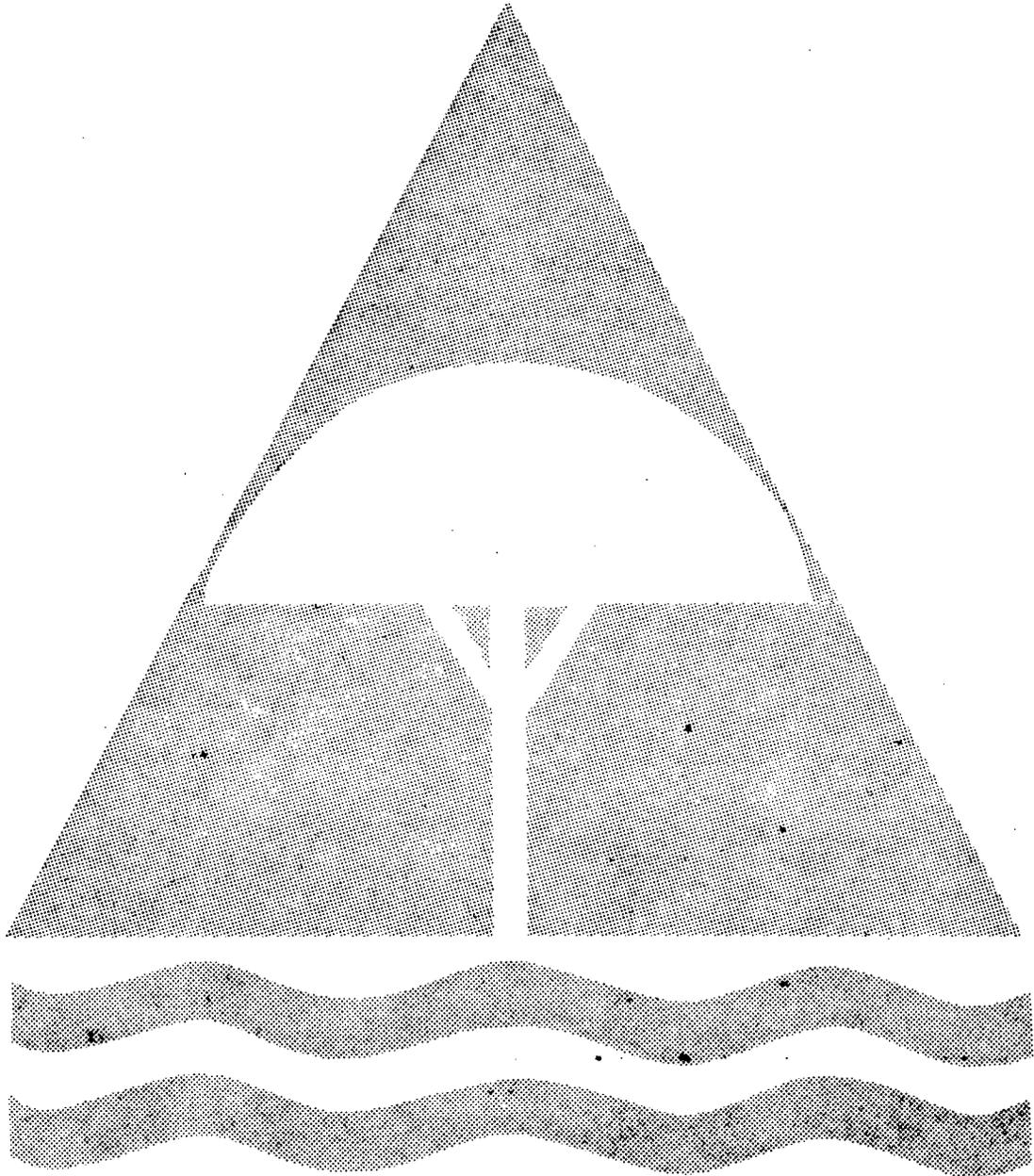


NPA Bulletin

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



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

"A National Park for the National Capital"

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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

Well, here we are in 1978. I hope it is a good year for all members.

In the last two or three years, the concept of wilderness has been used more and more. Like ecology, wilderness is a somewhat vague term which can be used to suit any argument. Inside is a definition of wilderness from Victoria, which should be of interest to members. Problems in National Park management are also in the news, so it seemed appropriate to include an article about the American experience.

While on this topic, last year saw a lot of media publicity given to the Neighbours of National Park Association. Some of our members and some of our committee members have met NNPA people. From what has been passed on to me, it seems that two points emerge. Firstly, the two Associations have more in common than might be expected and secondly, the media tended to distort their viewpoints. Personally, I feel that conservation groups should spend as much time lobbying to ensure good park management as they do fighting to conserve new areas. One poorly managed park can discredit the entire system.

Finally, may I pass on a plea from Olive Buckman. She has mislaid a photo/log book of trips to Norway and Austria by 3-wheel car. It may have been loaned to one of our members. Anyone who can help can phone Olive on 733017.

N.H.M.

ENERGY

This article is based upon a commentary published in the August 1977 issue of American Forests. The only change made has been to shorten it and exclude the more obvious American references:

The energy problem will be at the center of our conservation focus for many years to come. There will be no easy solutions. No magic cure-all will save us. The crisis may not become a catastrophe, but neither will it be resolved easily or quickly. Until everyone realises the seriousness of the problem, as well as their own personal involvement in it, there is no hope for improvement. Even with a complete public understanding, radical changes in our personal and collective life styles are inevitable.

We are not running out of energy, but we are running out of cheap energy. The age of abundant, clean oil and gas is rapidly drawing to a close. There will be enough oil to meet essential needs for the next few generations, but it will cost much more to develop, and a shift to other energy sources is imperative. In spite of environmental hazards we will double our use of coal

ENERGY continued

and dramatically increase our use of nuclear fuels. Even if we should begin today to switch to solar energy or to harness the power of winds, tides or geothermal steam, the shortfall during even the most optimistic transition will dictate greater use of all known energy sources. We will even expand our dependence upon hydro-electric power in spite of our aversion to dams.

Conservation is a vital part of our energy program. In fact, conservation may be our only hope in keeping the energy crisis from becoming a disaster. We are in trouble today because there has been an abundance and we have been wasteful. Our way of life is built upon the concept of surplus. It was there, it was cheap, so why not use it? We have used it, in abundance, and wastefully. That must stop. But, the only way it will stop is with full understanding on the part of each individual of his own personal responsibility for energy conservation. That realization has come to very few persons thus far. To many, the energy shortage means only higher prices and past inconveniences at the gas pump. The energy crisis has not slowed down our energy use.

Where do we start? How can I as an individual do my part? The most important individual responsibility is to be informed and to develop your own personal energy ethic. It's a matter of knowledge and attitude. We have to believe in the importance of our own role. Savings can be made everywhere. You can start in your home and in your office with your light switches. Check your insulation and your storm windows. Change your habits of dress or lighting to meet actual needs rather than convenience. How about the things you buy and use? Are we slaves to convenience foods and throw-away packaging? Do we take proper care of everything that costs high in energy to produce? Is it a luxury or a necessity?

Energy consumption in the past has been subsidized by environmental degradation. The more energy we used the more we have destroyed our air, lands and waters both in its production and in the by-products of its use. This is an environmental luxury we can no longer afford. There must be trade-offs, of course. There is no way we can produce or use energy without environmental impacts, but this is no excuse for lowering our standards for clean air and clean water. If we must use more coal, we can afford the land restoration. If we drill for offshore oil or gas, we must provide maximum safeguards. If we must burn nuclear fuels, we can provide for safe disposal of wastes. However great our energy needs, we cannot let them become an excuse for environmental degradation.

(W.E.T.)

WILDERNESS

Set out below is the Victorian Land Conservation Council's definition of wilderness as reported in the November issue of the VNPA Journal:

WILDERNESS continued

The concept of wilderness ("an uncultivated and uninhabited tract" - Oxford dictionary) is at present receiving attention in Australia after having been established by legislation in the U.S.A. in 1964 (*The Wilderness Act*).

The wilderness experience involves the perception of being part of nature, of an environment unaltered by human intervention, of isolation, and of being exposed to the challenge of the elements. In a wilderness, Man should function as a part of the natural system, and on equal terms with nature.

The main elements of the appeal of wilderness are:

- * spiritual refreshment and an awareness of solitude, arising from close contact with the uninhabited, undisturbed natural environment;
- * the knowledge that large, wild natural areas, untouched by Man, exist and can be experienced;
- * refuge from the pressures, sights, and sounds of modern urban life;
- * the adventure and challenge of pitting one's powers of endurance and self-reliance against the forces of nature.

Wilderness, therefore, requires land that still retains its primeval character, and is without improvements or human habitation. Wilderness areas are used for recreation of a primitive unconfined nature, and thus, to preserve the wilderness values, it will be necessary to protect the natural ecosystems and maintain land forms and populations of plants and animals in an undisturbed state. Because of this requirement wilderness will have considerable nature conservation values. Areas suitable for wilderness are a very scarce resource, and are becoming scarcer as the road and fire-trail network on public land is extended and upgraded.

To fulfil the uses for which they are intended, wilderness must be very large. They should require at least several days to traverse on foot at their narrowest point. This spaciousness is the essential characteristic distinguishing wilderness from the many other smaller undisturbed or primitive areas that may be found as "islands", even in areas which have been developed for more intensive uses.

Many smaller undisturbed or primitive areas that can provide some degree of solitude will continue to exist as zones in parks or other areas, and can be used by people who do not wish to spend several days in the isolation of wild country. These smaller areas, however, are not a substitute for the wilderness described here.

Management of a wilderness would aim at maintaining the value of the area for solitude and unconfined types of recreation by strictly controlling the number of people using the area at any one time. Experience in the United States of America has shown that tourism and the more conventional forms of

WILDERNESS continued

outdoor recreation commonly associated with parks are among the greatest threats to wilderness.

Wilderness activities may include some activities such as horse-riding that may not be acceptable in some parks. Vehicles (other than those necessary for management), grazing, and mining would be excluded from the wilderness.

Users of wilderness areas must be prepared to face difficult and challenging conditions, and Council stresses the need to bring to the attention of the public the potential hazards associated with the use of these areas.

MOUNT IMLAY

Mount Imlay is a conspicuous mountain 886 metres in altitude situated behind Eden. NPA members visiting the South Coast may care to know how it can be ascended.

On the 1:100,000 map, the mountain is shown with a fire track running up to the summit from the west. My wife and I have tried unsuccessfully on several occasions to find this but in any case it is now disused and is not motorable.

There is, however, a well marked walking track on the eastern side. You drive about 9½ kilometres to the end of the Burrawong Forest Road which turns off the Princes Highway about 1 kilometre south of the turn-off to the woodchip mill. From the end of the Burrawong Road a rough track runs a little further up to a small parking area in the forest.

The track from there on is well marked with red and white markers. It runs up an eastern spur which is steep in places and passes through some heavily burned and dead young timber. The top of the mountain is a long knife-edged ridge ascending gently to the summit. From here one obtains a magnificent view over the south-eastern corner of New South Wales. The mountain massif has been constituted a National Park. Average walking time to the top would, I think, be about 2 hours.

One rather depressing feature of the top is that it gives one a view over patches of heavily woodchipped forest and the dreadfully steep slopes on which this has been permitted by the N.S.W. Forestry Commission. These are not the slopes which the Forestry Commission uses for its exercises in Public Relations.

Personally I am not totally opposed to so-called clear felling for wood-chipping (it is not really clear felling because all the dead timber is left standing). I think it is a legitimate form of forestry on level or gently sloping land, but I am horrified by the way it has been permitted in the Eden area on steep slopes and also by the use made of heavy tracked equipment. If ever a form of forestry deserved the old army term BF and BI (Brute Force and Blooming Ignorance) it is this.

MOUNT IMLAY continued

Members visiting the area may consider returning along the Imlay Road built at vast expense to support the Harris-Daishowa woodchipping operations. It runs from about 2½ kilometres south of the turn-off to Womboyn Lake right through to Rockton on the Cann Valley Highway. It is built to a very high standard and most of it is bitumen. But drive carefully as you will meet many of the enormous vehicles used to transport logs and sawmill refuse from the Bombala area to the woodchip mill. These vehicles are driven at very high speed!

Alastair Morrison

LOCAL NEWS

Application for Government grant. The Committee has been advised by the Department of the Environment that it has not been awarded a grant for 1977-78.

Outings Sub-Committee. Jan Kiek has returned to Canberra and has taken up again the convenership of the Outings Sub-Committee.

Publications. There are two recent publications which are of direct interest to members:

- * Rambles around Canberra. Edited by Allan Mortlock and Gillian O'Loughlin. This booklet was initiated by NPA and the local knowledge of many members was tapped. Both the text and the maps are easy to follow and it is available to members for \$2.50 at general meetings.
- * Hiking from Early Canberra. A fascinating glimpse of local bush-walking from 1929 to 1938. Collected and published by Cla Allen, it is available from him at 3 Norfolk Street, Red Hill at \$1.95. Copies will be available at NPA general meetings.

CROCODILE MOTHERS

You may think of the crocodile as a rather fearsome potential man-eater, and you could well be right. Crocs like all organisms, have a role to play and are in danger from hunters in some parts of the world.

It is only recently that zoologists have started to look at the crocodile's life history in detail. One interesting discovery is that, compared to most reptiles, crocodiles spend a lot of time ensuring that their young survive. When the eggs hatch the mother, who has been guarding the nest area, digs out the young. She then takes her babies (weighing less than 100g) into her mouth and ferries them to the water to free them into their new life. It does bring the crocodile a shade closer to instincts of birds and mammals.

FERAL ANIMALS

In theory, National Parks are designed to preserve certain areas in a natural state for future generations. There are two major forces working against this aim and park management is necessary to combat these forces. The first is the visitor; park visitors can come in vast numbers and can drive, ride, tramp, burn and litter a park if controls are not set up. The second is feral animals. Feral animals can destroy vegetation, kill native wildlife, compete with native wildlife and some can cause soil erosion by digging and burrowing.

Sometimes feral animals were present before the park was established. Others occur due to the carelessness or neglect of visitors and surrounding landowners.

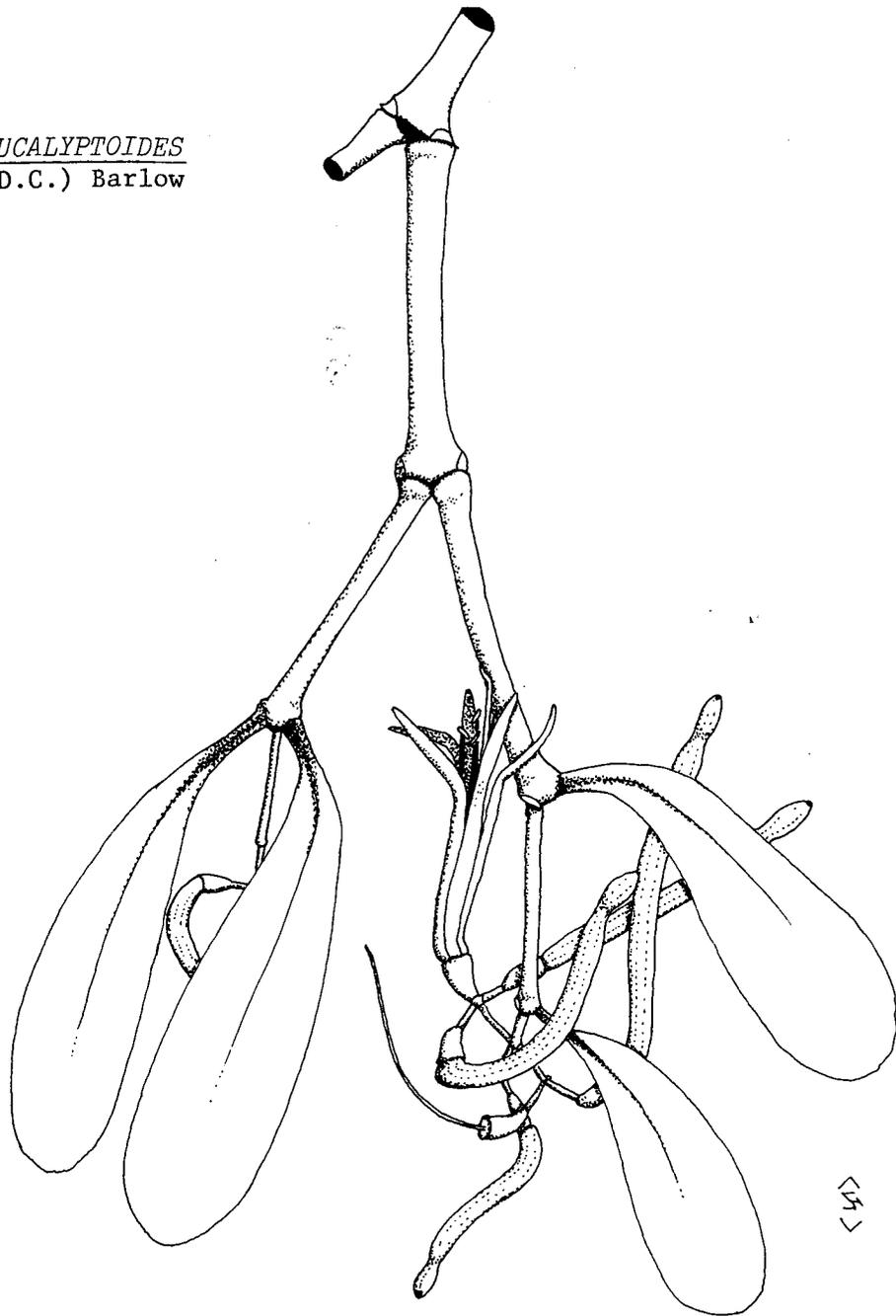
A survey of American National Parks has just been carried out (National Parks and Conservation Magazine, July 1977). Over 55% of Parks reported feral animals present and the list of species is quite impressive. Twenty three reported the presence of cats, 16 reported dogs, 16 had horses or donkeys, 13 had pigs and 9 had goats present. The list also included cattle, cattle egrets, coypu, sparrows, rats, starlings, hares, skylarks, mongooses, pigeons, deer and chukars (rock partridge).

The problems vary from park to park depending upon the native species present. In the Gulf Islands National Seashore, feral hogs have eliminated some of the native snakes, while in the Virgin Islands National Park, hogs eat the eggs and young of ground-nesting birds. Cumberland Island National Seashore reported that hogs eat the eggs of the endangered loggerhead sea turtle. Cattle have been reported as removing dune-stabilizing vegetation and horses have caused severe range deterioration in the Dinosaur National Monument as well as competing with the native elk. In Hawaii goats have already caused the extinction of some plant species, while nearly 70% of the native plants there are considered endangered. Nearly thirty bird species ultimately dependent upon the Hawaiian flora are thus also put at risk.

Control methods also vary, depending upon the park and the pest. The most common type of control for cats and dogs is trapping. Trapping and shooting have been employed against pigs and donkeys, and shooting against goats. One of the most effective methods of control has been fencing off areas and clearing them. Other areas can then be fenced and brought under control.

Recovery of native fauna and flora can be dramatic if fencing is used coupled with a rigorous trapping or shooting programme. In the Hawaii Volcanoes National Park, the goat population was reduced from an estimated fifteen thousand in 1971 to just over four hundred in 1977.

MUELLERINA EUCALYPTOIDES
(D.C.) Barlow



Mistletoes are locally common as aerial parasites on several species of *Eucalyptus* and on *Casuaria cunninghamiana*. Many are quite host specific and have evolved a leaf morphology resembling that of their host. The more common species locally belong to the genus *Amyema*. They can be distinguished by looking for adventitious root attachment to the host. *Amyema* has a bulbous union without adventitious roots, while *Muellerina* has adventitious roots. When flowering one can observe that the anthers are fixed and "immovable" relative to the filament in *Amyema*, while they are versatile and "hinged" in *Muellerina*. When in the Mt McDonald area, search for *Muellerina bidwillii* on *Callitris*.

Helen Hewson-Fruend

FINANCIAL MEMBERS as at 3.7.78, including new members who have joined since the last issue:

Cla & Rose Allen; Bill & Phyllis Adams; Laurie Adams; Reg & Doris Alder; Mr and Mrs J.N.R. Anderson; Margaret Aston; Clare Attridge; John & Margaret Banks; Colin & Hazel Barker; Bob Bird; Prof. & Mrs D.A. Brown; Joan Buckie; Olive Buckman; Val Baker; Gene Butcher; John & Cathy Busby; M.J. Bowles; Kenneth & Jocelyn Betts; Dorothy Brush; Rasma & Andrew Bandle; Merle Bailey & family; Mr & Mrs D. Balfour; Bill & Cathy Boswell; Mollie Bouquet; Catherine Bradfield; Dugald & Esther Brown; Robyn Brown; Dan & Heather Buchler; Nick Blandford; Betty Campbell; Russell & Val Campbell; George & Thelma Chippendale; Heather Clark; Ian & Jean Currie; Peter & Mary Cooper; Jenny Czajor; Bernice Cohen; Ross & Joy Carlton; Tony & Judy Corp; Robert Carveth; Dr J.A. Carnahan; Mr & Mrs K.G. Crawford; Mr & Mrs J.G. Curtis; John & Helen Cumpston; Erik Davids; Ruth Davis; Ruth Davidson; Max & Barbara Day; Veronica David; Gordon & Heidi Dickens; Mr & Mrs J.W. Doyle; Nancy Dunn; Bruce & Helen Drake; Bill & Mary Elliott; Bruce Elliott; Mr & Mrs R.J. Emerton; Neville & Maxine Esau; Thea Exley; Monsignor E.C. Favier; Frank & Bobbie Fenner; Roma Fisher & family; Margaret Finnis; Bruce Fleming; Louis & Marilyn Folger; Phillip & Sally Ford; Shirley Gardner; Betty Garvin; Heinz & Verena Gerber; Kath Gilmour; Alan Gilpin; Barbara Graham; Norma Griffin; Roger & Rhana Good; Keith Green; David & Lyn Hall; Isabel & Bruce Hamilton; Brian & Pat Hammond; Eathorne Hanlin; Hansine Hansen; Michael & Esther Hardware; Darryl & Jan Hawke; Penny & Dale Hebbard; Ray & Joan Hegarty; Peter & Kim Hegarty; Julie Henry; Charles & Audrey Hill; Mr & Mrs R. Holesgrove; Beatrice Holt; John & Kath Holtzapffel; Reg & Cynthia Hook; Clive & Hilary Hughes; Adrienne Hardham; Brigit Hodgkin; Charles & Julie Irwin; Gerald & Jacqueline Ingarfield; Lynne James; Gerry & Rae Jacobson; Gladys Joyce; Mr & Mrs Richard Johnson; Peter Judge; Ken Key; Julie Keating; Mr & Mrs K. Kerrison; Jan Kiek; Vic King; Erwin Koch-Emmery; Sheila Kruse; Robin Lansdowne; Bunty Lawrence; Brian & Mardi Lee; Glyn & Shirley Lewis; Pat Lewis; Bob & Claire Lewis; Hela & Mike Lindemann; L.V. Lisle & family; Jocelyn Long; Tom Longstaff; Doris Lowe; Barry & Lesley McCann; Mr & Mrs Ian McLeod; Leigh McClintock; Mary MacDonnell; Anne McMahan; Ian & Betty Macfarlane; Glennda Marsh; Philip & Frances Marsh; Jean & Harold Marshall; Jean & Joseph Marshall; Mr & Mrs R. Mathews; Gary Medaris; Pat Michell; Margaret Middleton, Kath Moriarty; Alastair & Hedda Morrison; Norman & Jenny Morrison; Allan Mortlock; Julie Munro-Ashman; Donald & Susan Moss; Mary Newport; Gillian & Graham O'Loghlin; Rod & Desiree Olsen; Mr & Mrs K. Paijmans; Mr & Mrs A.G. Paine; Ginette Pierson; Mr & Mrs W.J. Perry; Richard Pickering; Mr & Mrs John Piper; Trevor & Winsome Plumb; Norma Price; Delwyn Price; Kim Pullen; Les & Margaret Pyke; Maria Polaska; Muriel Rafferty; Robin Rawson; Mr & Mrs D.W. Reid; Mr & Mrs R. Rea; Lin & Betty Richardson; Peter Roberts; Pam Rothwell; Moira Rowland; George & Jenny Rothschild; Colin & Yvette Samendsett; G. & R.M. Schneider; John Schunke; Mr & Mrs J. Scougall; Dorothy Shaw & family; Rosemary Smart; Jack & Elizabeth Smart; Mrs A. Smith & family; Georffrey & Maureen Snelgrove; Geraldine Spencer; Joe Stoffel; Robert & Sybil Story; Jennifer Shaw; Brig. J.J. Shelton; Jack & Andrea Slobbe; Nina Shuskov; Peter Sesterka; Pam Swaffield; Roy Tait; Betty Temple-Watts; J.N. Thompson; John & Helen Thompson; Patsy & Neil Trudinger; Lois Tucker; Rudolf Urech; Chris Watson; Bill & Edna Watson; Gay Watt; David Wall; John & Judith Webster; Nerolie Weeks; Joan Walsh; Mr & Mrs N.J. Windeyer; Fred & Elizabeth White; Peter & Kay White; Mr & Mrs L. Whitfield; Sue Whittington; Hill & Gwen Worner; Ian Wright; John Whitford; Gerda Zietek; Hans & Jenny Zimmermann.

THE CARNARVON EXPEDITION, SEPTEMBER, 1977

Following the successful tour of the Flinders Ranges for 12 members in 1976, I was asked by a number of members and friends to organise a similar one for 1977.

As the 'outback' had obviously appealed before, I spent hundreds of hours over 10 months on an itinerary taking in the Warrumbungles; the west of the Great Divide north of Mitchell; and Carnarvon George (Q'ld).

Applications (including half the 1976 members) came in fast, so that final numbers were 13 NPA members, and 4 friends, and this called for two 'drive yourself' coaches.

In all we travelled 4,200 km and only covered 150 of them twice - so that all travel was varied and full of great interest in many ways.

The following impressions by one of the members will tell our story much better than I can.

Olive B.

Early on Saturday morning, 17 September, 13 members and 4 friends set out in two 'drive yourself' Toyota Hiace mini-coaches on a 17-day journey which would cover some 4,200 km over two States.

The first day's travel was via Boorowa, Cowra, Wellington, Dubbo, until at mid-afternoon, a few miles north of Gilgandra, we saw on the skyline the strangely shaped outlines of the Warrumbungle Range. This National Park would be our stopping place for the next two days. We went in by the western route, and set up our tents at Canyon Camp below the twin peaks of Beloungery Split Rock.

Next morning we took the coaches up the very rough track to Burbie Camp site with the aim (for the more energetic) of climbing to the top of Mt Exmouth while the rest would make the shorter trip to Cathedral Arch. Those who reached Cathedral Arch reported a variety of flowering plants. A feature of the top of Mt Exmouth was the large old grass trees among the rocks. The surprising thing for people from the southern tablelands was the presence of snow gums in this area.

The Cathedral Arch party took one coach back to camp after lunch and then drove to Siding Spring to visit the observatory. In the visitors' gallery near the dome housing the great 3.9m. telescope there is a fascinating display of photographs, models and (for the mathematically minded) graphs and tables illustrating work recently done and still being done by the A.N.U. - U.K. Science Research Council teams, together with some fairly basic background material to give the layman an idea of what astronomers are on about.

CARNARVON EXPEDITION continued

From the lookout beside the dome, looking south and west, the whole of the Warrumbungle area spread out below - a tremendous spectacle of valleys and jumbled ridges topped by spires of igneous rock while to the east, past the bare, rocky head and tree covered shoulders of one of the great trachytic spires, was the fertile, rolling country of the Central Western slopes.

The second day, while a group climbed to the Grand High Tops, some of us followed a new trail (Gould's Circuit), a branch of the older Spirey Creek trail. From one of the lookouts the Breadknife is seen from a different aspect, more or less end on - perhaps 800 m. long, 100 m. high and some 2-3 m. thick, it is an old trachyte dyke left when the surrounding rock weathered away. Numbers of wild flowers were seen including *Diuris*, *caladenia*, wild iris, heaths, Darling pea, *indigophora*, various acacias, yellow daisies and pea flowers.

A variety of birds was reported from various areas in the Park by our very active birdwatchers. Four honeyeaters were identified - black faced, yellow faced, yellow tufted and white plumed; dusky wood swallows, pied butcher birds and a spotted quail thrush were also seen; wedgetailed eagles soared from the peaks and along the creeks were spoonbills, white necked herons and dusky moorhens. And, as everywhere on this trip, there were currawongs and magpies, galahs and white cockatoos and crows/ravens.

On Tuesday morning it was up stakes and back on to the Newell Highway at Coonabarabran. For many km. on the way to Narrabri we had the Pilliga State Forest on either side of the road - an almost impenetrable thicket whose characteristic tree is black cypress pine (*A. callitris*). In places there was evidence of recent fires.

From Narrabri past Moree, where we left the highway, and on to Mungindi, there was yet another change of characteristic scenery. Since leaving Canberra we had passed through the fat mixed wheat and sheep country of the southern slopes and central west, via the ancient mountains and alternating rain forest and xerophylls of the Warrumbungles, and the thick xerophyl forest of Pilliga; now we came to the dry, open savannah and grassland of the north-west. Between Moree and Mungindi we passed an area of leopard wood (*Flindersia maculosa*), that unique inland Australian tree which begins life as a low, tangled shrub from the centre of which grows a shoot which, protected by its own natural treeguard, grows into a slender tree about 8-10m. high with spotted trunk and a graceful top of small dull green leaves, the "treeguard" having meanwhile withered away.

Through all these varied conditions we were interested to note that, wherever there was water, the same bird life was present: coots, waterhens and moorhens, cranes, spoonbills and egrets, and varieties of ducks, but now, as well as the landbirds, we had seen all along the way, we found some of the western birds - emus, apostle birds and white-winged choughs.

(To be continued)

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.

MARCH

4th, Saturday

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

Kambah-Pine Island: Walk

An easy afternoon stroll along the Murrumbidgee River, finishing with an evening barbecue at Pine Island.

Walking: easy

Distance: 6 km

Meet at Pine Island at 1.30p.m.: a car shuffle will be arranged to avoid double walking.

Leader: Penny Hebbard 814070

4th-5th, Saturday-Sunday

The Castle: pack walk

Walking: medium

Distance: 25 km

Meet at Yadborough at 9.30 a.m.

Leader: R. Story 812174

11th-13th, Saturday-Monday

Dubbo Hill: camp

Ref: Brindabella 1:100,000

Local walks (and blackberry picking)

Walking: easy, up to 10 km

Meet at Brindabella Bridge at 10 a.m.: approx. 2 hrs driving from Canberra

Leader: Lyn Richardson 412425

NPA OUTINGS

MARCH

12th, Sunday

Honeysuckle Creek Area: walk

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

Meet at 10 a.m. at the carpark of Honeysuckle Tracking Station - 45 mins. driving from Canberra. Distance of the walk is approx. 8 km return. We commence right from the carpark to the west and gradually climb along a ridge to the top. It will not take more than 1½ hrs from the start to reach the rocky top, from where there is a beautiful view over Orroral Valley to Mt McKeahnie in the foreground and further on Mt Gingera and Mt Ginini. The return walk will be easy but slightly more in a northerly direction. So come on "potential mountaineers"!

Walking: easy/medium
Distance: 8 km return
Leader: Hela Lindemann 864926

19th, Sunday

Sentry Box: walk

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

Meet at Naas Creek on Boboyan Road at 9 a.m.: approx. 1½ hrs driving from Canberra (see ACT map for details).

Walking: easy/medium
Distance: 15 km total
Leader: Charles Hill 958924

Sheep Station Creek: walk

Meet at Naas Creek on Boboyan Road at 9.30 a.m.

Walking: easy
Distance: 8 km total
Leader: Trevor Plumb 813258

24th-27th, Friday-Monday - EASTER

Saltwater Creek: camp/or pack walk

Ref: Eden 1:100,000

From the camp site there will be local walks in the Ben Boyd National Park and (perhaps) the Nadgee Nature Reserve. Walking is very easy and pleasant along mostly coastal heath land. A two-day (Saturday Sunday) pack-walk south to the Merica River will be arranged, starting and finishing at the main camp.

Walking: easy, distance approx. 25 km.
Meet at Eden (on the corner where the Pacific Highway turns sharp right) at 10.30 am
Leader: John Webster 476769

NPA OUTINGS

APRIL

2nd, Sunday

North Tinderry: walk

Ref: Michelago 1:100,000

Walking: medium/hard

Distance: 14 km total

Meet at Michelago at 8.45 a.m. for 9 a.m. departure

Leader: Peter Judge

9th, Sunday

Mt Tennant: walk

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

Walking: easy

Distance: 11 km total

Leader: Gillian O'Loghlin

For those who would prefer a direct approach to the mountain, a second party will attempt the walk up the south ridge.

Walking: medium

Distance: 12 km

Leader: Lyn Richardson 412425

Both parties: Meet at Tharwa (near the bridge) at 9 a.m.

15th-16th, Saturday-Sunday

Mt Franklin: camp

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

Accommodation for this weekend will be in the Canberra Alpine Club Chalet on the slopes of Mt Franklin; local walks (including the much postponed Ginini-Gingera walk) will be arranged.

Walking: easy/medium

Distance: up to 12 km

Meet at the Franklin Chalet at 10.30 a.m.

Leader: Neville Esau 864176

23rd, Sunday

Mt McKeahnie: exploratory walk

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

Walking; medium

Distance: up to 20 km

Meet at Smokers' Flat (on Corin Dam Road) at 9.15 a.m. (approx. 1½ hrs' driving from Canberra)

Leader: Charles Hill 958924

An alternative shorter walk in the same area will also be arranged.

Walking: easy

Distance: up to 8 km total

Leader: Les Pyke 812982

NPA OUTINGS

APRIL

30th, Sunday

Hospital Hill: walk

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

Hospital Hill lies at the south-western end of the Gudgenby Valley (798-379 on the A.C.T. map). The walk will commence at the old foresters' hut in the Gudgenby pine plantation.

Walking: 10 km total; easy/medium

Meet at the 2nd Gudgenby crossing (beyond Glendale) at 9 a.m; approx. 1½ hrs' driving from Canberra.

Leader: Hela Lindemann 864926

MAY

6th-7th, Saturday-Sunday

Bungonia: camp

Ref: Goulburn 1:100,000

A weekend camp near Bungonia Gorge. Local walks to explore the gorge, caves, lookouts etc. Meet at Bungonia at 10.30 a.m.

Distance: approx. 125 km. from Canberra

Leader: Neville Esau 864176

14th, Sunday

Pierce's Creek: walk

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

This walk will commence at the Pierce's Creek pine forest, ascend the foothills at the Tinbinbella Range, then descend to the falls on Pierce's Creek. Some grades may be encountered.

Meet: At the Cotter Kiosk at 8.45 a.m.

Walking: 12 km total; medium

Leader: John Banks 816641

20th-21st, Saturday-Sunday

Holland Gorge: pack walk

Ref: G.M.W. Northern Budawang Range

The Budawang mountains offer some of the most spectacular walking near Canberra. Holland Creek is a major tributary of the Clyde River and a trip through this area provides many examples of the rugged grandeur of the Budawangs.

Meet: At Nerriga by 5 p.m. Friday night.

Walking: 25 km (approx) total; medium

Leader: Tony Bayes 511707

NPA OUTINGS

MAY

28th, Sunday

Smoker's Flat-Orroral Valley: walk

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

This walk will commence at Smoker's Flat and follow a fire trail to the head of Orroral Valley. From that point the walk proceeds directly down the Valley to the tracking station. Intending walkers must make appropriate arrangements to be ferried by car from the tracking station back to the starting point. To help in these arrangements a second shorter walk will be arranged, starting and finishing near the tracking station. Both groups will meet at Tharwa (near the bridge) at 8.30 a.m.

Walking: Long walk: 18 km; easy/medium
Short walk: 6 km, easy

Leader: Hela Lindemann 864926

JUNE

3rd-5th, Saturday-Monday

Batehaven: camp

Ref: Bateman's Bay 1:100,000

Three easy days exploring the coast and hinterland around Bateman's Bay. A limited amount of private accommodation may be available - contact the leader for details.

Meet at Bateman's Bay (at the Batehaven turn-off) at 10.30 a.m. (approx. 3 hrs driving from Canberra)

Leader: Jan Kiek 862140

11th, Sunday

Blundell's Flat: walk

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

Commencing at the meeting place, this walk will follow the general line of Condor Creek towards Mt Coree as far as Blundell's Flat. Meet at the Condor Creek crossing on the Brindabella Road at 9.30 a.m.; approx. 45 mins. drive from Canberra

Walking: 10 km total; easy

Leader: Penny Hebbard 814070

18th, Sunday

Mt Orroral: walk

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

Beginning near the tracking station, this walk follows the track up to the ranging tower, then up the ridge to Mt Orroral summit (747-537). Meet at the tracking station at 9.30 a.m.

Walking: 10 km total: easy/medium

Leader: Les Pyke 812982

NPA OUTINGS

JUNE

24th, Saturday

Mt Majura: walk

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

A short afternoon walk around the slopes of Mt Majura. Good walking tracks are provided in the area.

Meet: At the Mt Majura end of Antill Street at 1.30 p.m.

Walking: 4 km total: easy

Leader: Cla Allen 953824

24th-25th, Saturday-Sunday

Wolla Creek: pack walk

Ref: Araluen 1:50,000

Wolla Creek is a tributary of the Deua River. The walk begins near their junction, and proceeds upstream for approx. 10 km. to a suitable camp site. Walking is always along the creek valley and is thus easy and pleasant.

Meet at the Braidwood War Memorial by 8.30 a.m. Saturday (approx. 1½ hrs driving from Canberra)

Walking: 10 km total; easy

Leader: Bob Story 812174

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GENERAL MEETINGS

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

MARCH, 16th:

Tony Fearnside, Assistant Director (Operations),
A.C.T. Forests Branch, Department of the
Capital Territory:

"Forest Conservation in Nepal"

APRIL, 20th:

Dr Robert Boden, Australian National Parks & Wildlife Service:

"Protection of Australian Endangered Species"

* Please note that this meeting will be held in the
Rehearsal Theatre, on the first floor of the Griffin
Centre.

MAY, 17th:

National Parkers' Slide Show:

Organiser: Charles Hill

National Parks Association outings summary

MARCH

4	Saturday	Kambah-Pine Island	Walk
4	Saturday-	The Castle	Pack Walk
5	Sunday		
11	Saturday-	Dubbo Hill	Camp
13	Monday		
12	Sunday	Moneysuckle Creek Area	Walk
19	Sunday	Sentry Box	Walk
		Sheep Station Creek	Walk
24	Friday-	EASTER	Camp/
27	Monday	Saltwater Creek	Pack Walk

APRIL

2	Sunday	North Tinderry	Walk
9	Sunday	Mt Tennant	Walk
15	Saturday-	Mt Franklin	Camp
16	Sunday		
23	Sunday	Mt McKeahnie	Walk
30	Sunday	Hospital Hill	Walk

MAY

6	Saturday-	Bungonia	Camp
7	Sunday		
14	Sunday	Pierce's Creek	Walk
20	Saturday-	Holland Gorge	Pack Walk
21	Sunday		
28	Sunday	Smoker's Flat	Walk

JUNE

3	Saturday-	Batehaven	Camp
5	Monday		
11	Sunday	Blundell's Flat	Walk
18	Sunday	Mt Orroral	Walk
24	Saturday	Mt Majura	Walk
24	Saturday-	Woolla Creek	Pack Walk
25	Sunday		