



THE NEWS OF THE MELBOURNE BUSHWALKERS INC.

EDITION 607

SEPTEMBER 2001

60 CENTS



INSIDE:

- September/October Previews
- International Year of Volunteers
- Rawson Lodge Weekend Review

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

requested in a canoeing trip between Boxing and New Years (26th - 31st) from McKillop's Bridge to Buchan on the Snowy. Own canoes would be preferable as there doesn't appear to be any canoes available for hire in East Gippsland. There are canoes for hire in Melb., however, and I would like to know reasonably soon if these are desired so I can secure them (but note hire costs and holding deposits are a bit pricey). Also transport of the canoe by trailer could be provided by me (if hiring or bringing own).

The trip will be 3-4 days paddling with 1 day of rest , is classed as medium and would be suitable if you have had previous experience with grade 2 rapids and portaging. Please contact me on:

QUENTIN TIBBALLS

All Seasons Getaway: Our Lodge

The early groups at Wilkinson Lodge had rather poor skiing conditions, most groups walking in or out (or both) carrying skis with more walking than skiing during their week.

However, everyone seems to have enjoyed themselves but then it's hard not to enjoy a week at Wilky whatever the weather!

There was a dump in mid-August and this should last well into September.

If anyone missed out on snow earlier they may consider going in again if the snow lasts beyond this date.

See me if you are interested.

Barry Smith, leader of Wilky week Sept. 8 to 15, has space for more people.

The food is in & he would hate to have to barrow it out in the summer so is looking for people to help him eat it and at the same time take advantage of the late snow conditions.

Give Barry a ring if you are interested.

Summer bookings have started with some weekends taken up

& a group is being formed for Dec 31 to Jan 8.

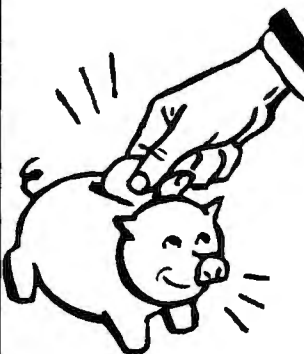
The popular Xmas - New Year period is still available!

I would love to see members making use of Wilky especially mid-week when you usually have the High Plains to yourself.

THINK HOLIDAYS - THINK WILKY!

**Doug Pocock
Wilkinson Lodge Manager**

Sunday Bus Fare Reduction for the Spring Walks Program



From 1 Sept., the Sunday Bus walk fees will reduce to \$17 per member & \$11 per conc. member (proof of conc. required when booking). Visitor's fee remains at \$5.

For members who have not booked & paid for their seat by the Wed. prior to the walk, they will have to pay an additional late fee of \$3. This means \$20 for the last minute 'walk ups' on Sunday.

ENQUIRIES:
www.vicnet.net.au/~bushwalk

CLUBROOMS OPEN EVERY WEDNESDAY FROM 7.00 - 9.00 PM,
VICT'N HORTICULTURAL SOC. HALL, VICTORIA ST., MELB.



JOHN BROWNLIE

4 JUNE 1930 – 19 AUGUST 2001

It is with regret that we mourn the passing of one of the club's great characters. Sadly John passed away on Sunday August 19th after battling illness for 12 months. John was a well-loved member of the Melbourne Bushwalkers throughout the 1950s and 60s and was Club President for 2½ years from 1965-67. Apart from being a great companion on both Club and private trips, John was amongst that small group instrumental in acquiring Wilkinson Lodge and upon his back fell much of the responsibility for early maintenance of the lodge. He also pioneered the use of cross-country skis amongst club members as a means of access to the mountains in winter. Some may even recall the packing case 'tent' he constructed on the slopes of Mt Stirling in the early days of exploring these mountains. His mother's home in Elsternwick became the pre-season social centre of neophyte club skiers tarring and waxing their skis.

From its earliest beginnings, John supported the establishment of an Alpine National Park and was a key supporter of the campaign to save Lake Pedder and the production of the VNPA book *Lake Pedder – Why a National Park Must Be Saved*. A gifted photographer, in the 1970s John, with the support and involvement of his wife Sue, turned his skills to the production of guide books and maps for bushwalkers. From small beginnings his respected Algona Publications became an essential component in the days when good detailed maps were unavailable.

A good friend and companion on the track for 40 years, my own strongest memory of John will always be at the end of a particularly evil winter walk over Mt Buller in 1961. As I arrived back at the car at around 8.00 pm at night – cold, wet and exhausted I was greeted by John with the kindly offer to lift the heavy pack from my back. His reply to my profound thanks – "Now help push the van, it's stuck in the mud!"

JOHN SISEMAN

John was a fine and courageous man, resilient, resourceful and with a great capacity for accepting life's often rocky path. Above all, he was loved and respected by everyone who knew him. His early days in the Club marked him very rapidly as a legend, a good bloke to have with you in a difficult situation.

He was a leader, but in his quiet gentle way, his leadership was of a subtle style, and I doubt he was ever aware of the influence he had on those who followed; it was more a case of 'if John's doing it, we will too'. He was a great 'do-er', never a 'gunna'. Always a project in mind, another already in hand, and a string of ones already done.

This last year was tough, a battle with cancer which left him exhausted and depleted. Not the kind of end for a mate, a friend and a beloved companion that any of us could have envisaged.

He was truly the kind of person one felt could somehow live forever. And somehow, I think he will.

SUE FORRESTER

(FORMERLY SUE BROWNLIE)

Members of the Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc.
meet on Wednesday evenings
between 7.00 & 9.00 pm
in the temporary Clubrooms,
Victorian Horticultural Society Hall,
Victoria Street, Melbourne.

Visitors are always welcome.



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

The News of the Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc.
is the newsletter of the Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc.
& is published monthly.
Editor: Vicki Scrivenger.

Walk previews & reviews, articles, poems, news items,
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 contributions
where space, clarity or propriety dictate
& to maintain editorial consistency.

Contributions to *The News* may be sent to the Editor by:

- ★ Emailing to:
- ★ Placing diskette or hand written material
in the "Red Box" in the clubrooms
- ★ Posting diskette or hand written material to either:
The Editor, Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc.,
PO Box 1751Q, Melbourne, VIC, 3001
or V. Scrivenger, News Editor,

Electronic mail is preferred.

**Closing date for receipt of material
for *The News*
is the last Wednesday of the month.**

Advertisements in *The News*

Only advertisements directly relating to bushwalking
will be accepted (e.g. gear, maps, trips, tours, etc.).
Members' ads are free.

Advertising Rates (Artwork Ready):

Size:	1 Issue:	3 Issues:	12 Issues (1 Year):
¼ Page	\$30	\$80	\$300
½ Page	\$50	\$135	\$500
Full Page	\$80	\$220	\$800

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER DAY WALKS, ETC.



Dandenongs Explorer: Churchill National Park

DATE	Saturday 29 September
STANDARD	Easy Medium
DISTANCE	Approx. 18 km
LEADER(S)	Jill Dawson
TRANSPORT	Private
RETURN TIME	Approx. 3.00 pm
AREA	Lysterfield (Melway p.82 C10)
MAP REFERENCE	Churchill N.P. & Lysterfield Lake Park (Parks Vic.)

After meeting at the Churchill National Park main picnic area (car park), we'll start with some moderate climbing through the Park toward Lysterfield Hills, bypassing the summit with a little bush-bashing. We'll connect with the Grassy Spur Track, where terrific views will be had. After passing through the linklands gully, we'll follow historic Tramline Track toward the lake.

Following a lunch break, we'll continue around the northern reaches of the lake at a leisurely pace, & perhaps savour a stop to observe the bird life there. We'll return via Wallaby Track, which presents a moderate climbing challenge, particularly toward the Lysterfield Hills Look-out. After pausing to enjoy some great views, we'll make our way back through Churchill Park to some well-earned afternoon tea. (Bring a thermos for a hot cuppa).

If interested in the walk please call me on: or simply turn up at the Churchill N.P. picnic ground no later than 10 am. N.B. I can be contacted at home for more information if necessary.



Sunday Bus: Zig Zag Track - Mt. Macedon

DATE	Sunday 30 September
STANDARD	Easy/Medium & Medium
DISTANCE	14 & 17 km
LEADER(S)	John Kittson & John Coe
TRANSPORT	Bus - South Bank Blvd at 9.00 am
RETURN TIME	Approx. 7.00 pm
AREA	Macedon, Gisborne & Woodend
MAP REFERENCE	Macedon & Woodend 1:25000

I hear this walk is to be led by Kittson & Coe – could it be the remnants of Cobb & Co. I hear someone say. No, just two “old bushies” trying to make a name for themselves so for those who art in heaven, Cobb & Co. forgive us.

Well the secrets out – Mt. Macedon has great views, so has the Camels Hump, especially if the tail is elevated – my god the mind boggles. All of this is to be had if you join the “coach” & driver & our steady team leaving Melbourne at 9.00 am.

In the old days, after a change of horses & a good hearty lunch at the old Essendon Town Inn (renamed Sheeds Ye Old Plonk Shoppe) we will again push off with an overnight stay at the old Gisborne Stable Inn, ready to push on up to Mt. Macedon later on the next day.

On a more serious note, thank God for Bob & McKenzies. I have been informed that once the fan belts have been checked & all is well, after a quick trip, we should arrive & start the medium group walking from Devonshire Lane at about 10.30 am then head up the Zig Zag Track to the Sanatorium Lake to meet up with, I hope, the easy/medium walkers for lunch. I'll die if it's oats & chaff!!!

During the day it's out to the Cross, at Mt. Macedon for a spot of afternoon tea, then back along the Macedon Ranges Walking Trail, down the Braemar Track past the College, a part of which was used in the film Picnic at Hanging Rock.

List of things to bring: change of shoes, also dry clothing, thermos (hot drink) – all of this can be left on the bus. Also some oats, chaff, apples & lumps of sugar for the horses.



Sunday Bus: Northern Brisbane Ranges

DATE	Sunday 7 October
STANDARD	Easy/Medium & Medium
DISTANCE	14 & 19 km
LEADER(S)	Brian Crouch & Howard Friend
TRANSPORT	Bus - South Bank Blvd at 9.00 am
AREA	Brisbane Ranges National Park
MAP REFERENCE	Staughton Vale & Ingliston 1:25000

The walks are in the northern end of the beautiful and fascinating Brisbane Ranges near Bacchus Marsh. Our club has occasionally explored this part of the Park, so today is a special day you should not miss as springtime is when this area is at its best.

Both walks will start and finish beside the Bacchus Marsh/Mt Wallace Road and include the Sapling Gully Picnic Area and walking along Spring Creek. The easy/medium covers 14 km and climbs of 120 & 110 metres over the day.

Those who are prepared for a little more challenge, join the medium walkers who will walk 19 km and enjoy climbs of 120, 90 & 110 metres during the day.

Both walks will pass through very pleasant forests. Visiting this area will be a special experience so please come along. Expect to see kangaroos, koalas & lots of wildflowers.



Cycle Trip: Williamstown by ferry

DATE	Saturday 13 October
STANDARD	Easy/Medium
LEADER(S)	Jan Palich
TRANSPORT	Public

Please talk with Jan Palich in the clubrooms or phone her on: about this bicycle trip.



Portarlington - Edward Point Food & Winery Trail

DATE	Sunday 14 October
STANDARD	Easy & Easy/Medium
DISTANCE	13 & 16 km
LEADER(S)	Clare Lonergan & Fay Pratt
TRANSPORT	Bus - South Bank Blvd at 9.00 am
RETURN TIME	Approx. 6.30 pm
MAP REFERENCE	Melway p.240 & 241

Due to requests for a repeat of this walk, Fay and I are more than happy to oblige. This is a delightful walk along a coastal path which is suitable for anyone who can walk the distance.

The E/Medium walk will start just out of Portarlington and the Easy walk will start at Point George. We will follow the coast, passing a number of historical landmarks and several ship wrecks, stopping at St. Leonards Pier for lunch (where Fay's favourite Fish & Chip Shop is located and a rather good bakery). After feeding the sea gulls we will press on to Edward Point State Faunal Reserve possibly passing the *Queen Mary* on the way. In the Faunal Reserve we may see groups of tiny Red-necked Stints, White-fronted Chats, Crested Terns and Pied Oystercatchers (birds for those not in the know!)

We then board the bus and head off to our *little bit of Tuscany* at the Kilgour Estate Winery. This is a beautiful hillside vineyard and wine tasting takes place on a deck with spectacular views over Corio Bay. The winery specialises in Pinot Noir, Chardonnay and Cabernet Sauvignon. Delicious coffee and scrumptious cakes are also available and visitors are encouraged to take a short walk through the vineyard and into a paddock where seats have been placed so one can soak up the stunning scenery.



Wednesday Walk: Northern Brisbane Ranges

DATE	Wednesday 17 October
STANDARD	Easy Medium
DISTANCE	Approx. 13 km
LEADER(S)	Trevor Thomson
TRANSPORT	Private
RETURN TIME	Approx. 5.30 pm
AREA	Anakie - Bacchus Marsh
MAP REFERENCE	Brisbane Ranges N.P. VMTC Staughton Vale Vicmap 1:25000

Meet 10.00 am at Boar Gully Camping Area. Turn off the Bacchus Marsh - Mt Wallace Rd along the short Camp Track, close to the western edge of the Park.

This pocket of forest, with poor soils and eroded gullies stemming from past gold, gravel & slate mining & timber clearing, is also home to many wildflowers, orchids and grass trees. It has lots of access tracks providing pleasant walking opportunities.

We haven't walked here on a Wednesday since August 1995. From following along the Little River, we will descend past old quarries to the eastern boundary at the edge of the Werribee plains, with a final climb to complete our circuit. Call me on: if you plan to come.



Sunday Bus: Green's Bush - Cape Schanck

DATE	Sunday 21 October
STANDARD	Easy Medium & Medium
DISTANCE	14 & 18 km
LEADER(S)	John Kittson & Art Terry
TRANSPORT	Bus - South Bank Blvd at 9.00 am
RETURN TIME	Approx. 7.30 pm
AREA	Nepean S.P. - Mornington Peninsula
MAP REFERENCE	Cape Schanck 7821-2-2 1:25000

Both walks will start at Baldry's Crossing, GR 214462. The medium walk will take in the Baldry's Crossing circuit walk, also the Bushrangers Bay Nature Walk from cliff top down to the water's edge. This will separate the two groups by about 4 - 5 km.

The rest of the day's trek will be the same - walking past Greens Bush, High Field and along Main Creek, which empties out into Bass Strait near Bushrangers Bay, an area which has great views along this cliff edged part of the southern side of the Mornington Peninsula of which we will be a part of for some of the day, and then to finish our walk at the Cape Schanck Lighthouse car park, GR 156372.

Come and enjoy.

P.S.: Don't forget that change of shoes and clothes just in case. Also a thermos with a hot drink is a good idea. All of these can be left on the bus.



Dandenongs Explorer: One Tree Hill

DATE	Saturday 27 October
STANDARD	Easy/Medium
DISTANCE	Approx. 14 km
LEADER(S)	Alister Rowe
TRANSPORT	Private
RETURN TIME	Approx. 5.30 pm
AREA	Ferny Creek
MAP REFERENCE	Melway p.65 & 66

Meet in the One Tree Hill top car park at 10.15 am. Nearest train station is Upper Ferntree Gully, but you would need to be picked up.

We will walk tracks to the east before lunch & to the west after lunch, on One Tree Hill. Some tracks are new to me, but to seasoned Dandenongs Explorers, I guess not. Afternoon tea at Olinda.

SEPT./OCT. WEEKEND & EXTENDED WALKS, ETC.



Pack Carry: Brisbane Ranges

DATE	Fri. 28 - Sun. 30 September
STANDARD	Easy
DISTANCE	Approx. 34 km
LEADER(S)	Bill Donald
TRANSPORT	Private
RETURN TIME	Approx. 7.00 pm Sunday
AREA	Steglitz
MAP REFERENCE	VMTC Brisbane Ranges

The walk will commence at start at the Little River camping ground, heading south through the Brisbane Ranges. Camp on Saturday night will be at the Old Mill camp site. Sunday sees us walking to Steglitz along tracks and following Sutherlands Creek.

As the walk is close to Melbourne we will meet early on Saturday morning for the car shuffle. Expect the worst in weather, driving rain and cold nights. On the bright side we should be able to spot a few koalas. Group limit: 10.

Please see Bill in the rooms for additional information.



Ski Trip: Mt. Bogong (3 days)

DATE	Fri. 28 Sept. - Mon. 1 Oct.
STANDARD	Hard
LEADER(S)	Ralph Blake
TRANSPORT	Private

Please see Ralph Blake in the clubrooms or phone him on: about this 3 day trip.



Box-Ironbark Ecological Workshop: Paddy's Ranges State Park

DATE	Saturday 6 - Sunday 7 October
STANDARD	Easy
LEADER(S)	Rod Novak
TRANSPORT	Private
RETURN TIME	9.00 pm Sunday Evening
AREA	Near Maryborough

Attention all Melbourne Bushwalkers - We need you to join us for this important base camp learning about the wonderful delights of our Box - Ironbark forests. This weekend has been organised by the *Victorian National Parks Association, Birds Australia, Field Naturalists Club of Victoria, Maryborough Field Naturalists* and the *Federation of Victorian Walking Clubs*.

We depart Melbourne on Saturday morning to arrive by 12 noon for Lunch and the official Welcome. At 1.30 pm there will be lots of Workshops with 'field experience' led by well known ecological experts. Topics include: geology with Dave Davies, History with David Bannear, Briophytes with David Meagher, Flora with Gary Cheers, Birds with Stuart Dashper, Mammals with Barry Traill, Invertebrates with Alan Yen, Reptiles with Darren Green & Bats with Lindy Lumsden. 7.30 pm Relax after dinner with a glass of wine for an evening of entertainment including guest speakers, story telling, spot lighting & live music.

Sunday: 8.30 am - Full day walk through the Paddy Ranges with Dave Rimmer (FVWC Conservation Convenor), or at 10.00 am - Short walks will be available.

We will self-cater for all meals, however, there is an option for catering at \$22 per person. The camping is free, there are BBQ facilities and drinking water will be supplied by NRE and Parks Victoria. Petrol cost is estimated at approx. 350 km X 8 cents per km = \$28 [subject to confirmation].

1. If you are interested, then you need to register with Rod Novak on or before Wednesday 19th September. 2. We will have an important team meeting in the Clubrooms to discuss car pooling, directions and other arrangements on Wednesday 3rd October at 8 pm. For more information please ring Rod Novak on



Base Camp: Grampians (Strachans)

DATE	Friday 12 - Sunday 14 October
STANDARD	Medium
LEADER(S)	Pearson Cresswell
TRANSPORT	Private
MAP REFERENCE	VicMap Southern Grampians - D30

A Spring base camp in the Grampians is always a great delight. Expect to have fine weather, heaps of flowers and birds. And plenty of thick scrub - if the leader has his usual way with the Gramps!

The Strachans campsite is in the south-western section of the Grampians Park, near the Chimney Pots. The walks will be in the area of the Chimney Pots, The Fortress and Mt Thackeray.

Contact me closer to the time for more details.



Pack Carry: Tamboritha - Crinoline

DATE	Friday 19 - Sunday 21 October
STANDARD	Medium
DISTANCE	Approx. 30 km
LEADER(S)	Max Casley
TRANSPORT	Private
RETURN TIME	Late Sunday Evening
AREA	Licola
MAP REFERENCE	Tamboritha - Moroka, Licola - Wellington 1:50000

This walk is in High Country with good views & plenty of wildflowers. We will meet at 8 am Saturday morning at Breahfort Creek which I suggest as the Friday night camp spot. After a short car shuffle we will drive to the start of the walk at Tamboritha Saddle. We will walk past Mt. Tamboritha, the Rock Shelter & beside a steep edge with magnificent views of the Dividing Range to the north. Our campsite is a lovely grassy area on Long Hill. We then do a side trip to some waterfalls for views & to collect water.

On Sunday we head south to The Crinoline & Sugarloaf. We can do a side trip to Brunis Knot before descending steeply to finish at the Wellington River.



Base Camp: Howqua River

DATE Friday 26 - Sunday 28 October
STANDARD Easy Medium
DISTANCE Approx. 210 km NE of Melb.
LEADER(S) Roger Wyett
TRANSPORT Private
RETURN TIME 7.00 pm Sunday Night in Melb.
AREA Alpine National Park
MAP REFERENCE Buller South 1:25000

The camp will be at Tunnel Spur Flat, beside the Howqua River some 2.5 km past Sheeppark Flat which is 16.5 km along the Howqua Track (gravel road) from the turn off 1 km east of Merrijig. (Merrijig is approx 20 km past Mansfield.) Saturday will be an easy 19 km approx. (160m ascent) return from 7 Mile Flat (after a brief car shuffle) past Richies Hut, following the scenic Howqua River. You will get wet feet, as there are five creeks to cross!

After a relaxing and sociable evening at Tunnel Spur, Sunday will be a medium 13 km on track via Sheeppark Flat and Fry's Hut, then ascending 560m to the 961m feature (unnamed), with magnificent views to Mt Buller. Returning off track via Tunnel Spur to ensure a return to Melbourne by early evening.

This is a magnificent and enjoyable area of the Alpine NP and the Howqua Historic Area that is worth a visit at any time of year. I will be in the club rooms on 17 Oct. for those I do not know, or phone

LEVEL 2 FIRST AID TRAINING

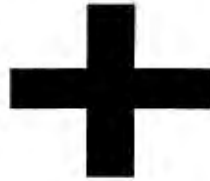
Following on from previous successful courses, the Club is planning to run another course this year to be conducted over 2 weekends.

When it comes to learning new skills, there is nothing like first hand experience in the bush as well as classroom. This course has plenty of both, with particular emphasis on remote area first aid, including bush exercises and is invaluable in the skills it provides for both Day Walkers and Weekend Walkers.

The cost for 20 hours of training is approximately \$120 with a possible subsidy from the Club to assist people develop their First Aid skills.

It is important that we have as many people as possible with the skills to assist Leaders, if the need arises.

I have some definite "starters" and a number of others "thinking" about it so ACT NOW if you want to be part of it as numbers are limited to 12.



BRIAN CROUCH
TRAINING CO-ORDINATOR

March 2002

4 weeks above the 60th parallel in
 Canada's Northwest Territories and Nunavut!

Arctic Spring Once Again

10 days above Baffin Island by Inuit dog sled!

Our first
 trip was so
 successful, we
 had to offer it
 again.

- Great views of the aurora.
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Willis's Walkabouts 12 Carrington St Millner NT 0810 Email: walkabout@ais.net.au

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



WALKS SECRETARY'S REPORT

Helpful Hints – to help you & our volunteer leaders:

Sunday Bus walkers: - Please remember – No Telephone Bookings for the Sunday Bus. If you need to ring the leader to advise of cancellation, then please ring at a reasonable hour.

Need a Credit for the Sunday Bus? – Here's how to go about it...

1. You must ring the Walk Leader to advise of your cancellation (please telephone at a reasonable hour) and the Walk Leader will note your cancellation on their Walk Report.
2. Then you need to apply in writing for the Credit stating your name, address, telephone number and the walk destination, leader and date of the activity with the reason.
3. Forward your application letter to the Walks Secretary [Rod Novak in 2001] in the Clubrooms most Wednesday evenings (but not all!!) or alternatively by mail to the Club's address.
4. The Walks Secretary then checks the walk report and will organise a credit note for you.
5. Give the Credit Note to the Walk Leader when you book your next Sunday Bus trip.
6. Please Note: Only reasonable requests will be granted eg illness, work commitments. 'Sleeping in' or 'hung-over from the big night out' do not count!!

Weekend Trips – weekend bushwalkers help us to help you: Important guideline: Please assist the leader in organising the trip eg directions where to meet, equipment required, checking maps, car pooling and transport etc., by attending a briefing/meeting in the Clubrooms at 8 pm on the Wednesday prior to the trip.

Dandenong Explorer & Wednesday Walks – please ring the leader for details.

Private Transport Rate - The RACV 'Annual Survey of Motoring Costs' [Royal Auto May 2001] was discussed at the May Committee Meeting. It was agreed to retain the current rate of 8 cents per km per person for private transport trips. Trip leaders will try to car pool 3 people per car (24 cents/km) and will need to equalise costs when there are 4 to a car.

WALKS PROGRAM CHANGES

Sat 29th September – Dandenong's Explorer – Churchill National Park. Please note the **revised grading for this trip is Easy/Medium**. For more information contact Jill Dawson on

1 – 20 October – Sandra Mutimer's trip to Western Australia has unfortunately been cancelled.

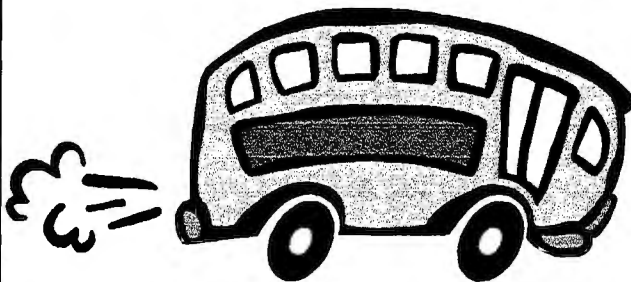
2 - 6 November - Wellington Plains & Lake Tarli Karng long weekend trip. Please note Ian's surname is incorrect on the Spring Walks Program. Contact Ian Langford for more information about this great trip. Telephone Ian on

LONG TRIP ON OUR BUS

As done successfully some years ago we are planning a Long Weekend Trip to South-West Victoria for the next long weekend which will be March 8 - 11, 2002. The plan is to cater for members wanting to do Pack Carry Walks, Day Walks & Canoeing with all those involved camping either in Base Camps or over-nighting on the track or river bank.

This will be a top weekend and gives the opportunity for Sunday walkers to move a little out of their "comfort zones" and to mix with weekend walkers. The bus will be driven by Bob, our regular and popular driver, and will leave Melbourne late Friday afternoon and return late Monday evening. The all up cost will be around \$100 per person which will cover bus hire and fuel costs.

This needs a lot of organizing, that's why we are looking for an early commitment from those serious about sharing in this experience. Act Now if you want to be part of it as numbers will be limited to 40 - talk to me or any other Committee Member and put it in your diary now!



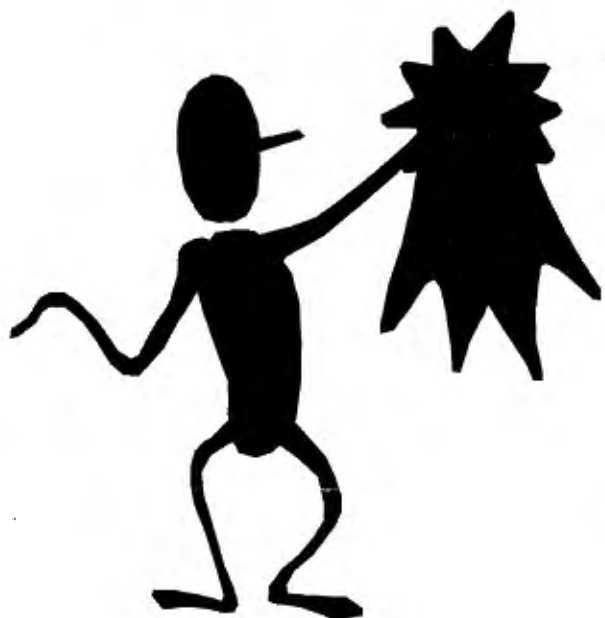
BRIAN CROUCH

JULY WALK STATISTICS

July 2001	Trips	People	Average	July 2000
Sunday Bus	5	187	37.4	38
Other Day - Wed 14 - Dand 14	2	28	14	9.5
Pack Carry	1	8	8	5
Base Camp	1	8	8	7
Cancelled	4			3
Total	13	231		251

ROD NOVAK
WALKS SECRETARY

2001: INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF VOLUNTEERS



I became more aware of the International Year of Volunteers (IYV) when I was awarded a Certificate of Appreciation in the recognition of voluntary service to the community by my workplace. That is, with the Melbourne Bushwalkers.

I went to the government website dedicated to the IYV at www.2001.gov.au. I learnt that across Australia, 2.6 million volunteers donate a total of 434 million hours each year to volunteer activities.

In Victoria, about 20 percent of the adult population, participate each year in voluntary activities. Voluntary work in the sport and recreation, welfare and community, religious and educational fields accounts for almost 80 percent of volunteer hours worked in Australia.

Why people volunteer:

Volunteers take part in unpaid work for the benefit of both the community and themselves. Australian Bureau

of Statistics (ABS) show 42 percent of volunteers nominated the contribution they can make to the community as their main reason for participating.

The ABS says volunteers also identify benefits for themselves; 59 percent said they gained personal satisfaction and 38 percent said they gained new social contacts from their volunteering experiences (statistics sourced from ABS, Voluntary Work, June 1995).

People have said they get a lot out of volunteering:

- helping others and contributing to the success of the community
- developing new skills
- personal development
- fulfilment, satisfaction and self esteem
- a sense of belonging &
- a sense of responsibility

One of the key objectives of IYV is to recognise and celebrate the outstanding contribution volunteers make to a strong, cohesive Australian society.

How does IYV relate to MBW?

Melbourne Bushwalkers operates and exists due to the hours and skills put in by the committee, the walk leaders, the auditors and the club emergency contacts.

If we had the ABS do some number crunching for the club, I think we would see that a Sunday walk of 18 km takes about 6 hours to walk but it took the leaders at least 20 hours to prepare for the walk, lead on the day and paperwork!

So although I received the Certificate of Appreciation I feel that it is on behalf of all the club members who have volunteered in this IYV and previous years to be:

- on the committee
- walk leaders &
- organisers of club social activities.

MARIKA JAGOW

SKI & WALK (BUT MAINLY WALK!) AT RAWSON

FRIDAY 10 – SUNDAY 12 AUGUST

Present: Rod Novak (walk leader), Max Casley (ski leader), Lynne Yeaman, Marika Jagow, Liz Moore, Debbie Collie, Ian Langford, Halina Sarbinowski, Fiona Gallery, Sak-Hong Wan, Margaret Campion, Steven Axford, Bill Metzenthien, Merrilyn Wimpey, Carol Criddle.

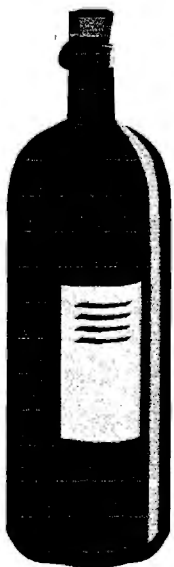
Rawson is a small town in the Gippsland foothills at about 500 metres elevation, set on hilltops in the forest. A new town, it was built to a plan, to house workers who built the nearby Thomson dam. Below the town is the Thomson River, flowing south between narrow valley walls and the scene of our Saturday walk. On the other side of the river, a creek leads up to Walhalla, an old town, not built to a plan, the site of fabulous riches won in the Long Tunnel gold mine and the departure point for our Sunday walk. This was a very social trip based in accommodation. The longest walk was fourteen kilometres. It was superbly organised and navigated. I commend it to easy walkers and medium skiers wanting to try a weekend away without camping.

We met at Debbie Collie's delightful pre-war flat in Burwood. It actually has a fireplace! I travelled up with Lynne Yeaman in her new Toyota 4WD, following our guide car driven by Fiona Gallery. We chatted on into the night, listening to Van Morrison, our conversation interrupted by a call from Lynne's partner in China. As we neared Moe, I was delighted to find that we did not pick up fast food, but instead dined on roast beef, vegetables and pizza at the hearth of a fire of the Yarragon Hotel. Soon after we were in the bar of the accommodation at Rawson, drinking a bottle of Penfold's Rawson's Retreat.

The accommodation is basic with linen and towels provided, and it's cheap at \$33 per person, including breakfast. What's more, at breakfast you can make sandwiches for your lunch. The accommodation has a conference centre and Saturday breakfast was a teeming mass of men attending a Salvation Army conference. At 9.21 our walk party of 11 set off for the Thomson River road bridge. The remainder left to ski at Mt St Gwinear. After a tour of the town and viewing some ducks in a pond, we passed through the caravan park and descended through forest to the river. From here our route lay upstream along the eastern bank to a bridge and home downstream on the western bank. After the Thomson River bridge there was a stiff climb and then the track sidled the valley wall before dropping down to an old steel bridge at Poverty Point. We got there at 12.25 and lunched on the bridge deck. Rod distributed chocolates in a lucky dip and we repeated the Ceremony of the Ring, calling out our names and favourite walking places. The trip back along the West bank was fast and uneventful and we arrived back at the accommodation at 3.30 pm. That evening we dined *a la carte* in the canteen. I had lamb in pastry followed by port and Mars bars. We sat yarning till 10 o'clock. The skiers declared the conditions at Mt St Gwinear very average and elected to walk on Sunday.

Sunday's walk began with a drive to Walhalla camp ground. At 9.41 we left along a disused tramway bench which contours along a valley about 30m above Walhalla. The town is all weatherboard buildings, the fire station, the hotel, the rotunda of the Mountaineer's Band & miner's cottages, dotted on the hillside and along the creek. Restored, painted in heritage colours & this morning lit by the winter sun, they were a most charming sight when viewed from above. At 11.30 we arrived back at the Thomson River Road Bridge where there is a station for a narrow gauge rail track.

For the fare of \$3.50 we boarded a carriage without windows & chugged up to the end of the line. It was a short walk back along the disused tramway bench to Walhalla. The trip ended with the statutory visit to the cricket ground, built high up on a flat ridge, there not being enough space in the confines of the creek bottom. Now inhabited by lyrebirds, it was here that in 1902, the locals beat England.



IAN LANGFORD

The 6th Mullum Mullum Festival

Sunday 7, Saturday 13 & Sunday 14 October

The Festival is a celebration of the ecological & cultural values of the Mullum Mullum Creek valley (20 km east of the C.B.D. - includes the cities of Manningham, Whitehorse & Maroondah). The creek is a tributary of the Yarra River & the valley has significant remnant bushland with a great diversity of local plants & animals.

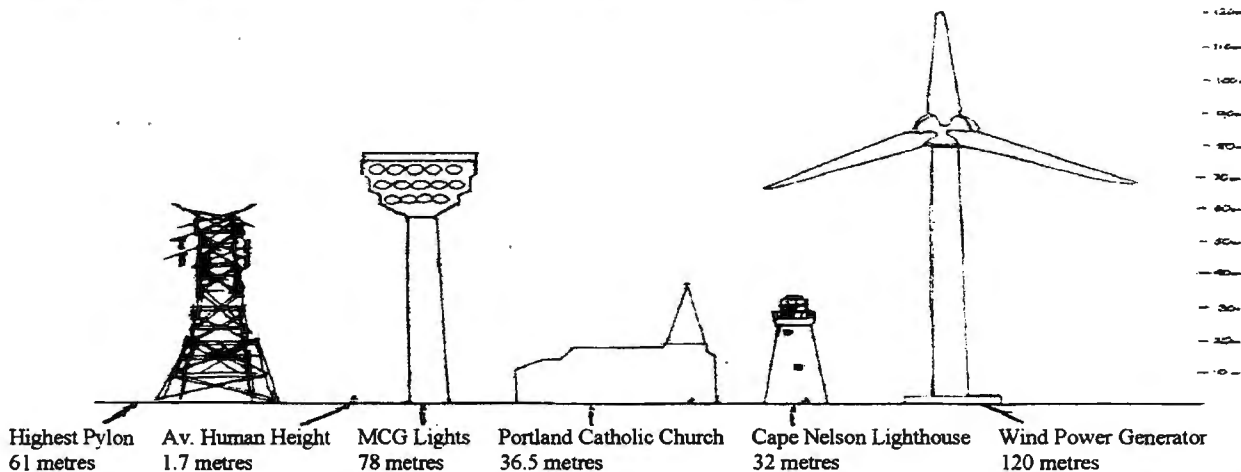
There will be over 20 expert guided walks & an outdoor music concert.

Program available from 7 September: PO Box 173, Mitcham, 3132
or phone: 0500 802 804 or internet: <http://home.vicnet.net.au/~mulfest/>

CONSERVATION FORUM

Basslink: Les Southwell has asked the Club to write a submission on the proposed 'Basslink' project. This is the proposed undersea power cable linking Tasmania to the mainland electricity grid. There are many concerns with Basslink and Les believes the wilderness values of the Lake Pedder impoundment of the Middle Gordon scheme will be disadvantaged. Currently, the Pedder impoundment has negligible storage capacity and no turbines. There appears to be a shift in the Tasmanian government's attitude with a 'more dams' approach to generate power for the mainland. A letter has been sent. If you would like more information, then speak to Les in the Clubrooms. Also, you may want to check the website www.basslink.com.au

The Portland Wind Energy Project & the Great South West Walk:



One of my favourite walks is along the rugged coastline of Cape Bridgewater located near Portland in the south-west corner of Victoria. This area has the highest sea-cliffs in Victoria with great views of Bridgewater Bay and Cape Nelson, as well as the many scenic features of blowholes, freshwater springs, seal colony, a petrified forest, and not forgetting the superb views along the 80 km beach of the wild Discovery Bay. Pacific Hydro now plan to build 115 wind turbines - the 'Portland Wind Energy Project' - on and around Cape Bridgewater, Cape Grand and Cape Nelson. The turbines will be built on private farmland and they will have a significant impact on the scenic attraction of this special area. Unfortunately, these towers will overshadow the Great South West Walk and will be visible for up to 80 kilometres away. The towers will be within 200 metres of the track and will greatly affect two walker campsites. Yes, this coast is well known for windy days. The move to green energy is applauded, yet this project does have one significant disadvantage, of locating these giant turbines in a beautiful area visited by many walkers and tourists from Victoria, interstate and overseas. The height (over 100 metres) and scale (115 turbines) of these towers will greatly affect the visual splendour and aesthetics of this wild coastline. Pacific Hydro plan for 39 turbines on the Cape Bridgewater / Petrified Forest and Bridgewater Lakes area, 39 on Cape Nelson, 17 on Cape Grand and 20 at Yambuk. The Friends of the Great West Walk and many others believe there are other more suitable locations for wind farms. The Environmental Effects Statement should be available late August / September and public submissions are invited. If you haven't walked in this area then I would highly recommend it to you - and soon. If you have enjoyed the Great South West Walk - then you will realise the significance of this area - then please write a submission to the E.E.S. Details of the E.E.S. will be in next month's News.

ROD NOVAK
CLUB DELEGATE
VICWALK CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

NEW MEMBERS

STEPHEN AXFORD

BRENDAN ENGELFIELD

GERARD GIBNEY

BERT REEH + JOYCELYN NESVOLD

RAY SCADDAN

ADD TO MEMBERSHIP LIST

THERESE POLLARD

ELFIE SCHMIDT

MARK TISCHLER

ALTERED ADDRESS/PHONE

STEPHEN A BROWN

DEIDRE CASSELS

HOWARD FRIEND

MICHAEL A PRICE

PAM WESTGATE

MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS

Life Members	11
Honorary Members	10
Single Memberships	320
Family Memberships	104 (= 2 x 52)
Total Membership	445
This time last year	399


PETER HAVLICEK
MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

CLUBROOMS DUTY ROSTER

Wednesday 12 September -	DP	&	TE
Wednesday 19 September -	AW	&	RN
Wednesday 26 September -	VS	&	PH
Wednesday 3 October -	DH	&	PB

NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING


Monday 1 October at 7.00 pm



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SEPTEMBER 2001 WALKS, ETC.

Wed 19	Birds Land – Lysterfield Park	Private	E/M	Jan Llewelyn	
21 – 23	Pack Carry: Northern Grampians	Private	Medium	Jerry Grandage	
22 Sept -	Moving Base Camp: Mutawintji, Mungo	Private	E/M	Jopie Bodegraven	
2 Oct	(NSW) and Mallee (Vic) National Parks				
Sun 23	Angahook State Forest	BUS	E & E/M	Peter McGrath & Sybille Holdheide	#
28 – 30	Pack Carry: Brisbane Ranges	Private	Easy	Bill Donald	
28-1 Oct	Ski Trip: Mt Bogong (3-day trip)	Private	Hard	Ralph Blake	
Sat 29	Dandenongs Explorer: Churchill N.P.	Private	E/M	Jill Dawson	
Sun 30	Zig Zag Track – Mt Macedon	BUS	E/M & M	John Kittson & John Coe	#

OCTOBER 2001 WALKS, ETC.

5 - 7	Base Camp: Box-Ironbark Forest celebration at Maryborough	Private	Easy	Rod Novak	
Sun 7	Brisbane Ranges – Steiglitz	BUS	E/M & M	Brian Crouch & Howard Friend	#
12 – 14	Base Camp: Grampians - at Strachans	Private	Medium	Pearson Cresswell	
Sat 13	Cycle Trip: Williamstown by ferry	Public	E/M	Jan Palich	*

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ALTERATION TO PARTICULARS

Name (new) Name (old)

Address

Phone h)..... w)..... h)..... w)

Email

Subscription **Ordinary** – single membership \$35.00 **Concession** – single membership \$24.00 (proof required)
Fees: **Family/Couple** -membership \$50.00 **Concession** – couple \$28.00 (proof required)
 New members joining on/after 1 October \$21.00 less visitor fees *The News* – \$18.00

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