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THE NEWS OF THE Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc.

60 cents

August 2012

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Some of the **enjoyable things about leading walks** are seeing the pleasure it gives others, the satisfaction of 'creating' new walks, and discovering new areas. There can also be other unexpected benefits! I recently put a new walk together when I found that my planned walk was subject to a 'track closure'. While doing my research near Powelltown I discovered that **The Bump** where the walk started was the site of a now closed 300 m train tunnel used for transporting logs – for an old stream train fan that was an added pleasure so back I went to find the entry and exit!

The Spring Program includes **Navigation Training** for leaders and other members which is being run by one of our very experienced leaders, Roger Wyatt. It is on Saturday 1st September and will allow you to learn and practice the basics of navigation – a great skill for everyone and particularly new leaders or people thinking about leading, and a prerequisite for good GPS skills.

If you have been **thinking about leading a walk** or initially said 'not yet' when asked, then seriously consider the introduction to navigation training day and keep an eye out for the next Leaders Training Night – we are hoping to lock-in a date shortly. Leading can be great fun and help you gain skills and confidence.

At the **July Committee Meeting** we reviewed our Website with Ian Mair who is both our WebMaster and Vice President. The new Website is going very well, there is a great new feature that allows up to 6 preview photos, and work is progressing on a Facebook presence for the Club. We also discussed our next Leaders Training Night, making bookings on Social Nights less distracting, escalating Newsletter production costs, etc.

Just a reminder that **each walker is responsible for their ability to undertake a walk** so if you have had an injury and are recovering make sure you are up to the walk, **tell the Leader** of any issues that may impact your ability. If you have a slip, fall or accident let the leader know as soon as possible so that you can get whatever assistance may be needed and so that an Incident Report can be completed if there is any chance that you may need to **make a claim** on our Insurance – that's what it's there for!

Federation Day is at Marysville on October 14th. There will be lots of information to encourage you to attend and to select your walk. These multi-club activities are complex to organise so you will need to book your walks **before** the September 14th cut-off date!!



Here's a scene from the Powelltown walk, 22 July 2012

Mick Noonan

**Due date for contributions to September News:
SUNDAY 19 AUGUST, as Editor will be off skiing on Wednesday 15th.**

Members of the Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc meet on Wednesday evenings between 7:00 and 9:00 pm in the club rooms at:

**Royal Historical Society of Victoria
362 William Street
(Cnr William and A'Beckett Streets)
Melbourne
Vic 3001**

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: Marilyn Whimpey

Walk previews, walk reviews, articles, poems, news items, photographs of club events, reports of new gear, book/movie reviews, letters to the editor, advertisements, et cetera 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.

Please send your contributions as unformatted text files by email to news@mbw.org.au

Closing date for receipt of material for *The News* is the 2nd last Wednesday of the month. So for September News, the closing date is 15 August.

Advertisements should relate to bushwalking (e.g. gear, maps, trips, tours, health and fitness etc.). These may be published subject to space availability and Editor's discretion. For current advertising rates contact the Editor at news@mbw.org.au.

Please note:
Next committee meeting will take place on
MONDAY 3 September 2012

BUSHWALKING VICTORIA FILLS ONE OF ITS POSITIONS ...

Bushwalking Victoria has a new Tracks Maintenance Coordinator and Conservation Projects Coordinator. It's Charlie Ablitt from Bayside Bushwalking Club.

To assist Charlie with identifying potential projects, members are encouraged to report track problems using the Track Report Form available from the Bushwalking Victoria web site at <http://www.bushwalking.org.au>.

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the following new members to the Club:

KELLY PHILLIPS, MICHAEL PITCHER,
ROSEMARY MCKENZIE, JANE NEDEGARD,
MARGARET CROFT, CAROLINE GONZALEZ,
GREG PREELEC

BUSHWALKING VICTORIA MEMBERSHIP CARDS

Each year Bushwalking Victoria membership cards are distributed to members. The cards can be used to gain a discount at selected retailers of bushwalking equipment and services (a current listing of these is on our website).

Those members who pay extra to receive a hard-copy newsletter will receive their card in the post with the newsletter. In order to minimise postage costs, we are asking all other members who would like a card to either collect it in the clubrooms on a Wednesday night from the person taking walk bookings, or to send a request to the address below. A stamped self-addressed envelope would be appreciated.

Requests for cards to:

Deb Shand
Melbourne Bushwalkers
PO Box 1751
Melbourne 3001

SOCIAL CALENDAR

Slide nights and presentations

August 8

PRESENTATION – COAST TO COAST – THE WAINWRIGHT WALK

The Coast-to-Coast walk across the top of Northern England, from the Irish Sea to the North Sea, is perhaps the best known of 214 walks chronicled by Alfred Wainwright. Covering around 300 km, it passes through a diversity of beautiful countryside as it winds its way from local village to local village. Always popular with club members, a number have completed the walk in recent years. The presentation from Ian and Halina will describe their trip completed in May this year and will start at 8:00 pm.



August 22

WINE AND CHEESE AND THE BUSHIES' AUCTION

The auction will commence at 8:00 pm. This is your chance to make a few bob from surplus gear and contribute to the recycling revolution. So don't send your used bushwalking treasures to Sotheby's, bring them along on 22 August and the Bushies' auctioneers; Graham and his assistant, will put your goods under the hammer. Further details concerning requirements relating to the auction and equipment on page 4.

September 26:

WINE AND CHEESE AND SPRING IN YOUR STEP FASHION SHOW

October 2: Wine and Cheese and (Presentation to be Confirmed)

November 14: Presentation Himalayan Overview

November 28: Wine and Cheese and (Presentation to be Confirmed)

Other events

LUNCHES: Susan will continue to play social host for lunches. Throughout the year keep an eye on the MBW Newsletter and the website for details of upcoming events.

RESTAURANTS: The club will be organising some outings to restaurants, so keep an eye on this space for advertisements on venues and dates.

NEW YEAR'S DAY BBQ: Susan will continue her tradition of hosting a New Year's Day BBQ.

Kerry McKeand
SOCIAL SECRETARY



Albert Park to St Kilda at sunset,
2nd March 2012.
Photo by Ian Mair

BUSHIES AUCTION WEDNESDAY AUGUST 22, 8:00 PM

Please be advised that although it may be disappointing to some, there will be no actual bushwalkers or body parts auctioned off, however there will certainly be lots of quality pre-loved bushwalking gear if the previous auction is any guide.

Anyone submitting gear would make the auction much smoother if they do the following.

- a) Attach a card to the item giving your name and a brief history of the gear, i.e. how long you have had it, how much it has been used and anything else you consider relevant.
- b) If you want the gear to be sold regardless of price just put 'no reserve' on the card. If you want a minimum price put 'reserve' on the card.

Please have all the gear to be auctioned available by 7:45 pm on the night.

Come along and join in the fun.

Graham Hodgson
(Auctioneer)

WILLIS'S WALKABOUTS

Build Up

Bushwalking

The most **dramatic** season of all!

Our **Build Up** trips are the most laid back and relaxed that we offer – early starts, early finishes and long lunch breaks sitting by tranquil pools. On Kakadu Highlights 11 & 12, you finish the trip with a night on a houseboat. **Dramatic?** Storms come and go – warm rain needs to be experienced to be believed. Frogs call and birds sing. The land turns green, almost as you watch. All nature rejoices in the change.

I enjoy the Build Up walks so much that I'll run either Kakadu Highlights 11 or 12 for as few as 2 people at no extra charge.

Join me and see why I think this is such a special time of year.

Russell Willis



12 Carrington St Millner NT 0810

www.bushwalkingholidays.com.au Phone 08 8985 2134 Fax 08 8985 2355

REGENT HONEYEATER PROJECT THREATENED SPECIES PLANTING 2012

August 11–12, August 25–26, September 8–9, September 22–23

Greetings from the Regent Honeyeater team.

Our 2012 planting season at Lurg is already underway, and you're invited to join us as we restore another 25 habitat sites for our threatened species.

So gather a group of friends and come up to the beautiful Lurg Hills for a great weekend. I think you'll enjoy the experience of working with other enthusiastic people.

To help generate interest, I'm happy to give pictorial presentations to groups to show the ecological issues we are tackling, and the amazing results from the past 17 years.

- Free: Accommodation, Community dinner, BBQ, Bush dance.
- Further details: Where to meet, timings, what to bring etc; see page 10.
- Booking in: Please let us know you are coming so we can arrange the catering.

Looking forward to hearing from you.

Ray Thomas
(03) 57 611 515
ray@regenthoneyeater.org.au

EXPERIENCE PATAGONIA - NATURE AT ITS FINEST

Patagonia is one of the world's ultimate trekking destinations. The sheer remoteness of the region combined with jaw-dropping scenery is what attracts so many walkers to this part of Southern Argentina & Chile. Viva Expeditions specialise in small group expeditions and independent itineraries in Patagonia and throughout Latin America.



TRAVEL & TOURS IN SOUTH AMERICA
WWW.VIVAEXPEDITIONS.COM



FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO REQUEST YOUR FREE TOUR BROCHURE CONTACT:
PHONE: 03 9005 7580 - EMAIL: INFO@VIVAEXPEDITIONS.COM - OR VISIT US ONLINE

Also: Peru * Bolivia * Brazil * Uruguay * Colombia * Ecuador * the Galapagos Islands * and more

NAVIGATION TRAINING Saturday 1 September 2012

Need to refresh your knowledge? Too embarrassed to ask the question?

Does not matter, this day will be aimed at the novice who wants to:

- Understand the basics of reading a map
- Know how to set a map to ground and relating features to the map
- Use a compass
- Navigate on a bearing

A mixture of theory and practical activity near Werribee Gorge will be limited to ten participants, all of whom will receive a free copy of the Geoscience Australia Map Reading Guide and Mapping Template!

Contact Roger Wyett rwyett1@gmail.com to reserve your place.

This will be a car pool departing from the clubrooms at 8:30 am. All participants will need to bring a compass (borrow one from a fellow club member) and standard day activity equipment (day pack).

RESPONSIBILITIES AND PROTECTIONS FOR LEADERS AND OTHER VOLUNTEERS

One of the topics raised in the open session of the Leadership Forum concerned the responsibilities and obligations of walk leaders, specifically in relation to legal liability. I am sure many of us remember the turmoil concerning insurance that engulfed Australia in 2001–2003. Insurance premiums rocketed, new conditions were placed on cover and it became quite difficult to obtain some forms of insurance. One of the areas affected was the not-for-profit and volunteers sectors, including sport and recreation. In response to this the Victorian Government passed the Wrongs and Other Acts (Public Liability Insurance Reform) Act 2002 that introduced a new Volunteer Protection clause to help protect volunteers from being held personally liable for an accident that may lead to injury.

Under the provisions of the Act, a volunteer will not be held personally liable in any civil proceedings for anything done in relation to community work organised by a community organisation where the volunteer acted in good faith, and within the boundaries of their roles and responsibilities. Community work includes that done for the purpose of sport, recreation or tourism or amusement.

Detailed information on the implications of the Act can be found on the VicSport website at <http://www.vicsport.asn.au/Association-Club-Support/Volunteers/>

VicSport is the independent member-based organisation representing Victoria's sport and active recreation sector and Bushwalking Victoria is a member. The VicSport website has a range of resources that may be of interest and use to clubs covering areas such as risk management, volunteer recognition and recruitment, association and club support. Go to <http://www.vicsport.asn.au/Home/>

*Extracted from the July edition of the Bushwalking Victoria Magazine
Mick Noonan*

HAVE YOU EVER WONDERED

- What Jopie and his group did when faced with a GPS (Geographic Positioning Stuffup) as dusk fell on the Razor? (*Issue 591*)
- What Max did to improve on Graham Alexander Bell's most famous invention? (*Issue 585*)
- When did the walker in our logo start wearing a hat? (*Issue 606*)
- Which anti-facist club used the Bushies' former McKenzie street clubrooms between 1927 and 1933? (*Issue 621*)

Well, the answer to these and many more unimaginably important questions can be found in the past pages of your most informative publication, 'The News', the monthly newsletter of the Melbourne Bushwalkers. Now you can browse them at your leisure. The club has started to place back issues of 'The News' online, just the thing to fill in that odd moment or two in your otherwise busy day. Check it out at http://mbw.org.au/MBW_news.php and see what new insights you can learn about the club's rich history.

Also, we are missing copies of issues 1 (August 1948) to 6 (January 1949). If you know of where copies can be obtained or copied we would be most appreciative of your help.

Ian Mair (Webmaster)

CONSERVATION MATTERS

News from the BV Environment Committee

Alpine NP – work has started on a new toilet at McAlister Springs.

Heavy rains have caused damage in eastern and southern sections of the Park. Visitors should check the Parks website or ring 131963 as some visitor sites and tracks are closed or have restricted access.

Mount Buffalo National Park is open for normal visitation.

Cathedral Ranges – A new track has been opened from Sugarloaf Saddle to Cooks Mill, and cuts out a long road walk.

State Forest Walking Track upgrades – Work has commenced on the Walk into History Track in the Powelltown area, with the Ada No 2 mill site camping area upgraded and log crossing installed. The La La Falls Walking track near Warburton was officially opened in June (the track is only 1.7 km to the falls and they are well worth visiting).

Bunyip State Park – The Bench Rest Track, which is the link between Bunyip State Park and Kurth Kiln Regional Park, has been completed by Parks Victoria.

Wilson's Prom – work continues on the major repairs to the track from Telegraph Saddle to Sealers Cove, no estimate of the date when that can be re-opened. Also, the road from Tidal River to the Saddle is still being restored. Tentative date for that to re-open is August/September.

During May volunteers from Bushwalking Victoria were able to clear Tin Mine Cove campsite, the track from Tin Mine Cove to Chinamans Beach and to clear and mark a significant part of the track across to Lighthouse Point.

Goldfields Track – The Goldfields Track Walking Guide is now available for purchase via the GDTA website www.gdta.org.au It contains 36 maps and detailed track notes and is a valuable addition to a bushwalker's library.

Yarra Ranges National Park – Beeches Walking Track (near Marysville) – the bridges on the lower section have been destroyed and there are no plans currently for their replacement; this means the loop is closed.

Rod Novak

Looking for a Walking Magazine to complete your Collection? Or a piece of your own walking history?

Thanks to Margaret Curry who has tracked down all our copies, those in the State Library etc., we can now offer our spare magazines to members for a small contribution to the club (drop me an email to reserve your copy for \$1-\$2) or try your luck at the Auction on 22nd August!

Melbourne Bushwalkers 'Walk' – published from 1949 to 1987

87, 86, 85, 84 (2), 83, 82, 81, 80, 79, 78, 77, 75, 72, 71, 70, 69, 68, 67, 66, 65

The Melbourne Walking Club 'The Walker' – published from 1937 to 1991

91, 90, 89, 88, 87, 86, 85, 84, 83, 66, 64, 63, 61

Mick Noonan

EARLY NOTICE TRACK MAINTENANCE WEEKEND

Bushwalking Victoria are organising a track maintenance weekend for the Australian Alps Walking Track over the Australia Day long weekend on 25–28 January 2013. Early Expressions of Interest to David Miller at davidmiller3199@gmail.com

Also, seeking a volunteer from our club to lead/place this trip on our Club Program. The 2012 trip went to a remote location near Mt Wills and worked on the AAWT doing track clearing with Parks Victoria Rangers. Similar trip planned for 2013 working with Rangers in a remote section of the Alpine National Park.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Melbourne Bushwalkers encountered a large group of hoons at Richards campsite in Mt Cole State Forest recently. Trail bikes tore around the campground where our tents were erected and shots were fired from a gun or starting pistol. The four bushies involved packed up camp and moved out, as no doubt the hoons were intending. The incident was reported after the weekend and the following response was received from:

Nicholas Bauer
Planning Manager –
Midlands District Land and Fire
Department of Sustainability and Environment
25 Vickers Street, Sebastopol, VIC, 3356
DX214250:

'Thank you for notifying us of this issue. I have asked our Beaufort Manager to follow this up and will also see if we can pursue this with the help of local authorities.

Whilst we really appreciate the report the best thing to do in these matters is to try a contact local police or a local DSE Officer while the alleged incident is occurring. From a legal perspective our options to pursue this are somewhat less when we have to act on events not directly observed by one of our officers or the police. I appreciate that getting authorities involved is not always easy late at night or at more remote places, however by reporting this information you assist us in building further intelligence on these incidents and potential offenders.

Additionally you can call the DSE 136 186 number on weekends and ask for a District Manager or Duty Officer to be contacted as a matter of priority.'

Derrick Brown

THE REDWOOD FOREST

One of the best kept secrets in the hills is the forest of Canadian redwoods, *Sequoia sempervirens*, a few kilometres outside Warburton.

The following is reprinted from an entry in the Victorian Heritage Database:

'The Californian Redwood trees were planted by the Board of Works about 1930 following clearing of the original eucalypt forest. Trees planted were: Bishop Pine, Douglas Fir and Californian Redwood. Further plantings of Radiata Pine, Western Red Cedar and Redwood took place in 1960–63. The plantations were selected for experimental purposes as part of the Board's hydrogrogy research program.

The Cement Creek plantations provided small lots in which to study the canopy interception results in comparison with native forest trees in the Coranderk area. The results of experiments are not known.

Why are they significant?

The Californian Redwood trees are significant because of the history and extent of the plantation. There are over 1476 trees ranging from 20 metres to the tallest being 55 metres. They are in good condition and as they are planted in a grid are aesthetically pleasing to the eye. They are a contribution to the landscape by the sheer number of trees as well as containing possibly the tallest and most interesting *Sequoia sempervirens* in Victoria.'

You can find this fascinating area by driving through Warburton, following the Warburton Highway until it becomes Woods Point Road. After about 7 km, look for Cement Creek Road on the left. This is unsealed and a little rough in places, but 0.7 km along you will find a small parking area on the right. Walk through the barrier and there you are. Some great photo opportunities here.

Stuart Hodgson found this article in his local U3A newsletter.

A reminder that to view all available previews and any notifications of changes to walks, just log on to the walks program and previews pages on the MBW website:
http://www.mbw.org.au/mbw_activities/MBW_activities_program.php

**CUT OFF TIME FOR SUNDAY BUS ONLINE BOOKINGS
 4:00 PM THURSDAY PRIOR TO THE WALK.**

Bookings notified to busbookings@mbw.org.au after the cut off time will not be processed and a credit will be issued.

Payment to the leader of the full bus fee and late fee of \$5.00 will have to be made on the day if your booking has not been confirmed prior to the walk.



**PACK CARRY
 SNOWSHOE WALK**

BAW BAW NATIONAL PARK

DATE Saturday 25 to Sunday 26 August 2012
STANDARD Medium
LEADER Ralph Blake
MAP Baw Baw Plateau 1:25 000
TRANSPORT Private
DISTANCE 30 km approximately



This walk will be at Baw Baw National Park and we will be using snow shoes. We shall leave home early on Saturday morning, and pack carry to a nice camping spot on Baw Baw plateau. On Sunday we will continue exploring and then pack up camp to return back to the St Gwinear car park late in the afternoon. The leader will be able to advise regarding snow shoes or particular equipment which may be required for snow camping.

This trip would be suitable for fit and experienced pack carry bushwalkers.

NAVIGATION TRAINING FOR NOVICES

DATE Saturday 1 September 2012
STANDARD Easy
LEADER Roger Wyett
TRANSPORT Private

See details on page 6 of this issue of *News*.



SUNDAY CAR POOL

NEW: MOUNT BLUE – TOOLANGI POTATO FARM

DATE Sunday, 2 September 2012
STANDARD Easy
LEADER Michael Murray
TRANSPORT Car – Leaving Southbank Blvd at 8:45 am

For details of this walk, please contact the leader.



TOFS WALK

PLENTY RIVER, BUNDOORA

DATE Thursday 6 September 2012
STANDARD Easy
DISTANCE 10 km
LEADER Alister Rowe
TRANSPORT Private
AREA Greensborough/Bundoora
MAP REF Melway page 10

Meet in Partingtons Flat car park at 10:30 am, Melway ref 10 J12.

We will walk through Apollo Parkways and along the Plenty River prior to morning tea; then through Plenty Gorge Park to the wetlands at 10 C8 and return. Only one long and slightly steep hill at the beginning of the walk.

Note: Birthday cake will be provided.



TREE PLANTING

REGENT HONEYEATER PROJECT



DATE 8 and 9 September 2012
ACTIVITY Tree planting
GRADE Easy/Medium
LOCATION Lurg Hills, near Benalla, North East Victoria
MAP VicRoads Country Directory
RETURN HOME Sunday 7 pm

MEETING PLACES

- 9:00 am Benalla Ceramic Mural (beside the bridge over Lake Benalla)
- OR 9:00 am in the township of Winton (large car park near the CFA shed)
- 9:15 am Welcome for all our volunteers at Winton.
- 9:30 am Travel in convoy to the planting site.
- 9:45 am Registration at the planting site and start planting.

ACCOMMODATION

Sleeping quarters at Benalla Scout and Guide Halls.
 Mattresses supplied and small kitchen facilities available.
 BYO sleeping bag and pillow.
 Hot showers at Benalla Leisure Caravan Park, \$3.

WHAT TO BRING

Sun-screen, hat, boots or sturdy shoes, long trousers, gloves, rain jacket, hand-trowel.

MEALS

BYO lunch for Saturday, as we will be out in the field all day.
 Hot cuppa supplied for morning and afternoon tea.
 Sumptuous meal supplied on Saturday evening.
 BYO breakfast for Sunday, or sample the delights of the local bakeries.
 Free BBQ lunch in the bush on Sunday after planting.

ACTIVITIES

Bush dance on Saturday night for the energetic.
 Wildflower and ecology walk on Sunday afternoon, in some of our best bush remnants.
 See the fantastic growth in some of our older sites, a decade or more after planting.

NUMBERS EXPECTED

Please let us know in advance the number of people coming, so we can cater appropriately.

CONTACT

Ray Thomas (03) 57 611 515; email ray@regenthoneyeater.org.au



SUNDAY BUS

MT ALEXANDER REGIONAL PARK

DATE Sunday 9 September 2012
STANDARDS Easy and Medium
DISTANCES 13 and 18 km
ELEVATIONS 350 metres steady climb
LEADERS Max Casley and Matt Jones
TRANSPORT Bus – Leaving Southbank Blvd at 8:45 am
AREA Harcourt near Castlemaine
MAP REF Chewton 1:25,000 and Barker 1:25,000

The granite peak of Mt Alexander is prominent in the area and good views can be gained from the high vantage points on the mountain. In 1851 gold was discovered there and it became the richest shallow alluvial goldfield the world has ever known. Since then granite from this mountain has been used for buildings in Melbourne and as the base of the Burke and Wills memorial. Part of this walk is along the Great Dividing Trail which links Castlemaine and Bendigo.

The medium walk starts at the Coliban water channel and follows this through farmland past magnificent old trees into the park where the picnic area looks like a good place for lunch. We will walk in the enclosure which was built to protect the koala population but apparently they escaped and may be seen in the upper branches of the manna gums elsewhere in the park. The walk will go on to Dog Rocks and Langs Lookout and then descend to finish at the oaks plantation. The easy walk will omit the section along the water channel and will be entirely in the Mt Alexander Park. However, both walks climb Mt Alexander, so be prepared for some huffing and puffing, but don't be put off – the slopes are not steep.

If you have done this walk before you may notice some changes imposed by the completion of the Calder Freeway bypass.



WEDNESDAY WALK

CATHEDRAL RANGES LOW ROUTE

DATE Wednesday 12 September 2012
STANDARD Easy/Medium
DISTANCE 11.5 or 14.5 km
ELEVATION 380 m climb
LEADER Ian Mair
TRANSPORT Private
AREA Cathedral Ranges
MAP REF Parks Victoria – Cathedral Ranges State Park



The spectacular rugged rocky ridge of the Cathedral Range is one of its most endearing features and until recently was a necessary part of any circuit walk in the Park. However, this challenging feature has limited access to walking in the Park for those looking for a more relaxed circuit route. With the recent opening of a new link track, the Messmate Track, between Sugarloaf Saddle and the Little River valley below it is now possible to complete a circuit within the Park without climbing to the heights of the main ridge.

Our walk will start at Cooks Mill Camping Ground and follow the gradually ascending Saint Bernards Track to Jawbone carpark, and then up Cerberus Road to Sugarloaf Saddle, a total climb of 380 m. The rapidly recovering vegetation destroyed in the February 2009 fires is still thin enough to get good views of the main range as we parallel its spine to the saddle. Once at the saddle we can enjoy access to the new facilities erected as part of the fire and flood recovery programs.

From the Sugarloaf Saddle we drop down the contours of the adjacent hills on the new Messmate Track until we reach the Little River valley which we will follow downstream towards Cooks Mill. Before reaching the Cooks Mill camping ground our route will divert to the old mill historic site and then around The Friends Nature Trail leading us back through diverse vegetation to the camping ground. At this stage those who choose can finish their walk, having completed 11.5 km. For those looking to do a longer walk, we will continue downstream along the banks of the Little River to Neds Gully Camping Ground for a total of 14.5 km.

To allow for access to cars at both Cooks Mill (the shorter walk) and Neds Gully (the longer walk) we will meet at Neds Gully carpark at 10:30 am, where we will leave one or two cars, and travel together to the start at Cooks Mill Camping Ground. Allow around 2 hours to drive from the Eastern suburbs

See me in the clubroom or telephone to book or for more information.

 **CYCLING**

BELGRAVE TO THE CITY

DATE Saturday 15 September 2012
STANDARD Easy/Medium
DISTANCE 55 km
LEADER Ian Mair
TRANSPORT Private
START TIME 9:30 am at Belgrave Station carpark
AREA Between Dandenong Ranges and Melbourne CBD
MAP REF Melway 75-69, 60-58, 44, 58 and 53.

For a ride enjoying such a diversity of scenery starting amongst the lower levels of the Dandenong Ranges, the lake views of Jells Park and the scenic banks of the lower Yarra River it is surprising that it is not a more frequent part of the club's cycling program. The ride is mostly downhill, starting at around 240 m in Belgrave with a steady drop to 10 m at Flinders Street Station. But if you are thinking it may be all too easy, there are a few testing hills on the city side of Jells Park to keep us honest. For those liking a chat as they travel this may be the spot as I/we walk up the not-too-long but sharper slope.

The route to be followed on this occasion is one of several alternatives. Starting from the carpark at Belgrave Station, we follow the standard paths to Upper Fern Tree Gully from where we will pick up the Ferny Creek Trail that will take us all the

way to Stud Road. Trails alongside Stud Road, Ferntree Gully Road and the Eastlink Trail should bring us nicely on time into Jells Park or Chesterfield Farm for lunch and coffee. Food service can be a bit slow at Jells Park so I suggest bringing lunch with you. (I have yet to check out Chesterfield Farm and will let you know if it is preferred when you register.)

From Jells Park we will take the 'easier' of the Scotchman's Creek alternatives along Sunnybrook Drive, following quiet suburban streets, until we pick up the Scotchman's Creek Trail and then on to the Gardiners Creek Trail and Yarra Trail which will get us to our destination at Flinders Street Station – a total of around 55 km. For those preferring a shorter run, any of the stations on the Glen Waverley Line from East Malvern on (at around 40 km) are an option.

There is a train arriving at Belgrave Station at 9:32 am and we will leave shortly after it arrives. If you feel you need a coffee before you start then the earlier 8:47 am or 9:09 am arrivals are your options.

I look forward to your company on what will be a great run to the City.

 **SUNDAY CAR POOL**

WILLIMIGONGON CREEK (MT MACEDON)

DATE Sunday 16 September 2012
STANDARD Easy/Medium
DISTANCE 12 km
ELEVATION Some steep sections
LEADER Halina Sarbinowski
TRANSPORT Car – Leaving Southbank Blvd at 8:45 am
AREA Macdeon
TRANSPORT COST (PER PERSON) \$12.00



One of the best walks at Mount Macedon is from the village via lovely Willimigongon Creek to Sanatorium Lake and Mount Towrong. The mountain is the site of an ancient volcano and the rich volcanic soils combined with good rainfall have enabled both private gardens and forest to flourish.

From the village we will follow the Willimigongon Creek valley to its reservoir, passing some of the private gardens for which Mt Macedon is renowned. We will also visit Orde Hill Reservoir. Once a sanatorium was located here at the junction of Sanatorium Creek. It was part of the early resort facilities of the mountain. We will spend some time exploring Sanatorium Lake, perhaps enjoy lunch among the exotic trees of the Sanatorium picnic area.

We will return following the ridgeline of Mount Towrong and a steep downhill track which zig-zags its way back to the village. From this track there are spectacular views of Mount Macedon township and its ranges.

I hope that you will join me to explore this eastern section of Mount Macedon with its creeks, reservoirs and lake, plus its spectacular views. Being so close to Melbourne, we will be guaranteed time to enjoy a cuppa before returning to Melbourne.



MOFS WALK

HAWKESTOWE PARK SOUTH MORANG

DATE	Monday 17 September 2012
STANDARD	Easy
DISTANCE	10 km
LEADER	Alister Rowe
TRANSPORT	Private
AREA	South Morang
MAP REF	Melway 183 H7

Meet at 10:30 am in car park at Red Gum Picnic Area, Melway 183 H7. Enter by Gordons Road off Plenty Road.

We will walk over to the Nioka Bush Camp and then around Hawkestone Park and the Morang Wetlands.

An easy walk on good tracks, quite scenic with many kangaroos.



BASE CAMP

BLACK RANGE (BURRUNJ)

DATE	21–23 September 2012
STANDARD	Easy/Medium
DISTANCE	16 km on Saturday and several short walks Sunday
ELEVATION	Small hills
LEADER	Rosemary Cotter
TRANSPORT	Private
AREA	Western Victoria, 340 km NW of Melbourne.
MAP REF	Range parallel to and west of Grampians Mt Talbot 1:25,000, Black Range 1:25,000 Country Roads Directory 55 C3
TRANSPORT COSTS (PER PERSON)	\$57.60 @ 8c/km



The Black Range, west of the Grampians, is a little-known area although the Bushies have put on at least 3 trips since 1994. My first exploration of the area was in March 1994. Walking

along the top of the rugged sandstone cliffs of the Black Range affords views of the length of the Grampians. Wedge tail eagles can sometimes be seen gliding past at a similar height. On the Saturday we'll walk along these cliff tops, drop down to the Muirfoot Track, and visit Mt Byron and/or the 'wild man's' cave before returning for the car shuffle back to camp. On the Sunday we'll walk through the bush to an adjacent minor peak and visit Mt Talbot.

Being a plant enthusiast I'm hoping that there'll be spring flowers out to look at.

Need to take water. Maps and further details about camp at booking nights in the Clubrooms.



TREE PLANTING

REGENT HONEYEATER PROJECT

DATE	22 and 23 September 2012
ACTIVITY	Tree planting
GRADE	Easy/Medium
LOCATION	Lurg Hills, near Benalla, North East Victoria
MAP	VicRoads Country Directory
RETURN HOME	Sunday 7 pm

Come along for this fun weekend with many other volunteers on this very worthwhile project. We will be tree planting in the Lurg Hills, near Benalla with Ray Thomas and the Regent Honeyeater Project. See Ray's article on page 5 and the preview for 8–9 September on page 10 for more details



SUNDAY BUS

NEW: MOUNT BECKWORTH

DATE	23 September 2012
STANDARDS	Easy/Medium and Medium
DISTANCES	12.5 km and 15 km
ELEVATIONS	450 m and 550 m
LEADERS	Halina Sarbinowski and Ian Mair
TRANSPORT	Bus – Leaving Southbank Blvd at 8:45 am
AREA	Ballarat
MAP REF	Parks Victoria: Mt Beckworth Scenic Reserve

Nestled between Ballarat and Clunes is the Mt Beckworth Scenic Reserve. A lone pine tree, aptly named The Lollipop Tree, stands as a sentinel crowning this picturesque granite outcrop, a sanctuary for native plants and animals. Magnificent views and a rich variety of spring wildflowers are two of the reserve's features.

Mt Beckworth is a new walk for the club. Both walks will take full advantage of the trails within the park that follow its ridgelines. The walks have been upgraded to Easy/Medium and Medium due to the undulations that will need to be undertaken by both groups. Breathtaking views of the surrounding countryside will reward walkers as we visit the summit, not once but twice. The reserve is perfect to visit in springtime as it is home to 250 plant species, including 30 orchids. It has also become a haven for birds with over 100 species recorded, 60 breeding locally. Surrounded by large tracks of farmland, the reserve is an important refuge for wildlife. As it is rarely visited, the local kangaroos and wallabies, although often sighted on the preview, were quite timid and would bound away at first sighting.

Both groups basically follow the same routes, with the Medium group having an additional circuit, mostly along a

fairly flat track, visiting 'The Dam'. This group will also have an extra climb and a short off track section.

If you enjoy walking among granite outcrops, or enjoy wildflowers in springtime, or enjoy 360° views as a reward to a climb then you will enjoy the walks in Mt Beckworth Scenic Reserve.



SOCIAL WALK

ELTHAM FLORA RESERVES

DATE	Thursday 27 September 2012
STANDARD	Easy
DISTANCE	5 km
ELEVATION	Some hills
LEADER	Jean Giese
TRANSPORT	Private
AREA	Eltham
MAP REF	Mel 22

We are very fortunate to have as our guide, one of the local residents who has long advocated and worked to have these reserves set aside to ensure the special flora and butterflies indigenous to the area are protected. Lunch in Eltham at the conclusion of the guided walk. Limit of 12 participants. Book with leader to reserve your place and receive instructions to meeting place.



DANDENONGS EXPLORER

DATE	Saturday 29 September 2012
STANDARD	Easy/Medium
DISTANCE	15 km
LEADER	Fay Dunn
TRANSPORT	Private
AREA	Sylvan/Kalorama
MAP REFERENCE	Melways 120 G11

The walk will commence at 10:30 and will take us through a range of Dandenongs scenery and flora. Starting in the Sylvan area, we will walk through typical Dandenongs forest but will also visit the Arboretum which should be lovely in spring. Further details available from Fay.



SUNDAY CAR POOL

TARADALE

DATE	Sunday, 30 September 2012
STANDARD	Easy/Medium
DISTANCE	13 km
LEADER	Stuart Hanham
TRANSPORT	Car - Leaving Southbank Blvd at 8:45 am
AREA	North-west of Kyneton
MAP REF	Vicmap, 1:25,000 Drummond and Edgecombe
TRANSPORT COST (PER PERSON)	\$17



From the small town of Taradale, the walk follows Back Creek, then proceeds under a massive 1850s railway viaduct on the Melbourne-Bendigo line, before paralleling the Coliban River. Soon it enters the Taradale Nature Reserve, where kangaroos may be seen. The forest then opens out to broad views of farmland and distant glimpses of the viaduct.

If the ford on the Coliban River is under water, our challenge will be to cross via a long log or wading. From there, the walk passes attractive farmlands, where unusual sheep and alpacas are likely to be seen. On the outskirts of Taradale, evidence of gold mining is visible. In the town, old buildings are reminders of a boom time long ago.

For the final stage of the trip, we will drive to Malmsbury to do a walk through the beautiful Botanic Gardens, to see another huge, historic railway viaduct. From there, it's not far to the famous Malmsbury Bakery!



BASE CAMP

LAKE EILDON NATIONAL PARK

DATE	5-7 October 2012
STANDARD	Easy Medium/Medium
DISTANCE	15 km and 8 km (19 km if a willing leader!)
ELEVATION	250 m
LEADER	Margaret Curry
TRANSPORT	Private
AREA	Alexandra/Lake Eildon
MAP REF	VicMap 1:25,000 Collier Bay and Parks Victoria

The sparkling waters of Lake Eildon provide wonderful views from the walking tracks. The lake is tucked amongst rolling green hills and steep wooded spurs which offer views to the surrounding mountains and the opportunity to walk in some of the most scenic forest in Victoria.

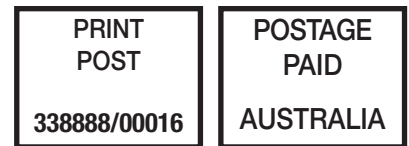
The park is home to a diversity of animals and is well known for its eastern grey kangaroos and birdlife. Orchids and wildflowers are prolific in season. The hills are covered in stringybark, peppermint, red box and candlebark.

Generally the walking is along defined tracks but there are some steep and rocky sections both uphill and downhill. Footwear with a good grip is essential and walking poles useful. We will camp at Candlebark part of the Fraser Camping area for the two nights, where toilets, hot showers, gas BBQ, picnic table and shelter are available. Cost is \$18.50 per site per night and each site should accommodate two tents and two cars. You will need all your camping gear and food.

Bus transport meets at Southbank Boulevard, south side of the Arts Centre, before 8:45 am. Leader or deputy will be there rain, hail or shine!

September 2012				
Sat 1	Navigation Training for Novices	Pvt	Easy	Roger Wyett
Sun 2	NEW: Mount Blue – Toolangi Potato Farm	Car	Easy	Michael Murray
Thu 6	Plenty River Bundoora	Pvt	Easy	Alister Rowe
8-9	Regent Honeyeater Project Tree Planting	Pvt	Easy	Ray Thomas
Sun 9	Mt Alexander	Bus	E & M	Max Casley and Matt Jones
Wed 12	Cathedral Range	Pvt	E/M	Ian Mair
Sat 15	Cycling: Belgrave to the City	Pvt	Med	Ian Mair
Sun 16	Willimigongon Creek (Mt Macedon)	Car	Easy	Halina Sarbinowski
Mon 17	Hawkestone Park, South Morang	Pvt	Easy	Alister Rowe
21-23	Base Camp: Black Range	Pvt	E/M	Rosemary Cotter
22-23	Regent Honeyeater Project Tree Planting	Pvt	Easy	Ray Thomas
Sun 23	NEW: Mt Beckworth plus Clunes Ramble	Bus	E & E/M	Halina Sarbinowski and Ian Mair
Thu 27	Social: Eltham Flora Reserves	Car	Easy	Jean Giese
Sat 29	Dandenongs Explorer	Pvt	E/M	Faye Dunn
Sun 30	Taradale	Car	E/M	Stuart Hanham

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RENEWAL SLIP

Payment to the Treasurer, together with completed form by one of the following methods:

- Cash or cheque on club night (cheques payable to Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc.)
- Cheque and Renewal Slip posted to Treasurer, Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc, P.O. Box 1751, Melbourne 3001
- EFT to the club account. (Account Name: Melbourne Bushwalkers, A/c No. 0058-46013, BSB: 013-006).

Please ensure your full name and 'SUBS' appear on the transfer.

Fees:
 (Please circle your membership category)

Single member: \$45 or \$55*	Concession: \$34 or \$44** (Proof required)
Couple/Family: \$72 or \$82*	Concession: \$50 or \$60** (Proof required)
News Subscribers: \$20	

Notes: * Additional \$10 charged to members who receive their copies of 'NEWS' via postal mail

** Does not refer to holders of a Seniors Card

Name:

Name:

Fill in Address, Telephone number/s and Email address only if changed since last renewal:

Address:

Postcode: Tel: H) W) Mobile:

Email:

Indicate below if you agree details can go on Club Membership list

YES/NO

YES/NO

YES/NO