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THE NEWS OF THE

Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc.

EDITION 659 JANUARY 2006

Photos of **WILKINSON LODGE**



Winter 1992

I have been given the task of recreating the Photo Album that was lost when Wilkinson Lodge was burnt down.

I have a reasonable collection of my own photos and some historical prints, but I am seeking more photos, especially historic photos, of Wilky and immediate environs. Summer and Winter. Interiors and Exteriors.

If you can lend me the prints or slides I will arrange for them to be scanned and returned to you asap. If you have digital photos, they can be emailed to me at the address below, preferably in JPEG format. I will then compile an Album from digital prints. I may also make a photo CD available at a later date.

Thank you all Wilky lovers.

Bob Steel.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

8 PM WEDNESDAY 22 FEBRUARY 2006

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. Proxy forms are available from the clubrooms or can be downloaded from the Club's website.

**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 1751,
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:

- 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 1751, Melbourne, Vic, 3001

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

**P R E S I D E N T ' S
C O R N E R**

Happy New Year and my best wishes to all members for a great year of walking in 2006. One usually reflects at this time of the year and I am no different.

Melbourne Bushwalkers is a strong club and is becoming stronger each month. We have more and more members joining the club, some rejoining after a period of time away, others joining for the first time. The club has a terrific future ahead, our social activities are great (thank you Charlotte), the walks that I have glimpsed on the programmes ahead look most exciting and innovative (thank you Walks Committee). In fact, I encourage everyone to check out each quarterly programme as it is circulated during the year and give yourself a treat by diarising walks or weekends well ahead, before your diary becomes too busy. Some of us start off the New Year with good intentions to get more exercise; go on that walk we missed; check out the slide night we forgot; then because of other commitments, the activity passes us by.

As members, we need to remember that the club is foremost a social outlet for people who have a passion for walking, whether up on the high plains, beaches or other beautiful bush locations. Melbourne Bushies are friendly, courteous, considerate and caring to others. We are kind and help each other especially when out walking and I know that this teamwork/companionship will continue into the future. For new members, if you need a hand, or want to ask a question, please don't hesitate to ask another member.

During 2006 there will be navigation courses to assist leaders and we may soon be conducting a survey to ascertain leaders' needs when preparing and leading walks and to seek any suggestions on improvements. As I mentioned at the Christmas Party, leaders are extremely important to the club and we value their contribution greatly. If you would like to lead a walk, or attend a course, please contact the Walks Secretary, or a Committee member.

By the way, we have our AGM coming up in February where you can vote in the new Committee.
Safe Walking

Jan Palich

*Wine & Cheese
evening*



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

WINTER PROGRAMME ADVANCE PLANNING



Get your ideas and offers in

We need your input into the upcoming Winter Programme (June to August 2006). The process is this: Between now and early February we are hungry for suggestions for trips and offers of leadership. Then in early February we hold walks planning meetings to draw up the programme, using the input we have received from you and the input from those present at the meetings. The Walks Secretary (that's me Jopie Bodegraven) and the Assistant Walks Secretary (that's Peter McGrath) then have till the end of March to find the remaining leaders and generally finetune the programme so that it is balanced and interesting and ready to be printed to go out with the April News.

Does anyone have any good ideas for lodge trips and the willingness to organise one? They seem to be popular and maybe we should be having a few more. Any good ideas for winter cycle trips? Then there are the base camps, pack carries and the various day walks. This year we can once again have skiing trips as our insurance now does cover us for it. Please feed your suggestions to the following co-ordinators:

Sunday Bus Trips

Peter

Overnight trips (Base camps, lodge trips, pack carries)

Jopie

Dandenong Explorers

Liz Telford

Wednesday Walks

Sandra Mutimer

Thursday TOFS Walks

Jean Giese

Cycling, skiing and any miscellaneous trips

Jopie

We will be having a Sunday Walks planning meeting on Thursday 9th Feb at 7pm in the clubrooms. Anyone who wants to come is welcome. Just let me (Jopie) know you are coming. No date has been set for an overnights planning night yet.

So put on those thinking caps and get those suggestions and offers rolling in to make this winter's programme a great one.

Jopie Bodegraven ph 94824691

YOUR COMMITTEE



Want to become more involved in the Melbourne Bushwalkers? Want to learn what keeps it going and how you can contribute energy and ideas?

Then join the MBW Committee

All positions become vacant in February and we are looking for general committee members and people willing to take on specific roles.

Interested?

Talk to Jan Palich or Fay Dunn or any committee member in the club rooms.

Newsletter editor required

Feeling creative and are familiar with word processing? Then talk to Ron Hampton about producing the newsletter. A new editor is required in 2006.

Reimbursement of Sunday Walk preview costs – we have a new and better system

The Committee has brought in a new system to reimburse Sunday walks leaders and co-leaders for car costs incurred in previewing their walks.

Sunday Walks leaders are vital to the running of our Sunday walks programme. No leaders – no walks. Good previews are also important to ensure an enjoyable and safe Sunday walk. We expect leaders to give freely of their time to lead and preview, but we do not want leaders to also be substantially out of pocket as a result of previewing. There has been a reimbursement system in place for some time but it was woefully inadequate to the extent that it was almost never used.

Leaders will now be reimbursed for the use of cars in previews at 20 cents per kilometre for distances in excess of 150km per walk. The 150km is deducted from the total distance travelled by all cars involved in the previewing, not from each car. It is only deducted once. The 150km is deducted in recognition of the fact that the leaders each still get a free seat on the bus



The new system works like this:

- 1 The leader completes the claim form (copy attached to this email and to booking lists in the clubrooms) and brings it in on the Wednesday prior to the walk. He/she presents it to the treasurer at the same time as the receipts for bus fares. The treasurer will reimburse on the spot either by cheque or if preferred and feasible, by cash.
- 2 Attach the completed and paid reimbursement form (and the fare receipts) to the booking form and give the lot to the walks secretary as per usual.
- 3 It is the leaders responsibility to ensure that the reimbursement is distributed as fairly as possible to whoever provided their cars for the preview

The new system is being trialled for 6 months and will be reviewed in June 06. We would welcome feedback, comments, suggestions etc to help us in our 6 month review

We ask that all leaders put in claims and that nobody tries to be 'big hearted' by not claiming. This might put subtle pressure on others to not claim and could cause the system to break down. It is important to the long term viability of our Sunday walks to be able to attract and encourage new (and old) leaders without expecting them to be substantially out of pocket as a result of their generosity.

Jopie Bodegraven, Walks Secretary

Thank You

I wish to thank all those who helped with the Dandenong Explorer's this year. This list includes Stuart Hodgson, Debbie Collie, Doug Pocock, Elizabeth Telford, Maureen Hurley and Alister Rowe.

I have had to relinquish the convenorship of the Dandenong Explorers and in 2006 they will be jointly convened by Liz Telford and Maureen Hurley with the great assistance of Alan Hall. They have some wonderful innovative ideas. I want to wish them great success in running the walks. I wish also to show my appreciation to all those members who have helped me over the past five years and my special thanks go to the long suffering and patient walks secretaries and news editors over that period.

Warren Baker



*Condolences to
Max Casley from the
Melbourne Bushwalkers
on the passing of his father,
aged 100 years, on
30 December
2005*

Great Ocean Walk Part 4

December 9th 10th 11th 2005

Melbourne – Geelong – Simpson – Princetown and back again. By the time we returned to Melbourne it was a good 500 km later.

Base Camp was at the Princetown Camping and Recreation center past the small township, and thankfully we camped on the far side of the oval away from the noisy party makers who camped beside the ablu-tion block.

It was a rough and wild night on Friday; some had more wind to contend with than others then later in the night came rain. One person had a soggy awakening thanks to a small leak in their tent but the bright sun dried it all out again on Saturday.

Saturdays hike involved transporting people, seven-teen in all, from the start of the track with a reshuffling for pick up when we finished. The walk was from Milanesia Beach to Moonlight Head and there was some debate over whether it was easy, easy to medium or medium. The majority were of the opinion that it was medium because it included some strenuous walking up a long steep grade. The track was fairly well marked, as one would expect though there were several junctions where fast walkers had to wait to find which path to take. A few said the track was easy to medium and as a first time walker with the club I was

happy to find that no one said it was easy. Let us say that I will not be carrying my beloved slr camera on hikes through the middle of the day. Early morning before the walk begins or early evening as the sun sets I may be persuaded but easy to medium, or medium track as it may be, the Nikon will have to sit it out.

Walking down toward the beach, though we did not actually get to the beach, we stopped to have morning tea near a couple of kangaroos who watched for a while before they wandered off, and while we were sitting and eating other little creatures came to join us and had their lunch. Accommodating some hungry leech was not my idea of a summers day walk and I was amazed at how long the leg bled after the little blighter dropped off. I wanted to stomp on it of course but downing 'trou' in the bush was more conducive to its escape than my finding the little sucker, needless to say I wore Rid after that.

We found some excellent loos in the middle of the bush though they had extremely tough locks and no one

wanted to own up that they knew how to pick the lock.

Lunch on a bluff overlooking the blue and green of the sea with white-capped waves that broke over one another was extremely pleasant. Scrub covered hills with yellow, blue, white, and purple flowers interspersed through the green and the warmth from the sun made it easy to lie back and snooze, which several of us did while others took multiple photos of the light spread of clouds and the sea. A trail in the sky caused by a jet was a good conversational piece at lunch; it's not everyday you see one of those, when your normal view is out of a high rise building in central Melbourne and it stirred me to do the minute or so walk to the top of the bluff; the view was well worth the effort. That we went down into some gully only to rise sharply to get out of it had me worried when I thought it was an easy track, and the rest at the top of Moonlight Head was a brief stop before walking to the cars.



Our time in the Prince-town café/pub might have been extended had they not been booked out for an 18th birthday party that evening but they make a mean milk-shake and I definitely recom-mend trying them. They also brought cappuccino and beer to us on the deck and the com-munal Age, very kindly shared by a generous couple, had a large article about leeches with more information than we wanted to know. That

Melbourne was experiencing a plague of flies more than it had any other year was no encouragement to us for it seemed the entire fly population had flown all the way to the Great Ocean Road for a holiday.

A bounty of food was shared around the fire on Satur-day evening amidst varying degrees of volume. A certain company's practices with ducks was a hot topic as was a conversation one of our members had with one member from a local truck driving firm camped on the other side of the oval. I understand the topic of conservation was not broached. There were a hundred or so with their families and several who had substantial builds and paunches and we were a very friendly bunch of people to all whom we met.

The Sunday walk from Moonlight Head to Princetown took us back to where we ended on Saturday. Again there was car shuffling as some were short walk people and others were long walk people. The track to



Gable Lookout passed through hedges of scrubland which spread over the hills before it entered into a thicket of Ti-tree, and came out again at the lookout. A sign said we would see Albatross but nary a one could be seen anywhere. The Gable was so named because it resembles a gable at sea but it was the crayfish pots that sat nearby, down a steep walk to the shore and a little swim out till one could pull the cray pots full of...yes well we were meant to be hiking, but the thought of hot crayfish for brunch was inviting.

The walk down very well made steps was extremely civilized and they went all the way down to the beach. Getting down to sea level at long last was too much temptation and with boots and socks off I walked forward to test the water. It was icy cold. Teasing the waves made a wonderful change from hot feet as we walked along the beach and the sand was firm beneath my toes.

Morning tea at Wreck Beach by reef and rock pools gave more opportunity for photo taking though I preferred to paddle in the water for what time we had by the sea. Climbing over rocks and making our way back up the hill meant socks and boots back on in time for a group photo at the beginning of the track. Up and up we went but happily not on the steps but on a meandering path. That we passed over a wide track before we found the Great Ocean path again was a marvel and one wonders about the use of a little gadget called a gps. Down hill again and this time I knew it was an easy track for I had been on the other which was not. The group split into those who were going straight back to camp, some to the end of the walk with rope in tow, and others back to the cars at the beginning of the walk. Big black cockatoos with pretty songs to sing were numerous toward the end of the track and we walked much on sand for the last leg back to camp. The heat was 30 plus and we were feeling it; a welcome sit under the shade for lunch at 1pm and a shortcut from the track later we were back at camp.

My thanks to Sylvie for a great walk on the Great Ocean Road track and to the other walkers, it was a pleasure to meet and mix with you all. I look forward to the next walk, which will be part five of the series that Sylvie has led.

Aroha

Personal Health Details Card – a reminder

Back in July we sent out blank Personal Health Detail Cards with each copy of News. Now is timely to remind you in case you have forgotten about it or lost your card. We have lots more of the little green cards in the club-rooms. Here is a reprint of the bulk of the original article

The purpose of this card is to contain basic but crucial and potentially lifesaving information. It is to be used by medical personnel in the hopefully unlikely but always possible situation where you may require urgent treatment but be unable to convey this information yourself. You may be unconscious, unable to speak or have lost your memory. Having this information could save your life or at least make it easier to treat you quickly and effectively.

Vicwalk is urging all clubs to adopt the Personal Health Details Card. Some other clubs such as Maroondah have had this system in place for several years and it has already proved its worth.

What To Do With The Card: we suggest that you put the completed card in a small waterproof plastic bag (a small size “Glad” type snaplock bag from any supermarket would be ideal) and carry it in an outside pocket of your backpack. That way it will be easily accessible to any helper and if we all adopt this convention he/she will always know where to look first.

Leaders: we will have a supply of cards in the club-rooms so that you can give one to every temporary member (visitor) on your trip. Please remind the group during your briefing at the start of your walk that the Club & Vicwalk urge everyone to carry their completed card in their pack.

Carrying your card will be a simple but potentially very important habit to get into. It’s valuable insurance. We urge everyone to treat it seriously and do it promptly.

The image shows two overlapping green cards. The top card is titled 'MELBOURNE BUSHWALKERS INC.' and contains the following fields: 'My doctor', 'Phone', 'Current medical conditions / allergies:', and 'Medications'. The bottom card is titled 'PERSONAL HEALTH DETAILS CARD' and contains the following fields: 'Name', 'Address', 'Next of kin', 'Phone', '2nd contact', 'Phone', 'D.O.B.', 'Relationship', and 'Relationship'.



dare to dream

... adventure awaits ...

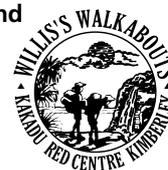
**Tired? Stressed?
You need a real holiday.**

Imagine a place where there are no phones, no cars, no people, no hassle, a place where you can swim in clear, tropical pools, camp under the most amazing star show on earth and relax the evening away by the campfire. Explore and enjoy the beauty of the Australian bush.

Sound good? If so, Willis's Walkabouts is for you. We have been offering walking adventures in

northern Australia for 20 years. No one knows it better. No one else offers tours where traditional **Aboriginal guides** walk with you for weeks, showing you the wonders of their country and culture. No one else will take you **beyond** the 4WD tracks into the remotest parts of Kakadu, the Kimberley, Pilbara and central Australia.

Check out our website and share our dream. **Join us and make the dream your own.**



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

TRACKS, HUTS AND CONSERVATION

Beauty and the Bush – Seeing the Forest and the Trees, David Tatnall.

There is a fantastic exhibition of this famous wilderness photographer at the Monash Gallery of Art, at 860 Ferntree Gully Road, Wheelers Hill. Admission is FREE and the exhibition runs until the 29th January. David Tatnall's work has featured in many of the conservation campaigns here in Victoria, eg alpine national park and East Gippsland.

Rod Novak, Conservation delegate

VicWalk Track Maintenance Group

This group assists Park Victoria's rangers in the upkeep of walking tracks. Volunteers are needed for the following projects:-

Track Clearing

Freemans Mill Track, Bunyip State Park 12 February 2006

Freemans Mill track is a new track being developed in the Bunyip State Park. It runs parallel to the Bunyip River

from the Bunyip Weir in the north towards the Bunyip River Road in the south, a distance of about 5 km. Part of the track incorporates the old Freemans Mill tramline. It is proposed to extend the track eventually to Seven Acre Rock to the north and Burgess Road to the south to provide a longer walk within the Park and adjacent forest.

In August this year a section of the track below the Weir was cleared by an enthusiastic group of members from a number of Clubs. We are now proposing to have another clearing day on Sunday, 12 February, 2006 to clear another 2 or so km of the track. We will be meeting at the Ranger's Office in the main street of Gembrook at 9 am, and would expect to finish on site about 3 pm. Please let me know if you are able to participate in this activity. gandjkidd@nex.net.au <<mailto:gandjkidd@nex.net.au>>. or 5629 8515. Graeme Kidd, Dandenong Valley Bushwalking Club

Grampians National Park

24–26 February 2006.

On this weekend the VicWalk Track Maintenance Group will be track clearing on The Fortress and Mt Thackeray walking tracks. This is a wonderful area located on the western side of the Grampians. Contact Rod Novak on 9561 2407 for further information.

Rod Novak, Club delegate, Vick Walk Track Group

PREVIEWS OF DAY WALKS JANUARY–FEBRUARY 2006



SUNDAY BUS:

Bunyip State forest from Mortimore Res.

DATE	Sunday 29 January
STANDARD	Easy and Easy/Medium
LEADERS	Nik Dow and Fiona Jarman
TRANSPORT	Bus – Southbank Blvd. at 9am

This shady walk will be a good choice if the day is hot. No water is available so bring 2 litres with you. Parks Victoria has closed many tracks to vehicles and we take advantage of this to avoid disturbing the trail bikes. The easy walk will follow the circular route taken 3 years ago by Jean Woodger, but the easy/medium group will join two loops with 3km each way of pleasant walking track to stay away from roads. On the preview we enjoyed the fragrance of the forest, sighted a lyrebird and heard many more, became acquainted with some leaches, used a Christmas present to identify a thornbill, enjoyed the view from the lunch spot and conducted a lengthy interview with a tiger snake. You might like to bring a pair of gaitors.

TOFS: Mortimore Reserve – Gembrook Park

DATE	Thursday 2 February 2006
STANDARD	Easy
DISTANCE	12 km
LEADER	Alister Rowe
TRANSPORT	Private
RETURN TIME	About 3.30 pm
AREA	Bunyip State Forest
MAP REFERENCE	Melways keymap 14 R 12

Mortimore Picnic Ground can be reached from Gembrook via Beenak East and the Gembrook Tonimbuk Roads or, from Princes highway via Tynong Road. The picnic ground is on the corner of Gembrook Tonimbuk and Link Roads and can be easily missed.

The walk will commence at 10.30 am and is a pleasant stroll through varied and attractive bushland. A couple of mild hills and a short downhill scramble will put you in good shape for afternoon tea in Gembrook.



SUNDAY BUS:

Portarlinton – Edwardes Point plus winery

DATE	Sunday 5 February 2006
STANDARD	Easy and Easy/Medium
DISTANCE	13 km and 15 km
LEADERS	Peter Havlicek and Liz Moore
TRANSPORT	Bus – Southbank Blvd at 9am
RETURN TIME	About 7 pm
AREA	Bellarine Peninsula
MAP REFERENCE	Melways: 473-4, 460, 446-5 and 458

We start in St Leonards going into Edwards Point Wildlife Reserve. This is notable for its sea and wetlands bird life as well as its native flowers and bushes. From there on, it is a pleasant beach walk taking in Indented Head and the fringes of Portarlinton. Low tide is expected about 2.30 pm, so we can expect a walk on firm sand. The longer walk will be about 15 km, the shorter about 13 km.

After the bus pick up, we intend to visit Kilgour Estate winery. Besides tastings, there is a good restaurant for coffee, cakes, etc. From my last visit there several years ago, I remember a good Pinot Gris. To all those partaking, surely a delightful return journey to Melbourne.

In view of the popularity of winery visits, absolutely no 'phone bookings. If you can't make it to the club on Wednesday January 25th, members, mail in your bookings in time – else no guarantees!



SUNDAY BUS: Upper Yarra Goldfields

DATE	Sunday 12 February 2006
STANDARD	Easy Medium and Medium
DISTANCE	9.2 km and 16.6 km
LEADERS	Mick Noonan and Ian Mair
TRANSPORT	Bus – Southbank Blvd. at 9am
RETURN TIME	5:30–6pm
AREA	North East of Warburton
MAP REFERENCE	O'Shannassy 8022-1-3 1:25,000

These 2 walks are just north-east of Warburton in a fascinating area that boasts great forests, tree ferns, the famous Yarra River, historic gold mines, tunnels blasted through rock to divert the Yarra so the gold miners had an easier time searching for gold, some shady sections with great colours on the trees from the wide variety of mosses, the sounds of numerous bird, etc

Depending on the water level in the Yarra in February we have an optional 'wading' (well below knee level!) across the Yarra River at a scenic bend and an extra ford crossing for the harder walk.

Another feature of the walk is the variety of surfaces – wide cleared conduit sections that take water from the Upper Yarra Reservoir to the East, dirt road, 4wd track (for real 4wd's), a steep bush track climb/descent, etc. There is also a lovely 45 minute narrow shady track through moss covered trees, ferns, etc.

We debated the walk rating and settled on Easy Medium (shortish but 2 steep climbs, varying tracks and maybe a river wading) and the lower end of Medium (mainly for the climbs and varying track)

Check out Ian's high tech walk preview on the web site (digital maps, photos, GPS preview etc!). Should be a great walk with lots of variety so hope to see you there!

WEDNESDAY WALK:

Clifftops and Beach, Aireys Inlet-Memorial Arch

DATE	Wednesday 15 February 2006
STANDARD	Easy / Medium
DISTANCE	13 km
LEADER	Sandra Mutimer
TRANSPORT	Private
RETURN TIME TO CARS	Before 4.00 pm
AREA	Aireys Inlet – Memorial Arch
MAP REFERENCE	The Otways and Shipwreck Coast This fits in with Susan Maughan's Midweek Fairhaven House Base



We will meet at 10:15am at the carpark on the southern end of Boundary Road, Aireys Inlet, which is on the left hand side after Eagle Rock Parade. Boundary Road is reached by turning left off the Great Ocean Road when approaching the township of Aireys Inlet [Vic Roads 296].

The walk will start here taking us from the clifftops above Eagle Nest Reef to Split Point lighthouse, across the mouth of Painkalac River and along the beach to Fairhaven

**WEDNESDAY WALK:
Clifftops and Beach, Aireys Inlet-Memorial Arch**

DATE	Wednesday 15 February 2006
STANDARD	Easy / Medium
DISTANCE	13 km
LEADER	Sandra Mutimer
TRANSPORT	Private
RETURN TIME TO CARS	Before 4:00 pm
AREA	Aireys Inlet – Memorial Arch
MAP REFERENCE	The Otways and Shipwreck Coast This fits in with Susan Maughan's Midweek Lorne Beach House Base

We will meet at 10:15am at the carpark on the southern end of Boundary Road, Aireys Inlet, which is on the left hand side after Eagle Rock Parade. Boundary Road is reached by turning left off the Great Ocean Road when approaching the township of Aireys Inlet [Vic Roads 296].

The walk will start here taking us from the clifftops above Eagle Nest Reef to Split Point lighthouse, across the mouth of Painkalac River and along the beach to Fairhaven and Moggs Creek. From here we will climb to Ocean View and continue on to Moggs Creek Picnic Area and return to Moggs Creek to Memorial Arch.

There are spectacular coastal views on this walk which compensate for the distance that needs to be travelled to reach Aireys Inlet. Detouring around Geelong and taking the Anglesea Road is a better option.

Remember your sun protection and water and if it is a day of extreme heat there is the opportunity to modify the walk. Those who are coming down for the day might like to stay on and join the group who are staying at Lorne for the evening meal.

[see the preview in this News] and because I plan to go on this you will need to contact me before Tuesday or leave a message on my mobile [0428 210527] to which you may not receive a response or turn up at the meeting place and be patient about arrangements that will be needed to return you to your car at the end of the walk. An early decision is preferred.

**CYCLE TRIP:
Dandenong Creek Trail – Boronia to Carrum**

DATE	Saturday 18 February 2006
STANDARD	Easy
LEADER	Ross Berner
DISTANCE	56 km (42 km if you stop at Dandenong)
TRANSPORT	Car or Train to Boronia Station
RETURN TIME	About 4 pm (Carrum)

If weather forecast is for hot weather I will be looking to start promptly at 9.30. Meet on the Eastside of Boronia (in Lupton Way – Melway 64 K9). Take 8:10 train from Flinders St. From here we ride through the side streets to The Basin and the start of the Dandenong Creek Trail.

The Dandenong Creek is one the major waterways in the East of Melbourne, with its many tributaries it drains most of the West & South of the Dandenongs. From the start of the trail we can see the headwaters of the Creek. From here we follow it to its outlet into Port Phillip Bay. We stay in parkland for most of the ride.

The trail is mostly well maintained gravel, with a few paved sections. It is essential down hill the whole way! We will have stops at Jells Park and Dandenong Park for Morning Tea and Lunch. Being February, if the weather is too hot we may end ride at Dandenong Station, or if you prefer a shorter ride. We also get to check the progress on East Link along the way. South of Dandenong the creek becomes Patterson River, which is reputedly the first man made river in the world!! We follow the Patterson River to Carrum including a visit the National Water-sports Course. Carrum Station is less than a km from the river mouth.

Please contact me at home or on mobile if you wish to join the ride. Those who have ridden with me previously my wish to contact me by email (rossbern@netspace.net.au).

NOTE: I will be away the week commencing 4th February.

**DANDENONGS EXPLORER:
Grants Picnic Ground–Selby – Grants**

DATE	Saturday 25 February 2006
STANDARD	Easy/medium
DISTANCE	12 – 13 km
LEADER	Warren Baker
AREA	Sherbrooke State Firest
MAP REFERENCE	Melway 75 K4

Please ring in for this walk as it may possibly be cancelled at short notice if the weather is too hot or if there are bushfires. We start at Grant's Picnic Ground at 10.30 am and follow Cole's Ridge Road to Selby. We will then walk along Black's Road to Harmon's reserve for lunch.

After lunch we will return to Grant's Picnic Ground via Jackson's Hill, Grantulla Road, Foden's, Neumann's and Lyrebird Tracks. If it is likely to get hot after lunch then I shall truncate the walk and turn it into a half day walk.

 **SUNDAY BUS: Marysville lookouts and waterfalls**

DATE	19 February 2006
STANDARD	Easy and Easy/Medium
LEADER	Dion Marriott
TRANSPORT	Bus – Southbank Blvd at 9am

Please see the leader in the clubrooms about this walk.

 **SUNDAY BUS: Lake Elizabeth (Otways)**

DATE	19 February 2006
STANDARD	Easy/Medium and Medium
LEADERS	Lynda Larkin and Doug Lagton
TRANSPORT	Bus – Southbank Blvd at 9am

Please see the leader in the clubrooms about this walk.

PREVIEWS OF WEEKEND WALKS JANUARY–FEBRUARY 2006

BASE CAMP: Avon river

DATE	3–5 February 2006
STANDARD	Easy
LEADERS	Elizabeth Ingham and Barry Murray
TRANSPORT	Private

Please see the leaders in the clubrooms about this walk.

PACK CARRY: King Spur–Queen Spur

DATE	10–12 February 2006
STANDARD	Medium/Hard
LEADER	Dion Marriott
TRANSPORT	Private

Please see the leader in the clubrooms about this walk.

INAUGURAL FAIRHAVEN BEACH HOUSE SOJURN

Tuesday 14 February to Thursday 16 February

Come down to Fairhaven for a mid-week break, and some great walks too. We've rented a house which will accommodate 10–12 people. If you wish to join us, don't delay, as in order to organise this properly, I need bookings and deposits fairly early. Should we get 10 people, it works out at \$26 per person per night, or less with more people. So come along; the weather will be great and the kids are back at school. **Tuesday 14 February** AM: property available from 10am. Arrive for brunch? 1.00PM: orientation walk to Erskine Falls. EVE: BBQ. Bring a plate to share. Theme for the evening – 'Hearts' i.e. Valentines Day **Wednesday 15 February** Walk with Sandra Mutimer. Refer to her notes in the newsletter under Wednesday Walk. EVE: Pub meal (walking distance) **Thursday 16 February** Free time. Bring: bedlinen, blankets or sleeping bags plus pillows and pillowcases. **You must book and pay \$25.00 deposit by 1st February. Put this in your diary now!** Note: preference will be given to those who book for 2 nights. One-nighters will have to go on a waiting list. Susan Maughan and Stuart Hodgson.

INTRODUCTION TO PACK CARRYING: Baw Baw-Sandy Flat-Mustering Flat

DATE	17–19 February 2006
STANDARD	Easy pack carry, Easy/medium side trips
DISTANCE	Approx 22 km including side trips
LEADER	Bob Oxlade
TRANSPORT	Private
RETURN TIME	Approx 6pm Sunday
AREA	180 km East of Melbourne
MAP REF	Vic Map 1:25,000 Mount Baw Baw 8122-2-4 Bushmaps Victoria 1:50,000 Baw Baw National Park

An interesting walk in this National Park will suit newcomers to pack carrying and regular walkers will enjoy the exploring. So come along and discover why the regulars enjoy a weekend away from the hustle and bustle. Helpful advice available if required

Depart Melbourne Saturday am via Yarra Junction. Approx 3hrs to meet at Mount Baw Baw main Car Park No.1, ready to depart at 10am. For anyone preferring to travel up Friday night I can advise a suitable bush camp.

We follow a ski trail to pick up the main track and pass Sandys Flat to join the Australian Alps Walking Track near Mount St. Phillack. Then along with more views to Mount St Gwinear for lunch We then descend to find a suitable campsite near Mustering Flat, and will have time to explore this lovely area.

SUNDAY. We return to the Alpine Walking Track and maybe explore a nearby waterfall before lunch at Tullicoutti Glen. After exploring this area we cross Freemans Flat on our way to the summit of Mount Baw Baw. From here it is only a short distance following a downhill ski run back to our cars.

BASE CAMP: The Great Ocean Walk – Finale

This walk, originally scheduled for 24–26 February has been postponed due to unforeseen circumstances and will now take place on 7–9 April

Thanks from Carla

My heartfelt thanks to the group with me when I had broken my foot.

Linda (I didn't get her surname), our team leader, acted very quickly and bandaged my foot properly. The emergency crew were impressed with what she had done.

The whole group has also been very kind in offering their jackets, carrying me a long distance for quite a length of time and staying with me as a group. Thank God they didn't listen to me when I wanted to continue walking or be left behind. Kudos goes to all of them. I couldn't have been with a nicer bunch of people. May they be blessed in the New Year.

Thanks to Paul Logsdon as well, who kept in touch to make sure I was well.

Despite my being indefinitely incapacitated, I look forward to bushwalking again. The sites are great, the exercise is good and the people are interesting and stimulating.

Carla

**THIS
MONTH
59
YEARS
AGO**

Melbourne Bushwalkers Historical Section

December 1946 to January 1947 'High Plains'

Even 59 years ago Victoria's high plains was a favourite destination over Christmas. This particular trip covered more than 65 miles in six days.

On 27th December, the group led by SR Brookes left Harrietville at 7.30 am and arrived at Mt Feathertop hut at 12.00 noon where they stayed overnight putting up with very wet weather. The next day they crossed the razorback and arrived at Diamantina Hut at 1.15 pm then left at 3.00 pm arriving at Dibbins Hut at 5.35 pm. On 29th after a well earned sleep-in, the group left at 10.30 am, found the weather had improved and headed for Cope Hut. Along the way they had lunch at Mt Jim [how many of us still have lunch at Mt Jim when we are up on the high plains] After staying at Cope Hut overnight, they proceeded to Ropers Hut for lunch and then on to the Big River Camp, where they settled in for the night and celebrated New Years Eve.

On 1/1/07 they left the camp and continued to Cleve Cole Hut where they stopped overnight and left the walk to Bogong summit for the next day. On 2/1/07 after climbing the summit, there was the jaunt down the Staircase Spur and then onto the Kiewa Bridge at Tawonga.

The leader wrote that it was an excellent trip and that all members pulled together splendidly. He also paid a special tribute to the two girl guides who joined the Bushies, for the excellent manner in which they carried out the trip. The leader also recommended that 1st aid kits be carried and also for walkers to apply sun protection, as two members were so badly sunburnt that they were unable to carry a pack.

Jan Palich - January 2006

WALKS SECRETARY REPORT

Trip figures for November 2005

	November 2005			November 2004	
	Trips	People	Average	Trips	Average
Sunday Bus	4	-	44	4	34
Other Day	3	-	15	4	15
Pack Carry	1	-	5	2	8
Base Camp	3	-	11	1	16
Tree Planting	0	-	0	0	0
Weekend Cycle	1	-	20	1	4
TOTAL	12	-		12	

The Sunday bus has been solidly booked. One pack carry was cancelled due to insufficient numbers and the one that did go only had 5, possibly because it was the weekend after Melbourne Cup. The 3 base camps were well attended. Jan's Warburton cycle weekend was popular.

Jopie Bodegraven, Walks Secretary