operations. Six catchments have been established in the Wallagaraugh River catchment in an area of dry sclerophyll forest (*E. sieberi*, *E. olbiqua*, *E. muelleriana*, *E. cypellocarpa*, *A. terminalis*, *B. serrata*, *C. littoralis*). The catchments are steep sloped (10° - 20°) and are on Silurian-Devonian? aged granites (adamellite). Automatic rainfall recorders, water level recorders and water samplers are located in each catchment in conjunction with sharp crested V-notch weirs (140°). The logging operation is "small coupe" and approximately half of any catchment is logged. Felled trees are snigged to log dumps, debarked and then loaded for transport to the chip mill. Tree litter and debris is left to provide ground cover. Regeneration is relatively rapid and is by natural means.

Logging began in one of the catchments in May 1978. A substantial increase in suspended and solution loads was detected. However, these increased loads had begun to decline (Rieger, *et al.*, 1979) when most of the experimental area was severely burnt by a wild fire. Again suspended sediment and solute loads were substantially increased (Burgess *et al.*, 1980, 1981) and stream flow was very substantially increased particularly in association with recovery logging operations (Mackay *et al.*, 1980).

Field examination of the logged areas reveal substantial movement of material particularly in the vicinity of roadways and snig tracks. A large amount of this material is only transported short distances before it is trapped by logging debris. Rapid regeneration hides the moved sediment, however, there is no doubt that substantial quantities of sediment have been dislodged and redistributed.

Hughes and Sullivan (1981) report that archeological evidence suggests periods of substantially increased erosion in the Recent past. They contend that these periods of increased erosion and sedimentation are associated with forest burning by Aboriginal people followed by a rainfall-runoff event of considerable magnitude. These findings have obvious implications for our study. Our short-term observations indicate substantially increased but declining loads and considerable intra-catchment movement of material. It is possible that in the long-term wildfire will be followed by a rainfall-runoff event of greater magnitude than those reported by Burgess *et al.*, (1980, 1981). In those circumstances previous logging operations will undoubtedly act as a catalyst to substantial erosion.

J. S. BURGESS

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TREE PLANTING PROJECT IN GUDGENBY NATURE RESERVE

The National Parks Association of ACT intends to plant some native trees in the Gudgenby Nature Reserve as part of our recognition of the Year of the Tree; and to give some practical help to the large task of looking after national parks and reserves.

The Reserve, like many resumed areas, has some land which has been cleared and grassed. However, much of this land is still being grazed and growing young trees in competition with grazing domestic animals has many difficulties. With this in mind we have consulted with ranger authorities and a site with several advantages for this project has been suggested. We have examined the site and are now moving ahead.

Travelling from Canberra into the Reserve on the now sealed Boboyan Road, the site is on the right soon after crossing the boundary and 200 - 300m before (north of) the new Information Centre near Glendale in the last stages of completion. The site has been used for storage of road making equipment and materials, some of which is still there; it certainly needs rehabilitation. Much of the soil has been heavily compacted but discussion has given us hope that a tractor and equipment will be made available to assist in planting preparation.

The site slopes gently to the Gudgenby River with good permanent water at an elevation of 860m. Across the river to the west is a well wooded high hill with attractive rock outcrops towards the top. To the south the river and road converge. Over the road to the east is the site of an old home; only the orchard and other planted trees remain; rising beyond that are the wooded slopes of the Billy Range. To the north are some willows and pasture; extension in that direction could be practicable.

The site is relatively small and I estimate it would take between 300 and 400 trees. We will need to aim for about 500 seedlings to allow for accidents. We have selected 4 species to plant, after inspecting the trees which are growing nearby in a similar situation. They are:

Eucalyptus	pauciflora	snowgum
"	stellularta	blacksally
"	bridgesiana	applebox
"	rubida	candlebark

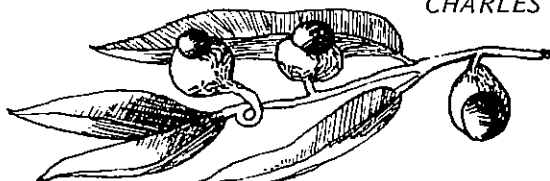
In addition, 2 or 3 kurrajongs may be tried to add more variety.

It is possible to purchase seedling trees from the N.S.W. Forestry Commission. However there are no Forestry nurseries near Canberra and costs including freight are high. A major difficulty is that the trees would need planting out within 2 or 3 days or so of their arrival in bulk, irrespective of the probability of a dry spell, delays in soil preparation and availability of a large group of volunteers at short notice. The Committee has therefore decided to gather seed ourselves and grow them in small batches spread around volunteer 'seedling minders' so that we have flexibility in planting out when conditions are favourable.

By the time this Bulletin is printed we will have gathered seed from the Glendale area, thereby gaining another advantage of having trees which are genetically conditioned to soil composition, climate and environment. We plan to use medium, fairly deep plastic pots and modified milk cartons for growing the seedlings early in the spring.

Volunteers will be needed to save cleaned out milk cartons, look after the seedlings, assist in site preparation, tree planting and occasional watering and maintenance. Secretary Judy Payne or Committee members would be pleased to have any names to add to our list of volunteers.

CHARLES HILL



CAMPING AND WALKING AT TOM GROGGIN

Audrey and I had called in to Tom Groggin for lunch, a swim and a look around during February on two occasions three years apart. Swimming in the Murray was great and had the added novelty of an interstate trip to the other bank with a view of the Rams Head Range 2000m above between strokes. Out of the river however, the hot sun, sparse shelter, dried out grass and marsh flies left us with an impression of a less than ideal camping spot.

Now having spent Easter 1982 there with the NPA we are happy to say that impression is wrong; Tom Groggin for a camp in perfect April weather is close to idyllic (toilet arrangements aside!). The river is beautiful from the first rays of morning sun to the long shadows of late afternoon; it was however, nippy for swimming then — judged only by close observation of other people! The general surroundings from the high mountains and the lower hills right around, to the bright green river flats are also beautiful. Early in the cool mornings there may be wisps of mist or even banks of thick mist in some gullies, all yielding to the sun's warm shafts. Yellow and flame robins are plentiful and there are many other birds. The rich glow of the sun at day's end adds another perspective. Each evening we left the campfire to enjoy the display of the moon rising over the Rams Head and each night it was different.

Coming down to earth again, there are some practical points which should be mentioned. Tom Groggin is in the Kosciusko National Park where the Alpine Way from Thredbo first meets the Murray; there is no formal camping area. The rangers have no objections to camping there and the area is a few hundred metres upstream (south) from the signposted picnic area. Water is from the clear mountain river but as cattle graze upstream, it should be boiled. Toilet arrangements are non-existent and there is a shortage of discreet bush screening reasonably close to camp. Firewood is also scarce around the camp but is available within walking distance. Blackberry bushes are plentiful!

Although there is plenty of room on the large river flat, much of it is exposed and not close to the river. Some of the party arrived on the Thursday afternoon to establish claim to a suitable area and this was needed. There were many camps in various spots along the river and a minute would rarely pass on the Alpine Way without a vehicle appearing.

There is pleasant walking in the area, which is now covered by two maps — the Jacobs River sheet of the Commonwealth National program 1:100,000, and the Thredbo sheet of the Central Mapping Authority of N.S.W. 1:50,000.

The Jacobs River sheet uses 1967 information and was printed in 1969. It does not show some of the four-wheel-drive (4WD) tracks which presumably have become a feature after 1967. It does show a foot track along the Murray River. A print later than mine shows part of the Tri-State Alpine Walking Trail in Victoria near the Murray north of Tom Groggin.

The Thredbo sheet is based on 1979 aerial photography with 1980 field revision; it was printed in 1981. It shows no foot tracks in the area but does show several 4WD tracks. It is a useful map for walking but we also consulted the Jacobs River sheet, being interested in the foot track shown along the Murray.

We did two simple, fairly easy day walks which readers may like to follow in the future. One needs to remember that 4WD tracks, like walking tracks, often disappear in open flat grassy places, re-appearing when the terrain is more confined. Blackberries are tending to overgrow both vehicular and walking tracks near the river and creeks. Some of our party, having been hooked previously, carried pruning snips which proved useful in some situations. A stout stick is also useful to hold aside blackberry canes, and even more useful to provide a third point of support when crossing the river.

FIRST WALK

It commences by following in a general SSW direction, the 4WD track which runs from the Alpine Way through the camping flat. In a little over 1km it fords the Murray (ford was about 0.3m deep and not difficult April 1982). It joins a 4WD track on the western or Victorian side. Turn left or SSW and the track gradually rises but still parallel to the river. A detour goes down to the river about 1km from the ford and rejoins the track later. Soon after, Buckwong Creek can be seen ahead flowing down a cascade into a lovely pool in a large bend of the river. The direction of the Murray changes 90° to ENE at this bend but the 4WD track continues SSW along the valley of Buckwong Creek.

Take a foot track to the left 100m or so after the Murray is left behind. This then crosses Buckwong Creek which is a fine stream (boots off or wet). There are blackberries and several pads here but they all seem to parallel the Murray about 200-300m away from it. The Jacobs River map shows a foot track deviating from the river and shortcutting the next major bend. We did not find it but did not look exhaustively as it would add extra distance to the walk. We followed one or other of the pads along the pleasant flats and easy slopes of the Murray valley. The only difficulty is the dense blackberries near Serpentine Creek, about 0.75km from Buckwong Creek. Some with snips and sticks followed the overgrown track; others took a clearer track to the Murray and then followed the Serpentine a few metres upstream to a crossing (the quick and sure kept boots dry).

In another 1km the pad/track rises until it breasts the top of a spur which runs north and south. There is a clear track on it and we turned north or left. The spur drops to a 180° bend in the river and an interesting crossing. The choice is between a rather jagged underwater ridge with fast flow or calm clear deeper water. Those who chose the latter spent lunchtime drying off various articles of attire. Luckily our lunch spot a little further on had sun or shade in pleasant surroundings.

After lunch we headed away from the river about NE with a dryish creek valley on our left. We were soon walking across a pleasant open grassy flat, heading in a northerly direction towards a low spot in the hills ahead. Sure enough as we approached the hills, we could see a 4WD track ascending and we did likewise. Indeed in that warm sunny early afternoon, although the rise is only 80m, one was thinking of plunging into the river on return to camp — almost! We envied the lazy-looking glide of a blue heron when it changed its vantage point as we passed.

The 4WD track descends to the Alpine Way which is dusty with a dry Easter's traffic. We therefore deviated from it due west across the low grassy hill direct to camp for afternoon tea, relaxing in the sun or shade and a deck tennis tournament.

SUMMARY

An easy 8 km walk on tracks and grass with blackberries easily dodged except at Serpentine Creek; 2 river and 2 creek crossings required wading.

SECOND WALK

It commences at the Tom Groggin picnic area. Head towards Khancoban along the Alpine Way until Snowy Creek is crossed almost immediately. Then right away deviate to the left along a 4WD track parallel to the river. Another track leading to a ford is crossed in 0.3km. The track proceeds through a couple of gates and largely disappears for the time being as we walked through delightful parklike river flats. We saw large flocks of thornbills and red browed fire tail finches. Cattle were grazing. The Tom Groggin property across the river looked most attractive to add to this sylvan scene.

In about 2km we reached a concrete causeway across the river and a later edition of the old swinging bridge; I had first crossed this in 1946 before roads came through. Crossing into Victoria, we approached the homestead and sought permission to walk through, which was readily

given. Cattle, horses and a few pigs are raised here. Of considerable interest also were the dozen or so cattle dogs learning their trade, each with a separate kennel.

Continuing downstream we crossed the fine Omeo Creek on a log using the fence as support. Some huge toadstools excited the mushroom hunters in vain, but large and medium mushrooms were found later. As the wide river flats gave way to an encroaching hillside, blackberries spread across the track which however, was still negotiable in 1982; there are several pads running along the side of the hill above the blackberries. The Murray widens into a large attractive pool at a sharp right bend just where the hillside and the river come together. Just past here we came on 2 black and yellow markers for the Tri-State Alpine Walking Trail which commences its Victorian span near here. Time did not permit following the trail.

By this time we were just off both our map sheets. We turned left (west) up a steep 4WD track which climbed the ridge and we had lunch where the steep rocky slopes gave a pleasant view. There are pads running along the contours to the left of this 4WD track. The track turned SW and it was soon obvious that we were indeed on the 4WD track shown running along the ridge on the Thredbo map. This part of the track is little used and seedling trees were starting to colonise it. It rises steeply at times to a height of 360m above the river and we sweated accordingly. A local thunderstorm dampened us but this did not help much with the cooling. Just under 3km from the river we were pleased to find the 4WD track shown on the Thredbo map branching left (SE). This track and the continuation of the one we had been following were both well used. We followed straight down SE at a knee-knocking average gradient of 1:4.

Again on level paddocks, we crossed Omeo Creek again, some on a log and some by submerged rock hopping. We again turned left (WNW) on a 4WD track and climbed over a rise to see the Murray before us. The tracks became vague and we set a direct course SE across the paddocks to the ford 0.4km north of Tom Groggin picnic area. We arrived at this ford at the same time as a 4WD light truck with trail bikes tied aboard. The writer was deeply ashamed to see all the rest of the party climb eagerly on this truck and lovingly attach themselves to the trail bikes for a dry crossing. Be it known that this party included some long-standing members whose views on the demerits of trail bikes have been strongly voiced in the past!

SUMMARY

A pleasant 13 – 14km walk on tracks and grass with one wade across river; some steep pinches totalling a vertical rise of 400m; at a relaxed pace total time including stops – 7½ hours.

A final word! Tom Groggin is not named after an ancient alcoholic cattleman. It is a corruption of the aboriginal word for a water spider – 'tomarogin'.

CHARLES HILL

ABORIGINAL ARTEFACTS

The policy of the Department of the Capital Territory on the finding of aboriginal artefacts in reserves or elsewhere in the A.C.T. is that the artefacts are to be left where they are found and not removed from the site. Departmental officers may take artefacts into custody if it is considered there is a risk of damage if they are left in their as found condition. Written permission is needed if artefacts are removed for educational or research purposes.

Removal of artefacts could significantly diminish the value of a site if at a later date it is to be more fully investigated and researched.

The N.S.W. National Parks and Wildlife Service has a similar policy on the finding of aboriginal artefacts.

STRATEGIES FOR ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIVISM

The Australian conservation movement should force the Federal Government to reactivate its environmental legislation, according to leading conservationist, Mr Milo Dunphy.

Mr Dunphy, Vice-President of the Australian Conservation Foundation and Director of the Total Environment Centre in Sydney, said that innovative legislation introduced over the last decade was not being used to its fullest extent and in some cases, not at all.

Such legislation included the Environment Protection (Impact of Proposals) Act, the National Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act, the Australian Heritage Commission Act, the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Act, the Aboriginal Land Rights Act.

He said there had been a backlash against much of this legislation and government authorities were constantly abrogating their responsibilities by bowing to the wishes of the Australian Mining Industry Council, the uranium industry, the forestry commissions and other developers.

Mr Dunphy was speaking on the topic 'Strategies for Environmental Activism' at a meeting at the Institute of Anatomy in July convened by the National Parks Association and the Molonglo Chapter of the Australian Conservation Foundation.

He said the Environment Protection Act was a prime example of legislation which had not been fully used for many years. There had been many significant issues deserving of a full environmental inquiry and also many calls to the Federal Government for such inquiries, but the legislation as it stood did not require for such calls to be answered.

Mr Dunphy said the calling for an environmental impact statement or a public inquiry should not be reliant on the whim of a Minister. The conservation movement ought to have the right to trigger an environmental inquiry. Perhaps 300 signatures on a petition should be recognised as being sufficient a catalyst or perhaps the signatures of the ACF, NPA and the National Trust – representing as they did responsible organisations with wide memberships – should provide weight enough to demand a public inquiry.

Mr Dunphy said the other important field conservation groups had to develop was community education and information, particularly to counter the propaganda being pedalled by large developers.

"There is a multi-million dollar industry developing in this country telling us what we should feel about the environment," he said. "Even the Federal Government is now spending half-a-million dollars on a 'mother nature's playground' advertising campaign. If only it would spend half-a-million on saving the South West Tasmanian wilderness . . ."

Mr Dunphy said environmental groups must upgrade their communication efforts and develop a strategy for matching the manipulation of the media by private industry groups.

Strategies which should be used included a national conservation briefing for the electorate before each election, better legal advice on environmental issues, the establishment of an investment monitoring service and a legal aid service for conservation organisations defending issues in court. He also stressed the need for a good, virile environmental lobby in Canberra to work closely with politicians and the bureaucracy.

The rationale Mr Dunphy gave for the need for greater orchestration of the conservation movement was a long catalogue of destruction of the Australian environment. It included the following facts:

- Australia was not rich in forests at the time of the arrival of the first Europeans
- since that arrival, two-thirds of the forest had been cleared
- Arid lands were being cleared at a rate of 100,000 hectares a year

- In New South Wales alone, eucalypt dieback now spread from the Queensland border to Cooma
- Rainforest in NSW in 1788 covered approximately one million hectares, in 1970, 300,000 hectares and in 1982, 200,000 hectares
- More than 60% of wetlands in NSW had been disturbed
- By 1974, about half the northern coastline of NSW had been damaged by sandminers
- There had been large scale infestation following the introduction of the bitou bush
- About half the continent's topsoil had gone since European settlement
- For every tonne of grain produced on the Darling Downs, about 15 tonnes of topsoil had gone
- Construction of highways had destroyed major natural areas and were threatening many more, eg: Castlecrag foreshore
- Rivers were silting up, eg the Murray. Georges River where Mr Dunphy's father once waded across with his clothes above his head was now just six foot of mud
- Prospecting for tin in the Mount Windsor area of northern Queensland was being done by bulldozers
- Air pollution, power crises and problems of rapid and uncontrolled growth threaten the environment and quality of life in all the major cities
- All major Government authorities concerning the environment were directed solely towards the exploitation of the country's natural resources
- Over the bulk of Australia, 'development', both corporate and government, went on totally unrestrained.

OUTING MAPS

The Central Mapping Authority of N.S.W. has now issued large scale 1:25,000 maps of most of the areas in which the Association programmes its outings. The most recent have been Yaouk, Rendezvous Creek, Corin Dam and Tidbinbilla. The previously best available map has been the Division of National Mapping map of the A.C.T., scale 1:100,000 and for most purposes this has provided enough detail for navigation through the untracked areas of the Territory.

As the CMA maps provide greater detail of features for recognition and navigation and accuracy for distance measuring, the maps in this series will in future be quoted as a reference in the outing details. The present price of these maps is \$3.00 each and they are obtainable from the camping gear shops in the City. As more maps will now be required their immediate cost could be minimised by acquiring them over a period of time as outings are undertaken in different areas.

A knowledge of the route to be followed and its features provides a greater satisfaction beyond the physical and social well being engendered from the outing. In addition this knowledge leads to greater safety for the party if members are not completely reliant on the leader for directions on the route. If members become separated from the party it is essential that they should have some idea of where they are and where to go. If there are any doubts on how a map is read and its use for direction finding, the leader and other experienced members of the party will be only too pleased to give advice and instruction.

BLUE GUM FOREST

The story of the acquisition of Blue Gum Forest in the Grose Valley below Blackheath in the Blue Mountains by a group of three Sydney clubs in order to preserve this unique and magnificent stand of timber for perpetuity was told in the September 1979 issue of this Bulletin.

It is of some significance now that 50 years have passed since its declaration as a public recreation area on September 9th, 1932, that it could be said to be a major tangible mark in the turning point in public awareness of the need to conserve our natural and national resources.

A writer, R.E. Jones earlier this year in a letter to the Sydney Morning Herald had this to say: — "The story of how this unique and magnificent stand of gums was saved from total destruction by the efforts of a handful of public-spirited citizens and members of the bushwalking movement is epic in itself and deserves to be fully recalled, applauded and celebrated as an example of foresight and conservation."

We must be forever grateful to those farsighted pioneers and architects of the conservation movement who saved the Blue Gum Forest from the depredation of the saw-millers.

THE FLORAL EMBLEM OF THE A.C.T.

During May, the Minister for the Capital Territory announced that the floral emblem for the A.C.T. would be the Royal Bluebell, *Wahlenbergia gloriosa*. The selection of the emblem was made unanimously by a committee after a review of the flora native to the A.C.T..

The genus *Wahlenbergia*, which belongs to the family Campanulaceae, was named by the German botanist H.A. Schrader in 1814 in honour of Georg Goran Wahlenberg (1780-1851), Professor of Botany at Upsalla, Sweden, who was noted for his studies of European plant geography. The genus occurs in South America, New Zealand and Australia.

The species *Wahlenbergia gloriosa* was named by Noel T. Lothian, former Director, Adelaide Botanic Gardens, in his revision of the genus in 1947. The species is restricted to above about 1300m in the high montane forests and woodlands of the A.C.T., south eastern N.S.W. and eastern Victoria.

Wahlenbergia gloriosa can be cultivated and can form a frost-hardy ground cover which will flower in Canberra from late October to February. It does best in moist, light enriched soil in either a sunny or semi-shaded position. The plant can be propagated by division, cuttings or seed. The Royal Bluebell is protected in the wild.

A pamphlet with more details of the plant can be obtained from the National Botanic Gardens, Canberra and this article is an abridgement from it.



NATIVE BIRD STUDY PROJECT

A few of us recently had the pleasure of attending a preview of three of the twelve audio/visual, tape/slide programmes of birds and their songs, produced as part of a Native Bird Study Project under a grant from the Commonwealth Schools Commission to Sir Frederick White and Dr. Robert Boden, Director of the National Botanic Gardens.

The main objective of the project is to encourage a knowledge of the songs, appearance and biology of Australian native birds in the National Botanic Gardens. A specific aim is to assist disabled children to learn about birds and plants but the facilities will be available for all teachers to use with students visiting the Gardens from all ACT and interstate schools. Most of the bird recordings have been made in and around the ACT by Sir Frederick. Colour transparencies have been donated by many people and organizations and over 700 slides are available for developing programmes.

A major component of the project still to be developed involves the preparation and display of museum-type skins and mounted specimens which can be handled by poorly sighted children to assist in interpreting the bird recordings.

Dr. Boden hopes that when the project is fully developed, perhaps later in the year or early next year, these programmes can be used in conjunction with the early morning guided walks through the Gardens in spring and autumn.

SHIELA KRUSE

ROCK ART OF ARNHEM LAND

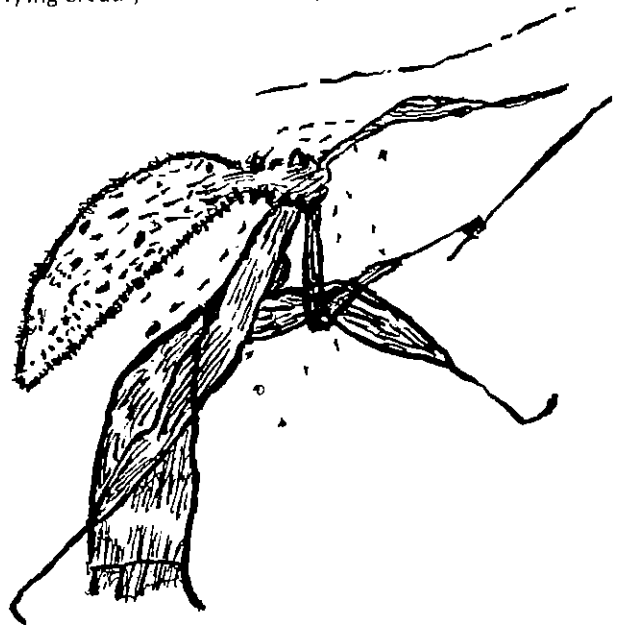
At the General Meeting of 15th April, Mr George Chaloupka introduced his film 'Images of Man' to a capacity audience. Mr Chaloupka, himself an artist, is employed by the Museums and Art Board of the Northern Territory. The film is an examination of the aboriginal rock art of a section of the Arnhem Land escarpment and Mr Chaloupka's elegant images combined with his emphatic approach to his subject gave us a memorable evening.

The rock art of the Arnhem Land escarpment cannot be accurately dated but 20,000 years has been suggested as the age of some of the older examples. What can be determined is the sequence of styles from the early Mimi art, which Mr Chaloupka terms the dynamic figure style



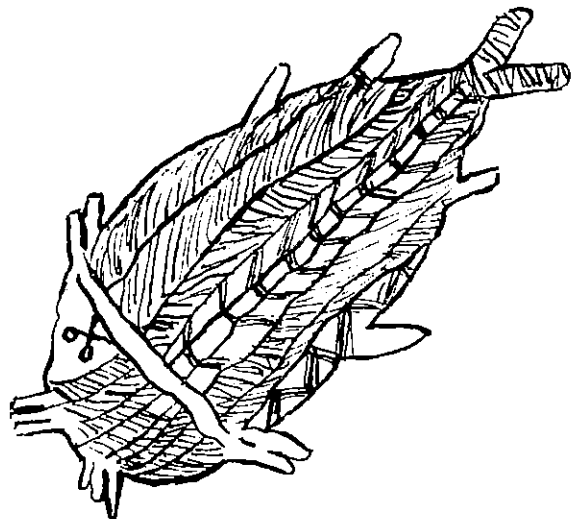
and on which he focuses his attention for most of the film, through to the X-ray style which persists to the present day. Evidence of sequential development of style can be seen in the overlaying of later styles on earlier depictions of extinct animals such as the thylacine (Tasmanian Tiger) and of early Europeans such as the example of an European wielding a rifle in the way an aboriginal would wield a spear.

Early Mimi art was concerned primarily with the depiction of figures in motion and used fine fluid lines to convey vitality and expression. Most of the human figures wear ceremonial dress such as elaborate headdresses and dancing skirts while their life force and energy is represented by dots emanating from their mouths signifying breath, or as Mr Chaloupka believes, voice.



The attitude of the figures is one of forceful movement, with legs and arms extended, usually carrying weapons accentuating the impression of vibrant activity.

Following this period compositions became more static while retaining the typical stick-figure of the early Mimi style. Later still, figures developed a rounder more bulbous shape giving a space within the figure which gradually became a vehicle for early X-ray features. This stylised representation of the internal organs of human beings and animals has continued unabated until the present day. Although Mr Chaloupka considers the stylistic change from dynamic to X-ray style to be a regression with loss of aesthetic quality, this would seem tantamount to comparing Italian Futurism to medieval iconography to the detriment of the latter.



The Arnhem Land escarpment is under continual threat from mining companies and others who would exploit the land and its people and Australians need to be reminded of the importance of preserving the heritage of the aboriginal people of this country. All must realise that to condone the destruction of cave paintings of comparable age and significance to those of Lascaux in France is an incredible act of vandalism for which we will be harshly judged by future generations.

MAXINE and PHILIP ESAU

A REVIEW OF THE NATURE CONSERVATION ORDINANCE

The Australian Capital Territory finally has legislation that has brought the laws governing nature conservation into line with those in N.S.W. and Victoria.

After more than ten years of meetings, discussions and deferments the A.C.T. legislation became law on the 5th of June this year.

The first draft of the ordinance was prepared in 1972 and was distributed to interested organisations for comment. The N.P.A. submitted to the City Manager of the then Department of Interior a paper which commented and put forward suggested amendments to the ordinance. This was followed by a meeting with officers of the Department of Interior in May 1972 and another meeting was convened in June 1973.

The ordinance was then shelved for several years and in 1977 a Bill for a Nature Conservation Ordinance was pub-

lished. The Bill was generally approved by the N.P.A. and as the Legislative Assembly was now interested the N.P.A. wrote to the Standing Committee of Land Planning and the Environment in the Assembly recommending the Assembly consider the Bill favourably.

After some further deferments the Bill was passed by the Legislative Assembly, was printed as an Ordinance, signed by the Minister for the A.C.T. in July 1980 and was sent to the Senate Committee on Legislation and Regulations. The Committee questioned parts of the Ordinance and it was returned to the D.C.T. for amendments. The amendments were published in May this year. Regulations to the Ordinance were published soon after it became law.

The new Ordinance repeals the Timber Protection Ordinance, Wild Flowers and Native Plants Ordinance, Animal and Bird Protection Ordinance and the Seaweed Protection Ordinance. The Public Parks Ordinance, which previously was the only legislation to cover the nature conservation areas, now reverts to its proper purpose of dedicating public parks.

The new Ordinance provides for the declaration of 'Reserved Areas' and 'Wilderness Zones', although provision has been made so that a lessee of any land declared a Reserved Area may, upon termination of the lease, be granted a new lease in respect of the land (Section 50.7). This paragraph gives the managers an out to allow almost any form of land use within a Regulated Area.

With the exception of Section 5.7 the control and management of Reserved Areas and Wilderness Zones is adequately covered and this will provide for a satisfactory management basis for the Gudgenby Nature Reserve.

J. SCHUNKE

SUMMER SCHOOL ON MOUNT KOSCIUSKO

JANUARY 23-28, 1983

The Department of Continuing Education of the University of New England will be conducting a special programme, based at Jindabyne, to mark the publication of the Kosciusko National Park Plan of Management.

The themes of the school to be explored will include:-

- The history of the Snowys
- Songs and balads of the Snowys
- The land forms at Mt Kosciusko
- Australia's alpine wild flowers
- The fauna of the alpine region
- Man and the Snowys — Managing the Kosciusko National Park

Tutors will include:-

Judy Caughley B.Sc., Ph.D.
Roger Good B.A., Litt.B., Dip of Agric.
Dave Wimbush M.Sc.

Neville Gare B.Sc.
Bill Scott; Folklore
Graeme Worboys B.Sc.

The summer School will be opened by Mr Tom Barry, councillor and member of a Snowy pioneer family.

An enrolment fee of \$130 covers all lectures, field trips and evening sessions, lunch and morning tea each day, opening reception, Friday barbeque, bus trips on Wednesday and Friday. Evening accommodation has not been reserved but assistance will be given in selecting suitable lodging.

Full details and application forms are available from the Secretary of the N.P.A. or from the University of New England, Armidale, N.S.W. 2351.

A.C.T. HERITAGE WEEK – NPA EVENTS

HERITAGE WALK

As part of the programme of activities for A.C.T. Heritage Week 1982 the N.P.A. decided to invite members of the public to participate in a short walk in the Gudgenby Nature Reserve, to give people a chance to see some of the Reserve with information from members who know the area.

Charles Hill volunteered to make the arrangements and it was decided that Mt. Boboyan would provide the best easily-accessible vantage point from which to see the main peaks and features of the area.

Advertisements were placed in newspapers, giving directions for reaching the starting point on the road to Adaminaby and two phone numbers were available for enquiries – only a few.

Early on Saturday, Charles, assisted by Neville Esau and Ian Currie, selected the easiest way to the lookout area and marked the route with yellow plastic tape – all removed at the end of the day – and checked that the route was easily followed back to the starting point. When other helpers arrived (Reg Alder, Beverley Hammond, Frank Clements) they carried water, tea, coffee, etc., up the track to the vantage point and established a camp where hot drinks were offered – and gratefully accepted by all who reached that point.

After placing notices on the road, and at the summit a disc with arrows pointing to the many peaks visible from Mt. Boboyan, we all settled down to lunch and waited to see if any or many people would arrive. From 1 o'clock there was a steady stream of arrivals, who were sent off along the track – manned at intermediate points – until about 2.30p.m. when seventy people ranging from five years to sixty-plus had disappeared into the bush.

On attaining the peak all were amazed at the panorama, impressed with Charles' direction indicator, grateful for a hot drink from the beverage manager, and full of praise for the organization of the day.

It was suggested by several people that the same walk, or similar walks, should be arranged as an interest for many who would not venture away from roads or tracks by themselves.

All in all, it was a most successful venture and thanks are due to Charles Hill and his helpers for the enjoyment of a day out in the mountains and a gentle introduction for many people to the Gudgenby Nature Reserve under the care of the National Parks Association of the A.C.T.

HERITAGE DISPLAY

NPA was one of several community groups taking part in the Heritage Exhibition in Albert Hall on the first Sunday of ACT Heritage Week. Gudgenby Nature Reserve was, naturally, the theme of the NPA exhibit and we were able to mount a fine display of photographs giving a fairly broad picture of the Reserve. To add to our own collection of members' photographs, we were able to borrow some magnificent colour photos and a map from the ACT Conservation Service (Department of the Capital Territory). The Service also gave us what seemed to be an enormous quantity of its GNR brochures but these all vanished long before the afternoon rush began. An attractive addition to the display stands were the Australian native plants lent by a commercial nursery, and Janet Twigg-Patterson's brush paintings of flowers to be found in the Reserve which she whipped up for the occasion. She and Ralf Iannuzzi gave a lot of time and expert help to Committee members – Sheila, Ian and Charles – in planning and setting up the exhibit. The NPA T-shirts were launched, and we also sold our remaining stocks of *Rambles around Canberra* and several copies of Cla Allen's *Hiking in Early Canberra*, thereby adding \$71 to Association funds.

The Heritage Exhibition was a highly successful opening to Heritage Week and we feel sure that the ACT Heritage Committee, the community groups represented, and the public will want to see it repeated.

UPHILL AND DOWN IN THE WOLLEMI NATIONAL PARK

If you ever want to visit a remote and enchanting part of the Wollemi National Park, you can use the firetrail that runs along the southern rim of the Hunter Valley and traverses it. It will take a conventional car (just), but you would be wise to ask for an up-to-date report first. The Hunter Valley Research Foundation (Newcastle) would probably be able to tell you. It goes through sandstone that is rich in flowers after rain, but here and there it rises into a quite different flora on airy little plateaus of basalt, remnants of an immense basalt sheet that covered a great deal of this sandstone country about fifty million years ago. The grand-daddy of all these plateaus is on Mount Yengo, well south of the rim and dominating a wild jumble of craggy sandstone ravines and tall eucalypt forest. Yengo is noticeable even from the plane, where altitude is great enough to flatten the view and merge most features into anonymity.

As a newcomer to Australia I found the flora and the way it changed abruptly from the sandstone to the basalt and back again to be wonderfully interesting. What an assignment it was to do a survey in that area, and what a chance to mix even more pleasure with the assignment, and visit Yengo on foot! Reasonably easy too, to judge from the aerial photos. They showed a branch trail leading down to a clearing and a homestead within a few miles of the base. I watched for the fork when we passed by, and sure enough there it was, and sure enough I was there again shortly afterwards, on my own this time and in a Landrover, plus aerial photos, stereo, map, camera, plant press, and notebook all complete, in fact the only non-functional thing was a CSIRO regulation prohibiting the carrying of liquor in an official vehicle. I had brought a few bottles of beer for the homestead.

The branch trail was steep and bendy, lonely and beautiful and a bit scary, like an illustration by Rackham in a volume of Grimms' fairy-tales, and I am sure it's still like that because it is remote indeed. The association with the brothers Grimm vanished when I reached the homestead – the cottage belonged to no wicked witch but to an engaging young family who understood at once why I should want to visit Yengo. "I should be back late afternoon", I said "... Do you drink beer?" The man of the house grinned a little sheepishly as I handed the bottles over. "All Australians drink beer" he said. Obviously he had made an unerring diagnosis of a foreign accent.

I took the Landrover on for another mile or so, parked, and set out for the top. Altogether lovely, and in no time I was distracted, noting here and photographing there and stopping to admire in the next place; and then the top, with views of miles and miles and miles of the most inaccessible country you could imagine, without a sign of human influence. It makes you wonder how many citizens of other countries can see country like that, and how much longer it will last against the almighty dollar and an increasing population. Meantime it was a golden afternoon and I resented the fact that it was time to go, down the ridge past that boulder and on, bearing slightly to the left and then follow-your-nose.

Twenty minutes later I was goggling at the sheer and unknown sandstone cliff that loomed out of the trees and blocked my way, and for a few seconds I did not believe it. You want to know what I did next? For another few seconds I panicked. You would be astonished at the effort it takes to regain control and sit down and take stock of the position, and the position was this – You fool, you utter fool. You are lost in some of the roughest country in Australia, and somewhere in this vicinity is the Yokey swamp. You could be heading for that.

I pictured suspicion at the homestead growing into certainty as darkness fell, the no end of trouble I would cause, the newshawks clamouring for details of this copy-book case of stupidity. A little thought made it clear that there was only one person who could get me out of this mess,

and that was RS himself, and what he had to do first was to locate himself on the photos. I could see nothing but forest, and it was going to be difficult.

So I threw away my bulky botanical specimens and moved carefully round looking for a glimpse of Yengo through the trees. The top was a plateau and not a peak, and this would mean a generalised bearing, but it would be better than nothing. Eventually the first step came good — I got a bearing, corrected for magnetic deflection, and drew the corresponding line on the photos I would be somewhere in the neighbourhood of that line. Things could be fined down a little more by estimating the distance from Yengo and noting the direction of fall of the gullies, and that was all — not a hope of picking up a local feature in that bush, not even the cliff, which on vertical photography would have shown as little more than a line, stereo notwithstanding. The rest was a matter of noting the drainage pattern and position of the homestead on the photos and hoping very hard that I would recognise a certain large north-south gully when I came to it from the west. Well, I did, otherwise I might not have been writing this today.

Going back that night in the Landrover after a sociable mug at the homestead (and a discreetly abridged account of my trip), I went over that sharp and merciful lesson and drew up my own private creed. It went like this —

- remember that ridges are safe when you are going uphill, because they converge at the top, and that they diverge and are dangerous when you are coming down
- where you have no visible landmarks, keep a written log of what you do, particularly if you change your direction
- if in a fix, sit down and consider
- never stir a step from the track without map or photos, compass, protractor, and pencil, and without survival kit (matches, waterproof, jersey).

That I had gone out alone was stupid in only one respect — I could have met with an incapacitating accident. As for getting lost, I would have lost two people instead of one person, unless of course the other person had been wiser than I was.

Laurie Johnson, later Director of the Royal Botanic Gardens in Sydney, was so taken with my account of that area that he made a trip along the firetrail too, and was equally impressed, and not only with the botany. One of the sentences in his letter was "Took my own car, like a fool". So do remember to enquire first, if you intend going that way. Yengo itself is outside the park, but there are plenty of other basalt plateaus where you can put my creed to the test.

ROBERT STORY

THE AMBIVALENT APPROACH TO THE BUSH

The tall gum trees next door provided an oasis for the bush canaries, silver eyes, crows, wattle birds and the odd cockatoo. Their spreading, twisted branches, so full of character, mocked the rectangular rigidity of the suburban block. Standing beside their thick trunks amid the fallen bark and leaves you could almost imagine you were in the bush. Our neighbours loved the trees and apart from an occasional small branch blown down in a gale, they were no trouble. Then they sold the house and the message from the new owners was that the trees had to go. "Well, we like the birds and the shade the trees provide but we are always cleaning up the leaves . . . and what if one of them was blown over. "Trees are alright but . . ."

That ambivalent approach forms a strong theme in the Great Australian Mentality. Its origins go back well into the last century as the early pioneers confronted the bush to establish their farms, homes and towns. In 1914, the first settlers of South Gippsland, which was once clothed with a remarkable temperate rainforest, decided to relate their pioneering memories in a book. Apparently unaware of the

irony they called the book "The Land of the Lyrebird." Of course it was once the land of the lyrebird until they moved in, destroyed the forest and ensured its disappearance. The settlers loathed the forest for the huge obstacles it placed in the way of settlement but they liked it because of the rich diversity of flora and fauna; they regretted the disappearance of those natural delights but they welcomed with enthusiasm the establishment of new farming land left by the forest's clearing. Overall they saw it as a transformation of "a howling wilderness" into "a land of milk and honey."

The desperate urge to clear is well described by the first settler of the Fish Creek area, Thomas Murray. "You sit for a moment", he wrote, "and ponder that all around you is a great ocean of scrub and timber and that you are a very tiny speck of insignificant humanity in the midst of it. By you, and such as you, this great forest must be fought and demolished and in its place farms must be formed and an entirely new territory of actual worth be created for the nation."

Mr J. Western quoted the philosopher, Thomas Carlyle: "The man who makes two blades of grass to grow where only one grew before is a benefactor to his race." "The Gippsland pioneers discovered a great province lying waste and useless," Western said, "the haunt of the dingo and wallaby, almost uncannily in the strange stillness that lay upon it. By dint of years of the most strenuous toil they turned it into a land of rich pastures and comfortable homes, changing the silent wilderness into one of the most populous and richest provinces of the state. Nature resented the coming and steadily and persistently resisted him at every turn. She had been in possession for so long, had clothed the hills and valleys with life in a hundred forms and laid her schemes with matchless beauty and order." So, it was "waste and useless" but beautiful nevertheless.

A Mr McKenzie McHarg is moved to describe the forest as "an enchanting Eden." But then we hear of the other side of the picture, the forest as the physical obstacle. "Just imagine being caught in a storm at night on one of the pack tracks leading south. You had left the Poowong cattle yards in threatening weather, hurrying along in the mud and the slush. The wind is blowing furiously, the track getting darker and darker, till at last a murky darkness which you can almost feel, has set in, which brings with it a solitary feeling of loneliness that is appalling. The rain begins to fall, the wind increases its violence. Blended with the uproar of the storm are the weird and lonely calls of the mopoke and other nocturnal birds. While the hoarse croak of the mountain possum, the dull thudding of the wallaby as he jumps away, the almost human cry of the koala, the pure bred dingo's piercing and disconcerting howl complete the eerie chorus, which is occasionally overwhelmed by the thundering roar of some mighty monarch of the scrub hurled from high estate and uprooted by the violence of the storm, crashing through sapling and sucker, and bringing one or two of its neighbours with him, he lies broken and splintered." Through this literally howling wilderness, McHarg arrives safely at home, "The faithful collie, the occupant's only companion, springs from the hearth and barks a joyous welcome. You are relieved to enter the log cabin, where mutual greetings, warmth and pleasure, relax the tension of the awful journey." The hut provides the small refuge from the horrors of the natural world.

W.M. Watson gave moral approbation to the struggle to clear the forest. "The moral fibre of the community has been strengthened by the difficulties encountered in establishing homes, towns and industrial enterprises in the virgin forest. Pioneering like war has its triumphs and tribulations. It is our baptism of fire which strengthens the moral fibre of its national character, makes for courage, resourcefulness and patience under difficulties in those who are triumphant."

To be fair to the pioneers, there were those who did realise the importance of preserving some of the forest, like Mr A. Gillan: "The country was virtually covered

by the skeletons of the dead trees intermingled with live trees here and there and often by patches of green timber which have been left untouched by progress of clearing or left purposely as shelter for stock, or as a source of supply for future requirements on the farm. This is very important as there is no doubt that as time passes and timber becomes scarce, a patch of green timber on the farm will be regarded as a valuable possession."

A settler near Poowong East, Mr M. Hansen, makes a classic understatement when he says: "It was perhaps a grave error to destroy all this valuable timber. I am inclined to think that within a very brief period those who have saved a few acres of timber will find that it will be the most

valuable crop the land has ever yielded. Some of the forest could, with care, have been saved from destruction, and in a few instances this has been done. Yet most of us deemed it inadvisable to leave one acre of standing timber. Many of us thought that there was ample timber to last for a generation and more, but alas, the fires killed most of the standing timber and after a few years those who had only sapling country and not the wherewithal to fence their holdings, had to cart fencing material from a distance." What a pity that Hansen's simple understanding could not have been more widely shared. But his was, very much, the minority view. And still is.

STEPHEN JOHNSTON

*The President and Committee
wish all members*

A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR

and invite all to the

CHRISTMAS PARTY

Orroral Valley Picnic Ground at 3p.m.

on Sunday 12 December 1982

WINE, CHEESE, BISCUITS PROVIDED – MAY EVEN BE A CHRISTMAS CAKE

BRING AN EVENING MEAL

BLUE WATERHOLE INSPECTION

In response to NPA's expressed concern about management of the Coleman Plains area, in late May members of the Committee were invited to spend a day on site with park administrators.

Five of us made the journey which proved to be most informative and constructive, particularly as our guide was the Association's long-standing friend Andy Spate. Andy, an ecologist and speleologist of some repute, has previously addressed our meetings and led walks. He is now Investigation Officer (Karsts), based in Tumut, with two important karst areas, Coleman and Yarrangobilly, as his major responsibilities.

Andy confirmed our view that the sheer magnitude of visitors to the Coleman Plains was having a most detrimental impact on the environment. He said that last Easter there were up to 200 campers each night at Blue Waterhole. The impact ranges from ordinary 'wear and tear' to lack of appreciation of the fragile nature of the caves area and historic Coolamine Homestead and downright vandalism. Destructive acts like shooting off inconveniently locked gates apparently are common and, despite signs advising about soil erosion control, four wheel drives are still ripping up the hillsides alongside new conservation work.

However, by far the greatest management problem is the lack of financial and manpower resources. In a recent letter from the NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service, we were informed that staff levels in the Kosciusko National Park are now lower than in the 1960s.

The money and manhours spent last summer season in the Coleman Plains area, apart from routine tasks, went into building a rabbitproof fence around Coolamine Homestead complex and a post fence along the edge of the track to prevent vehicles entering the home paddock, 'restoring' the two-hole earth closet at the homestead and stabilising the hillsides south of Blue Waterhole where serious erosion was starting from the 4WD tracks. Much of this latter work was undertaken voluntarily by the Outward Bound Movement.

Plans for the area – apparently included in the Kosciusko Plan of Management expected to be released very soon – include several measures to lessen the impact of tourism.

Two new campsites are proposed. One is on the headwaters of Peppercorn Creek on a grassy flat just off the Coleman Track and about 7km north-west of Blue Waterhole, and the other at Doseys Hill about 2km on the track south of the waterhole. Probably water will need to be provided at both sites.

Once these campsites are established, the track into Blue Waterhole will be blocked off and only pack walkers will be able to camp beyond. This will lessen the adverse environmental impact which has been produced by car camping in the immediate vicinity at Blue Waterhole.

It is also proposed that the Coleman track be re-routed, following basically the old bullock track, to bypass the Blue Waterhole Area. The new road would cross Cave Creek about ½km to the west of the waterhole.

Blue Waterhole and the Cave Creek Gorge is an easily recognisable geological area, but Andy Spate revealed to us some of the significance of the wider karst area, particularly to the south-west of the Gorge. He has offered to lead an NPA walk there on the weekend of 20-21 November.

As well as the karsts, it is an area interesting for its historic features – the remnants of the grazing and mining days, its alpine vegetation and also the experimental plots established by CSIRO scientists in their research into vegetation patterns in frost hollows.

DENISE ROBIN

NEW MEMBERS

The following new members are welcomed to the Association:- Paul and Joan Allan, Torrens; Helen Armstrong, A.N.U.; John Ashman, Fisher; M/S M. Ball, Latham; Gail and Ron Burns, Scullin; Doris Cloer-Gerblinger, Watson; Julie Docker, Red Hill; Don Fletcher, Queanbeyan; Jeff Fraser, Chapman; David Harbison, Red Hill; Bill Holesgrove, Higgins; Ivy Jacobson, Kaleen; Caroline Josephs and family, Griffith; Martha Mack, Campbell; P.D. Magee, Dickson; Peter and Madeline Martin, O'Connor; Brian Midson, Garran; Joan Owen, Latham; Phil Pickering, Duffy; Janette Radford, Turner; Lala Reeves, Melba; Anne Robertson, Hackett; Pat and Karen Siciliano, Queanbeyan; P.R. Skeat, Campbell; Linda Thompson, Braddon; Howard and Margaret White, Melba; Barry and Christine Williams, Yarralumla.

NATIONAL PARKS ASSOCIATION OUTINGS

Please notify the leader by the previous Wednesday of your intention to go on any weekend outing.

The Committee suggests a donation of FOUR cents per kilometre (calculation to nearest dollar) be offered to the driver by each passenger accepting transportation. Drive distances quoted from the meeting point, for one way only, are approximate and for guidance only. Walk distances shown are total.

All persons joining an outing of the National Parks Association of the ACT do so as volunteers in all respects and as such accept sole responsibility for any injury howsoever incurred and the National Parks Association of the ACT, its office bearers and appointed leaders are absolved from any liability in respect of any injury or damage suffered whilst engaged on any such outing.

SEPTEMBER 5 SUNDAY WALK

Mt. McDonald Ref. Cotter Dam 1:25,000 Leader: Bill Adams 487584
Meet: Eucumbene Drive – Cotter Road 9.30a.m. Stroll to Mt. McDonald on gentle grade and curves with 2 km of steep track, to view Cotter area. 10 km drive.

SEPTEMBER 5 SUNDAY WALK

McKeahnie Trig Ref. Corin Dam 1:25,000 Leader: Garth Abercombie 814907
Meet: Mugga Lane – Monaro Highway 8.00a.m. 16 km walk through scrub and broken rock up the ridge with 500m climb. 50 km drive.

SEPTEMBER 11-12 WEEKEND PACK WALK

South Budawangs Ref. Corang 1:50,000 Leader: Babette Scougall 487008
6 km walk to camp in cave, ascent and descent of 200m. Exploratory day walks Saturday p.m., Sunday a.m. contact leader. 120 km drive.

SEPTEMBER 12 SUNDAY WALK

Middle Creek Ref. Rendezvous Creek 1:25,000 Leader: Brian Hammond 814777
Meet: Monaro Highway – Mugga Lane 8.30a.m. 12 km walk in Gudgenby Reserve up the creek, scrub and rough tracks. 50 km drive.

SEPTEMBER 18 SATURDAY NATURE RAMBLE

Black Mountain Ref. Canberra UBD Leader: George Chippendale 812454
Meet: Belconnen Way entrance 9.30a.m. Morning ramble to see the flowers, for those aged 4 to 80. Bring morning tea. Finishes at 12.00.

SEPTEMBER 19 SUNDAY FIELD NATURE OUTING

Micalong Swamp Ref. Brindabella 1:100,000 Leader: John Banks 816641
Meet: Goodradigbee Bridge at Brindabella 10.00a.m. An outing to investigate the ecology of Micalong Swamp on the headwaters of Micalong Creek. John Banks will describe a number of interesting features of this area including its landforms, flora and the influence of the surrounding area. 75 km drive.

SEPTEMBER 26 SUNDAY WALK

Billy Range Ref. ACT 1:100,000 Leader: Hela Lindemann 515917
Meet: Kambah Shops 8.30a.m. 16 km walk from Glendale Crossing to hill in the Billy Range, with views of Naas River. Mostly bush, some open country and a few trails. 40 km drive.

OCTOBER 2, 3, 4 LONG WEEKEND CAR CAMP

Yaouk Valley Ref. Yaouk 1:25,000 Leader: Volunteer required, telephone 886577
Camp by the Murrumbidgee with possible walks upstream, to Mt Clear or Yaouk Bill Range. Contact leader. 120 km drive.

OCTOBER 2, 3, 4 LONG WEEKEND PACK WALK

Woila Ref. Badja 1:25,000 Leader: Phil Gatenby 815236
Contact leader for details of medium/hard walk, no tracks, some climbing. 140 km drive.

OCTOBER 9 SATURDAY WALK

Hardy Range Ref. Cotter Dam 1:25,000 Leader: Trevor Plumb 813258
Meet: Eucumbene Drive – Cotter Road 1.30p.m. 4 km walk mostly on fire trails with some steep sections. 15 km drive.

OCTOBER 10 SUNDAY WALK

Mt Hartwood Ref. ACT 1:100,000 Leader: Lyn Richardson
Meet: Eucumbene Drive – Cotter Road 8.00a.m. Steep, long climb mostly on fire trail, from Wee Jasper side of Brindabella Range. 80 km drive.

OCTOBER 17 SUNDAY FAMILY OUTING

Majors Creek Waterfall Ref. Araluen 1:50,000 Leader: Les Pyke 812982
Meet: Canberra Railway Station 9.00a.m. 5 km walk across open, scenic country from village to waterfall. Other easy options. 100 km drive.

OCTOBER 17 SUNDAY WALK

Pierces Creek Falls Ref. Cotter Dam 1:25,000 Leader: Lyle Mark 816985
Meet: Eucumbene Drive – Cotter Road 8.30a.m. 12 km medium walk at easy pace via Hardy Range, suitable for beginners, mainly on fire and walking trails with short steep descent and climb out. 15 km drive.

OCTOBER 24 SUNDAY WALK

Lake Burley Griffin Ref. Canberra UBD Leader: Geraldine Spencer 477761
Meet: City Bus Interchange 12 noon. Catch 902 ACTION bus at 12.05p.m. Alight Scrivener Dam. Walk back to Civic or catch bus at Black Mountain Peninsular at 3.43p.m. Nesting birds, flowers, lake reflections. Please check current bus timetable, phone 476185.

OCTOBER 24 SUNDAY WALK

Mt Tumatbulla Ref. Kain 1:25,000 Leader: Reg Alder 542240
Meet: Canberra Railway Station 8.30a.m. 7 km of fire trails and bush ascending Mt Tumatbulla (1300 m) on the Great Divide east of Captains Flat. 80 km drive.

OCTOBER 30 SATURDAY BICYCLE RIDE

Lake Burley Griffin Ref. Canberra UBD Leader: Fiona Brand 479538
Meet: Ferry Terminal 12.30p.m. Hire bicycle or bring your own. Cycle to Scrivener Dam and return. Bring lunch.

OCTOBER 31 SUNDAY WALK

Murrumbidgee/Molonglo Junction

Ref. ACT 1:100,000

Leader: Betty Campbell 811711

Meet: Entrance Belconnen Golf Course, Drake Brockman Drive, Holt. 10.00a.m. 6-10 km of easy walking mainly on tracks.

OCTOBER 31 SUNDAY WALK

Headwaters Bluegum Creek

Ref. Corin Dam 1:25,000

Leader: Charles Hill 958924

Meet: Kambah Shops 8.30a.m. 14 km walk from Smokers Gap along grassy valleys then through scrub up to a ridge with a 500 m climb. 50 km drive.

NOVEMBER 6 SATURDAY WALK

London Bridge and Homestead

Ref. ACT 1:100,000

Leader: Hansene Hansen 473453

Meet: Canberra Railway Station 12 noon. 8 km of walking trails by the Googong Dam foreshores from the car park at the end of London Bridge Road. 30 km drive.

NOVEMBER 6, 7 WEEKEND PACK WALK

Orroral/Middle Creek

Ref. Rendezvous Creek 1:25,000

Leader: Reg Alder 542240

Contact leader for details. 60 km drive.

NOVEMBER 7 SUNDAY WALK

Bullen Range

Ref. Tidbinbilla 1:25,000

Leader: Hela Lindemann 515917

Meet: Eucumbene Drive – Cotter Road 8.30a.m. 10 km walk along ridge from Tidbinbilla Tracking Station to Murrays Corner. Easy walking through scrub with a steep climb to the ridge. Car shuffle. 20 km drive.

NOVEMBER 14 SUNDAY WALK

Mt Gingera

Ref. Corin Dam 1:25,000

Leader: Beverley Hammond 886577

Meet: Eucumbene Drive – Cotter Road 8.30a.m. 14 km walk through open country and on fire trails from Ginini to Gingera to see the Bogong moths. 50 km drive.

NOVEMBER 14 SUNDAY WALK

Crown Mountain

Ref. Rendezvous Creek 1:25,000

Leader: Garth Abercrombie 814907

Long walk along fire trails and 500 m steep, scrubby climb. Contact leader for details. 50 km drive.

NOVEMBER 20, 21 WEEKEND CAR CAMP

Caves Creek

Ref. Peppercorn 1:25,000

Leader: Andy Spate

Contact: Neville Esau 864176. Field nature study weekend led by the Investigation Officer (Karsts) for the Cooleman area. 125 km drive.

NOVEMBER 21 SUNDAY WALK

Orroral Heights

Ref. Rendezvous Creek 1:25,000

Leader: Lyn Richardson

Meet: Kambah Shops 8.30a.m. Climb from Orroral picnic area through open bush and along the ridge to a peak overlooking tracking station – 10 km. 40 km drive.

NOVEMBER 28 SUNDAY FAMILY OUTING

Gibraltar Rocks

Ref. Tidbinbilla 1:25,000

Leader: Norm Morrison 821734

Meet: Eucumbene Drive – Cotter Road 9.30a.m. 6 km round trip from Tidbinbilla Information Centre, mostly on track with some scrambling at the top. Lots of rocks for climbing on.

NOVEMBER 28 SUNDAY WALK

Mt Gudgenby

Ref. Yaouk 1:25,000

Leader: Frank Clements 317005

Meet: Kambah Shops 8.00a.m. 18 km walk on fire trails and open paddocks with 700 m scrubby climb. 50 km drive.

DECEMBER 4, 5 PACK WALK

Feints Range

Ref. Bindabella 1:25,000

Leader: Garth Abercrombie 814907

Exploratory walk into Feints Range; steep climbs without track. Contact leader for details.

DECEMBER 5 SUNDAY WALK

Purnoo Lookout

Ref. Caoura 1:25,000

Leader: Ian Beveridge 495363

Meet: Northbourne Avenue/Barton Highway 7.30a.m. 20 km fairly easy walk on forest road for views of Shoalhaven and Kangaroo Rivers. 145 km drive via Goulburn, Marulan and Tallong.

DECEMBER 12 SUNDAY CHRISTMAS PARTY

Orroral Picnic Area

Ref. Rendezvous Creek 1:25,000

See notice in this issue. 50 km drive.

**'YEAR OF THE TREE'****PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION**

As a project within the 'Year of the Tree' the Association is conducting a photographic competition with the subject as 'Trees of the ACT'. Entries should be handed to the Secretary by 31 October 1982 and will be judged by Colin Totterdell. The entries will be displayed at the November General Meeting.

Photographs should be 20.3cm x 25.4cm (8x10 inches), black and white on glossy paper. The winning entry, if suitable, will be used as the cover picture on the Bulletin.

NATIONAL PARKS ASSOCIATION OF THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY INC.

Inaugurated 1960

President: Neville Esau, 11 Rymill Place, MAWSON A.C.T. 2605
494554 (W) 864176 (H)

Vice-President: Denise Robin, 19 Downes Place, HUGHES A.C.T. 2605
729366 (W) 814837 (H)

Secretary: Judy Payne, 16 Alawa Street, WARAMANGA A.C.T. 2611
881397 (H)

Treasurer: Lyle Mark, 9A Lamington Street, DEAKIN A.C.T. 2600
497488 (W) 816985 (H)

Assistant Secretary: Fiona Brand, 11 Dyson Street, LYNEHAM A.C.T. 2602
479538 (H)

Publicity Officer: Sheila Kruse, 50/C Currong Flats, BRADDON A.C.T. 2601
486104 (H)

Committee Members: Reg Alder 542240; Ross Carlton 863892; Ian Currie 958112; Charles Hill
958924; Beverley Hammond 886577; John Schunke 489828

Immediate Past President: John Banks, 9 Furphy Place, GARRAN A.C.T. 2605
493632 (W) 816641 (H)

Bulletin Editor: Reg Alder, 45 Starke Street, HIGGINS A.C.T. 2615
542240 (H)

Membership Secretary: Fiona Brand, 11 Dyson Street, LYNEHAM A.C.T. 2602
479538 (H)

Outings Convenor: Beverley Hammond, 21 Hyndes Cr., HOLDER A.C.T. 2611
886577 (H)

Book Sales (Concession Prices): Bernice Anderson, 34 Bamford Street, HUGHES A.C.T. 2605
812082 (H) 497577 (W)

Correspondence to: Box 457, P.O. CANBERRA CITY A.C.T. 2601

Telephone: 881397 (Secretary), or 486104 (Publicity Officer)

Annual Subscription Rates

1 July - 30 June:	Family members \$12	Student members \$5
	Single members \$10	Corporate members \$5
	Pensioners \$ 5	Bulletin only \$5

For new members joining between:

1 January - 30 June:	Half specified rate
1 April - 30 June:	Annual Subscription — 15 month's membership benefit

DEADLINE DATES for NPA Bulletin contributions: 15 July, 15 October, 15 December, 15 April

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 organised field outings, meetings or any other means.

Co-operation with organisations and persons having similar interests and objectives.

Promotion of, and education for, nature conservation and the planning of land-use to achieve conservation.

NATIONAL PARKS ASSOCIATION A.C.T.

OUTINGS SUMMARY

September

5	Sunday	Mt McDonald	Walk
5	Sunday	Mt McKeahnie	Walk
11/12	Saturday-Sunday	South Budawangs	Pack Walk
12	Sunday	Middle Creek	Walk
18	Saturday am	Black Mountain	Nature Ramble
19	Sunday	Micalong Swamp	Field Nature Outing
26	Sunday	Billy Range	Walk

October

2/3/4	Long weekend	Yaouk Valley	Car Camp
2/3/4	Long weekend	Woila	Pack Walk
9	Saturday	Hardy Range	Walk
10	Sunday	Mt Hartwood	Walk
17	Sunday	Major's Creek Waterfall	Family Outing
17	Sunday	Pierce's Creek	Walk
24	Sunday	Lake Burley Griffin	Walk
24	Sunday	Mt Tumatulla	Walk
30	Saturday	Lake Burley Griffin	Bicycle Ride
31	Sunday	Murrumbidgee/Molonglo	Walk
31	Sunday	Blue Gum Creek	Walk

November

6	Saturday	London Bridge/Homestead	Walk
6/7	Saturday-Sunday	Orroral/Middle Creek	Pack Walk
7	Sunday	Bullen Range	Walk
14	Sunday	Mt Gingera	Walk
14	Sunday	Crown Mountain	Walk
20/21	Saturday-Sunday	Caves Creek	Car Camp
21	Sunday	Orroral Heights	Walk
28	Sunday	Gibraltar Rocks	Walk, Family Outing
28	Sunday	Mt Gudgenby	Walk

December

4/5	Saturday-Sunday	Feints Range	Pack Walk
5	Sunday	Purnoo Lookout	Walk
12	Sunday	Orroral Picnic Area	Christmas Party

GENERAL MEETINGS

Held at 8.00pm, Room 1, Griffin Centre, Bunda Street, Civic.

September — Thursday 16 1982.

Mr DANE WIMBUSH, Alpine Ecologist with CSIRO Division of Plant Industry.
Subject: 'KOSCUISKO ALPINE FLORA'. Illustrated with slides.

October — Thursday 21 1982.

Mr KEVIN FRAWLEY, N.P.A. member, Year of the Tree speaker, Geographer with Geography Department, A.N.U.
Subject: 'THE NORTH QUEENSLAND RAINFOREST — RETROSPECT AND PROSPECT'. Illustrated with slides.

November — Thursday 18 1982.

YEAR OF THE TREE TOPICS, PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION DISPLAY AND SOCIAL EVENING.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS ARE NOW DUE