

Letter to the Editor ... from Hampton Cooper -18th December 2007

To: the Editorial Staff, the Ettremist

Dear People,

I refer to your Summer 2008 edition. I am constrained and compelled by your warning on page 3 to submit these relevant, and perhaps interesting articles, full of insight.

Anent your Walking Poles article - our long-time members just might recall seeing me with my ti-tree (melaleuca) walking aid - 119.5cm / 47in, cunningly shaped and fitted with kangaroo hide thong for shoulder wearing. I found it to be of very considerable assistance.

Re ticks. I am not privy to the number of angels thought to dance on the head of a pin. However, I am aware that a larval tick (grass tick) can fit on the top and a pin AND with patience, can be seen to clamber down a pin using its numerous minute red legs.

Recently a NPWS Ranger showed me his cunningly contrived implement for removing ticks. It is shaped somewhat like a school eraser, with a specially designed "V" cut in its side. He found it most efficacious. He acquired it from a friendly vet.

The fascinating substance of, or basis for, the book by Kathleen Meyer (How to Shit in the Woods - on page 5) brings to mind a "did you know?" in the spirit of (and I readily acknowledge my indebtedness to) Sylvia Arthur. Did you know that the word (noun or verb) "crap" flows or flushes from the name of the originator of the water closet - Thomas Crapper. His name is now synonymous with "this everyday event".

Those prone to leg cramps (page 2, right hand column) should consider ingesting calcium magnesium tablets, readily available from pharmacies and health food stores. These should be taken before, and perhaps during, but also after if necessary.

This genuine and serious suggestion leads me to - a guide for those contemplating coition for its own sake while desirous of avoiding conception (ie. recreational, not procreational). The intending participating female should imbibe a large glass of aqua pura not before, not during (as in interruptus), and not after, but instead ...

The reference on page 6 to "Myola" and "Coorombong" brings to mind the many place names ending in "...ong" - Wollongong, Tuggeranong, Comerong are examples. I could go "ong" with lots more ...

Hampton Cooper