



NPA Bulletin

National Parks Association A.C.T.

Vol. 21 No. 3 March 1984

\$1.30



PRESIDENT'S FOREWORD

The recent announcement of the proposed gazettal of Stage 2 of the Gudgenby Nature Reserve under the new A.C.T. Nature Conservation Ordinance is good news for the National Parks Association and other conservation organisations. The area was originally gazetted under the Public Parks Ordinance but will now have better protection and will include the Boboyan Pine Forest area, Gudgenby Homestead and the catchment areas of Bluegum and Honeysuckle Creeks. It is also proposed that, at some future time, the southern Cotter catchment area will be added to what may become the Gudgenby National Park.

In addition a body is to be formed with representation from non-government organisations to act as a consultative committee on the management of the area and we expect to be asked to serve on this committee. Therefore I feel that the National Parks Association should thank the many members who have given their time, interest and information over the years to bring about this progress.

THE ROLE OF BOTANIC GARDENS IN ENDANGERED PLANT CONSERVATION

If I asked you why the ocean explorer Thor Heyerdahl is famous the last thing you might say is 'For saving an endangered plant'. Whilst this might not be his best remembered feat it is an important one. *Sophora toromiro* was endemic to Easter Island where it provided the main source of timber for house frames, canoes and world renowned wood carvings. Sheep were introduced to the island in the 18th century and grazing flocks debarked mature trees and devoured seedlings. By 1962 the species was believed extinct and listed in the IUCN Plant Red Data Book. This listing awakened the interest of Professor Per Wendelbo of the University of Goteborg who recalled that 25 years earlier Thor Heyerdahl had collected seeds of *Sophora toromiro* and deposited them in the Goteborg Botanic Garden in Sweden. Germination was successful and there are now three plants in cultivation giving the ultimate hope of re-introduction to Easter Island.

Whilst Thor Heyerdahl's interest in plant conservation might be incidental to his main work this is not the case for many modern botanic gardens where plant conservation is a function of increasing importance.

Major initiatives were taken in 1975 and 1978 at international conferences held at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, to discuss the role of botanic gardens in conservation. Resolutions of those conferences drew attention to the value of seed banks, propagation research, the ethics of collecting, the importance of publicity and of knowing which species are in greatest need of conservation effort.

The benefits of a co-ordinated network of habitat reserves and botanic gardens were clearly identified. More recently the Plant Action Program of IUCN places emphasis on developing the role of botanic gardens as plant conservation agencies. Two major thrusts are proposed: promotion of botanic gardens as education and information centres where the public can learn about plants and their conservation and development of botanic gardens as an *ex-situ* network for threatened plants so that each taxon is in several gardens.

Conservation awareness is a major task which botanic gardens have hardly tackled and yet they have superb resources to offer. Possibly their major advantage is proximity to large numbers of people. For example the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew receives about one million visitors a year and the National Botanic Gardens, Canberra was visited by over 340,000 people in 1982. Included amongst these visitors were over 10,000 students attending as part of formal education programs.

The visitor information and interpretation centre is a fundamental component of most national parks and conservation reserves. Many botanic gardens are now developing similar facilities with interpretive displays, classroom facilities and publication sales areas. Conservation education programs based on films, lectures, discussion groups and guided walks through the living collections are being developed. There is clearly great opportunity for co-ordinated programs

to be developed between nature conservation agencies and botanic gardens. On the one hand a visit to a botanic garden may stimulate a person to go farther afield to visit a conservation reserve to see the plants growing in their natural environment. On the other hand, botanic gardens may provide useful follow-up or enrichment to a visit to a conservation reserve. In its simplest form this may be an oft heard statement 'That's the plant I saw at . . .' followed by 'So that's what it's called' after reading the label. Obviously, identification by memory is subject to error but this should not detract from the real and lasting benefit of stimulated awareness.

The second major activity of botanic gardens is the cultivation of threatened plants to complement conservation programs in the wild. Cultivation extends well beyond the establishment of single specimens under garden conditions and encompasses research on reproductive physiology, ecology and propagation methods, germination behaviour and long term storage in seed banks. Living plants in botanic gardens also provide the opportunity to study pollination biology, one of the sometimes neglected aspects of conservation management strategies. Unless there is an understanding of breeding systems of endangered plants the establishment of reserves may not achieve long term survival. For example, the orchid genus *Drakaea* has a complex floral structure which prevents all but a few wasp species from effecting pollination. The wasps do not feed on the orchid but require vegetation of other species for their larvae. Thus the size and type of reserve needed to protect the orchid species must be large enough to protect the other plants on which the wasp feeds. In some cases, orchids are capable of self-pollination if the complex relationship with insect pollination fails. However the specific genetic effects of continued selfing are not known and could have a bearing on the survival of the species involved.

Plants growing in botanic gardens are accessible for continuous observation of floral development and even though the natural pollen vectors may not be present it is possible to study the pollination mechanisms.

Caution must be taken however in using endangered species in cultivation as seed sources if there is any risk of natural hybridisation occurring.

In addition to cultivation and associated biological research most botanic gardens provide the opportunity for botanical research which helps to unravel some of the problems in determining the taxonomic status of endangered species.

Clearly, modern botanic gardens with botanical and horticultural research facilities and well developed education and interpretation programs have important roles to play in the conservation of endangered plants.

Lecture to the Association
20th October 1983
Dr R. W. Boden

THE COVER Extensive views from the Tinderries
Photo Hedda Morrison



The emergency hut, with its message, erected at Lake Albina to replace the now demolished larger Albina hut.

— Photo Pieter Arriens

THE KOSCIUSKO SNOWCRAFT SKI TOUR

The October long weekend Snowcraft Ski Tour has almost become an annual fixture with the Kosciusko Huts Association, and this year was also listed on the N.P.A. programme. A party of three went up to camp in the snow on Mt Northcote for the two nights, while two others came up for the day trip from Charlottes Pass. The weather on Saturday was mild and humid, giving promise of rain, and the thaw was already fast enough to require knee deep wading across the Snowy River.

Given a usefully steep and stable drift of deep settled snow on the south side of Mt Northcote, a snow cave was chosen in preference to an igloo, for in thawing conditions it helps to have a snow cave dug deeply into a drift. Imperial units of measurement somehow seem preferable for snowcraft: the diameter of the floor in feet should be not less than the number of people plus 5, and the roof thickness should be at least one foot per inch of rainfall over a 12 hour period.

The snow this season has been harder to dig than I can ever recall — due to all the rain that fell in August and September. It was therefore perhaps unduly conservative (or pessimistic!) to dig in so far that the roof of the cave was at least five feet below the surface. The steep slope was an advantage, for the entrance tunnel did not have to be unduly long, and the snow nibble conveniently slid downhill away from the entrance.

On the Sunday we planned to ski to Mt Townsend, and on the way visited the ruins of what used to be Lake Albina Lodge. The stone foundations were still there, and water was gushing from the severed plumbing. A small temporary substitute shelter was sited on a new foundation about 30 metres away, and it was crammed inside by about four skitourers. Others were camped in tents near the lake. I withhold further comment — but not for lack of opinion on what may or may not have been achieved at this site by the park authorities.

After shooting a few photographs under overcast skies, we went to Wilkinsons Valley, to find that the summit of Mt Townsend was already shrouded in cloud. We therefore went across to some high ground to the north and west of

Mt Kosciuski, which was still clear. Heavy weather could be seen approaching from Victoria, so we headed back towards the snow cave, taking a route via Lake Cootapatamba and Rawsons Pass. A great slab of snow about a metre thick had slid from the side of Mt Kosciusko towards Lake Cootapatamba, and this avalanche had probably been set going by the collapse of a cornice from above, probably during earlier heavy rain.

The wind freshened to a gale, with violent squalls of rain and sago snow which rattled on the clothing as we approached the snow cave. Inside, all was peace and tranquility, with no trouble from a dripping roof even though 120mm of rain was recorded at Perisher.

The rain showed no sign of easing on Monday, so we packed up before noon and were soon back at the Snowy River below Charlottes Pass. The river was in flood and was flowing waist deep and fast. Others had strung a climbing rope across the river, which gave a measure of security for our crossing which was completed without incident. Only one boulder still showed above the water — this is the big one about one third of the way across the river on the Charlottes Pass side. If in a greater flood this boulder were found to be submerged, then it would not be advisable to attempt wading across the river at this point.

If as much rain fell on Mt Northcote as at Perisher, this would have totalled five inches, most of it overnight — a fair test for any snow cave. In the party were John Hillman, Tim Acker and Pieter Arriens.

Pieter Arriens

NEW MEMBERS

The following new members are welcomed to the Association:—

Catherine Beurle, Canberra; Russell and Jeanette Brown, Warramanga; Ian Ferguson, Griffith; John Hook, Manuka; Adrienne Hardham, Kambah; Jennifer and Barrie Hadlow, Fisher; Beryl Meyer, Kambah; Michael O'Brien, Braidwood; W. Martin Wilkinson, Hackett; West Grand High School, Kremming, U.S.A.; Liz McMahon, Holt; Keith McRae, Ainslie.



THE WARNING, CAUSE AND EFFECT. The extensive damage done to the creek banks by FWD's wanting to go just that bit further. The breaking down of the banks besides damaging the creek bed has caused downstream siltation. — Photos Reg Alder

NATIONAL PARKS NEED PROTECTION FROM FWD VEHICLES

The proliferation of four wheel drive vehicles in recent years has brought, unfortunately, a corresponding increase in vehicular damage to many natural areas both within and without our national parks. The photos show a graphic example of how such damage can occur, this time in the Moreton National Park.

Visitors to the Budawang's will be familiar with the 'Old Mill Road', the popular access track to this area. This route begins at Sassafrass as a passable road and gradually deteriorates as it penetrates into the park.

It has been the practice for many years for visitors to drive along the road as far as the rock flats, a kilometre or so before the start of the Folly Point track. Beyond this point the track rapidly becomes impassable to normal vehicles, which served, in the absence of any other mechanism, to limit vehicular access and potential environmental damage.

The old log bridges across the small streams cutting the track have always formed one of the more formidable barriers except to those who ignored the 'Road Closed' signs and took the risk of crossing the then weakend bridges. Recently, however, FWD vehicles now that the bridge has collapsed have overcome this obstacle by driving through the creek with consequent environmental damage, as the photographs clearly show.

This is being repeated all too frequently in many national parks, wherever FWD vehicles attempt to gain access to areas where formed roads do not exist. Along with other conservation organisations the NPA believes the FWD vehicles have no place as a form of recreation in national parks and other reserves. We subscribe to the ACI policy on 'Motor Recreation Vehicles in Natural Areas' which, on the subject of rights of access to natural areas has this to say:

Conflict between passive recreationists and drivers of motor recreational vehicles in natural areas should be resolved generally in favour of the former. ACI bases this provision on its acceptance of the following three ethics:

- The fundamental principal of a democratic society is that all should be free to pursue their own ends, but only up to the point where such pursuits impinge significantly upon the welfare of others.
- Everyone should have the opportunity to escape from the pressures, impoverishment, and man's artifices. Large natural areas preserved for this purpose and for nature conservation should not be compromised in any way.

- Where conflict over the recreational use of natural areas occur, the prior right should generally be that of the user group causing least impact on the environment and on other uses.

Our national parks are set aside for both conservation and recreation, and these two aims are inextricably linked. It is to enjoy the wonder and beauty of our landforms, flora and fauna that we visit national parks. If these are destroyed or damaged as a result of our presence we are denying to ourselves and (selfishly) to others the very resource we come to experience.

Because of the intensity and long lasting damage caused by the use of FWD vehicles in national parks the NPA will continue to campaign to have all access confined to appropriate roads. In addition to that NPA members can play their part by being conscious of the impact of their activities when visiting parks and reserves whether in a vehicle or on foot. Design your activities to leave little or no trace of your presence and encourage others to act likewise. In this way the beauty of our natural areas will remain for all to see, now and in the future.

Neville Esau

WATER PURIFICATION

Water suspected as being impure can usually be made fit for drinking by boiling. This procedure may however, at times, not be convenient and resource has to be taken to chemical methods.

Water purification tablets are available from camp gear shops, but beware of old stock as some varieties have a limited shelf life.

A simple method to purify water is to obtain some crystalline, resublimed iodine crystals, B.P. grade and place 4.8gms in a 25cc thick walled glass bottle with a bakelite top and fill with water. Shake for about a minute and allow to settle. A litre of water can now be purified with 12.5cc of the iodine solution (no crystals) by allowing 15 minutes to elapse before use.

The stock solution bottle can be re-used up to 1000 times by topping up with water after each use. The contents of the cap of the bottle can be measured and used as a gauge to the amount of stock solution added to the litre of water.

WHAT'S ON AT OUR GENERAL MEETINGS

The film 'A Voice for the Wilderness' which will be shown at the MARCH General Meeting has had 'rave' notices from critics on its sensitive treatment of the rain-forest and wilderness preservation issues.

It focusses on the untouched forests of the Hastings River and demonstrates through its photography the unsurpassed beauty of this area and the life it supports. The attitudes to land use are studied from Aboriginal occupancy to the present day when conservation has become a worldwide powerful voice. The maintenance of mill workers' jobs are examined without the unnecessary destruction of the unique forest regions.

It is a visually beautiful and enjoyable film, with the amusing and ironic use of archival sequences, about a rainforest, its beauty, ecology and scientific value. The film features an intimate performance of the lyre bird.

The screening time is 48 minutes.

The APRIL General Meeting lecture will be on the 'Archaeological Investigations at Nursery Swamp, A.C.T.' when Sue Feary will outline the investigatory work she has been doing there during the past two years towards a Master of Arts degree at the A.N.U.

Carbon dating of excavated deposits has shown that the area under investigation at Nursery Swamp has been occupied for at least 4,000 years and it is one of the oldest that has been found to date in the A.C.T. There are many problems of doing field work in heavily forested areas where ground visibility is very poor, but even so far the many hundreds of sites recorded have shown a much denser population than was originally thought. An axe quarry and several painting sites indicate that artefact manufacture and ceremonial activities have been carried out in the area. Campsite excavations give indications of the density of population, eating habits and what their activities were at different times of the year.

Little has been known about occupation of the upland areas of the Southern Tablelands and they have generally been regarded as marginal areas for human habitation because of the cold winters and few seasonal resources. Occupation by Aborigines of these areas seems to have been later than other regions and part of the investigation has been to investigate the reasons for this. Were the Aborigines forced there by population pressures or because new technologies enabled them to exploit new resources?

Sue Leary with a Bachelor of Science degree from the Auckland University in Zoology has a particular interest in marine biology and geology. The former interest later proved particularly useful in archaeology. She has worked as a geologist and as a teacher and technician in biological statistics.

Later moving to Australia in 1977 with part of a B.A. degree, she transferred some units to the A.N.U. and changed to an honours degree course, which was completed in 1981, with her thesis on the study of fresh water mussels and their use as a seasonal indicator in archaeology. Large midden deposits in the now dry lakes of Western N.S.W. show mussels were a major source of food to the Aborigines who lived there in prehistoric times. An investigation over a year at Lake Bathurst set out to determine the growth structure of living mussels and hence the seasons of the year during which Aborigines may have collected them.

The lecture should add to the growing importance of the Gudgenby Nature Reserve in the preservation of our natural and cultural heritage.

Charles Hill and wife Audrey last year toured and walked in some interesting and beautiful parts of Alaska and Western Canada. At the MAY General Meeting Charles will give a talk, illustrated by slides, which will briefly cover the National Parks of Denali and Glacier Bay and some other reserves in Alaska; and parts of the National Parks of Kluane, Jasper, Banff and Yoho (Lake O'Hara district) in Canada.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Sir,

Referring to Fiona Brand's article in the December NPA Bulletin I concur that apparently some of our members do not know that they ALSO have some responsibility, e.g. not to "override" the leader (or: to do their own thing) when on a group walk, if he or she wants to take the walk at a leisurely time. On this particular walk Fiona told the group before the start of her intention to take it "easy". So everybody knew there would be no rush, which was appreciated as we had several new members in the group.

From my experience I learnt that the majority (to say the weaker sex would be out of fashion) on a bushwalk prefer to have time to look around and enjoy nature. We should leave the "as fast as possible" bushwalking or walking from A to Z, to others — see: joggers. We go into the bush to be in nature, see the animals, birds, or wildflowers and trees, enjoy the view of the surrounding area and, last but not least, keep fit without too much strain.

It is not possible to please everyone, but as the "weaker members" also want and can do the longer walks or climbs, a bit more slowly, — to take the "pace of the slowest" should still be our rule!

Hela Lindemann

Dear Sir,

I would like to add my comments to those made by Fiona Brand in her letter to the editor in the last issue of the Bulletin.

NPA walks are becoming more difficult to lead. The main reason for this, I believe, is the increase in membership — larger numbers of people, many with little bushwalking experience but with a very wide range of walking abilities, are turning up for each walk.

There now seems to be a tendency for some of the stronger members of these large parties to take over the lead, set their own pace (and direction at times) without bothering too much about the needs of the slower members. Too often the so-called leader finds him/herself left to play tail-end Charlie with no control over those out in front.

The rule has always been that the whole group must walk at the pace of the slowest member, otherwise the party splits into two (or more) groups, with the possibility of one group, or someone finding themselves between groups, getting lost.

I guess there's also a need for a rule to cover members who find themselves consistently the slowest member of the party. To be always last means that the person is attempting walks that are too hard from them, and also means that they need to assess their ability more objectively and possibly select walks that are of a slightly easier nature. Perhaps it's time to explain in more detail the NPA system of grading walks.

The main thing is, as Fiona points out, for each individual to show a sense of responsibility to the group as a whole and not treat organised club walks as a private party where they are free to do their own thing.

One solution to the problem of large numbers would be to put on a hard walk and an easier one starting from the same area on the same day. However, unless more people come forward offering to lead walks, this can't be done.

Are there any volunteers out there?

Babette Scougall

Dear Sir,

With the start of a new 'walking year' and a great (and grand) increase in membership, perhaps it is time to turn our minds to 'First Aid' in the bush.

From experience, it is preferable that each individual member intending to join a day (or backpack) walk, should carry their OWN, small, basic first aid kit. I strongly advise against 'ready made up' kits, which are not really suitable. Better to make up your own from home, or easily purchased

items from any chemist. These should be carried in a water-tight container (tin or strong plastic), and should contain:

- 1) Small supply Band-aids (or strip dressing and small scissors).
- 2) Crepe bandage (and pin) approx 8cm (3ins) wide.
- 3) 'Kling' (cotton stretch) bandage 5 or 8cm (2/3ins) wide.
- 4) Triangular bandage (or clean, white cotton approx 127cm x 91 x 91cm)
- 5) Small and/or large antiseptic Sterilized dressing. (Mellin)
- 6) Small tube antiseptic cream (Savlon or similar).
- 7) Small quantity pain killer of preference (Asprin or similar).

If desired, optional extras can be added, such as: Splinter tweezers, anti-histamine cream if allergic to ant and other bites (Calistaflex). Caladryl (for sunburn) and any personal cream/tablets as necessary.

The above items are adequate for dealing with the 'small' injuries of cuts, bruises, grazes, sprains, blisters and so on. REMEMBER . . . apply a bandaid at the FIRST feeling of a sock or boot rubbing . . . do NOT delay!). For any 'major' injury, the best available items of more than one member may need to be called upon.

While most of the above are obvious in their use, I would like to stress the MANY uses of a triangular bandage (a MOST important addition).

- a) It can be folded into a narrow, medium or wide bandage for holding on a dressing.
- b) Can cover a WHOLE foot, hand or head.
- c) For broken limbs use as 'padding' on a bush splint (wide bark folded is excellent).
- d) Of course, a sling for any arm injury.
- e) Covering of a large area getting sunburnt . . . or already burnt.
- f) Alternatively, covering for lower face, head or neck in extreme cold . . . 80% of body heat is lost in those areas, causing hypothermia.
- g) Even wave it around on a stick if lost! . . .

Many members are trained in First Aid, and carry a more comprehensive kit than above. . . . don't hesitate to ask for help.

Report any serious injury to the Leader (if not there at the time) . . . so that decisions regarding the patient (and the group) can be decided upon, and carried out as quickly and efficiently as possible. SNAKE BITES . . . are rare indeed, and treatment has altered RAPIDLY over the last few years. DO NOT: Suck, wash, cut, or apply narrow tourniquet. DO . . . Keep calm and re-assure patient, and immediately apply pressure just above the bite, then a firm, wide, bandage (as tight as for a sprain) from ABOVE the bite to well below, and back up again to above. (This would need at least two 4ins or 3ins crepe bandages depending on limb). Immobilise the limb (if leg, tie to other) - or splint - and sling, improvise transport to keep patient as immobilised as practicable, and get to hospital as quickly as possible.

NOTE: . . . none of the above have been required over the 23 years that National Parkers of the A.C.T. have roamed far and wide!

Olive B.

NATIONAL PARKS - LOOKOUT, VIEWPOINT, KEEP TO THE TRACK

The talk

The theme of my talk might have been 'Times they are a changing'. It was essentially a pictorial evening, and written down my main points may look a little bald - even trite. No matter, at Reg Alder's insistence, I will try.

What I was really trying to show was that the functions of national parks are becoming broader - a fact that has caught both the members of national parks associations and our national park administrations unprepared.

I suggest that over the years the majority of us in the

national parks movement have usually thought of national parks as preserving landscapes in as near to pristine condition as possible. We therefore have worried mainly about protecting the vegetation.

In other parts of the world different views prevail. In Africa, for example, the main function of many national parks is to preserve sections of the continent's unique animal heritage. Large animals like elephants may do terrible damage to the trees and bushes, but the fact that they have done so does not necessarily mean that a park is badly managed. In this country it is generally assumed that if we let the vegetation do its natural thing, the mainly nocturnal (and rarely seen) fauna will look after itself. Managing national parks as fauna habitat is not a totally new idea in Australia, but we have a very different emphasis. Neither approach is necessarily *the* correct one.

In practice, we already use national parks for broader nature conservation purposes. We use them, for example, as protected habitat for both endangered animals and endangered plant species. We also use them as reservoirs for stocks of plant and animal genes that we may have a use for one day. But national parks are developing more broadly than that.

Most of us who for the past decade or more have been part of the national parks movement have been mainly interested and concerned with nature conservation. However, many national parks contain other things as well that are of cultural interest. They may contain ancient Aboriginal art sites (and not so ancient ones) and other items of prehistorical interest. Aboriginal tribes still living on their traditional lands live in others. In Kakadu National Park in the Northern Territory, for example, traditional Aboriginal culture is still very much alive. Elsewhere the renaissance of Aboriginal culture is ensuring that more and more Aborigines are going to demand a say in how national parks that they regard as their land shall be managed. Few of the national park administrations, and only a minority of members of the national parks movement have come to grips with this fact.

National parks contain still more. Many contain homesteads, woolsheds, old farm equipment, and other historical relics of our own culture. National park service staff have burnt down woolsheds in this country - victims of a narrow view of what national parks are about. In addition, as they acquire new ground, national park authorities inherit other modern bits and pieces of our way of life. In 10 or 20 years time these relics will be of historical interest. Should they automatically be removed?

In practice, many of our national parks are becoming 'heritage' areas. Managing them only for nature conservation purposes will result in great national loss.

The film

We finished the evening with a showing of the South Australian Film Corporation's film "A Little bit in All of Us". This film looks at the exploits of "your not-quite-typical Australian family during visits to the Flinders Ranges National Park. The film is great fun and raised many a laugh.

Members of our not-quite-typical Australian family manage to set the park alight, become stuck while rock climbing, and get lost. Each time the State firefighting or rescue services have to put things to right - at enormous expense. The message is "be careful, sensible, and properly prepared when you camp or bushwalk in national parks". And the mistakes the family make are the ones we all make.

To rub the point home, the day after I previewed the film we took a family to a friend's property high in the Tinderries. They were country people, who could have been expected to know how to look after themselves. At different times both Dad and son became lost in the forest. We had quite a day.

*Lecture to the Association
15th September 1983*

Brian Lee



The 'Ogre' of Sentry Box. The original persons naming the rock could not have observed this aspect. Perhaps the Aboriginals did and this may account for the remains of artefacts and ceremonial grounds on the mountain. Photos taken at mid-day on an equinox — come along with your cameras on the walk at the next equinox.
— Photos Reg Alder and Babette Scougall

A SIGNIFICANT MOUNTAIN

Mountains have always interested humans. They entice people to spend much effort to reach the top to get that 'magnificent view' which is the reward. However, to some groups of people, mountains hold spiritual significance and Sentry Box Mountain on the A.C.T. and N.S.W. border is appearing to have been such a mountain for the original inhabitants of the Yaouk Valley.

Leaving the open, well watered valley is a track up to a gap between Sentry Box Rock and the foothills of Mt Scabby. The route passes great groups of granite boulders, often moss covered and looking very impressive.

After leaving the gap and on the slope under Sentry Box Rock there is a stone arrangement placed on a rock slab and close to water oozing out of a swamp. Towering above on the skyline is the Sentry Box Rock which as one approaches in the mid-day sunlight appears to have a shoulder and a face gazing out to the south. At the foot of this rock is a deep cool rock shelter which so far has yielded one stone tool. Below this shelter and on a sheet of rock there is a circle of large rocks — some naturally placed and others deliberately positioned. There is a natural stone phallus prominently formed on a side rock.

Also on other parts of this large rock covered mountain are avenues of rocks, human placed in long and short lines. There is a beautiful tree covered sheltered gully with permanent water which forms an excellent camp site. Near the top on the south side are rocks where Bogong moths, a good food source, aestivate all summer.

Sadly as present day Australians know very little about the culture of the original inhabitants of this part of Australia, it can only be surmised that the stone arrangements, the unusual natural rocks and the rock shelter were all part of the spiritual life of the Aboriginal people.

Fiona Brand

A CAR CAMP IN THE MONGARLOWE AREA, NOVEMBER 1983

Under the leadership of Robert and Sybil Story, some 30 members enjoyed a car camp on private property about 5 km south-east of Mongarlowe. Our site was alongside the delightful rushing Currowan Creek, with old picturesque huts nearby, hills and trees... even a swimming hole a stone's-throw away.

Saturday was misty (turning to slight rain), and after a many-coloured camp was established we set off to the local waterfall. A dense mist cut visibility to 100m or so, the falls are not marked on any of the maps, and recent heavy logg-

ing had profoundly altered the appearance of the area. It was a case of hunt and peck and hunt again even for those who had been there before. We dropped down a steep slope through the eucalypts into a rainforest gully with beautiful tree-ferns. By now, we and the rain were not the only things dropping, nor was the damp the only thing rising — the leeches also dropped and rose and — discriminately — attached themselves to us. A split in the group, some returned to the cars, others continued to slither down and bash their way along a side creek to emerge in the main gorge with glimpses through the mist of the high — and mighty — Currowan Falls. We returned to camp together in the early afternoon for local evening walks, then a good fire, wine supplied by our leaders, grand company and various culinary efforts before sleep overtook us.

Sunday dawned bright and sunny, and soon we were off climbing Mt Budawang, most via the fire-trail, others by tougher routes. All roads led not only to 'Rome' but also to MILLIONS of tiny gnats, filling one's eyes and ears and settling in layers as we reached the top. Although it was still hazy, the mist had dispersed and we had grand views of Currockbilly, Pigeon House, and the Castle, but few lingered among the gnats! Lunch back at camp, and slowly folks packed up and drifted back to Canberra, a hardy few setting off to find an even better view of the falls — from the top this time — with some scrambling to the very bottom.

This year was one of the loveliest springs I have seen in my 20 years in Australia, everywhere a profusion of wild flowers, bigger and better than usual. This weekend we recorded two varieties of donkey orchid, bearded orchids, violets, carpets of Patersonia, huge bushes of purple Kunzea, Wahlgergia, large flowering Tetratheca, Styliidium, Hibbertia and many, many more.

On leaving the site a few of us were priveleged (along with Ian Haynes) to meet an acquaintance of his — Alan Radburn, the owner of the area. Still living in his father's house built over 100 years ago, he enthralled us with tales of the old days, distilleries for eucalyptus oil, rescuing of bogged cattle, hauling wood with horse-drawn drays, and so on, all accompanied with photos and not a date or incident forgotten! We were shown over the old well, the drive and shaft which a horse dragged round and round to drive the chaff-cutter (still there) and many other fascinating bits of history.

Reluctantly we dragged ourselves away, already planning another weekend. Perhaps a pack walk and an invitation to Alan to a meal and to tell us about the good old days? And again a scramble to the lovely falls? One can't have too much of a good thing!

Olive Buckman



Fiona Brand had a willing team to help on the Nursery Swamp fire trail rehabilitation. Members who slacked were whipped along and recalcitrant Babetto Scougall adopted a protective stance. — Photo Reg Alder

NURSERY SWAMP FIRE TRAIL REGENERATION

On October 29 and November 12 Fiona Brand organised N.P.A. parties of 17 and 24 respectively to set out for the Orroral Valley with the objective of revegetating the Nursery Swamp Fire Trail. The trail had been bulldozed during the Gudgenby fire of January 1983 and extended from the Orroral Valley to Nursery Swamp and over to a ridge on the south side of Rendezvous Creek. The first section of the trail has been effectively blocked to further vehicular traffic. On the second occasion the party included some helpers from the Conservation Council of the South East Region in Canberra.

The first job was to collect rakes-cum-shovels and seed from the Glendale maintenance depot of the Department of Territories and Local Government. The depot, by the way, is well designed with its stores of timber and stone construction blending in well with the surrounding terrain.

Rye-corn seed is used since it is a hybrid and will not produce fertile seed. Hopefully the local native species will then more readily take over once the bare soil has been stabilised. Fortunately both plantings were followed by soaking rains and the initial sowing had already germinated well with a good cover within the fortnight.

The technique we used was to sow the seed in furrows dug on the *contour* and then cover the whole trail with all the fallen branches and litter we could find. We also placed many large branches and logs, including some already cut beforehand by the reserve rangers. These logs, also placed on the contours, would be especially important on the steeper slopes in slowing down heavy rain run off and to prevent soil erosion.

Although this trail should become well covered with native vegetation in the fullness of time, there is always the possibility of another bulldozer! Cliff Parsons, the Chief Fire Officer of the A.C.T. Bush Fire Council in a recent public meeting on 'Fire Management in the A.C.T.' said that it could be reused in another emergency. He said that there was no question of the trail being reformed to the original slope — it is only to be revegetated. So, once a fire trail has been put on, there is obviously a great temptation to leave them as they are, or condone only a partial restoration. Further fire trail construction should there-

fore be resisted. Our emphasis must be the retention of the wilderness value and biological diversity of the Gudgenby Nature Reserve. We must ensure that we do not end up with a reserve criss-crossed by fire trails.

Further regeneration work will possibly be undertaken. In the autumn if sections of the fire trail show the need for stabilisation after the so far heavy summer rains. It is a good way to get to know your fellow members and feel that 'esprit de corps'.

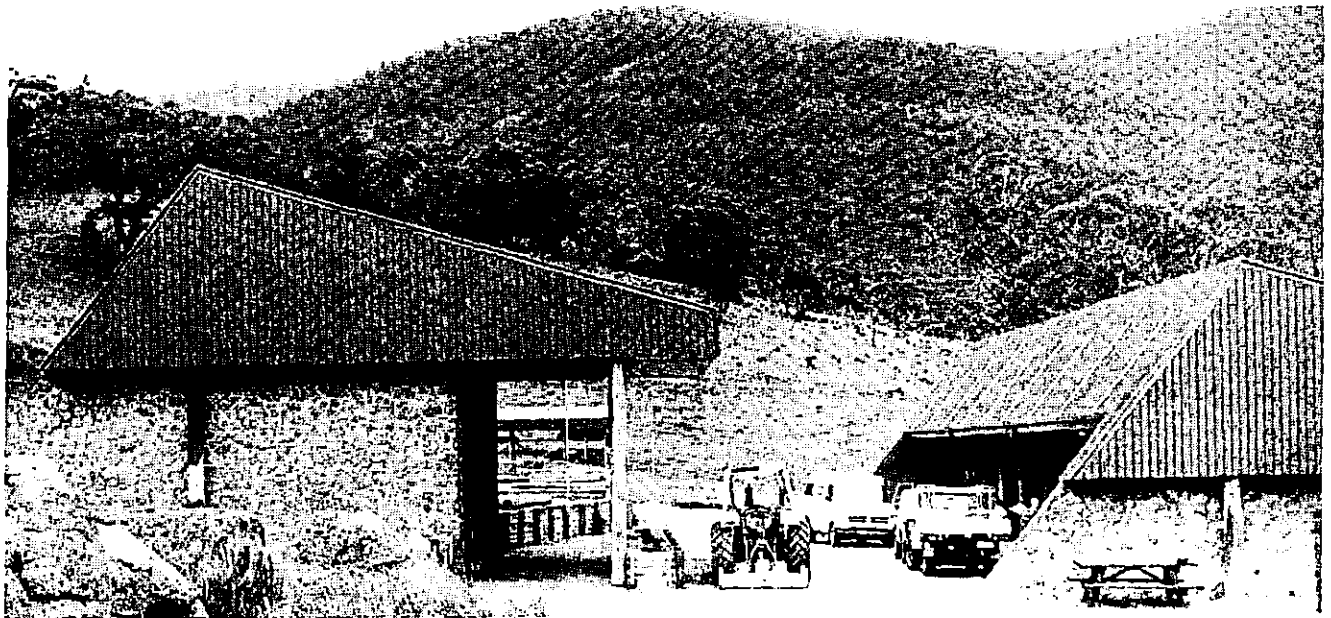
Chris Watson

WANTED: SLIDES FOR DUPLICATION



As mentioned in our September issue, the Association has received a grant of \$2,000 from the Community Development Fund to promote public awareness of the environment within the general community. Part of the grant will be used by the Association to prepare slide kits and illustrative material for lecture and display purposes. Two themes will form the basis of our presentation. (1) the natural and social history of Gudgenby Nature Reserve, and (2) the aims, objectives and activities of the N.P.A.

If any member has 35mm colour transparencies, or black and white negatives suitable for duplication would they please contact Anne Robertson (H 310154) or Babetto Scougall (H 478008)



Glendale Maintenance Depot in the Gudgenby Nature Reserve. This is at the commencement of one of the routes to Brandy Flat. Entry is restricted to the road leading to the Depot and the Association has made a submission for a parking area to be formed along it. — Photo Reg Alder

PARK PERSONALITY PROFILES — ALEX COLLEY

When people accuse conservationists of trying to jump on the bandwagon, Alex Colley can reply that he helped start the bandwagon rolling. For more than 50 years Alex has epitomised the old maxim that every good bushwalker is a good conservationist. Never one of the "why doesn't someone do something" league, he has always taken a leading role in articulating conservation concerns and initiating constructive action.

Alex began bushwalking in the hills around Lithgow in N.S.W. where he was born in 1909, and has been at it ever since. He graduated as a Bachelor of Economics at the University of Sydney in 1936, after completing the degree course as an evening student. He became a clerk in the Administrative Department of the University before graduating, and joined The Sydney Bushwalkers shortly afterwards. His talents were quickly recognised and the following year he was elected to the committee followed by a year's stint as President in 1941-42. His main job in the Club, for some 20 years, has been as Conservation Secretary.

Alex says his interest in conservation was first roused while doing a Diploma of Agriculture at Hawkesbury Agricultural College in the late twenties when soil conservation was attracting rudimentary consideration. That interest developed through The Sydney Bushwalkers under the influence of the legendary Myles Dunphy and other members of the National Parks and Primitive Areas Council. Later he became Research Officer for the N.S.W. Division of the Liberal Party, which enabled him to understand the workings of the political establishment and the essentials of successful publicity. In the 1960's and early seventies he worked as a planning officer and economist for the State Planning Authority and the Sydney Area Transportation Study as a land use economist. This background equipped him for the conservation struggles of the 70's.

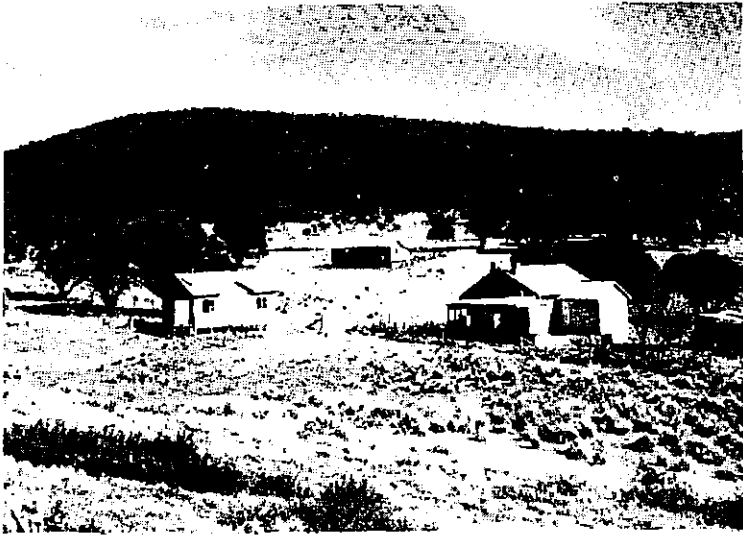
He took part in the Colong Committee which was formed in 1968 to prevent the quarrying of 50 million tonnes of limestone in an area previously reserved for the preservation of the Colong Caves. The lease intruded far into the proposed Kanangra-Boyd National Park, which was also threatened by the N.S.W. Government's gazettal of 6000 hectares of the Boyd plateau in the Konangaroo State Forest for the creation of pine plantations. The battle against the government's proposals was hard-fought but successful. However the Committee did not rest on its laurels and was soon called on to help preserve other wilder-

ness areas such as Bungonia, Lake Pedder, Kakadu and the Eden forests. Its priorities became the creation of the Border-Macpherson Ranges National Park, the Greater Blue Mountains National Park and Kakadu National Park. When the last two had been largely achieved, new priorities relating to effective wilderness management and the preservation of native forests was added. In 1970 Alex became the de facto editor of the Save Colong Bulletin and the Committee's honorary secretary in 1976. Politicians have found argument written by Alex on conservation issues useful in framing their own submissions. In 1975 he joined the management committee of the N.S.W. Environment Centre. With such a distinguished background it was only fitting that The Sydney Bushwalkers should have made him their second Honorary Active Member in 1982.

In his articles on conservation Alex has been nothing if not consistent in his themes and emphasis. The points he made in writing in the 1946 edition of *The Bushwalker* he was still making more than 30 years later showing that among other things, conservation battles are not won easily. In 1946 Alex wrote: 'In the past our case has been limited to saying in effect: "We want this place classified as a reserve because it's nice to look at and walk about in and it's no good for anything else anyway". 'Now we can say: 'It is in the national interest to conserve this area not only because of it's scenic beauty but because it will yield timber or water, will help youth to keep fit or will attract tourists,' and expect our case to attract attention. By paddling our canoe in strong currents we shall get there much sooner.' After a lot of paddling Alex could last year write in the A.C.T. National Parks Association Bulletin: 'Conservation has come a long way since the days we could do little but write letters to departments and ministers, and occasionally score a letter in the press.'

Nevertheless the critics still abound and he was prompted to reply to one who had enunciated most of the popular anti-conservation themes. In a letter in the February 1982 edition of the N.S.W. National Parks Journal he said many people enjoyed wilderness recreation including Boy Scouts, Outward Bound, biologists and botanists. He concluded: 'Thousands of millions of dollars are devoted to provisions for motor touring, spectator sports, dramatic art and other forms of recreation by which by no means everyone enjoys. Why can't the small area of the state which has so far proved too rough, inaccessible or useless for development be left for the recreation of wilderness enthusiasts?'

Stephen Johnston



MT CLEAR HOMESTEAD — After a partial repaint the whole complex was demolished and a pound erected on the site. A similar fate befell the Grassy Creek homestead near the Adaminaby Road.



GLENDALE HOMESTEAD — Demolished and a maintenance depot erected near the site.



BRANDY FLAT HUT — Near the new shelter hut and little remains to show that once a hut and stockyards were there.



BOBOYAN HOMESTEAD — All that remains after the owner demolished it to protect it from vandals. It is on the major freehold property remaining within the Gudgenby Nature Reserve.



GRASSY
local mat

GONE---AND

In the December issue of the Bulletin attention was drawn to the neglect of the few remaining relics of our pastoral heritage in the Gudgenby Nature Reserve. The photograph of the Upper Grassy Creek hut was taken in May and by November because of heavy rains and an earlier subsidence the chimney had fallen and the hut's end has been hastened.

Brian Lee's article in this issue remarks on the changing conscience of national park authorities towards the remains of our pastoral heritage in the parks. With the awakening in the 1960's and 70's of the need for environmental conservation there was a simultaneous upsurge in the proclamation of wilderness areas and developed land as national parks. Any man made structures within a national park were an anathema to the concept of wilderness and were almost automatically razed and the landscape 'restored'. Concerned opinion now is that many such buildings should have been allowed to remain.

In a national park there has never been any thought that Aboriginal paintings, artefacts etc. should be obliterated or removed and there are strict regulations which prohibit any such act. There is no such blanket protection for the relics of our pastoral, mining or other examples of the work of European man unless it is placed on a Heritage Listing. This all takes someone's initiative and time and an obscure, out of the way structure can be destroyed in minutes if it is an obstacle in the way of easy management and there is no publicly available plan of management to advise interested persons of any proposal to destroy it. Why then cannot examples of our European heritage have the same automatic protection in our national parks?

The selection of photographs shows only a little of what is happening or has happened in our Gudgenby Nature

Photographs by Reg Alder, Craig Allen and Hedda Morrison

D GOING

Reserve. Since there is no available management plan for public perusal, some demolitions have been taken for the expedience of convenience of management and neglect is taking its toll of what remains.

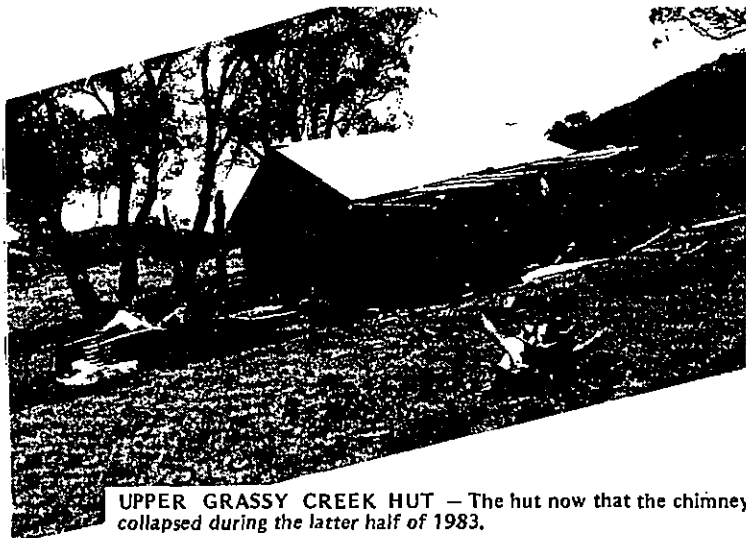
It is realised that vandalism, decay or neglect can hasten the demise of these structures built of non-enduring materials, but with some care that which is still there may last for many more years. Later a cairn can at least mark the spot where the structure stood. Even presently despised materials such as asbestos-cement sheeting in the future will no longer be commonplace with the bans on the use of asbestos and who knows a pastoralist's homestead of this material may become a museum piece of the future such as slab huts are today.

A private survey by J. Winston-Gregson was carried out in the late 1970's on the Aboriginal and European impact in the Gudgenby Nature Reserve. This document is not comprehensive and further work is needed to fully document the historical and physical aspects of the heritage within the Reserve whilst at least something remains. At the very least signs of enduring materials are needed at sites to permanently locate and inform future visitors of the historical significance of the area.

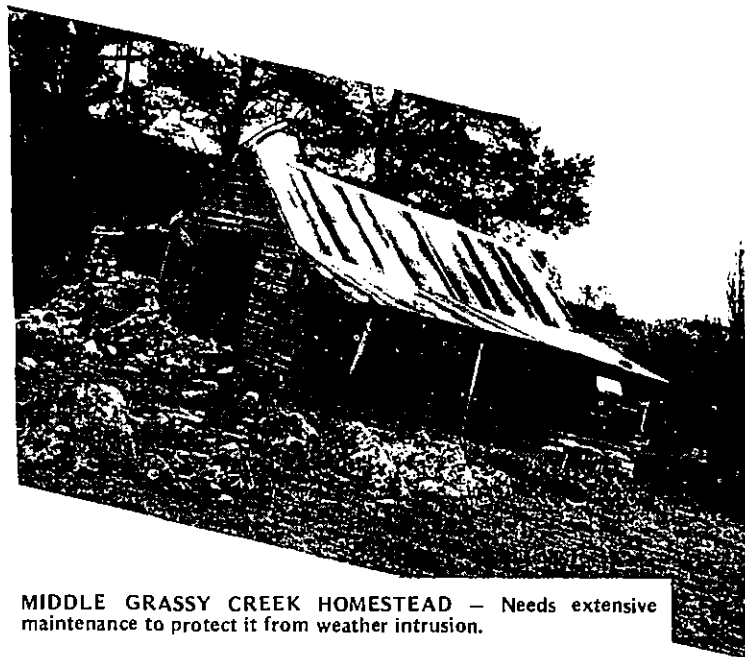
The only noteworthy work on any structure in the Reserve has been carried out on the Association's initiative when urgent maintenance was undertaken on the Orroral Valley Homestead. An archaeological survey has been completed and plans for its restoration are in an advanced stage.

A historical survey, plan and funds are needed for the preservation of our pastoral heritage in the Gudgenby Nature Reserve if what little remains is to be retained and preserved for the future.

Reg Alder



UPPER GRASSY CREEK HUT — The hut now that the chimney collapsed during the latter half of 1983.



MIDDLE GRASSY CREEK HOMESTEAD — Needs extensive maintenance to protect it from weather intrusion.



CREEK STOCKYARDS — A fine example of the use of materials to form a stockyard.



BRAYSHAW'S HUT — Close to the Adaminaby Road. One report said that it was the only hut worth preserving in the Gudgenby Nature Reserve and apart from a fence and notice no action has been taken since.



The Christmas Party at Orroral Valley threatened to be a 'washout' but the availability of Tharwa Village Hall and the fine weather there ensured its success. Music from our own member group and a local accordion player satisfied all tastes for listening, singing or dancing.

— Montage Reg Alder

EARLY MORNING IN CENTRAL ALASKA

It was good to be alive as we climbed for a late-summer, day walk along a ridge in Denali National Park, Central Alaska. It was clear and sunny with a cool breeze, a reminder of the nearby Arctic Circle. Every step up brought more of the magnificent Alaska Range into better view; it was as well that I had the full range of camera lenses, filters and spare film in my pack. As we approached a rocky prominence, a pika barked a warning; it stood on top of the rocks to see who was disturbing the gathering of grasses to be dried for winter feed. An arctic ground squirrel watched us curiously closeby. Time for a spell to catch our breath, watch the animals, admire the view and get the camera out. Then the painful truth dawned; everything I needed was in the pack except the camera itself which I must have left in our cabin. You can imagine my thoughts then and all through that day — full of 'once in a lifetime' photographic opportunities!

Still simmering that evening, a plan evolved to make a quick solo ascent of the ridge again before breakfast next morning if suitable. The sub-arctic morning was clear enough when the alarm woke me; and so started one of those experiences of beauty and wilderness which will be fresh in my memory for years.

I did not pause to look around until I reached a remembered high viewpoint on the ridge. Wonder Lake, blue with white reflections, was far below; 'floating' 5½ vertical kilometres above it to the south was Mt McKinley (6,195m). The early sun from the east was tinting the snow and ice the palest lemon and highlighting the knife-edged, glacier sculptured ridges and spires. Several thin, long strips of pinkbrown cloud slowly rose from the base. One was over the McKinley River, another was like a windblown scarf just below the summits and some had risen into the pale blue sky already smudged with misty white clouds. Below

the snowline were the dark grey bare rocks of the steep lower slopes, merging into the diverse greens of the tundra and the darker spruce trees.

Mt Foraker (5,303m) was a near neighbour to the west and glowed in the sun. The Indian name of McKinley is "Denali" — 'the high one' and Foraker used to be called "Denali's wife". To the east, peak after peak continued in a vast sweep which would end in the Aleutian Islands.

Photography over for the moment, I sat down and absorbed the flow of primeval scenery and atmosphere which slowly changed. The silence was accentuated by the murmur of the rapids of Moose Creek far below. Occasional punctuation was provided by the calls of the birds which flew from roosts in the low trees; and by the grumbles of the pikas and squirrels which really did not want to come out onto the rocks still unwarmed by the sun.

I pondered on the unbelievable forces of ice, weather and earthshock which are still sculpting these mountains; and on the awesome upthrust which still continues as the Pacific and the North America plates grind together under relentless pressure. God seemed very close and the human race and its problems seemed very small indeed.

As both the sun and the low thin clouds rose in the sky, the higher mountains became silver and shining white; the greens of the tundra and forest became more vivid and the sky blue deepened. On the slopes just below the gentians were now in the sun but had not yet opened to its warmth.

I should have started down earlier but still had time for breakfast and the day's walking in other directions if I jogged along. So I rejoined the others at breakfast, hot and breathing deeply but very satisfied and contented with my wilderness experience which neither words nor photographs could adequately describe.

Charles Hill

JUST



BRIEFLY-



After attending a world Dental Conference in Tokyo, our President Ian Currie, wife Jean and daughter Marion, spent happy weeks with the Australian Ambassador (Ian's brother) along with travelling to other places.

Arriving back in Canberra THE day of our Christmas Party, they managed to get along to say 'Happy Christmas'.

Back in 69/70, a member ('mature'), took a one term course in Australian Wildflowers, at Tech. Interest growing, she then proceeded to work her way through: B.Sc.; M.Sc.; and now her Ph.D. Congratulations, Dr Edna Watson.

Congratulations also to Sonia Tidemann on her Ph.D. for the study of *Fairy Wrens* which should be of great interest to all our bird watchers.

SCENE: Around the fire, a backpack weekend at the end of 83.

CHARACTERS: Nine members in their mid forties to mid sixties, and one guest . . . (mid twenties).

CONVERSATION: General.

YOUNG MAN: (Out of the blue and with a slightly amazed look under the fashionable facial fungus) . . . 'You know, you are not bad for a bunch of old cronies'.

ACTION: Collapse of group in general hilarity.

Jenny Cusbert is taking over responsibility for our library. This is open and available to members during each meeting. There is a good collection of periodicals from kindred organisations, also books on many subjects such as: Fauna and fauna, Land-use, National Parks, Conservation and so on . . . all of which may be borrowed.

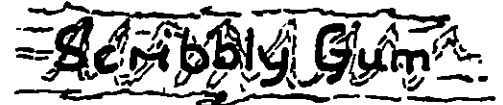
The joke that we have never lost a member on a walk (not quite) . . . but late in 1983, we DID lose at least three cars and umpteen passengers, between the meeting place and the start of the walk.

A 'birds eye view' of them driving here and there in the Corin Dam area, must have been quite a sight. (The walk began about one hour late).

Well done Fiona and her team of helpers. Two days of hard work in digging and sowing grass seed, plus covering with bark and dead trees, and an unsightly bulldozed fire trail in the Orroral Valley area, is already looking 'more natural'. Further 'work days' will be held in the Autumn . . . get ready to help.

Ex President Bill Watson and wife Edna went off in February, to actually 'do' the thing so many of us dream about - wander Europe for a year. After a month in China, Japan, and crossing Russia on the Siberian rail, they will visit Greece, Northern Europe and back to sunny areas as the '84 winter sets in.

The Christmas Party crowd faced the event being 'washed out' - for the first time in many years. Alternatives were suggested and eventually a stream of cars wended its way (waving to those still heading towards Orroral) back to Tharwa. The village hall then echoed to the sounds of an accordian (local), wind instruments (members) - a lot of 'arty larfter' - as food, wine good company prevailed.



LET'S FREE GUDGENBY FROM PINES

The NPA has been lobbying the Department of Territories for several years to have the Boboyan pine plantation logged and the area incorporated into the Gudgenby Nature Reserve. Since the fire destroyed part of the plantation in January 1983 we have intensified the campaign. In response to this campaign the Minister announced on the 4th of December last that the Boboyan pine plantation would be incorporated into the Reserve. This was only one of a number of decisions affecting the Reserve which the Minister announced at the same time. The incorporation of the plantation into the Reserve, however, has only been taken in principle. The area remains under the control of the Forest Branch until the pine trees are logged and no further forest operations are needed there. This logging operation should be carried out now, without waiting to see if the remaining trees will reach an economic size.

The reasons for rehabilitating the plantation now are compelling; further are we convinced that the opportunity to begin the process of rehabilitation is here now, following the fire. Our reasons for wanting to eliminate the pines include:-

- The undesirable visual impact of the presence of the pine plantation presents a major intrusion into the outstanding natural landscapes of the Gudgenby Valley. The presence of the plantation at the head of the valley and directly under Mt Gudgenby detracts substantially from the aesthetic enjoyment of these vistas by visitors.
- The invasion of pine seedlings (wildings) into adjacent forest, woodland and grassland represents an unnatural modification of these ecosystems. The establishment of pine wildings is contrary to the management objectives for national parks.
- The Boboyan pine plantation is surrounded by the Gudgenby Nature Reserve and thus forms an enclave of an exotic species within the natural landscape. The management of the pine plantation is totally at variance with that required for the surrounding natural area and has undesirable impacts on the surrounding areas, e.g. soil preparation, application of fertilisers, formation and maintenance of roads and tracks, large numbers of vehicle movements for maintenance and logging operations.
- Growth rates for the Boboyan pines have been very slow due to the unsuitable soils and climate. Given these slow growth rates it may be many years before the remaining

trees reach maturity. The natural values of the Gudgenby Valley should not be degraded by the presence of pines for this extended period.

- The Boboyan plantation is only 2.6% of the pine plantations in the ACT (360ha out of 13,760ha) and the area of remaining viable pines after the fire (60ha) is only 0.44% of the total. The loss of this area will not make a significant difference to pine log production in the ACT especially given the higher costs associated with wood from the Boboyan plantation.
- It is entirely feasible and practicable to return the area now occupied by pine plantation to natural conditions over a number of years without incurring excessive costs or environmental penalties. The NPA has developed a programme to do this and would be eager to help implement any such programme with voluntary assistance at all stages of the programme. Alternatively the regeneration project (or parts of it) may be seen as a suitable project for funds under one of the current employment generation schemes to provide extra jobs.

A recent report on forestry in the ACT prepared for the Department of Territories has recommended that the area of pine plantations in the ACT be increased to 20,000ha – an increase of 45%. The NPA views these recommendations with alarm. In the context of the Boboyan plantation, the Department has recently suggested that, in order to close the Boboyan plantation, a compensating area would have to be found elsewhere, and this could be extremely difficult! Given all the above facts their reason for stalling the decision to forego the Boboyan plantation is nonsense. The secrecy with which decisions concerning the Reserve are customarily made is also unacceptable especially in view of the lack of a publicly available management plan.

The NPA needs your help to overcome these obstacles and save the Gudgenby valley from further pines. Write to the Minister for Territories expressing your concern and asking that the decision to begin the process to return the area to native habitat be made now.

Neville Esau

WHAT PRICE A POPULATION POLICY?

It is obvious to most people that the world is facing an enormous problem in overpopulation. Many governments and other agencies have programs aimed at bringing specific populations under control. What is less obvious and not yet accepted by many people is that Australia too has a population problem.

At a recent meeting of the Australian Conservation Foundation in Canberra, Dr Lincoln Day of the ANU Department of Demography reminded his audience that there are only three possible ways of influencing the size of a population: by varying the birth rate, the death rate or the net migration.

Traditionally in Australia we have set migration policy on the basis of some perceived short term need and left birth and death rates to look after themselves. We have then forecast the level of population we expect to reach by some specified time and sat back to wait for it to happen. There has been little or no consideration of what the ultimate level of population ought to be or how we should go about achieving it. And yet in any rational planning scheme this should be our starting point. Governments are responsible for guiding the development of the areas under their control for the well-being of their people. They have in their hands a finite land resource which can be developed in various ways to support various levels of population with various life styles and standards of living.

The starting point for all our planning policies should surely be an inventory of resources and a decision on the industries and life styles most suited to those resources and the desires of the people. We would then be in a position to estimate the optimum level of population which would provide the economic base we need without overdeveloping the land. An optimum population would permit a satisfactory standard of living while allowing us to keep pollution

under control and maintain sufficient natural areas for recreation and other uses. However the critical factor in any population policy is to start early. The lead time for achieving any desired level is at least 30 to 50 years. Rapid changes in population, as well as being difficult to achieve, produce severe economic and social problems.

Dr Day, in his lecture, pointed out that although Australia's age specific birth rates have dropped below the replacement level, due to the age structure, our population will continue to increase for about the next 55 years if present rates are maintained. It will by then have reached a level somewhere between 22 and 25 million.

What will Australia be like with a population 50% to 80% higher than at present? How much extra land will be swallowed up under urban development? How much will go to crops and pastures? How will our remaining native forests fare? What pressures will tourism place on our most precious natural areas?

The other speaker at the ACF meeting was Dr Chris Watson who reminded us of the rapid degradation of Australia's soils and suggested that we may find it difficult to feed a population as high as that predicted by Dr Day. Soil loss, he explained, is just one of the many problems which will intensify as our population grows. Conservation and national parks are likely to be viewed as minor issues if we have to import food.

It may be that the population we are headed for is close to the optimum. But if this is so it will be entirely fortuitous. Surely such a fundamental matter is too important to be left to chance. All governments should be urged to at least consider the matter and attempt to estimate an optimum population level. How successful we would be in achieving any desired level is of course another matter. The point is that we should at least know where we would like to be headed and why.

At the last conference of the Australian National Parks Council, our peak organisation, the N.P.A. of the A.C.T. sponsored a motion calling for the Government and the ANPC to develop policies on population. Unfortunately, half the delegates saw the issue as being outside the range of interests of the organisation and the motion was lost on the casting vote of the chairman. It therefore looks as if we have a lot of educating to do before we can get Australians to even think about this most fundamental of conservation issues.

Ross Carlton

ARCHAEOLOGY AT ORRORAL

Between June and August a number of N.P.A. members were able to assist our consultant archaeologist, Mr Jonathan Winston-Gregson, at the Orroral Homestead. Several excavations were made between the main building and the collapsed kitchen block in weather that varied from cool to bitter. The main achievement was the uncovering of a row of stonework a few centimetres below the present ground level and extending right along the back of the building. This stonework appears to have been installed to divert surface water around the building. It was probably effective in doing this when installed and we uncovered the full length down to the original ground level in the hope that with a small trench at each end it would still be so. Unfortunately the stones have been undermined in several places by rabbits and as they are still active our attempts at blocking the holes proved fruitless. Consequently, much of the water appears to be running under the stone barrier and under the house. Elimination of the rabbits is a task which has been added to the list of jobs on the restoration program.

Unfortunately, due to further delays in finalising the conservation plan, the November working party had to be cancelled. Members will recall that we are prohibited by the terms of the grant from carrying out any restoration work until the conservation plan has been received and accepted. Hopefully, this will have been achieved by the time you read this and we will be in a position to plan the future work.

Ross Carlton



While the billy boils. Members grab a few minutes rest on any dry slab of rock they could find among drifts of snow on the way up Sentry Box Hill – Winter 1983. — Photo Les Pyke

FIGHTING FOR WILDERNESS

The Third National Wilderness Conference of the ACF was held at Katoomba on 16-19 September. Two hundred delegates attended the conference.

The theme of the conference was 'Fighting for Wilderness'. The opening session was devoted to the topic 'Battles Lost and Won' with reports from each state and territory; the second session was entitled 'Winning Future Battles' and covered both future strategies and plans for specific areas.

Following these sessions the conference divided into workshop sessions to consider both problem areas and the need for new strategies in more detail. The wide range of topics covered in the workshops can be gathered from these titles:— 'The Law as a Tool to Defend Wilderness', 'Wilderness Areas and Mining', 'Draft Model Wilderness Act', 'Marine Wilderness', 'Map Workshop', 'Draft Wilderness Strategy', 'Arguments for Wilderness', 'Increasing Threats to Wilderness in the Future and How to Deal with These', 'What Political Action is Successful', and 'Organising for Wilderness Conservation'.

Each workshop brought resolutions back to the final plenary session for discussion and ratification by the conference. Not surprisingly, considering the wide range of workshops, the final resolutions also covered a broad spectrum of recommendations for planning and action by the ACF and the conservation movement.

The main resolution was one calling for the establishment of a 'National Wilderness Strategy Committee', as a matter of priority for conservation groups around Australia. The ACF was asked to convene a meeting of the Committee as soon as possible drawing representatives from each state and territory and from prominent national groups such as ACF, The Wilderness Society and the Colong Committee. The Committee will be asked to draw up a strategy to achieve the protection and reservation of Australia's remaining significant wilderness areas. Included in this task will be: identification and documentation of significant areas; preparation of legislation including a model wilderness act; wilderness management planning; and education programmes.

To coincide with the conference, the Queensland, N.S.W. and South Australian governments announced new

additions to national parks. In N.S.W. a Brogo Wilderness was declared in the Wadbilliga National Park, in Queensland the Cooloola National Park was extended, and in South Australia a major addition was announced in the Gammon Ranges National Park.

The conference was fortunate to have as its keynote speaker Mr Mike McCloskey, the Executive Director of the Sierra Club in the U.S.A. Mr McCloskey spoke on 'How the Wilderness was Won—Lessons to be Learnt from the U.S.A. Experience'. In addition to this address he was able to provide valuable insights and comments to a number of workshops on planning and implementing wilderness dedication strategies.

Copies of the conference resolutions are available from the ACF (\$1 including postage) at 672B Glenferrie Road, Hawthorne, Victoria, 3122.

Neville Esau

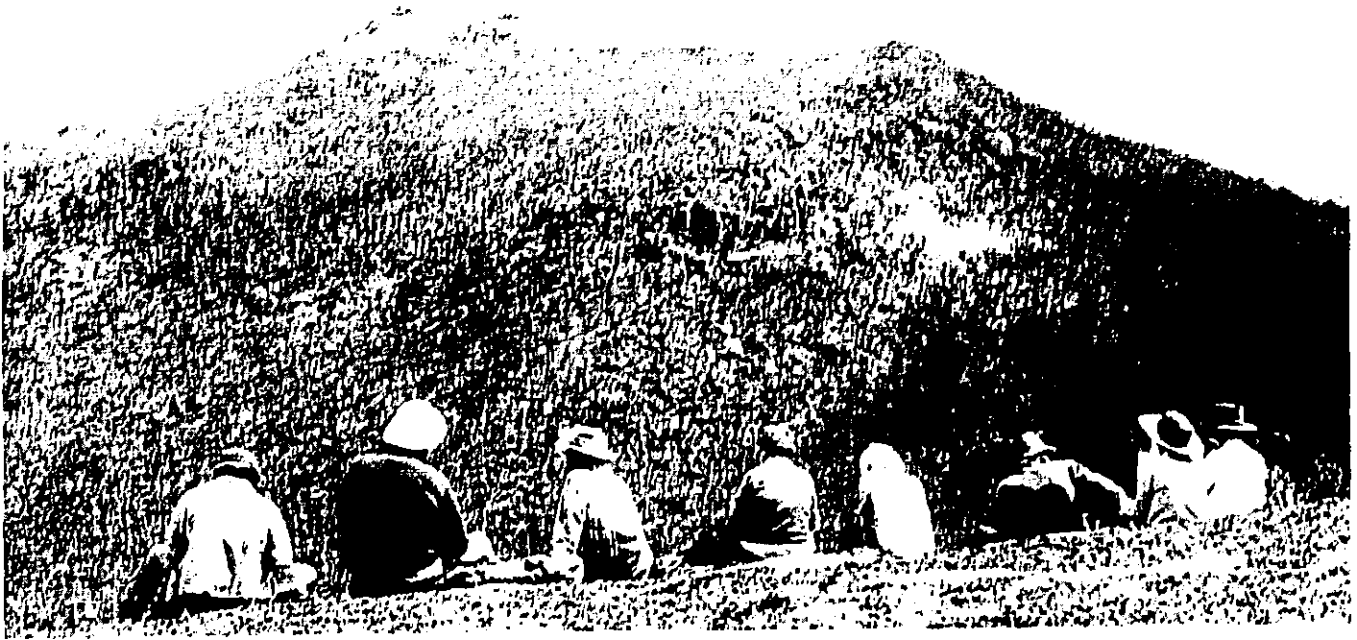
THE FERAL CAT

The domestic cat gone wild (the feral cat) is a great destroyer of wildlife. It can climb trees, stalk native animals, steal their young and take eggs from nests both in trees and on the ground.

Feral cats can multiply rapidly. Unlike most Australian native animals, the feral cat produces several litters a year with up to eight kittens in each. In the wild in their countries of origin, very few of the young would survive but because the cat is a recently introduced animal in Australia, the natural checks on its population are not present.

One of the main checks on the populations of cats is the availability of food. In Australia there is an abundant supply of prey, most of which is easily caught by cats. Not only are cats able to live on the birds, small mammals, reptiles and insects, but also, because they are so adaptable, they survive on scraps left in picnic areas and in garbage tips. From these areas of plenty they maraud into the surrounding natural bush.

Their efficiency as hunters not only means they destroy native birds and animals but they also compete with the native carnivores, which normally fulfil this function.



Lunchtime stop for N.P.A. members on top of Yankee Hat. Looking out over the burnt-out slopes of Mount Gudenby on Charles Hill's walk during October 1983. — Photo Judy Webster

Cat owners who for various reasons no longer wish to keep their pets, frequently prefer to dump them in the bush rather than dispose of them in other ways. They believe it is cruel to destroy surplus cats and kittens. Yet, when these cats are released into the bush, they destroy a great many native birds and animals in their flight for survival.

A cat released in the bush loses the qualities of a domestic pet. It becomes very cunning and ferocious and its muscular system becomes very well-developed.

Strangely enough, most dumpers of cats choose national parks and nature reserves for their dumping. This is quite contrary to the aim of such places which is to conserve native animals in their habitat.

If you want to dispose of a cat, ring your local vet or the RSPCA for advice. They can give you information on other methods of solving your problem. Don't dump cats in the bush. Domestic cats do not belong there. There are few, if any, predators in the bush to keep feral cats in control. Therefore these cats become very numerous, and very harmful to wildlife.

Spread this information amongst your friends and contacts, and if you like cats, don't let your cat become yet another unwanted killer — another destroyer of our wildlife.

(NSW NATIONAL PARKS AND
WILDLIFE SERVICE BULLETIN)

LIBRARY ACQUISITIONS

- 83/5 *Field Guide to the Native Trees of the A.C.T.* NPA of the ACT, June 1983.
- 83/6 *Plant Identikit - Common Plants of Central Australia* Edited by Peter King for the Conservation Commission of Northern Territory, November 1981.
- 83/7 *Nomination of Western Tasmanian Wilderness National Parks by C of A for inclusion in World Heritage List* Prepared by the Tasmanian Government and the Australian Heritage Commission, November 1981.
- 83/8 *Nomination of the Lord Howe Island Group by the C of A for inclusion in World Heritage List* Prepared by the NSW Government, ANPWS, Australian Heritage Commission, December 1981.
- 83/9 *Karri at the Crossroads*. Proposal for the adequate conservation of the remaining Karri Forest in W.A. and the creation of the Shannon Karri National Park. Conservation Council of W.A., S-W Forests Defence Foundation, Campaign to save Native Forests (WA), ACF (West Chapter), 1982.
- 83/10 *Bank Protection using Emergent Plants against Boat Wash in Rivers and Canals*. A.J. Bonham. Hydraulics Research Station, Wallingford, UK, December 1980. (Photocopy; ref. Murrumbidgee River).
- 83/11 *Westbourne Woods*. Tony Rout and Ken Eldridge. Conservation Council of S.E. Region and Canberra, 1983.
- 83/15 *Kosciusko Regional Environmental Study (Snowy River)*. Dept of Environment and Planning, NSW, 1983.
- 83/18 *Rare or Threatened Australian Plants*. John Leigh, John Briggs and William Hartley. ANPWS Special Publication 7, 1981.
- 83/19 *The Natural Distribution of Eucalypts in Australia*. George M. Chippendale and Ludok Wolf. ANPWS Special Publication 6, 1981.
- 83/20 *Australian Endangered Species: Eucalypts*. L.D. Pryor. ANPWS Special Publication 5, 1981.
- 83/21 *A Review of Norfolk Island Birds: Past and Present*. R. Schodde, P. Fullagher and N. Hermes. ANPWS Special Publication 8, 1983.
- 83/22 *The Terrestrial Reptiles of Australia's Island Territories*. H. Cogger, A. Sadler, E. Cameron. ANPWS Special Publication 11, 1983.
- 83/23 *Uluru (Ayers Rock-Mount Olga) National Park Plan of Management*. ANPWS, 1982.
- 83/24 *Mount Pitt Reserve and Norfolk Island Botanic Garden Draft Plan of Management*. ANPWS, 1982.
- 83/25 *The Rock Art Sites of Kakadu National Park*. Some preliminary research findings for their conservation and management. Compiled by D. Gillespie. ANPWS Special Publication 10, 1983.
- 83/26 *Nomination of Kakadu National Park for inclusion in the World Heritage List*. Prepared by ANPWS, May 1980.
- 83/27 *Promotion of Low Cost Solar Housing in Temperate Australia*. Proceedings of seminar on 17.11.81 at the Royal Military College Duntroon, ACT. Faculty of Military Studies, Univ. of NSW, with Housing Industry Ass'n and Master Builders Ass'n of the ACT.

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 officer bearers and appointed leaders are absolved from any liability in respect of any injury or damage suffered whilst engaged on any such outing.

MARCH 4 SUNDAY ORRORAL HOMESTEAD WORKING PARTY

Ref: Rendezvous Creek 1:25,000

Leader: Ross Carlton 863892

Jobs for all. Bring gloves, tools and lunch. Billy tea provided. All welcome.

MARCH 3, 4 PACK WALK

Ettrema

Ref: Nerriga 1:25,000

Leader: Garth Abercrombie 814907

Contact leader for this medium-hard walk in Budawang. Friday night start probable. 170km drive.

MARCH 10 SATURDAY TREE MAINTENANCE

Glendale Crossing

Ref: A.C.T. 1:100,000

Leader: Charles Hill 958924

Anytime from 9.30a.m. Ring leader for details.

MARCH 11 SUNDAY WALK

Tharwa Area

Ref: A.C.T. 1:100,000

Leader: Betty Campbell 811771

Meet: Tharwa Bridge 10.30a.m. Walk 10km on fairly negotiable terrain, possibly a hill to climb.

MARCH 11 SUNDAY WALK

The Onion

Ref: Michelago 1:100,000

Leader: Phil Gatenby 526994(W)

Meet: Kambah shops 8.30a.m. Medium walk in the Tinderry Ranges. Scrub and rock scrambling, climb onto high boulders for wide views. 60km drive.

MARCH 14 MIDWEEK WALK – WEDNESDAY

Nursery Swamp

Ref: Rendezvous Creek 1:25,000

Leader: Reg Alder 542240

Walk up fire trail from Orroral Valley. 10km. Meet Kambah Village shops 8.30a.m. 50km drive.

MARCH 17, 18, 19 – LONG WEEKEND

Twofold Bay Edrom Lodge

Ref: Eden 1:100,000

Leader: Jenny Cusbert 815331

A return visit to this lodge built in 1913 and now operated by the Forestry Commission. Provided: bed, mattresses, refrigeration, stove, utensils. Bring: sheets, blankets or sleeping bags, food. Dormitory style rooms. \$6.00 per person per night. Walk, swim, fish, visit Boydtown. 275km drive. Contact leader by 14 March for reservations.

MARCH 17, 18, 19 PACK WALK

Broken Dam – 9 mile

Ref: Cabramurra 1:25,000

Leader: Ian Haynes 514762

Selwyn Quarry, 4 mile, Tabletop, 9 mile, Broken Dam. 220km drive via Cooma. Ring leader for details.

MARCH 18 – SUNDAY WALK

Gudgenby Nature Reserve – Middle Creek

Ref: Rendezvous Creek 1:25,000

Contact: Beverley Hammond 886577

Meet: Kambah shops 8.30a.m. 50km drive. Phone Beverley if you are going, before Monday 12. A leader is needed.

MARCH 24 SATURDAY – BIKE RIDE

Lake Ginninderra

Ref: A.C.T. UBD

Leader: Fiona Brand 479538

Contact leader for more information. Meeting places are Dryandra Street bike path near Macarthur Avenue at 10.00a.m. and at bridge on bike path at Belconnen Mall end of Lake, 10.30a.m.

MARCH 25 SUNDAY WALK

Corin Dam Lookout

Ref: Brindabella/Corin Dam 1:25,000

Leader: Hela Lindemann 812322

Meet: Eucumbene Drive and Cotter Road. 8.30a.m. Unhurried 15km walk from Tidbinbilla Reserve. Gradual climb of 350m along fire trail, then through scrub. Leader sets slow pace. 45km drive.

MARCH 25 SUNDAY WALK

Gudgenby Nature Reserve – Grassy Creek

Ref: A.C.T. 1:100,000

Leader: Les Pyke 812982

Meet: Kambah shops 8.30a.m. Pleasant creek walking – some rock scrambling, wet patches, scrub, short climbs. 65km drive.

APRIL 1 SUNDAY WALK

Sentry Box Rock

Ref: Yaouk 1:25,000

Leader: Reg Alder 542240

Meet: Kambah shops 8.00a.m. Climb 550m up to the Sentry Box Rock from the Yaouk valley. Off track; but relatively open bush and rock scramble which is easier than the Sheepstation Creek route. 8km. Well worth the effort. Bring cameras to photograph the Sentry Box Ogre. 85km drive.

APRIL 1 SUNDAY WALK

Molonglo Gorge

Ref: A.C.T. 1:100,000

Leader: Ross Carlton 863892

Meet: Canberra Railway Station 9.00a.m. Short family walk on river side track, some rocks and short climbs. 10km drive.

APRIL 8 SUNDAY WALK

Honeysuckle Hill

Ref: Corin Dam 1:25,000

Leader: Neville Esau 864176

Meet: Kambah shops 8.30a.m. Climb hill to north of Honeysuckle Creek tracking station mostly on fire trail. 10km walk with climb of 250m. 50km drive.

APRIL 7/8 WEEKEND PACK WALK

Mt Tarn

Ref: CMW Budawang

Leader: Craig Allen 549735(H) 525746(W)

Contact leader for details of this walk in the Budawang. 150km drive.

APRIL 12 THURSDAY MID WEEK WALK

Glendale – Brandy Flat

Ref: A.C.T. 1:100,000

Leader: Shirley Lewis 956937

Meet: Kambah Village shops 9.00a.m. Pleasant, easy, 10km walk along fire trail over undulating terrain from Glendale Crossing, with lunch at Brandy Flat hut. 40km drive.

APRIL 15 SUNDAY SEED PLANTING WORK PARTY

Nursery Swamp

Ref: A.C.T. 1:100,000

Leader: Ian Haynes 514762

Meet: Orroral Valley turn off to Nursery Swamp 9.00a.m. We are planting rye-corn close to Nursery Swamp on the fire trail. Heavy-weight packs needed to carry in the seed tools provided. Contact leader for details.

APRIL 15 SUNDAY WALK

Mts Blundell and Gengster

Ref: Tidbinbilla 1:25,000

Leader: Hela Lindemann 812322

Meet: Eucumbene Drive, Cotter Road 8.30a.m. 14km circular walk on fire trails, with a short steep climb of 350m up Mt Blundell, then across to Mt Gengster. Leader sets a slow pace. 15km drive.

APRIL 20/21/22/23 EASTER PACK WALK

Deua River

Ref: Araluen 1:100,000

Leader: Robert Story 812174

Walk from Wyambene cave. Rough in parts, wading, but swimming and fishing for eels possible. Two climbs, one of 850m. Contact leader for details. 95km drive.

APRIL 20/21/22/23 EASTER CAR CAMP

Wyangala Dam

Leaders: Joan and Ray Hegarty 813973

Camp at Wyangala State Recreation area, 40km S.E. of Cowra. Contact leaders for details.

APRIL 29 SUNDAY TWIN WALK

Hanging Rock

Ref: Kain 1:25,000

Leader: Babette Scougall 487008

Meet: Canberra Railway Station 7.30a.m. Cross Shoalhaven River to begin this long walk, at times on tracks. Explore Hanging Rock area – scrubby and rough at end. No water if conditions dry. 95km drive.

APRIL 29 SUNDAY TWIN WALK

Big Hole, Marble Arch

Ref: Kain 1:25,000

Leader: Lyle Mark 862801

Meet: Canberra Railway Station 7.30a.m. An easier shorter walk in the same area as Hanging Rock. On tracks the whole way. 95km drive.

MAY 6 SUNDAY WALK

Yankee Hat Paintings

Ref: Yaouk 1:25,000

Leader: Sophie Caton 487701(W)

Meet: Kambah shops 9.00a.m. Short walk in the Gudgenby Nature Reserve, on fire trail and across open country, to see aboriginal paintings and carved tree. 50km drive.

MAY 5/6 WEEKEND PACK WALK

Namadji

Ref: Rendezvous Creek 1:25,000

Leader: Frank Clements 317005

Contact leader for details of this medium-hard pack walk in the Gudgenby Nature Reserve. 500m climb to camp high up Middle Creek. 50km drive.

MAY 9 WEDNESDAY MID WEEK WALK

Hardy Range

Ref: Cotter Dam 1:25,000

Leader: Trevor Plumb 813258

Meet: Eucumbene Drive, Cotter Road 10.00a.m. 4km walk mostly on fire trails with some steep sections. 15km drive.

MAY 12 SATURDAY TREE MAINTENANCE

Glendale Crossing

Ref: A.C.T. 1:100,000

Leader: Charles Hill 958924

Anytime from 9.30a.m. Contact leader for details.

MAY 13 SUNDAY WALK

Mt Tennent

Ref: A.C.T. 1:100,000

Leader: Ian Haynes 514762

Meet: Kambah shops 8.30a.m. 10km walk but with a climb of 700m. Climb ridge on southern side of Tennent to summit, steep rough descent to Tharwa Road. Car shuttle 25km drive. Contact leader for details.

MAY 13 SUNDAY WALK

Bushfold Flat

Ref: A.C.T. 1:100,000

Leader: Babette Scougall 487008

Meet: Kambah shops 8.30a.m. The 10km walk to Bushfold Flat is mostly on track, with some scrub at the end. 35km drive.

MAY 20 SUNDAY WALK

Black Springs

Ref: Tidbinbilla 1:25,000

Leader: Lyle Mark-862801

Meet: Eucumbene Drive, Cotter Road 8.30a.m. 14km walk, partly on a bridle trail, through Fishing Gap to the open scrub near the Cotter River. Long steady climb back out. 20km drive.

MAY 19/20 WEEKEND PACK WALK

Sluice Box Falls

Ref: CMW Budawangs

Leader: Phil Gatenby 526994(W)

Medium hard walk in through Hidden Valley and out via Folly Point. Leave cars at New Haven Gap. 150km drive. Contact leader for details.

MAY 27 SUNDAY WALK

Orroral Valley Rocks

Ref: Rendezvous Creek 1:25,000

Leader: Neville Esau 864176

Meet: Kambah shops 8.30a.m. 12km walk along the Orroral Valley, now in Gudgenby Nature Reserve, as far as the stock-yard. Steep climb of 200m up the side of the valley to a prominent rock outcrop. Return through bush along ridge. 41km drive.

JUNE 3 SUNDAY WALK

Rendezvous Creek Paintings

Ref: Rendezvous Creek 1:25,000

Leader: Diane Thompson 886084

Meet: Kambah shops 8.30a.m. 12km walk across paddocks, through open country. Mostly undulating with a short climb to the rock overhang. 45km drive.

JUNE 6 WEDNESDAY MID WEEK WALK

Molonglo Gorge

Ref: A.C.T. 1:100,000

Leader: Olive Buckman 488774

Meet: Mershead Drive, first barbeque area east of main Duntroon entrance 10.00a.m. 6km walk on track with some rocks and short climbs. 10km drive.

JUNE 9/10/11 QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY PACK WALK

Naas River Valley

Ref: A.C.T. 1:100,000

Leader: Les Pyke 812982

Easy scenic pack walk of some 30km over 3 days mostly along trail in river valley from Mt Clear station to Glencoe area. Leader would like contact by June 2 to organize transport pickup.

NATIONAL PARKS ASSOCIATION OF THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY INC.
Inaugurated 1960

President: Ian Currie, 10 Arnhem Place, RED HILL A.C.T. 2603
958107 (W) 958112 (H)

Vice-President: Denise Robin, 19 Downes Place, HUGHES A.C.T. 2605
724540 (W) 814837 (H)

Secretary: Diana Pickering, 12 Howchin Place, TORRENS A.C.T. 2607
865627 (H)

Treasurer: Joan Hegarty, 4 Gormanston Cres., DEAKIN A.C.T. 2600
813973 (H)

Assistant Secretary: Lala Reeves, 32 Horsley Cres., MELBA A.C.T. 2615
582265 (H)

Publicity Officer: Anne Robertson, P.O. Box 424, DICKSON A.C.T. 2602
643960 (W) 310154 (H)

Committee Members: Reg Alder 542240; Fiona Brand 479538; Ross Carlton 863892;
Beverley Hammond 886577; Charles Hill 958924; Adrienne Nicholson.

Immediate Past President: Neville Esau, 11 Rymill Place, MAWSON A.C.T. 2607
494554 (W) 864176 (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 Cres., HOLDER A.C.T. 2611
886577 (H)

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

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

Telephone: 865627 (H) (Secretary), or 643959 (W) 310154 (H) (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-31 March:	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 organized 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.

Articles by contributors may not necessarily reflect Association opinion or objectives.

DESIGN BY REG ALDER
PRINTED BY DEREK KELLY 541226
TYPESET BY BELCONNEN TYPESETTING – 547390

National Parks Association A.C.T.

OUTINGS SUMMARY

March	4	Sunday	Orroral Homestead	Working Party	
	3/4	Weekend	Ettrema	Pack Walk	
	10	Saturday	Glendale	Tree Maintenance	
	11	Sunday	Tharwa	Walk	
	11	Sunday	Onion	Walk	
	14	Wednesday	Nursery Swamp	Walk	
	17/18/19	Long Weekend	Edrom Lodge	House Party	
	17/18/19	Long Weekend	Broken Dam	Pack Walk	
	18	Sunday	Middle Creek	Walk	
	24	Saturday	Lake Ginninderra	Bicycle Ride	
	25	Sunday	Corin Dam Lookout	Walk	
	25	Sunday	Grassy Creek	Walk	
	April	1	Sunday	Sentry Box Rock	Walk
		1	Sunday	Molonglo Gorge	Walk
		8	Sunday	Honeysuckle Hill	Walk
7/8		Weekend	Mt Tarn	Pack Walk	
12		Thursday	Glendale - Brandy Flat	Walk	
15		Sunday	Nursery Swamp	Working Party	
15		Sunday	Mt Gengster	Walk	
20/21/22/23		Easter	Deua	Pack Walk	
20/21/22/23		Easter	Wyangala Dam	Car Camp	
29		Sunday	Hanging Rock	Twin Walk	
29		Sunday	Big Hole, Marble Arch	Twin Walk	
May		6	Sunday	Yankee Hat Paintings	Walk
		5/6	Weekend	Namadji	Pack Walk
		9	Wednesday	Hardy Range	Walk
		12	Saturday	Glendale	Tree Maintenance
	13	Sunday	Mt Tennent	Walk	
	13	Sunday	Bushfold Flat	Walk	
	20	Sunday	Black Springs	Walk	
	19/20	Weekend	Sluice Box Falls	Pack Walk	
	27	Sunday	Orroral Valley Rocks	Walk	
	June	3	Sunday	Rendezvous Creek Paintings	Walk
6		Wednesday	Molonglo Gorge	Walk	
9/10/11		Long Weekend	Naas River Valley	Pack Walk	
9/10/11		Long Weekend	See next Bulletin	Car Camp	
17		Sunday	Camel Ridge, Tidbinbilla Pk	Walk	

GENERAL MEETINGS

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

- MARCH** - Thursday 15 1984
'A Voice for the Wilderness' -- A film about a rainforest, its beauty, its ecology and its scientific value.
- APRIL** - Thursday 19 1984
Sue Leary B.Sc., B.A.
Subject: Archaeological Investigations at Nursery Swamp, A.C.T.
- MAY** - Thursday 17 1984
Charles Hill N.P.A. member
Subject: Some National Parks in Alaska and Western Canada.

"WHAT'S ON AT OUR GENERAL MEETINGS"
SEE INSIDE FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON
GENERAL MEETING FEATURES.