



September 1999

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Walks programme – refer to the back page.

### A Win – The Upper Wongungurra catchment is saved from the axe.

Hooray. The upper Wongungurra catchment will be added to the Alpine National Park. Thank you to all bushwalkers who wrote letters to their politicians and a submission to the RFA Steering Committee. See the Conservation Forum for more details. *Graeme Thornton.*

### 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations

Next year is the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Club. The Committee has formed a 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary organising sub-committee consisting of Darryl, Anne, Debbie, Trish and Fiona. We would be happy to hear of your suggestions and offers of assistance.

### Left behind on the Sunday Bus

One pair of Nike walking boots complete with not so clean white socks. Size 7 and a half. Ask Rod Novak (AH) for details.

### Social Scene



We are having the following special events in the Clubrooms: -

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> September at 8.00 pm.

### Packing Your Pack

with a "mystery" expert.

Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> October at 8.00 pm.

**A second-hand gear sale**, and a "Billy Boiling" and "Tent Pitching" competition.

In November – we are having a **Photo Competition**. Also, check the noticeboard in the Clubrooms for other exciting social events eg. the Round Robin sports day in mid-October, movie and restaurant nights.

*Fiona Gallery*

### Slide Night

Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> October at 8.00 pm

Russell Willis of *Willis's Walkabouts* will be showing slides of his trips in Western Australia, Northern Territory and various other parts of the world. Many club members have been on Russell's trips and have greatly enjoyed them; being able to get into hidden parts of Australia not normally explored by usual tourist companies. Come along and see some wonderful slides.

ADVANCE NOTICE  
Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> November

### BBQ and Party at GT's and Tracy's.

At long last we're extending a warm welcome to all our Bushie Mates to come along and celebrate with us at 20 Tarcoola Drive, Yallambie. The excuses for festivities include: House warming, GT's birthday, Tracy's birthday, Christmas party, Millennium party, Dog's birthday. Note: FORMAL DRESS PLEASE. Book this date and watch this space. *Tracy*

## From the President

*At last we have some snow and the skiers have been out and about. I'm about to go into Wilky where I'll see if I can remember how to turn and stay upright. One of our Search and Rescue squad answered the call for help recently with the search for the missing snowboarders in NSW but the search was unsuccessful - it seems that four young men have died. This incident reminds us that the mountains can be dangerous and that caution and preparedness are required. Which brings me to training - those of you who were at the half-yearly general meeting will have heard an outline of our new training policies. This is a new initiative and is the first time that we have attempted to set out a policy for training our membership. This is an important move as it will set our targets and focus our training efforts. Your feedback on this would be most welcome.*

*Derrick Brown*

The **Half-Yearly General Meeting** was held on Wednesday the 25th August. The only general business item tabled was the discussion of the draft MBW training policies, presented by Darryl Weinert. The proposal is to develop policies that support the club's by-laws and these will be available as training documents for members and particularly new leaders. The draft identifies three specific areas ie. General Skill Training, Leader Training and Safety & Risk Management. All club members are invited to obtain a copy of the draft and feedback any suggestions to Darryl or a committee member.

*Trish Elmore*

*The NEWS* is the official newsletter of the Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc. and is published monthly. Edited by Clare Lonergan. This issue edited by Rod Novak.

Articles, walk reports, poems, snippets of news, photographs of club events, 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 **October NEWS** can be sent to Clare Lonergan by:

- ◆ Placing article in the "Red Box" in the clubrooms,
- ◆ Mailing to
- ◆ Fax:
- ◆ E-mail:

### Advertising Rates:

¼ Page 1 Issue - \$20; 3 Issues - \$50; 12 Issues (1Year) \$180  
½ Page 1 Issue - \$30; 3 Issues - \$75; 12 Issues (1 year) \$270  
Full Page 1 Issue - \$50; 3 Issues - \$125; 12 Issues (1year) \$450  
Only advertisements directly relating to bushwalking will be accepted (e.g. gear, maps, trips, tours, etc);

**Members Ads - are FREE**

**Closing date for October NEWS is  
27<sup>th</sup> September, 1999**

## From the "Temporary" Editor

My time is up as the acting editor with Clare (and Alan) returning from a well-earned break enjoying that warm European summer. Thank you to all leaders and fellow walkers for your contributions. Also, a special thanks to Liz Moore for the arduous task of proof-reading both the August and September issues. I am handing back the keys(board), so for the October issue, please direct all inquiries and correspondence to Clare. Contact details are on this page

*Rod Novak*

## Letter to the Editor - Re: BIP Donation.

[Brief Intervention Program - Austin Hospital]

As a committee member I feel further information may be helpful to club members concerning the donation made to BIP. The club facilitates a number of things, exercise, developing new skills, social contact and that fantastic recharging of batteries that comes from being out in the beautiful Australian Bush. The statement of purposes of the Melbourne Bushwalkers in part reads "To encourage an appreciation of the wildlife and natural beauty of this country and to assist in its preservation". I approached BIP as it is an innovative program run for adolescents, part of which is the "Wilderness Adventure Program" (based on Outward Bound) and after meeting with committee members and the BIP director, it was decided that a specific donation to enhance the enjoyment of trips would be appropriate (being cold and uncomfortable in the outdoors as we know is no great encouragement to being bitten by the bushwalking bug). An expression of support for a publicly run program which uses the outdoors as an integral part of their work sends a conservation message that untouched bush and mountains are in themselves a resource - useable as is. Young people are also the future bushwalkers who with encouragement will value the outdoors as an important part of their lives. The 12 tops and daypacks are lent out to clients as part of this program.

Regards,

*Anne Wilkins.*

Meetings are held in the Clubrooms, MacKenzie Street, Melbourne (rear of the Royal Horticultural Society Building) on **WEDNESDAY** evenings between 7.00pm and 9.00pm.

*Visitors are always Welcome!!*



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

## Committee NEWS and Reports.

Accounts for July 1999	
Opening Balance	\$47,552.11
Receipts	\$3,702.82
Payments	(\$2,776.91)
Closing Balance	\$48,478.02

*Jan Palich*  
Treasurer

### Mileage Subsidies for Leaders/ Co-leaders/Trainers

Recently members who have been accruing excessive vehicle costs while researching and/or previewing walks approached the Committee seeking financial assistance.

On 2 March 1998 the Committee resolved:

*"That there be a Committee Policy to pay Leaders, Co-leaders and Trainers incidental costs and mileage for distances greater than 250 km in any three month programme period. This payment should be made conditional on a person submitting a claim."*

Following discussion at the July 1999 Committee meeting, it was agreed that a *pro-forma* be designed so that any member who was incurring excessive costs while researching walks could make application for a financial rebate. This would be in accordance with the above policy and as stated would apply for mileage costs on distances greater than 250 km in any three-month programme period.

If you think you qualify, then please contact Jan Palich for an application form.

### Trip Statistics for July

July 1999	Trips	Average	1998
<i>Sunday Bus</i>	4	39	41.5
<i>Pack Carry</i>	1	8	5.7
<i>Base Camp</i>	2	9	3
<i>Other Day</i>	3	14	18.8
<i>Cancelled</i>	5		

*Pearson Cresswell*  
Walks Secretary

**New members:**  
PATTI NICHOLLS

SHELAGH PEPPER

GRACE A SCANAVINO

AIKO YOSHIOKA

**Add to membership list:**  
BRENDA SHANAHAN

ROSS SMITH

**Altered Address/Phone:**  
LYNDA LARKIN

GAIL REDMAN

DENISE TRIFFETT

### Current Club Membership

Life members	Eleven
Honorary members	Ten
Single memberships	349
Family memberships	94 (2 x 47)
Total	<b>464</b>

*Peter Havlicek*  
Membership Secretary

### Wilkie Update

The Wilky work party is scheduled for the 22-24 of October. See the Weekend previews for more details.

*Sylvia Ford*

## Note: Changes with the September Activities.

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> September 1999 **Mt. Franklin Gorge  
– Tarilta Creek**  
*Easy/Medium*

**Wednesday Walkers** – please note the following change. As the planned Brisbane Ranges walk has already been done on Wednesday the 18<sup>th</sup> August, we now have a new and exciting destination.

Leader: Trevor Thompson  
Map reference: Daylesford, Guildford 1:25,000  
Area: Daylesford.  
Transport: PRIVATE  
Approx. distance: 14 km.  
Expected time of return: 6.00pm.

Meet at 9.00 am at Westgate Park carpark, or 10.20 am at Daylesford – on Castlemaine Road, just north of the Trentham/Woodend turn-off. Tarilta Creek rises in the vicinity of Mt. Franklin, and for approx. 6 km it passes through the Upper Loddon State Forest. This provides a very pleasant walking route, through a steep sided small gorge, with many grassy flats. With recent rains, the rock pools have partially filled, and the grass has turned green. The return section will be along ridges above the creek with an occasional view.

Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> September 1999 **Dandenongs Explorer**  
*Easy*

Leader: Warren Baker  
Map reference: Melway 127 F3  
Area: Emerald - Avonsleigh  
Transport: PRIVATE  
Approx. distance: 15 km  
Expected time of return: 4.30 pm

Since this walk is a little longer than our normal Dandenong Explorer walks we will meet at 10.15 am on the west-side of Emerald Reserve. The entrance is off the third roundabout going eastwards through Emerald. We will walk to and through the golf course and have lunch somewhere in the vicinity, depending on time and weather. We will carefully cross the links and then travel in an easterly direction past a number of strawberry farms. On the return loop we will pass several daffodil farms, which should, hopefully be in bloom. Finally, we will return to Emerald reserve via the Old Gembrook Road. A very scrumptious afternoon tea may be taken in Emerald. If you want to come by public transport give me a ring on . I shall try to arrange a lift from one of the nearby railway stations.



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## Day Walks for October

Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> October 1999      **Navigation Day**

*Medium*

Leader:            Darryl Weinert

Transport:        PRIVATE

This is a navigation day aimed at an intermediate level i.e. it will be an orienteering like activity. You'll have to move through the bush and find the control points before moving to the next one. We will be holding a navigation lecture night the week before the actual navigation day. If you are a beginner and would like to build-up your navigation skills this could also be of benefit. People who attended the basic navigation day earlier this year are encouraged to attend this day as well. This will be a learning experience which is meant to be both fun and educational. Orienteering or rogaining competitors are required to pass on your knowledge and experience, and such help would be greatly appreciated. There are some details yet to be sorted out but if you are interested or have any questions whatsoever please contact me.

Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 1999              **Cherry Tree Range**

*Easy/Medium and Medium*

Leader (s):        Les Southwell and Maureen Peck

Map reference:    Ask Les or Maureen

Area:                Tallarook

Transport: **BUS** from South Bank Boulevard at **9 am**

Approx. distance: Ask Les or Maureen

Expected time of return: Late Sunday evening

At the time of going to Press, Les and Maureen were still working out the finer details and the choicest route. Ring Les on                    or see Les and Maureen in the Clubrooms for the latest information.

Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> October 1999      **Mt. Ida – Mt McIvor**

*Easy and Easy/Medium*

Leader (s):        Alan Miller and William Cone

Map Reference:    Heathcote 1:25,000

Area:                Heathcote

Transport: **BUS** from South Bank Boulevard at **9 am**

Approx. distance: 13 km and 16 km

Expected time of return: 6.30 pm

We will be walking along the ridge to the east of the town of Heathcote. Both walks will be mainly along tracks, though the Easy/Medium walk will have to cross some farmland between Mt. McIvor and Mt. Ida. The walks are made particularly memorable by the carpet of *Astroloma pinifolium* (pine heath) which grows near Mt. Ida. It grows to less than half a metre in height, has fine soft pine needles and bright yellow bell flowers.

Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> October 1999 **IronBark Basin - Point Addis**

*Easy/Medium and Medium*

Leader (s):        Peter Havlicek and Stuart Mann

Map reference:    Anglesea 1:25000 (7721-3)

Area:                Anglesea

Transport: **BUS** from South Bank Boulevard at **9 am**

Approx. distance: 17 km and 21 km

Expected time of return: 7.00 pm

The walks follow the "Surf Coast Walk" track. One of the leaders has lead the walk previously, but it has not been previewed to date. We plan to start at Bells Beach. The Ironbark Basin is a beautiful and interesting area in terms of fauna and flora. It is also the site of an old jarusite mine (the mineral pigment that was used on the old red rattler trains). Near Point Addis we pass a tiger

snake breeding area, but these gentle reptiles promise to keep to their side of the fence as long as we do too! Most of the walk to Anglesea is in the coastal bush with the occasional spectacular view of the ocean and only a little sand walking. The easier walk will conclude with a circuit of Anglesea and a chance to assail the local ice-cream shops. The harder walk may continue past the Anglesea golf course ('roos galore!), over Mount(!) Ingoldsby (121 m) to Urquart Bluff lookout with the bus waiting for them before picking up the easy walkers in Anglesea.

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> October 1999 Maribymong River Trail

*Easy/Medium*

Leader: Barbara Weston

Map reference: Melway Maps 14, 26 & 27

Area: Keilor/Avondale Heights

Transport: PRIVATE

Approx. distance: 12 kms

Expected time of return: 5.00 pm

**NB. THIS WALK HAS BEEN CHANGED FROM THE ONE AS LISTED ON THE SPRING PROGRAM**

Meet at Carpark A (near Visitors Centre), Brimbank Park, Melway map 14, J 14, at 9.30 am. There will be a 10 minute car shuttle to the Lilly St Lookout, Essendon. Walking from here, we will drop down to Steele creek and up the other side for more valley views. Then via the Tea Gardens and Canning St Reserve, we will walk the Maribymong River Trail, passing a number of interesting historical and natural features on the way. At Brimbank we will climb to Williams Lookout for a last overview of the valley before returning to our cars. If time permits, a look around the Visitors Centre could be possible, particularly as the Centre now also has a cafe with yummy cakes and coffee. This area abounds in bird-life. Please register by phone as I will not be in the Clubrooms prior to the walk. Ring Barbara on

Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> October 1999 Dandenongs Explorer

*Easy*

Leader: Michael Humphrey

Transport: PRIVATE

More information on this fantastic day-walk will be in the next issue of *The NEWS*.

Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> October 1999 Pauls Range - Chum Creek

*Easy/Medium and Medium*

Leader (s): Margot McNamara & David Arnold

Map reference: Toolangi 1:25,000

Area: Toolangi (north of Healesville)

Transport: **BUS** from South Bank Boulevard at 9 am

Approx. distance: 15 km & 17 km

Expected time of return: 7.00pm

Both walks start in the Chum Creek area, and finish on the Melba Highway north of Dixons Creek. Although we cross some private land in a couple of places, most of the walking is in state forest in this very pleasant area north of Healesville. There are two or three moderate climbs in the Medium walk, the largest one being about 250m from New Chum Creek up to the top of Paul Range. The climbs and descents are gentler and somewhat smaller on the Easy/Medium walk. Deep wheel ruts along the first part of the walk indicate that it is a popular place for trail bikes, but with some luck we will not be disturbed by too many on the day.

Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> October 1999

Hepburn Springs via  
Tipperary Track

*Easy and Easy/Medium*

Leader (s): Lynda Larkin and Roger Harris

Map reference: Ask Lynda or Roger

Area: Daylesford

Transport: **BUS** from South Bank Boulevard at 9am

Approx. distance: 15 km and 19 km

Expected time of return: Ask Lynda or Roger

A long, but not difficult walk – should be even more picturesque in springtime, seeing it was already so when previewed mid-winter. We will be following Wild Cat Creek and Women's Gully – passing thru' Argyle and Hepburn Springs – to Jackson's Lookout – onwards to Golden Spring – and alongside Sailors Creek to a wonderful place called the Blowhole. This is where the creek forms a loop, producing a powerful current which rushes through a rocky tunnel and cascades out the other side to meander on to Tipperary Springs. The Blowhole comes as a surprise – a delightful spot to linger, cool off and watch the swallows swooping and diving through the

tunnel. A number of mild undulations to be negotiated.  
Halloween Eve - Supper at SouthBank afterwards for those interested. Watch out for the Great Pumpkin.

### ***Rogaining - The Cross-Country Navigation Sport***

If you haven't yet heard of *Rogaining* then read on...  
*Rogaining* is the sport of long distance cross-country navigation in which teams of two to five people navigate on foot using a map and compass to visit as many checkpoints as they wish in a set time period. The traditional rogain is 24 hours duration, however, there are also shorter events of 6, 8 and 12 hours. All events normally start at mid-day.

A number of Club members have already discovered the fun of rogain. Why don't you give it a go? They really are a great way to practice some off-track navigation while enjoying getting out to areas not normally available to walkers. Another big plus is the hot meal and hearty campfire provided at the end of the event. If you are a 'novice' rogainer and are unsure of your navigation skills then you can apply to have some navigation assistance to get you started.

The next short event coming up is the Spring 6 Hour on Sunday 12 September in a scenic forested area 75 minutes north-east of Melbourne. Then there's a 24 hour event in October (23-24). With the 24 hour events you don't have to stay out for 24 hours; in fact very few teams do. You can walk during the daylight hours on Saturday, then return to the Hash House for a great feed and well-earned sleep, then go out the next morning (breakfast is provided) feeling greatly refreshed.

If you are interested, the latest rogain newsletter is pinned on the Noticeboard in the Clubrooms. If you would like further details then contact Gina Hopkins on

### **Maldon Folk Festival**

October 29th to November 1st Weekend

For those poor souls like me, who can't get away for the Cup day long weekend, a pleasant alternative is the Maldon Folk Festival. One can camp here if you haven't got friends or relatives to visit, or just come up for the day. However, the Friday night dance I believe is terrific and I can vouch for the variety of interesting music and the scenic venues. The Bendigo Alpine Club with whom we have some ties will be there in force, and there are usually some Melbourne Bushies as well, but how about a few more this year? For \$40 its heaps of fun. There is an information sheet on the noticeboard in the Clubrooms and/or talk to me.

Sylvia Ford

### **From the Federation of Victorian Walking Clubs - VicWalk**

1. The Federation is seeking your support in keeping our walking tracks in top order. There is a Federation Track Clearing/Maintenance form available on the walks' noticeboard. Can you please report fallen logs, damage to tracks and/or huts etc. Complete the form and forward to Rod Novak. And yes, these forms do work. Parks Victoria respond very quickly to Federation initiated requests.
2. The Federation has a few copies of *The Scroggin Eaters - History of Bushwalking in Victoria* available. Great value at \$2 each - it makes an ideal Xmas present. Contact Jenny Sykes on
3. The latest copy of the Federation of Victorian Walking Clubs' newsletter *VicWalk* is on the club noticeboard. Check it out next time you are in the clubrooms. *VicWalk* has information on what the Federation are doing, plus the latest news from around the walking clubs.

## ***Kangaroo Island***

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## Weekend Trips for October

1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> October 1999

Snake Island

*Easy/Medium*

Leader: Debbie Henry

Map reference: Ask Debbie

Area: Gippsland (near Wilson's Prom)

Transport: PRIVATE

Approx. distance: Ask Debbie

Expected time of return: Late Sunday evening

This is an excellent trip for backpack beginners and those who have visited the Wilson's Prom area. Snake Island is in Corner Inlet, near the north-east tip of the Prom, and has wonderful coastal views. We will take a boat from Port Welshpool early on Saturday morning, walk to camp and set up a base camp. We will traverse the island and explore the coast and beaches. On Sunday afternoon we will take the boat back to Port Welshpool. Snake Island has a fascinating history as well as being most beautiful. So book early, don't miss out on this great trip.

1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> October 1999

Ski Trip: Mt. Bogong

*Medium/Hard*

Leader: Ralph Blake

Map reference: Bogong High Plains

Area: North-east Victoria (near Mt. Beauty)

Transport: PRIVATE

Approx. distance: 20 km

Expected time of return: **Late Sunday or Monday evening.**

This late season ski trip will be to Mt Bogong. Hopefully, we will be able to enjoy skiing down many of the steep gullies and exploring the area in general on skis.

On Saturday we will climb to Mt Bogong summit via the Staircase or Eskdale spurs. A possible camp-site is Stirling Gap, just below West Peak. Our descent of Mt

Bogong will be via the same route. The rest of our time there will be spent skiing (weather and snow permitting!). Depending on the snow, weather and the desires of the group this trip could also include Monday 4 October. An extra day would be good considering it is usually quite an effort to get to Mt Bogong. **This trip is suitable for fit and experienced bushwalkers and skiers only.**

8<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> October 1999

Cobbler Plateau

*Medium*

Leader: Pearson Cresswell

Map reference: Ask Pearson for details.

Area: NE Victoria

Transport: PRIVATE

Approx. distance: Ask Pearson for details.

Expected time of return: Late Sunday evening.

There are a number of interesting waterfalls around the edges of the Cobbler Plateau and this walk will cover a few of them. Starting from Cobbler lake we will head around the east side of the plateau; this is mostly off-track and scrubby – so be warned. The return trip will be easier with a climb of Mt. Cobbler and a side trip to Dandongadale Falls.

15<sup>th</sup> - 17<sup>th</sup> October 1999

Otways

*Easy/Medium*

Leader: Sylvia Ford

Map reference: Otways & Shipwreck Coast

Area: mid Otways – south of Colac

Transport: PRIVATE

Approx. distance: 12km and ?? km

Expected time of return: 8.00 pm Sunday evening.

Saturday's walk is a ridge walk along Wild Dog Track (off Turton's Track near Beech forest). It starts off very respectfully then the track deteriorates steadily. However,



the Geelong Bushwalkers have been handy with the pink tape and eventually we descend into the east branch of the Barham River and Mariners Falls; but not till we stop at a smashing lunch spot, with a typical Otways view of steep-sided hills. The down-side of this is a lengthy car shuffle alas. Sunday's effort will be a circular walk linking the Cargram and Hopeton Falls if the weather's suitable. Or we might go and check out the Little Aire Falls. Also nearby are the Triplet Falls where they've built a beautiful tourist walkway that takes you right out over the river at a height. The base camp might have to move from Friday to Saturday, I'm working on it!!! The whole area is south of Colac, about 3 1/2 hours from Melbourne. The distance of the walks aren't great but they're time consuming as in "up and down".

22<sup>nd</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup> October 1999 Wilky Work Party  
*Easy*

Leader: Doug Pocock  
Map reference: Bogong High Plains 1:50,000  
Area: Bogong High Plains  
Transport: PRIVATE  
Approx. distance: Various  
Expected time of return: Late Sunday evening.  
The annual Spring Clean and work party. A weekend dedicated to washing, scrubbing, chopping, painting, maintaining and whatever else needs to be done to the club hut. Lunches and evening meal provided.

22<sup>nd</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup> October 1999 Feathertop by NW Spur  
*Medium*

Leader: Debbie Henry  
Map reference: Ask Debbie  
Area: NE Victoria (near Bright)  
Transport: PRIVATE  
Approx. distance: Ask Debbie  
Expected time of return: Late Sunday evening.

This is the classic route to Mt. Feathertop, by the North-West Spur. We will climb NW Spur on Saturday. This is the steepest approach to Mt. Feathertop and is a walk for experienced bushwalkers. Sunday will be a gentle stroll

down the Bungalow Spur. If you have approached Feathertop from the Razorback, Bon Accord Spur or Bungalow Spur, why not add the North-West Spur to you list. Saturday night will be spent in the M.U.M.C. Hut, which I believe will be a first for many Melbourne Bushies. The view from here is only topped by the summit of Feathertop itself.

22<sup>nd</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup> October 1999 Kara Kara State Park  
*Easy*

Leader: Rod Novak  
Map reference: VicMap 1:25,000 Navarre North & South, Redbank North & South.  
Transport: Private  
Distance: 14 + 12 kms  
Expected time of return: Late Sunday evening.

Like to try overnight camping the 'million star' way. Then come along to this base camp and enjoy two walks through some of Victoria's superb Box-Ironbark forests. The camp site has flush toilets and picnic tables - but no hot showers!! and it has a panoramic view over a lake. We will have a cheery fire at night, and gourmet treats with pre-dinner drinks. So come along and try overnight camping in a great location. Come to Clubnight and see the leader for an information sheet.

### Equipment for Hire

The Melbourne Bushies has some great equipment for hire. We suggest that you 'try before you buy'. Here is the current fee schedule.

	W/nd	Weekly	Deposit
Tents	10	20	20
Weekend Packs	5	10	20
DayPack	2	4	8
Sleeping Bags	5	10	20
Sleeping Mat (foam)	2	4	4
Trangia Stove	3	6	6
Compasses	2	5	10
Food Dehydrator (per fortnight)		5	15
Track Maintenance Tools	5	10	20

If you need help with hiring the club equipment, then see me at Clubnight or ring me on AH

Rod Novak

## Cup Day Weekend – Extended Trips

29<sup>th</sup> October to 2<sup>nd</sup> November 1999

**Mt. Darling - Wonnangatta**

*Medium*

Leader: Jerry Grandage

Map reference: Howitt, Selwyn & Tamboritha, Moroka  
1:50,000

Area: Alpine National Park (Wonnangatta-Moroka)

Transport: PRIVATE

Approx. distance: 43 kms

Expected time of return: Late Tuesday evening.

Mt. Darling is seldom visited although it is often seen from afar. Our route will be Dimmick Lookout – Mt. Darling – Wonnangatta Station – Upper Wonnangatta – Howitt Plains. The second and fourth days will mostly be off tracks. The Mt. Darling ridge is not easy walking but the views of the Wonnangatta etc. are great.

29<sup>th</sup> October to 2<sup>nd</sup> November 1999

**Wilky – Tawonga Huts-Bogong Village**

*Medium*

Leader: Lance Mobbs

Map reference: Ask Lance

Area: NE Victoria

Transport: PRIVATE

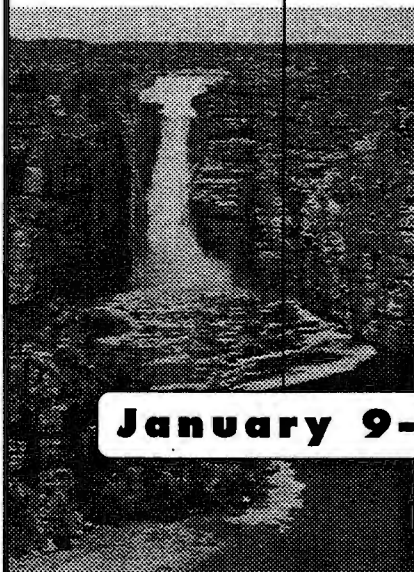
Approx. distance: 40 km

Expected time of return: Late Tuesday evening.

There has been a change to this walk. We will be doing a four day round trip, starting at Bogong Village – Roper's Hut – Wilkie Lodge – Tawonga Huts – Bogong Village. This will be a predominantly medium in grade and we will be bagging some peaks to there should be some splendid views and hopefully the Spring flowers should be out. As I have no phone please either drop me a letter at \_\_\_\_\_, West Newport or see me in the chubrooms.

### The Kimberley Coast – Something New

# The Height of the Wet



- Fly from Kununurra to Faraway Bay
- Take a boat to where a 30-40m waterfall drops into a tidal gorge.
- Walk four or five days back to Faraway Bay, enjoying magnificent views out to the ocean and offshore islands.
- Overnight at the Faraway Bay resort.
- Carry your pack to King George Falls, the most spectacular tidal falls in the Kimberley.
- Finish with a boat to the base of the falls and back to Faraway Bay. Overnight at the lodge and fly back to Kununurra.

This trip will not be offered in 2001. We may not be able to get permission to offer it again.  
Ask for the trip notes.

**January 9-22 2000**

**Willis's Walkabouts**  
12 Carrington St Millner NT 0810  
Email: [walkabout@ais.net.au](mailto:walkabout@ais.net.au)



**Phone: (08) 8985 2134 Fax: (08) 8985 2355**

## Conservation Forum

### From the Federation of Victorian Walking Clubs Conservation Committee (25/8/99)

The Conservation Committee of the Federation meets on the fourth Wednesday of each month with the aim of promoting conservation issues that specifically relate to our bushwalking areas. If you would like to raise an issue or report track and/or hut damage, then please contact Rod Novak at Clubnight or AH. At the meeting of 25/8/99 the following issues were discussed: -

**Alpine Hooray.** The Wongungurra will be added to the Alpine National Park. The recent north-east Regional Forest Agreement have endorsed the recommendations in the *Directions Report* and 2,700 hectares of the upper Wongungurra catchment will have national park status. Thank you to all club members who wrote a letter and/or submission to the politicians about this important habitat for the spotted tree frog, and the excellent stand of mature Alpine Ash forest. Congratulations everyone.

A new book called the *Alps Invaders – Weeds of the Australian High Country* (1998), and published by the Australian Alps Liaison Committee – National Heritage Working Group. This book details the threat of weeds in the Australian Alps National Parks, and provides 62 pages of colour photos and descriptions of grasses, rushes, herbs, shrubs and trees. It also has a Weed Reporting Form to help monitor and control these pests. A copy is available for use from the club library.

**East Gippsland** There is a big problem with Sea Spurge (*Euphorbia paralias*) in the Croajingalong National Park. The Rangers and Bairnsdale Bushwalking Club have organised a weed pull for the weekends of 9 & 10 and 23 & 24 of October. They are seeking assistance from bushwalkers. If you would like to help, please contact the Ranger, Cathy Zwick on 51586324 for more details

**Yarra Ranges** The Federation has met with Parks Victoria to argue the case for bushwalker access to some of the water catchment areas. Unfortunately, Melbourne Water will not allow any access at all to the catchment areas of the Yarra Ranges National Park. It is believed the security has been contracted out and a more vigilant agency is actively policing the catchment areas. The Federation will now try to get access to the catchment buffer zones. More details in the next issue of *The NEWS*. Also, a rainforest skywalk (at a cost of \$740,000) has been constructed at the Cement Creek picnic ground.

Rod Novak  
Club Delegate to Fed.  
Conservation Committee

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### Bogong High Plains, Mitchell River, Internet snow site.

I asked the Minister for Tourism (MFT) if she acknowledged that cattle make the ANP less attractive for tourists, and if there are any proposals for commercial huts in National Parks. Neither question was answered. It seems that the Minister does not know if cattle make the ANP more or less attractive, or if there are plans for commercial huts in the ANP. That is, the Minister does not know if cow droppings attract tourists! Note that walkers - family and gung-ho, overnight and day, camping and resort based - add several hundred thousand dollars each summer into the Kosciuszko region economy. Victoria is well behind NSW in managing the environment to attract such numbers. Yet the Minister does nothing. The MFT has also advised that matter of accuracy of snow reports has been raised. I for one do not like the economical information that sometimes appears as ski reports: people have come from Perth and Brisbane and returned without skiing due to optimistic reports. If the snow reports are inaccurate, write to the Minister for Tourism, Louise Asher, MP, GPO Box 4509RR, Melbourne Vic 3001. You should state what the report said, when, and what you saw. I have had a quick look at the Internet snow sites, and <http://www.ski.com.au> seems to be the one to beat. There is provision for posting messages: on 22 June the last comment was critical of the snow reports.

There is a review of the potential of the Mitchell, Thomson and Macalister Rivers River as dam sites, over 25 000 megalitre. By comparison, Rocky Valley is 25 000 ML, Maroondah is 22 000 ML, and Fyans is 21 000 ML. Pending.

Stephen Lake

## Bushies "Good Food" Guide

Here are some suggestions for those weekend trips to the mountains and beyond.

**Darnum** Bill and Merrilyn tried the pub and reckoned it was just OK to average.

**Leongatha** Cameron recommends the hamburgers at the fish shop on the left side, near the cross-roads.

**Porepunkah** *The Porepunkah Hotel.*

Great value for a pub meal. Go with a HUGE appetite after a days skiing. Meals range from \$12-\$16 for chicken, pork, trout, stir-fries etc to \$18 for a man (person) sized steak. Plates are full of yummy vegies not overcooked. The desserts (well only 2 of the group could fit it in and all of us helped them finish them) sticky date pud, mud cake, bread & butter pud, etc were also HUGE serves for \$4-4.50, can't comment on the coffee. All we can say is the mountain people must have big appetites. Its a shame it is not better located for timing your evening meal because it is very good value for money (from "I don't want to hear one word about the Delatite!! *Trish.*)

**Rawson** *The Rawson Village Pub.* Offers reasonable pub fare in the \$10 to \$15 range. Sweets are passable and there is a great open fire that is conducive to enjoying a port or two.

**Yarragon** Give the pub a miss and try *the Nibble 'N' Natter.* This 'take-away food' and 'sit-down bistro' offers top value and is open until late. I can strongly recommend the sit down option. Roast of the day (lamb) was superb at \$10; as was their fish of the day. A good range of sweets is available and the coffee is OK. The service is very friendly and helpful and they do have clean toilets.

**Yarragon** – *Coco's* is next door and has superb cakes and coffee. Perfect for that afternoon tea and driver change en route back to Melbourne. Unfortunately, this cafe closes its doors at 5 pm.

## Committee Duty Roster

15 <sup>th</sup> September	Sylvia & Anne
22 <sup>nd</sup> September	Fiona & Gina
29 <sup>th</sup> September	Debbie & Anne
6 <sup>th</sup> October	Peter & Rod

The BMTAB, Inc [Bushwalking and Mountaincraft Training Advisory Board] conduct the *Bushwalking and Mountaincraft Leadership Certificate, Day Walk Leadership Certificate* and *Australian Ski Tour Leaders Certificate*. For more information and/or application forms then ring Jo-anne on 9412 4021. They also have a website at [www.vicnet.net.au/~bmtab](http://www.vicnet.net.au/~bmtab) The closing date for next year's (2000) courses will be 1<sup>st</sup> October 1999.

## Star Gazing

An easy way to learn the star constellations of our great southern sky is to use a star wheel. Of the many types available, the better models to try are the ABC's Quantum and/or Phillips (both under \$25). There are also many star charts available. One of the better ones is the Phillip's Star Chart (\$20). Also, a handy hint is to put red cellophane over your torch. The red glow allows you to read the star wheel or star chart quite easily and your night vision isn't impeded.

## Wilson's Prom Lighthouse Cottage

20<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> August 1999

One of Victoria's worst kept bushwalking secrets is the lighthouse keeper's cottage at the south-east point of the Australian mainland. You have to book months ahead to secure a weekend booking. Cameron organised this for the Melb. Bushies and booked the 3 bedroom cottage with room for 12. I really believe the best time for the Prom is winter – no crowds and lots of wild weather. We camped at Tidal River on the Friday night, being lulled to sleep by the crashing waves on the beach and the sound of masticating and snorting wombats!! We walked the new track from Little Waterloo Bay and it is fantastic. It has been specially constructed by "trackies" who build the Tasmanian world heritage walking tracks. This new track is a real joy to walk along. There is a great viewpoint which overlooks the lighthouse, then you plunge into some lovely forest and ferny glades. The Lighthouse cottage is very comfortable and the caretakers – Peter and Pat. are very helpful and have lots of good yarns. They are the ex-lighthouse keepers who have stayed on for three months – and they are still there three years later.

The cottages are very comfortable with a fully equipped kitchen, hot shower, gas heating etc. After a gourmet meal and a fine ale and wine it was early to bed to listen to the howling wind, safe and snug in the most southerly building on the mainland. Up early on Sunday to a glorious sunrise, then we had a tour of the Lighthouse, and returned to the aroma of bacon and eggs. We packed up, and then returned to Telegraph saddle by Roaring Meg and the Halfway Hut. I am very happy the commercial operation is not going ahead, the lighthouse cottages should be for independent walkers. One of the best kept bushwalking secrets – book the cottage for a mid-week visit and have the place to yourselves. Thanks Cameron for organising a great weekend.

Party: Cameron (leader), Brian, Margaret, Peter, Rod, Patrick, and Mary.

## RAWSON LODGE WEEKEND

6 – 8 AUGUST 1999

**Saturday-morning:** sunny, afternoon: overcast. In the morning we left 3 white Subarus in the car park & set off to climb Mt. Erica. On our way up we saw: the "Mushroom Rocks" (clusters of spectacular granite boulders), many myrtle beech trees & a scout hut. As we went higher we walked on patches of snow & among those beautiful trees with multi-coloured trunks, snow gums. For the final ascent jumpers & mittens were required for the wind was very cold & every step was through snow. We reached the top & didn't linger long. Then we descended & had an absolutely freezing lunch, I must record, amongst the "Mushroom Rocks" (which we later explored). Max wisely remarked: "Rocks are always cold!" Bill's absence from the group during lunch caused general concern but he was quickly located after lunch by his wife. (He had been taking photos).

Later on in the afternoon we drove to the Thomson Reservoir, Victoria's largest & found it very low. cross our fingers for more rain where it's needed in the state. Close to one of the reservoir's car parks we were lucky enough to see a sizeable, dark blue/black bird- a Satin Bower-Bird. It hopped about on the ground near its bower which was hidden in some bushes, flew to nearby trees & then hopped from branch to branch in them. We observed that its bower was made of a collection of blue items-blue plastic forks being the most easily identifiable of these. We drove along the top of the dam wall & walked around it for a time. We headed home (Rawson) via Walhalla on a bumpy one-lane road. The first 20 minutes of this drive was enjoyable with pleasant scenery of Eucalypt-covered hills, the rest of which well...I don't think anyone expected such an extremely long (& bumpy) drive. Dinner was a good standard & the company was good too. Our number was added to by Graeme Thornton & Tracy Guest - exemplifying the fellowship of the Club.

**Sunday-all day:** drizzle. In the morning we drove from Rawson to Walhalla & left our cars in the car park at the far end of the town. Then we scaled a nearby hill to reach the old tramway track. We walked along the track-a good distance- to the railway station next to the Thomson River. Along the track we looked down to our left on the elongated township of Walhalla & across to mist-shrouded hills. We passed the old Long Tunnel Gold Mine, many gum trees, some tree ferns &, every now & then, pink heath -"Victoria's floral emblem" Sylvia noted. Leeches too, but not many. When we left the sheltered track we walked in the drizzle (which I can't complain about) to the station. We had lunch on the platform, bought tickets & then caught the 12.30pm tourist train to Happy Creek Station. On the short ride I learned, much to my chagrin, that the best seats are those on the right side of the train for they allow passengers to view the valley the track runs through. A short steep climb from the Happy Creek Station & we reached the main road which we could follow back to our cars. On our way back we wandered around the cemetery on the hill & the historic township. On the long, flat walk to & through

Walhalla back to where our cars were parked I reflected upon how the Club makes you walk much further than you would if you visited the area privately. During the walk I was conscious of the fresh, clean country air I breathed in-I am not able to breathe in such pure air in Melbourne. The Club often forces you to walk beyond your comfort zone, it forces you to do natural, healthy exercise-walking. It is a great discipline & I am very grateful for it. I cannot write a word against our "absent" leader, Pearson Cresswell (who does & has done so much for the Club) & who would have been present if snow had been present on Mt. St. Gwinear but as it wasn't, he wasn't. I cannot blame him for seeking the stunning snowscapes in Victoria's too limited ski season on this weekend. I, too, would have preferred to have skied rather than bushwalked & the thought of not being able to ski put a bit of a dampener on the weekend for me. However, I did enjoy this walking weekend very much.

The 1999 Rawson Lodgers were: Rod Novak, Liz Moore, Bill Metzthen, Marilyn Whimpey, Dave & Sylvia Andrews, Ed Little, Max Casley, William Cone & Vicki Scrivenger.

Vicki Scrivenger

## Black Range State Park 23-25 July

The best time to visit the Grampians must be in late winter. No tourist crowds, lots of wildflowers, and Max organised some great weather for us. On Saturday we walked along the main ridge and enjoyed the views across to the Victoria Range. Sylvia, Rosemary and Bob were in botany heaven floral. *Epacris impressa* (Victoria's emblem), *Banksia ornata* and *Thryptomene calycina* were in full bloom, as were Victorian Smoke Bush *Conospermum mitchelli*, the *Correa* and Pine Heath just coming on. We climbed up to the Wild Man caves and pondered on this 1860s hippy. Thanks Max for the newspaper article on "Wild Man Ross" - a very interesting story. We returned to camp for a leisurely afternoon tea, merging into delicious entrees, the wine was poured, the evening meal prepared and all the walkers were happy. The cheery campfire became centre stage for an excellent sing-a-long by Rod M, Bob and a visitor - Ken - who gave the eager crowd lots of excellent songs. Ed then recited, with a little prompting, *The Man from Ironbark*, *Mulga Bill's Bicycle* and other famous Banjo Patterson poems and ballads. Bob then made a delicious apple pie in his camp-oven and served with cream. Yum. The Port was then handed around which complemented a great evening. On Sunday a raucous pair of Kookaburras woke us up just on dawn. We walked to a nearby highpoint, and then across to Mt Talbot for some excellent panoramic views of the Grampians and the Wimmera plains. Thanks Max for organising a great weekend to a real special spot.

**Party:** Max (leader), Sylvia, Rosemary, Rod M., Stuart, Liz, Bob, Mick, Fiona, Rod N., Ed, with Ken and Pam - visitors from the Essendon Bushwalking Club.

Rod Novak

## North with SuperJope – Part 1

In mid Mid three members of the Melbourne Bushies left a wintry Melbourne on the first day of a long drive northwards to Kakadu and the Kimberley. Our walking programme consisted of three extended walks, of nine and fifteen days in Kakadu and fourteen days in the Charnley River area of the west Kimberley. Other people in the group met us in Kakadu after flying to Darwin. Ten walkers were involved, six from the Bushies and four from the Maroondah Club. Three of us did three trips while the others did one or two. The leader and main instigator was Jopie Bodegraven and the group included Jenny Flood, Max Casley, Derrick and Gina, Jerry Grandage, Klaus and Janet Pelzer, and Graham and Adrienne Allan (the last four from Maroondah). Our ages ranged from the mid forties to the mid sixties. I'm sure I speak for the whole group in saying that the ensuing adventures were among the most enjoyable and satisfying in our rather long lives.

Having volunteered to write something for *The NEWS* I now find it rather daunting. How can one do justice to such an experience? People write lengthy reports on one-day walks, so I'll have to be selective in describing 38 days of great walking without monopolising the next ten issues of *The NEWS*. This will be the first of three articles and will cover the nine-day Kakadu walk together with an overview of the whole exercise. The other two will deal with the longer Kakadu walk and the Charnley trip.

The topography of Kakadu is dominated by the sandstone escarpment which is typically 200 metres high and gives rise to the well-known spectacular waterfalls. The escarpment separates the flat lowland region, which is famous for its wetlands, rivers, birdlife, saltwater crocodiles and mosquitos, from the higher level so called "stone country" which is more amenable to interesting bushwalking. The escarpment has several outliers where the erosion process has left islands of high level ground rising from the plains and detached from the main escarpment. One such outlier is the Mt. Brockman massif. This was the venue for our first Kakadu walk, although we also made a brief foray across the plains to the main escarpment.

The dates of May 25<sup>th</sup> to June 2<sup>nd</sup> brought good news and bad news – good because this early in the dry season the smaller watercourses are still flowing well, and bad because conditions can still be quite hot and humid; particularly after a wet season which had been longer and wetter than usual. Our pack weights were initially about 15 kg. This might seem light for a nine day trip but the "guaranteed" warm and rainless climate of the northern dry season, and the fact that fires can be lit anywhere, means that much of the usual gear can be left behind. Tent, sleeping bag, wet weather gear, warm clothing, stove and fuel are all unnecessary during the Kakadu dry season, although mosquito nets or domes were essential items on the first walk. We maximised the use of dehydrated food in our efforts to keep the weight down. (by the same token our packs for the fifteen day walk were around 20 kg, a vast improvement on the 30 kg which one would expect to carry at the start of a two week walk in Victoria or Tasmania.) Our route was a circuit of which a small part had previously been walked by Jopie

and Jenny, while the remainder had been explored by people well known to us.

The first three days saw us walking in leisurely fashion up the Baroalba Creek. Most of us had walked in Kakadu before and we experienced the sights, sounds, smells, colour, shapes and textures which were both familiar from previous visits and different from the even more familiar environments of Victoria. We frequently swam in the warm clear water. We marvelled at the beautiful sandstone rock formations, their amazing colour variations and the way the colours changed as the sun moved across the sky. The wildflowers were magnificent and the vegetation in general gave us much to admire and discuss. Frequent stops were made to identify the plants with the aid of an extensive library of two books which we carried. Two species of *Pandanus* were distinctive features of the landscape – beautiful to look at but not to be touched. The ever-present *Spinifix* made itself felt (literally!!) as we walked through it. The bladder-worts were in full flower on the fringes of the creeks. The smooth barked Salmon Gums and/or Ghost Gums were conspicuous and stately. We delighted in the creeks – the little waterfalls and cascades, the deep pools and rushing torrents, and the rocks and sand which often provided a backdrop to the water. We revelled in the whole scene.

We also suffered from the heat since we were still acclimatising. The pack carries were fairly short for each of the first three days and we spent much time swimming, lying in the sun or doing short side trips. On the third day we explored an interesting area of rocky outcrops interlaced with deep narrow chasms. The map referred to this area, and also many others, as having numerous fissures and rocky outcrops. Somehow this was translated by the group as "fishes and loaves" which became a frequent catch-phrase during all our Kakadu walking.

On the fourth day the walking started to get more serious. We were on the move before dawn to avoid too much walking in the heat of the afternoon. Our route took us up to a saddle overlooking the Baroalba watershed, down a gully to the top of the plains and across to the foot of the main escarpment. As we approached the saddle we entered our first substantial area of full-blown rainforest. Unlike most Kakadu vegetation which is fire-tolerant or even fire-dependent, the fire-sensitive species are now

confined to quite small areas which have escaped burning. The dominant tree is *Allosyncarpia Ternata* (it doesn't seem to have a common name) and during our time in Kakadu we came to love the ambience that these trees provided – the contortions and curvature of the branches, the green-ness and continuity of the canopy, the cool air underneath and the relative lack of vegetation at ground level. In such areas we walked easily on a bed of soft leaves. At the saddle we also found a rock overhang with some particularly well preserved Aboriginal paintings, which are an important aspect of Kakadu walking. On reaching the bottom of the gully we then had a straight forward task of 9 km through Spear Grass across the plains. (Spear Grass dominates large areas of the plains and is about two metres high: it dies at the beginning of the dry season and is thus easy to walk through, although the person in front may be covered in the spear-like seeds – ask Jopie!!!) The sun was high in the sky and the temperature was climbing rapidly. There were no swimmable creeks on the plains so we were glad to reach a beautiful campsite at a point where a (nameless) creek emerged from the base of the escarpment. The swimming here was enjoyed more than usual.

Day five was a high point in more ways than one. We had a full day's side trip up the unnamed creek and across towards "Hill 420". (In fact its altitude is 411 metres but we don't have to be pedantic.) Hill 420 would have given us great views of the edge of the escarpment, the plains and the Brockman massif, except that we didn't quite get there. Walking up the creek was pleasant if uneventful, but when we left the main creek to travel cross-country towards Hill 420 our rate of progress slowed considerably as a result of some more fishes and loaves. The chasms (fishes) were difficult to negotiate and were often aligned across our intended direction of travel and the outcrops (loaves) led nowhere because of the network of chasms. We reached a point where Hill 420 was visible and not too far distant, but realised that we weren't going to make it in time to get back in daylight. It didn't seem to matter. The fishes and loaves scenery was most inspiring, as was

I'll end this first article with a few generalisations. In the 38 days of the three walks we covered a total of 370 km, including 110 km of optional side trips which were not done by everybody. Ten kilometres per day may not sound like hard work but I emphasise that we were off tracks the whole time except for an hour or two at the beginning and end of each walk. Sometimes the going was very slow. At other times we moved faster on easier ground. We had ample time, particularly on the second Kakadu trip, to laze around in the sun, to study the plants or watch the birds, to look for Aboriginal paintings, to practice yoga, to swim, read or play cards, to enjoy each others company or to appreciate the solitude. When we were entering or leaving the two Kakadu circuits we encountered tourists on the few kilometres of track which exist. We met only one other walking group, on day four of the first Kakadu walk. Apart from this we were totally isolated during all of the walk. Each walk was a true wilderness experience (by anyone's definition of wilderness). It was magnificent.

If you read this far, please tune in next month for Part 2 of the ongoing adventure.

*Jerry Grandage*

everything else we passed through that day – definitely a day to remember.

Days six and seven were more demanding than we were expecting. We crossed the plains back to the Brockman massif on a different line from that used on day four and followed a gully up to a saddle leading to the headwaters of Radon Creek, the main feature which is Radon Gorge which we were to explore. We progressed down Radon Creek, sometimes with difficulty, as the creek formed itself into a well-defined and increasingly narrow gorge. Finally we established camp in a mind-boggling situation deep in the gorge. It was a longish day but we reached the area where Jopie had planned to camp. Our intention for day seven was to continue about two kilometres down Radon Gorge before turning northwards up a creek which would lead us over a low divide and down Baroalba Creek. It took sometime to establish that we couldn't safely proceed much further down the gorge. We then extricated ourselves from the gorge and set out to walk across country towards our intended objective. We hadn't bargained for the size and complexity of the fishes-and-loaves. This time the fishes were deeper than usual and progress was slow in the extreme. Six hours after leaving camp we had made good about one kilometre.

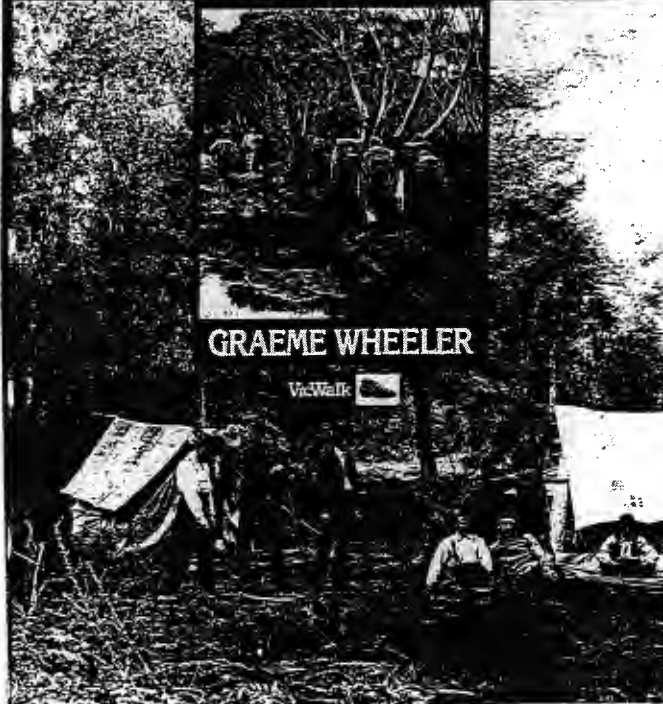
SuperJopie's demeanour was cool and unflappable as always and this inspired confidence among the group. Eventually we reached the desired north-flowing creek which we followed upstream. As the waterflow diminished, ceased altogether several times and resumed again, we questioned whether we would reach Baroalba Creek that night. After a longish period on a dry watercourse the water reappeared unexpectedly and we decided to camp where we were. It had been a long hard day!!

The following day we continued over the divide, down to Baroalba creek and on towards our starting point, which we reached at lunch-time on day nine. It was a great walk and, for some of us, only the first of three.

\* Refer to page 7 \*

# THE SCROGGIN EATERS

## A HISTORY OF BUSHWALKING IN VICTORIA



**GRAEME WHEELER**

VicWalk

\* Refer to Page 7 \*

### Mozzies have taste in victims


MIAMI. Mosquitoes do not randomly perch on just anyone's body and begin sucking blood, but choose their victims, searching for the most aromatically appealing humans, according to a new study. "Mosquitoes use odour to sort attractive people from the unattractive to find those that are most tasty," said University of Florida entomologist Dr Jerry Butler. In a study of what attracted mosquitoes to people, Dr Butler said he worked off a theory that they go for humans who provide the richest source of cholesterol and B vitamins, which the pesky insects need to live but do not produce themselves. Dr Butler found one sure way to stop attracting them -- stop breathing. Mosquitoes can sniff out an attractive human dinner target from more than 50 kilometres away, Dr Butler said.

The Age 22/8/99

Jerry Grandage

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## EVEREST TREK *CHRISTMAS / MILLENNIUM*

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Contact: Darren Miller (including after hours) or (on a club walk)  
ph                                      fax                                      email

*As part of the Tenzing family network,  
you experience the Himalaya as no other visitors can.*

**September/ October 1999**

15 Wed	<i>Refer to page 4</i>	Private	E/M	<i>Trevor Thomson</i>	
17-19	GRAMPIANS BASE CAMP: BOREANG	Private		Pearson Cresswell	
18-2 Oct	NORTHERN NSW NATIONAL PARKS	Private	E/M	Jopie Bodegraven	
19 Sun	HESKETT - CAMELS HUMPS - MT. CHARLIE	Bus	E/M & M	Brian Crouch & John Kittson	#
24-26	TERICK-TERICK BASE CAMP	Private	E	Gina Hopkins	
25 Sat	DANDENONGS EXPLORER	Private	E	<i>Warren Baker</i>	
26 Sun	MIDDLE BRISBANE RANGES	Bus	E/M & M	Darryl Weinert	#
1-3 Oct	SNAKE ISLAND (Nth WILSONS PROM)	Private	E/M	Debbie Henry	
1-3	SKI TRIP: MT BOGONG	Private	M/H	Ralph Blake	
2 Sat	NAVIGATION DAY	Private	Medium	Darryl Weinert	
3 Sun	CHERRY TREE RANGE (TALLAROOK)	Bus	E/M & M	Les Southwell & Maureen Peck	#
8-10	COBBLER PLATEAU	Private	M	Pearson Cresswell	
10 Sun	MT. IDA - MT. McIVOR (HEATHCOTE)	Bus	E & E/M	Alan Miller & William Cone	#
15-17	OTWAYS	Private	E/M	Sylvia Ford	
17 Sun	IRONBARK BASIN - PT. ADDIS - ANGLESEA	Bus	E & E/M	Peter Havlicek & Stuart Mann	#

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**GPO Box 1751Q, Melbourne 3001**

**SURFACE  
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**Change of address and/or phone number**

Name .....

Old Address .....

New Address .....

Old Phone (h)..... (w).....

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**Make cheques or money orders payable to 'Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc.' and post to:  
 Membership Secretary, GPO Box 1751Q, Melbourne, 3001**