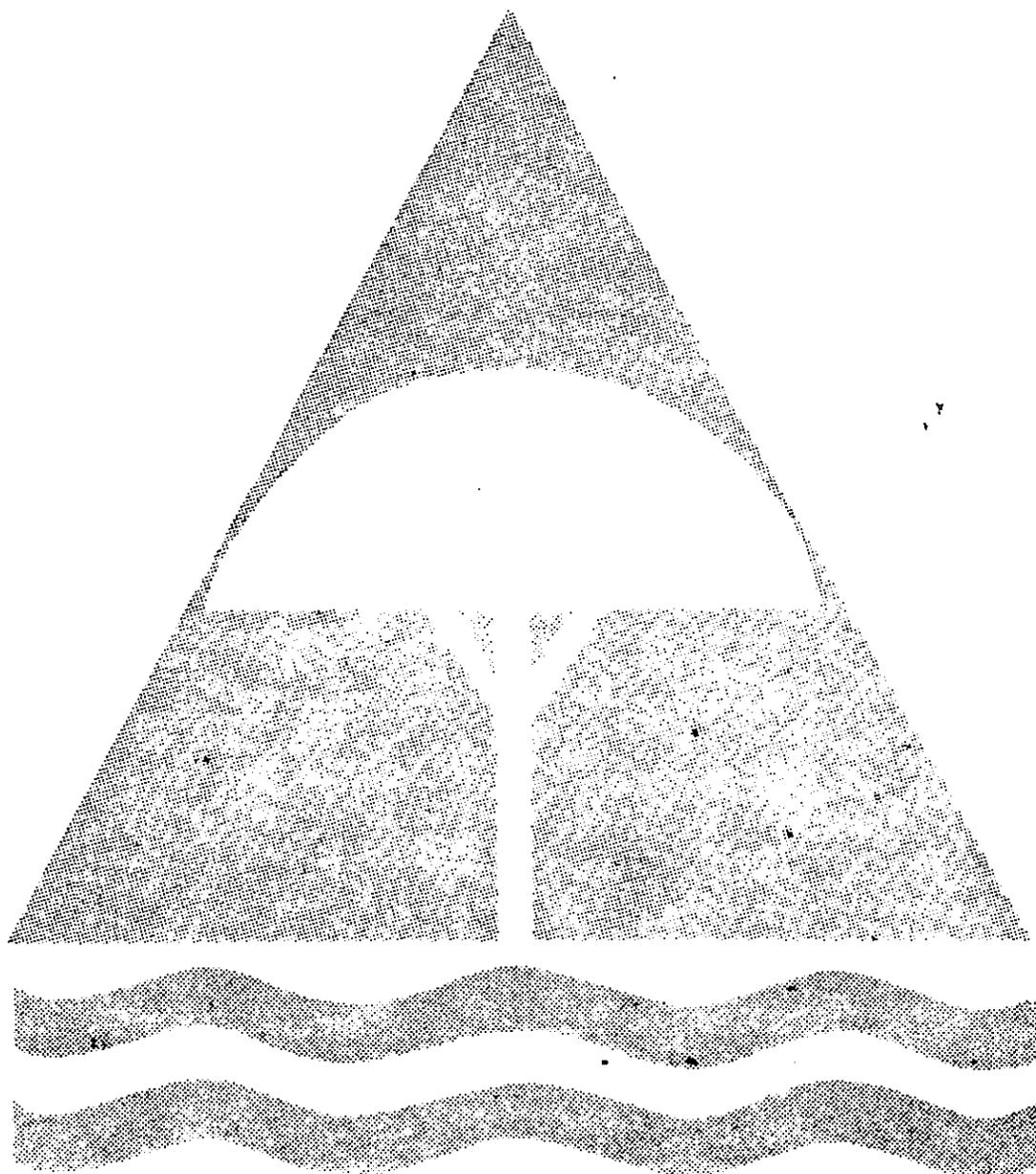


# NPA Bulletin

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



*June July August 1977*

*Vol. 14 No. 4*

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

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

"A National Park for the National Capital"

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Subscription Rates: Family - \$10.00 Corporate - \$5.00  
Single - \$8.00 Student - \$3.00

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.

## EDITORIAL

Shortly after the last issue went to the printer, we heard of the death of Nancy Burbidge. She was a foundation member of the NPA and we shall miss her enthusiasm and drive, as well as her knowledge and love of the bush. The committee is discussing ways in which Nancy's name could be commemorated. Suggestions from members on this subject would be welcome.

During this quarter the Association suffered another loss. This time it was Jan Kiek, who has moved to a new job in Victoria. We would like to thank Jan for all the good work she put in organising the trips programme.

Over the past three months the nuclear debate has continued and several interesting points have been raised. At the end of March an important American report was published (Nuclear Power Issues and Choices, Ballinger, Cambridge, Mass.). As with the Fox and Flowers reports, this is not against the use of nuclear power and acknowledges that uranium will be an important source of energy for several decades. However, the report does suggest that nuclear power is not the source of cheap energy claimed by the industry and that America should not establish a power system dependent solely upon such a source. The report comes out against reprocessing and recommends that the U.S. begin work on permanent waste disposal programme.

Waste disposal is now a large problem and in an editorial in Science (18th Feb., 1977) it was estimated that the total cost of disposal could equal the sum spent putting a man on the moon. At present the U.S. has 2,500 metric tons of commercial waste and 75 million gallons of slightly less active military waste.

One point frequently discussed, is the possibility of terrorist use of radioactive products. While that may or may not be likely, there can be no denying the possibility of deliberate - and perhaps disastrous - sabotage of operating power plants. In America there were 175 bomb threats in five years and two bombs were in fact discovered. In Sweden, four months ago, a 25 kg bomb was found at a west coast nuclear station.

In Australia the debate centres more around the mining and export of uranium. The industry claims that we should mine our total resource now while there is a demand as it is possible that alternative sources of power will cause demand to drop over the next two or three decades. It was interesting to hear a representative of the graziers argue against this. He stated that while we ought to mine some uranium, we should keep a fairly large percentage of it in the ground for future generations to use. By then technology might exist which could utilize uranium in a more efficient, and safer, way.

*N.H.M.*

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting will be held on Thursday, 21 July, at 8 p.m. in Room 1, in the Griffin Centre, Civic.

### Business:

- To receive from the Committee a report on the affairs of the Association, together with the audited Statement of Accounts for the year ended 30 June 1977.
- To elect a President, Vice-President, Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Treasurer, Publicity Officer and six members of Committee.
- To appoint an Auditor.
- To transact any business which may properly be brought before the meeting.

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

### THE BUSH STREAKER?

When staying at Bundanoon National Park, keep your eyes open for a rather elusive native animal. If the advice on the back of the shower door in the men's toilet is strictly followed, your chances of spotting the bush stalker are quite high. The advice is as follows .....

"To operate shower  
get undressed and ready  
put in 5 cents  
hot water is on for five minutes (from click sound)  
Turn hot tap on if off  
do not place more than one 5 cents at a time or it packs up ....  
.... if it packs up don't fiddle with it or go mad with bits of wire or  
your knife. drive up to town and ring fitzroy falls headquarters  
NPWS and complain"

Strange with such complete directions there is no mention of getting dressed to go up to town to complain!

*Reg Alder*

## LONG LEGGETY BEASTIES

We have recently had two meetings where the speakers talked about the "nasties" encountered in the bush - in other words the insects and reptiles. In February, Dr R.D. Hughes discussed insects and divided that large group up into headings bushwalkers could readily understand.

The first heading was insects as food providers. Here we find wicketty grubs, honey bees, honeypot ants and the more exotic Bogong moths and cicada grubs. Then we were introduced to the rather large group of insects that actively seek us out; our old friends the bush fly and blow fly reared their ugly heads! Not to forget the March fly, mosquito and sand fly.

Another group are those who make their presence felt if we disturb them - bad tempered beasts such as the bees, wasps, bull ants and jumping ants for instance. Also the purely protective mechanism of the hairy caterpillars which can leave a rash of fine hairs embedded in the skin of the careless walker.

Finally, there are those insects who simply attract our attention by their size, colour or the things they produce. The most attractive in this group are the butterflies and moths, but there are many others including jewel beetles, dragonflies, praying mantises, crickets, etc. While among the things they produce are galls, gum bark scribbles, termite mounds, bee hives and ants' nests.

In March we were entertained by a very lively talk from Dr Bartell on reptiles, of which over 50 species are found in our general area. Looking at the lizards in detail we learned how they live, with very keen senses and an appetite for just about anything. They can live for over 15 years; even small geckos have quite a respectable lifespan. Camouflage, speed and, in many cases, tail shedding, help keep them out of the reach of predators. One interesting detail for gardeners was that the blue tongue lizard is fond of snails!

The snakes seem to be a much more specialized group. They are deaf, their jaws are virtually elastic sided to enable them to swallow prey, and their food has got to be animate. Venomous snakes have two methods of injecting poison. The most efficient is the hypodermic hollow tooth. Because of the efficiency, the venom is usually a haemotoxin and is not very dangerous. The other method, possessed by most Australian snakes, is to let the venom run down a groove in the tooth. This is less efficient and so the venom is a highly potent neurotoxin. Our fears were allayed somewhat by the reassurance that, in general, Australian snakes are rather timid and not too good at biting large animals, such as bushwalkers! We were told to be very careful on cold mornings as the snakes are sluggish then and can't get out of our way. Otherwise they present little real danger.

The talk was concluded with a show of some live reptiles, some of which Dr Bartell had kept for several years.

## LOCAL NEWS

Queanbeyan Headquarters. Some time in the near future, the NSW Parks Service will be split into three regions. Headquarters for the S.E. region could well be in Queanbeyan.

Kosciusko Huts Association. At the March general meeting, Bob Story gave a brief talk on the origins, aims and activities of the Association, of which NPA is a corporate member. He spoke of the proven value of the huts as survival shelters and recreation retreats, and of the generous and untiring work of group volunteers in restoring and maintaining them.

Black Mountain. In view of disturbing press reports of a proposal to build a cable-car service to the summit of Black Mountain, the Black Mountain Sub-Committee has been reformed to keep an eye on developments.

NCDC proposals for undeveloped land in inner Canberra. The NPA submission said, inter alia, that "NPA cannot accept the 'standard' that 4 ha. of open space per 1000 population adequately meets the needs of Canberra residents"; that "NCDC policy for the redevelopment of inner Canberra can only place heavier demands on existing recreational areas if plans for increased urban densities are fulfilled .... and proposals to increase population density in inner Canberra must recognize the need of those residents for adequate recreational areas, both in extent and diversity."; that NPA believes that the community would be willing to finance a policy of non-development of the land in question, and urged NCDC "to avoid land use which alienates the higher slopes and ridges of surrounding hills, and the margins of rivers and large streams".

Donations. \$100 was given to the Appeal in the ACT of the National Parks and Wildlife Foundation (NSW) (over \$10,000 raised in the ACT), and \$200 to the South Coast Committee towards the expenses of its annual general meeting and public meeting.

Jerrabomberra Wetlands. The Committee wrote to DCT & NCDC about the location of the pipeline and the effect it may have on the swamp area where water birds congregate. In reply, DTC said (5.1.77) that its Conservation and Agriculture Branch was reviewing the status of the wetlands and that the need for waterbird reserves in the area would be covered.

NCDC said (1.12.76) that the pipeline was part of the water main from the Googong Dam to the Campbell water storage and in traversing the wetlands area it would be located close to Dairy Flat Road. NCDC continued: "The main area of the wetlands, which is a back water of Lake Burley Griffin, will not be affected in any way by the work. However, in laying the pipe, it will be necessary to pump water from the trench which may, through seepage, lower the water level in a large pond east of the main wetlands. Until the work is underway, it is not certain whether this lowering of the water level will occur. In any event, disturbance will be for a period of only about two weeks and no significant long term ecological impact is anticipated". NCDC discussed the impact of laying this pipeline with DCT and with Mr Graham Clark, an active member of the Canberra Ornithologists Group.

*HELIPTERUM ALBICANS* sub sp. *alpinum* (F. Muell) P.G. Wilson



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This subspecies grows at high altitudes. Compare with the longer stemmed lower altitude subspecies *incanum* (W.J. Hook) P.G. Wilson, which is common around dry sclerophyll woodlands in and around Canberra.

## FLINDERS TOUR 1976 Part 2.

The party set off on 18 September at 8 a.m. as scheduled. Our route was via Yass, Wagga and into Victoria at Tocumwal, and the first night was spent at the caravan park in Nathalia. The next day we reached Hattah Lakes National Park in the early afternoon. We set up camp and then went for a lake-side walk.

The next morning our only major accident occurred. One member needed 10 sutures put into a nasty leg wound. Fortunately the injury was not bad enough to split our group up and we pressed on over the Murray to stop at Eudunda. This was our only wet, miserable, cold day and so some of us slept in a motel and the rest slept in the Showground Pavilion.

On the 21st we pressed on, arrived at Wilpena Pound in the evening, setting up base camp among the lovely native pines. Three days were spent in the Pound area. On the first day we all set off to climb St Mary Peak. While only four of the party reached the top, everyone was rewarded with wonderful views and plenty of flowers and birds to see and photograph. On the second day we all fitted into the coach and went along the beautiful Moralana Scenic Drive between the Elders Range and the outside west wall of the Pound. On our last day some members indulged in flights over the Pound and the surrounding area. In the afternoon most of the party took the coach as near the Pound entrance as possible and walked into it.

The long drought of 1976 deprived us of the usual masses of wild flowers that the Flinders are so famous for, but we did see many flowers and also a wealth of wild life - birds, 'roos, fox, dingo, goats, etc.

On Saturday, 25th, it was time to move on. We set off on the road to Blinman. The first stop was Sacred Canyon. After a short walk there, we drove on to Gunyeroo Valley and then to Brachina Gorge with its vivid orange strata. We then came back through the Gorge and made camp at the entrance of Aroona Valley, with the lovely Mt Heywood Range as a back cloth - memories of utter peace, deep velvet skies dotted with diamonds and a feeling that no-one else existed on this earth.

Next day we re-entered civilisation briefly stopping for petrol at the little town of Blinman. Then it was on again into Glass's Gorge, through Parachilna Gorge and north up the Leigh Creek road to the old restored ghost town of Beltana, finally heading into the hills again to camp at Sliding Rocks.

On the 27th, we followed an old pipe-line road to Copely, stopping to fossick in disused copper mines, photograph yet more flowers and look at animals and birds. After shopping in Copley, we took the road eastwards again. The road got worse and worse beyond Gammon Range National Park, but the wild mountain scenery was magnificent, finally arriving at Arkaroola. The greatest problem at this camp site was the tame emus who ate everything, even tea bags - string and all. Each night we had to "emu proof" the mess tent.

Two days were spent at Arkaroola - the first was spent quietly taking short strolls in the area. The second morning found us on the Ridge Top tour, a four hour drive in four wheel drive vehicles. This hair raising trip took us into the heart of the rugged North Flinders, up and down what was often stairs of rock, gaining views of Mount Painter, down to the foot of the massive "Armchair", ascending Mount Ward to the Streizberg ridge and finally climbing to Sillers Lookout, giving uninterrupted views of what must be some of the loveliest, rugged scenery in Australia, all dropping away to Lake Frome and the desert flatness.

That afternoon was spent at the Arkaroola waterhole and next morning it was time to turn for home. We travelled south down the Range, seeing wild hops or salvation jane in masses and even clumps of Sturt's desert pea by the roadside. Next morning we left the Flinders and headed back to Canberra, stopping at Lake Bonney and Hay. The last night was a very wet one and was spent in motels. And so to Canberra with over 4,000 km on the clock and not a single breakdown.

After sorting out all our gear, a 12' x 12' groundsheet, which was purchased for the trip, was donated to NPA for use by other members.

*Olive B.*

The following lists of birds and plants seen on the trip were recorded by Cla Allen and Eathorn Hanlin (roughly in order of sighting):

Kookaburra; white cockatoo; eastern rosella; magpie; starling; black shouldered kite; goldfinch; welcome swallow; willie wagtail; mudlark (peewit); nankeen kestrel; little grebe; galah; black-faced cockoo shrike; white winged chough; crested pigeon; sparrow; striated pardalote; brown hawk; Australian raven; spur-winged plover; pipit; white ibis; butcher bird; crimson rosella; red rumped parrot; little raven; yellow-faced honeyeater; blackbird; wood duck; white egret; pied cormorant; white-faced heron; white-necked heron; black cormorant; weebill; spotted pardalote; pelican; emu; noisy miner; black duck; mallee ringneck parrot; boobook owl; Major Mitchell cockatoo; darter; silver gull; zebra finch; letter-wing kite; grey shrike-thrush; eastern spine bill; red wattle bina; rufous whistler; gang gang cockatoo; brown thornbill; fantail cuckoo; red capped robin; white-eared honeyeater; blue wren; small cuckoo-shrike; yellow-tailed thornbill; buff-tailed thornbill; brown goshawk; little corella; brahminy kite; brown tree-creeper; reed warbler; grey teal; yellow-billed spoonbill; white-plumed honeyeater; little eagle; little wood-swallow; black fronted dotterel; purple-backed wren; coot; spiny-cheeked honeyeater; little grass bird; apostle bird; straw-necked ibis; song lark.

Abutilon sp; Acacia sp (wattles); Asphodelus fistulosus (onion weed); Atriplex sp (saltbush); Brachycome sp (small daisy); Callitris columellaris (native pine); Cassia sp; Clematis microphylla; Clianthus

formosus (Sturt's desert pea); *Convolvulus erubescens* (Blushing bindweed); *Daviesia* sp; *Dodonaea viscosa*, *D. lobulata* (hop bush); *Echium lycopsis* (Salvation Jane, Paterson's Curse); *Eremophila* sp (emu bush); *Eucalyptus camaldulensis* (river red gum); *E. tetraptera* (square fruited mallee); *E. pyriformis* (Ooldea mallee); *Euphorbia drummondii*; *Frankenia serpyllifolia*; *Goodenia* sp; *Hibbertia* sp; *Helichrysum semipapposum* (clustered everlasting); *Isotoma petraea* (rock isotome 'two up and three down'); *Lavatera plebeja* (Australian hollyhock); *Myoporum montanum* (native myrtle); *Nicotiana* sp; *Persoonia levis* (willow geebung); *Petalostylis labichoides*; *Prostanthera striatiflora* (mint bush); *Pterocaulum sphacelatum* (drumsticks); *Ptilotus exaltatus*, *P. obovatus* (mulla mulla, lambs' tails, pussy tails); *Ranunculous manglesii* (buttercup); *Rumex lappaceus* (wild hop); *Scaevola* sp (fan flower); *Senecio gregorii* (yellow top); *Solanum* spp; *Trachymene* sp (pincushion); *Vittadinia triloba*; *Wahlenbergia* sp (Australian bluebell); *Xanthorrhoea* sp (blackboy).

#### NADGEE TO MALLACOOTA

The plan was for one group to walk from Nadgee Nature Reserve through to Mallacoota Inlet, and for a second group to camp at Mallacoota. This group, while enjoying themselves there, could also provide such essential services as organizing a boat to ferry the walkers across the inlet, and the car-ferrying of walker-drivers back to Nadgee to pick up their cars.

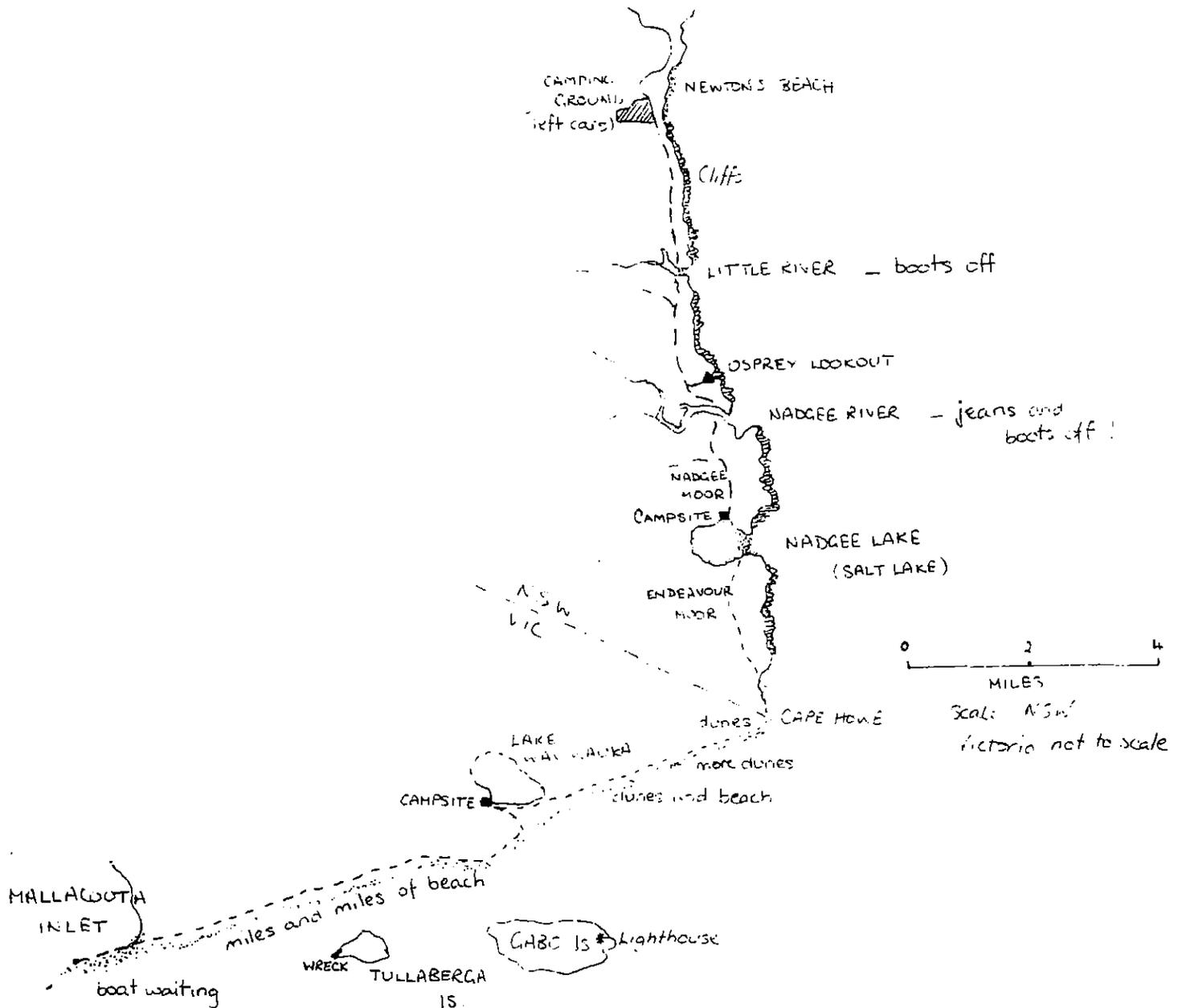
The number of the walking party was twenty. That was settled quite simply by the Nadgee Ranger. Finding out who was to constitute that twenty proved rather less simple, but eventually it was all sorted out, and by midday Friday, all members of the walking party had arrived at the Ranger's station at Nadgee. Four of the cars were left at this point, the other four vehicles took everyone down the last seven miles of rough track to the starting point - the campsite at Newton's Beach.

Walking was pleasant as the weather was mild and cloudy, and the track (passable to 4 WD's) was over lightly timbered coastal hills still showing scars of the severe fires of 1972. Leaving the main track, we dropped down to the Little River Estuary, where we stopped for lunch.

The shallow water here was easily crossed and a foot track led us across long stretches of grey-green coastal heathland, studded here and there with the bright red of flowering heath and interspersed with occasional islands of longer vegetation.

There are quite high cliffs to the seaward side and a short track to the Osprey Lookout provided an excellent view of the interesting coastline. The track then dropped down to the next estuary, that of the Nadgee River - a beautiful spot, but we were somewhat more concerned at this stage with getting to the other side. The narrowest part proved too deep, but further reconnoitring presented a more easily negotiable point about 50 yards upstream, and shedding

not only our boots, but also our jeans, we were able to cross, packs still on our backs, to the sandy bank opposite. Having redressed, we pushed on again past Black Head and Nadgee Pt, across more heathland, then picking up the 4WD track again we soon found ourselves among trees. The timber suddenly opened out on to the edge of a lake, named variously in maps as Salt Lake, Nadgee Lake and Nadgee Inlet. This spot is one of the few specific sites in the reserve where camping is permitted, possessing a fireplace, fresh water from a small stream and enough cleared ground to permit the erection of nine tents. The tents up, darkness descended while we cooked our meal, and before we finished, rain started to fall. With the rain came wind, which soon became a gale, blowing with ever increasing fury as it swept in across the lake and roared through the trees, partly drowning the shouts as tents began to collapse!



When finally light came, all nine tents were still there, though some drastically altered. Perhaps the president's - stacked around with heavy sawn timber collected from the lake shore, was the most remarkable. The rain had stopped during the night, but the gale, still blowing, at least was drying out the wet gear festooning the shrubbery. It took some time to breakfast and pack up before we were off, making our way seawards along the lake shore.

A large sandbank separates the lake from the sea, and led across to vegetated dunes, with timbered ranges lying a little further west. We were now heading straight into the wind. As we approached, sand could be seen streaming from the tops of these dunes, which are studded with sticks of former vegetation. One of these dunes probably the first, runs down to Cape Howe, but the discomforting wind with its accompanying load of sand did not encourage conversation - nor did tightly drawn hoods. Somewhere here we crossed into Victoria, but it is possible the stone cairn marking the border has been buried in these rapidly moving sands. Between the dunes, water lay not far beneath the surface, giving rise to quick sands. In other areas colonising plants were taking a hold once more. These dune formations are fascinating and we rested for a while by some old sandblasted rocks uncovered by the shifting sand.

A few of us, tired of struggling up the steep soft slopes to be swept again with sandladen wind as we reached the top, made for the beach. The others plodded on. This remote beach is unbelievably littered with the debris of passing shipping, and sand and foam were stained in places with old oil slicks. However, the litter provided one member with one perfectly good red plastic bucket - yes, it was carried home!

As we reached shrub and swamp land again, the groups re-united, and rested out of the wind for a welcome lunch.

We were now close to Lake Wau Wauka, and turning a little inland, we made camp in two sheltered hollows between shrub-covered dunes - fresh water ponds fringed with reeds, beside us. It was an absolutely delightful spot and when the stars came out, we thought of an evening by the camp fire. But alas! another shower of rain came over and we retired to our sandy beds and slept like logs. There was quite a lot of bird life here. Early risers saw among other species, yellow tailed black cockatoos breakfasting off the hakeas.

The last day's walk was along the beach - miles of it. There was still a stiff breeze and a heavy surf. Few of us would have envied those on the fishing trawler we watched in the surf past Gabo Island. We passed an old wreck in shallow waters near the beach and what appeared to be another off Tullaberga Island.

Our party had now separated itself into groups (which worked out conveniently for the boatman). The last group left the beach for the lightly vegetated dunes for a sunny, windless lunch spot, beside another delightful freshwater pool with its native bird inhabitants and dingo tracks. By this time our beachcomber had added a large blue plastic bread tray to her collection!

The first members of the party had crossed the Inlet about 2 p.m., having arrived at 1.30 p.m., observed by the Mallacoota campers from Battery Point

Lookout, who then hurriedly went into action. The last group were all across by 3.30 p.m. We had covered 42 kms during the trip.

The holiday busyness of Mallacoota with its innumerable caravans, boats, trailers, icecreams, people, noise - seemed a strange anti-climax after the experience of the previous days - however, it is a superbly beautiful place with an almost luxurious "amenities" block!

Despite wind, rain, cuts and sandblasting, all agreed it had been a superb and well-worthwhile weekend.

*Cynthia Hook*

#### LIBRARY ACQUISITIONS

NCDC National Capital Open Space System Interim Report, December 1976.

NCDC Government and Community Involvement in the Planning and Development of Canberra, Technical Paper 18, April 1977:

Part I - Submission to the Parliamentary Joint Committee on the ACT

Part II - Background paper: NCDC Powers and Procedures

Part III - Background paper: Public participation in planning.

NCDC & ACT Police. Extension of Police Radio Facilities in the ACT.

Supplementary Report, February 1977, to statement of May 1976.

(The two documents form the final Environmental Impact Statement.)

House of Representatives Standing Committee on Environment and Conservation.

Official Hansard Report of Inquiry into Off-Road Vehicles, 1976.

Sub-Committee Report of Inquiry, 1977.

(These include NPA submission in full.)

Off-Road Vehicles: some policy, planning and management considerations.

Proceedings of the National Symposium of Off-road Vehicles in Australia, Canberra, February, 1976.

Ainslie-Majura Protection Society Submission (to NCDC) for Ecological Preservation, March 1977.

South-East Region Study - report of Steering Committee.

DCT Nature Guide to Black Mountain Reserve and Ainslie-Majura Reserve.

COOMBS, Dr H.C. "Matching Ecological and Economic Realities". Reprint from "The Economic Record", March 1972. A.C.F. Occasional Publication No.9, 1972.

TRAFFICKING IN FAUNA IN AUSTRALIA. Second report of the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Environment and Conservation. Sept. 1976. AGPS, Canberra, 70 pp.

RANGER URANIUM ENVIRONMENTAL INQUIRY. First Report. AGPS, Canberra, 1976.

MOSLEY, J.G. National Parks and Equivalent Reserves in Australia. Guide to Legislation, Administration and Areas. ACF Sp. Publication No.2. 43 pp. ACF Canberra.

## NEW MEMBERS

Allan and Doris Anderson; Iris and Vanessa Burns; Phil and Mary Cameron; Erik Davids; Ruth Davis; Margot Gardiner; David and Lyn Hall and family; Adrienne Hardham; Anton and Kadar Lucas; Tony and Frances Lucas; Leigh McClintock; Margaret Roseby; Maurie and Doris Waugh.

## MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

M. Bailey; G. Medaris; M. Finnis; J. Stoffel.

## YOUNG BACKPACKERS

A back pack is a convenient way of carrying gear. However, in the USA increasing numbers of young people who wear back packs for camping or carrying school books are being seen with a condition known as rucksack palsy. Symptoms are pain, numbness and weakness in the arms resulting from pressure on the nerves and blood vessels, according to a research team from Cleveland Clinic Foundation in Ohio.

They advise using a back pack with metal supports to distribute the load onto the hips, placing one-inch thick strips of foam rubber beneath the shoulder straps and not letting a child carry more than 25 per cent of his or her own body weight. At first sign of discomfort, the youngster should immediately remove and lighten the pack until it can be carried without pain. If symptoms persist, consult your family doctor.

*J.M.*

## POINTS TO PONDER

In March a report on the impact of Agriculture on wildlife in Britain was published by the Nature Conservancy Council. The report (Nature Conservation and Agriculture) emphasises the dangers of the trend to increasing modernisation and "efficiency" in British farm management. Among the thoughts worth noting in this report are "the greater the diversity of genetic material, the greater are the opportunities for evolution and the deliberate breeding of plants and animals by man . . . . Wildlife is not an optional extra. Losses of a rarer species would greatly impoverish the cultural life of man, and losses of many abundant ones would put our survival in jeopardy".

If the country wants to conserve its wildlife, it must pay for it. "Since nature conservation entails management, and this demands resources of capital and labour, the measures must be paid for; without economic help, no policy and combination of options will succeed".

## CARNARVON GORGE TOUR 1977

Dates for the above private tour (which includes two days in the Warrumbungles, two days west of Carnarvon Gorge, and five days in the Gorge itself) have been altered to a 17-day tour now leaving 17 September, returning 3 October. The overall cost is \$195, and there are still a few vacancies for anyone interested (you need NOT be members of NPA). Further details available from Penny Hebbard 814070.

## NPA OUTINGS

Although NPA outings are often mild by nature, some basic rules should be followed for walks in the MEDIUM to HARD categories.

- \* Proper walking boots should be worn.
- \* Adequate clothes, food and water to suit the particular walk should be catered for.
- \* Each member should be fit enough to not unduly delay the party.

The phone numbers of the various leaders are provided in the outings list and any queries should be directed to them.

### JUNE

5th, Sunday

Murrumbidgee Gorge

Ref. Canberra 1:250,000

An easy walk to view the gorge.  
Meet at Michaelago at 10.30 a.m.  
Leader: Laurie Adams 47-3761

11th-13th, Saturday-Monday

Warrumbungle National Park - Coonabarabran

An area of spectacular scenery resulting from erosion of ancient volcanoes, the solidified lava resisting erosion to form towering spires and walls. A bus will be hired for this trip (14 seater). All members interested should contact the leader as early as possible.  
Leader: Neville Esau 86-4176

12th, Sunday

Those members wishing to go on a day outing in the Canberra area, please contact Hela Lindemann 86-4926.

19th, Sunday

Honeysuckle Creek area

Ref: Canberra 1:250,000

A medium grade walk along a ridge (no track) to view some rock tors.  
Meet at Honeysuckle Creek Tracking Station car park at 9.30 a.m.  
Leader: Charles Hill 95-8924

25th-26th, Saturday-Sunday

Araluen

Ref: Araluen 1:50,000

THE LOST WEEKEND!

A must for all those who enjoy Araluen (i.e. the pub and district). Limited accommodation at the pub (22) - dinner, bed and breakfast and packed lunch (for Sunday) \$10.90 each. Camping also available. Talks and walks in and about the area.  
Meet at the Araluen Pub at midday.  
Leader: Darryl Hawke 88-3763.

## NPA OUTINGS

JULY

3rd, Sunday

Ginninderra Falls: Walk.

Ref: ACT 1:100,000

The falls are situated on Ginninderra Creek above its junction with the Murrumbidgee River. They form a spectacular lunch spot after the walk downstream from Uriarra Crossing. Meet at Uriarra Crossing at 9.30 a.m. Distance: approximately 8 km each way.

walking: medium

Leader: Pat Mitchell 47-3264

9th, Saturday

Woolshed Gorge: walk

Ref: ACT 1:100,000

The gorge, although close to Canberra and relatively well known, can still provide many delights, both scenically and through study of the flora and fauna. It is proposed to have a barbecue lunch at the top of the gorge.

Meet at carpark/picnic area at 10 a.m.

Distance: approximately 2 km each way.

Walking: easy

Leader: Bill Adams 48-7584

17th, Sunday

Bluebell Swamp: Walk

Ref: Michelago 1:50,000

Meet at junction of Old Cooma Road and Burra Road at 10 a.m.

Distance: approximately 4 km each way.

Walking: easy

Leader: Ian Currie 95-8112

23rd-24th, Saturday-Sunday

North Durras: Camp

A pleasant camping weekend: local walks and beach expeditions, plus the usual campfire activities.

Meet at the camping area at 11 a.m.

Leader: John Webster 47-6769

30th, Saturday

Stromlo Forest: Barbecue

The annual Stromlo barbecue is on again with a local walk after lunch for those still upright. Bring your own food and drink.

Meet at Stromlo picnic area at 11 a.m. (Follow the NPA signs along Forest Drive)

Leader: Brian Lee

NPA OUTINGS

AUGUST

7th, Sunday

Lake George: Walk

A bird spotting expedition along the shores of Lake George. Meet at Bungendore (opposite the coast road turnoff) at 10.30 a.m.

Distance: approx. 8 km.

Walking: easy

Leader: Cla Allen 95-3824

14th, Sunday

Pierce's Creek to Tidbinbilla: Walk

Ref: ACT 1:100,000

A walk along the ridge from Pierce's Creek to Tidbinbilla Fauna Reserve. Spectacular views over the Murrumbidgee Valley and Bullen Range and Canberra can be had along practically the whole route.

Meet at Cotter kiosk at 9 a.m.

Distance: approx. 12 km.

Walking: easy

Leader: Reg Alder 54-2240

21st Sunday

Devil's Peak: Walk

Ref: ACT 1:100,000

This walk should provide outstanding views over the Brindabella and Uriarra region. Meet at Blue Range Hut at 9.30 a.m.: if the weather looks doubtful, check with the leader.

Distance: approx. 5 km each way

Walking: easy/medium

Leader: Hela Lindemann 86-4926

28th, Sunday

Major's Creek: Walk

Ref: Araluen 1:50,000

An easy walk along the creek as far as the falls: the more adventurous may wish to proceed further.

Meet at Major's Creek pub at 10 a.m.

Distance: approx. 3 km each way.

Walking: easy

Leader: Andrew Fordham 47-9784

NPA OUTINGS

SEPTEMBER

4th, Sunday

Marble Arch/Big Hole: Walk

Ref: Araluen 1:50,000

Another expedition to view these well known features on the Shoalhaven River. Meet at junction of Krawarree Road and Captains Flat-Braidwood Road at 10 a.m. Distance: approx. 3 km each way to big hole and 8 km to Marble Arch. Walking: easy/medium  
Leader: Reg Hook 95-9666

10th-11th, Saturday-Sunday

Folly Point: Pack walk

Ref: Coast & Mountain  
Walkers N. Budawang  
Map

A weekend pack walk in the northern Budawang range. Spectacular views over the Clyde River, and Holland Creek gorges. Meet at Nerriga pub (on Nowra Road) at 9 a.m. Distance: approx. 8 km each way  
Walking: easy/medium  
Leader: Neville Esau 86-4176

17th, Saturday

Black Mountain: Walk

A walk on Black Mountain to view the Spring flowers. Leader George Chippendale 31-2454  
Meet at Belconnen Way entrance at 2 p.m.

18th, Sunday

MT BOOTH: Walk

Ref: ACT 1:100,000

A medium/hard day walk to climb Mt Booth: spectacular views over the southern ACT ranges. Meeting place to be advised.  
Leader: John Banks 49-3628 (WO; 81-6641 (H)

25th, Sunday

THE ONION: Walk

Ref: ACT 1:100,000

A medium/hard walk in the Tinderry Ranges. Leader: John Holtzapffel 81-5817

OK

TIDBINBILLA NATURE RESERVE: Walk

Ref: ACT 1:100,000

A day at this Reserve. Short walks plus a barbecue lunch. Meet at Visitors' Centre at 10.30 a.m. Leader: To be advised.

GENERAL MEETINGS

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

JUNE, 16th:

Professor L.D. PRYOR, forestry dept.,  
A.N.U. will talk on-  
"Fire and Park Management"

JULY, 21st:

Annual General Meeting, followed by a Nepalling evening  
(slides).

AUGUST, 18th:

PETER CULLEN from CCAE, will talk on -  
"Coastal Parks"

# National Parks Association outings summary

## JUNE

5 Sunday	Murrumbidge Gorge	Walk
11 Saturday-	Warrumbungle National	Camp/
13 Monday	Park	Pack Walk
12 Sunday	Canberra area	Walk
19 Sunday	Honeysuckle Creek	Walk
25 Saturday -	Araluen	Pub week-end
26 Sunday		

## JULY

3 Sunday	Ginninderra Falls	Walk
9 Saturday	Molonglo Gorge	Walk
17 Sunday	Bluebell Swamp	Walk
23 Saturday -	North Durras	Camp
24 Sunday		
30 Saturday	Stromlo Forest	Barbecue

## AUGUST

7 Sunday	Lake George	Walk
14 Sunday	Pierce's Creek	Walk
21 Sunday	Devil's Peak	Walk
28 Sunday	Major's Creek	Walk

## SEPTEMBER

4 Sunday	Marble Arch	Walk
10 Saturday -	Folly Point	Camp
11 Sunday		
17 Saturday	Black Mountain	Walk
18 Sunday	Mt Booth	Walk
25 Sunday	The Onion, or	Walk
	Tidbinbilla	Walk