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THE NEWS OF THE

# Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc.

EDITION 643 SEPTEMBER 2004



starring THE FANTASTIC  
**RICKY VENGEANCE**  
**BUSH DANCE DUO**

at  
ST SILAS PARISH HALL  
cnr Ferrars Road & Bridport Road, Albert Park

**Saturday, November 6th, 2004**  
**8 pm–12 midnight**

Admission \$10.00  
Tickets on sale from mid-September  
BYO Drinks and Supper to share.  
Further details contact Lynda.

Members:  
Your VicWalk  
membership card is  
tucked in behind the first  
page. Non-members  
copies of *The News*  
don't have  
it.

## FRIDAY FLICKS

Once more we've mined the archives and present for your delectation two further classics from Australia's cinematic past.

Our main feature will be **THE OVERLANDERS**, featuring Chips Rafferty. Made in 1946 it was a critically acclaimed landmark in Aussie film making and was produced in conjunction with the famous Ealing Studios. Set in 1943 in outback Australia it's the true and riveting story of how a master drover saved over 1000 head of cattle from Japanese seizure by trekking them overland 2000 miles across the continent from W.A. to Queensland. It's simple, straightforward and enormously entertaining. A stampede, and some of the droving sequences are particularly spectacular

The supporting short this time will be **HIGHLAND WINTER**. This lovely, slow moving and reflective film features an elderly lady looking out from the window of her Tasmanian bush cottage and musing about a childhood spent in that most remote and beautiful part of her island – the High Country.

There'll be a couple of intervals, and a light supper will be provided. Just turn up. For any further information ring Stuart on [phone number]. And remember – this is *not* a video or DVD; it's an authentic cinematic projection – just like at the multiplex – only better!

**Friday 24th September 7.30 pm in the clubrooms**

## Slide Night

Ken McMahon will be showing slides of a fabulous walk lead by Graeme Thornton back in 1981 which visited Mt Anne and the Traveller Range–Labyrinth areas in Tasmania.

Held in the Clubrooms, together with the monthly wine and cheese night, commencing **8 pm 22 September**.

Members: You can receive your copy of *The News* by e-mail, in colour. You will need Acrobat PDF reader.

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. and is published monthly.  
 Editor: Ron Hampton.

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 and to maintain editorial consistency.

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

- Emailing to: [pagination@bigpond.com.au](mailto:pagination@bigpond.com.au)
- Placing diskette or hand written material in the Editor's  
 pigeon hole in the clubrooms
- Posting diskette or hand written material to either:

The Editor,  
 Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc.,  
 PO Box 1751Q, Melbourne, Vic, 3001  
 or  
 R. Hampton, *The 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)
1/4 Page	\$35	\$90	\$330
1/2 Page	\$55	\$150	\$550
Full Page	\$100	\$250	\$900

## Presidential Paragraphs

Recently four of us went for a walk in The Pilbara area of  
 Western Australia. This is a magic area and could easily  
 be considered for a club trip. We had little information  
 and so planned the walk from studying the map. Most of  
 the walking was along gorges lined with brilliant red  
 cliffs, sometimes crossing over grassy plains to the next  
 gorge. Campspots on most nights were shingle beaches on  
 the edge of waterholes. We waded waterholes up to our  
 waist, scrambled over and around huge boulders, found  
 rock art sites, walked on flat rock platforms, explored  
 deep chasms and generally had a beaut time.

As we sat around the campfire at night we talked  
 about how lucky we were to be able to do this type of trip.  
 We were all experienced packcarriers and knew we had  
 the skills to be safe and comfortable.

It does seem a pity that packcarry trips are not as  
 well patronised as could be. There are many pleasures to  
 be had on a weekend or longer trip that are unique to that  
 activity. Skills gained on weekend trips can be used to  
 take you safely on longer trips with subsequent greater  
 satisfaction. If you haven't tried it why not give weekend  
 walking a go? Talk to some of the leaders in the club,  
 most trips are quite suitable to start packcarrying. Get a  
 copy of MBW 'Guide to overnight bushwalking'.

Who knows, you may become hooked and will be  
 out with the club on extended trips wherever they are!!

On a different topic, namely Wilkinson, I want to let  
 members know that in March we put in a submission to  
 rebuild. At present we have not had an official reply from  
 National Parks. We will follow up the situation.

*Doug Pocock*

### Wine & Cheese evening



4th week  
 of every  
 month  
 in the  
 clubrooms,  
 7-9 pm



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WILLIS'S WALKABOUTS

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**March 2005**

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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

# Tracks, Huts and Conservation

## Notes from the VicWalk Conservation Committee 28 July 2004 meeting

**Alpine National Park – Alpine Grazing:** The cattlers' have lobbied for an extension of the decision making process to allow them a tour with the Taskforce next summer. With the delay in the Taskforce deliberations, Bushwalkers are strongly encouraged to write to the Premier, Minister for Sustainability and Environment and local MP's that cattle be removed from the Alpine National Park forever.

Parks Victoria *Canopy* July 2004 issue featuring the rebuilding of McNamara's Hut (Mittagundi). Of note, Michell (Eskdale Spur, Mt Bogong) and Federation Hut (Mt Feathertop) will be rebuilt next summer.

**Grampians National Park:** Grampians Walking Tracks Support Group are now recognised by Parks Victoria as an independent community body and will operate under 'Friends' guidelines. A \$9000 grant has been received and their first project will be Mackenzie River walk and gorge track to Fish Falls.

**Herald Sun report on 16th July** with 'Tourism campaign causes stink' with a controversial promotion using Grampians scenes as toilet cubicle wallpaper at Palace cinemas with the slogan 'The Grampians – Space to think'. Brambuk Aboriginal Cultural Centre says the tourism campaign is 'offensive'.

**Track Clearing weekend** (western Grampians) – Melbourne Bushwalkers have a track weekend on the 13–14th August with park rangers.

**Mornington Peninsula:** 'Ostlers Lane road reserve' is public land connecting Cairns Bay, Tea Tree Creek to Stockyard Creek and Greens Bush. Cattle have been in the

road reserve recently and have trampled the prolific blackberries. Bayside BWC, Rosebud Ramblers and MWWC will now have a combined working bee to clear a path through the prickles.

**Mount Stirling:** VicWalk have resigned from the Advisory Committee.

**Snowy Mountains:** draft Management Plan now available. Public submissions close on 20th August.

**Tasmania:** Parks Tasmania are considering a 'booking system' with fees to manage the 9,000+ walkers walking Cradle Mountain – Overland Track each summer season. It is believed the booking system will be operational in 2005. All groups will need to walk from north to south as the extensive boardwalk cannot handle two-way pedestrian traffic! More information at [www.overlandtrack.com.au/strategy](http://www.overlandtrack.com.au/strategy)

Proposed eco-lodge development inside the world heritage **South West National Park at Cockle Creek**. More information at [www.tnps.asn.au](http://www.tnps.asn.au)

**Great Divide Trail:** the GDT will now be extended to Whiskey Creek Track and Vodka Track in the Lerderberg State Park with funding for a Green Corps track crew. Stairs will be built for access.

**Otway Ranges:** VEAC submission closing date was 26th July. However, letters can be sent to the Hon. John Thwaites requesting a Trans Otway walking track, and for the 'forest park' area to be reserved as national park.

*Rod Novak, Club delegate*

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## CATTLE IN THE ALPINE NATIONAL PARK

### August 2004 Update

Thank you to all the Melbourne Bushies who wrote a submission to the taskforce.

The Alpine Grazing Taskforce on cattle grazing in the Alpine National Park will provide its report to the Minister for Environment in late spring of this year, rather than July. Apparently, this is to allow a further inspection of the Bogong High Plains. 'The Minister will not be making any decision regarding the future of cattle grazing in the Alpine National Park until after receiving and considering the report of the Taskforce'.

*Rod Novak*

# Notes from the Grey Nomads

**In the footsteps of  
Burke and Wills  
(Medium/Hard)**

One of my retirement promises was that Gina and I would make tours of Australia, taking in as many of the national parks as we could. So it was that in late April, after renting out our house and making numerous arrangements, we set off on a six-month trek. This was to take us through Mungo National Park and the Corner Country, up to the Top End, across to the west, down the west coast and back across the Nullarbor. Along the way we had arranged to meet up with some of our bushie mates, to share some backpacking trips with us. The 4WD was checked over, packed with all manner of gear for car camping, backpacking de-hyde food, cameras, laptop, lilos, wine cellar and one day we actually got away. Being bushies, we kept things simple – no trailer, nothing on the roof even. In this way we figured that we'd minimise problems with difficult terrain, quite apart from making it easy to set up and dismantle camp.

Our first national park was Mungo, in NSW, where human remains have been found, dated at 30,000 years old. Essentially an area of lakes that dried up 15,000 years ago, the area has been used by pastoralists, but proved to be too arid – and this is certainly the case today. We camped in NP campsites and almost had the place to ourselves. Fossil remains are being uncovered by the wind all the time as the sand dunes move and the 100,000 year old rocks reveal their secrets.

Then it was on to Kinchega NP, one of the oldest NSW parks. This used to be owned by a family who ran a station of over 2 million acres. We camped by the Darling River, by ancient River Red Gums. We were reminded by the kangaroo corpses that this area was in drought, but had once supported huge numbers of sheep. We spent several pleasant days here, with beautiful evenings by the campfire with a glass of wine in hand, looking at the stars. We then drove to Broken Hill, then into Corner Country. This rapidly became desert, with few cars, and nothing between townships except a couple of hundred kilometres of dirt. We camped at the ghost town of Milparinka – one pub and twenty inhabitants. The local kangaroo processing plant was down to 40 roos a day – from 400.

We explored this area, as Charles Sturt had passed through here in his search for the inland sea. He'd dragged a boat with two sailors as well! Sturt NP was a lonely but beautiful place, with its gibber desert of polished stones. Arriving at Cameron Corner, where SA, NSW and Queensland meet, we had a drink at the pub – the sole building. Mine host confessed to being confused – the building is in Queensland, his post code is NSW, and his telephone number is South Australian! Crossing the dingo fence, (closing the gate behind us) we entered SA and saw our first dingo!

We were soon at Innamincka (population 20) where we explored the Burke and Wills connections, had the Sunday roast special dinner at the pub and relaxed by a glorious waterhole. This was where Burke and Wills both died after their rush up to the Gulf of Carpentaria. We enjoyed this area and spent several days here. By day 18 and after some 3,000 km we were at Birdsville, home of the annual Birdsville Races. Then it was through lonely gibber desert, for our first sighting of Bustards and Brolgas – and our first puncture! Driving into the Diamantina NP, a drive of several hundred kilometres over rough roads, we became bogged in mud and it took several hours of digging and cussing to get out. We hadn't seen another vehicle for 36 hours, and didn't see one for 24 hours after – it was the local Ranger – he was on his way out, driving his 4WD with one arm – he'd broken the other and was driving 150 km to get fixed up!

I donned a hard hat and explored an underground mine at Mt Isa while Gina searched unsuccessfully for the Carpentarian Grasswren. At Lawn Hill NP, we found a Barking Owl, and used our lilos to cruise the beautiful gorge. On our way back to the highway we called in at Riversleigh, one of the biggest fossil sites in Australia and saw 25 million year old fossils in situ. A 600 km drive westwards took us to the Darwin – Alice highway where we turned north. We looked in at Elsey NP and swam in the hot springs at Mataranka before passing through Pine Creek on our way to Kakadu NP where we were to meet up with a bunch of bushies for some Kakadu adventures. It was now Day 30, we'd driven some 6,000 km, and we were ready for some serious walking!

*Derrick Brown*

## First Aid Training

First Aid Training is planned over five consecutive weeks commencing 7 October 2004 in the clubrooms at 7.00pm. It is available to all members, however preference will be given to leaders. The course is a certificated Level 2 course, so that, although aimed at bushwalking needs, it would be of benefit in the workplace.

Ten participants are required and, at present, we have nine of which seven are leaders. If there are any more leaders can they please let me know. The cost which is heavily subsidised is \$66 for both leaders and non-leaders and due by 15 September.

I was away for two weeks, and lost some messages. It would be appreciated if all persons interested including those who previously responded would please send an email to \_\_\_\_\_ or telephone me on \_\_\_\_\_ by 15 September 2004.

*Peter McGrath, Assistant Walk Secretary*

## Tasmania Day Walks

Five day-walks in the Cradle Mountain-Lake St Clair and Walls of Jerusalem National Parks will be held. In my opinion, these are the most exciting National Parks in Australia. It is possible to experience the best of Tasmania, without carrying an overnight pack.

The typical Tasmanian mountain scenery, and colours of the scoparia, will linger long in the memory. The walks will be typical day walk standard. You can return to furnished accommodation and cook a meal in the evening in the company of friends.

We will travel to Tasmania on the Spirit of Tasmania at 7 pm on Boxing Day, and return at 7 am on 4 Jan 05. Eight responses have been received so far, with a capacity of twelve. An information evening will be held in the clubrooms on 15 Sep 04 to provide further information.

Some telephone messages were lost while I was away, so it would be appreciated if all interested, including any who previously left messages, would send an email to \_\_\_\_\_ or ring me on \_\_\_\_\_

*Peter McGrath, Assistant Walk Secretary*

## Tasmania Update

For various reasons I have had to change the time for this proposed walk to February 26 to March 6. This is just after the AGM. Same trip planned, should be better weather.

*Doug Pocock*

## WHERE SUNDAY WALKS LEADERS COME FROM

Walking is inherently pleasant. You can either do it on your own, or as part of a group. If you do it with the club, you will be part of a group.

Groups are not entirely democratic. Leaders lead groups to ensure they achieve the group's purposes. There is a trust involved. Leaders hope the led will still be there at the end. The led hope they will achieve their objectives, and be treated well in the process. The trust is facilitated if participants are treated with friendliness, politeness, respect, care and attention. But leaders also have to know what they are doing.

In addition to general leadership skills, bushwalking leadership entails a specific set of skills. These are:

- 1 Navigation
- 2 First Aid
- 3 Managing a group of people.

The club produces a publication outlining the theory of Navigation, and provides training events twice per year, organised by our Training Officer, Quentin Tibbals, providing opportunities for participants to practice their skills. The next event is on Saturday 4 September 04. Navigation talks are also held twice a year, with the next three months away. All new and current leaders are encouraged to attend these events.

The club is presently organising First Aid training at a subsidised cost for leaders and members. Preference will be given to leaders. Whilst not mandatory, first aid skills are a well-regarded attribute of the well-equipped walk leader. It is hoped many will subscribe, although places will be necessarily limited due to the cost involved.

Managing group dynamics essentially involves leaders organising the front of the group and whips organising the rear. At intersections, leaders ought to be able to assume, if they see the whip, that all members are present. The club produces publications called 'Leading A Day Walk' and 'Courtesy Guidelines for Walkers' detailing leaders' and walkers' responsibilities. Walkers and leaders are urged to be familiar with them, but I currently have them under review.

When you see your next Sunday walk leader, respect the time and effort they have put into developing their skills. Please consider becoming a Sunday Walks Leader. If you do, please consider the responsibilities.

*Peter McGrath, Assistant Walks Secretary*

## DANDENONG EXPLORER: Olinda half day walk

DATE	Saturday 25 September. Grand Final Day
STANDARD	Medium
DISTANCE	About 8 km
LEADER	Warren Baker
TRANSPORT	Private.
MEETING TIME	10.30 am.
MEETING PLACE	Range Road, Olinda. At the end of Range Road past the water tower and at the turning circle
MAP REFERENCES	Melway 66 G8.on the western side of the G square

As this is grand final day I thought that I would make this a half day walk. It is graded medium because of the terrain. The pace will be quite leisurely. We start off by walking downhill to the Basin-Olinda Road. From there we get onto Dodds track and follow it carefully (it is steep) down to our old friend the Doongalla Forest Road. We walk to the edge of the park and then walk the Ridge Track back to the Basin-Olinda Road. This track is also reasonably steep but not particularly long (about 1 km in total). We will walk south along the road to meet up with the Bradley track where we have another fairly steep but short climb back to Range Road. I intend to have lunch in Olinda.

If it is wet beforehand, or raining on the day I will change the route slightly on the day.  
Please talk with the leader about this walk.  
Phone



## SUNDAY BUS: Northern Brisbane Ranges – Boar Gully

DATE	Sunday 26 September
STANDARD	Easy/Medium & Medium
DISTANCE	15 & 16 km approx.
LEADERS	Jerry Karbownik & David Elias
TRANSPORT	Bus – Southbank Boulevard, 9 am
RETURN TIME	6.30 pm approx
MAP REFERENCE	Staughton Vale 1:25000

Walks on this day concentrate in the northernmost areas of the Brisbane Ranges – around the Boar Gully – and will complete the treble of club walks that started in the south around Steiglitz and then progressed north to the Anakie Gorge region earlier in the year. Walking is generally on open forest roads or wide bush tracks.

As our walk is in Spring there should be a good display of wattles, hakeas and other native plants. This region is also generally noted for its koalas and echidnas – as our preview was done in the depths of winter there were none of these little critters to be found. We guessed that with the cold and all the cheap air fares, they had gone to Noosa!! Should be back for us with a little luck!! Please come and join us for what promises to be a good escape.



## SUNDAY BUS: Dromana – Greens Bush – Cape Schank

DATE	Sunday 3 October
STANDARD	Easy & Medium
LEADERS	Mark Heath & Dion Marriet
TRANSPORT	Bus– Southbank Blvd. at 9 am

Please see the leaders in the clubrooms about this walk.

## TOFS: You Yangs, Northern End

DATE	Thursday 7 October
STANDARD	Easy
DISTANCE	10 km
LEADER	Jean Giese
TRANSPORT	Private
AREA	You Yangs
MAP REFERENCE	Melways, key map 11

Come and explore the northern end of the You Yangs with its interesting slopes, granite-strewn knolls and uninterrupted views. Meet 10.15 am at the Parks Vic. carpark at the western end of Drysdale Road.  
Book with Jean on



## SUNDAY BUS Walhalla, Federation Weekend

DATE	Sunday 10 October
STANDARD	Easy & Easy/Medium
DISTANCE	12 km & 15 km
LEADERS	Mick Noonan & Lesley Hale
TRANSPORT	Bus – Southbank Boulevard, <b>8.30 am</b>
RETURN TIME	7 pm
AREA	Walhalla Historic Area
MAP REFERENCE	Walhalla, 1:25, 000

The medium group starts at Rawson and takes 4 wheel drive tracks to the Thomson River Bridge. From here we all wander along an old tramway walking track with fantastic views of the Thomson river to the Old Steel Bridge. Then its on to Walhalla via the Alpine Walking Track through great forest, flowering Ericas, birdlife etc. The entry into Walhalla has spectacular views of the historic township and if we are lucky you might see the train on the Goldfields Railway. Then its back to Rawson by bus for coffee/tea with the many other walkers from across Victoria who have also been enjoying the Federation Weekend.

Come and enjoy this lovely part of Victoria, walk part of the Alpine Walking Track and yes there really is afternoon tea after the walk!

As this is part of the Federation Weekend activities **NO VISITORS** are allowed. Also note the bus leaves at **8.30 am!**

PS Don't forget to bring warm/waterproof clothing because the weather is unpredictable here in the foothills of the Great Divide!



## SUNDAY BUS:

### The Monk Walk: Castlemaine - Vaughan

DATE	Sunday 17 October
STANDARD	Easy & Easy/Medium
DISTANCE	14 & 17km
LEADERS	Jean Woodger & Doug Langton
TRANSPORT	Bus – Southbank Blvd. at 9am
RETURN TIME	Approx 7pm
AREA	Castlemaine
MAP REFERENCES	Castlemaine & Guildford 1:25,000

Heading south from Castlemaine, we'll be walking alongside the Poverty Gully Water Race through open forest sprinkled with Gold-dust Wattle and Fairy Wax-flowers, to the small Poverty Gully Reservoir, where we should be welcomed by a noisy frog chorus. We climb to the summit of the Monk, great views and colourful in spring with silver wattle in bloom and the ground covered in wildflowers.

As we walk through Cobblers Gully past old stone walls, we are surrounded by numerous old gold workings, more so when we reach Spring Gully, where there are some quite substantial ruins.

We cross a couple of stiles on our way to Fryerstown, now a quiet little village which once boasted a population of over 15,000 miners.

The easy group will meet the bus near Irishtown, and be transported to Vaughan Springs. For the easy/medium, the track continues through forest and along an open ridgeline overlooking the Loddon River, then down to the Vaughan Mineral Springs Reserve, where there are not only toilets, but a steep playground slide for the adventurous.

All on tracks and undulating throughout. A lovely walk.

## WEDNESDAY WALK:

### Greens Bush to Cape Schanck/Two Bays Walking Track, Mornington Peninsula National Park

DATE	Wednesday 20 October
STANDARD	Easy/Medium
DISTANCE	15 km.
LEADER	Bruce Campbell
TRANSPORT	Private
RETURN TIME	3.45 pm back to cars.
AREA	Mornington Peninsula National Park (Southern section) Including Cape Schanck.
MAP REFERENCE	Victoria's Parks: Mornington and Arthurs Seat 1:25,000; and Melway Maps: 253, 257, 258 and 259.

Meet at the intersection of Patterson Road and Rogers Road (Mel Ref 253 H-10) at 10.00 am. The quickest approach from Melbourne is via the Mornington Peninsula Freeway. Follow the freeway to its western end-point, where it meets Boneo (or Rosebud-Flinders) Road and turn south (left) into Boneo Road.

**Note:** For people unfamiliar with this area, the 'freeway' is a four-lane freeway to its intersection with Jetty Road (a roundabout) but then continues as a two-lane undivided road to its end-point, a further 2 km west at the Boneo Road roundabout (Mel Ref 170 A-6).

From this point, drive south approx 5.8 km to the Patterson Road intersection (Mel Ref 253 C-10) then proceed left (easterly) for 2 km along this gravel surface to its intersection with Rogers Road (Mel Ref 253 H-10). This intersection marks our starting point. It should be noted that the intersection of Patterson Road and Boneo Road can be easily missed. The Patterson Road signpost also carries a sign for 'La Campagna'. A car shuffle will be needed from Rogers Road to the Cape Schanck area, hence the early start.

The walk is almost entirely on well-developed walking tracks with only a couple of short, steep sections and approx a half-kilometre road walking. We commence on the western boundary of Greens Bush (part of Mornington Peninsula National Park) and walk adjacent to that boundary, approx 4.5 km to Boneo Road. The track traverses sections of open country providing excellent views easterly to the farmlands towards Flinders and southerly to Bass Strait, interspersed with sections of bush. The vegetation includes box and stringy bark forest, manna gums, wattles, banksias, ti-trees, heathlands and grass trees. Fauna observed on the preview included large Eastern Grey kangaroos, a fox and many native birds.

After crossing Boneo Road, we will travel through coastal banksia to our lunch spot at Bushrangers Bay before continuing to Cape Schanck. En route there are many wonderful views of the Bass Strait coastline. At Cape Schanck car park we will allow half-an-hour for walkers to either complete the 1.5 km board walk circuit to the Cape and Pulpit Rock; or for those who so wish, to visit the historic museum at the Cape Schanck Lighthouse (an admission cost of \$11.00 applies). We will then walk north for a view of Fingal Beach and Gunnamatta before proceeding to our end-point at Fingal car park.

On the way home, walkers are invited to call at Bruce Campbell's home in Mount Martha for afternoon tea. The address is: 26 Somers Avenue, Mount Martha (Melway Ref 150 J-3).

Intending walkers who wish to book for the walk or who need further details are invited to call Bruce on \_\_\_\_\_ or, if no answer, \_\_\_\_\_ . If unable to raise Bruce, please call Sandra Mutimer on \_\_\_\_\_ or Margaret Curry on \_\_\_\_\_ . If you run into trouble on the way to the start, please ring Margaret on her mobile.

## DANDENONGS EXPLORER: Kallista – Sassafras

DATE	Saturday 23 October
STANDARD	Easy
DISTANCE	11 km
LEADER	Liz Telford
TRANSPORT	Private
RETURN TIME	3.00 pm
AREA	Kallista & Sassafras

The walk will commence at Grants Picnic Ground and soon we walk along the Sassafras creek for the first part of the walk. This is very pleasant walking with lovely tall



stands of tree ferns on the edge of the creek. After we arrive at Sassafras we have to walk a small section along a road but there are several large houses to admire along the way. Then the rest of the walk is along the outer edge of the Dandenong Ranges National Park. The walk is very easy, with no major hills and only a 20 minute section of steep downhill to walk. There is the possibility of extending the walk if people are keen. We should finish about 3.00 pm and then off for coffee and cakes.....

Please meet at Grants Picnic Ground in Kallista at 10.15 am (Map 75 K4 in the Melways). If you have any queries please call me on [redacted], but generally there is no need to book.

### SUNDAY BUS: Garden of St Erth – Blackwood

DATE Sunday 24 October  
 STANDARD Easy/Medium & Medium  
 LEADERS Lynda Larkin & Hans Edlinger  
 TRANSPORT Bus– Southbank Blvd at 9 am

Please see the leaders in the clubrooms about this walk.

### SUNDAY BUS: St George’s Lake – Creswick

DATE Sunday 31 October  
 STANDARD Easy & Easy/Medium  
 DISTANCE 11 km & 16 km  
 LEADERS Maria Lake & Geoff Mattingley  
 TRANSPORT Bus– Southbank Blvd. at 9 am  
 RETURN TIME approx. 7 pm  
 AREA North of Ballarat – Melway 627 B3  
 MAP REFERENCE VicMap 1:25,000 Creswick

**NOTE: October 31st is the first day of Australian Eastern Summer Time (Daylight Saving). Clocks should be set forward one hour, preferably before going to bed on the 30th.**

During the 1850s and 1860s the area surrounding Creswick emerged as one of the richest goldfields in Victoria. The town’s population swelled to around 25,000 as miners tore apart the landscape in their efforts to extract every available ounce of gold. By the end of the rush, the forests had vanished and the land was badly eroded. In 1883 the first efforts were made at replanting the trees, and today the hills surrounding Creswick are covered in a combination of introduced plantations and regrowth native bushland providing walkers with a number of excellent forest trails. St George’s Lake was originally built during the goldrush to provide water for the Creswick State Battery – a government-owned quartz crusher.

The Easy group will stay north of the highway, in the area surrounding St George’s Lake. The Easy/Medium group will head south along part of the Great Dividing trail before heading east then north mostly along forestry tracks – there will be one section off the tracks through open forest. Both walks start and finish in the same place.

## HOUSESITTING OPPORTUNITY

in Box Hill in November, please contact Sak Hong Wan



I can **HOUSE SIT** for you from mid November and anytime into 05. I’m reliable, tidy and mature. (Sorry no pets). Susan Maughan:



## BUSH DANCE

For those who like to kick up there heels and have a good time, as well as an opportunity to limber up for our impending MBW Springtime Bushdance, you are welcome to come along to this event, which is held on the first Saturday of every month.

Uniting Church Hall  
 Station St, Ringwood East  
 Saturday, 4th September, 8pm  
 Admission \$7.00

Light refreshments provided.  
 For further details contact Lynda [redacted]

## BASE CAMP: Wedderburn Wildflowers

DATE	17–19 September
STANDARD	Easy
DISTANCE	15 km plus 12 km
LEADER	Doug Pocock
TRANSPORT	Private
RETURN TIME	7.00 pm
AREA	Wedderburn
MAP REFERENCE	Wedderburn – Kinypanial 1:50000

We ran this base camp last year and many members expressed disappointment at missing it so we decided to run it again this year.

The camp will be on my 300 acre 'greenie block' next to part of the Wychitella Flora and Fauna Reserve. This is a useful place to explore the area, as there is no camping in the Reserve.

On Saturday we will drive to the Skinners Flat block and have a walk including Mt Kerang. If we have time we will also visit Mt Egbert. On Sunday the walk will follow the old aqueduct to the Korongvale Reservoir returning through the Korongvale block. We will try to avoid the worst of the broombush thickets! Those members ornithologically inclined may choose to explore the property and increase my bird list.

Saturday night we will light the campfire and have a barbecue, Jan and I will provide salads, BYO meat and drink. Bring entrees and sweets to share.

See me in theclubrooms for further details.

Lighthouse we will walk to Little Waterloo Bay via the south east coast track, which was constructed in late 1998.

Because this is an extended walk, you will need to have done another pack carry in the last 6 months to be able to come on this walk. In addition, I need to pay the park authority in advance so will need \$25 from you for camping fees to ensure a place on this trip. (This is not refundable) If you have any other questions regarding this trip please do not hesitate to give me a call on

**Please Note: Limit 10 walkers**

## BASE CAMP: Grampians, Mt Difficult area

DATE	1–3 October 2004
STANDARD	Medium
DISTANCE	Approx. 26 km
LEADER	Bob Oxlade
TRANSPORT	Private
RETURN TIME	10 pm Sunday
AREA	Central Western Victoria
MAP REFERENCE	Northern Grampians Outdoor Leisure 1:50000 and VicMaps Mt Stapylton & Mt Difficult 1:25000

This classic walk includes some of the most spectacular scenery in the Grampians NP and will include Beehive Falls, Briggs Bluff and Mt Difficult. We will depart from Roses Gap and, on Sunday after viewing part of the Eastern branch of the Mt Difficult range will finish at Troopers Creek camp ground. This will be all on walking tracks.



## EXTENDED PACK CARRY:

### Wilsons Promontory National Park.

Circuit Walk combine Tidal River/ Oberon Bay/Lighthouse/ Waterloo/Refuge/ Sealers/Telegraph saddle

DATE	24–28 September
STANDARD	Medium
DISTANCE	60 km plus side trips without packs
LEADER	Marisa Rizzuto
RETURN TIME	Tuesday pm
TRANSPORT	Private
AREA	Southern Wilsons Promontory
MAP REFERENCE	Wilsons Promontory National Park 1:50 00

This is a classic 4 night 60km circuit walk in Victoria's most loved national parks. Its great variety of scenery, terrain, vegetation and wildlife make it a magnet for all seasoned hikers. It is one of my most favorite places in Victoria to visit. The plan is to drive down on the Friday evening to be ready to start walking at 8 am on the Saturday. We will be travelling in an anti clock-wise direction doing the long walk down to Roaring Meg after our 1st night at Tidal River. We will have time to visit South Point and the Lighthouse. (South Point is the most southerly point on the Australian mainland). From the

## BASE CAMP, FEDERATION WEEKEND: Walhalla

DATE	8–10 October
STANDARD	Various
LEADER	Various
ACCOMODATION	Ralph Clayton
AREA	Around Walhalla
TRANSPORT	Private

The Melbourne Bushwalkers are co-hosting this weekend which will be based at the Rawson Village, where the club has stayed on several occasions. We have booked one of the lodges which holds 36 people in twin share accommodation in basic comfort, plus there are other options if that fills up. Prices for bed and breakfast are very reasonable.

A two-course dinner is available at the Village and all those staying at Rawson Village are encouraged to take this option on the Saturday night so we can all socialise together. However, for those who are interested there will also be another option: A train ride on the old Walhalla Goldfields Railway up the Stringers Creek Gorge into Walhalla, a two- course dinner including tea and coffee,



and a return ride on the train in the night. This will only go ahead if enough people show interest.

Those wishing to book accommodation in the lodge need to contact me (Ralph). This includes all volunteers as I need to know your meal requirements. Those who are making their own accommodation arrangements also need to let me know for insurance purposes and also because VicWalk need to have numbers so they can print the right number of programs and organise sufficient afternoon tea.

I can be contacted on my home phone number

Those just wanting to let me know they have booked their own accommodation can leave a message on my answering machine or e-mail me at

I need people to contact me by **September 21st**. Please note that full payment will be required in advance.

Walhalla and surrounds is a beautiful area for walking and a wide range of walks will be available over the weekend. A fee of \$10 applies. For insurance reasons visitors cannot go on the walks although they can come for the social side of the weekend.

### BASE CAMP: Camperdown

DATE	15/16/17 October
STANDARD	Easy/Medium
DISTANCE	Varied
LEADER	Sylvia Ford
TRANSPORT	Private
RETURN TIME	8 pm Sunday
AREA	2.5 hours west of Melbourne via Geelong
MAP REFERENCE	Various

This is the second time we are visiting the volcanic area around Camperdown. From the base camp in the Camperdown Caravan Park (nice hot showers) we shall firstly take in the nearby view of the twin lakes made up of submerged craters. Secondly we'll walk over Mt Noorat which is world famous for being a perfect volcano shape. Its additional interest is a wedge-tailed eagles nest (and chicks?) that we can look down into. Next, we check out Mt Elephant known as the Lighthouse of the Western District. Finally, we'll hunt up some different styles of drystone wall built by Anglo-Celtic skilled craftsmen. And that's all on the Saturday.

On Sunday we have a Melbourne Bushies first, namely a day walk in the Stony Rises. This rugged lava flow area is all on private land and we are fortunate to be lead by the Camperdown Bushwalkers who will also show us some historic sites. Should be good.



### PACK CARRY: Lake Tarli Karng

DATE	22-24 October
STANDARD	Medium
DISTANCE	32 km
LEADER	Bill Donald
TRANSPORT	Private
RETURN TIME	Late Sunday
AREA	Alpine National Park
MAP REFERENCE	Licola - Wellington 1:50,000

Friday night we will be camping on the Wellington River. Saturday our walk takes us through the Valley of Destruction to Lake Tarli Karng. Along the way we have 16 significant river crossings.

Saturday afternoon time allowing we might explore around the lake. Sunday we retrace our steps back to the cars.

The river levels will determine how wet we get, rain withstanding so be prepared to walk in wet boots.



### PACK CARRY: Royal National Park, NSW

DATE	29 October - 2 November
STANDARD	Easy/Medium
DISTANCE	Approx. 50 km
LEADER	Alan Clarke
TRANSPORT	Plane, Train and Ferry
RETURN TIME	Tuesday pm
AREA	Outer Sydney
MAP REFERENCE	CMA: Royal National Park

Starting at Sydney Central Railway Station, we will take the train south to Waterfall, and then spend four days walking through both Royal and Heathcote National Parks. The actual route depends on which camping areas are available but will include the coast walk of RNP which is in parts quite spectacular. There will also be swimming holes, rainforest and fabulous views. We will return to Sydney airport via ferry to Cronulla and train to the airport.

Please note: Because of the need to book flights, this walk was advertised last month and booked out very quickly, I am both delighted and sorry to say. To those who missed out I hope that this trip will be repeated from time to time.

## BASE CAMP: Buandik, Western Grampians

DATE	29 October – 2 November
STANDARD	Easy/Medium/or whatever
DISTANCE	Variable – your choice
LEADER	Graeme Thornton
TRANSPORT	Private
RETURN TIME	Tuesday night
AREA	Western Grampians
MAP REFERENCE	VicMap Leisure Map 1:50,000 North+South Grampians

This will be (... mostly! ...) a base camp at Buandik on Cultivation Creek in the western Grampians. I think it is a spectacular area with numerous possibilities for exploration. I'm hoping that we will be able to run several alternate walk activities from, well, basically lay about, to wild-flowering/birding, to thrashing around looking for aboriginal sites and exploring some rugged country. What and where will depend on the group – I'm curious to go exploring. We might even have an option for some to do an overnight pack-carry camp-out if an interesting area to explore is found.

As this is a four day extra long weekend we can have a leisurely arrival in daylight on Saturday morning (1am at Buandik). We will leave sometime Tuesday afternoon, but, again, for those with time, it leaves a possibility for some to stay on until Wednesday or Thursday for more of whatever you're into. Let me know if you would be in for an extra-long-long w/e. I'll see how much interest there is.

Note that the weather could do anything and there may be scrub, rock and cliffs. I'm very practiced at avoiding most scratchy scrub and some broken country, but have failed badly. Rod Novak's August August work-party at Buandik reports both tank water and water in the creek. But those with sensitive constitutions might want to bring enough water sufficient until we see how the camp supply goes; I expect it to be fine.



## PACK CARRY: Mt Hotham – High plains

DATE	29 October – 2 November
STANDARD	Medium
LEADER	Jerry Grandage
TRANSPORT	Private

Please see the leader in the clubrooms about this walk or phone



## PACK CARRY: Cobberas Area

DATE	29 October – 2 November
STANDARD	Easy/Medium
DISTANCE	Approx. 47 km, 32 km with pack
LEADER	Leo Lynch
TRANSPORT	Private
RETURN TIME	Approx. 9 pm Tuesday
AREA	NE of Omeo
MAP REFERENCE	Suggan Buggan 1:50,000, 2nd. Ed.

This walk will start and end at Native Dog Flat. On Saturday we have a 10km walk, mostly off-track, involving a lot of uphill and downhill walking with a full pack. The intended route is to follow Cowombat Flat Track for about 4 km before leaving the track to head up the spur leading to Moscow Peak, from Moscow Peak we will go to the saddle between Miscow peak and Mount Cobberas No. 2. If water is available we will camp here on Saturday night. On Sunday we will follow the spur to the right of Mountain Trout Creek for 6 km down to Cowombat Flat, where we will camp for the next two nights.

On Monday we will do a 16 km round trip from the campsite to The Pilot. Most of this walk will be on a 4WD track.

Tuesday will be a 16 km walk along Cowombat Flat track back to the cars.

Part of this walk is reviewed in the Spring 2002 edition of Wild Magazine.

## Slide night

Les Southwell will be showing some slides of his recent expedition into the wilds of Tasmania of **The Ducane Range**

(Cradle Mountain – Lake St Clair)

And a recent walk in the Victorian Alps.

Held in the Club rooms, together

with the monthly wine & cheese night, commencing 8 pm on Wednesday 27 October.

**NEW MEMBERS:**

Lois Bryson

Janet Norman / Keith White

Margaret Elder

Jan Palich

Rosemary Martyn

Frances Moloney

**MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS**

Life Members	10
Honorary Members	10
Single Memberships	313
Family Memberships	106 (= 2 x 53)
Total Membership	439
This time last year	450

Ruth Reid

*Peter Havlicek, Membership Secretary*

Prter J Sharp

Gillian Wainwright

**Clubrooms Duty Roster**

September 15	Rod Novak, Jan Palich
September 22	Fay Dunn, Howard Friend
September 29	Lynda Larkin, Doug Pocock
October 6	Deb Henry, Mark Heath

**ADD TO MEMBERSHIP LIST:**

Michelle Healey

**Next committee meeting**

Monday 4 October, 7 pm in the clubrooms

Ian Langford

**ALTERED ADDRESS/PHONE:**

Sheena Burgess

David Elias

Marika Jagow / Sak-Hong Wan

Ian Mc Phee

## WALKS PROGRAM SEPTEMBER 2004

Thu 2	TOFS: Cranbourne Botanical Gardens	Private	Easy	Bob Steel
Sat 4	Leaders Training Day: Mt Disappointment	Private		Quentin Tibballs
3 - 5	Base camp: Regent Honeyeater Tree Planting	Private	Easy	Howard Friend
<b>Sun 5</b>	<b>Flinders – Coolart – Somers</b>	<b>BUS</b>	<b>E &amp; E/M</b>	<b>Mary de Salis &amp; Keith McKenry</b>
10 – 12	Dry Diggings Track (Castlemaine Area)	Private	E/M	Rod Novak
<b>Sun 12</b>	<b>La Franchi Hut (Daylesford Area)</b>	<b>BUS</b>	<b>E &amp; E/M</b>	<b>Max Casley &amp; Halina Sarbinowski</b>
Wed 15	Wednesday Walk: Tanglefoot Area	Private	E/M	Jerry Grandage
17 – 19	Base camp: Wedderburn Wildflowers	Private	Easy	Doug Pocock
<b>Sun 19</b>	<b>Angahook Spring Wildflower Walk</b>	<b>BUS</b>	<b>E &amp; M</b>	<b>Sybille Holdeheide &amp; Nik Dow</b>
24 – 28	Extended P/Carry: Prom. Lighthouse Circuit	Private	Medium	Marisa Rizzuto
Sat 25	Dandenongs Explorer: Olinda half day walk	Private	Easy	Warren Baker
<b>Sun 26</b>	<b>Quarry Tk–Anakie Gorge. (Brisbane Ranges)</b>	<b>BUS</b>	<b>E/M &amp; M</b>	<b>Jerry Karbownik &amp; David Elias</b>

Bus transport: meet in Southbank Boulevard, south side of the Arts Centre, before 9am. The leader or deputy will be there rain, hail or shine. Fees must be paid to reserve a seat on the bus. Bookings are made on Club Night. Telephone bookings are not accepted.

The News of the Melbourne Bushwalkers  
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**GPO Box 1751Q, Melbourne 3001**

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### ALTERATION TO PARTICULARS / SUBSCRIPTION RENEWAL

NAME (new) \_\_\_\_\_ NAME (old) \_\_\_\_\_  
 ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 PHONE Home \_\_\_\_\_ Bus. \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE Home \_\_\_\_\_ Bus. \_\_\_\_\_  
 EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

**SUBSCRIPTION FEES:** ORDINARY – single membership \$45.00  
 FAMILY/COUPLE – membership \$70.00  
 New members joining on/after 1st October 2003 \$24.00 less visitor fees  
 Make cheques or money orders payable to 'Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc.' and post to:  
 Membership Secretary, GPO Box 1751Q, Melbourne, 3001

CONCESSION – single membership \$30.00 (proof required)  
 CONCESSION – couple \$38.00 (proof required)  
**The News – \$20.00**