



The NEWS

of the

MELBOURNE BUSHWALKERS INC.

MAY 1997

Internet: <http://www.vicnet.net.au/~bushwalk>

EDITION 555

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

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THIS is your **LAST COPY!**

of

The NEWS

Pay your subs **NOW**.

Form is on the Back Page



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Pink Lakes and Wyperfeld National Parks

6 - 9th June 1997
June Long Weekend

The cost for bus transport is approximately \$60-\$70.
(The final cost has yet to be determined.)

Because of the high cost of hiring a bus, (paid) bookings must be in by 29 May, otherwise it may be cancelled. Bookings are non-refundable except extreme circumstances (eg breaking a leg).

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Thinking about giving BLOOD ?? Well now is
your chance !!

**OLD and INTERESTED NEW DONORS
WANTED**

FRIDAY 30th May 6 PM

Australian Red Cross
cnr Kavanagh & Balston St
Southbank (Takes about 45 mins to 1 hour)

Dinner Afterwards

Emerald Hotel

415 Clarendon St
South Melbourne
7 PM onwards

Traditional Jazz on Friday night

Please see Marisa or phone for more info

RSVP Wednesday May 28th

From the Editor

This month I am leaving the **News** with Peter Chalkley to complete. We are off to Ayres Rock for a few days to meet up with some old friends from many years ago in England who would like to see something of "The Outback". So thanks Peter for putting in all the last minute articles and getting it printed..

Last month we received a letter from Mark Moravec, Folklore Project, 104 Howitt St, Ballarat Vic 3350. He is conducting a study of the food customs and traditions of bushwalkers. His aim is to document the types of food and meals that walkers prepare and take with them, and the changes that may have taken place over the years. He has prepared a survey and would like replies. Copies of this are on the noticeboard and copies could be sent/given to members on request. It is rather long for us to print in the **News** but I am sure he is looking for as many responses as he can get.

Recently there have been many long weekends and some great walks. I would love to receive articles about them so please send them in.

Judy Gipps

From the President

At Monday's Committee meeting it was reported that the Club membership had passed the 500 mark - 503. This is a new peak and reflects a steady climb over the last few years. Many of our new members found us through the Yellow Pages, and we have had our first members who found us

on the Internet. The first contact with us is usually through the excellent answering phone service provided by Margaret Borden. Margaret has been doing this job behind the scenes for some years and we omitted her name from the "Who is doing what job in 1997" list in the April News. Sorry, Margaret, and we thank you for your tireless work.

We are still checking out possible clubroom sites, and we have no more news as yet about the termination of our present arrangements.

WOKS FOR SALE

TRADITIONAL CHINESE CAST IRON WOKS FOR SALE AT \$50 A PIECE.

This is the **REAL** thing.

None of the aluminium or steel type woks.

Each piece will be seasoned in the traditional way.

The woks will improve with age.

Instructions will be provide on care,
maintenance and use.

For a demonstration you will have to attend the
Barjarg Base Camp on 30th May to 1st June 1997.
Chin will be cooking !

Please contact Chin on

The NEWS is the official newsletter of the Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc. and is published monthly.
Edited by **Judy Gipps**.

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, letters or other contributions, where space, clarity or propriety dictate. and to maintain editorial consistency

Please note that articles for **The NEWS** may be :
placed in the **Red Box** in the clubrooms,
mailed to Judy Gipps,
faxed to me on
emailed to

Advertising Rates

¼ Page 1 Issue-\$20; 3 Issues-\$50; 12 Issues (1 year)-\$180

½ 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 (eg gear, maps, trips, tours)

Members Ads - FREE

Closing Date for **JUNE 97 News** is **28th May 1997**

For Sale

50 Years Along the Track
by Melbourne Bushwalkers

\$5

Melbourne Bushwalkers Badges

\$3 or 2 for \$5 or 3 for \$6

Available at the clubrooms

Meetings are held in the Clubrooms, MacKenzie St., Melbourne
(rear of the Royal Horticultural Society building)
on **WEDNESDAY** Evenings between 7 PM and 9 PM.

Visitors are always welcome.

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

Previews for June Day Walks and one for May

Saturday 31 May 1997 Dandenongs Explorer- Easy The Basin - Doongalla Forest

Leader: Michael Humphrey
Transport: Private
Expected time of return: Approx 4 PM
Approximate length of walk: 12 km
Map Reference: Melways Maps 65 and 66

This walk has not been done for about 3 years - so why not come along and join me. We will meet at Wicks Reserve (Melways map 65 J 7) at 10.50 am (departing by 11.00 am) where we make our way to the Doongalla Homestead site for lunch. After lunch we encounter a climb and then a leisurely walk through the lower reaches of the Doongalla Forest.

If you are coming by public transport please ring me at home on () and I will pick you up at Boronia Station at 10.27 am. See you there !!!!!

Sunday 1 June 1997 Black Hill - Easy & Easy/Medium Pipers Creek

Leaders: Margaret Borden & Jean Giese
Transport: Bus from Southbank Boulevard at 9.00 am
Area: Kyneton
Expected time of return: 6.30 PM
Approximate length of walk: 14 & 18 km
Map Reference: Edgecombe 1:25,000
 & Theaden Hill 1:25,000

Both walks will start and finish at Black Hill Reserve, and both will explore around the very large and magnificent granite boulders. There will be some good views across the surrounding farmlands and nearby Corbaw Range.

The rest of the walks will be over privately owned farmland with rather slight elevations and more granite outcrops, and hopefully greener pastures than at present. The easy-medium group will follow Pipers Creek north and then return to the start along a country road for a short distance, and over grazing land and fences. The easy group will also wander down to the creek and back again, but cover a shorter distance. When everything is green and the weather fine this is a beautiful area, so we'll keep our fingers crossed.

Sunday 8 June 1997 Ocean Grove - Queenscliff Easy & Easy/Medium

Leaders: Ian Hoad and Richard Chater
Transport: Bus from Southbank Boulevard at 9.00 am
Approximate distance from Melbourne:
Expected time of return: 6.30 PM
Approximate length of walk: 12 km & 14 km

Last time I led this walk, I was abused for writing a "two-line b---- preview", so this time I'll mention some of the lakes, mountains, rivers, forests, tree ferns, rock formations, mine shafts, wombats, wallabies, rabbits, kookaburras, leeches, etc that you won't see because this is just a flat stroll along a beach.

Monday 9 June 1997 Hartwell- Easy Gardiners Creek

Leader: Athol Schafer
Transport: Train, meet under Flinders St
 Station clocks at 10.00 am
Expected time of return: 4.00 PM
Approximate length of walk: 8 km
Map Reference: Melways Maps 59, 60

Walk starts at Hartwell station and finishes at Alamein, which is on the same line. The route of the walk takes in Fordham Gardens, Back Creek, including the multi-million new park, to its confluence with Gardiners Creek at Nettleton Park. Then follows various reserves to the Anniversary Trail (Outer Circle Railway). For those for whom it may be more convenient, a further kilometre will take them to Holmesglen station.

Sunday 15 June 1997 Kinglake Easy/Medium & Medium

Leaders: John Kittson & Andrew McConnel
Transport: Bus from Southbank Boulevard at 9.00 am
Area: Kinglake National Park
Expected time of return: 7 PM
Approximate length of walk: 12 & 20 km
Map Reference: Strathewen 1:25,000

This walk is one of the most pleasant and scenic imaginable with a wide variety of micro climates, eucalypts grass trees etc. Hear if not see the lyrebirds. Terrain is pleasantly hilly and there will be picturesque spots for morning and afternoon tea and lunch. Don't miss it!

Wednesday 18 June 1997 Gellibrand Park Easy & Easy/Medium

Leader: Margaret Borden
Transport: Private
Area: Oaklands Junction near Tullamarine
Expected time of return: 5.00 PM
Approximate length of walk: 14 km
Map Reference: Melways 5 & 178 or
 Gellibrand Hill Regional Park leaflet

Meet at 10 am at picnic area of Somerton Road (Melways 178 C6) or ring me

We will do a circuit starting from the picnic area and heading southeast to Gellibrand Hill with excellent

views of the city and the surrounds. There are old homestead ruins in several places, and the historic 'Woodlands' built in the 1840's and now a museum should be open for viewing. On the return we follow a pretty Nature Walk with some magnificent old river red gums and other eucalypts. There are lots of kangaroos and it is all very rural for an area so close to Melbourne and the aeroplanes.

Sunday 22 June 1997 **You Yangs**
Easy & Easy/Medium

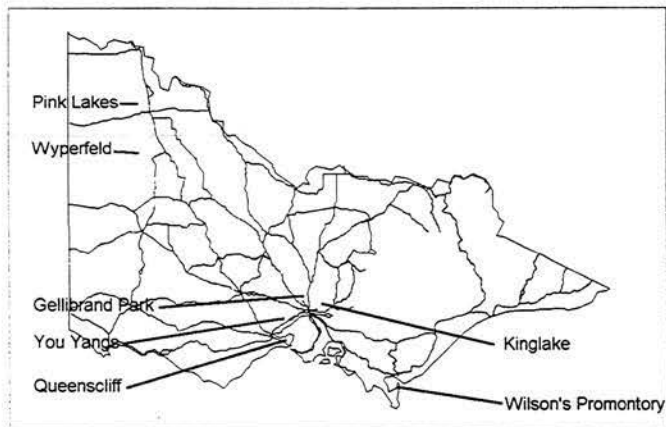
Leaders: Max Casley & Mary Leonard
Transport: Bus from Southbank Boulevard at 9.00 am
Area: Lara Near Geelong
Expected time of return: 6.30 PM
Approximate length of walk: 12 & 16 km
Map Reference: You Yangs 1:25000

Both the easy and easy medium walks will start and finish at the main car park. We will visit the Big Rock and then, with a good 10 minute climb, reach the Flinders Peak at 352 meters where the views will be well worth our effort (trust me!). Walking will be mainly on good tracks; the easy medium group will cover some cross country areas, doing the extra 3 km and making the difference between the two walks.

This area is noted for its abundant bird life with over 200 species reported (sulphur-crested cockatoos, eastern rosellas, kingfishers, honeyeaters, and birds of prey are commonly seen). Mammals include kangaroos, wallabies, sugar gliders and possums.

PS The You Yangs was originally named "Ude Youang" or "Wuroi Youang" by the Aborigines. It was first climbed by Matthew Flinders in 1802.

Definitely an area worth visiting.



Saturday 28 June 1997 **Saturday Explorer**
Easy/Medium

Leader: Pam Rosso
Transport: Private
Area: Pheasant Creek - Whittlesea- Kinglake Rd
Expected time of return: 5.00 PM
Approximate length of walk: 13 km
Map Reference: Melways, NE Key Map Page 9, Map 510 D11

If there are any members of the club who have not walked in Kinglake National Park yet, here is your opportunity on this Saturday explorer walk. We will meet at the National Park office at the main entrance of the park at 10.30 am. There is an entrance fee of \$4.50 per car, so car sharing would be desirable. It is possible to park in Sugarloaf Rd outside the entrance, but there are restrictions so check parking signs carefully.

We will walk along tracks to Mt Sugarloaf lookout and return via Mason's Falls picnic area, where Devonshire tea will be served. I have graded the walk easy-medium because of the 300 metre climb to Mason's Falls, but this is a slow climb and can be taken at your leisure.

I can take passengers in my car.
 Phone me on

Sunday 29 June 1997 **Pyrites Creek**
Easy & Medium

Leaders: Alan Miller & Clare Lonergan
Transport: Bus from Southbank Boulevard at 9.00 am

A preview of this walk will be in the June News.

For Sale

Good Quality Italian Walking Shoes
 Size 39

Hardly Used as Too Small for Owner
 \$45

Phone Joan McMahon on

Previews for June Weekend & Pack-Carry Walks

6 - 9 June 1997

Pink Lakes and

Easy & Easy/Medium

Wyperfeld National Parks

Leaders: Rosemary Cotter and Max Casley
Transport: Bus from Southbank Boulevard at 6.45pm
Area: approx 450-500 km NW of Melbourne
Expected time of return: Monday 8 PM
Approximate length of walk: Various
Cost: \$60-\$70 to be paid by 29 May
No bookings without payment of full fare

A variety of walks will be on offer with possibly one overnight walk.

On Friday evening we will drive to Wyperfeld National Park and on the Saturday doing a day walk. The country here is rolling sand dunes covered with grass, twisted red gums around dry lakes, ancient native pines and black box plains.

On Sunday we will break camp and move onto the Pink Lakes, part of the Murray-Sunset National Park. The name derives from the lakes which in bright sunlight glitter white, while overcast conditions intensify the dull pink hue (due to the pigment secreted by an alga). Associated vegetation is salt-tolerant, with native pine/bull-oak savanna or mallee scrub surrounding. These lakes are outstanding subjects for

photographs. Interesting wildlife and birds also to be seen. Camping will be at Lake Crosbie.

Come and explore with us!

20-22 June 1997

Northern Wilson's Prom

Easy/Medium

Leaders: Deborah Henry
Transport: Private
Area: Wilson's Prom
Expected time of return: Sunday late
Approximate length of walk: 40 km
Map Reference: Wilson's Prom 1:50,000 Leisure map

The walk will commence with a boat trip from Port Welshpool to Johnny Souey Cove.

On the first day we will base camp at Johnny Souey and day walk to Five Mile Beach and back.

The second day will consist of a pack carry from Johnny Souey which will cross the peninsular, where the boat will pick us up on the other side.

Water is available at both campsites. This trip will have a limit on numbers. Rock hopping is involved so be prepared.



On the Easter Pack Carry at Croajingalong National Park

Conservation

The first meeting of the new Bushies conservation group was held in April. Interest from members was not overwhelming. I try to keep these notes in News very short and one purpose of the meetings is to provide more information. I need to know your views so don't be afraid to come along to the meetings to have your say. The next one will be in about two months.

The Federation has a written conservation policy. Merylyn has been kind enough to type it into a computer and I have placed it on the Federation's web site. You can get to it via the home page at <http://www.vicnet.net.au/~vicwalk/>.

In addition to the usual conservation issues such as Forestry and Mining, the policy addresses issues such as Campsites and Tracks, Ski Resorts, Aircraft, and All Terrain Bicycles.

Skiers on the Bogong High Plains this year will probably notice that there will be a helicopter service taking skiers between Mt Hotham and Falls Creek. The plan is apparently to use two or three turbine powered helicopters each capable of carrying five people. The return fare is expected to be \$49.

Bill Metzthen

Wilkinson Lodge News

1. As I shall be away for much of May, Graeme Thornton has kindly offered to send out keys if required. Phone _____ However be warned - sudden snow falls have trapped groups in there in May and I **don't** recommend trying to go in with a car after April.
2. I am still waiting to hear from the blanket and apron remover.
3. We are hoping that Rodney's invention will solve the problem of the upper dam pipe blocking. All groups please check the water flow into the lower dam.

Doug Pocock

Yet to be Invented Bushies Aids

From conversations around the campfire at the Grampians at the Anzac Day Weekend:

The silent zip (to be fixed to sleeping bags and tents)

The silent, clear, plastic bag.

Max Patterson, B.Sc, B.Bus(Aust) Massage Therapist

(currently studying Diploma Tactile Therapies)

Is your body telling you that last walk was tough?
Are your legs and shoulders sore?
Do you have aches and pains?

OR

Do you just want to be pampered, reenergised,
dressed, and take time out just for you ?

For appointments: Please phone Max Patterson
9836 3258 (H)
9656 1133 (B)

HAVE TABLE WILL TRAVEL

Date Slices

(Adapted from the Cranks Recipe Book)

350g dates (or dried apricots or figs)
6 tablespoons water
Lemon, Grated rind
8oz wholemeal flour
100g rolled oats
75g Raw brown sugar
150g margarine, melted

Put the dates, water and lemon rind into a saucepan. Heat gently, stirring occasionally until the mixture is soft.

Combine remaining ingredients, and sprinkle half the mixture into a 27 X 18 cm shallow, square cake tin. Press down firmly.

Cover with dates, and sprinkle remaining oats mixture on top.

Press down firmly.

Bake at 200°C for 20 mins.

Cool in tin, then cut into slices.

(For added luxury, sprinkle with coconut or, dip into melted chocolate !)

Susan Maughan

The Daylesford Walk

Sunday 13th April 1997

Everyone's troubles were far and few
as we journeyed by bus to Daylesford,
"Happy Birthday Alan" sang the merry crew -
for the "61" successfully scored.

We laughed as Peter Havlicek
said "baa baa, follow me",
where 3 lost children once did trek
went our group of thirty-three.

With "war paint" smeared across his face
to scare the sun away,
our leader set a cracking pace
on that balmy autumn day.

Elm leaves like rain continued to fall
as we dined at Lake Jubilee,
contentment on faces one and all
as we lazed on that soft yellow sea.

The only lost soul was John the Whip
who was searching for something I hear,
in a sense he was with us on our trip
with another group I fear!

As we climbed a ridge I paused for a moment
to reflect on the plight of those three,
whose journey had ended near their monument
'neath the shelter of a hollow tree.

One final taste of that special charm
was to be had in Daylesford town,
then the trip back to Melbourne, safe and warm
via the Westgate and glittering Crown.

Jill Dawson

WALK ALSACE

Enjoy the gastronomic delights and superb wines of
Alsace, France on a 7 day self-guided walking tour
through vineyards, medieval villages and the forests of
the Vosges Mountains. With a map and instructions
provided by the local walking club and your picnic
lunch you set off at your own pace for the next hotel
(about 15 km) as your luggage is transported ahead.

\$900 per person twin share including excellent
accommodation and all meals.

PH: 9415 1588 FAX: 9415 1590

*This is a private advertisement and is accepted as a service to Members
only. These are NOT official Club trips.*

100 KM IN 24 HOURS 19-20 April 1997

Every two years the Victorian Mountain Tramping
Club (VMTC) organise a very long 'day walk' to
challenge those walkers who like to push
themselves to their limits of endurance. The walk
is 100 km long and the terrain is chosen to include
at least one significant climb, and to 'succeed' in
this event you have to complete the walk within 24
hours. Yes, that does mean walking through the
night! The VMTC provide plenty of support to the
walkers, with Hash Houses along the way, and
vehicle back up in case it all gets too much.

This year the walk was set around the scenic town
of Warburton in the Upper Yarra valley. It began
with an 1100 m grunt up Mt Donna Buang, and a
steep route down again, then continued on foot
tracks and forestry roads in a long meandering
loop finishing at Warburton. There were sixteen
starters and eleven who completed, all well within
the 24 hours. Of the eleven finishers there were
six members of the Melbourne Bushies - Bill
Metzenthén, Peter Day, Marianne Watt, Trish
Elmore, Stan Mackowiak and, of course, myself.
Well done to us all!

Gina Hopkins

New members

ALAN CASE

JULIE CASSAR

EVAN CHESTERFIELD

WAYNE LLOYD

PATRICE MARRIOT

LIVIANA STONE

ZINAH STONE

Altered Address/Phone

RALPH BLAKE

SALLY BOUVIER

DAVID BRETT

TECK LONG CHIN

GEOFF COPE

STEPHEN DOWN

VIRGINIA HEATHER

DONALD JAMES

KEN AND JOAN MACMAHON

ANDREA MAYES

TONY MORTIMER

MICHAEL PIROTTA

ADAM READ

JENNIFER SYKES

BRIAN MARRIOT

Walks Secretary: Attendances for March 97

	Trips	Av	1995
Sunday Bus	5	33.2	35.8
Pack Carry	7	10.1	12.5
Base Camp	2	10	10
Wed,Hist, Dandenong	3	13.7	7.7
Cycle	1	4	
Total	18		

Membership:

Life Members	11
Honorary Members	11
Single Memberships	385
Family Memberships (2x 48 =)	96
Total membership	503

Duty Roster

May 14	Jenny and Stephen
21	Derrick and Ralph
28	Jean and Marisa
June 4	Bernie and Anne

Next committee meeting: June 2, 1997

Committee Reports

Treasurer:

Accounts for April 1997

Opening Balance	\$55,981
Receipts	\$8,511
Payments	\$3,951
Closing Balance	\$60,541

The only way
to see
the

wild

in wilderness, is on foot ...

On foot, off-track, carrying a pack far beyond where any vehicle will ever go. You have the wilderness to yourself: deep gorges; scenic waterfalls; pristine campsites; Aboriginal rock-art; beautiful waterholes.

1997 - An Exceptional Year

Both Darwin and Kununurra set new records for wet season rainfall. The clear, tropical pools that make swimming such an enjoyable part of bushwalking in Kakadu and the Kimberley have never been better.

The Pilbara had exceptionally heavy rain in January. Those taking part in our June-July Pilbara expedition will enjoy above average water supplies and wildflower displays.

Central Australia had more rain in the first few weeks of 1997 than in the previous 18 months. This year you can enjoy the gentler side of a sometimes harsh and always rugged landscape. Water is abundant, birds are everywhere and the desert is in full bloom.

Kakadu, Kimberley, Red Centre, Pilbara.

More than 50 departures.
Individual walks from 4 days to 6 weeks.

Willis's Walkabouts,
the bushwalking specialist.
Ask for our brochure.

12 Carrington St, Millner NT 0810



Phone: (08) 8985 2134

Fax: (08) 8985 2355

Walks in May/June 1997

Date	Location		Standard	Leader
May 9-11	Mt Buller Lodge Weekend	Private	Various	Bill Metzenthien
10 Sat	Historical Walk: Toorak Ck	Private	Easy	Athol Schafer
11 Sun	Bangammie Forest (Merideth)	Bus	E & E/M	Alan Miller & Clare Lonergan
16-18	Mt Cole - Mt Buangor State Park	Private	E/M	Sak Wan
18 Sun	Trawool-Falls Creek Res	Bus	E & E/M	Peter McGrath & William Cone
21 Wed	Black Hill/Pipers Creek (Kyneton)	Private	E/M	Margaret Borden
23-25	Beechworth Base Camp & Navigation W/E	Private	Easy	Janel Norman & Keith White
25 Sun	Blackwood Area	Bus	E & E/M	John Kittson & Keith White
31 Sat	Dandenongs Explorer	Private	Easy	Michael Humphrey
30-1 June	Barjarg Base Camp	Private	Easy	Sylvia Wilson
1 June	Black Hill-Pipers Creek	Bus	E & E/M	Margaret Borden & Jean Giese
6-9 June	Pink Lakes & Wyperfield NP	Bus	Various	Rosemay Cotter & Max Casley

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Renewal of Membership/Change of Address and/or Phone Numbers

NAME

ADDRESS

PHONE (h).....(w).....

Ordinary Members \$25
 Concession (proof required) \$17
 Couples

Is this a Change of Address ? Yes No

\$36

Non-member **News** subscribers \$15

Make cheques or money order payable to "Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc" and post to
Membership Secretary, GPO Box 1751Q, MELBOURNE, 3001