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THE NEWS OF THE Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc.

60 CENTS

EDITION 648 FEBRUARY 2005

Picnic followed by a **Night Walk** at **Hanging Rock** SATURDAY, MARCH 19, 2005

Experience the mystery of The Rock at night with a guided tour of the Reserve. Along the way you may discover gliders, koalas, wallabies, birds (nearly 40 species), bats, possums and other native animals. Nearly 100 indigenous plants can be found at Hanging Rock.

The Rock is a small steep sided volcano known as a mamelon which formed six million years ago over a vent in the earth and now rises 105m from the surrounding plain.

Numbers: limited to 25.

Cost: \$15 per person (payment made upon booking)

Transport: private. (tickets issued by the club will allow holders to stay on in the Reserve after it has closed to the general public).

Time: arrive at your leisure during the day. Travel time from Melbourne CBD via Calder Freeway is approximately 1 hour. The tour begins after 8pm and duration is approximately 2 hours.

Facilities: coin operated barbeques, tables, picnic areas, toilets and shelters.

Bookings to be made by March 9.

**For bookings and further information contact:
Eleonora**

Turn right at the second Woodend turn-off on the Calder and follow the Romsey Road for approximately 3 km to South Rock Road.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING



8 PM WEDNESDAY 23 FEBRUARY 2005

TRADES HALL, CNR. OF LYGON AND VICTORIA STREETS, CARLTON

Come along and cast your vote (members). Non-members are also welcome to attend but may not vote. All committee positions become vacant in February. A new committee to be installed.

A form for nomination of committee members is on the back page.

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 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:

- 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 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

This will be my last Presidential Paragraph as I intend to stand down at the AGM. However I am sure the club will continue to thrive under a new committee as it has for 60 years. I intend to still be involved with the club, lobbying for Wilky, hopefully leading some walks I have some ideas for.

Remember the AGM is the time for you to elect (and stand for if you want) the new committee. It is not up to the retiring committee to fill members to vacancies, it is up to you, the members. At this stage we need an ordinary committee member to stand, it can be male or female. All other positions have at least one person indicating willingness to stand. This does not preclude you from standing if you want to. We will also need to appoint two auditors, anyone out there wanting to take this position let me know.

Doug Pocock.

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S REPORT 2005

The Membership Secretary's regular duties include: the maintenance of the register of members' particulars (address, phone, subscription status), the collection of subscriptions, giving advice about membership to potential or new members, assisting in the preparation of membership lists and in mailing the News, both paper and electronic versions.

As at the beginning of February 2005, the membership of the Club was 469 (February 2004: 479) including 10 Life and 10 Honorary members. The number of members decreased by 10 during 2004 with 70 (2003: 71) new members joining and 80 (2003: 74) members relinquishing their membership.

Peter Havlicek

Wine & Cheese evening



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

We have had another successful year. We had an increase in bus hire costs but as walks have been well attended we have not had to raise fares. The club continues to operate in a financially viable manner. Unfortunately Federation insurance did not cover skiing again this year so we were not able to program skiing trips. There is a proposal for a form of group insurance for snow activities that is being investigated.

A subcommittee was formed to lobby for the rebuilding of Wilkinson Lodge. The submission sent to Parks Vic was unsuccessful but an appeal is being organised. We look forward to support from members in this appeal.

The Club functions with many people in many diverse roles. I would like to thank everyone, those obvious and those not so obvious, but all are necessary in the smooth running of the Club.

The committee, who have worked well during the year keeping the Club running smoothly.

All of our leaders without whom we would not be a walking club.

The Club contacts, a vital role in our safety system.

Margaret Borden who has continued as our phone contact.

Susan McInnes who keeps our clubrooms clean and tidy.

The auditors, Stephen Chenoweth and Vic Dunis.

Pearson Cresswell our public officer

Sandra Mutimer the Wednesday walk co-ordinator.

Jean Giese, Thursday walks co-ordinator

Warren Baker, the Saturday walk co-ordinator.

Quentin Tibballs who has organised training exercises and courses.

Deb Henry who has maintained the Club website, increasingly important in attracting new members.

Finally, all of the Club members who have been part of a great organization.

Doug Pocock

W A L K S S E C R E T A R Y ' S R E P O R T 2 0 0 4

The statistics indicate that walks activity in the club is healthy. However, it must be remembered that we did introduce a monthly Thursday walk this year and there were still no skiing activities on the program due to continuing insurance problems. Hopefully this skiing issue will be resolved before winter 2005.

Eighty seven members lead trips throughout the year, including many enthusiastic new leaders giving it a go for the first time. The quality of our walk leaders is the single most important factor in the success of this club. Thank you very much to those willing members who lead trips.

I must also thank the sub committee members who helped me put the programs together. I certainly couldn't have done it without you.

The Sunday bus operated very smoothly during 2004. Thanks for this are due to the Assistant Walks Secretary, Peter McGrath, who has worked hard to encourage new leaders and find new and stimulating walks and to Bob, our trusty driver from McKenzies Bus Lines.

As already mentioned, back in March, we introduced an easy walk on the first Thursday each month, referred to as Thursday Old Fogies (TOFS). These walks have been very well attended. Jean Giese deserves recognition for instigating and organizing these walks. The work of Sandra Mutimer and Warren Baker is also much appreciated in organizing their respective Wednesday and Dandenong Explorer walks.

A special thank you is also due to Quentin Tibballs, our excellent Training co-ordinator, and to Rod Novak, who works tirelessly to organize our conservation activities.

Finally, I would like to say that being Walks Secretary has been a very satisfying and rewarding experience. It has got me back into the joys of walking. I've visited some fabulous places and met lots of new people during the past year.

Ken MacMahon

Rod Novak and Bill Metzenthien attended the VicWalk Conservation Committee meetings during 2004. Bill also attended the VNPA Alpine Grazing sub-committee meetings.

Club Members were kept informed with 'Tracks, Huts and Conservation' key issues in the monthly report in *The News*. Significant highlights and achievements in 2004 include: submission to the Alpine Cattle Grazing Taskforce asking for the cattle licences to be stopped, submission to the Shire of Yarra Ranges Forest Policy, submission to VEAC for a greater Otways National Park and Trans-Otway long distance walking track, and a submission to the Grampians Walking Tracks Strategy.

Other important activities include: attending the World Environment Day rally at Federation Square, having a special Guest Speaker at Clubnight – Phil Ingamells from the VNPA presented an interesting and informative slide show on the alpine cattle grazing issue.

The Club held its annual Alpine National Park work party at Blair's Hut by assisting park rangers Enzo and

Paul with rendering the slab walls with a cement and mud mixture. Also, a successful Track Maintenance weekend was held at the Grampians National Park in August with enthusiastic ranger David Handscombe. The club also participated with Conservation Volunteers Australia at the Merri Creek wetlands project – working at Edwards Lake with a very happy City of Darebin ranger with his trailer stacked full with weeds. The club attended Ray Thomas's Regent Honeyeater Project for two planting weekends and some members assisted with a special mid-week planting.

The Club donates the interest earned from its Investment Account each year to a worthy conservation project. In 2004 the sum of \$750 was donated to the Victorian National Parks Association 'Alpine Grazing campaign'. A special thank you to all Bushies who participated in these 'Tracks, Huts and Conservation' events. The Melbourne Bushwalkers strongly promote minimum-impact bushwalking and really do care for the bush.

Rod Novak, Club delegate,
VicWalk Conservation Committee

WILLIS'S WALKABOUTS

Arnhem Land

with Aboriginal Guides

Take your pick — old or new

- The *Jawoyn Explorer* is our third trip to the upper reaches of the Katherine River where you visit the "other" Katherine Gorge — there are no tourists here.
- *In Leichhardt's Footsteps* is new this year. It follows part of Ludwig Leichhardt's epic 1844-45 journey where he became the first European to explore the area.

These trips are special!

- You visit areas normally out of bounds to bushwalkers — beautiful campsites and great scenery you could not visit on your own.
- Nowhere in Australia is traditional Aboriginal culture stronger than in the Top End.

Our Aboriginal guides will give you an unparalleled insight into their culture.

- Helicopter food drops, prohibited in Kakadu, allow you to get deep into the wilderness without having to carry an extra heavy pack.
- Exceptional historical interest as you retrace part of the journey that first opened up the interior of Australia's north.

Too long? Both trips are in two sections, either of which can be done on its own.

See the Kakadu and Top End trip list on our website or ask us for more information.



www.bushwalkingholidays.com.au

Willis's Walkabouts 12 Carrington St Millner NT 0810 Email: walkabout@ais.net.au

Phone 08 8985 2134 Fax 08 8985 2355

Missing person found by Bushwalkers

Search & Rescue

Late on Sunday 23rd January came a callout to Bushwalkers Search & Rescue (BSAR) to assist in the search for a missing bushwalker on the Major Mitchell Plateau in the Grampians. The missing woman was fully equipped with overnight gear but had failed to meet up with her friend after leaving camp that morning.

It's a tribute to the efficiency of the BSAR organisation and its members that, by 3.00 am, 25 searchers, including myself from the Melbourne Bushies, assembled at the Police transport HQ. Arriving at the Grampians in the wee hours we were given a cooked breakfast, courtesy of the police. Then equipped with maps, radios and sufficient gear to stay out overnight, we set off in small groups to search the creeks and ridges descending off the Mitchell Plateau.

Anyone who has ever walked off-track in the Grampians will have some idea of how tough the Grampians scrub can be! We searched all day and by 6 o'clock that night we were getting very concerned for the safety of the missing person. So it was wonderful news to hear over the radio at 6.30 pm that the missing person was found safe and well by one of the BSAR groups along a creek – a great outcome for the family and friends of the young woman concerned and for us, the searchers.

Gina Hopkins, BSAR club delegate



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LIBRARY REPORT

The Club has a small but interesting selection of books available for use by members. Broadly speaking the books fall into the following categories.

1. Guide books. Victorian walks, other state walks and international walks. The Melbourne books are particularly useful for planning Sunday or other day walks.
2. Natural history books. There are some useful, compact, specific area flower guides which members may like to borrow to use on trips.
3. Books of general interest to Bushwalkers.

Members can borrow these books by getting the key from the duty person and filling in details in the borrowing book. When borrowing it makes the librarians life easier if you record the full title and author of the book. Please print details including your name.

The following books appear to be missing.

Living Off The Land.....Legacy
*The Forgotten Forests: Field guide to Victorian
Box & Ironbark Forests*.....Calder, et al.
*Bushwalking In The Budawang*s.....Ron Doughton
Bushwalking In The Victorian Ranges.....Fred Halls.

Please check your bookshelves to see if these books have found their way to your place.

Doug Pocock

PHOTOGRAPHS

by Esther Beaton

will be on display throughout 2005 at
The Forest Discovery Centre,
Main Road, Toolangi.

The exhibition is entitled 'The Life in the Tall Eucalyptus Forests' and features photos of the forests that have been closed to the public for over 100 years, including Mountain Ash catchments in the Yarra Ranges.

**Open 9am–4.30pm Monday to Friday and by
arrangement for group visits at weekends.**

Closed on public holidays.

For more information: phone 5962 9314.

FORM OF APPOINTMENT OF PROXY

I _____
of _____
being a member of Melbourne Bushwalkers (Incorporated), hereby appoint

being a member of Melbourne Bushwalkers (Incorporated), as my proxy to vote for me on my behalf at the
annual general meeting half-yearly general meeting extraordinary general meeting
(delete as appropriate)

to be held on the _____ day of _____ 2005 _____
and at any adjournment of that meeting.

*My proxy is authorised to vote **in favour of against** the following resolution(s):
(delete as appropriate)

Signed _____ Date _____

*Delete if not applicable



Notice of motion for the AGM;

That Robert Steel be made a life member of Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc.

Moved..... Janice Llewelyn.

SecondedLynda Larkin

Bob Steel joined the Bushies in 1961. In 1965 he became Treasurer and in subsequent years he was also a general committee member, President (three years) and News Editor. He has been Federation representative for MBW as well as the Search and Rescue Delegate. Over the years he has led many walks for the Club, including many base camps over the last few years. Many Wilky work parties have seen Bob toiling away, installing the last new stove, replacing the septic tank, to mention just a couple of the work parties.

Bob has always risen to the occasion to help out with leading walks as a good navigator and trusted leader. He has always been committed to the club as can be seen from his record. I thoroughly recommend members to vote in favour of this motion.

Janice Llewelyn

Speedy recovery for Ian

Best wishes for a speedy recovery to Ian Mair. Ian had an unfortunate accident on the Great Tasmanian Bike Ride which resulted in a broken leg.

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IMPORTANT WILKY UPDATE

As you have already been informed National Parks has refused us permission to rebuild Wilky. Even though rebuilding is not permitted by the management plan we believe there have been a number of precedents set. The most obvious is rebuilding McNamara's hut; one of the factors here was the perceived public support through letters received. SO NOW IS THE TIME FOR EVERY GOOD AND TRUE MEMBER TO COME TO THE AID OF THE CLUB.

We have drawn up an appeal letter which we will send to the Board of Management of ParksVic. We want you to back up our efforts by writing to;

**The Secretary
Board of Management of Parks Vic.
Dept of Sustainability and Environment.
P.O. Box 500
East Melbourne 3002.**

Email ..helen.gwilliam@dse.vic.gov.au

Every letter will be important. Here are some points you can make.

- Wilky is a unique place to enjoy the Bogong National Park in safety and relative comfort.
- Wilky is an environmentally friendly hut in an appropriate zone.
- It is a place to take children, non-walker friends, and overseas visitors to have a close experience of the park.
- Members of the club who have had generations of association with Wilky please stress this (Pocock, Mascas Hesper etc).
- For cross-country skiing Wilky is a haven away from the crass commercialism and noise of Falls Creek.
- Wilky is there for all members and it is easy for non-members to use Wilky. It fulfils a useful community service.
- As it is a simple hut it is cheap to stay there, important for young families.

For the many of you who have taken friends up get them to write too. There is no reason why there can't be more than one writer per household. New members can talk to older members and find out what they are missing, then write accordingly. We will be getting on to members of other clubs who have used Wilky to get their support. Send your letters to arrive between 1st March and 22nd March to coincide with the appeal letter.

If you have any queries contact Doug Pocock, David Laing, Derrick Brown, Graeme Thornton or Bill Metzenthien. Let Derrick Brown know when you write, and if you can give him a copy of your letter. This way we can chase up Wilky users who overlook writing.

For those with access to the Internet, would you please email a copy to Derrick Brown who will coordinate the collection? Thanks.

Cup Day donations

I'd like to pass on my thanks and a note of appreciation from Parks Vic for the fees/donations collected on my Cup-Day base camp.

We gave Parks Vic \$161.45 (yep, 45 cents) which was more than 60% above the notional camp fees. Parks only have a few thousand dollars per year funds for camping ground and track maintenance so fees can make a significant difference to their capability to do things for us.

I'd like to give a big thanks to those who gave the extra donations, eg, Mick Noonan who emptied his pockets (including the 45 cents) and Jan Llewellyn who kept plying me with extra \$10 notes despite hubby Presidente Dougo having previously already caught me out short-changing her with her fees.

Graeme Thornton

The Selby Socialites are at it again!

Thank you to all who came along to our New Year's Eve party and contributed to such a great evening. Let's get together again for a B.B.Q. on Saturday, 5th March. Starting at 7.30pm at Stuart's Selby home. BYOG, something for the B.B.Q. plus a wee plate for the supper table. Overnight camping spots available. Ph. Susan or Stuart:

Peter and Mary – a new baby girl

Peter Chalkley and Mary Leonard, now living in Ireland, have a new baby girl, Aisling ('dream' or 'vision' in Irish, pronounced Ashling). She was born on 15 November. They already have a son, Jack.

SUNDAY BUS: Kilcunda – Cape Patterson

DATE	Sunday 20 February 2005
STANDARD	Easy/Medium & Medium
DISTANCE	19 km & 20 km
LEADER(S)	Halina Sarbinowski & Lance Mobbs
TRANSPORT	Bus – Southbank Blvd at 8.30 am
RETURN TIME	7.00 pm
AREA	Phillip Island/Gippsland
MAP REFERENCE	Park Notes – Bass Coast Parks and Reserves

The gradings of these walks are not based on any difficulty of terrain but purely on distances. The walking will be quite easy on hard sand at low tide.

The Medium walk commences at the rail bridge at Kilcunda and moves onto the beach fairly quickly. The E/M walk will commence just before the bridge over the Powlett River and follow the river till this group too reaches the beach. From this point both walks will follow the same route. Most walking will be along the beach, however, at Cutlers Beach we'll move inland and follow the tracks through Wonthaggi Heathland making our way back onto the beach at Harmers Haven. Both walks will finish at Cape Patterson where we can enjoy a quick dip or an ice-cream (or both!).

These are lovely beaches with lots of rock pools to explore, sea birds to sight and crashing waves to listen to. These are walks that you will enjoy.

Please note 8.30 am start.

SUNDAY BUS: Mt Tanglefoot Area

DATE	Sunday 27 February 2005
STANDARD	Easy & Easy/Medium
DISTANCE	14 km & 17 km approx.
LEADERS	Nik Dow & Keith McKenry
TRANSPORT	Bus – Southbank Blvd 9.00 am
LOCATION	Mt Tanglefoot, Toolangi, north of Yarra Glenn

Interested in seeing the tallest moss in the world?

These walks skirt the western side of Mt. Tanglefoot and go through tall mountain ash and magnificent rainforest gullies. Also expect to see blackwood wattles, sassafras and myrtle beech trees. Some of the myrtle beech are over 200 years old having survived the 1939 bush fires.

There are more than 100 different species of birds in the area, including lyrebirds. In the treetops look out for kookaburras and cockatoos, sooty and powerful owls, and you may see wedged-tail eagles in the skies about the treetops.

The walks include sections of boardwalks and cross timber trestle bridges.

If time permits an extra challenge is the summit track to Mt. St Leonards with great views over the Yarra Valley.

Yes the moss (*Dawsonia Superba*) is tall, some 8cm, and looks like miniature pine trees.

DANDENONGS EXPLORER: Warrandyte area

DATE	Saturday 26 February 2005
STANDARD	Easy
LEADER	Warren Baker
TRANSPORT	Private

Because of the potential for fires and heat we ran this as a half day walk last year and I would like to do it again with some modification – if possible. Please ring in and register in case I have to cancel the walk due to fires or heat.

Meet at Warrandyte on the Yarra riverbank directly opposite Webb Street (Melway 23 F11) at 10 am. There is some parking on the Yarra and more behind the community hall in Webb Street. The meeting time is a bit earlier than normal but we may be able to finish the walk before the heat of the day.

The total distance is about 8 km. I shall be having lunch in Warrandyte.

TOFS: Eltham Lower Park & Candlebark Park

DATE	Thursday 3 March 2005
STANDARD	Easy
DISTANCE	11 km
LEADER	Jean Giese
TRANSPORT	Private
AREA	Eltham – Templestowe
MAP REFERENCE	Melways 21

We will reap the benefit of the efforts of the “Friends of Diamond Creek” when we walk beside it to where it joins the Yarra. Then we'll try out the new footbridge over the river to Candlebark Park and take in the northern section of Westerfolds Park before finding our way back.

Meet at 10.15 am in the car park inside Eltham Lower Park, Mel 21 H10.
Book with the leader.

Thank you to leaders of Wednesday Walks

Thank you to the following walkers who along with me led Wednesday walks in 2004: Jerry Grandage, Graeme Thornton, Stuart Hodgson, Alister Rowe Jan Llewelyn, Margaret Curry and Bruce Campbell
I would also like express my appreciation to them and to those who have volunteered to lead walks in 2005.

Sandra Mutimer



SUNDAY BUS: Lake Elizabeth via Birregurra

DATE	Sunday 6 March 2005
STANDARD	Easy & Easy/Medium
DISTANCE	14 km / 17 km
LEADERS	Lynda Larkin & Ralph Clayton
TRANSPORT	Bus – Southbank Blvd. 8.30 am
RETURN TIME	6.30 pm
AREA	Otway State Forest
MAP REF.	Vicmaps–1:50,000 The Otways and Shipwreck Coast 1:25,000 Forrest & Mt Cowley

This is a new walk for MBW

In 1952 after one of the heaviest periods of rain on record, a massive landslide carried many tonnes of rock and soil over the East Barwon River. The slide dammed the river and turned a remote forested area in the Otways, northwest of Lorne, into a lake. Remarkably the lake was not discovered until an exploratory party was sent to find out why the river had stopped flowing. Subsequent rainfall enabled the river to flow over the top of the landslide and continue its course, but a large mass of water remained behind and was named Lake Elizabeth after Queen Elizabeth, whose coronation took place in that year.

The first half of both walks will include some steep uphill and downhill sections along 4-wheel drive tracks through a valley flanked by tall eucalyptus forest. We will then proceed along a picturesque walking track to the southern rim of Lake Elizabeth. What unfolds from this point can only be described as utterly enchanting and bears witness to that breathtaking artistry of which Nature alone is capable. If you wish to witness something quite extraordinary, then come on this excellent walk. Remember to bring the usual sun protection, water, change of shoes for the bus. **Please Note: 8.30 am start.**



SUNDAY BUS: Marysville – Keppels Lookout

DATE	Sunday 13 March 2005
STANDARD	Easy/Medium & Medium
DISTANCE	13 & 18 km
LEADERS	Mark Heath & Dion Marriot
TRANSPORT	Bus – Southbank Blvd. 9.00 am
RETURN TIME	1900
AREA	Marysville
MAP REF	Marysville – Lake Mountain Outdoor Leisure Map

This pleasant riparian ramble along the Taggerty river near Marysville has waterfalls, glimpses of Lake Mountain and a sublime beech forest.

Walk leader required

A co-leader is required for the Marysville – Keppel Lookout day walk on Sunday 13th March.
Contact Ken MacMahon, Walks Secretary

WEDNESDAY WALK: Hepburn Diggings

DATE	16 March 2005
STANDARD	Easy/Medium
DISTANCE	14 km
LEADER	Trevor Thomson
TRANSPORT	Private
RETURN TIME	About 3.30 pm from the walk
AREA	Hepburn Springs
MAP REFERENCE	Daylesford 1:25,000

The walk will be among the ridges and valleys that form the beginnings of Spring and Dry Diggings Creeks, two of the richest Hepburn goldfield areas of the 1850's. many relics remain, such as Beehive and Shepherds Gullies, deeply trenched with miners first having to remove lava rock from nearby Mt Franklin, numerous mine shafts and tunnels, also Hunts Dam, source of water for the Goldfields.

This interesting terrain will be explored using foot tracks, 4wd tracks and off-track sections around Shepherds Gully, and between Argyle Spring and Hepburn Reservoir. There will be options to take a shorter route back if desired.

Meet: Hepburn Springs Spa (end carpark) for 10.30am start. Ring Trevor or email to book.

DANDENONGS EXPLORER: Grants Res – Baynes Res

DATE	Saturday 19 March 2005
STANDARD	Easy
LEADER	Warren Baker
TRANSPORT	Private

Please talk to the leader in the clubrooms about this walk.



SUNDAY BUS: Fingal Beach – No 16 Beach

DATE	20 March 2005
STANDARD	Easy & Easy/Medium
TRANSPORT	Bus – Southbank Blvd. at 9am
LEADERS	Halina Sarbinowski & Lance Mobbs

Please see the leaders in the clubrooms about this walk.



SUNDAY BUS: Moorabool River gorge

DATE	27 March 2005
STANDARD	Easy & Easy/Medium
TRANSPORT	Bus – Southbank Blvd. at 9am
LEADERS	Jerry Karbownik & Marilyn Lock

Please see the leaders in the clubrooms about this walk.



**BASE CAMP: Johanna – Cannonball Cove
18–20 February**

All welcome, no limit on numbers after all.

Sylvia Ford

BASE CAMP: Mt Buffalo

DATE	25–27 February 2005
STANDARD	Easy
LEADER	Pearson Cresswell
TRANSPORT	Private
RETURN TIME	Late Sunday
AREA	=Mt Buffalo National Park

For those who don't already know, Mt Buffalo is one of the most delightful spots in Victoria for a base camp. There is an extensive network of tracks offering good walks from easy to medium grade, beautiful country, brilliant views, etc. I have not been there since the Great Fires, so it will be interesting to see how things have changed. I have reserved three sites at the Lake Catani camping ground, so get your bookings in early (phone Pearson on 9481 3451). Please note that the Pack Carry has been cancelled as Bob Oxlade is heading for the wilds of Tasmania.



**PACK CARRY:
Traveller Range – Labyrinth area (Tas)**

DATE	26 February–6 March 2005
STANDARD	Medium/Hard
LEADER	Doug Pocock
TRANSPORT	Private
AREA	Central Plateau

This will be an extremely spectacular walk, hopefully we will have good weather to see it! As this was advertised in the *News* a while ago it is now full.

BASE CAMP: Tidal River, Wilsons Prom

DATE	4 – 6 March 2005
STANDARD	Easy
DISTANCE	Approx 15-20 km per day
LEADER	Paul Logsdon
TRANSPORT	Private
RETURN TIME	Approx. 7 pm Sunday 6th March 2005
AREA	Wilson's Promontory National Park
MAP REFERENCE	Maps will be provided

Hurrah! It's Grand Prix weekend again, that time of the year when nature loving, bushwalkers take the opportunity to head off away from the city humdrum and seek peace and tranquillity at Wilson's Promontory!

Interested? Here's the plan:

Friday 4th March: Head down the South Gippsland Highway to tidal River campsite via private transport (approx. 3.5 to 4 hours travel time, so best to leave well before sunset). Set up camp, then for those who need to stretch their legs, a short return walk to Little Oberon Bay (approx 4 km each way) for some coastal views and a stroll along Norman Beach.

Saturday 5th March: Head off to Mt. Oberon carpark via shuttle bus from main carpark, or private car.

Walk to Sealer's Cove via Windy Saddle (approx 10 km) lunch on the beach, return walk to Mt. Oberon carpark (approx 2.5 hours each way). For those still with some "petrol in the tank" (sorry, F1 term) a return walk up Mt Oberon to the summit for spectacular views of Tidal River and the coastline. Shuttle bus back to Tidal River campsite.

Sunday 6th March: Leisurely walk via Tidal Overlook track to Lilly Pilly Gully carpark. Walk to Mt Bishop summit for more spectacular panoramic views. Lunch on top of the mountain, then off around the Lilly Pilly Nature walk through sub-tropical rainforest with a chance to see some koalas, Wallabies and/or Black Cockatoos. Return to campsite approx 3 pm to pack up and head back to the big smoke.

Look forward to seeing you! PS if all that sounds too energetic, I'm happy to discuss alternative walks with you at the Clubrooms during February.

Paul Logsdon.

BASE CAMP: Round the Prom in a day

DATE	4–6 March 2005
STANDARD	Hard
DISTANCE	45 km
LEADERS	Merilyn Whimpey
TRANSPORT	Private
RETURN TIME	6 pm Sunday
AREA	South Gippsland
MAP REFERENCE	Algonia Wilsons Promontory National Park

On Saturday, starting from the Tidal River shop at 8 am, we'll walk up to the Mt Oberon carpark, to Sealer's Cove, Refuge Cove, Waterloo Bay, across the Prom to Oberon Bay, and back to Norman Bay and our camp sites. Some of us swim at all the beaches (except those with lots of people because we don't wear bathers).

Sunday's walk is negotiable, depending on what people feel like doing. Generally I feel like doing nothing, or going for a swim.



**PACK CARRY:
McFarlane Saddle – Tali Karng & return**

DATE	11–14 March 2005
STANDARD	Easy/Medium
DISTANCE	16 km per day, part with day pack
LEADER	Max Casley
TRANSPORT	Private
RETURN TIME	Late Monday evening
AREA	North of Traralgon, North-east of Licola
MAP REFERENCE	VMTC: Snowy Plains, Mt Kent and Lake Tali Karng, VicMap: Tali Karng

We walk in about 9 km to a base camp for the two nights.

We will start (and finish) at McFarlane's Saddle and walk across Wellington Plain to camp beside Nigothoruk Creek. After setting up our tents there will be time to visit The Sentinels for views down into Lake Tali Karng. On Sunday with day packs we will go down to the lake and explore the falls and swim if it is warm enough, and return past Echo Point to camp. On Monday with lighter main packs we will return to our cars via Spion Kopje.

The walk in to camp is not far so we can take in some extras for delicious hors-d'oeuvres for Saturday evening. A group dinner on the way home is also on the agenda!



**PACK CARRY: McFarlane Saddle – Sentinels –
Tali Karng – Wellington River**

DATE	11–14 March 2005
STANDARD	Medium/Hard
TRANSPORT	Private
LEADER	Leo Lynch

Please see the leader in the clubrooms about this walk.

BASE CAMP: Holmes Plain Area

DATE	11 – 14 March 2005
STANDARD	Easy – Easy/Medium
LEADER	Lance Mobbs
TRANSPORT	Private
AREA	Wilson's Promontary National Park
MAP REFERENCE	Tamboritha / Mooka 1:80000

There will be three walks of Easy to Easy/Medium standard around Mount Reynard, Holmes Plain, Guys Hut/Conglomerate Falls and the Watchtower area. The Snowy Plains is a good area to walk in but the weather can be changeable so be prepared. All are welcome, no matter what camping experience you have. Camping could either be near the cars at Holmes Plain or a short walk north above the gorge. For more information regarding directions and camping arrangements please see me in the clubrooms or ring.



PACK CARRY: Gloucester Tops – Barrington Tops

DATE	23–28 March 2005
STANDARD	Medium
DISTANCE	c.65km
LEADER	Rex Filson
TRANSPORT	Private
RETURN TIME	N/A
AREA	Barrington Tops, NSW.
MAP REFERENCE	Gloucester Tops/Barrington Tops

We start at Gloucester Tops and follow the Link Trail to Wombat Creek, passing through wet sclerophyll forest and Antarctic Beech forest. Here we will camp the first night. Early start following the Big Hole Trail to the Big Hole, all of the brave walkers can have a swim. It will be quick! Back to the Aeroplane Hill Trail which we follow to Junction Pools where we will camp a little further down the Barrington river. From here you get good views over the Barrington Plateau. Follow the Barrington Trail to Mount Barrington then the Careys Peak trail to Careys Peak where, if the day is clear, you can see the ships awaiting entry to Newcastle Harbour. We may camp here or back at Wombat Creek depending on time and water availability. Next morning visit the Selby Alley Hut (Opt.) then follow the Link Trail back to Gloucester Tops. If time permits we will visit the Darby Munro Hut.



**EASTER PACK CARRY:
The Bluff – Mt Clear – Jamieson River**

DATE	24–28 March 2005
STANDARD	Medium
LEADER	Trish Elmore
TRANSPORT	Private
MAPS	VMTC 1:50,000 King, Howqua & Jamieson Rivers (entire route), or Howitt-Selwyn 1:50,000, Tamboritha-Maroka 1: 50,000 & Buller South 1: 25,000 (to cover the entire route)
DISTANCE	Approx 45 kms

This is a rather spectacular walk and hopefully we are rewarded with fantastic views as we walk some of the ridges on the Great Dividing Range. Thursday night camp will be at Sheeppark Flat and after a car shuffle we climb up to the Bluff then continue along this rocky ridge to camp around Mt Lovick. Saturday we join the Alpine Walking Track (AWT) have an option of a side trip to Mt Magdala then over the King Billies camping around Chesters Yards. Easter Sunday we continue along the AWT over Mt Clear, Square Top enjoying 3600 views before we camp near High Cone. Our final day we get to enjoy The Nobs before we descend to the Jamieson River and back to the cars. This is an alpine area and the weather can be unpredictable – we could face warm to hot temperatures or it may be wet & windy, either way walkers must be prepared and carry suitable gear. It is a lovely area and I encourage you to join me or feel free to phone and discuss any issues or concerns prior to your booking



BASE CAMP: Cobberas /Native Dog Flat

DATE	24–28 March 2005
STANDARD	Easy and Medium
DISTANCE	various
LEADER(S)	Geoff Mattingley & Bob Steel
TRANSPORT	Private
RETURN TIME	Tuesday evening
AREA	Melway edition 29 and above: map 623 C10/D10
MAP REF	NSW 1:50,000 Suggan Buggan 8524-II & III

This will be the fourth year in a row that we have run this popular trip to the Alpine National Park. Come and visit a beautiful alpine campsite at 1200 m altitude, only 15 km from the source of the Murray River. It has plenty of camping space, fireplaces, running water in the Buchan River, a composting toilet, and great views from the nearby peaks. There will be walks of various standards, or you can just enjoy the mountain air, perhaps seeing some of the many brumbies which inhabit the area. It's a fair distance to get there, including some gravel roads, but on previous trips they have been quite OK for ordinary cars. We will camp by the cars, so for those who haven't camped before this is a good opportunity to try it without having to carry a heavy pack. As always, the club has tents and other equipment for hire. The other advantage of a base camp is that you can take luxuries such as a folding chair, gas lamp etc.

In previous years at Easter there have been plenty of other people around the area, but we have had the camping area mostly to ourselves. To try and ensure that the same applies at this time of year, at least one of the leaders will arrive at the campsite a day early.

One of the leaders will be in the clubrooms on Wednesdays 16th and 23rd March to provide the latest information on road conditions, as well as details of how to get there and what to take.

OXFAM TRAILWALKER

1st–3rd April 2005

Seeking donations and Support Team volunteers to assist in the forthcoming

OXFAM 100KM/48 HOUR TRAILWALKER

from Jells Park to Mt Donna Buang.

Enquiries please contact
Paul Logsdon

OXFAM 2005 FUNDRAISING EVENT – Oxfam Community Aid Abroad

On 21 December the club received an invitation for members to participate in a 48 hour event on 1–3 April 2005 from Jells Park, Wheelers Hill to Mt Donna Buang Summit.

This is a fundraising event with over 1600 participants and total of up to 4500 people involved. Oxfam need potential race participants as well as volunteers for organization and support teams.

Oxfam Trailwalker Melbourne 2005 is one of the toughest team challenges in the world. It is an endurance event in which teams of four attempt to complete a 100 km trail within 48 hours through beautiful varied bushland. In addition teams must also raise at least \$1,000 to help to support the work of Oxfam Community Aid Abroad.

If you are interested in this event, or for additional information about the event or teams, please contact Phil Vaughan

Trekking in Nepal



I am organising a group to trek in Nepal in April, 2006.

Discover the beauty of the Himalaya on this introductory trek. This great adventure will incorporate the two most popular trekking areas in Nepal, the Annapurna and Everest regions.

22 days trek per person land package
all-inclusive US\$1,500.00.

For more detailed information please contact Julie.