

**WARBY RANGE
PROTECTION SOCIETY
1985**

Minutes of the 79th Meeting of the Executive Committee
of the Warby Range Protection Society at 6 Chesham St
Wangaratta 25/2/85 at 8pm

Present

J. Humphrey (Chair) A. Pene J. Hoelch H. Curtis
P. Darwins

Apologies

G. Hoyle

Minutes

Minutes of previous meeting read + confirmed
on motion of A. Pene / H. Curtis.

Corresp.

1. Bush Telegraph.
2. East Gippsland Coalition

Moved A. Pene / H. Curtis that an amount of
\$50 previously earmarked for the Munties forest campaign
be re-directed to the East Gippsland Coalition. Cld.

This fund is supported by the ACF and its
purpose is to campaign for greater protection to the
Gippsland rainforests.

3. Eco File - Federal Govt. PR. publications
4. Australian Democrats - News Release.

Repts.

Corresp. received on motion of J. Hoelch / H. Curtis
Treasurer's report showed approx Bank balance
of \$1041.28

Received on motion of H. Curtis / A. Pene
Bushwalking. A. Pene outlined recent
walks, the most successful at Snowy Valley and
the Bogong High Plains. A meeting of the Walking Group
will soon be held to formulate the 1985 programme.

S. Bus.

Annual Meeting of Society to be held at
the Centre on Monday 25 March at 8pm. A suitable
film should be available, and if possible a speaker to
be arranged from the National Parks Service.

Buffalo fire

Concern was expressed regarding publicity
following these fires. Secretary to liaise with NPS to
ascertain facts and place article in press if necessary.

Meeting closed at 10pm.

[Signature]
Chairman

Minutes of the 10th Annual General Meeting of the Walky Range Protection Society, held at the Centre on 25/3/85 at 8.15 P.m.

The meeting was attended by 19 people and chaired by the outgoing President Jim Humphrey.

Welcome.

A welcome was extended by the President to all present, and especially to Mr Mike Gardner, District Superintendent of NPS.

Apologies

Arthur Hall, Brian + Ely. Kelly, Joan Pinner.

Guest Speakers:

The Chairman deferred the formal part of the meeting to allow Mike Gardner to speak regarding the effect on NPS as a result of the re-shuffle to the Department, involving Forests, Land + Conservation. Mr Gardner assured the meeting that conservation values would continue to hold an important place in any future negotiations on land use, but that a period of time was needed to evaluate the final effect.

The President thanked Mr Gardner and continued with the formal meeting agenda.

Minutes

Previous Annual minutes were read + confirmed on the motions of J Hodge / A Pinner.

President's Report

The President read his annual report which was received on the motion of H Carter / J Carter.

Walky Group.

Arnold Pinner verbally reported on the previous twelve months activities, which embraced a varied programme. Numbers were slightly down. Leaders for walks

WARBY RANGE PROTECTION SOCIETY

Statement of Receipts and Payments
for period ended 28th February, 1985

<u>Income</u>		<u>Expenditure</u>		
<u>1984</u>		<u>1984</u>		
	Subscriptions	13	Centre Meeting	5
132	39 Family) Stationery	8
15	4 Life	60	85) Chronicle Annual Meeting	11
1	Donation	11) Walking Club P/Cash	25
25	Cheque account interest	17	53 Subscription Native Forests	20
46	Australian Savings Bonds	46	State Duty)	
15	Investment Savings A/C	<u>50</u>	2 Federal Tax)	1
		113	44 Centre Display	--
56	Warby Walkabout Profit		93 Operating Income for year	<u>270</u>
—		—		
290		340	290	<u>340</u>
			Balance c/d	
	Subscriptions in Advance	4	Cheque a/c	564
	Operating Income b/d	270	Investment Savings a/c	<u>564</u>
				\$ <u>1128</u>
	<u>Balances</u>			
	Cheque a/c 1.03.1984	339		
	Investment Savings a/c			
	1.03.1984	<u>515</u>		
		\$ <u>1128</u>	<u>Assets at 28th February, 1985</u>	
			Cheque a/c balance	564-20
			Investment savings a/c	564-57
			Australian Savings Bonds	<u>500-00</u>
				\$ <u>1628-77</u>

Minutes of the 80th Meeting of the Executive
of the Waukey Range Protection Society held on 22/4/85
at 16 Chesholm St at 8pm

Present: J. Humphrey (Chair) P. Larkings
W. Wilson H. Curtis A. Peene N. La Por
S. Hodge.

Welcome The President extended a welcome to all
present, but in particular to new members
W. Wilson N. La Por.

Apologies J. Kentman.

Minutes Read and confirmed on motion of H. Curtis / W. Wilson

Business
Among Contact with NPS re Buffalo Fees has been
made, but meanwhile a letter from the Director
of Conservation had appeared in the Chronicle,
giving the true story re fire prevention measures.
Moved H. Curtis / A. Peene. That a letter be
forwarded to the Director of Conservation, expressing
the Society's support for his action. Cd.

Corresp.
1. Bush Telegraph. General information
with emphasis on the Ellery Blocks, and
measures to ensure logging has regard for
stream flow + other values.
2. Senator Mackin re Democrat bill
introduced into Senate regards Cape Tribulation.

Correspondence received on motion of N. La Por / W. Wilson

Accounts Accounts as listed passed for payment on motion of
A. Peene / W. Wilson:
Chronicle \$9.25 Centre \$8.
P. Larkings \$25.40

Reports

Treasurer B. Hodge reported 8 Life Memberships and 21 Family memberships had been received to date.

With accounts deducted, the total assets are \$1791.12.

Moved

That the Treasurer be empowered to invest \$500 for the Society, type of investment at his discretion
 a. Pense/W. Wilson ctd.

Walking Track.

A. Pense reported on successful start to the new season's programme at Blue Rag Range, a medium to hard walk of 14 kms. Also an interesting ~~at~~ weekend on Largo High Plains.

Waukeg Range

P. Luebings briefly reported on progress on negotiations with City of Waukegatta for support on submission to Minister for Conservation re land purchase.

Life Membership

Moved a. Pense/W. Wilson that Society at its next Annual Meeting review the Life Membership Subscription to raise it to a more realistic figure. ctd.

G. Business:

The next meeting of the Executive will be left to the discretion of the Secretary ~~to~~ notify members according to the pressure of business.

Meeting closed at 9.30pm.

[Signature]
 Chairman

Minutes of the 81st Executive Meeting of the Warby
Range Protection Society held on 24/6/85 at 16 Chesham
St at 8pm.

Present Jim Humphrey (Chair) Helen Curtis Arnold Pease
Bill Wilson Paul Lockings Gault Widge (late)

Apologies Jack Hartman Dom. Via Post.

Minutes Previous meeting read and confirmed on
motion of H Curtis / A. Pease. cel.

- Corresp.
1. East on focus re bio wealth Govt policy areas.
 2. P.C.F. Newsletter - tabled
 3. Bush Telegraph.
 4. Red Cross
 5. East Gippsland Coalition - re donation

Business Admin
Comm.

Item 3, concerning Bush Telegraph, caused
discussion on the current direction of conservation
groups and their tendency to overlap. It was
felt the initial position of the Nature Forest
Action Council ^{had} altered to widen its
scope, that another organization East Gippsland
Coalition had appeared, and all require money
to finance their efforts. Furthermore, the
subscription rates had all increased to an
alarming degree.

motion

It was moved
H/Curtis / A. Pease, that we subscribe to
Bush Telegraph for the last time, and bring to
the attention of the Nature Forest Action Council
our concerns. cel.

Item 5

As we have already given one donation
to this appeal, it was believed to be enough.

Reception Comm. Received a motion of G Widge / W Wilson

Warby Ranges – a recent addition to the State Park

In October, 1984, the Warby Ranges State Park was increased by 200 ha as a result of a gift from the Nason family. J. ROS GARNET is a long-term friend of the family and attended the ceremony.

A ceremony that deserves to be recorded in Parkwatch took place on the afternoon of 11 October, 1984, on the lawns of Kurring-gai, the old homestead of the Nason family at Wangaratta South. The occasion marked the conclusion of the complicated process of transferring the title to a 250 ha (about 600 acres) portion of the Kurring-gai property at the southern end of the Warby Range to the National Parks Service.

As a preliminary step toward this objective two parcels of bushland, one on granite slopes each side of the Taminick Gap road, had been donated by Miss Doreen Nason to the Victoria Conservation Trust, and this warm and sunny October afternoon was chosen to effect the final transfer to the Service.

The function included an enjoyable al-fresco luncheon followed by the ceremony of handing over the title by the chairman of the Trust, Professor John Swan, to the Director of National Parks, Mr. Don Saunders, and the unveiling of a bronze commemorative plaque by Miss Nason who, on this occasion, was the guest of honour. She was supported by her cousin, Miss Jill Rossiter.

Everything was organised superbly by the Service's District Superintendent, Mr. Mike Gardiner, and his staff. It was a large gathering which included members of the Trust, Dr. Norman Wettenhall and Mr. David Bremmer, and its Executive Director, Col. Ian Wilton; along with Messrs. Hall and McDonald, rangers of the State Park; Professor Tony Eddison, the Director-General of Conservation, Forests and Lands; Mr. Herb. Caldwell, his department's District Superintendent and representatives of involved or interested district organisations such as the surveyors, the Warby Ranges Protection Society, the North-eastern Historical Society, the Shires of Benalla and Wangaratta and, of course, people from the local press, radio and television.

The house journal of the National Parks Service, "National Park News", recorded the event in the following words:

"This most valuable area of bushland located south of the Taminick Gap road is to be incorporated in the Warby Ranges State Park. The bush blocks not only increase the area of the State Park for the public but provide direct access from the Taminick Gap road to Mount Glenrowan."

As long-time friends of the Nason family, of which Miss Doreen Nason is the sole survivor, this writer and his wife were among those invited to attend. We happily accepted the invitation for many reasons – one being to unofficially represent such interested organizations as the V.N.P.A., the Native Plants Preservation Society and the Field Naturalists Club of Victoria, all three of which have contributed to the campaign of years ago to have as much as possible of the Warby Range included among Victoria's national parks.

Kurring-gai is but a part of the large freehold farmland acquired by Miss Nason's grandparents, William and Arabella Taaffe in 1881. Their original homestead was down the road towards Glenrowan and it was there that their two daughters, the future Mrs. Nason and Mrs. Rossiter, grew up. It was also there that some Lemon-scented gums were planted, one of which survives to this day – but more of them later.

When William Taaffe retired in 1905 the property was divided, Mr. and Mrs. Rossiter occupying the old homestead until the family departed to settle at Sale in South Gippsland. Mr. and Mrs. Nason established themselves in their new home. "Kurring-gai", at the foot of the southern end of the Warby Range. This property extended into bushland on both sides of the present Taminick Gap road and, on the north side, included the now-almost-famous steep, rocky slope that harbours the magnificent array of tall, fully-skirted grass trees of ancient vintage. Scattered generously among them is a host of wildflowers, most of which have been recorded by Miss Nason and admired by generations of visitors. That hillside is now part of the State Park. Long before it was even thought of as a



"... magnificent array of tall, fully-skirted grass trees ..." (David Tatnall).

public domain this picturesque area was described by an anonymous writer in *Wild Life* magazine (Anon., 1948). It is believed that the writer of the article was the magazine's editor, Crosbie Morrison, who at the time had just returned from Wangaratta where he had delivered the annual Pioneer Memorial Oration and, incidentally, inspected that part of the Range.

My interest in the Warby Range dates from November, 1939 when a Benalla friend, Victor Say, sent me a specimen of an orchid, several plants of which he and his orchid-hunting mate, John Stephens, had discovered there in 1936. It was hailed as the first recorded occurrence in Victoria of *Pterostylis squamata* R.Br., a plant that has since been re-named *P. hammata*.

It was years later before we actually explored the Range - in the mid-50s when the Native Plants Preservation Society joined conservation groups in Benalla and Wangaratta to persuade land use authorities to set aside a portion of the Range as a wildflower sanctuary. Through the concerted efforts of Mrs. Nason, Clive and Doreen Nason, and the Society a small area was eventually reserved on the lower slope of the Range's eastern face, adjoining the disused granite quarry. It was opened with due ceremony in the spring of 1958 and, as befits such a notable occasion, the function was attended by several members of Parliament, representatives of the Shire and City of

Wangaratta, the Shire of Benalla, the North-eastern Field Naturalists Club, ourselves as members of the Native Plants Preservation Society and, of course, the leading campaigners, the Nason family.

The formal establishment of this sanctuary possibly did more to encourage interest in the idea of reserving a lot more of the uncommitted Crown land in the area than anything else. Toward the end of 1966 the Central Planning Authority, after some vigorous persuasion by Benalla and Wangaratta people, arranged a tour of inspection followed by a public meeting in Benalla. It was attended by representatives of the Lands Department, Forests Commission, Central Planning Authority and its Upper Murray and Upper Goulburn Regional Committees, the Fisheries and Wildlife Department, the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission, city and shire delegates of the local government councils of Benalla and Wangaratta, the North-eastern Field Naturalists Club, the Warby Ranges Wildflower Sanctuary Committee of Management, the Bird Observers Club and the aforementioned V.N.P.A., N.P.P.S. and F.N.C.V.

An outcome of this event was a direction from the Central Planning Authority to its two regional committees to examine and report on the future of the Warby Range and on the feasibility of having it dedicated as a national park. A special sub-committee undertook the task and, in 1968, its

report was presented to the Authority through its chairman, the Minister of State Development, the Hon. J.W. Manson, MLA. This report included transcripts of the evidence and submissions received by the sub-committee and presented to it by a score of interested public and private organisations. Although the sub-committee recommended that the whole of the uncommitted public land in the Range be dedicated as a national park, the government of the day adopted the title "State Park" as defined by its Land Conservation Council. When that body came to examine its Murray Valley Study Area in 1983, an area that included the Warby Range, it noted that the State Park occupied a total area of 3270 ha. Its recommendation of June, 1984, proposed that the area of the Park be increased to 6640 ha. This excluded the Killawarra State Forest at the northern end of the Range, separating it from the Park by the Wangaratta-Thoona road which crosses the Range at the foot of Mount Killawarra where the Spurring acacia occurs. The southern portion of the Park, in the vicinity of the Taminick Gap, is rather disjointed, as will be seen from a glance at Map A in the above-mentioned L.C.C. publication, but the Nason gift has helped considerably to lessen the fragmentation. It has narrowed the gap between the main range and the Mount Glenrowan section and ensured the continued protection of those marvellous grass trees.

To a conspicuous granite tor on a steep slope to the south of the Taminick Gap road there has been affixed the plaque which was unveiled at the function on 11 October last. The inscription reads:

"The land was given in memory of Robert Henry King Nason and his wife Anna Mary Cari Nason who were residents of the district all their lives. The property has been in the Nason family since 1881."



Miss Doreen Nason (right) and her cousin, Miss Jill Rossiter (left) (J.R. Garnett).

To conclude this account of the Warby Range developments it should not be amiss to recall some of the early history of the district and its pioneers.

My curiosity about the past was aroused long ago when I noticed the existence of some old Lemon-scented gums along the roadside between Glenrowan and Wangaratta. The species is a native of Queensland, from districts such as Rockhampton, the Atherton Tableland, Mount Garnet, etc. and hence was recognised as a "foreigner". Only recently did I learn something of the origin of the Wangaratta trees from Miss Rossiter and Miss Nason.

The original tree, still standing near the roadside down towards Warby Springs, was one in an avenue of trees planted along the track leading to the Taaffe homestead. It is believed that the celebrated government botanist, Baron von Mueller, was associated with the avenue, perhaps indirectly through Henry Langtree, one of Mrs. Taaffe's four brothers. Among the first of Wangaratta's barristers, Henry was an enthusiastic amateur botanist who collected native plants in the district and despatched specimens to Mueller at the Melbourne Herbarium. It can be taken for granted that Mueller would have acknowledged the donations and reciprocated by giving Henry an assortment of seeds of plants he, Mueller, considered worthy of cultivation in places far removed from their point of origin. Apparently Queensland's Lemon-scented gum was among such plants. It certainly flourished in Wangaratta!

It is worth noting that among those engaged in the process of land survey in the Wangaratta district in the early 1880s were Henry Langtree's three brothers - Octavius, Campbell and John.

Both Kurring-gai and its more extensive original farm were once but a small part of the 16,000-acre

(about 6,480 ha) pastoral run taken up by William Clark(e) in 1838 – a mere couple of years after Major Mitchell had passed through and mapped the country. Clarke's run was named from its situation – the Ovens Crossing Place. The Ovens River thereabouts formed one of the boundaries to the run and at the crossing place for such traffic as began to flow along the primitive track between Port Phillip and Sydney, there grew the small settlement that was to become Wangaratta. The run included the granite range and the plains that stretched south and south-east practically as far as Glenrowan. In August, 1844, the lower portion was severed from the main run and taken up by Benjamin Warby who called his holding Taminick Plains. It was also known as Punkard's Island. The spelling of names (and words in general) was somewhat flexible in the early days so it is easy to believe that Punkard was really Henry Punched who was a local farmer during the 1840s and a contemporary, possibly a sub-tenant, of Clarke.

In 1858 Warby was succeeded by his son, also named Benjamin, and when Warby Jnr. relinquished the licence in March, 1872, it was acquired by Even Evans who, by also purchasing the Clarke holding, re-united the two runs. Evans failed to prosper even with the whole 6,480 ha at his disposal and, in September, 1874, the runs came under the control of the Bank of New South Wales. In May, 1876, the Bank found a purchaser in William Newcomen. He was the last squatter on the old Clarke run of 1838. In March, 1879 the licence was cancelled, the run surveyed and broken up into farm lots, and made available for purchase as freehold in 1881 which was the year in which the forebears of the Nason and Rossiter families acquired their farm.

As for the name "Warby Range" it will, in time, be forgotten that it was originally named "Fuller's

Range" – actually on 14 October, 1836, by the renowned and redoubtable Surveyor-General of New South Wales, Major Mitchell. It happened while he was on one of his three expeditions, the one that led him to Portland via Australia Felix. In the published journal of those travels the name is printed as "Futter's Range", conferred as a tribute "to a successful and public-spirited colonist". It is more than likely that the then-prominent citizen of Sydney was a man named Fuller who became Futter through a typesetter's error. James Bonwick, the educationist, writing 20 years later, used the name "Fuller". However, the government botanist in his report of September, 1853, to the Colonial Secretary, stuck to "Futter", although in doing so he did no more than use the spelling as given in Mitchell's published Three Expeditions.

The present name came to be applied sometime after 1856, perhaps following the retirement of Warby Jnr. from the scene. No doubt an examination of Lands Department records would reveal the date when his name was first used on official maps.

Further Reading

- Anon (1948) *Wild Life* (10) 4:154-156.
- Geography of Australia and New Zealand* (1856). James Bonwick. Third Edition.
- Pastoral Pioneers of Port Phillip* (1974). Billis and Kenyon. Second Edition.
- Proposed Recommendations on the Murray Valley Study Area* (1984). Land Conservation Council, Melbourne.
- Report of the Sub-Committee to the Upper Murray and Upper Goulburn Regional Committee on the future of the Warby Ranges* (1968).
- Three Expeditions into Eastern Australia* (1839). T.L. Mitchell. Second Edition.
- Victorian Naturalist* – May 1967 (84):136-140.
November 1968 (85):331-334.
Jul./Aug. 1976 (93):152-154.
- V.N.P.A. Newsletter* – June 1967 (61):10-11.
September 1967 (62):9.
June 1968 (66):4.
August 1969 (72):7.
November 1972 (90):20.

New Minister confirms National Parks Act

One of the first actions of the new Minister for Conservation, Forests and Lands, Joan Kirner, when she met a V.N.P.A. delegation on 29 March shortly after assuming Ministerial office, was to confirm that it was government policy that the National Parks Act will be retained as a separate Act and will in no way be weakened. Ms. Kirner also confirmed that it was the intention of the

government to bring all conservation reserves under the Schedules to the Act. This increased responsibility will be reflected in the resources available to the re-structured National Parks Service.

The Minister told the delegation that she welcomed the involvement of community groups such as the V.N.P.A. The Association looks forward to a continuation of the excellent relationship enjoyed with Ms. Kirner's predecessor, Mr. Rod Mackenzie.

WARBY RANGE PROTECTION SOCIETY.

NEWS LETTER-JUNE 1985.

THANK YOU!

To all those members who have renewed membership, we say "thank you for your continued support".. Although no apparent threat to the natural environment of the Warby Range seems imminent, that does not mean that circumstances would not alter the picture.

The current changes to Local Government could see the Shire of Wangaratta disappear and a vast area reaching from the far south to the Murray River become the new municipality. Who would be the new representatives, and what would be their attitudes to development on the Range? The question posed, reveals the fragility of present planning controls, that can be radically altered at the whim of an unsympathetic Council. Therefore, a strong organization is required to put the case for preservation should the need arise.

BUSHWALKING NOTES.

Our intrepid walkers celebrated the start of the new programme ..85/86.. with a 14k round journey on Blue Rag Range. A beautiful drop, but the first 3ks proved a bit testing. Very steep dip down and up to start with. OK in one direction, but waiting for you on the return. Some new members, along with a few oldies wisely decided to terminate at this point & spend a more lieisurely day, leaving the toughies to slog on. Note that Peter Curtis solved a breathing problem on such hard walks. Gone are the oxygen masks and pep pills (mostly barley sugar and raisins anyway) yes, just inhale and exhale like a steam loco, going up hill.

Garth remains untoppled as the iron man. We consider that something will have to be done to bring him back to the level of us weakies. Like carrying an extra pack, or leaving the cars and walking the last 10ks for a warm up....

A recent walk to Mt Jack satisfied all tastes and appeared to be a trump for a future walk. Over 15ks, it followed beautiful terrain adjoining House Creek, avenues of fern trees, great stands of Blue Gum, and a change of weather that put us into fog, freezing temps at the summit and a little rain. Sounds bad, but really most enjoyable. The quick return was made worthwhile by an excellent song from a resident lyrebird. Those who stayed at home missed a great outing.

For instance, would you believe, the compulsory 10am stop found one gentleman without his mandatory coffee. Back in the car!!!! Another wise fellow star ted with breakfast on the spot by drinking soup, saving some for later, and has started a "Carry soup" craze. Then we had Wendy Dace back in form. We watched and waited eagerly as she navigated House Creek, knowing Wendys' penchant for taking a dip. For the statistical minded.. Mount Jack is 3897feet in hight. Our climb would have been about 2700 feet

Other walks completed are Mt Stanley, Dargo High Plains, and an easy walk in the Warbys. Some good venues are yet to come, so get fit bring your friends and enjoy the open air.

FURTHER UP THE MAP.

A recent visit to Morton Nat. Park brought a sharp contrast to the N.E mountains. The abrupt Hawkesbury sandstone cliffs were evident from Fitzroy Falls to the Budawangs. A trip to Pigeon House Mountain - first discovered by Cook in 1770- showed the great versatility of the area. Rich in flora around the lower slopes, the final ascent to the summit involved a knee knocking climb up near vertical ladders through rock fissures to finally stand atop and goggle eyed by the ruggedness of the deeply dissected valleys and flat topped mountains including The Castle. It is a place with a great history in bushwalking, and would be an excellent venue for a safari.

THE PAYNE OCTET.

A select group led by Ted Payne, stepped back in time to visit a piece of pristine bushland. We joined a small creek, picking our route through thick undergrowth. This was 'Living Planet' in the flesh. The life cycle in perpetual motion, the rotting forest giants slowly returning to humus, the brilliant array of fungus, red, green, brown and psychedelic blue, along with ugly unmentionable blobs of jelly stuff feeding on other living organisms. The whole place was damp, water dripping from tree ferns, rocks, and oozing from the black earth. Mother Natures' mammary glands secreting their life giving juice with tireless regularity ranging from the poised undecided drops to rapid time ballet and on to the rushing enthusiasm of mass production flow. The final assault took us through a living tunnel of tall tree ferns, lined with moss and unusual ferns, to emerge into sunlight at the foot of a small waterfall of rare beauty. Surely a place to move the spirit. A place of reverence. Our gratitude to Ted for bringing it to our knowledge.

Loss of Death.

When it comes to transport, Arnold insists on travelling with good reliable vehicles... No, he had doubts about a certain members car, it looked a bit tired. Yes, he would prefer a more-up-to-it model. Wait for it..... On the return journey to Wangaratta the improbable happened. The clutch linkage failed on this reliable chariot. Much comment. Red faces etc etc.

Parting Shot.

Walking group encountered deer shooters in the same general area. Only thing that distinguished them from guerrilla fighters was an absence of hand grenades. Serious question. What about safety of bushwalkers? Maybe we should wear bullet proof vests, tin hats, and a flashing light on top....;

MAPS and NAVIGATORS.

My living room is nearly papered with 'em. They adorn the mantelpiece, cover the piano, festoon the bookshelves, and bulge from the filing cabinet, rudely displaying their provocative contours. For me, those squiggly lines offer hours of pleasant bushwalking from the comfort of my lounge room, until I step outside, and then they become a licence to lead. Navigators are an intrepid lot. I greatly admire the fellow, who, armed with a cheese sandwich and a towelling hat, plunges into the bush, to emerge hours later right on target. Equally, my admiration to the fellow, who leads from the precision of well chosen and researched charts, backed by the best instrumentation, and sometimes a wiff of sixth sense--- arrives. But do they ever get lost. You bet they do. A well known figure in bushwalking tells how a group of 'experts' starting on a long journey were attempting to pinpoint a certain hill as a means to establishing their starting point. Cross bearings were taken, and fierce arguments broke out regarding position. Silence descended, and suddenly one wise man sheepishly said, ' I think we are standing on the hill in question' Truth is, that maps do contain mistakes, and sometimes do not show all features such as roads and tracks. Directions offered by locals can be vague and even conflict of views in a group will provide the right incentive to go wrong. Even the style of 'Writing up' walks by authors leaves much to be desired on clarity, and pose a challenge to interpretation. All said, getting there and back safely is what the game is about, and whilst experience helps, it can still happen to the best--- getting lost. But who will admit it?..

LAST LINES.

If you have not yet paid your subscription, please forward to Secretary.

WALKERS ARE REMINDED OF THE NEED TO CONTACT WALK LEADERS A DAY BEFOREHAND TO CHECK DEPARTURE TIMES...

LCC Final Recommendations for Murray Valley are now available. It recommends a larger Warby State Park. The Society supports this position, and you can also add your support as individuals.

Minutes of the 82nd Executive Meeting of the Wairarapa
Protection Society held on 22/7/85 at 8^{pm} at 6 Chesham St Wairarapa.

Present J. Humphrey (Chair) W. Wilson, Arnold Pene, Gert Hodge
Paul Garbings.

Apologies Helen Carter Frank Kentman.

Minutes Read and confirmed by Arnold Pene / G. Hodge.

Business Item 1. C. C. Final Recommendations Murray Valley.

No further action required

Accident Policy.

Application form filled in and
now awaiting further advice.

Corresp.

1. Corresp. on focus (no action)
2. Pamphlet Quick Print.

It was agreed some printing could be
necessary and quotes may be desirable. It was
felt that upon acceptance of a satisfactory design
for our letterhead, quotes could be obtained from
Pambi.

Arnold Pene still pursuing this matter

Receipts

Corresp as listed received on motion of
G. Hodge / A. Pene.

Reports

Treasurer Gert revealed little change
had occurred to current financial position, and
that \$600 had been invested in a Bank Deposit.

Mytteford
line

The investigation into the new deposit
Mytteford - Bught rail line had covered 20kms.
Very little worthwhile flora was located, but
the investigating committee believe it should be
kept as crown land + reserved against
future needs.

Walking
Group.

The latest walk, an easy day in the Kullawana forest had attracted a record 31 walkers. Whilst the forest showed signs of a very dry autumn, and wattles were not yet in bloom, the outing proved very popular.

Incorporation:

The vexed question of whether the Society should become an incorporated body once again was discussed at length and in depth. The points in favour were strongly supported as also were the good reasons against plausible.

No firm move could therefore be taken, as the apparent advantages could not be sufficiently established and the matter was therefore deferred for the time being.

S. Bus.

Marby Walkabout: It was agreed to approach the walkabout from a different angle. Instead of an all up catering effort, it was agreed to provide a cup of belly tea for lunch, but all people attending to bring own cuts. A low fee of about \$2 for singles and \$3 per family was suggested.

Meeting closed at 10.10 pm.

A. Hewitt
Vice President 28/10/85

Minutes of the 83rd Executive Meeting of the Warby Range Protection Society, held on 28/10/85 at 8 PM Mangawaitia.

Present: Helen Curtis (Chair) Bill Wilson Gert Hodge Paul Jackson's

Apologies: Jude Kentman Jim Humphrey.

Minutes: Read and confirmed on motions of W. Wilson / G. Hodge.

Business arising: It was reported that the premium on the Society's Public Risk Policy had been paid.

Business:

1. Govt. in focus - Federal Govt News Letter.
2. Victorian Legislation - Vic Govt News Letter
3. Nature front action - Various articles re timber industry inquiry.

It was agreed to write to the Ministers re the timber industry inquiry along lines suggested by the NFA.

Reports: Treasurer reported a surplus to date of \$117. Subscription to G.C.V. is outstanding and secretary will enquire from GCV as to their financial year.

Bushwalking The Warby Walkabout held this year was not a success due to the poor attendance, and was combined with the normal walk of the month.

Other bushwalking activities have been well attended and are continuing to be a success.

Meeting closed at 9:30 PM.

H. Curtis