

The NEWS of the MELBOURNE BUSHWALKERS INC.

SEPTEMBER 1995

EDITION 535

Print Post Approved. P.P. No. 338888/00016

PRICE 60 cents

Science Works

2 Booker Street, Spotswood.

Melway Ref. 56 B1. Trains leave for Spotswood from Flinders Street every 20 minutes, or arrive by ferry from Southgate or Williamstown.

Saturday, September 23, 1995. Hours are 1000 to 1630.

Adults \$8, Children \$4 - (Bring the Kids!)

Yarra Cruise and Ferry boats stop at the dock nearby - see Nancy for times and prices.
Come and go as you want, but let's all meet in the "Foodworks Cafe" between 1 & 2 pm for a meal. Food includes sandwiches and rolls, quiches & pies, wedges & chips, and usually fish or chicken.

> It would be nice to know who is planning to attend, so please let Nancy Belyea know on

Last Minute Reminder!! SAK'S STEAMBOAT

Saturday September 9, at 6:00 pm!!! at Jean Giese's, 9 Albert Cres, Surrey Hills promises to be a great occasion. Not only do we have Steamboat style food, but it also happens to be MOON CAKE DAY which promises special cakes for the sweet course. Cost \$10-\$15 Please let me know NOW if you are coming!! Nancy Belyea

FIRST AID COURSES

Run by Red Cross in City Road, South Melbourne

Senior First Aid and Basic CPR (Basic CPR is update for those who have taken Senior First Aid previously) Money must be paid to William Cone (Treasurer) by Wednesday evening September 13 Cost to members (who are leaders or plan to be leaders) for the Senior First Aid is \$63 (the Club is subsidising \$20 for each of these members). Cost to similar "leader" members for the Basic CPR is \$27 (the Club is subsidising \$10 for each of these members). Talk to Nancy Belyea for more information

Hungry Bushies can meet at Aunty Sue's Bar and Restaurant (north-west corner of Fanning St. and Kavanagh St., behind the Arts Centre) for a meal before the class.

Contents of September NEWS	Page
Committee Notes	1
Day Walks	3, 4, 5
From the Editor and From the President	2
Letter to the Editor - Mt Aspiring, N.Z.	6
New Members	7
Social Events	1
Weekend Walks	6
Willis's Walkabouts advertisement	8
New Walks Secretary	2
Summer Walks Programme	5
Poem by Jill Dawson	7
Kimberley by Cameron McMillan	7
Claiming a Credit on Walks	3

Page 2

From the Editor

What wonderful weather we have been having. Ideal for walking. Just hope it is not an augury of a long, hot, dry summer, with the threat of bushfires. Already there have been bushfires around Sydney & southern NSW.

The Club received a postcard from Alex Farkas, who is on holiday in his native Budapest, catching up with his relatives. He reports the weather is hot, and sends his best wishes to members.

Also news of Dorrie Warton, that inveterate traveller. She has just returned from Africa where she visited Victoria Falls, amongst other places.

Do you know it is relatively easy to lead a walk? We are trying to encourage more people to lead walks, and so a Leaders Day has been organised for both experienced & novice Leaders, or anyone interested in leading, on Saturday 28 October. You don't need experience to join in. See page 5 for more details.

If you think you might be interested in leading walks, contact Bill Metzenthen or Alan Miller.

And some surprise news! Committee member Nigel Holmes decided to forgo the Club walk on Sunday 3rd September, and got married instead!! Congratulations to Lee and Nigel. I hope we see Lee out on some walks.

Bob Steel

The NEWS is the official newsletter of the Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc. and is published monthly. Edited by Bob Steel. Articles, walk reports, poems, snippets of news, reports of new gear, book reviews, letters "to the Editor", advertisements, etc are always welcome. The Editor reserves the right to edit articles, contributions, letters etc submitted for publication, where space, clarity, propriety, etc dictates. and to maintain editorial consistency Please note that articles for The NEWS may be put in the Red Box in the clubrooms or mailed to me, Bob Steel, at

or faxed to me on

Advertising Rates

¹⁄₄ Page 1 Issue-S20; 3 Issues-S50; 12 Issues (1 year)-\$180 ¹⁄₂ Page 1 Issue-\$30; 3 Issues-\$75; 12 issues-\$270 Full Page 1 issues-\$50; 3 issues-\$125; 12 issues-\$450 Only advertisements directly relating to bushwalking will be accepted (ie, gear, maps, trips, tours, etc) Members Ads - FREE Closing Date for OCTOBER 1995 News

is Wednesday 27th SEPTEMBER 1995.

Meetings are held in the Clubrooms, MacKenzie St., Melbourne (rear of the Royal Horticultural Society building) on WEDNESDAY Evenings between 7.00pm and 9.00pm. <u>Visitors are always welcome</u>.

From the President

This fine early Spring weather makes for wonderful walking but it's not such great news for skiers - however there is still plenty of good snow around so make good use of our program and book early.

Two new First Aid pouches have been bought and filled with the first aid items (Band-Aids®, bandages, dressings etc). They should be easier for leaders to fit in their packs. Leaders should check the contents and if supplies are getting low, inform a Committee member so we can keep the kits well supplied.

The Committee meets on the first Monday of the month at 7.00 pm, in the Clubrooms. If you want to bring something to the attention of the Committee, it is best to put your item in writing and post it or give it to a Committee member in time for the next Committee meeting.

Janet Norman

NEW SOCIAL SECRETARY!

I may need to leave the country, unless I get married or get a job, before the end of October. Therefore, the Club may need a new Social Secretary. Please give me a ring if you are interested in helping out with "Social".

(Anybody need the services of an Industrial Engineer to improve the productivity of their workplace in order to remain competitive?) Nancy Belyea

The Next Walks Secretary

By the next A.G.M. I will have been doing the job for two years, which I think is long enough. If you would like to contribute to the Club then please consider doing this job. You don't necessarily have to know a lot about various walks etc, but it is desirable that you be able to come to the club rooms on most Wednesdays. Contact me for more information.

Walks Secretary

Bill Metzenthen

General correspondence should be directed to: The Secretary, Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc. PO Box 1751Q, MELBOURNE 3001

Previews for end September & October Day Walks

Sun 17 Sept	YEA ROCK -
Easy/med. & Medium	MURRINDINDI
Leaders:	Brian Crouch and Sak Wan
Transport:	Bus at 9.00 am from South

	Darik Doulevalu
Approx. Distance from Melbe	ourne: 100 kms
Expected time of return:	1900
Area:	East of Glenburn
Approx length of walks:	15 and 18 kms
Map Reference:	Taggerty South 1:25 000

Please note: updated preview (refer August NEWS)

Following a more detailed preview of both walks, they have been reclassified, due to the rugged terrain of this area. Both walks will involve considerable climbing throughout the day and should not be attempted by beginners.

The easy/medium walk will be 15 kms and the medium, 18 kms. The scenery on both walks is worth the effort but only for those fit enough to meet the challenge. See leaders in Clubrooms for more detail.

Sun 24 Sept	HAWKES HILL -
Easy/med. & Medium	MOLLISONS GORGE

Leaders:	John Kittson & Fay Pratt
Transport:	Bus at 9.00 am from South
	Bank Boulevard
Approx. Distance from	Melbourne: 90 kms
Expected time of ref	tum: 1900
Area:	Pyalong
Approx length of wa	lks: 16 kms and 20 kms
Map Reference:	Pyalong 1:50 000 plus Tooborac
	& Goldie North 1:25 000

Our walk for the day is mainly off track and starts south of Tooborac. We will head in a southerly direction through farming land and up onto Hawkes Hill for some great views from the granite boulders. Then it's down and along Mollisons Creek to the gorge. The harder group will do an extra 4 kms.

As the weather is hard to predict at this time of the year, and because this area is so open, it would be wise to bring your coat, hat & gloves, just in case.

Saturday 30 Sept	BELGRAVE - SELBY -
Easy	KALLISTA
Leader:	Maureen Hurley
Transport:	Private
Approx. Distance from Me	bourne: 40 kms
Expected time of return	: 1800
Area:	Dandenongs
Approx length of walk:	12 kms
Map Reference:	Melway maps 75 & 124

Meet at Grants Picnic Ground (Melway 75 K4) at 1030. See preview in August NEWS.

Sunday 1 Oct	UPPER LODDON
Easy & E/Medium	STATE FOREST
Leaders:	Jan Gross & Trevor Thomson
Transport:	Bus at 9.00 am from South
	Bank Boulevard
Approx. Distance from	n Melbourne: 100 kms
Expected time of re	tum: 1900
Area:	north-east of Daylesford
Approx length of wa	
Map Reference:	Guildford & Daylesford 1:25 000

These walks are through the open forests of the Upper Loddon State Forest, in the region between the vicinity of Mt Franklin and Vaughan Springs.

The easy walk will follow part of the newly created Great Dividing Trail foot track. As well as offering views of the surrounding countryside, it descends through the old goldfields of Browns, Sailors & Stones Gullies and the almost forgotten Sebastopol, with many relics such as hillside chimneys, mine shafts and water races.

The easy/medium walk will also go through most of the goldfield areas, but in addition divert for some 5 kms through the un-tracked Mt Franklin gorge of Tarilta Creek.

HOW TO GET A CREDIT if you cannot attend a walk

1. You must inform the Leader before the walk of your inability to attend

2. Put your reasons in writing and give to the Walks Secretary (Bill Metzenthen) or Assisitant Walks Secretary (Alan Miller)

3. Take signed letter to Leader when you next book on a walk.

4 Mailed requests will be put in a bulldog clip at the Booking Board.

Page 4

The NEWS SEPTEMBER 1995

Previews for October Day Walks continued

Sunday 8 Oct.	BIRDS LAN	D RESERVE -
Easy & E/med.		D LAKE PARK
Leaders:	Max Casley	& Chris Cheah
Transport:	-	am from South
	E	Bank Boulevard
Approx. Distance from	n Melbourne:	c. 40 kms
Area:	Belgrave -L	ysterfield area
Approx length of wa		??
Map Reference:	Melways map	os 83, 84 & 108

Interesting area close to Melbourne. Birds Land Reserve includes a flora reserve and is contiguous with Lysterfield Park. This lake was originally established in the 1930's to supply water to the Mornington Peninsula, but is now a recreation reserve. The catchment was extensively planted with eucalypts. There are many walking tracks.

See leaders in the Clubrooms

Editor

Sunday 15 Oct. BAMGANIE STATE FOREST		
Easy, E/Med	I. & Medium	- LEIGH RIVER
Leaders:	Jean Wood	ger & (leader required)
Transport:	Bus	at 9.00 am from South
		Bank Boulevard
Approx. Distar	nce from Melbourr	ne: 120 kms
Expected tim	e of return:	1900
Area:		near Meredith
Approx lengt	h of walks:	14 kms & 16 kms
Map Referen	ce: Gren	ville, Elaine, Bamganie &
		Medina - 1:25 000

The easy/medium group will walk in this delightful open forest, sometimes on tracks, including a couple of steep sections and sometimes following the course of Woodbourne Creek. We will cross the creek several times, when necessary, or climb higher when we encounter rocky outcrops. It is possible to cross the creek without getting wet.

The medium group will follow a similar route, but will climb higher and wider and may choose some more adventurous crossings. Large kangaroos abound in the area, and the vanishing koala may still be seen.

UNYIP STATE
FOREST

Leader:	Peter Havlicek
Transport:	Private
Approx. Distance from	Melbourne: 105 kms
Expected time of re	tum: 1800
Area:	Gippsland, North of Princes Hwy
Approx length of wa	lk: 17 kms
Map Reference:	Spion Kopje 1:25 000

Bunyip State Forest walk continued

Meet at Tuhan St, Chadstone (Melway 69 G2) by appointment. Drive to Dandenong, then along Princes Highway. At Longwarry Nth (about 8 kms after Gumbaya Park), turn left into Sand Rd., towards Labertouche North, right into Old Princes Hwy, then after 300 m, left again. At the Labertouche Hall (red brick building) take right fork into gravel road. Follow signs to Wildflower Reserve (Forest Rd). We start the walk at 1000 at the Brighton GS Camp (about 1 km along Tea Tree Rd.). Tea Tree Rd forks left from Forest Road at the next junction after a sharp bend where Bullock Link Track branches off to the right. (ESMAP 742 F7)

The area abounds in native flora (Banksia, Goodenia, Grevillea, Boronias, 'Dusty Miller', perhaps some donkey orchids etc) and fauna (wallabies, rosellas, lyrebirds and even ducks). Terrain includes sustained rises, but no major steep hills.

Sunday 22 Oct.	MT HICKEY - WARRAGUL
Easy/med. & Media	m ROCKS
Leaders:	Janet Norman & Keith White
Transport:	Bus at 9.00 am from South
	Bank Boulevard
Approx. Distance from	Melbourne: 90 kms
Expected time of re	tum: 1900
Area:	between Tallarook & Yea
Approx length of wa	lks: 14 kms & 18 kms
Map Reference:	Homewood 1:25 0ს

The forest between Mt Hickey & Warragul rocks is networked with tracks, some on the map and some not, so the question most asked will be "Is this the right track?" Consequently a compass bearing and off into the bush may be the best bet.

One walk will begin by going over Mt Hickey, the other group will admire its towering heights from the base. Both groups will visit Warragul Rocks, which tower over the Goulburn River valley, with views of The Bluff, Mt Buller & Mt Stirling away in the distance. We finish the walks by descending steeply to the Goulburn River.

Previews for October Day Walks continued

Saturday 28 Oct.	LEADERS EXERCISE
Easy/Medium	& SKILLS DAY

Leader:		Janet Norman
Transport:		Private
Approx. Distance fro	om Melbourne:	c. 90 kms
Expected time of	return:	2000
Area:		Blackwood
Approx length of v	valk:	various
Map Reference:	Ashbourne &	Trentham 1:25 000

Leader's Day is for experienced leaders, not so experienced leaders and especially aspiring leaders to have a walk and then share ideas, skills and expertise.

The day will be held in the Blackwood area, and walks of varying standards will be held with various contrived scenarios encountered during the walks.

The day will finish with a recapitulation of the walks, and discussion on how best to plan and lead a walk. This will be followed by a BYO barbecue tea

Saturday 28 Oct. Easy	Dandenongs Explorer KIRTH KILN AREA
Leader:	Debbie Gomm
Transport:	Private
Approx. Distance from Me	elbourne: 70 kms
Expected time of return	
Area:	near Gembrook

Area: near Gembrook Map Reference: Gembrook South 1:25 000

Historic area not far from Gembrook. Kurth Kiln was established by the Forests Commission in the early 1940s to produce charcoal for use as a substitute fuel during World War II. Petrol was severly rationed and charcoal was used in "gas producers", installed on motor vehicles, and the engines were run on the resultant gas. This was not very popular & only c. 6.5 % of Victorian vehicles were converted. The kiln only operated for c. 3 years, when problems with the kiln & reduced demand for charcoal caused it to close. The location was used as a forestry camp for returned servicemen for a number of years and it is now a picnic and camping area.

More details in October NEWS

GREVILLEA & BORONIA
RESERVES

Leaders:	Peter Havlic	ek & Joan McMahon
Transport:	Bus a	at 9.00 am from South
		Bank Boulevard
Approx. Distance	from Melbourne:	105 kms
Expected time of	of return:	1830
Area:		near Labertouche
Approx length o	f walks:	17 kms & 19 kms
Map Reference:	5	Spion Kopje 1:25 000

These walks are in the Wildflower Reserves of the Bunyip State Forest. We can expect to see Boronias, Banksias, Grevilleas, Goodenias, 'Dusty Miller' (Spyridium parvifolium), orchids etc. <u>Masses</u> of them! There are wallabies, lyrebirds and rosellas, and on my preview there was even a mummy duck leading her brood into the hillside undergrowth. There is some climbing, but nothing excessive.

Of particular delight and interest are the Falls Nature Walk (remnants of the mining & other historical remnants, plus flora & fauna) and Discovery Track (birds & flowers along the track). The particularly energetic may decide to climb a couple of hundred metres extra to the top of Gentle Annie.

Summer Walks Programme

The next NEWS will be accompanied by the Summer Walks Programme. Most of the Programme has been finalized but there is still an opportunity for extended trips to exotic places such as Tasmania or New Zealand to be included. If you want to have such a trip on the programme then contact me NOW.

Walks Ideas

Please keep those walks ideas coming. Write them in the "Walks Ideas" folder in the club rooms, send them to me, or see me in the club rooms. Your ideas are needed, don't be afraid: I have not yet been over-loaded with ideas.

Walks Secretary

Bill Metzenthen

Page 5

Page 6

Previews for October Weekend & Pack-Carry Walks (and a Ski Trip)

29 September - 1 October	HOWQUA RIVER
Easy/medium	BASE CAMP
Leader:	Lloyd Young
Transport:	Private
Approx. Distance from Melbou	rne: 224 kms
Expected time of return:	2000 Sunday evening
Area:	near Mt Buller
Approx length of walk:	30 kms
Map Reference: Ma	insfield 1:100 000 & Buller
	1:25 000

Base camp will be at Sheepyard Flat. On Saturday and Sunday we will go on day walks. One day we will explore the riverine environment and on the other day we can climb in the Eagles Peaks area.

As this is a base camp, it will be ideal for family groups to come and for people new to weekend walking and camping out.

6-8 October	MT BOGONG
Medium/hard	SKIING

Leader:	Gina Hopkins
Transport:	Private
Approx. Distance from Me	elbourne: 350 kms
Expected time of return:	Late Sunday evening
Area:	near Mt Beauty
Approx length of walk:	who knows?
Map Reference:	Outdoor Leisure Map Bogong Alpine Area

Magnificent views, glorious weather, Spring snow - if we're lucky!

If it's a clear moonlit night, I plan to climb up the Staircase Spur to Bivouac Hut & camp there on Friday night. This will give us more time on Saturday to camp somewhere up top, and have time for skiing around the steep and interesting gullies. There are some less steep ones too, if that's more to your liking. On Sunday, depending on the snow & weather of course, we may visit Howman's Falls.

This trip is not suitable for beginners.

13-15 October	WILSONS PROMONTORY
Easy Introduc	tion To PACK CARRYING
Leader:	Rosemary Cotter
Transport:	Private
Approx. Distance from Me	elbourne: 230 kms
Expected time of return	n: Sunday evening c. 2000
Approx length of walk:	Depends on party
Map Reference:	Outdoor Leisure Map Wilsons Promontory

This is intended to be one of the more leisurely packcarrying weekend camps. We will camp at Tidal River Friday night, then start walking on Saturday morning.

Size of party is limited to 12 (National Park regulations). Fires will most likely be out, so bring stoves for cooking. This walk is suitable for newcomers to weekend walking, but it is essential that you talk with the Leader first.

20-22 October Medium	MT DIFFICULT - BRIGGS BLUFF
Leader:	Alan Clarke
Transport:	Private
Approx. Distance from Mell	bourne: 271 kms
Expected time of return:	2000-2100 Sunday evening
Area:	Grampians
Approx length of walk:	30 kms
Map Reference:	Mt Difficult & Mt Stapylton 1:25 000

Listed in the Lonely Planet guide to Bushwalking in Australia, this is a Grampians Classic. It takes in two of the best views in the Grampians (Mt difficult and Briggs Bluff), as well as some of the rock formations typical of this spectacular range. The walk has only one climb of any significance each day, and is mostly on walking tracks and therefore is suitable for inexperienced pack-carriers. At this time of year, the wildflowers should be a treat.

A Poem by a New Member - Jill Dawson

The Walk from Taradale to Fryerstown, 6 August 1995

T'was crisp and cold on that August day When we headed north to Taradale, To the beautiful bush near two hours away, Well away from the city air stale.

I sensed it was time to graduate To the medium group of walkers; As a member, I was in a better state To keep up with the fit non-talkers.

We marched through the bush to Nobody's Creek Where we stopped at last for a break, Then back to climbing almost every peak, Even one or two climbed by mistake.

We crossed a number of creeks as well, They seemed to be everywhere, It became increasingly hard to tell Exactly where we were out there.

Then sleepy little Fryerstown Emerged, as did Bob and the bus, But there were five K's left and twelve K's down, T'was not so easy for us.

We blazed new trails for the rest of the day, Well away from the beaten track, At one stage we really lost our way, But of course we found our way back.

Adventure in the Kimberley

Just imagine, folks, days on end of 30°, sunshine all day, not a cloud in the sky, swimming every day in lovely pools and creeks, sleeping under the stars tentfree in temperatures around 15°

Well, I have just experienced this and more on a two week Willis's Walkabout trip (July 2-14) in the Drysdale River National Park which is 100 kms north west of Wyndham, in the Kimberley.

This is an area which few people visit because it is isolated and access was through a pastoral lease 4WD track leading from Theda Station homestead, which is located near the Gibb River-Kulumburu Road.

For two weeks we walked in a wilderness area without seeing any other people. We caught sooty grunters and catfish for tea and sometimes lunch, cooking them whole on fires; viewed Aboriginal Rock Art, and saw many different flowers and birds as we walked along. Our chief bird watcher had spied 62 different birds by the end of the trip. We didn't see much wildlife, just some Theda Station cattle, kangaroos, freshwater crocodiles, water monitors and small lizards.

The highlight of the trip was the Morgan Falls, which are located at the southern end of Palmoondoora Creek. These falls may not be as scenic as the popular Mitchell Falls, also in the Kimberley, but we felt they were certainly worth seeing, so we base-camped there for three days, and explored the country around us with day packs

One hopes that these trips will never end, but sadly they do!

Cameron McMillan

Committee Notes

Walks Secretary - July Walks: Day Walks: 5, average of 38.6 walkers; Weekend Pack Carry walks: 3, ave. 8.6 walkers; 1 Base camp with 10 people; 1 S&R exercise; 1 Ski Day (Sylvia's Lake Mtn) with 15 skiers; and 1 Dandenongs & 1 Wednesday walk with ave of 12¹/₂.

Treasurer:- Figures for August:

Opening Balance:	\$55 129.50
Month's Receipts:	\$ 3 258.00
Month's Payments:	\$ 4 586.96
Closing Balance:	\$53 800.54

Tiffany Hall

New Members: Peter Tay

David Walsh

Downapha Ekintumas

Pat Anaganostopoulos	Mary Rahilly
Andrew Ankers	Mark Wiggins

Changes to Members Phone numbers:

Ronald Garrett:

Peter Day:

Membership Statistics: 440 members: 11 Life, 10 Honorary, 325 Single & 47 Couples (=94)

Committee Duty Roster:

13 Sept: Nigel & Doug	20 Sept. Lloyd & Nancy
27 Sept. Stephen & Jean	4 Oct. Peter & Denise

-X		*******					
Change of Address and/or Phone Numbers							
NAME							
Old ADDRESS	\$						•••••
NEW ADDRES	SS						•••••
PHONE (h)		(w).				Please Indicate Type of	(Membership
						NEWS subscriber	
Post to: N	Member	ship Secre	tary,	PO Box	1751	Q, MELBOURN	E, 3001

The NEWS of the Melbourne Bushwalkers Print Post Approved. PP No 3388888/00016 If Undelivered, please return to: MELBOURNE BUSHWALKERS INC. PO BOX 1751Q, MELBOURNE, 3001	SURFACE MAIL	POSTAGE PAID AUSTRALIA

KIMBERLEY COAST EXPEDITION



March 24 - April 27 1996

Our 34 day Kimberley Coast expedition earlier this year was one of the best we have ever done. By building on that experience, we expect to make our 1996 expedition better still. Come north and join us when the land is green, when the rivers and waterfalls are at their incredible best. See for yourself what makes this area so special.

We begin with a boat from Wyndham to the head of the spectacular, 20 km long Berkelcy Gorge. We make our way past a number of side gorges and waterfalls, then walk from creek to creek as we move overland to King George Falls where the river plunges 90 metres into the sea at the head of one of Australia's most spectacular gorges. From the King George, we walk to the Drysdale River where we do a week long loop along one of the largest rivers in the Kimberley. The expedition ends with a seaplane ride back to Kununurra.

Too long? The trip is divided into three sections. The seaplane will bring in two food drops and provide transport for those doing only one part of the trip.

> Chartering boats and seaplanes is not cheap so this trip will be expensive. However, help us by booking early and we'll help you with a discount of up to 20%. If six or more people have paid in full by 1 November, we'll give them all an additional 5% discount. For more information about this expedition and the rest of our bushwalking program contact

> > Willis's Walkabouts 12 Carrington Street, MILLNER NT 0810 Ph: (089) 85 2134 Fax: (089) 85 2355