

Next meeting will be the last for this year, so we are asking for final numbers for 'Basically Beef' before the 25th November. Please contact Michelle if you haven't put your name down and wish to attend. Details of the night can be found later in the magazine.

Thanks to those who turned up at the Bush Dance and especially to the usual few who did all the work. We enjoyed the night, despite all the muck slinging about my outfit, the black managed to come off and everything was all white next day.

By the time you read this, the Mayford trip will be over and I hope those who went had an enjoyable time.

While we are on the subject of trips, no-one has suggested a Christmas trip as yet, so now is the time to get thinking and bring your suggestions along to the next meeting.

Don't forget the Kid's Christmas party at Bimbibi Wildlife Park, Mt. Burnett, with all the usual trappings - Beef on a spit, bar-b-que, soft drinks, games etc., B.Y.O. salads and grog. Most importantly bring your clearly marked with your name (christian and surname) to the next meeting.

See you at the meeting

Dave Heard

*Peter Links Row Neal
LWE Jan. 1989.*

Christmas Dinner Dance

B.Y.O.

7.30 PM

Sat. Dec. 3rd.

Basically Beef

Dress: Casual

2 Francis Crt.

\$23.00 Per Head

Ferntree Gully

Final numbers to Michelle Heard by 25.11.8

Children's Christmas Party 1988

Bimbimbi Wildlife Park

Paternoster Rd. Mt. Burnett.

Sunday December 11th. from 11 am.

Beef on spit, snags, rolls & soft drinks provided.

Cost: \$5.00 per head. Children under 14 free.

Bring all the family along for a great

VICTORIAN FOUR WHEEL DRIVE CLUB INC.

TREASURER'S REPORT AS OF 31/7/88

INCOME	AMOUNT \$	EXPENDITURE	CHQ. NO. CASH	AMOUNT \$
Subscriptions	870.00	Hall Hire	205590	20.00
Badges		Printing		
Monthly Special Effort	53.51	Postage	205591	29.89
A.G.M. Special Effort	485.00	Stationery		
Radio Licences	450.00	Refreshments	Cash	1.02
A.G.M. Dinner	810.00	Monthly Special Effort	205593	39.98
Enamel Mugs	16.00	A.G.M. Dinner	205592	880.00
Stubbie Holders	4.00	Federal Tax	-	0.30
Building Society Interest	27.85	State Tax	-	0.30
	\$2,716.36			\$ 971.49

BI CENTENNIAL DANCE REPORT

Well, before I start reporting, I wish to thank everyone who either visited Steve and I after our car accident, both in the hospital and at home. Also to everyone who offered help, and to all at the bush dance and in the club who wished me a speedy recovery. Again, thank you! I hope by the next dance that even if I can't dance that I can at least walk.

Now to the reporting. Unfortunately the turn out was not as large as we had hoped, but none the less for those of us who did attend it was a most enjoyable night. The "Ozzie Mozzies" supplied us with great music and there was probably many tender feet and muscles after much dancing.

The food was terrific, as usual, the beef on the spit and the snags were most palatable. The aussie influence really overtook the Gaelic Hall. It was all over the food, with serviettes and flags in the rolls, and all over the people.

The Colonial influence was the theme of the evening, starting and finishing with the committee, it seemed. But for those of us who did go to the trouble it was well worth it.

The cutest little Colonial Award (if there was one!!) would have to go to Lauren Ayton. She could have come straight out of a picture book. We also had an assortment of convicts, a Buxom Barmaid, quite a few long skirted Ladies and children, we even had our own abo!!! The Aussie influence was evident, with lots of blue denim, Oilskins and hats.

All in all it was a great night. It is a shame tho that we never get the same response at our indoor bush dance as we do to the outdoor bush dance at Bimbimbi.

Sharron and Steve Alder

MEMBER'S PROFILE

Spiro Abela

Hello everyone!

Swish to introduce myself to every member of the V.F.W.D.C.

My name is SPIRO (yes I know, but no to that one. I am not a Greek. I'll tell you more about it, later.) Surname ABELA. I do not wish to confuse you but instead of telling you which street I was from, school I went to or what type of work I did and am doing now I rather raccont about the time I left my birthplace and how I got here (in Australia). This I think you'll find it rather more interesting. And I have the pleasure to be the first er-member to jot down one's profile. A little warning, do excuse my English, for those with a keen interest may notice a bit of olde English there, with perhaps a tint of ocker.

It was a day in September 1955, not at the M.C.G., though, watching a final series football game or the 'BIG ONE', but no, it was on the shores of the Grand Harbour Valetta, the Capital of MALTA. As it was Spring there that time of year, it was a glorious day.

I was awaiting to embark the 'Castel Felice' (bound for Australia), which used to be one of Italy's luxurious passenger liners. And boy, was she luxurious. Featuring a fashionable 'Verandah Bar' large enough to accommodate a few hundred people, comfortable seated. Beautifully furnished depicting italianite furniture and appointments, certainly the night atmosphere where one could dance the night away to the tune of a fabulous Italian Style (ROMANTIC) band, or where one could quench one's thirst into oblivious. Further down towards the stern (where one could relax and enjoy a drink in those lazy, warm afternoons, or a game of cards) was the 'Lido Bar', situated a few steps away from the Swimming Pool.

It was on this voyage that I met a number of German people, all with the same task of starting a new life in this good old country. For what I could remember the number of migrants consisted of 250 Maltese and about 1,100 Germans; of the latter some 650 were Fraulein, meaning single girls. Remember the writer was 32 years younger then. And if patience, telepathy and discretion could not substitute for - simple communication - his dog will recite Shakespear on a very windy day.

This was the place where I met my wife, Rita. To make it known, Rita did not speak a word in English then, as it was not included in their school's curriculum at that time. (I started learning English in year 3).

When I introduced myself, naturally enough I would have to ask the other's name, but to my surprise the answer was, and sounded something like "ICH VERSTEH NICHT" meaning "I do not understand what you are saying".

So keen was I, that in the days to follow I managed to learn a number of German words and phrases, which by towards the end of the voyage, my German vocabulary amounted to roughly three hundred words, which as one may realise, communication started to become a little easier.

Although as many may wonder what language do a couple need when they enjoy each other's company, and when standing on one of the decks by the railing on a beautiful evening. Looking into the distance as far as the eye can see towards the horizon and can't help noticing a cloudless sky lit by a full moon. Complemented by a breeze that would not have shifted a bird's feather off the railing, while the waters ahead and beyond were swaying like sheets of satin above a gentle breeze.

By the way, Rita and I are married now and have been for 32 years, a long time in any language, is it not? We have a son and daughter and two lovely grandsons.

I enjoy what we do at the club, like Ballroom dancing, wining and dining, dog showing and obedience, fishing in fishless waters, water-skiing without a boat, the Australian bush, landscaping.

Dislikes - writing!

Love you all

SPIRO

HOWQUA HILLS HISTORIC AREA

Howqua Hills historic area (1,300 ha) is centered on the Howqua River, about 35 Km south of Mansfield. It contains several historic relics related to early gold mining and settlement and is an area of great natural beauty.

Aboriginies used the Howqua River as a major trade route across the Great Dividing Range. They also had several quarries in the area which yielded stone for tools and weapons.

European settlement began in the 1840s when the land, now in the historic area, formed part of the Howqua run taken up by the pastoral company, Watson & Hunter.

Grazing has continued to the present day, cattle being run on the Alpine areas beyond the Howqua valley. Cattle are taken up in the Spring and brought down in the autumn via Sheepyard Flat.

The discovery of alluvial gold in the 1860s heralded major changes for the valley. A gold bearing reef was discovered in the 1870s and mining began in earnest. The main mining companies were Mountain Chief, Great Rand and Howqua United.

The population soared and in 1888 the township of Howqua was proclaimed. It had a smithy, hotel, butcher, post office, bakery and several boarding houses. The rush was shortlived and by 1905 all major gold mining operations had come to an end.

Howqua Today

Only memories remain of the days when the valley echoed to the bustle of the gold miners camps where dreams soared or were dashed.

Today the valley is a magnet for campers, deer hunters, bushwalkers and fisherpersons. The river flats are frequently dotted with campers tents just as they were dotted with miners tents back in the gold boom days of the 1880s. A number of huts and holiday houses are scattered throughout the valley, many of them on the site of the old Howqua township which was located on the opposite bank from Fry's Hut.

Now given over to leisure activities, the excitement of the valley would appear to be in its past with more peaceful activities replacing the hardships of the diggings.

Relics in the Valley

Goldmining has left its traces all through the Howqua area, but as time and nature heal the scars and industry the remaining discernible sites are fewer. The Department of Conservation Forest and Land has listed seven of the old sites in its mapping of the area.

1. Tunnel through Tunnel Spur.
Built in 1884 to link the Howqua River and the water race, it is about 100 metres long.
2. Water race.
Cut in 1884 to carry water to the water wheel "Hanney", it is about 4 km. long and is visible, mostly above the road from Tunnel Spur to the chimney.
3. Pickering Hut (Not Larry)
Surrounded by introduced trees, the hut was built by the late Fred Fry and is typical of his craftsmanship. Fred was a local bushman who built several huts along the Howqua.
4. Howqua Greenstone.
Outcrops of the oldest rocks in the Alpine area can be seen along the river. The aboriginies prized it for its hardness and used it for axes, spearheads and cutting tools.
5. Sheepyard Flat.
Locals say that after the valley was settled, shepherds yarded sheep on the flat at night so that dingos could be kept at bay.
6. Drick Chimney.
Completed in 1884 and used as a smelting furnace. The water wheel "Hanney" was erected nearby and powered by the water from the race. "Hanney" was 18 metres in diameter and drove the crushers which break the ore into a size suitable for gold extraction.
7. Fry's Hut.
Fred Fry built his home in the late 1930s. The flying fox he used to cross the river during floods is in the front of the house. Howqua Hills township was on the opposite bank.

Yabby Fishing

It is surprising how many big trout you can miss if you use an oversized yabby.

If you are fishing any of the big reservoirs where large trout are numerous you can afford to use a big yabby, but for most areas, a bait no larger than the top joint of your thumb will produce the most trout.

Threadline tackle makes yabby fishing easy and enables you to fish the two main methods.

You can fish the yabby in a state of rigor mortis (dead) on the bottom of the pool in the same manner you fish worms or mussels. Otherwise you can work your yabby along the bottom of the stream, making it look like a live one.

On days when the trout are all in the fast runs, cast your yabby in at the top end of the run and let it trundle along the bottom as you walk (F.W.D.) slowly along the bank. This is an excellent method in the Woori Yallock Creek. Yabbies quite often tempt more trout of a night than during the day possibly because these creatures move about more at night.

Whether the water is clear or slightly discoloured does not seem to be important as the trout take them just as freely in all but badly discoloured water conditions.

When baiting the yabby for bottom fishing, pass the hook point through the head and out under the tail.

For casting the yabby in still or fast waters, the hook point is passed through the part of the tail where it joins the body and both the point and barb are exposed beyond the hard shell beneath the yabby's head.

Hooks for yabby fishing should be honed to a very sharp point and should range from a No. 4 up to 1/0.

See you on the bank.

F. Smell

SHEPPARD'S PIE

To feed 4 people.

INGREDIENTS

1 Kg minced stead
2 onions
1 can of champignons
1 packet of dried peas and carrots
3 large potatoes or instant potato can be used
150 gms grated or finely sliced cheddar cheese

METHOD

Finely chop the onions.

Cut potatoes, place in a billy and boil. When boiled mash and add margarine and milk to your taste.

Place mince in a camp oven near the fire and proceed to brown.

Add the peas and carrots

then

add the onion and champignons

then

add stead spices and salt to taste.

When the mince and vegies are cooked, level them out in the oven.

Spread mashed potato over the mince and vegies

Sprinkle on the cheese

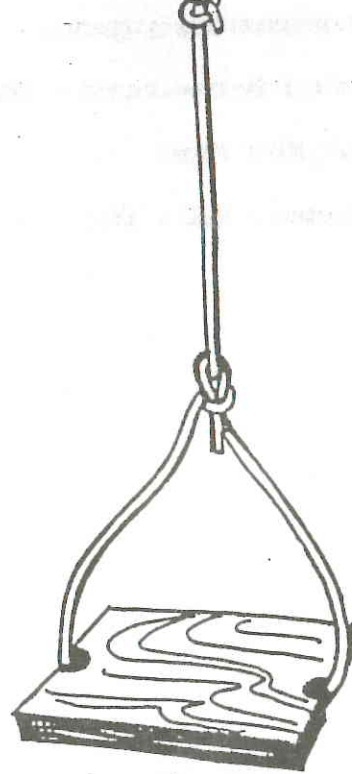
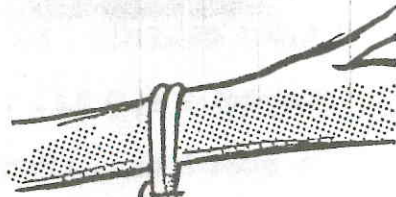
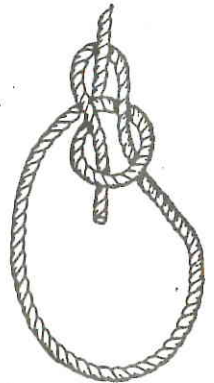
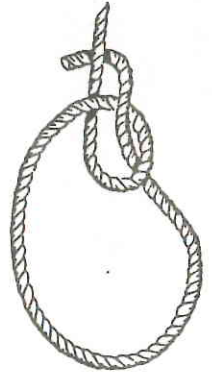
Reheat until cheese melts and serve.

ENJOY!

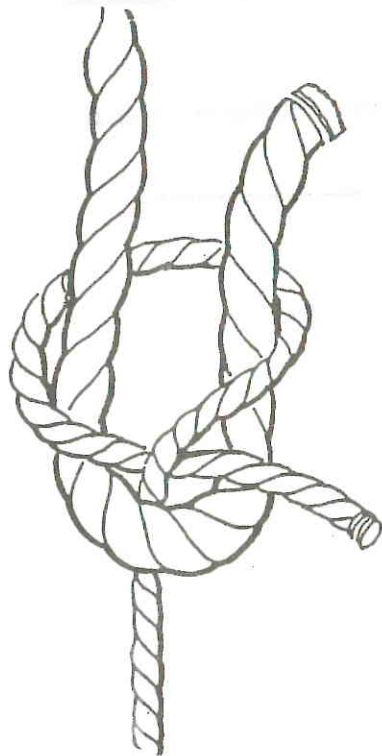
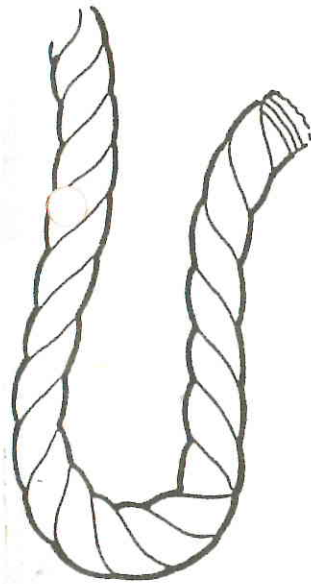
Simple Knots

THE BOWLINE forms a loop which will not slip in the running end of the rope.

Make a big loop, drop a board seat in it and make a swing.

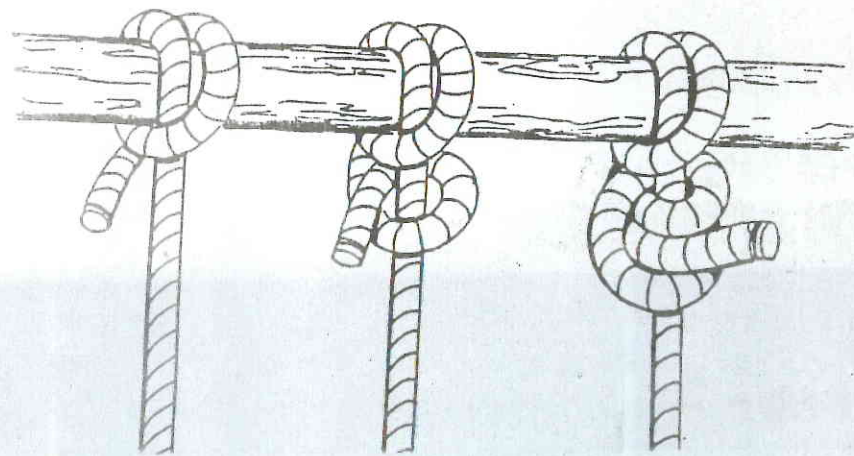


A SHEET BEND is for joining two ropes of unequal thickness. (Reef knots used for this purpose are hard to undo or else they slip apart when the strain is released.) It gets its name from the rope attached to the corner of a sail. This rope is called the sheet.



THE ROUND TURN AND TWO HALF-HITCHES is used to make fast a rope to an anchorage. It can be tied while the standing part is under strain.

This is a good knot to attach your rope to an anchor for a flying fox or a bridge.



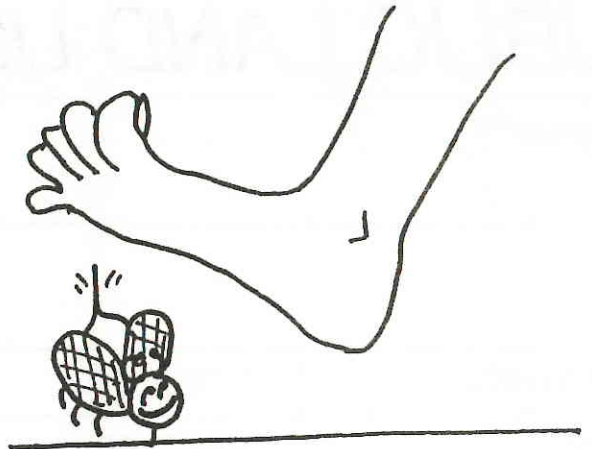
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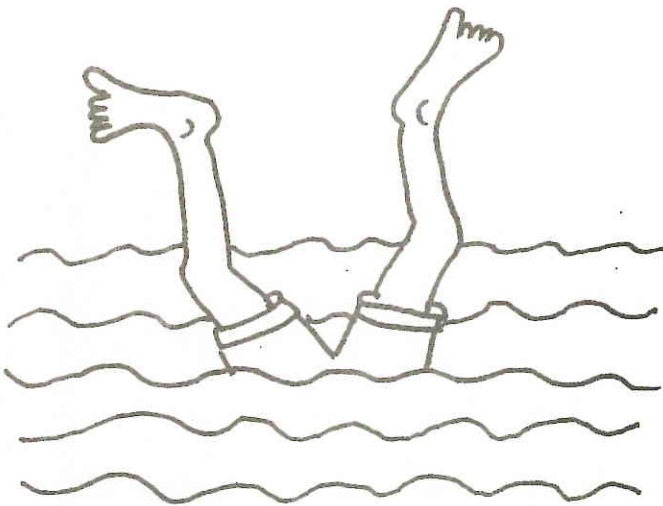
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AROUND CAMP.

VICTORIA ASSOCIATION OF FOUR WHEEL DRIVE CLUBS

PUBLIC LAND USE REPORT

CLUB NAME

DATE

The object of this report is to provide accurate information on the use four wheel drive clubs' and their members make of public land for submissions to government and Statutory Authorities. All information is confidential and club names are not used. Please fill out this report for both Club and personal trips, with number of vehicles, people and distance travelled.

NO. OF VEHICLES

NO. OF PEOPLE

KMS TRAVELLED

REGION

TRACKS USED

COMMENTS: (use reverse if insufficient space).

TABLE TOP NAVIGATION - NO 2

MAP: BEARDMORE 1:25,000.

Start Creek Crossing GR: 472105 EXIT N

Via 1 RJ 486127 From SW (i.e. Southern most track)

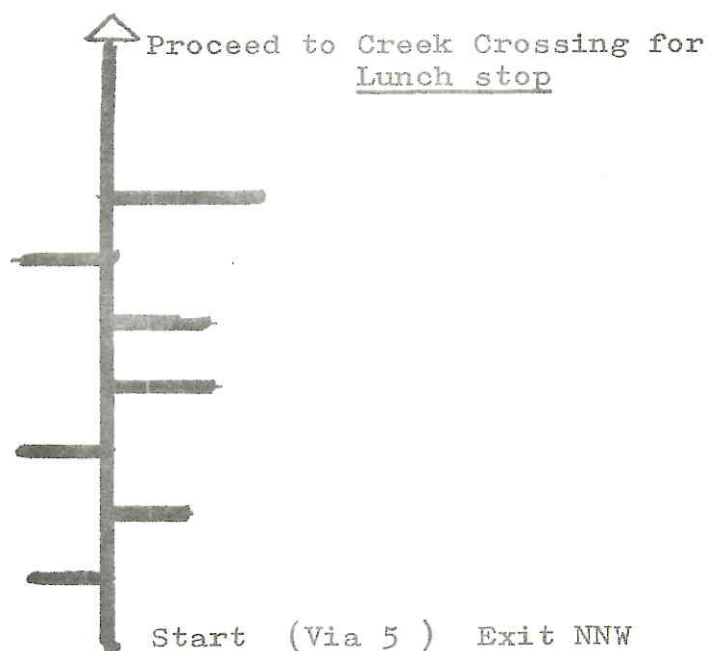
Via 2 RJ 488141 From W

Via 3 RJ 511157 From SW

Via 4 RJ 517127 From NW

Via 5 RJ 535127 From SE

Via 6 The following Stick Chart to Creek Crossing GR
starting at Via 5.



The vertical Central line on the stick chart relates to the road that you travel on, and the side lines refer to mapped road joints, and whether you leave a road on the left or the right i.e. one line on the left means at that road junction you leave one road on your left, and therefore proceed down the road on your right.

After lunch stop, proceed to Via 6: RJ 488141

Via 8 RJ 482130 Enter from NNE, Exit NNW
(NB Course is plotted so you do not use the same road in
opposing directions).

1. Do you go on C M F Track a) before lunch
 b) after lunch
2. Do you go on DRY GULLY ROAD?
3. At RJ 535127, draw how you would enter this VIA.
4. What is the GRID REFERENCE for the Creek crossing at
Via 6? (i.e. The lunch stop).
5. Is TRIG TRACK steeper on the Western or Eastern
side of the Aberfeldy River?
6. Do you use PIPELINE TRACK?
7. From what direction do you enter the Finish Control?

Answers to Navigational Trial No. 1

1. Williamson Spur Road and Pheasant Track
1. The Unmapped road.
3. Approx. 920 m.
4. Left.
5. Two.
6. Downhill, Low four first.

- - - - -



We would like you to draw us a picture of anything you might find in the bush. Please make the drawing the same size as the box around this writing. If your picture is chosen as the best drawing received for this month, we will use it in the next magazine for our colouring competition.

We are also giving prizes for the best colouring entry and the best drawing entry.

- Every entry will receive one prize token.
- The best colouring entry will receive three prize tokens.
- The best drawing entry will receive five prize tokens.

* When you have collected 15 prize tokens, send them to us and we will send you \$5.00. *

Please send entries to: "KIDS PAGE"
9-16 Hardy St.
Selby 3159


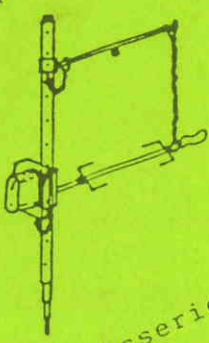
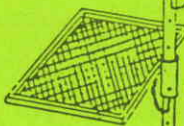
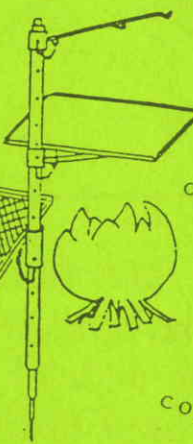
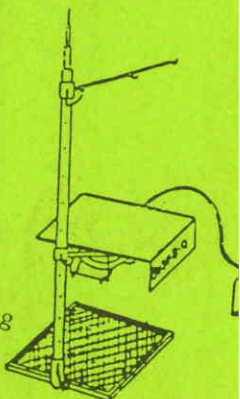

and clearly mark each entry with your name, age and address.

ENTRIES MUST BE RECEIVED BY 12TH NEXT MONTH.

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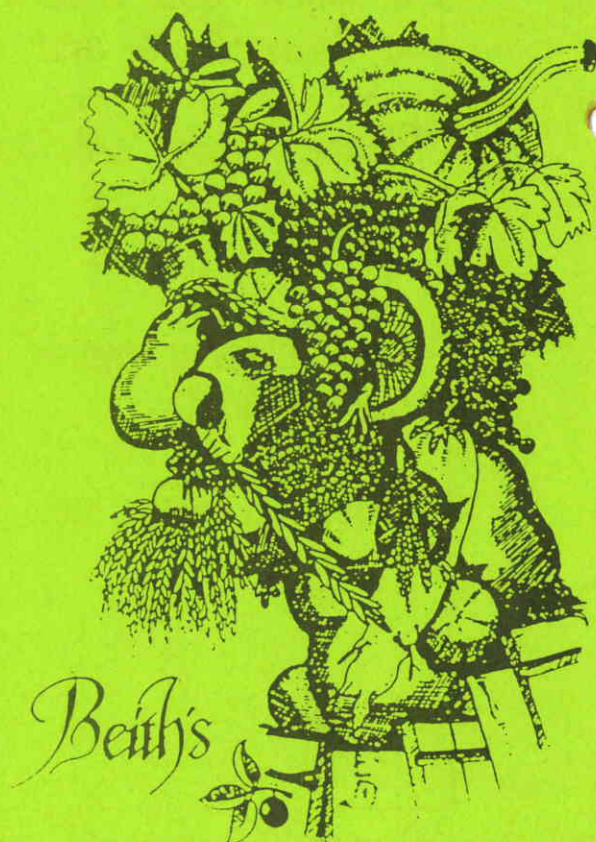
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