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# THE NEWS OF THE MELBOURNE BUSHWALKERS INC.

EDITION 621

NOVEMBER 2002

60 CENTS

## SOCIAL EVENTS

Visitors & friends are welcome to social events.

For information & bookings ring me on (please leave a message if I'm not at home) or see me at the club. (Note that I will not be in the clubrooms on 13 Nov.)

### *Film Night*

**Friday 8 November**

Please refer to October issue of *News* for details of our film *On Our Selection*. No need to book.

### *Indoor Rock Climbing*

**either Fri. 15 or Sat. 16 November**

**Victoria Ranges Indoor Rock Climbing**

**40 Mt. Alexander Road, Flemington**

See October edition of *News* for details. I have 4 takers so far (excluding me). I need 6 more for discount rate. Please contact me a.s.a.p. if interested.

### *Quarterly Club Barbeque*

**Wednesday 27 November**

**7 - 9 pm, Clubrooms**

B.Y.O. meat and a plate to share. Wine and soft drink available.

### *Swinging Saturday Night*

**Saturday 30 November**

**8 pm, The Paramount**

**43 Melville Road, West Brunswick**

Rare Western Swing and Country and Western footage. Swing all night to the *Dancehall Racketeers & Guests*.

Cost: \$24/head (\$18 conc.) Drinks and snacks available.

This is a great social venue, with tables laid out near a large dance floor. Members who have been to it have had a fantastic time. Contact me a.s.a.p. so I can book a table to ensure we are all together. I would like to know before 16 November.

**CAROL CRIDDLE  
SOCIAL SECRETARY**

## BOX-IRONBARK FORESTS WIN

Hooray! The Box-Ironbark Park system has been passed by both houses of state parliament with some minor amendments to the E.C.C. recommendations (eg. phasing out periods from 7 to 10 years). Congratulations to all involved!

Neil Taylor reports by e-mail that this legislation will also protect the Mitchell River from dams and the lightstation reserve at Wilsons Prom will now be included in the national park.

Thank you to all Melbourne Bushies for attending Box-Ironbark forest camps and your letter writing and e-mailing of local politicians. Letter writing does work and gets results!

**ROD NOVAK  
CLUB DELEGATE  
VICWALK CONSERVATION COMMITTEE**

## *Christmas Party*

**Wednesday 18 December**

**From 7 pm, Trades Hall**

**Cnr of Lygon & Victoria Sts, Carlton**

Come along full of good cheer! Catch up with old and new friends. All welcome.

Please bring a plate to share. Drinks to be purchased at the bar.

This year there will be awards for leaders presented at our annual Christmas party. If you have led a walk, etc. for the club this year then you will be in our **Leaders' Draw**.

The names of all leaders will go into a hat and three names will be drawn at random. (If you have led more than one walk, etc. in 2002 your name will be included more than once.) Each of the **three lucky leaders** whose names are drawn will receive a **\$50 spending voucher kindly supplied to us by Bogong Equipment, 374 Little Bourke Street, Melbourne.**



Members of the Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc.  
meet on Wednesday evenings  
between 7.00 & 9.00 pm in the Clubrooms,  
Victorian Horticultural Society Hall,  
48 MacKenzie 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) in:  
printed edition only: as below, or  
printed & on-line editions: as below + 25% or  
on-line edition only: as below + 25%.

Size:	1 Issue:	3 Issues:	12 Issues (1 Year):
¼ Page	\$35	\$90	\$330
½ Page	\$55	\$150	\$550
Full Page	\$100	\$250	\$900

## NOTICE TO ALL LEADERS OF CLUB WALKS INSURANCE COVER FOR VISITORS

Please be advised that visitors are only covered by our insurance policy for a total of three walks with our club. This cover extends for both personal accident and public liability.

After the completion of their third walk visitors must have submitted their application for club membership, otherwise they cannot participate on a club walk as our insurers will not respond to any insurance claim lodged after their third walk as a visitor.

Leaders please inform visitors of this prior to taking a walk booking.

**TRISH ELMORE**  
VICE PRESIDENT

## WALKS STATISTICS

September '02	Trips	People	Average	Sept '01
<b>Sunday Bus</b>	5	177	35	32
<b>Wednesday</b>	1	14	14	14
<b>Pack Carry</b>	-			8.5
<b>Base Camp</b>	1	15	15	13
<b>Tree Planting</b>	1	15	15	19
<b>Cancelled</b>	2			2
<b>Total</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>221</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>264 / 13</b>

The cancelled trips were a base camp and an easy pack carry suitable for beginners.

**GINA HOPKINS**  
WALKS SECRETARY

## WILKINSON LODGE REPORT

Due to circumstances beyond our control we had to call off the work party. The local authorities in that part of the world are having a spat over who is responsible for the High Plains Road. Until it is sorted the Alpine Shire is keeping the barriers locked and no-one has access to the road. We will try again on the weekend of 6 - 8 December. Remember, if cleaning and maintenance is not carried out regularly the Lodge will suffer and we need volunteers to do this.

Would all winter users please note that lockers must be emptied by the new year. Any lockers with food in after that time will be emptied and the food put into group stock.

**DOUG POCOCK**  
WILKINSON LODGE MANAGER

# DAY WALKS, ETC. IN NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER



## Sunday Bus: Bungal State Forest-Moorabool River

**DATE** Sunday 10 November  
**STANDARD** Easy/Medium & Medium  
**DISTANCE** Approx. 12 & 15 km  
**LEADER(S)** Lynda Larkin & William Cone  
**TRANSPORT** Bus - South Bank Blvd at 8.30 am  
**RETURN TIME** Approx. 7 pm  
**MAP REFERENCE** Lal Lal 7722 - 4 - 2 & Lal Lal 7722 - 4 - 3 1:25,000

Both Medium and Easy/Medium walks start and finish at the same point at the north-west perimeter of Bungal State Forest. The Moorabool River and Bungal Creek cut meandering, picturesque valleys through the state forest, with an abundance of bird life and black wallabies and grey kangaroos inhabiting the area. Tiny crimson orchids and other delightful flora can be seen at this time of the year. At lunch we may be serenaded by frogs (or princes).

Although the distances of the two walks do not seem very long, they are deceptively challenging and follow the course of the two valleys for the greater part, requiring several not too difficult crossings, some climbing of steep river banks and walking through undulating open forest - **beware hakea** - suggest long sleeves and long trousers or gaiters.

**N.B. 8.30 am start.**



## Sunday Bus: Airey's Inlet - Lorne

**DATE** Sunday 17 November  
**STANDARD** Easy & Easy/Medium  
**DISTANCE** Approx. 14 & 17 km  
**LEADER(S)** Ches Volpato & George Zamora  
**TRANSPORT** Bus - South Bank Blvd at 8.30 am  
**RETURN TIME** Approx. 7 pm  
**AREA** Angahook - Lorne State Park

This is a most pleasant walk on the beaches and on the rocky ledge of Loutit Bay in view of the coastline before and beyond Lorne. The terrain is quite diverse with the walkers moving over sand and pebble covered beaches, flat rock sections and coping with stretches strewn with large boulders as well as frequent water channels crossing the rocky ledge. Interesting rock formations and cliff side caves can be seen along the way.

There is virtually no shelter at any stage of the walk, so protect yourself adequately from sun and wind and bring plenty of water. Toilet facilities are available at the beginning and at the end of the walk.

**N.B. 8.30 am start.**



## Sunday Bus: Moondara Reservoir- Wirilda Track

**DATE** Sunday 1 December  
**STANDARD** Easy & Easy/Medium  
**LEADER(S)** Jerry Karbownik & Steve Axford  
**TRANSPORT** Bus - South Bank Blvd at 8.30 am  
**AREA** Moondara SP (north of Morwell)  
**MAP REFERENCE** Moondara & Rintoul Ck 1:25,000

Due to time constraints a full preview has not been done at time of publication...it will, of course, be done in time for the walk. My understanding is that this walk has not been done by the Sunday groups for well over 15 years, so will afford the opportunity for something new...in an area well renowned for its beautiful forests of mountain ash.

The general area of the walk will be in the vicinity of the Moondara Res. utilising the Wirilda track as it meanders its way along the Tyers river. Distances have yet to be ascertained but the walking is not expected to be difficult given the grades.

Further details will be available as soon as possible...from the leaders on booking nights or by phoning me.

Because of the distance from Melbourne please note the **8.30 am start** and expect a late return.



## Navigation Practice: Six Hour Rogaine

**DATE** Saturday 7 December  
**STANDARD** Various  
**LEADER(S)** Trish Elmore  
**TRANSPORT** Private

Here is another opportunity for members who have participated in either Alan Clarke's or Quentin Tibballs' navigation days to put all the theory into practice and enjoy a new outdoor experience called "Rogaining".

Rogaining is cross country navigation with the intention of finding as many checkpoints on a pre-set map within a designated time frame. It is an opportunity to practice and refine your navigational and route planning skills and to be rewarded by a good feed and congenial company at the "Hash House" upon completion of the event.

The plan is to have experienced Rogainers there to assist each team in their route planning, then visit the first few checkpoints with the team to ensure that they are aware of the "ropes" and give them advice and tips along the way. When the team is feeling comfortable with the procedures and confident in their abilities they will be left to complete the course on their own.

Ideally teams will be of 2 - 3 people. Please be aware that this event is not for the novice who has little or no navigational knowledge. It is a wonderful opportunity for Leaders and would be Leaders to practice their navigation skills without the responsibility of Sunday walkers in tow!

The costs of the event is \$17 and you must be a member of the Rogaining Association which is \$18 (12 months). Teams must be registered by 27 Nov. so you haven't long to get organised. If you are interested please call me beforehand on



**Sunday Bus:  
Captain Creek - Wombelano Falls**

**DATE** Sunday 8 December  
**STANDARD** Easy/Medium & Medium  
**LEADER(S)** Ian Langford & Mike Low  
**TRANSPORT** Bus - South Bank Blvd at 9.00 am

Please see the leaders in the clubrooms about these walks.



**Wednesday Walk:  
Heidelberg School Artists Trail**

**DATE** Wednesday 11 December  
**STANDARD** Easy/Medium  
**DISTANCE** 17 km but it is possible for sections of the walk to be undertaken  
**LEADER(S)** Sandra Mutimer  
**TRANSPORT** Private  
**RETURN TIME** Before 4 pm to Banksia Park  
**AREA** Along the Yarra River from Templestowe to East Ivanhoe  
**MAP REFERENCE** Melway 32, 33 & 31 & others

We will meet at Banksia Park, Bulleen (entrance at Melway 32 E) where a car shuffle will be organised to take us to the start of the walk at Finns Reserve, Templestowe (Melway 33 B4). From here to East Ivanhoe we will be passing up to 15 interpretive signs on the Heidelberg School Artists Trail, located where these 19<sup>th</sup> century impressionists lived and worked.

Our lunch spot will be the beautiful grounds of *Heide*, a place with a strong connection with Australian modern art in the 1930s and 1940s. There will be the opportunity to wander around here and, if you are willing to sacrifice a little eating time, visit *Heide 1*.

This is a very pleasant walk that wanders along the Yarra and offers good views along the way as we pass river flats, wetlands and billabongs that attract abundant bird life. There are also Wurrundjeri willam sites and places of pioneer history for us to see.

At the end of the walk we will return to Banksia Park where we'll have a last Wednesday Walk of 2002 get together. Bring Christmassy food, drink, car fridges, tables, chairs, etc. Anyone who would like to join us either for this or at lunchtime is welcome.

Please ring me for further details on



**Sunday Bus:  
Airey's Inlet to Anglesea**

**DATE** Sunday 15 December  
**STANDARD** Easy and Easy/Medium  
**DISTANCE** Approx. 12 & 15 km  
**LEADER(S)** William Cone & Elizabeth Ingham  
**TRANSPORT** Bus - South Bank Blvd at 9.00 am  
**RETURN TIME** Approx. 7 pm  
**AREA** Surf Coast  
**MAP REFERENCE** Anglesea 1:25,000 & Airey's Inlet 1:25,000

This is a nice summer beach walk.

The easy walk will start at the Airey's Inlet lighthouse and walk north-east along the coast to Anglesea. The walking is a mixture of cliff top paths looking down into beautiful green and blue ocean, long sandy beaches and rock outcrops. We saw crimson rosellas and sea birds along the beaches. Near the end of the walk there are sheltered beaches for swimming.

The easy/medium walk will start at Moggs Creek and have dramatic views approaching the lighthouse from the west. This group will then follow the easy walk up the coast to Anglesea. The distance is a few kilometres longer than the easy walk and there is some wading across the mouth of Painkalac creek.

Bring sunhats, sunscreen and plenty of water, as there is little shade along the beach.



**Sunday Bus:  
Cockpit Creek - Blowhard Range**

**DATE** Sunday 22 December  
**STANDARD** Easy & Easy/Medium  
**LEADER(S)** Quentin Tibballs & Tracey Jamieson  
**TRANSPORT** Bus - South Bank Blvd at 9.00 am

Please talk with the leaders in the clubrooms about these two Christmassy walks.



**LEVEL 2 FIRST AID COURSE**

**SAT. 23 & SUN. 24 NOVEMBER  
VICTORIAN AMBULANCE FACILITY,  
PARKVILLE**

This first aid course will be run by the Victorian Ambulance Service and will be specifically for bushwalkers with provision for coverage of prior nominated topics.

Length of course: 8 to 10 hours per day.

Cost: approx. \$180.

Contact me on \_\_\_\_\_ for further details.

**QUENTIN TIBBALLS  
TRAINING CO-ORDINATOR**

# WEEKEND WALKS, ETC. IN NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER



## Cycling: Lilydale - Warburton (and return)

<b>DATE</b>	Sat. 16 & Sun. 17 November
<b>STANDARD</b>	Easy/Medium
<b>DISTANCE</b>	Approx. 40 km each day
<b>LEADER(S)</b>	Jan Palich & Fiona Gallery
<b>TRANSPORT</b>	Car or Train to Lilydale Station
<b>RETURN TIME</b>	Approx. 4 pm Sunday
<b>AREA</b>	Dandenongs (east of Melbourne)
<b>MAP REFERENCE</b>	Warburton Rail trail

Saturday: cycling Lilydale to Warburton - departing 9.30 am from Lilydale Station.

Sunday: returning from Warburton to Lilydale - departing 10 am from Warburton.

This is one of Australia's best recreation trails - the "Lilydale to Warburton Rail Trail" which is a lovely ride through varied countryside - forests, farms, beside rivers, through sleepy country towns. We will be commencing from Lilydale Station on Saturday morning and stopping for morning tea and a picnic lunch on the way, and on Sunday, for those that wish, a visit to a local bakery for lunch. Expect a few hills, mostly cycling on gravel tracks along the old train line from Lilydale to Warburton, so experience with cycling is necessary.

We would like you to bring either a nibbly contribution for "Happy Hour", or a desert to share for the Saturday night, and in between, we will be going to a local restaurant for dinner (mains).

Accommodation is at the Warburton Caravan Park where we have booked a lodge that caters for 9 people, (all bikes outside). There is no limit to the group, as those that are unable to be located inside, can bring tents. This is a very pretty area with lots of trees.

The lodge has outside doors into the kitchen, and 2 bathrooms, as well as the main room. Cost - camping - \$6 p/p, and lodge approx. \$12 p/p.

Doug Pocock has very kindly offered to transport our personal luggage from Lilydale to the Warburton Lodge on Saturday morning, and then Doug will do the return trip on Sunday, meeting us back at Lilydale around 4 pm.

Details of what you need to take - ie. sleeping bags (or hire sheets/doonas) will be available at the clubrooms when you book. Bookings are essential.

## TRACK MAINTENANCE POSTPONED

The Track Maintenance Weekend due to be held on the weekend of 4 - 6 October has been postponed.

Thank you to the Melbourne Bushies who put their names down. I will let you know when the next track maintenance activity is scheduled. I hope you can all make it then.

**MARIKA JAGOW**



## Pack Carry: Mt. Bogong - Stirling Gap

<b>DATE</b>	Friday 6 - Sunday 8 December
<b>STANDARD</b>	Easy/Medium
<b>LEADER(S)</b>	Bill Donald
<b>TRANSPORT</b>	Private
<b>RETURN TIME</b>	Sunday Evening
<b>AREA</b>	Mt. Bogong
<b>MAP REFERENCE</b>	Bogong Alpine Area Leisure Series 1:50,000

On Saturday morning we start a leisurely ascent of Mt. Bogong via The Staircase. Once at the top we will head off to the Stirling Gap to find a suitable camp-site before enjoying a magnificent sunset overlooking the valleys below.

On Sunday we will retrace our steps to the top of Mt. Bogong. From there, weather permitting, we will do a side trip to the Cleve Cole hut then head back down via the Eskdale Spur.

The distance we travel will depend on the weather we encounter. Please come prepared for four seasons in one day.



## Base Camp: Bimbi Park, Otways

<b>DATE</b>	Friday 13 - Sunday 15 December
<b>STANDARD</b>	Easy/Medium
<b>DISTANCE</b>	Various
<b>LEADER(S)</b>	Sylvia Ford
<b>TRANSPORT</b>	Private
<b>MAP REFERENCE</b>	The Otways & Shipwreck Coast

Bimbi Park is a proper camping site, ablutions block and all, but it feels reasonably bush-like and remote. It's also quite near Cape Otway itself. Here at least one can guarantee a good night's sleep away from "the hoon element" which often plagues official National Park camping grounds. It costs \$7 per person per night, and there are two particularly good walks nearby.

One starts at the Glen Aire River which is a short drive away. The route follows the river to the ocean, all dry shod unless Max wants to chase his hat into the river again. Then we walk south-east down Station Beach to the quite remarkable Rainbow Falls. A grunt up the hill and over the sand dunes takes one back to camp (about 6 km in all), but better still is to reverse the walk returning on the inland route to the cars.

The next walk is east of the cape and is a secret route of Pearson's and I can't remember where it starts. I can remember some cliff top stuff, great views and cinnamon orchids. I'll get the info. from Pearson, or maybe he'll come!





### Pack Carry: Huts of the Bogong High Plains

**DATE** Thur 26 Dec '02 - Wed 1 Jan '03  
**STANDARD** Easy/Medium  
**DISTANCE** 60 - 80 km depending on options taken  
**LEADER(S)** Alan Clarke  
**TRANSPORT** Private  
**RETURN TIME** Wednesday Evening  
**AREA** Bogong High Plains  
**MAP REFERENCE** Bogong Outdoor Leisure map

I have planned a walk with plenty of options so it will suit a range of standards. It includes: two nights in a row at the same camp sites at least once (probably twice) and therefore, two days with daypacks only; visits to 22 huts; great scenery; lovely campsites; at least one return to the cars (= only carry three days food at most); a possible swim if it's hot and camp near the cars on the last night.



### Pack Carry: Main Range - Lakes & High Places

**DATE** Thur 26 Dec '02 - Wed 1 Jan '03  
**STANDARD** Medium  
**LEADER(S)** Jopie Bodegraven  
**TRANSPORT** Private

The Main Range of the Snowy Mountains is without doubt my favourite alpine area on the mainland. It is the only mainland area that was glaciated during the last ice age and this has left 5 beautiful glacial lakes. Add to this the gorgeous cascading alpine streams, the fields of alpine wildflowers that we can expect at this time of year, the superb views that stretch forever, snow drifts adding visual effect and my mind is drooling at the thought of getting back to this beautiful area after an absence of 7 years.

I am intending to enjoy this walk so although it is a pack carry of probably 4, but maybe 5 nights, we will only be carrying our main packs for about 40 km, averaging 8 km a day with an average daily climb of only 400 metres. There will be a side trip with day packs on each of the first 4 days averaging 6 km with a 300m climb.

The campsites will be above the tree line, three of them above 1900 metres, so we need to be prepared for the cold and possibly stormy nights that the Main Range is notorious for. I'm hoping for balmy still weather, of course, but no promises. We will of course need stoves as fires are banned and there is no wood.

We will be visiting all 5 of the glacial lakes and most of the big name peaks including: Townsend, North Ramshead, Carruthers, Twynam, Watsons Crags, Tate, the Rolling Grounds and Dicky Cooper Bogong. We will include Kossie as well but we could bypass it if the thought of squillions of tourists is too overwhelming.

New Year's Eve will be back with the cars probably at Leather Barrel Creek or Tom Groggin where we will be able to have a fire, fire bans permitting, unless we lose a day up top due to bad weather, in which case, we will stay up there for a fifth night.

Transport costs should work out at about \$100 per person. We will be travelling up on Boxing Day and home on New Year's Day. Mark this trip in your calendar as a must do.



### Base Camp: Shaw's Creek, Tamboritha Saddle

**DATE** Thur 26 Dec '02 - Fri 3 Jan '03  
**STANDARD** Easy/Medium  
**DISTANCE** Approx. 100 km  
**LEADER(S)** Lance Mobbs  
**TRANSPORT** Private  
**MAP REFERENCE** Tamboritha - Moroka 1:50,000

The Snowy Plains is another place to visit during the spring/summer period. This trip will be a great opportunity for those who have never visited this part of the Alpine National Park before to come and enjoy the spectacular scenery and views that abound.

This trip is open to all, especially to those who have never done any camping before, but want to experience what camping is like without having to carry a pack. This base camp is also an excellent opportunity to try out some camping equipment. (N.B. For those who have never camped before, don't be afraid to come and ask me about the sort of equipment you might need.)

We will camp on Back Creek close to Shaw's Creek, going via Heyfield, Licola and Tamboritha Saddle. There will be a range of walks to suit people's needs from easy day walks to a more strenuous medium walk, to just relaxing around camp enjoying the peace and quiet.

N.B. Even though this trip is scheduled for a week, you can stay either a full week or a couple of days.

If interested please contact me in the clubrooms, by phone or drop a note to me at  
 Also see flyers on the notice board in the club and take one.



### Lilo Trip: Upper Shoalhaven River

**DATE** Thur 26 Dec '02 - Wed 1 Jan '03  
**STANDARD** Medium/Hard  
**LEADER(S)** Gina Hopkins  
**TRANSPORT** Private

This trip on the upper Shoalhaven River starts from Oatlers Ford, about 55 km south-east of Goulburn, NSW. From here the river descends over several kilometres into a spectacular 600m deep gorge. The scenery is superb I'm told, and there will be many waterfalls and rapids to portage, with lots of rock-hopping. The descent can only be done in relatively low flows which is likely to be the case this year. Campsites will be mostly on sandbanks and there will be lots of swimming opportunities.

The grading of this trip has been upgraded to medium/hard because of the remoteness and the amount of rock-hopping involved. The exit point will depend on the group and when people have to get back to Melbourne. One possible exit point will be after 4 days on the river, and another option is after 6 and a half days which would take us to Bungonia Gorge. Either way will involve a long car shuffle.

You will need a boxed lilo and a paddle, and you must be a competent swimmer. Life jackets and helmets are compulsory for safety.

# QUENTIN'S QUIZ

## LESSON 7: USE OF COMPASSES

Generally it is more important to be able to read a map effectively than to use a compass, however, a compass is essential in featureless country, fog, dense scrub or the like. The best type of compass for bushwalking is the orienteering type with the compass mounted on a flat rectangular piece of transparent plastic (the baseplate) and to have the needle in oil (as it allows the needle to stabilise quickly). Also the string attachment should be long enough to allow the compass to be held at waist level with the string around your neck. Other features are the line in the centre of the baseplate of the compass with an arrow on one end is called the "direction of line travel" or the index line, and the compass housing can be rotated in relation to its base. The base of the compass also has a thick centre arrow with parallel lines (orienting lines) on either side of it.

The red coloured end of the compass needle aligns to magnetic north (the direction of the magnetic north pole), which is usually different to grid north which is the direction of the grid lines on the map. Don't worry about true north (the direction of the geographic north pole) – it is of no interest to us for navigation purposes.

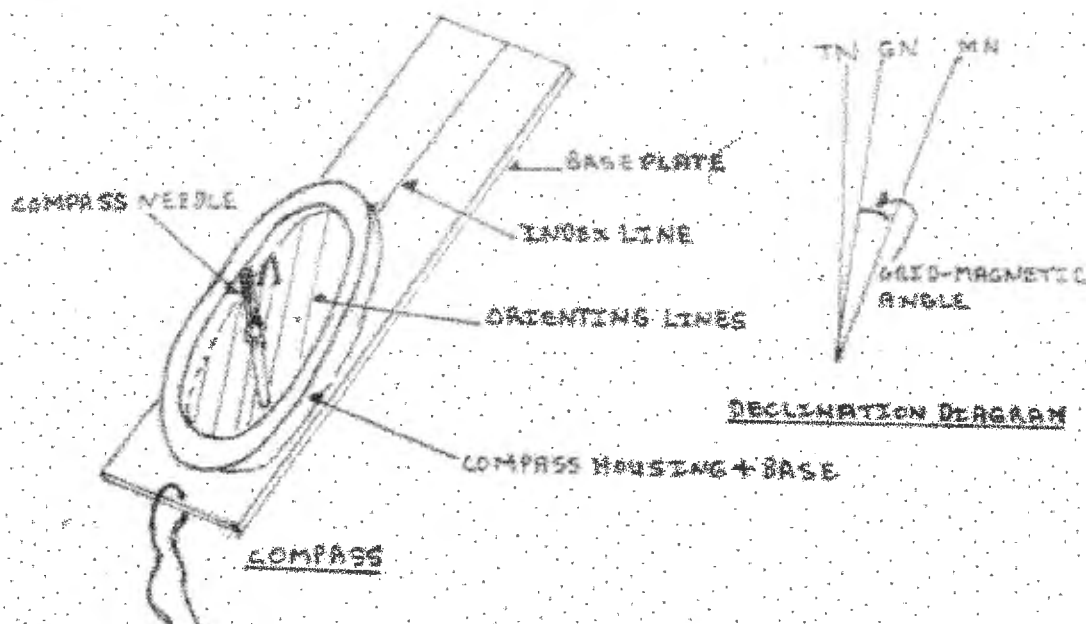
**Exercise for Novices:** Obtain a map (we will assume you have a compass as described above and illustrated below) – any map will do, just so long as it has grid lines and a declination diagram to the side (which shows the relationship between the various north points). Mark 2 points – say A and B – imagine we are at A and will now attempt to get to B using the compass.

- 1) Place the long edge of the baseplate along a line joining A-B with the arrow on the index line pointing in the direction of travel (in this case A to B).
- 2) Rotate the housing until the centre arrow on the base of it points towards grid north on the map. This may be accomplished by lining up the orienting lines on either side of the centre arrow so they are parallel with the grid lines running N-S.
- 3) Obtain the grid-magnetic angle from the declination diagram at the side of the map. (This gives the difference between grid north and magnetic north.)
- 4) Read the bearing on the movable housing where it intersects the index line. Say it is 40 degrees. Subtract\* the grid-magnetic angle, say 11 degrees, giving 29 degrees. Rotate the movable housing until the reading at the index line is 29 degrees.
- 5) Now to move off in the correct direction to B, hold the compass at waist level so that the index line points away from you. Rotate your whole body until the red end of the compass needle is over the thick arrow on the base. The direction that the index line points is the direction that you have to travel to go from A to B.

\*Anywhere in Victoria you will have to subtract but in other parts of Australia you may have to add the grid-magnetic angle. An aid to help when converting the grid angle on the map to the compass bearing you would follow on the ground is to use the mnemonic "Grand Ma's Socks" ie. Grid to Magnetic Subtract, and the reverse also holds when converting a magnetic angle to a grid angle – the grid-magnetic angle is added to the magnetic angle you have measured on the compass – so the mnemonic "MGA" (for the car) can be used – ie. Magnetic to Grid Add.

**There is no Exercise for Experts this issue.**

**QUENTIN TIBBALLS, TRAINING OFFICER**



# CENTRAL GRAMPPIANS PACK CARRY

31 AUGUST - 1 SEPTEMBER

Party – Jerry Grandage (leader), Jopie Bodegraven, Jenny Flood, Sue McInnes, Bob Oxlade, Yung, Gina Hopkins and me.

It had been some time since I'd walked in the central Grampians so Jerry's walk was a must for me, especially since the Spring flowers were likely to be about. After stopping for a rather disappointing meal at Craigs Hotel (used to be very good) in Ballarat we arrived in light rain at the Mt Rosea campsite to find Jenny and Jopie already tucked up for the night. The recent good rainfall meant that the creeks would be flowing well and this proved to be the case. Throughout the weekend we even had mud and unpassable 4WD tracks to contend with. The flowers were blooming and wildlife sighted included deer, wallabies and roos.

Saturday morning proved fine and after a car shuffle we started by climbing Mt Rosea. We did this via The Grand Staircase – a very grand, natural swathe of rock. Lookout points soon provided views, including The Tower (a distinctive rock pinnacle) and we continued to see this for most of the weekend from every direction. An observation platform at the top of Mt Rosea gave superb views. We took lunch in a saddle before donning over-pants and gloves (those who'd thought to bring them) and plunging into scrub and bashing down a spur to a track at the foot of the Eastern Wall – a vertical rock wall. We camped in a clearing right under the wall. There was good water, including a bathing pool but no-one bathed (not right in, anyway). It was a surprisingly warm night, and we sat yarning for some time around the fire.

After a most restful night and with another fine day in view we headed straight up a steep track where we dumped packs and followed a track towards Castle Rock. Rounding a corner we got a sudden view of this - a spectacular large imposing lump of rock rising out of the mist, with a jagged mountain skyline as background. This rock is too difficult to climb unless you've got ropes and climbing gear (but we had trouble persuading a certain person of this!) so we had to be content with exploring its base. Back to the packs, and morning tea.

As we brushed past certain bushes great clouds of pollen were wafting off. Some more scrub bashing took us to the top of the Eastern Wall where we lunched in warm sunshine at the very edge of a sheer drop off the wall, just above last night's campsite! Rock pools provided us with water for the billy. This was followed by rock hopping along the edge, made more interesting by a number of rocks that rocked! With marvellous views all round, we had great fun, then we took off through the scrub to find a small gorge. A GPS check showed us to be not quite where we thought we were so we changed course and found the small gorge that took us south down to the Henham track - and the finish. A quick clean up and then back to the cars.

As it was nearing 6 pm we thought we'd take tea at Halls Gap. Stopping in the middle of the main drag, it was like a ghost town. A police patrol car quickly pulled up and the occupants eyed our three cars suspiciously. We were in a 'no waiting' zone! Their response to our enquiry led us to the Halls Gap Hotel, a couple of kilometres out of town where we had some good tucker with fast service before heading home.

A great weekend, brilliant weather, wonderful views, a good group, what a way to celebrate the first day of spring! This was all new territory for me so special thanks to Jerry for coming up with this different walk.

**DERRICK BROWN**



# TREE PLANTING WEEKEND

6 - 7 SEPTEMBER

It was a lovely drive up to Benalla on Saturday morning – not much traffic at 6.30 am. Our car with a visitor on board passed Gina & Derrick and their fellow passengers on the way up the Hume Highway. A group was gathering around the Benalla post office when we arrived close to 9 o'clock. People came from other clubs – cycling, Koonung walking club and universities. We headed off in convoy to the planting site where we were met by Ray Thomas – the organiser of the day.

Everyone was eager to start planting but first we had to cover the important tips on how to plant the trees for long term success. On the top of the hill the holes had to be dug deep to avoid the trees from dehydrating. After a hole was dug the seedling was coaxed out of its small pot with a gentle tap on the knee to avoid breaking the delicate roots. The seedling was held in place while earth was scooped around it. But do not forget the cardboard shield (recycled juice containers) around the outside of the plant to protect it from birds and animals. Hold the shield down with more soil. Then move onto the next hole and plant.

The group naturally divided into – diggers, planters, and quality controllers. There were other important jobs like collecting the pots, making morning and afternoon tea with a warm fire and laying out the plants. We planted 35 tree varieties selected by Ray who knows what grows locally and supports the wildlife.

Saturday was a day of sunshine and rain showers. We had a magical three tiered rainbow late in the afternoon. The farmer who gave up a section of his land for revegetation built a fence to zone off the area. A friendly man who supplied our liquid refreshments (coffee and tea during the day and wine and beer in the evening). The day past quickly with much enthusiasm and joy in the task of tree planting. It was amazing to hear that we (sixty people) planted 3,000 trees! The work was rewarded with hot showers at the Benalla swimming pool. After the wash some of us set up camp (others were rumoured to have had a spa in their hotel room!)

Dinner was superb, our appetites were well rewarded. The local primary school mothers had cooked up a three course feast. We had six soup varieties to choose from (eg. potato, spicy vegetable and pumpkin). The main meal also included a wide choice with baked potatoes, noodle dishes, sausage rolls and a mix of salad. The dessert was also fine with peaches, cake and ice cream. Best of all we did not have to do the washing up as the local mums had this organised as well!

I returned home after dinner but I heard that a further 1,400 trees were planted on the Sunday. After the planting there was a barbeque then a guided walk with Ray Thomas. I think next year we will offer two weekends for tree planting so more of us have a chance to go and fit it into our diaries.

Thanks to the fifteen Melbourne Bushies and friends who went – Sak Hong, Rod, Liz, Quentin, Derrick, Gina, Alan, Max, Adrian, Judy, Rosemary, Doug, Jan and Jopie.

MARIKA JAGOW

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# MT. WINSTANLEY - MT. STIRLING PACK CARRY

11 - 13 OCTOBER

The company: Trish Elmore, Roger Wyett, Bob, Leo, Peter Gringinger, Max Casley, Alan Clarke, Paul Beers and myself.

The weekend began well with dinners at pubs at Yea and Mansfield - the local trout was delightful. Due to winter road closures we couldn't camp as planned at Bus Hut so made do with various roadside picnic spots between Merrijig and Merimbah. Roger, Peter and myself at one, Trish, etc. at one of the others. 'No camping' signs weren't a deterrent for Trish! Roger did fire duty for our camp and did sterling work with wet wood.

Saturday brought a rude awakening at the ungodly hour of 6.15 am. All packed and waiting at Telephone Box Junction by 7.30 am. As the others didn't appear until the rendezvous time of 8.30 am we had 1 hour in which to play with the pot-belly stove we found in a shelter there- nice and warm. Thanks again, Roger.

Once we'd all assembled, it was time to walk the open tracks and ski trails, past Razorback Hut and on to King Saddle in time for morning tea. We followed King Saddle East trail until it petered out and became one with nature, after which we turned down a steep and thickly wooded spur leading to Circuit Fork Road. This led us to a challenging bush bash up another thickly vegetated slope. I use the word 'slope' loosely. After a well earned lunch break we carried on to reach 'The Monument', but not until we'd climbed a knoll that didn't appear on the map (apparently it *was* the map that was wrong, not Trish) and fought our way through some extremely tough and vicious bushes. The views were indescribable!

From here, we scrambled down to the Clear Hills track, which we followed to a saddle just below Craig's Hut and set up camp, before ambling on to see the Hut - and the 360 degree views. Magnificent! Our campsite was fitted out with all the mod cons- cold running water and a 'room with a view' - a three-sided, corrugated iron contraption with a loo seat nailed to a metal pail and lovely views across a gully.

After cooking dinner and a preliminary sharing of goodies it was time for the campfire and more goody sharing. It's amazing what Bushies can fit in their packs and consider to be 'essentials' - wine, chocky coated glace ginger, port, mint slices, muscat, pate, nuts, chocolate, more wine. Yum yum! I don't think Roger lit this fire but I could be wrong.

We were treated to a spectacular sound and light show in the wee small hours of Sunday morning and felt quite smug (well... I did) that we'd camped in the shelter of the saddle and not in the open by Craig's Hut, as did other walkers we'd passed. Various breakfasts were cooked and consumed and tent contents packed before many of our number poked their heads outside to find we were in the middle of a rather dense cloud.

Now the party split into two - Roger, Paul and myself taking the really rather sensible option of following the track and ski trails to Mt Stirling, whilst Trish and the other five hardy souls braved another bush bash. Apparently not as hard as Saturday's (or they're not letting on) but they *did* get hailed on whereas we three, once we'd reached the top and taken a photo of the trig point showing faintly through the cloud to prove it, had holed up in Bluff Spur Hut for 2 hours with a pot-belly stove (another great fire, Roger.) There was still quite a bit of snow on the trails (didn't think to pack the crampons). The cloud cleared soon after the others arrived and Leo and Roger went back up Mt Stirling to take in the now panoramic views.

From the hut a grassy, easy walking ski trail took us back down to Telephone Box Junction and the cars. Then it was on to the Collopy St Café in Mansfield for coffee and cakes (or salmon frittata for Paul) and thence to Melbourne and another working week.

Wild life seen included - a flame robin, a black snake (too close!), a couple of currawongs, plenty of ravens, a wallaby or two, one leech, some trail bikers, a few back packers, evidence of kangaroo, wombat and cattle, no rabbit strangely enough (at least I didn't see any) but then I swear I saw brumby poo while no-one else did. Thanks for a great walk Trish!

**ELIZABETH INGHAM**

## NEW CLUB TENTS FOR HIRE

To upgrade & add to our range of hire equipment,  
the club has recently purchased  
**2 MacPac Eclipse (2-man) tents.**

These are available now for hire at just \$10 per weekend - fantastic value  
and a great way to "try before you buy" for base camps or pack carry trips.





**FEDERATION WEEKEND 2002:  
OTWAY RANGES  
18 - 20 OCTOBER**

On behalf of all the club members who participated in the various walks in the Otways, I would like to thank both the committee members of "The Otway Ranges Walking Track Association" and "The Geelong Bushwalking Club" for allowing us to enjoy this wonderful experience.

All of us appreciated the beauty of the Otways being offered with ocean views, flora and fauna displayed, as well the friends we made. Mother Nature was kind to us most of the time with sunshine. My motto is "our environment is our well being of enjoyment".

The two photographs above taken by **Tom Wilanowski** show walkers crossing the Cumberland River.

**WILLIAM SHARPE**



**STRATH CREEK FALLS -  
MURCHISON GAP  
SUNDAY 27 OCTOBER**

No Sunday stroll!

Photo: Tom Wilanowski

# TRACKS, HUTS AND CONSERVATION ISSUES

Here are some notes from the VicWalk Conservation Committee meeting held on 23 October 2002:

**The NOMADS bushwalking club are having a Boneseed clearing day on 1 December at the You Yangs** and have invited other bushwalkers to participate. Contact details are [pwandrews@yahoo.com.au](mailto:pwandrews@yahoo.com.au) 9380 8838 or 0427 285 263.

**Devilbend Reservoir** – After extensive state and regional advertising and encouraging community submissions Melbourne Water only received 160 submissions. Melbourne Water have advised they will now consider the 160 submissions, appoint an Independent Panel and will ask for more community consultation over the next 12 months. Key issues raised in submissions include “maximising the amount of land proposed into the Devilbend Park, improved trail access to and around the park, and to ensure the conservation values of the Park are not adversely affected by the sale of farmland.”

**Mt Cole State Forest** – a new two-day walking track - Beeripmo Track - has been opened.

**Track Maintenance in State Forests** - Permission of the land manager is required for track maintenance. It is suggested to take notes of any telephone permission, eg. date and name of person giving permission. A good practice would be to send a thank you letter with these details after the track maintenance and for the club to keep a copy on file. The Federation public liability covers track maintenance provided the land manager has given permission for the activity.

**East Gippsland** - proposed *Charcoal Plant* – There are growing concerns over plans for a Charcoal Plant to be fed by timber from East Gippsland. It is believed to be part of a Silicon production process and that large quantities of charcoal and electricity are required. The Charcoal plant was to be built near Mogo (Bateman's Bay) but local opposition to it has resulted in the move to East Gippsland. More information from Noel Plumb – Convenor of the South East Forest Alliance telephone (02) 8800 8303.

**Logging in East Gippsland** – logging is about to commence at Survey Road, near the northern edge of the Errinundra National Park. This important old growth forest has pockets of rainforest and overlap forest (where eucalypt forest emerges out of the rainforest canopy) and is also prime Tiger Quoll habitat. GECCO are currently blockading this logging coupe.

**Postcard Series** - A request has been received from Ingrid ? who is seeking high quality photographs of East Gippsland forest and threatened species to make postcards for the next election campaign. Enquiries to [icp@netlink.net.au](mailto:icp@netlink.net.au)

**Central Highlands** – press release from Upper Bunyip Action Group: The Upper Bunyip Action Group will have their official opening of Fishers Loop Walking Track, a 6km walk through the upper catchment of the Bunyip River, on Sunday 27 October. UBAG are trying to protect this 'reserve water supply' from logging operations planned to commence on 1 December. Meet at Tomahawk Gap, follow the signs from Gembrook – approx 12 km). The walk will be officially opened by the Mayor of Cardinia Shire.

**Mt Stirling** – A Mt Stirling Board of Management decision and press release: to keep the Summit Road closed (it normally re-opens on 1 November each year) – was overturned by Minister Garbutt, and for the road to be opened as soon as possible to 1 November. The Government will apparently allocate extra funding to repair the environmental damage caused by the road. The four wheel drive lobby is very strong and were able to persuade the Minister's decision.

**Marine Parks** – Hooray! The new Victorian marine parks will be proclaimed on 16 November. More information on the Marine National Parks Management Strategy can be obtained from Parks Victoria on 13 1963.

**Portland Wind Energy Project** – the Federal Environment Minister has given approval for this project to proceed. The impact on the threatened Orange-bellied parrot was estimated to be one bird death caused by turbine/fan collision every five years and this would not affect the population unduly!

**Bushwalkers encouraged to become 'weed spotters'** - the impact of weeds on our ecosystems is increasing. Special training will be available in 2003 for interested bushwalkers to learn the hygiene of weed collection. Further information is available from Dr Kate Blood at the DNRE on (03) 5349 2833.

**Tasmanian World Heritage Bushwalking and Track Review** – a current public forum is being conducted on the walking track network in the World Heritage Area. An information paper and questionnaire can be downloaded from the Bushwalking and Track review website: [dpiwe.tas.gov.au/inter.nsf/WebPages/JFRY-5892U3?open](http://dpiwe.tas.gov.au/inter.nsf/WebPages/JFRY-5892U3?open) More information can be obtained from the lobby group: [mailto:pfranklin@trump.net.au?Subject=Subscribe\\_BATR](mailto:pfranklin@trump.net.au?Subject=Subscribe_BATR)

**ROD NOVAK**  
**CLUB DELEGATE**  
**VICWALK CONSERVATION COMMITTEE**

## NEW MEMBERS

JOSEPH A HANNA

ROBERT N KERTON

## ADD TO MEMBERSHIP LIST

TIMOTHY & SHARLENE ADAMS

PENNY MITCHELL

## ALTERED ADDRESS/PHONE NO.

DENNIS BARSON

AIKO YOSHIOKA

## MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS

Life Members: 11

Single Memberships: 323

Total Membership: 448

Honorary Members: 10

Family Memberships: 104 (=2x52)

Membership at 31/10/01: 457

**PETER HAVLICEK, MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY**

## ACCOUNTS

September 2002	\$
Opening Balance	44,344.86
Receipts	3,418.06
Payments	2,640.68
Closing Balance	45,122.24

**HOWARD FRIEND, ACTING TREASURER**

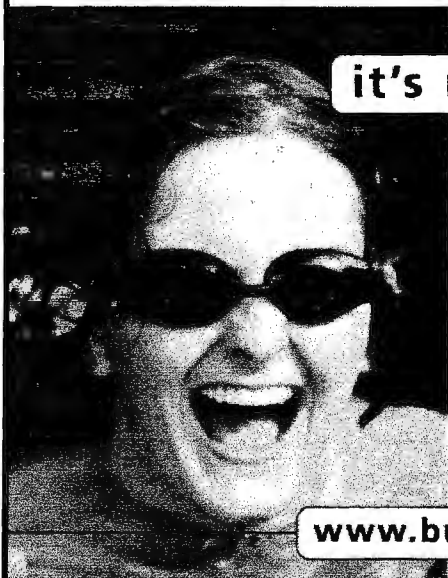
## CLUBROOMS DUTY ROSTER

6/11: D Henry & V Scrivenger 13/11: P Cresswell & D Pocock  
20/11: C Criddle & Q Tibballs 27/11: P Beers & T Elmore  
4/12: H Friend & M Jagow

## NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday 2 December at 7.00 pm in the clubrooms

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## DID YOU KNOW...?

that **Horticultural Hall**, where the clubrooms are, was where an anti - fascist club met between 1927 and 1933? Most of this club's members were Italian workers who had fled from Mussolini's Italy and the club was named after Matteotti, an Italian politician murdered by Mussolini.

The Matteotti Club moved into the premises of the "eminently respectable" Victorian Horticultural Society which was in financial difficulties at the time. With most of its members living in boarding houses the club became a centre where dances and meetings were held in the large downstairs hall and where they could read radical papers, play cards, eat and socialise in the smaller rooms, and bocce was played in the courtyard on the eastern side of the building where the car park is today.

The main purpose of the club, however, was anti - fascist agitation with attention being focused on using physical intimidation to disrupt the fascist gatherings that were beginning to occur in Melbourne at this time but members also demonstrated against unemployment, participated in May Day rallies and addressed workers at Yarra Bank. After a militant demonstration against unemployment the Matteotti Club was raided by the police.

After in-fighting and the need for the members to seek work further a field during The Depression the Matteotti Club disbanded in 1933, but the flagpole the red flag was flown from is still there and so is the club's name which can be seen through peeling paint on the western side of the building further on from the entrance.

More details can be found in **Radical Melbourne: A Secret History**, Jeff and Jill Sparrow, Vulgar Press, 2001.

**SANDRA MUTIMER**

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