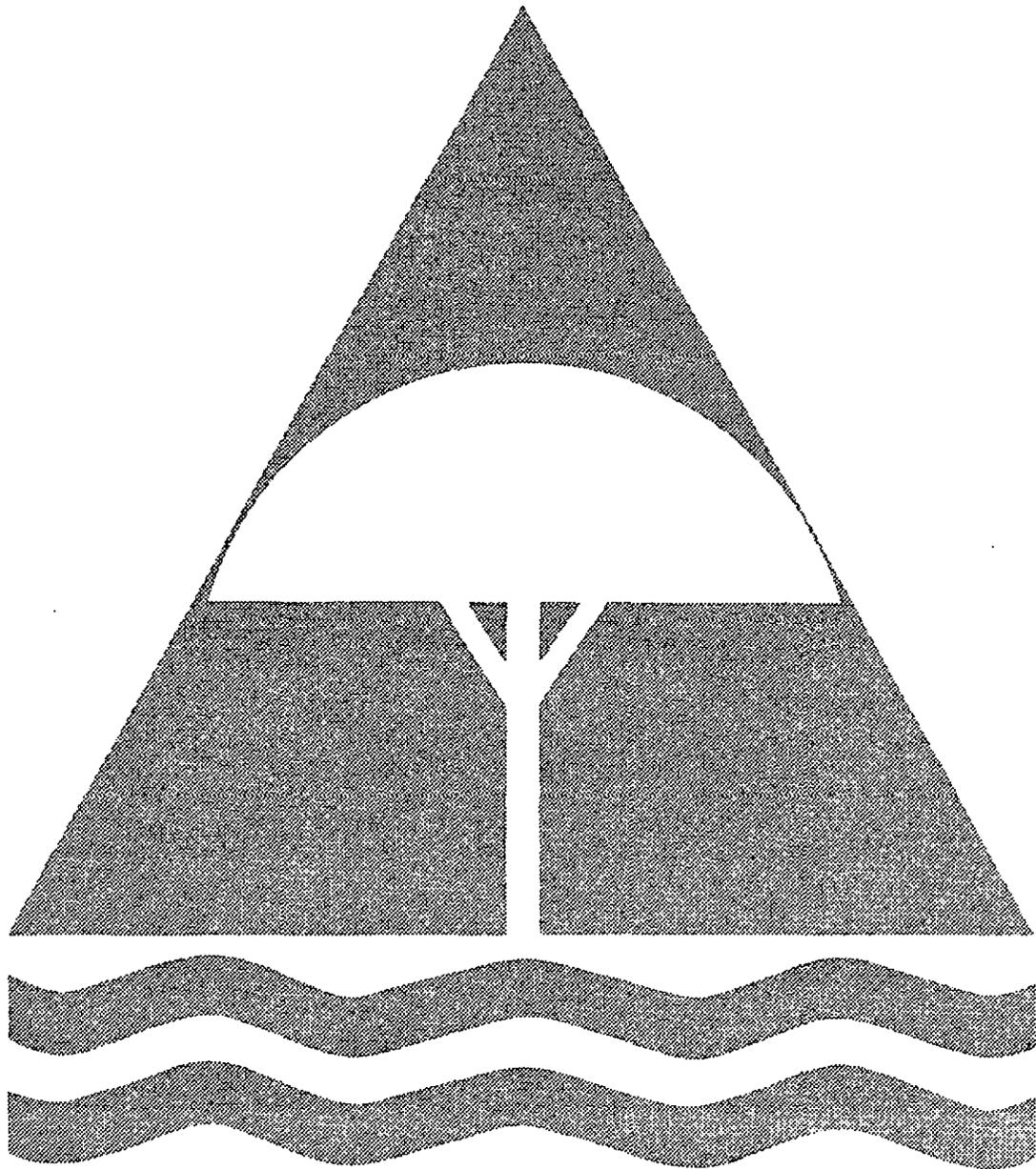


NPA Bulletin

National Parks Association of the A.C.T. Inc.



March April May 1976

Vol. 13 No. 3.

Registered in Australia for transmission by post as a periodical Category B

30c

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

"A National Park for the National Capital"

President:	Ian Currie, 10 Arnhem Place, Red Hill.	958112(H); 958107
Vice President:	Brian Lee, 16 Becke Place, Garran.	813340(H); 484470
Past President:	Bill Watson, 61 Glasgow Street, Hughes.	816601(H).
Secretary:	Sheila Kruse, 50/C Currong Flats, Braddon.	486104
Asst. Secretary:	Fiona Brand, 11 Dyson Street, Lyneham.	479538
Treasurer:	Mike Hardware, 52 Gouger Street, Torrens.	861915
Publicity Officer:	Esther Hardware, 52 Gouger Street, Torrens.	861915
Editors:	Norman and Jenny Morrison, 102 Launceston St., Lyons.	621263(W)
Outings Convener:	Andrew Fordham, 2 Westgarth St., O'Connor.	479784(H); 818500
Committee Members:	John Banks, Andrew Fordham, Darryl Hawke, Charles Hill, Ralf Iannuzzi, John Schunke.	

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

National Parks Association Phone Number - 956937.

Subscription Rates: Family - \$6.00 Corporate - \$5.00
Single - \$4.00 Student - \$2.00

Subscriptions fall due on 1 July.

AIMS AND OBJECTS OF THE ASSOCIATION

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

EDITOR'S NOTE

It may be a little late for seasonal greetings, however this is the first Bulletin of 1976, so we feel justified in wishing every member a Happy New Year. Now the holiday season is well and truly past, the programme of trips and meetings has started again and we hope that 1976 brings the usual crop of enjoyable trips and interesting talks.

This year the battle to conserve and preserve will doubtless continue throughout Australia. On the home front the problems of Eden, Black Mountain and Gudgenby are still with us. This first issue of the year might give you a few thoughts on these particular areas, and also on the problems we all face in the attempt to reconcile our ever expanding technology with our need to conserve wilderness areas for our own and future generations' pleasure.

Norman Morrison

THE NPA DISPLAY BANK - A PROGRESS REPORT

In the September/November 1975 issue of the Bulletin, I inserted a notice outlining the plans of the Display Sub-committee to accumulate material for display purposes. The intention was to invite contributions from members.

Concentrating its efforts on slide photographs, the Sub-committee has had a generous response; over 200 slides have been loaned and 115 have been selected for reproduction. I would like to thank those members for their contributions and assure them that the remaining slides will be returned to them fairly soon. At the same time I wish to thank Mrs Hedda Morrison for the generous donation of a number of high quality black and white prints for display use.

While good progress has been made to date, the Sub-committee's task is now to achieve a better balance in its collection. Its budget provides for up to 200 slide reproductions. The present collection is deficient in material on the Gudgenby area; other A.C.T. localities such as Tidbinbilla and Cotter, coastal scenes, and local fauna (this is a zero item in the collection). With respect to Gudgenby scenes I refer members to Brian Lee's article in the last issue of the Bulletin (p.5). Is there a latent pictorial record of the historical places mentioned?

To sum up, we are still looking for worthwhile material to complement the collection since we envisage producing more than one audio-visual sequence. Anyone wishing to add to the existing collection may contact myself, 798347(W) or 906937(H); Norma Price, 499379(W) or Gay Watt 491631(H).

Glyn Lewis

GUDGENBY REPORT

Confusion great, progress nil. That's the situation with the proposed Gudgenby national park put about as succinctly as I know how. But then with the recent upheavals on the Federal Government scene, it's hardly surprising.

But not to be deterred, the Association is once again about to start selling our cause to the politicians with renewed vigour - now that the dust has settled enough for us to see who to talk to. Suffice it to say just now that we haven't gone backwards at least.

In the meantime, your intrepid President, Vice President and Bulletin editor took the opportunity of familiarizing themselves with the lay of the land within the proposed park by spending a couple of hours one Saturday morning flying round in a light aircraft. What a beautiful morning it was too. It's amazing how much you can see from the air. It's equally amazing how difficult it is to identify features so obvious to the observer on the ground. We are ashamed to admit that we could not decide for certain which lump of rock was the peak of Mt Kelly! From above the area looks more like a raised plain with a few domes of rock rising from it. And Sentry Box, so obvious from Gudgenby station, is almost invisible.

But we didn't waste our time. From the air, the only logical northern boundary for the park runs right along the edge of the Pierce's Creek pine plantations then along the interface between the cleared farm land and the woodland at the BOTTOM of the hill range running eastwards to Mt Tennant. In other words the border should be as far north as possible.

Over on the eastern side of the proposed park the forest on the Booth Range is magnificent - a true potential wilderness area. We thought that we detected the route of the old gold trail in the long shadows of the early morning. (I mentioned this trail in the last Bulletin.) On the ground, you could walk straight across the trail without ever knowing, so well has the vegetation recovered.

To the pinophobes among us, it may be of interest to learn that the pine plantations on Gudgenby station look in even worse health from the air than on the ground. Patches of pine seem to have died altogether.

All in all it was a most enjoyable morning, and well worth the effort of leaving our Saturday morning beds at a particularly uncivilized hour.

Brian Lee

THE WALKING DAYS or CAMP AT BARREN GROUNDS
(With apologies to Henry Lawson's "The Roaring Days")

The night too quickly passes
And we are growing old,
So let us fill our glasses
And toast the Days of Gold;
When finds of wonderous pleasure
Set all the camp ablaze,
And you and I were faithful mates
All through those pleasant days!

Then tents of every measure
From A.C.T. did come,
And sought the Land of Pleasure -
The Bush, company and fun;
East nor' east they travelled,
Their hearts were swelling full
Of anticipated pleasures
Which they knew for sure would come.

Oh, who would paint a camp-site,
And paint the picture right,
As we the campers saw it
In that foggy midday light?
The ghostly shadows of the gums
With bark of grey and black,
The scattered leaves that glistened
Like diamonds by the track.

Ah, then their hearts grew bolder,
As Fortune weakly smiled,
So swags were lightly shouldered
And tramped a few more miles;
At Carrington, they splashed across
The Kangaroo to view
The falls that plummet down the rock,
To pools so clear and cool.

And when the cheery camp-fire
Explored the bush with gleams
The camping ground was crowded
With all those walking teams;
The Ranger and his family
And Bob from Wollongong
Sat round the camp-fire happily
And joined that cheery throng.

We viewed the Illawarra coast,
We walked the Griffith Way,
We caught tadpoles in a rock pool
below the bridge of stone;
At Cook's Nose track we parted
With some returning home,
while other walkers started
To tramp off down the Nose.

I hear the call of wonder
from distant flats and fells,
The laughter of the walkers
As clear as little bells;
The rapture of the little group
examining the flowers,
The orchids found along our path
which opened in an hour.

Those golden days are vanished
And 'though the scene remains,
Our camp-site is deserted
The tents are packed away.
The haunting flag of work
is beckoning us away,
The mighty bush with winding trails
Must wait another day.

Jan Kiek

16 DAY FLINDERS RANGES PRIVATE TOUR FOR NFA MEMBERS

A tour from Canberra covering 10 days in N and S Flinders Ranges is being organised for Saturday, 18 September to Sunday, 3 October.

This will be a leisurely trip - nothing rushed - easy days - visits to parks, reserves and places of interest en route - pleasant camping - conducted walks, etc.

Cost (including all meals, transport, camps, hire of any equipment) will be approximately \$180 to \$200 (dependent on cost of living and petrol rises!).

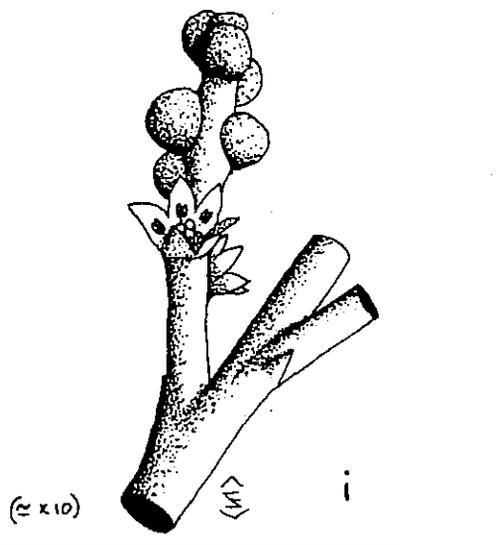
Leaflets with further details and application forms are available from the organiser/leader (who has had considerable experience in this type of holiday in UK, most parts of Europe and Australia) - Miss Olive Buckman, 26/4 Lachlan Ct., Barton, ACT, 2600. Phone 733017 (avoiding 12.30 to 2.30 p.m. and after 9.30 p.m.!).

ROOT PARASITES

Exocarpos cupressiformis Labill. 'Wild Cherry' or 'Cherry Ballart'. (fig.i)

E. cupressiformis is an example of a root parasite. Root parasites often lack green pigment and hence the photosynthetic organs are reduced. In *E. cupressiformis* there is considerable retention of green pigment, however, the leaves are reduced to scales (as illustrated) and the stems have become photosynthetic organs (i.e. cladodes).

E. cupressiformis is quite common in dry sclerophyll forests in Eastern Australia and is probably familiar to you as a 'cypress-like' tree in our local forests. However, it is flowering at present. Don't forget to take your hand lens with you when you go into the field so that you can observe the inconspicuous but beautiful flowers. Later, when it fruits, you will observe a fleshy red or yellow pedicel supporting the fruit.



Other root parasites are common in the Family Santalaceae to which *E. cupressiformis* belongs. Further non-Santalaceous examples to observe include (i) *Orobanche minor* J.E.Sm. ('Lesser Broomrape'), which is an almost pigmentless plant parasitic particularly on pasture plants; and (ii) some orchids, e.g. *Gastrodia sesamoides* R.Br. ('Potato Orchid') and *Dipodium punctatum* (J.E.Sm.) R.Br. ('Hyacinth Orchid') both of which have scale leaves and red-brown pigment.

Helen Hewson-Fruend

EDEN WOODCHIP WORKSHOP 1975

A Woodchip Workshop, organised by the Australian Conservation Foundation, was held at Eden, on the New South Wales south coast on 22-23 November 1975. Some 200 people attended the Workshop coming from as far as the north of NSW, Melbourne and even Perth WA. Local interests, the Woodchip industry and most major conservation groups in Australia were represented. Dr Chris. Watson went along as an observer for the National Parks ACT Branch.

The Workshop inspected the Nadgee Nature Reserve and the Naghi State Forest, an area which has been subject to extensive clear felling over recent years. Apart from the aesthetic aspect of woodchipping - and anyone who wishes to judge clear felling need only go 40 km to the southern part of Tallaganda Forest - major environmental questions were raised by the Workshop. Evidence was given that serious soil erosion has occurred. Dr Watson reports that he was appalled at the soil disturbance and erosion - some hills were estimated to be still 30 per cent bare ground 3 years after the initial clear fell.

The Workshop was told that there appears to be almost a total lack of vital data on which the Forestry operations could be properly based. Extensive road-building and the use of heavy machinery in woodchipping operations remove much of the ground vegetation and leave the area vulnerable to soil erosion.

There were several possible effects of erosion, firstly, the soil and nutrient loss could be greatly lowering the productivity of much of the region's forest soils, thus damaging the long term potential for forestry. Siltation of local rivers, estuaries and even coastal areas is a possibility. Already people at Womboyn Lake report that heavy showers bring vast quantities of silt into the Lake driving away the fish. It has also been claimed that the estuarine spawning ground of important fish species such as bream and bass is being damaged while abalone divers at Malacoota have reported reefs suffering some silt cover a half mile out to sea.

Thirdly, the impact of clear felling on wildlife habitat and understorey plant competition, was mainly unknown. While a few species actually thrive after felling, there is little doubt that many more species are endangered. Finally, on an economic basis, industries such as tourism, recreation and more conventional forestry operations are endangered, a process that could more than offset any immediate regional benefit.

The resolutions adopted by a meeting of the Workshop held on 23 November are listed below:

1. That this meeting submit to the Minister for Lands and Forests that there be no further roading and logging in the entire Nadgee and Merrica catchments and that these catchments be included in the Nadgee Nature Reserve.

2. That this meeting opposes the expansion or establishment of woodchip or pulp industries in East Gippsland and believes that the major land use of East Gippsland should be conservation, through the establishment of national parks and wilderness areas.
3. That the original recommendations of the Scientific Advisory Committee to the Minister for Lands be implemented immediately and in particular that a large National Park of the order of 100,000 hectares incorporating the Mount Imlay, Nalbaugh and Nungatta National Parks be established and that the whole report of the Committee be made public.
4. That a statement be handed to the Minister of Lands and Forests expressing no confidence in the Forestry Commission in the way they are managing the forests, and that an inquiry be made into its policy making methods. We see the forests as existing for not only forestry production, but in addition for wildlife habitat, provision of natural surroundings, educational value, and watershed protection.
5. That this meeting opposes in principle the woodchipping of standing forests on the grounds that the products are largely wasteful and unnecessary.
6. That the N.S.W. and Federal Governments be asked to further increase the development of types of employment in the Eden area which provide alternatives to woodchipping, for example tourism and recreation.
7. That this meeting deplores the lack of research into the effects of the woodchip industry prior to and during its establishment up to this time, and urges a significant increase in state and federal government funding into such research.
8. That investigations and research into woodchipping should be interdisciplinary and include participation by universities, conservation bodies and organisations such as the CSIRO instead of by the Forestry Commission alone.
9. That this meeting endorses the following management policy for lands presently under management for woodchip production:
 - a) Forest lands earmarked for logging and/or clearing should be classified according to risk of soil erosion. Lands of high risk should remain untouched.
 - b) Forest lands with slopes of 18° or more should be neither cleared nor logged, as the NSW Government has already in part legislated.
 - c) Forest roads and fire trails should be sited, constructed and maintained by professional forest engineers, with minimal soil disturbance as the primary aim.
 - d) Logging systems should be reviewed with the aim of reducing soil disturbance. The size of machinery should be reduced and the use of track vehicles eliminated.

9. e) Untouched forest strips should be left on each side of all water courses with a catchment area of 50 ha or greater. The minimum width of these strips should be fifty metres (horizontal) on each side, with proper assessment to determine whether a greater width is required. Such streams should not be crossed by vehicles except with professionally designed bridging.

LEARNING ABOUT FOREST MARSUPIALS

Did you know that the whole male *Antechinus* population in the forests of south-eastern Australia dies each year without seeing its children? For that matter, do you know what an *antechinus* is?

It's a small mouse-like marsupial that's quite common in forests near Canberra. At the October general meeting, Dr Hugh Tyndale-Biscoe of the ANU Zoology Department kept us enthralled with such information in a talk called 'Mammals of the Forests of Eastern Australia'.

In the forests, male antechinuses, it seems, are born one season, and then they mate and die the next, before their progeny are born. The female of the species seems longer-lived.

Dr Tyndale-Biscoe began by describing the animals found in the forests. He then went on to discuss marsupials, how to identify them, and what their tracks look like - illustrating his points with slides and assorted stuffed specimens, including a huge wombat.

There are several groups of marsupials in the forests - including the antechinuses, the native cats, the kangaroos and wallabies, the gliders, and the possums. Each group, we learned, contains a range of species grading from large to small. So among the gliders you get the greater glider at one end of the spectrum, the sugar-glider in the middle, and the tiny feather-tailed glider at the other. The same applies for the big ring-tail possums and the tiny pigmy ones. Nearly all the marsupials only move about at night, and so they are hard to see.

We were fascinated with a description of how you identify marsupials in the night-time blackness by the gleams of their eyes in the torch-light. The greater glider stares red and unblinking. The ring-tail possum looks away and moves about, so its eyes give orange flashes that re-appear first here and then there. You can also hear the marsupials calling in the dark once you know what you are listening for.

Very few gliders survive when the forest is cleared. They live and feed in the tops of the trees. It's not the fall that kills them, it's the lack of a home. Dr Tyndale-Biscoe's studies near Tumut have shown that only about 5% of the gliders in a cleared forest manage to migrate to other area. Not so the wombat. He eats grass or other pasture herbs at night, and only uses the forest for shelter. He

remains in his hole while clearing proceeds through the day over his head, and feeds as usual on nearby grassy swards at night. He survives the clearing, and seems to live quite happily in the new pine forest planted on the clearings. Oddly, he doesn't use the same hole each night, but has several to choose from.

Altogether, it was a fascinating evening.

Brian Lee

FIRST AID FIELD EXERCISE

At the instigation of Julie Henry, several members of our Association joined with a number of Canberra Bushwalkers last year in a course of instruction in First Aid. The classes were conducted by Mr Lionel Davies, Course Superintendent of the St John's Ambulance Brigade, and were particularly oriented to the sorts of situations in which bushwalkers might be involved. The class was indeed very fortunate to be instructed by an officer of such wide experience and at the same time knowledgeable about bushwalking conditions.

After examinations at the conclusion of the course a field exercise was arranged to provide, in a bush setting and as realistically as possible, a practical application of learned theory.

Based on a camp near the Mullion or Waterhole Creek just short of the Dingo Dell Flats turn-off, the Canberra Bushwalkers conducted a series of Search and Rescue Exercises on Saturday, 13 November 1975. The next day, Sunday, was devoted to First Aid. The area provided for the exercises a varied terrain of bush country within a reasonable distance of the very pleasant camp site.

Some half dozen teams of First Aiders, each of six to eight members, were selected to attend patients who had been placed in random locations in the bush. These patients had been skilfully made up to simulate a wide variety of injuries and conditions in order to test the first aid teams in diagnosis, treatment and subsequent care. Stretchers were available at the base to carry in patients nearby and for those farther afield four-wheel drive vehicles assisted in transporting casualties.

Back at base each incident when completed was evaluated and reviewed to provide to all concerned a never-to-be-forgotten (and chastening) lesson of what might have been encountered in actuality.

After a lunch break, Lionel Davies gave a demonstration of improvising a stretcher from a couple of poles and seven triangular bandages and thus equipped how to transport a patient in a motor vehicle. He then gave an address on the

importance of a knowledge of first aid and concluded by presenting to the newly-fledged First Aiders their certificates.

All of our members who are able to do so are urged to become proficient in first aid in order to be able to help others whenever the occasion should arise.

'Wiroad'

SNOWY MOUNTAIN WALKS: LONG WEEKEND IN JANUARY

Those members who were able to arrive at the Canberra Alpine Club, at Perisher, on Friday night, were able to choose between a long walk, from Rawson's Pass to Guthega via Mt Twynham or a shorter afternoon walk around the Kosciusko Chalet to Mt Stillwell on Saturday.

Glissading down the snow drift on Mt Twynham was thoroughly enjoyed by all - some members of the party being more elegant than others! And on Monday, from Mt Wheatly and the Porcupine we were certain that the sliding marks were still clearly visible!

The walks around the Kosciusko Chalet and the Porcupine were superb; with the sun shining, the alpine flowers were at their best. Our "finds" included Billy buttons (*Craspedia glauca*) and other members of the daisy family; Mountain Gentians (*Gentianella diemensis*); Australian eidelweiss (*Ewartia nubigena*); Leek orchids; Alpine mint bush (*Prostanthera cuneata*); Trigger plants (*Stylidium graminifolium*); Eyebrights (*Euphrasia*); Everlasting daisies (*Helichrysum* spp.) and a small clump of the scented *Stackhousia*.

However, the weekend was not all summery and pleasant. On Sunday we awoke to a cold, bleak and foggy day, but both walks set off regardless - one to Charlotte's Pass and Mt Twynham via Blue Lake, and the other from Rawson's Pass to Dead Horse Gap and back to Charlotte's Pass. During the day, both trips had to be altered due to the fog and sago snow, not to mention the howling gale which accompanied this delightful weather. As a result, neither party accomplished their goal - next time we may have the ideal weather for viewing the alpine zones and the Victorian Alps, just as we were promised!

Jan Kiek

Jan goes on to remind us about

CLOTHING NECESSARY FOR SAFE WALKING IN ALPINE AREAS

After our experience of variable weather during the Australia Day long weekend, at Perisher, we give new NPA members a few suggestions and advice for alpine walking:

1. Always include at least one warm woollen jumper - woollen jumpers are preferred as wool is warm even when wet.
2. A stout windproof jacket. Temperatures can drop and strong winds spring up, without warning, in mountain areas, and the walker who comes without warm and suitable clothing will be very unhappy.
3. Waterproof jacket and pants are also necessary, to counter the cold and rain.
4. Gloves (mittens or spare socks) along with a hat or cap can make walking much more enjoyable. Remember, in cold weather body heat is quickly lost from extremities.
5. Walking boots or sensible walking shoes and thick woollen socks (not nylon) are a must for the alpine walker. There is nothing worse than cold, wet and sore feet!
6. Besides planning for wet and cold weather, you must also plan for hot, sunny days. Sunburn cream and a hat are musts for anyone who tends to burn.
7. A change of clothing is essential; we always hope it won't rain, sleet or snow, but you never know! And while it won't hurt you to walk around in wet clothes, don't sit around in them.

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the following new members: Miss Robin Rawson (Cook), Miss Gladys Joyce (Red Hill), and Geoffrey and Maureen Snelgrove and family (Weetangera).

MEETINGS NOTES

Don't forget that the question of annual subscriptions will be raised at the General Meeting for the 18 March. Members will be entitled to discuss and vote on this topic.

Also note that the April General Meeting will be held on the 4th Thursday of the month. The 3rd Thursday is on the eve of the Easter long weekend.

ORCHID NOTES

Our outing to Black Mountain, led by Laurie Adams on 18 October 1975 was notable for the discovery of a specimen of *Caladenia filamentosa* (Tailed spider orchid) not previously recorded for the area. In 1969 a small colony of *Lyperanthus suaveolens* (Brown beaks) was noted by Gray and McKee - as a footnote - in their list of the vascular plants of Black Mountain. On the above mentioned trip several flourishing colonies were observed.

'Wiroad'

A MOUNTAIN OF RED TAPE

Since the dawn of civilization, man has set his sights on the high places. Man has even worshipped mountains and offered human sacrifices in an endeavour to appease or obtain certain favours. There are many kinds of mountains which are assailed by men and women during their life span on earth. One such mountain could be a physical mass, at which man pits himself in an endeavour to overcome Nature's challenge. His strength and intelligence are strained to the limits of his physical and mental ability to reach certain points or heights. The mountain does nothing; exerts no effort to prevent puny man's exertions to reach the ultimate goal, the summit. Technological advances have aided man to such an extent that the ultimate has been reached in some cases, but in the majority the mountains and high places of this world have claimed more lives than there have been successes.

Many of our mountains are mental aberrations, self created obstacles, which in the period of living, birth to death, the majority of people bring into an acceptable perspective. It is this latter group of mountains that most of us are faced with and successfully conquer. So indeed it is possible to achieve one's goal over inanimate physical objects and mental obstacles, but, there is always an "if" or a "but" to complicate even simple conclusions. What about a combination of a large physical inanimate mass, and a man made obstacle in the form of a mountain of red tape - in fact the red tape which bound the legal documentation of arguments whether "Black Mountain should remain unadorned, or be fitted with a symbolic finger of conquest like a single candle on a Xmas cake"? It is virtually ancient history now, how the people of Canberra were hoodwinked by legal jargon and technological expertise. Adolf Hitler made similar statements every time he took possession of a minority, i.e. "This is my last territorial claim.". Now we are informed in the news media that further assaults are to be made on another mountain in Canberra - Mt Taylor in Woden Valley. The ink is hardly dry on the Black Mountain debacle, and a lot of questions affecting the people of Canberra and the million and a half visitors to this fair city are unanswered.

Can we for instance cut the mountain of red tape and ask:

Is it true that access to Black Mountain will be only by a special bus based at the foot?

Can the people still have access to the areas set aside for recreation, barbecues, etc.?

Can Canberrans and visitors drive their own vehicles to the various lookout sites?

Is it true that some time in the future a road will link Belconnen Way and Black Mountain?

What else is proposed for Black Mountain in the near future?

I have not touched on the environmental impact studies relating to the

unique flora nor of the aesthetic nature of the area, because in this materialistic world of ours it matters little against the advantage of a clear TV image or rapid communication systems. Let us not stop asking questions until we get some answers.

Mike Hardware

NPA OUTINGS

Will members please note that the contact for all NPA outings will be:

Andrew Fordham
2 Westgarth Street
C'CONNOR. ACT 2601 Phone: 479784

MARCH

13th-14th, Saturday, Sunday
Jervis Bay

Ref: Jervis Bay

A camping weekend at Green Patch Camping Ground. Walks may include the 'dune regeneration area' at Bherwerre Beach, and along the beach to the 'Hole in the Wall'.

Beach walking, various distances, EASY.

Meet at Green Patch Camping Ground at 11 a.m.

Leader - To be nominated.

21st, Sunday
Booroomba Rocks

Ref: Bimberi 1:50,000
Michaelago 1:50,000

This will be a two-hour walk (each way) along a fire trail. Lunch and water should be carried. Please note that Booroomba Rocks could be very dangerous for unattended children.

Track, 12 km, MEDIUM.

Meet at Honeysuckle Creek Tracking Station at 10 a.m.

Leader - Bill Adams 487584 (home).

27th-28th, Saturday, Sunday
Wee Jasper

Ref: Goodradigbee 1:50,000

Camping will be at Micalong Creek Campsite which is 9 km south of the Nottingham Road. The main excursion of the weekend will be to Mt Wee Jasper. This will consist of a drive to the Wee Jasper Road, then a walk to Mt Wee Jasper for lunch. After lunch the ridge to the east will be followed, then turning south-east back to the camp ground. Alternatively the reverse route can be followed.

No track, 10 km, MEDIUM.

Meet at Wee Jasper at 10 a.m.

Leader - Lyn Richardson 412425 (home).

NPA OUTINGS

APRIL

3rd, Saturday
Mt Stromlo

Ref: Canberra 1:50,000

A social gathering with a barbecue lunch. Barbecues are available, but those with portable units are asked to bring them. Bring food and drink. A short walk to the top of Mt Stromlo after lunch will be organised.

From the Cotter Road, take the Mt Stromlo turn-off.

Follow the Forest Drive and NPA signs.

Leader: Brian Lee 813340 (home); 484470 (work).

16th-19th: Easter
Yarra Glen

Ref: Krawarree 1:50,000

There is limited accommodation (7 only) in a pleasant farm cottage and a few camping sites. So please contact the leader early, if you wish to go.

This promises to be a very relaxing and enjoyable weekend, at a new venue. Home made bread, apple pies and cakes are available as well as fresh milk, eggs and cream - leave your order with the leader. Yarra Glen is close to the Shoalhaven River, so bring bathers and fishing lines as well as walking gear. Walks will be organised as suits the party; there are several interesting ones on Yarra Glen as well as some nearby.

From Braidwood, take the Krawarree road (approximately 30 miles). Just beyond Krawarree, on the left, is a large arched gate - Khan Yunis. Look for NPA signs through this gate. Alternative route through Captain's Flat.

Leader: Ian Currie 958107 (work); 958112 (home).

24th, 25th, 26th: Anzac long weekend
Mt Franklin

Ref: Cotter 1:50,000

Walks on this weekend will depend on the availability of leaders and preferences of those attending. Some suggested excursions include: Mt Aggie, Mt Franklin, Ginini Swamp, Mt Gingera, Snowy Flats, where members can study the varied alpine and sub-alpine vegetation and fauna.

Members for this excursion should bring all food and bedding. The Chalet has about twenty bunks, and plenty of floor space for sleeping. Remember that the Chalet's washing and cooking facilities are fairly primitive - tank water and a wood fired stove. The Chalet is booked from Friday night through to Monday, so those able to go up on Friday night will be welcome.

Take the Mt Franklin road off the Cotter road and follow the Mt Franklin signs past Piccadilly Circus, Bull's Head and Mt Aggie. There will be NPA signs directing members to the Chalet.

Leader: To be nominated
Contact Andrew Fordham 479784

NPA OUTINGS

MAY

9th, Sunday
Fishing Gap

This promises to be a pleasant walk along a fire trail, with a short scramble down to Fishing Gap itself. The more energetic members of the party may wish to climb the ridge, which offers good views of the surrounding area.

Be a conservationist, take a passenger. Meet at the Visitor Centre, Tidbinbilla Nature Reserve at 9.30 a.m.

Leader: Hela Lindermann 470233 (work); 864926 (home).

16th, Sunday
Rendezvous Creek

Ref: Bimberi & Michelago 1:50,000

An easy walk of approximately three miles up the valley of Rendezvous Creek to the rock shelter containing one of the two known examples of aboriginal rock paintings in the area. Photographers will need to bring flash gear.

Take the Tharwa-Shannon's Flat road.

Meet at Gudgenby crossing, i.e. beyond Glendale crossing at 10 a.m.

Have you a spare passenger seat? Be sociable and take an extra NPA member.

Leader: Bill Adams 487584 (home); 486622 (work)

30th, Sunday
Shearesby Wallpaper

Ref: Goodradigbee 1:50,000

This promises to be a very interesting excursion for all geology enthusiasts. The party will be looking at the geological sequence and Silurian fossils of the area. Bring a lunch you can carry.

Would you like to be driven? Arrange to go with a fellow NPA geology enthusiast.

Meet at Wee Jasper turn-off in Yass at 9.30 a.m.

Leader: David Brown 492055 (work).

NPA OUTINGS

JUNE

12th, 13th, 14th: Queen's Birthday long weekend

A pleasant camping site at Pebbly Beach (remember to bring money for camping fees) with a small shop which stocks a limited supply of goods. Walks to Pretty Beach over the track and rocks, and exploring the rock shelf around Depot and North Pebbly Beaches, will be included during the weekend.

Meet at Pebbly Beach by midday.

Travel along Bateman's Bay road, turning left at the Coast road, and proceed north to North Durras turn-off. Proceed along North Durras road to the junction of Pebbly Beach and Depot Beach roads.

Turn left into Pebbly Beach road.

Leader: Fiona Brand 479538 (home).

20th, Sunday

Hidden Valley and Half Moon Valley

Ref: Michelago 1:50,000

This walk goes along a steep track at the top of Fitz Hill and gives good views of Half Moon Valley and the Orroral area. Wallabies and kangaroos, as well as water birds are found in this area. Bring a packed lunch.

Be sociable and conserve fuel - take a passenger.

From Tharwa take the Naas road.

Meet at the top of Fitz Hill at 11.30 a.m. - there is limited parking.

Leader: Jan Kiek

Contact Andrew Fordham 479784 (home).

27th, Sunday

Nursery Swamp

Ref: Bimberi & Michelago
1:50,000

A walk from Orroral Valley through forest land which is steep in places (no track) to a long open valley where the swamp lies.

Be a conservationist, take a passenger today!

Meeting at Tharwa, by the bridge, at 10 a.m.

Leader: Glyn Lewis 956937 (home)

GENERAL MEETINGS

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

MARCH

18th, Thursday.
Slides of trip (Katmandu to London)
Reg Alder

APRIL

22nd, Thursday
The Kosciusko Region
Alex Costin

MAY

20th, Thursday
Producing an Environmental Magazine - Its joys and frustrations.
Brian Lee

National Parks Association outings summary

MARCH

13 Saturday - 14 Sunday	Jervis Bay	Camp
21 Sunday	Booroomba Rocks	Walk
27 Saturday - 28 Sunday	Wee Jasper	Camp

APRIL

3 Saturday	Mt Stromlo	Barbecue and walk
16 Friday - 19 Monday	Yarra Glen	Camp - cottage
24 Saturday - 26 Monday	Mt Franklin	Chalet

MAY

9 Sunday	Fishing Gap	Walk
16 Sunday	Rendezvous Creek (Rock paintings)	Walk
30 Sunday	Shearesby Wallpaper	Geological excursion

JUNE

12 Saturday - 14 Monday	Pebbly Beach	Camp
20 Sunday	Hidden Valley	Walk
27 Sunday	Nursery Swamp	Walk