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THE NEWS OF THE Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc.

60 cents

Edition 678 | AUGUST 2007

Melbourne Bushies ... 20 years ago

SKIING AT MT BAW BAW FOR THE WEEKEND, 2 - 3 AUGUST 1987

Twenty years ago when the snow season was far more reliable than it is now, Sandra Mutimer took a group of Bushies skiing for the weekend in the Mt Baw Baw area. They stayed at the Rawson Holiday Camp, which must have been so cold given there would not have been any heating.

Eleven skiers were booked in for the weekend, however only 6 skied on Saturday and 7 on the Sunday. Saturday, the group went over Mt St. Gwinear and then finally up the spur to cross the Alpine Walking Track. (With all our fires, I wonder how much of that beautiful track has been restored). The group went along the "green" pole line and then the "black" pole line. I question if that was an indication of the difficulty!!! On the Sunday, 7 skiers set off to Mt Erica and went around the "yellow" pole line and over Mt S. Gwinear to join the Alpine Walking Track and skied along the track for the rest of the day, ending up south of Mt Erica.

Sylvia Ford and her daughter Emily who I wrote about last month, were also on this trip and they skied along the Gwinear Flat area.

Sandra wrote that she would thoroughly recommend a beginners day on Mt St. Gwinear as it was a great place for easy skiing. I would advise that with the "green", "black" and "yellow" pole lines, if you are colour blind, make sure you go skiing with friends.

(Research - courtesy of Graham Wills-Johnson)

Jan Palich, August 2007

Melbourne Bushies ... Snow Programme 2007

- Mt St Gwinear (Baw Baws)
 - » 24-26 August
 - » Leader, Sylvia Ford
- Rover Lodge Week
 - » 1-8th September
 - » Leader, Doug Pocock
- Lake Mountain Beginners
 - » Saturday 15 September
 - » Leader, Mark Heath

Please keep your eye on the white board in the club rooms for any extra trips. Leaders planning ski trips must consult with General Walks Secretary on dates prior to advertising within club.



REGENT HONEYEATER TREE PLANTING WEEKEND

Over the last 13 years Ray Thomas and an enthusiastic bunch of volunteers have transformed the Lurg Hills with systematic tree planting. Box-Ironbark habitats have been enlarged and linked, with birds such as the Yellow Tufted Honeyeaters and Babbblers returning to feed and nest. These habitats also provide food and shelter for sugar gliders and squirrel gliders.

The planting is the most effective I've seen - the seedlings are grown from locally collected seeds and planted in a way that maximizes their access to water and minimizes competition from weeds and destruction by animals.

On 11 and 12 August Melbourne Bushies will be returning to help again with this worthwhile project.

Accommodation is provided at the Benalla Guides Hall (mattresses supplied, byo sleeping bag and pillow); there are hot showers at the Benalla pool and a tasty dinner is provided at the Secondary College on Saturday night, plus spotlighting or a fun bush dance. On Sunday there is a BBQ lunch provided and an opportunity to check out the results of previous plantings.

We meet at Benalla PO at 9 am or Winton racetrack at 9.30 am Saturday morning. Participants should bring gardening gloves, hat, sunscreen and lunch for Saturday.

More information can be found at the Regent Honeyeater Project web site <http://regent.org.au>. There are more (DIY) planting weekends on 25/26 August, 8/9 September and 22/23 September. Please contact Mark Heath if you would like more details.



Members of the Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc meet on Wednesday evenings between 7.00 and 9.00 pm in the club rooms at:

**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



www.melbournebushwalkers.org.au

The News of the Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc (**The News**) is published monthly, and is the official newsletter of Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc.

Editor: Christine Salau

Walk previews, walk reviews, articles, poems, news items, photographs of club events, reports of new gear, book/movie reviews, letters to the editor, advertisements, etcetera are always welcome. However, the Editor reserves the right to edit contributions where space, clarity or propriety dictate, and to maintain editorial consistency. **Note - photographs should be sent as separate files which are capable of being edited.**

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

- Posting a diskette or hand written material to The Editor at 16 Carinya Road, East Bentleigh 3165.
- **The most preferred method is emailing an unformatted text file to news@mbw.org.au**

Closing date for receipt of material for The News is without fail the last Wednesday of the month.

Only advertisements that directly relate to bushwalking (eg gear, maps, trips, tours etc) can be accepted. Advertising rates commencing with edition 674 | April 2007 are the following:

1/4 page, \$80 per insertion (80mm(w) x 12mm(h))

1/2 page, \$160 per insertion (170mm(w) x 125mm(h))

No discounts will apply for multiple insertions.

Club rooms Duty Roster:

August 15* Del, Mark
August 22 Liz, Lynda
August 29* Fay, Peter
September 5 David L, David A
(* Treasurer in attendance)

Next Committee Meeting:

Monday, September 3 2007

Bushwalking Victoria

TRACK, HUTS AND CONSERVATION

Notes from Bushwalking Victoria

Environment Committee Meeting - 25 July 2007

- Alpine National Park - Check with Parks Victoria regarding access for Gippsland parks. Extensive flood damage with roads and bridges washed out eg Tamboritha Road closed at Licola.
- Brisbane Ranges NP - walkers are encouraged to use the new boot cleaning stations to help prevent the spread of Cinnamon Fungus *Phytophthora cinnamoni*. Also, walkers are encouraged to have their own personal disinfecting kits for cleaning boots. Use a large scrubbing brush to remove soil etc. from the tread. Then use a spray bottle with 70% metho and 30% water.
- East Gippsland - Bushwalking Victoria have made a submission on the Bastion Point (Mallacoota) issue.
- Mt Buffalo NP - A Community Reference group have been meeting. They have appointed consultants to report on facilities and for a commercial model for the Chalet (currently closed).
- River Red Gum Investigation. VEAC Draft report released in July. For more information go to www.veac.vic.gov.au or www.vnpa.org.au
- Wilsons Prom NP - Parks Track crew have slashed the bushfire regrowth on the southern tracks and completed drainage works on the Sealers Cove track.

Rod Novak



Cheese and Wine Evening

22 August 2007
in the clubrooms

Reports

PRESIDENT:



Greetings all ! I trust you have been enjoying the first two months of Winter, the cold, the rain, those early morning frosts followed by sunshine and blue skies and fortunately this season (Halleluiah!) ideal conditions for those who love to ski. But be warned to leave home early if you are planning a day trip to the snow fields, as Fiona and Lloyd found out last Sunday. Arriving at Lake Mountain at around 11 a.m., they were refused entry as the place was already packed, which left them no choice but to leave and head back home again with hopes dashed and longings unrequited. Doesn't take much to imagine their disappointment.

For those interested, keep an eye out for upcoming MBW skiing activities at Mt Stirling, courtesy of the irrepressible Sylvia Ford, Bogong High Plains in September with Doug P and Skiing for Beginners with Mark Heath at Lake Mountain on September 15.

Whilst on the subject of Winter, with the cold weather upon us it seems relevant to mention HYPOTHERMIA, an uncomfortable and potentially dangerous physical state in which the body loses heat faster than it is able to generate sufficient heat to maintain proper body temperature. To prevent this happening, ensure you are properly prepared and clothed for bleaker conditions

out on the track. You will be thankful for the protection and comfort provided by thermal layers and good quality waterproof and windproof gear, which is currently heavily discounted at Winter sales around town and down the northern end of Smith St, making it a good time to purchase.

For less experienced bushwalkers and as a reminder for the more experienced, further information about hypothermia, (plus comprehensive guidelines for ensuring you are properly equipped for safe, enjoyable bushwalking in all conditions) can be found in the small but comprehensive "Walksafe" booklet, (produced by Bushwalking Victoria) copies of which are available in the club rooms (free of charge) or can be downloaded from www.vicwalk.org.au/brochures.htm

Thanks Liz Moore, our excellent Social Secretary, for organizing the get-together at the Platform Restaurant in Port Melbourne last Friday night, also for making our monthly Wine and Cheese nights such a success. These nights are invariably well-attended and as such are great for enticing / luring people into the club rooms to enjoy networking and mingling in a relaxed and convivial atmosphere.

Welcome back from overseas Jopie B. and John Fritze, also Gina and Derrick. We look forward to viewing photos of your respective trips with the new data projector the club is hoping to purchase in the near future.

Best Wishes and Happy Days to Everyone

Lynda Larkin

GENERAL WALKS SECRETARY:



Hello all,

Leaders' Database

We lost our beloved Lodge, but we now have new LODGE - Leaders' Online Database with General Enhancements! But I'll just call it the Leaders' Database.

What is it?

It is an online resource for leaders, offering three facilities:

- A searchable index of trips done over the last 11 years (by keyword, year, trip type)
- Retrieval of electronic copies of leaders' walk reports (back to year 2000 at this stage although scanning and data entry continue)
- Retrieval of standard document templates (preview, checklist, walk report, etc.)

Where is it?

The leaders' database is accessible via the internet. It is hosted with the club's website, although it is at this stage deliberately not linked from the club's public web pages. Leaders are sent an access link. Browser access and PDF report format were chosen to allow all leaders regardless of their computer type (PC, Mac, etc.) to use the facility.

We have also recently installed (as a trial) a pre-loved computer in the clubroom with wireless internet access. This allows use of the database from the clubroom without incurring the overhead of maintaining another copy there. The clubroom computer is equipped with a standard (and licenced) copy of Windows XP, so most people should feel quite at home with it. In addition, it provides access to the club's public website, Bushwalking Victoria website, and any other internet facility, although it is reserved for bushwalking-related use.

I hope leaders will find these facilities useful and am open to suggestions for additions or improvements.

Ski trips

A couple of quick reminders to members organising ski trips within the club. If possible, a trip date should be chosen to avoid conflicting with an existing programmed trip, in order to avoid depleting numbers on that trip especially after the leader has gone to the trouble of planning and programming it. As we do not currently have a ski trip coordinator, advice to the General Walks Secretary of the planned date of the ski trip would be appreciated. Remember also that since skiing was reincorporated into the club's insurance policy, all persons (members and temporary members) taking part in the trip must read and sign the Acknowledgment of Risks and Obligations (Skiing or Abseiling) form. I can supply a copy of this form to the trip organiser.

David Arnold

Reports

THE NEWS OF THE EQUIPMENT STORE:

Buying Equipment

We had the opportunity to try out our new pair of Mont Featherlite water resistant overpants in a heavy shower recently. They performed perfectly in every respect except for their ability to keep out the rain. Water started trickling in almost immediately and continued until we were wet through. After the shower they did an excellent job of preventing our clothes from drying out. You would think that we would have learnt by now not to buy anything "water resistant".



If relatively experienced walkers end up with such inappropriate gear spare a thought for the first timers. They may feel the need to buy some equipment before their first walk and are bound to make mistakes. We can help by encouraging them to try out our gear first. We have individual items and a complete set of lightweight gear for hire all at very reasonable rates.

As a further help to both new and experienced walkers the equipment store is thinking of ordering some "general purpose equipment purchasing tape". It could be used to seal wallets and purses and would need to be cut before they could be opened. It would be printed with "is it needed? – is it the lightest – etc?" An extra strong version with profanities could be produced for those who hide from leaders with scales.

John Fritze

We made an error:

In the July Newsletter, in this section, the Editor made a significant error. You may have noticed that there were some extremes of temperature quoted in John's article about stove windshields and exploding gas canisters. This was due to the Editor copying text and pasting it without checking that it converted correctly. My apologies.

To correct the facts:

- A gas canister is rated safe to about 50°C (a temperature which you can comfortably hold in your bare hands);
- and burst at about 100°C (a temperature which could conceivably be reached if you are not careful).

The Editor

SOCIAL SECRETARY:

2 Great things to do with Liz

Social evenings in August and September

1. Cinema night at the Nova

- Saturday 25 August, 6.00 pm
- Threshmans Bakery and Cinema Nova, Carlton

Meet at Threshmans Bakery (and café) at 221 Faraday Street, Carlton at 6.00pm to see a movie at the Nova Cinema that starts around 6.30 to 7.30

There are a variety of movies at the Nova to choose from and people may want to break up into smaller groups. You can have an early dinner at Threshman's and/or if there is interest, have a casual meal in Carlton after the movie.

It would be good to let me know you are coming just so I am not sitting there by myself but you can just turn up.

2. The Surrey Music café

- Friday 14th September, 8.00 pm
- The Boite Music cafe, 470 Station St, Box Hill

The following description of an evening of music sounded good to me: "kirl - five glorious voices presenting an audacious set of high energy music, luscious harmonies and playful adaptations. Ajak Kwai from South Sudan sings Dinka songs about life, love and cattle! With Chris Basile on guitar and oud".

If people would like to come, please let me know, However, I would prefer if people booked for themselves on 9417 1983.

You can get coffee, wine and snacks at the venue.

Please contact Liz's via phone or email

Liz Moore

SUNDAY WALKS SECRETARY:

April to June trip stats

Month	Trip	Grade	Nos
April	01 Mt Blackwood-Blackwood Rng Trk	E/M&M	38
	08 Lady Talbot Drive - Keppells Falls	E&E/M	34
	15 Forrest Caves - Pyramid Rock	E/M&M	38
	22 Andersons PG - Sunday Creek	E&E/M	29
	29 Mount Worth State Park	E&E/M	35
	April Average: 34.8		
May	06 Mt Jerusalem - Mr Everard Cct	E/M&M	32
	13 Anglesea Sea - Aireys Inlet	E&E/M	31
	20 German Trk & Old Tom Ck	E&E/M	44
	27 Long Forest Reserve	E&E/M	38
	May Average: 36.3		



Month	Trip	Grade	Nos
June	03 Masons Falls - Mt Sugarloaf	E&E/M	34
	10 Wonga Park - Warrandyte	E&E/M	47
	17 Bostock Reservoir - Moorabool Rvr	E&E/M	23
	24 Dandenong Ranges (Sassafras Crk)	E&E/M	41
	June Average: 36.3		
	Quarter 1 Average	34.4	
	Quarter 2 Average	35.7	
	Year to date Average	35.1	

Slight improvement of numbers for the second quarter.

Walking is a great way to beat the winter blues...so join us soon.

Halina Sarbinowski

Notice board

NAVIGATION FOR BEGINNERS COURSE

You are invited to attend this excellent 3 day training course which will be conducted by Maroondah Bushwalking Club on the following Sundays

Sunday - August 26, September 9 and 23

Cost - \$20.00

The course will cover such topics as requirements of a leader, leaders' responsibilities, walk planning, walk previews, how to conduct a walk, the role of your whip, first aid kits, what to do in an emergency, who to contact in an emergency and basic navigation.

- Day 1: will cover all theory subjects along with the use of a compass in a nearby park.
- Day 2: will cover how to read contour systems on the map and their use in finding your way through part of Olinda Forest
- Day 3: will again be held in Olinda Forest where the compass will be used for some off track navigation exercises.

For more information and expressions of interest please contact Lynda Larkin.



SUMMER PROGRAM PLANNING

Base Camps

Leaders and
suggestions wanted

Summer seems like an eternity away but it will be here before we know it so it's time to get some program planning underway!

If you have any base camp suggestions or would be willing to lead a base camp during the summer, can you please contact Katrina Murphy.

Contact details for Katrina are in
your Membership List.

WILLIS'S WALKABOUTS

An Oasis in the Arctic Desert

Arctic Summer 2008

80° north
latitude

A thermal oasis in the polar desert, a river that never freezes, this is the Lake Hazen area, **1500 kilometres north** of the Arctic Circle on Canada's Ellesmere Island.

During the brief arctic summer there is no darkness to mark the passage of time. The scale of the land is both **immense and intimate** at the same time.

Intricate patterns of rock, frost-cracked ground, willows and wildflowers at your feet extend out from where you stand into endless vistas in the clear dry air. The animals lack fear of people and may approach closely, curious about your presence.

We are offering a special trip to Ellesmere Island in July 2008. An expedition like this will be a great success with advance planning – **ask for the trip notes.**

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

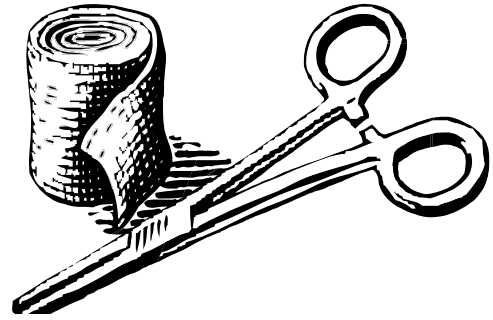
Notice board

REMINDER

FIRST AID COURSE

The First Aid Course scheduled for August 25th is nearly full, as Melbourne Bushies have buddied up with Waverley and Maroondah Bushwalking Clubs and we have had a very good response, with 21 enrolments to date. But do not despair, for those who are interested you need not miss out. We have tentatively booked to have the course repeated the following weekend, Saturday 1st September and have started taking bookings already.

Location: First Aid Training and Management Centre
47 Railway Avenue, Blackburn
Time: 9.00 am to 4.30 pm
Cost: \$80 per applicant, with a generous \$40 subsidy from Bushwalking Victoria and a further \$20 subsidy for MBW applicants (approved by committee)



The article below, "Useful Learning", is reproduced from last month's edition of the Waverley Bushwalkers newsletter. It is a vivid example of how useful it can be to have some basic First Aid knowledge and skills when situations arise out on the track, or any time for that matter, at home, at work, travelling or on holiday.

Note: If you would like to attend the MBW First Aid Course, please contact Lynda.

Lynda Larkin (President)

Useful Learning

I have been retired for 19 years. When I was working I did a couple of First Aid courses. I have used my knowledge - a young larrikin, running at a swimming pool and his mother near hysterical because her boy was bleeding. Then there was a broken ankle at Birdsland.

Last year VicWalk offered to reimburse part of the fees of any walker who undertook a First Aid course. I reasoned, "Why not? It could be useful, I can spare a Saturday and anyway Hawthorn is near the bottom of the ladder and not worth watching." So I went. Ten months later we are near Dom Dom Saddle, it is very windy and cold to boot! Just after lunch and we have climbed a rather steep section. We are well strung out. Voices call out. I turn to see someone on the ground. Joy turns, sees me walking back and realises that something is wrong. Her shouts and her whistle cannot alert those in front of her. She decides to try to catch up with them.

On the ground is Wendy, David her husband, is cradling her bleeding head. She has been struck by a falling tree branch. She might be unconscious but I can see her breathing. Good. Fortunately Beatrice is close by and she has the club's First Aid kit. We must keep Wendy as warm as possible to prevent her going into shock. Spare windcheaters, coats, gloves, hats, ground sheets are placed over her and to shield her from the wind. Several triangular bandages are made into a thick pad and placed over the wound at the back of her head. However this is partly guess work since Wendy has said her neck hurts, therefore to move her head might be risky.

I suggest that Beatrice rejoin the main group, explain our

situation and stress the need for an ambulance. That leaves 3 of us with Wendy, David Barclay who has done some First Aid years ago, myself and Wendy's David. Bob joins us to see if he can help. He leaves us his spare clothing and returns to the main group charged with the task of showing the paramedics our location.

Wendy has cramp in her right leg, at least she can move it and that seems to indicate that her spine is OK. However she begins to shiver and later vomits. David B and myself begin to feel the cold. I wonder about the early signs of hypothermia and realise that if Beatrice had been with the lead group of walkers and we without the benefit of the First Aid kit we would have been up the proverbial creek.

Bob returns with 2 paramedics. They have walked in and reach us about 5 minutes before the ambulance which has been delayed by a locked gate. We report our actions and observations. The paramedics immediately stabilise Wendy's head and neck with a brace. It has been a draining experience but David B and I gain some satisfaction. We did what we could and it was successful.

Walklines lists a basic First Aid kit that all walkers should carry. Do You? The kit is essentially for your own comfort and wellbeing but First Aid is largely a co-operative effort. We realise that some people cannot stand the sight of blood but your kit in conjunction with mine and those of other club members could be instrumental in saving a life. So carry a kit and let the "expert" use it.

Alan Smith

Reproduced from the Newsletter of the Waverley Bushwalking Club Inc, Volume 21 No. 3 July 2007

Notice board

Bushwalking Victoria

Federation Walk 2007 - Sunday 21 October



This year's Federation Walk, a single day event, is being hosted by Diamond Valley and Koonung Bushwalking Clubs.

It will be based in Healesville, which is situated on the Watts River (a tributary of the Yarra) 60km northeast of Melbourne. Healesville has long been considered the gateway to the Victorian Alps, with much of it lying on ancestral land of the Wurundjeri people.

This Bushwalking Victoria main annual event aims to bring together the wider Victorian Bushwalking community and is a great way to meet people from other bushwalking clubs, to enjoy new company, make new friends and exchange valuable experiences and ideas along the track.

Over 20 tempting walks that have been planned, ranging from easy to hard, many of them located within the Yarra Ranges National Park and the Cathedral Range State Park. The list of the proposed walks is reproduced here and is also on the notice board in the club rooms. Please have a look and make your selection.

In order to minimise congestion at the start of the walks on 21 October, our hosts have asked that all walkers should list their walk preferences and register in advance of the day via their Club's Federation Walk Coordinator - Lynda Larkin - who in turn will forward the information to Diamond Valley Bushwalking Club. This must be done before 15 September.

In order to be booked for your preferred walk it is important that you let me know ASAP. We have been advised to list second and third preferences in case first preferences are booked out.

Registration:
\$15 in advance
Or \$20 registration on the day

Please note that there will be no Sunday Bus on the day of the Federation Walks.

We will instead plan a car pool. Everyone's support and co-operation with organizing this will be very much appreciated.

Would all those interested in coming along please let me know ASAP either by leaving a note in my pigeon hole in the club rooms or by contacting me ASAP. It should be a great day.

Lynda Larkin
MBW Federation Walk Coordinator

(s = car shuffle)

Walk #	Walk Title	Rating	Walk km	Drive km	Dept time
1	Mt Riddell	M	12	4	10.00
2	Base – Healesville - Watts River - Donnelly Weir - Maroondah Dam-Base	E	14	0	10.00
3	Healesville Sanctuary - Badger Weir - Healesville Sanctuary	M	12	5	10.00
4	Maroondah Dam - Donnelly Weir - Maroondah Dam	E	9	8	10.00
5	Donnelly Weir - Condon Track - Mt St Leonard -Donnelly Weir	M/H	22	8	08.00
6	Donnelly Weir - Road 11 - Mt St Leonard - Road 11 - Donnelly Weir	H	16	8	08.00
7	Maroondah Hwy - Grace Burn Weir - Mt Juliet- Maroondah Hwy	M	14	20	08.00
8	Dixons Creek - Paul's Range Track - circuit & return	M	15	46	09.30
9	Mount Blue – Toolangi Potato Farm	E/M	15	10	09.00
10a	Tanglefoot Track circuit from Monda Rd	M	16	40	09.00
10b	Tanglefoot Track circuit from Rain Forest Board Walk at Sylvia Creek - Myrtle Creek Track	M	14	46	09.00
10c	Tanglefoot Track circuit from Tanglefoot Picnic Area on Sylvia Creek Rd	M	18	58	09.00
11a	Fernshaw - Morley Creek - Carter Gap - Dom Dom Saddle	M	10	40 s	09.00
11b	Dom Dom Saddle - Carter Gap - Fernshaw	M	10	40 s	09.00
12	Dom Dom Saddle - Mt Dom Dom and circuit around to Dom Dom Saddle	M	11	40	09.00
13	Dom Dom Saddle - Mt Monda - Narbethong	M	15	50 s	08.00
14	Sugarloaf Reservoir circuit, Christmas Hills	M	16	50	09.00
15	Marysville - 3 Lookouts - Bismark Track	M	15	70	08.00
16	Warburton - O'Shannassy Aqueduct Trail-to Ewarts Rd (off Donn Road)	E	12	70 S	09.00
17	Mt Donna Buang - Mt Boobyalla - Cement Creek	M	14	66 s	08.00
18	Murrindindi Scenic Reserve river walk & Wilhelmina Falls	M	12	100	08.00
19	Cathedral Range NP. Neds Gully - Cooks Mill -Farmyard - North Jawbone - Cathedral Peak -Neds Peak – Neds Gully	M	10	110	08.00
20	Cathedral Range NP. Neds Gully – Little Cathedral - North Cathedral -Cathedral Peak - Neds Gully	H	8	110	08.00
21	Lake Mountain NP. Snowy Hill Car Park - Upper Taggerty Rd - Keppel Hut - Gerraty's Car Park	M	16	120 s	08.00
22	Bike ride: Launching Place - Woori Yallock - Warburton and return Optionsal: East Warburton - return	EM	36 50	32	09.00

Member reviews

Brisbane Ranges Pack Carry

7th & 8th July 2007 led by Bill Donald

The weather forecast for the weekend was for showers but who can believe it anyway, so on a chilly winter morning, a dozen optimistic (or foolhardy, depending on your point of view) people met at the Steiglitz Court House car park, ready for a winter walk through the Brisbane Ranges.

The walk started near the Little River picnic area and followed the Little River creek for a while. This was very picturesque and some of us saw a number of Wallabies along the way. We then climb up to the top of the ranges and follow a well established walking track until just before the Stony Creek Picnic Area, where the track became overgrown, due to the regrowth after the fires in the summer of 2005/2006. Before having lunch at Stony Creek Picnic Area we have a side trip for a little way along the Anakie Gorge walking track.

Just as we finish lunch the showers started, only light at first, but stayed with us until early the next morning. Our overnight camping spot was at the Old Mill Camp. Due to the rain, some members of the group hibernated into their tents as soon as they got them up not to be seen until morning. Others of us braved the wet, hoping that it would ease, while we had coffee and cooked dinner. However, even these brave soles gave in and went to be bed early by 6 pm.

As the night finally ended, so did the rain. Some of the group woke to very wet conditions around their tents, finding them surrounded by water. Other had chosen their tent site more wisely. All were thankful that the rain had stopped for breakfast and the packing up, however I am sure that my pack weighed an extra couple of kilos due to wet tent, cloths, coats etc.

At the early hour of 8.30 am, we picked up the track again that would eventually take us back to Steiglitz. The final part of the walk took us along the Steiglitz Creek where we had to do a bit of rock hopping, or sliding, as shown in the picture.

This is a very picturesque walk and was enjoyed by all. Participants included, Bill, our trusty lender, Max, Alex S, Jerry, Claire, Bob, Lesley and a family of four, Michael and Sue (the parents) and their two children Callum and Brinie (please excuse the spelling).

Del Franks



Ski trip to Lake Mountain

Sunday 22 July 2007

After the recent bout of wild weather which dumped a lot of snow on the nearby mountains Alan Ide telephoned me and suggested getting a group together to go skiing at Lake Mountain. The snow and weather reports were favourable. So on Sunday morning Alan, Mark Heath and I set off for the snow. Many other people had the same idea and there was a long queue at the entrance when we arrived at 10 am. Fiona and Lloyd arrived an hour later and were turned away because so many had already arrived. The snow conditions were excellent with blue skies no wind and no crowd once the car park was left behind. I recommend this to you. Costs: \$12 each trail fee, \$30 car parking.

Future ski trips to consider:

- 3-5 August, Lodge weekend, Mt Stirling (Sylvia Ford)
- 1-8 September, Rover Lodge, Bogong High Plains (Doug Pocock)

Max Casley



Obituary

Rose Mary Sill



It is with great regret that we acknowledge the passing of Rose May Sill, a Melbourne Bushie of the late 60's. She was a warm and cheery person who spent many years teaching children with special needs. Rose Mary and her Bushie husband Jeff, relocated to Tawonga many years ago and during the snow season left their front door open on a Friday night so we ski enthusiasts could lob in for a night's shelter before tackling the High Plains. Although they gave up walking and skiing many years ago they were always interested in hearing news of the Bushies and Wilkie.

Our deepest sympathy go to Jeff, Andrea and Michelle.

Sylvia Ford

