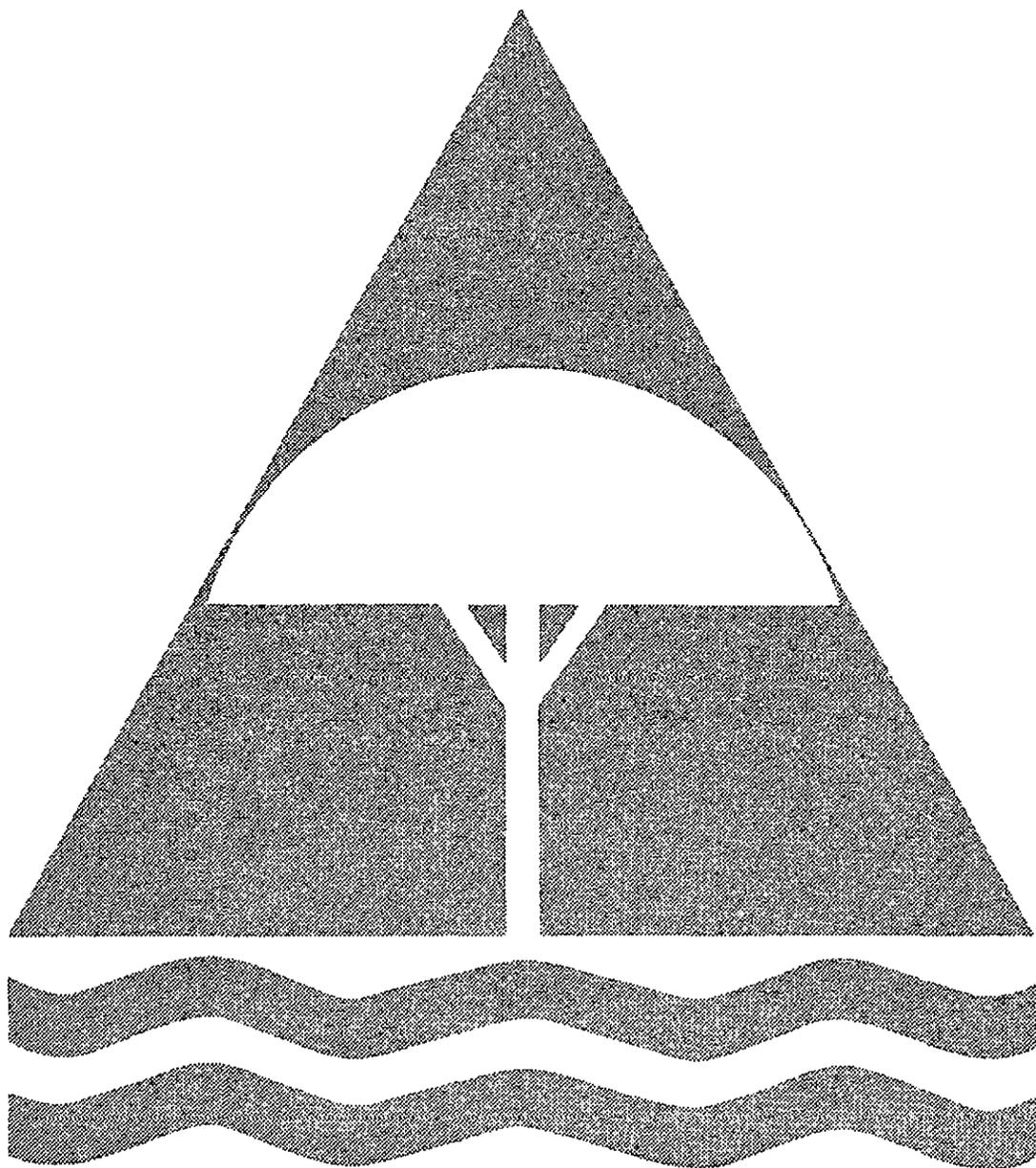


NPA Bulletin

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



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EDITOR'S NOTE

In April, the N.P.A. organised a workshop of conservation societies in south-eastern N.S.W. and the A.C.T. This workshop was financed from the \$5,000 grant from the Australian Government's National Estate Programme. During the discussions many common problems were identified and several suggestions put forward. One problem is that of communication between societies and bulletins should include a brief summary of current activities in the field of conservation. In this issue, we have started a section called 'Conservation Corner', to fulfil this need. The proceedings of the workshop will be published fully at a later date but a brief account is given later in this bulletin. As my job of collecting reports only began after the workshop ended, I wish to take the opportunity to thank all those who helped make the conference a success. There were many N.P.A. members who worked very hard; the Committee, the Publicity sub-committee, the helpers at coffee and lunch and the reporters who took notes during the sessions. Special mention must be made to Sheila Kruse on whom the brunt of secretarial work fell.

Bruce Ward

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting will be held on Thursday July 17th at 8 p.m. in Room 1, 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 30.6.75.
- 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.

CANBERRA BOTANIC GARDENS

Arrangements for a conducted tour of the gardens by a Ranger can be made by telephoning the Botanic Gardens on 473822 about one week in advance. If specific aspects of botany or the Australian vegetation are to be emphasised a more detailed talk can be arranged by telephoning the curator, Mr. J.W. Rigley on the above number.

TRAVELS IN NEPAL - Part One

NAMASTE! In the Nepalese language - friendly greeting.

During a recent 25 day trek in that country, it is the friendly manner of the Nepalese people which has impressed me most of all. The children everywhere were delightful; dirty, smelly, often with running noses but always the first to call out "Namaste". They were nearly always full of smiles, never cheeky and always seemed happy. I found it difficult not to be photographing them all the time.

At Pokhara, after an hour's flight from Kathmandu, we met our Sirdar, Sherpa Phu Dorje, the other Sherpas and the porters. In all we were twenty-one trekkers, ten Sherpas and about fifty porters. The view from Pokhara is truly incredible, the entire Annapurna Range forms a fairytale background with Machapuchare as one of the most fascinating and dominating mountain peaks. Dominating because it is such a different shape from the other mountains. Later on we went to see the two peaks of this mountain top explaining its name of "Fish-tail".

As the trek proceeded we got to know our Sherpas better. Some of them spoke English reasonably well. Sherpas are descendants of Tibetan people, who centuries ago, settled in the high arid regions of the mountains of Nepal. They are a fine race of people, and with the Gurkhas, are the best known of the many ethnic groups in Nepal. The Sherpas are full of fun, easy to get on with and born gentlemen. They were so considerate and could not do enough for us, they were our personal servants, making meals, lighting fires, and erecting tents. The porters were the load carriers. One day I had asked Phu Dorje had he seen a yeti? "No, Mem-Sahib, I have not". All was quiet for many minutes until some strange sounds caused me to look behind. There was Phu Dorje with his head swathed in strands of green lichen pulled from the trees. He had become a yeti! On this occasion and many others, the laughter hurt agonisingly. Sherpa merriment was impromptu and we had several nights of their dancing and singing. Of course Christmas and New Year were turned into gala occasions for us. We helped them celebrate Sherpa New Year, with Gurkha rum, rakshi (a spirit distilled from rice) and chang (a millet or rice beer).

The porters carried their loads suspended on a strap around their foreheads. Trekkers' duffle bags, sleeping bags and tents were lashed together but smaller items like food containers etc., were carried in bamboo baskets. As the supplies of food were diminished so the porters were paid off. We had two lady porters for a number of days and I believe the money they would have earned was sufficient to buy a dowry for each of them. Sherpas and porters earn about 10-15 rupees, or 70 cents to a little more than \$1.00 per day. This was considered good money. One of our Sherpas had been a school teacher but gave it up because mountain trekking paid more money.

One day would begin around 6.00 to 6.30 a.m., being given a bowl of hot water at the opening of the tent. Always with it was "Good Morning, Mem-Sahib", a breakfast of porridge, biscuits with tea, coffee or cocoa and we would have begun trekking by 7.30 a.m. Then around 10.00 a.m. was a "brunch" stop consisting of incredibly mouth-watering pancakes, and eggs, baked beans, often a little meat and some

potatoes, cheese and camp-baked bread were often served. Then trekking again until around 3.00 p.m. or later, when we would have biscuits, jam etc. and often an enormous damper-like cake cooked the night before. Hot water was then provided and most of us retired to our tents for some time, being busy with our washing etc., writing up diaries, sketching or whatever took your fancy. Around 6.00 p.m. was the evening meal of soup accompanied by monster papadams, meat and vegetables with fresh fruit or tinned fruit salad to follow. So you can see that I ate four good meals each day. In spite of the careful selection and cooking of the food for us, there was such a lot of sickness. Had we been given local dishes, the chances of the "sick-list" per day would have been greater. I was one of the luckier trekkers and my only problems were those of running out of toilet paper and my hot water bag leaking all night inside the sleeping bag. Next day Phu Dorje gave the hot water bag a suitable burial.

Norma Price.

Part two will appear in the next issue of the bulletin. (Ed.)

WORKSHOP OF CONSERVATION SOCIETIES

A workshop of conservation societies from the A.C.T. and south-east N.S.W. was held at the CSIRO conference centre, Canberra, on April 19 and 20. The aims of the conference were threefold: to gather information on areas in south-eastern N.S.W. suitable for declaration as parks or reserves; to find effective ways of conservation groups to help each other achieve this aim; and, to enable these groups to meet and discuss common problems. Although only thirteen out of the thirty-seven societies accepted the invitation to participate in the workshop, seventy delegates were present and their enthusiasm was such that they contributed significantly to the discussions and some produced excellent material for display. It was noteworthy that some of the smaller societies such as the Bega/Tathra Conservation Society, the Goulburn Field Naturalist's Society and the Monaro Conservation Society, made large contributions in relation to their size. For example the slides/commentary presentation of the Bournda Nature Trail was a heartening example of how a small society can achieve something worthwhile by aiming at a limited objective within their capacity.

During the Sunday morning session of the workshop each Society was asked to present a brief statement about their society, giving details of their history, past achievements, present activities and future plans. During this session, many of the problems facing individual societies were brought up and these were discussed further in the final session. After the close of the workshop, a barbecue was organised by Bill Watson in Stromlo Forest and was well attended. This was a pleasant and suitable way to conclude proceedings, out in the open.

At the start of the workshop, Richard Mason described the aims and achievements of the N.P.A. of N.S.W. and how the N.P.A. had attempted to fulfil these aims. He then introduced the area of interest to the workshop. The area, comprising about ten percent

of N.S.W., is in high rugged country of only moderate commercial value, but within easy reach of Sydney, Melbourne, Canberra and Wollongong. It is an area suitable for declaration of park and reserves, the protection of flora and fauna, water catchment, recreation, and high scenic value. Excluding Royal and Heathcote National Parks, there are 751,269 hectares of National Park land and 28,419 hectares of reserve in this area. Colin Watson then listed the National Parks, nature reserves and State recreation areas (S.R.A.) in the S.E. corner and gave some details about individual ones. He went on to describe how in 1966, a Reserves Committee was set up by the N.P.A. to survey areas and prepare submissions for proposed parks and reserves in the State. In 1968, a preliminary report to the state scientific committee proposed additions to Cudmirrah Nature Reserve, Royal and Heathcote National Park and the declaration of Boydtown as an historic site. The following were proposed as National and State Parks - Clyde-Budawang, Dena-Tuross, Mt. Imlay, Mt. Wog Wog, Beecroft Peninsula, Kialoa-Durras Lake, Pretty Beach, Wombaya (National), Bass Point, Seven Mile Beach, Mt. Dromedary, Bermugui, Mimosa Rocks, Tathra, Brumda Head, Ben Boyd, and Burragate (State). Mr. Watson enlarged on some of the individual proposals and concluded by summarising the policies of the N.P.A. towards various issues. The Association strongly supported the proposals for protection of coastal lands announced in August 1973, by the State Planning Authority. The establishment of State recreation areas was welcomed also. Although Mr. Watson regretted the conflict in ideology between timber production and "lands for the people", he deplored the practice of clear-felling of native forests as unacceptable. Recreation in State forests should be encouraged and the forestry authorities should only acquire land already altered by clearfelling, farming, grazing etc. He said that the N.P.A. had formed a Park Management Committee which would study and put forward suggestions about park management plans to the N.P.W.S.

The issues of N.P.A. involvement in National Parks and State recreation areas were taken up by the next speaker, Graham Yapp. Speaking on the uses of land for recreation he urged that N.P.A.'s support the dedication of high quality recreation resources, not as National Parks but as State recreation areas. This would relieve the pressure on National Parks. With high demand but limited land and capital, Mr. Yapp thought that a higher proportion of money should go to management rather than acquisition of land. He also delineated how societies interested in National Parks might better further their interests. He recommended clearer definition of aims and priorities, maintenance of high standard of ecological and recreation management in parks, more specific scientific statements on which areas should be conserved and why, and a new attitude of forestry authorities.

In his talk on land use planning, Peter Rudman considered the possible uses of land as they affected both State and National policies. This involved integrated study of resources, technology, sociology and economics. He emphasised the importance of examining community needs and forecasting likely trends in these needs. With an information base on which to build, the potential of land to satisfy these needs

could be studied. This would involve looking at the suitability of land for different uses, matching needs to suitability and producing a number of planning options. He discussed the multiple use of land and cited the South Coast as an example of how a policy on water drainage had worked in the favour of agriculture but to the detriment of the fisheries. Australia had now realised the need for land use policies but had only just begun to formulate them. His main theme was that regionalisation was essential for effective land use planning. Only by regionalisation could adequate finance be found for professional evaluations and planning that considered the whole as well as the parts.

During the conference many issues were briefly discussed. It appeared that certain problems were common to many societies. Communication ranked high in this area both with the general public and with other societies. There were several suggestions that this should be made a major topic at a future workshop. Another aspect that became apparent was that societies spending some of the outings on data collection were able to substantiate their submissions and that this helped their submissions gain more consideration.

Although it is early as yet to assess the results of the workshop all delegates were in favour of a future workshop within 6 or 12 months dealing perhaps with more specific problems or areas. The atmosphere of this workshop and the desire for further meetings is a hopeful sign for the future.

Bruce Ward

OALLEN

After a rather dusty but interesting trip, we finally gathered at the campsite at Oallen crossing on the Shoalhaven River -- noting that Brian Hammond had placed us just below the level of a great flood last year. However, the weather was fine and the water clear low so we all set up our camps and enjoyed our lunch.

The river has been producing gold for many years and at times hundreds of miners were in the area digging in all the side gullies, putting down shafts 'on spec' all over the hills and washing along the river banks. Many of the shafts are still open and dangerous and there are aqueducts in various places. During the depression there were up to 1500 men making a few shillings from panning in the valley which helped to keep them alive during this period.

The afternoon walk upstream was interrupted by two old timers sluicing for gold on the bank, one using the normal flow of water to wash his loads of sand and the other a petrol driven pump. The mechanised fellow - Jock Macfarlane showed some of the gold he had collected by sluicing, followed by hand panning the residual black sand and gold, then extracting with mercury and finally cooking the mercury-gold amalgam in a potato in the camp fire. This left a lump of gold in the centre and the mercury in the flesh of the potato to be reclaimed. He also gave a demonstration of gold divining with two pieces of steel rod flashing his opal tooth at us frequently. Quite a character. We were also entertained by Bill, a journalist who retired to the bush

fifteen years ago and has lived near Oallen ever since. He does a bit of gold panning to sell to the many visitors to this area, and takes employment in the district when available.

The evening was cool and clear, so the campfire made a cheerful gathering point where we were treated to a high-class damper, commonly known as a spotted-slug containing raisins and cooked by Reg Alder.

On Sunday morning we were joined by a few more members; and the leader marched the party away downstream leaving some indolent people talking or loafing in the sun.

Ian Currie

EASTER 1975

How does a lazy trip to the South Coast sound? Well it just so happens N.P.A. is going to Pambula.

So it was, that lured by the attractions of beaches, bushland and sunshine, a group of campers assembled at the "Holiday Hub" campsite on Pambula Beach. By noon on Friday 29th March most of the group had arrived and established themselves and as the weather was overcast but pleasantly warm, a walk along the beach and into the bushland behind the town was suggested. The entrance of the Pambula River proved to be a very beautiful spot indeed and we stopped for photographs before heading up a track above the town. It was decided to set off across country and after a pleasant bush walk we emerged on the main road, which led us back to camp in good time to start evening meals.

Saturday 30th was cloudy but with long sunny periods and we set off for the Bournda Nature Trail in fine walking weather. We tried to enter the track at its mid point but this proved harder than anticipated, mainly due to well intentioned but incorrect directions given by the temporary staff of the local wild flower nursery. We finally got onto the track at midday and, as we were then on a rather nice gravelled river bank, lunched before moving along the trail. The trail followed the river and involved several crossings and the traversing of some very interesting and beautiful spots. As it was fairly late in the afternoon when the coastal beaches were finally sighted and as the clouds were looking very ominous, we decided to make directly through the bush to the nursery. Fortunately it was only a slight shower and the sun was shining again when we arrived back at the nursery.

After the evening meal a fire was lit on the beach and the song books were soon put to good use. Neptune, however, didn't seem to approve as at 9 o'clock a larger than usual wave scattered the party and doused the fire. It was an argument impossible to beat so we all packed up and went to bed.

The first of April was a fine sunny day and people went their separate ways, some looking over the district, some swimming, some fishing and one group returning to the coast and Bournda Island which we failed to reach on Saturday. In the evening after dinner, everyone assembled for a very interesting lecture on Astronomy till the full moon made star gazing too difficult.

The last day of the Easter break started off very sunny and hot; while some set off for Canberra shortly after breakfast others elected to stay on the beach and sunbathe. The weather had the final say however and the late leavers were greeted by the sight of snow on Brown Mountain.

The trip was a varied and interesting one spent in a fine area of coastline and we were lucky in being in a well organized quite campsite and in having dry weather. The birdlife of the area was plentiful and a fair sized list of sightings was compiled. The often heard but rarely seen Bellbirds were seen by most people in the party and some of the attractive species seen were King Parrots, Black Cockatoos and Restless Flycatchers. There were quite a few plants in bloom, the most obvious being the red of the common Correa in the heath *Epacris impressa*.

Definitely a good trip and proof again the sun can shine for N.P.A. at Easter.

Norm and Jenny Morrison

FLINDERS RANGERS TRIP

If a sufficient number of members are interested - minimum of thirty - it may be possible to arrange a short tour in the Flinders Ranges of South Australia in September. The intention is to hire a bus for a week, leaving Adelaide on Sunday morning to return the following Saturday afternoon. During the tour some time would be spent at Wilpena Motel and some at Arkaroola in the northern Flinders. There should be a very fine show of flowers and an amazing range of colours on the rocks of the ranges.

Think about it and please let me know if you are interested on 958107 (work) or 958112 (home).

Ian Currie

NEW MEMBERS:

We welcome the following: Bernice Gohen, John and Moira Rowland, Mrs. M. Lochrin, Mr. and Mrs. L.A. Stonebridge, Paul Sharp and Mr. P. Price.

* * * * *

STOP PRESS

The A.C.T. Environment Centre is holding its A.G.M. on Wednesday 28th. May in the Rehearsal Room, Griffin Centre at 8.00 pm. Any member of the N.P.A. May attend.

MAIDEN HAIR FERN

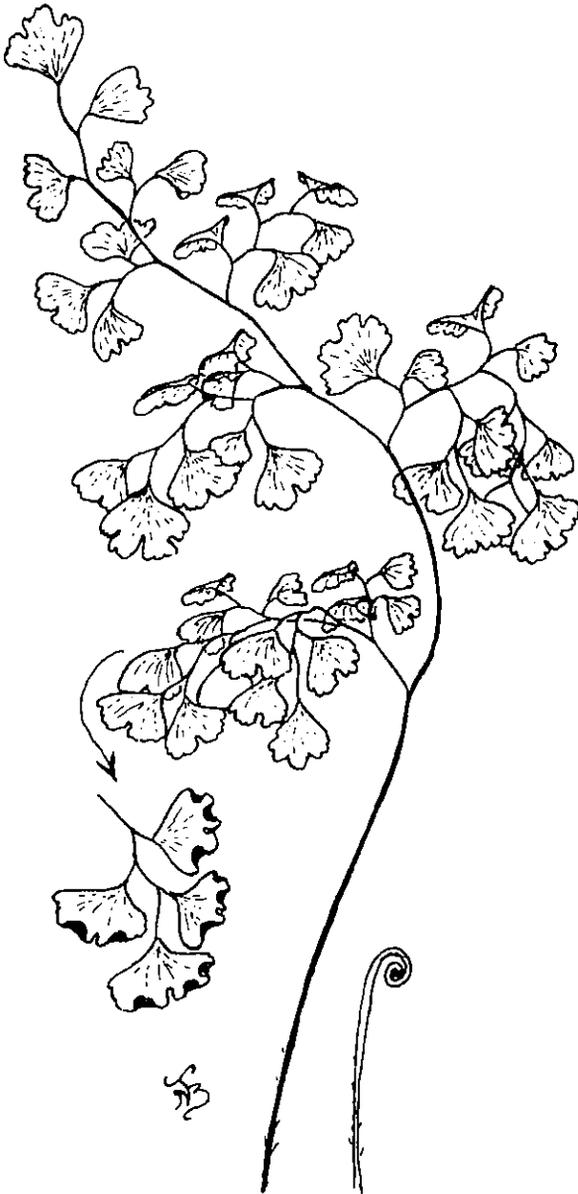
A very common fern of shaded creek and river banks is the Maiden Hair Fern. It likes earthy crevices or banks where there is light but the heat of the sun is not so great as to dry the soil out too severely.

Each plant has a number of leaves or *fronds*. The stems are underground and produce the new fronds which are coiled at their tips. This coiling is found on the young leaves of all ferns. You can see it on Bracken as well as on the large Tree Ferns and the slender Necklace Fern so common in our forests.

Ferns do not produce seeds. They form a brown dust of minute *spores* in tiny *sporangia* on the undersides of the fronds. The way the sporangia are developed differs in each kind of fern. In the Maiden Hair the edges of the "leaflets" turn down to form a cover. In Bracken the whole margin is curved in. In the Necklace Fern they develop along the veins but are protected by a delicate membrane. Look at a number of ferns and see how many different arrangements you can find.

The botanical name of Maiden Hair is *Adiantum aethiopicum*. It is common in many parts of Australia but its name tells us that it was first described from a plant from Ethiopia in Africa.

Nancy Burbidge



WATER MILFOIL

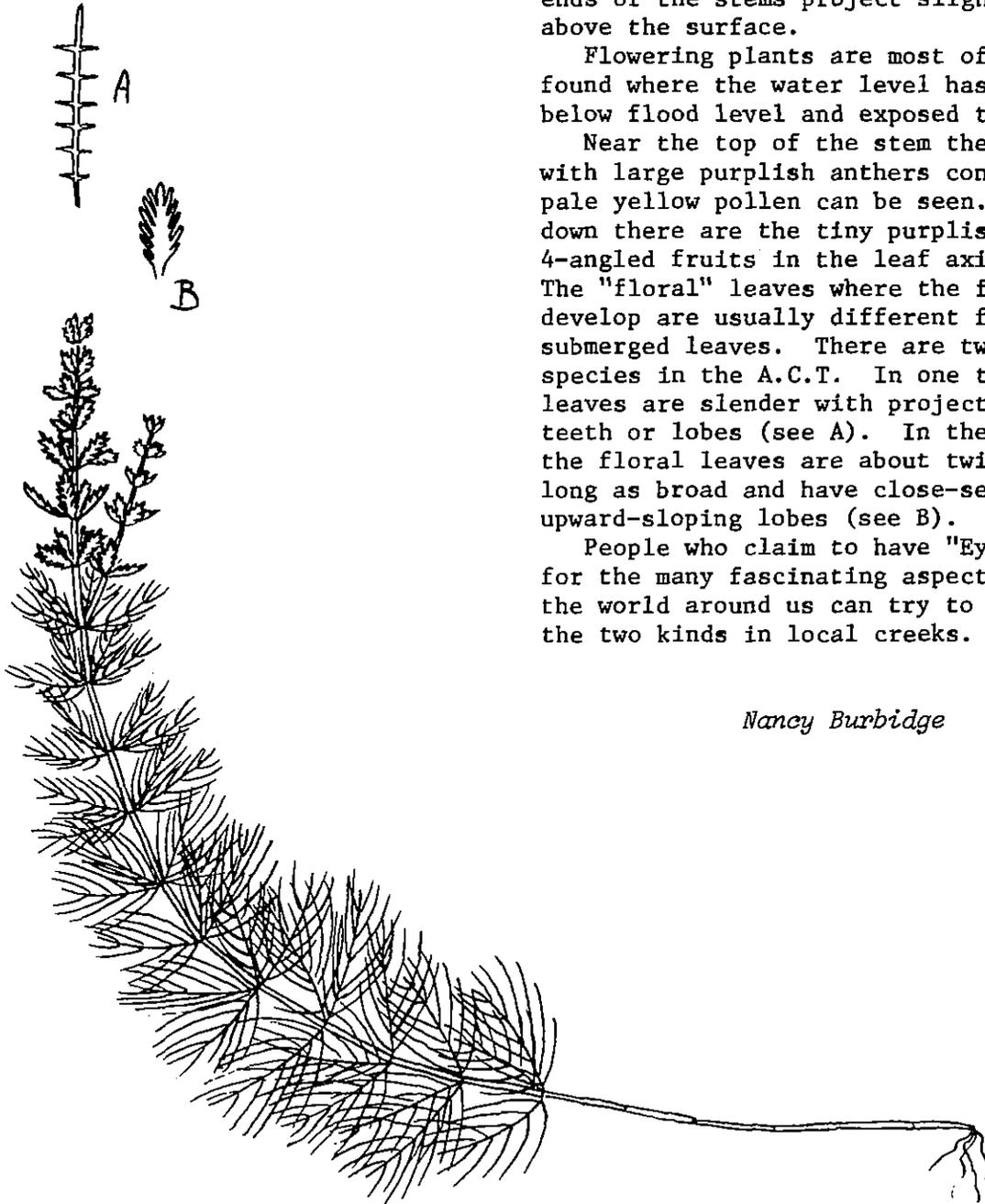
Water Milfoil is common along the margins of creeks and rivers where there is shallow water. It roots in the mud and the long submerged stems have feathery leaves divided into thread-like lobes. At flowering time the ends of the stems project slightly above the surface.

Flowering plants are most often found where the water level has fallen below flood level and exposed the stems.

Near the top of the stem the flowers with large purplish anthers containing pale yellow pollen can be seen. Lower down there are the tiny purplish 4-angled fruits in the leaf axils. The "floral" leaves where the flowers develop are usually different from the submerged leaves. There are two such species in the A.C.T. In one the floral leaves are slender with projecting teeth or lobes (see A). In the other the floral leaves are about twice as long as broad and have close-set upward-sloping lobes (see B).

People who claim to have "Eyes" for the many fascinating aspects of the world around us can try to find the two kinds in local creeks.

Nancy Burbidge



NEW LIBRARY BOOKS

Land Use in Australia. Report No. 4 of the Australian Advisory Committee on the Environment (A.G.P.S. - Canberra 1975).

Miltiple Use of Forest Resources. Australian Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Timber Bureau (A.G.P.S. - Canberra 1975). This is one of a series of eight reports prepared for the FORWARD conference in 1974.

Vegetation of the Ainslie - Majura Reserve, Department of the Capital Territory Conservation Series No.2. F. Ingwersen, O. Evans and B. Griffiths. (A.G.P.S. - Canberra 1974).

We now receive complementary copies of all ministerial press releases and the Australian Government weekly digest.

AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT ACTS

The library now has copies of the following acts: National Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act 1975, The Environment Protection (Impact of Proposals) Act 1974, and the States Grants (Nature Conservation) Act 1974. These acts are of great importance to conservationists and doubtless will have a significant effect on future plans for parks and reserves.

CONSERVATION CORNER

The N.P.A. has made a submission to the inquiry of the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Environment and Conservation into the industrial and urban development of Jervis Bay.

The N.P.A. will also make a submission on the use of water storage reservoirs to the A.C.T. legislative assembly.



KEEPING AN EYE ON DUCK SHOOTERS

It seemed a mad thing to be doing, but here I was one Thursday morning in February with a party of wildlife biologists driving like fury for Naracoorte in South Australia. The point of the trip? To make a survey of the number of ducks shot at Bool Lagoon on the opening day of the South Australian duck shooting season.

Since 1972 Wayne Braithwaite from the CSIRO Division of Wildlife Research and Ian Norman from Victoria have been studying how shooting is affecting our ducks. One of their conclusions is that in some years a lot of the ducks shot are either moulting, or had recently done so. So quite a few of the ducks can't fly at all, and a lot more not very well. Because of this Victoria and New South Wales have deferred their duck season opening for a month to let the ducks finish moulting. South Australia opened as usual on 22nd February.

For the initiated, duck season opening is a ritual. It's for 'the boys' only. Women are not appreciated. Every year hundreds of shooters mainly from Victoria, congregate around lakes and swamps of the three States the night before the opening day. Early in the morning they wade out, and at first light they blaze away at ducks, and at times any other bird that moves too.

This year a large number of shooters were concentrated just over the South Australian border at Bool Lagoon. The floods of last winter had guaranteed that there was a huge number of ducks.

We arrived at Bool Lagoon on Friday afternoon, met up with a party of fellow duck surveyors from Victoria, and set up camp. We got up next morning at five, the season officially starting at six.

Somebody fired the first shot at ten to six, and the barrage that followed would have done credit to the landing at Gallipoli. A hail of shots pattered on the tin roof of the ranger's house behind us. It was still almost pitch dark. Nobody could have possibly told what sort of ducks they were shooting at. The first bird we saw drop was a cormorant. The barrage slackened at about nine, but it went on sporadically until eleven.

Then our work started. We aimed to cut the right wing off every duck shot, and to dissect out the testicles of all the males. This would tell us how many ducks had been shot, their age, sex, whether they were moulting, and whether they were breeding. We toured around the lagoon intercepting shooters as they came out of the water. We were quickly swamped. Practically everyone had shot to the bag limit of 12 ducks per person. That meant that when we came across a car-load of 5 shooters we had about 60 ducks to process - and there were about 300 shooters! In the end we abandoned the dissecting and merely stopped every car as it left and asked that we should be allowed to cut off the right wing of every unplucked bird in the vehicle. Surprisingly, just about everybody agreed.

The final tally? We collected 3000 right wings - which accounted for 3000 ducks. We were also asking each shooter how many shot birds he thought he had left behind in the swamp, and how many he had crippled. From that we estimated that in all 6000 ducks must have been shot during the first 5 hours of the season at Bool lagoon! About 30 of these were the rare and protected Freckled Duck.

PAST AND PRESENT AT EDEN

Twofold Bay is the third largest natural harbour in Australia and it is certainly a very beautiful one. So what could have been more pleasant than a weekend on it's shores? We assembled in Eden and then Jan Kiek led us to a little campsite between Quarantine Bay and the Nullica River. We were able to pitch our tents in full view of the Bay and to light our fires on the beach. In the afternoon we went our separate ways, some for a walk along the coast, others for a quiet nap, while still others went on a boat trip round the Bay. From the boat one certainly gained the impression that the Bay had enjoyed a wealth of history. Boydtown, built in 1843 by Ben Boyd, was once a thriving community of five hundred people. The inn and the churchtower are still prominent landmarks today. Boyd was a businessman with many interests. Among his ventures he founded his own bank and owned one of the two large whaling companies in the Bay. The whaling industry at Eden has also had a colourful history and the skeleton of one of the most famous killerwhales "Old Tom" can be seen in the local museum. These killer whales were most friendly to the whalers as their natural enemy was the sperm whale. A school of killer whales would surround a sperm whale, herd it into the bay and then alert the whalers. Many stories are also told about killer whales helping whalers in distress. The lighthouse on the southern arm of the Bay was built by Boyd to guide his whaling ships into the Bay. However when the government stipulated that the lighthouse would have to be lit every night, Boyd refused and in fact the lighthouse tower functioned as a lighthouse for only one night.

Today Eden is more noted for it's woodchip industry. The mill, an Australian-Japanese venture was established in 1969 and can produce two thousand tons of chips a day. The hardwood timber is gathered from a considerable distance around Eden and once processed is transported to Japan where the chips are used for paper production. \$22 million has been invested in the area by the industry, which is a good source of local employment. However the effects of the industry on the forests were evident wherever we went.

On Saturday our leader guided us safely through the forest roads to Bitangabee. From here we walked round the cliffs to the lighthouse at Green Cape. Oh lighthouse how near and yet so far! For a considerable time it remained as far away as ever and we even broke into two groups as hunger vied with the urge to reach our goal. Our walk took us over some lovely heathland and we saw numerous flowers in bloom: Grevillea, Banksia integrifolia, Pattersonia, Correa and masses of Epacris impressa we were also lucky enough to see several of the rare Ground Nesting Parrots as they fled in streaks of green. Some people travelled by shoreline, some over rocks and some by heath but eventually we all arrived at Green Cape. It was a most rewarding walk in ideal sunny conditions. On the last day we visited another part of Ben Boyd National Park but this time to the north. Our destination was 'The Pinnacles' a collection of red and white sandstone rocks just beyond the Bellbird Reserve.

It was certainly a wonderful and refreshing weekend by the sea. I have pleasant memories of walking in the heath, sitting round the campfire singing, watching the moon rise over the Bay and enjoying the good company of friends. The sharpest memory of all was perhaps that of Peter Currie landing a gummy shark (big enough to feed us all) on the beach in front of an amazed crowd.

NPA OUTINGS

Always contact the leader before coming on a camping weekend. Please contact the leader if you want information before a walk. This will avert misunderstandings about the nature of the walk and possible disappointment on the day.

JUNE

1st, Sunday

Devil's Peak (again)

This peak which has defied the N.P.A. on two previous occasions will be attempted yet again. If we can only get to the foot of the peak (by car) the walk itself is NOT hard.

Meet at turn off to Blue Range from Brindabella Road at 10 a.m.

Leader - Pat Jeffress 473264 (home).

8th, Sunday

Tidbinbilla Peak

A repeat of a medium walk undertaken by the N.P.A. three years ago. The steep climb is estimated to take about three hours.

Leader - Lynn Richardson.

14th - 16th, Saturday - Monday

Durras North

Beach and forest walks, pleasant company and hot showers!

Meet at Yules camping area at Durras North at 11 a.m. on Saturday.

Leader - Ian Currie 958112 (home) or 958107 (work).

JUNE (continued)

29th, Sunday

Pierce's Creek Falls

A medium walk with a very steep ascent on the return trip

Meet at Cotter Kiosk at 9.30 a.m.

Leader - John Banks 816641 (home).

JULY

13th, Sunday

Colinton Gorge

Ref: Bredbo 1:50,000

A pleasant walk through farmland and along the banks of the Murrumbidgee.

Some rock scrambling is to be expected and the walk is not suitable for young children.

No track, 10 km., Medium, Not steep.

Meet at Colinton Railway Station at 10 a.m.

Leader to be nominated.

Contact - Andrew Fordham 818500 (work).

26th, Saturday

London Bridge

This natural feature, which spans the Burra Creek, is reached through open grazing country and this makes it a very pleasant and easy walk. Other limestone features are in evidence in the area, which should add to the appeal of the outing.

As London Bridge is on controlled land the number of walkers must be limited. To this end members of the N.P.A. wishing to partake should contact the nominated leader at least by the previous Wednesday.

Track, 2km., Easy, Not steep.

Meet at junction of Burra Road/Old Cooma Road at

Leader - John Baker 462431 (work)

Walk to be confirmed by leader.

AUGUST

2nd, 3rd, Saturday, Sunday
Bundanoon.

Ref: Morton National Park
Map

A camping weekend to view the prolific wildflowers in the area. The weekend's activities will include walks to view Permian Sandstone topography and some of the deep gorges in close proximity to the town will be visited. For those who do not wish to camp, Bundanoon has many hotels/motels which cater for overnight accommodation. Various grades but not hard.

Meet at Bundanoon Railway Station at 11 a.m.
Leader - Julie Henry 485130 (home).

17th, Sunday
Flea Creek

Ref: Cotter 1:50,000
Brindabella 1:50,000

The approach to the junction of Flea Creek and the Goodradigbee River involves a steep picturesque descent. The river at this point is swift flowing and in season offers good fishing. Once the river is reached a round trip back to the start of the walk will be made. From the junction the party will proceed upstream for about 2 km. before using a fire access trail for the return home. Alternatively some cars may be left at Brindabella Bridge for transport back to the starting point.

Some track, 10 km., Medium, Steep.
Meet at Picadilly Circus at 10 a.m.
Leader - Ian Currie 958107 (work) or 958112 (home).

AUGUST (continued)

24th, Sunday

Pierce's Creek

Ref: Cotter 1:50,000

Barbecue

After the success of the N.P.A. Christmas gatherings, it has been decided to hold a winter get together at Pierce's Creek. This attractive location would be ideal for any short walks members may wish to do on the day.

Meet at Pierce's Creek at 1 p.m.

Leader - Mike Hardware 861915 (home).

31st, Sunday

Mount McKeahnie

Ref: Bimberi 1:50,000

A scramble to the top of this mountain gives a good view of the southern A.C.T. In our local area (Orroral Valley) this day's walk can be recommended for all members except young children.

No track, 10 km., Medium.

Meet at turnoff to Corin Dam from the Tidbinbilla-Tharwa Road at 10 a.m.

Leader - Noel Semple 811482 (home).

SEPTEMBER

7th Sunday

West Canberra

Ref: Canberra District
Map

Although very close to Canberra this walk keeps one well away from the signs of civilisation. Leaving transport at the Drake Brockman Drive the route leads steeply down to the Molonglo River.

Following the river for about 2 km., the junction of the Molonglo and Murrumbidgee Rivers is reached.

A large area of sand makes a pleasant lunch spot.

SEPTEMBER (continued)

28th, Sunday

Tinderry (East side)

Ref: Michelago 1:50,000

Captain's Flat

1:50,000

This is the third time in recent years that the N.P.A. has visited this spectacular area. This time it is intended to drive to the East side via the Michelago-Captain's Flat Road, before commencing walking. The walk is a medium to hard push to the top of Mount Tinderry. The magnificent views at the climax of the climb are well worth the effort. No track, 12 km., Medium rough. Meet at Michelago at 9.30 a.m. Leader - John Holtzapfel 815817 (home).

GENERAL MEETINGS

At 8.00 p.m. in Room 1, The Griffin Centre, Civic.

JUNE

19th, Thursday

Myall Lakes - the dilemma of a geomorphologist

Dr. Bruce Thorn

JULY

17th, Thursday

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Reports from the Committee, election of new Officers
and other business.

Feature - slides of the Flinders Rangers

Ian Currie and Lynn Richardson

AUGUST

21st, Thursday

Volcanic glass, prehistoric trade in a valuable
item in the south-west Pacific.

Mr. Wal Ambrose.

National Parks Association outings summary

JUNE

1 Sunday	Devil's Peak	Walk
8 Sunday	Tidbinbilla Peak	Walk
14 Saturday		
16 Sunday	Durras North	Camp
29 Sunday	Pierce's Creek Falls	Walk

JULY

13 Sunday	Colinton Gorge	Walk
26 Saturday	London Bridge	Walk

AUGUST

2 Saturday		
3 Sunday	Bundanoon	Camp
17 Sunday	Flea Creek	Walk
24 Sunday	Pierce's Creek	Barbeque
31 Sunday	Mount McKeahne	Walk

SEPTEMBER

7 Sunday	West Canberra	Walk
13 Saturday	Black Mountain	Walk
20 Saturday		
21 Sunday	Mimosa Rocks	Camp
28 Sunday	Tinderry	Walk