



A000133X

# THE NEWS OF THE Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc.

ABN 14 396 912 508

April 2013

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

At the **March Committee Meeting** we welcomed Poppy, Cathy and Richard as new Committee Members, arranged the annual 'Thank You' Dinner for the new and old Committee and those volunteers in non-Committee positions, reviewed the online survey results from last year's Leaders' Night, allocated some of this year's tasks (e.g. First Aid and Navigation Training etc), and progressed work on our Club's Future Directions (see below).

As you know we had a hot March with **another activity cancelled due to concerns of fire risk** in the area. This time it was the Kinglake West Base Camp. While the Fire Season continues in to April we should get cooler weather.

**Leading activities can be both very personally rewarding** e.g. self confidence, gaining new skills, and seeing others enjoy the natural environment. It also helps you to give something back to your Club. You don't have to be good at navigation to lead a walk, there are many walks that don't require navigation skills e.g. some beach walks simply need you to keep the water on one side and the sand dunes/cliffs on the other! So if you would like to find out more about leading or perhaps you are already a leader and would like to lead other types of activities such as Base Camps or Pack Carries then see one of our Activity Coordinators or Walks Secretaries who will be happy to talk with you.

Each month I am providing you with information on how our **Future Directions** work is progressing, i.e. what do we want our Club to be like in 2-4 years time? The recent progress includes:

- We have asked our Past Presidents, Life Members, Activity Coordinators and 40 of our other members for their views on the strengths of our Club, its weaknesses, the opportunities and external threats we face
- The Committee reviewed our **Statement of Purpose** which appears in our Rules and governs our activities (see below) and decided that it still represents what we do but needs to be complimented with more specific objectives.

'The purposes for which the association is established are:

1. To bring together those who enjoy bushwalking and related outdoor activities.
2. To encourage an appreciation of the wild life and natural beauty of this country and to assist in its preservation.
3. To organise walking tours and other outdoor activities.
4. To promote social activity among the members.'

If you have not read our Club's history from the 1940's to the 1980's borrow **'The Melbourne Bushies: Fifty Years Along the Track'** from the Library or buy one for just \$5 in the Clubrooms.

**Bushwalking Victoria get a lot of their money from State Government grants** for which they now need to demonstrate the number of people who go bushwalking and where. We, like other clubs, provide information on our official activities; however if you walk with friends, do a walk preview, etc **please fill out the online survey** ([www.wherewewalk.org.au](http://www.wherewewalk.org.au)) with details of any walks you have done this year up to the end of May – there are regular prizes to be won!. The Bushwalking Victoria adverts for this and information on where to walk are in *News*.

### Reminders for this month:

1. **Membership fees are now due** and need to be paid by the end of May so please maintain your membership and renew early!
2. **Carry your Green Health Details Card with you when walking** – if you do not have one or have lost it, pick one up next time you are in the Clubrooms or email one of the Committee.
3. The interclub base camp I recommended last month with the **Peregrine Walking Club to Bryce's Gorge has been deferred to 15-19 April**. We should support activities with other Walking Clubs.  
So enjoy walking, cycling, skiing etc in the cooler weather, have a look at Winter Activity Program to see what can entice you out!

Mick Noonan

**Due date for contributions to May News: Wednesday 17 April**

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](http://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](mailto:news@mbw.org.au)**

**Closing date for receipt of material for *The News* is the 2nd last Wednesday of the month. So for November News, the closing date is 17 April.**

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](mailto:news@mbw.org.au).

Please note:  
Next committee meeting will take place on  
**Monday 6 May 2013**

## VALE MARTHA DONATH

In February I was informed of the death in Brisbane, at age 101, of Martha, the second wife of the late Egon Donath who had founded the Melbourne Bushwalkers. Martha Donath, who was a survivor of the Holocaust in Europe, had been a friend of Egon's way back in their teenage years in Vienna. She had been in good shape until a few weeks before her death.

With kindest regards to all the Bushwalkers.

*Horst Eisfelder*

## NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the following new members to the Club:

Shanshan Kou  
Hang Kay Mar  
John Bradshaw  
Pik Tan  
Graeme Robinson  
Ellie Kim  
Cassandra Pace



Lunch at Sasa's

Thursday, 2 May

One o'clock

173 Riversdale Road, Hawthorn  
(Between Kooyongkoot and Auburn Roads)

Book with Susan Maughan by 30th April

0478 504 441 [susanmaughanoz@hotmail.com](mailto:susanmaughanoz@hotmail.com)

Note BYO, \$4.00 corkage [info@sasacafe.com.au](mailto:info@sasacafe.com.au)

### FEEDBACK ON ITEMS RAISED AT THE NOVEMBER 2012 LEADERS' NIGHT

#### Booking Campsites

A situation can occur in planning a walk where space at the chosen campsite or huts cannot be agreed. Some sites can be booked e.g. the Prom, Great Ocean Walk, etc.; however most cannot, e.g. in the Grampians, High Country, etc. Sometimes nothing can be done about this other than get there early!

Some general guidance:

- If possible avoid small sites with public access, e.g. cars, 4WDs
- See if there are suitable nearby alternatives or overflow sites
- If small huts are planned to be used take some tents as well

Despite the fact that most sites cannot be booked we seldom have these sorts of problems.

#### Enough Drivers for Sunday Car Pool Walks?

The person responsible for Sunday Walk bookings will assist the Leader to ensure that there are enough cars. We ask people who book electronically to say if they are a passenger or driver and follow them up as needed if they don't do this. Stand-by drivers are arranged where possible. We recently reminded drivers of their responsibility to ensure that once they have agreed to drive that they need to drive as agreed. Should that not be possible then they must advise the Leader as soon as possible before the walk.

#### Leaders' Liabilities

There will be an article in the May News discussing this in detail. Note that our Club Insurance which is arranged through Bushwalking Victoria includes Public Liability Insurance that covers our volunteers, including Leaders and Whips.

#### Other Information from the Leaders' Night

- The **information and slides presented** on the night are available for all Leaders as a download on the Leaders' Database.
- The **information on Maps** including how to find a map and the new 1:30k maps are in a download on the Website for all members and on Facebook

Thanks to all those who provided feedback using the online survey. It will be very helpful in planning future leaders' training.

**THE WILDERNESS SHOP**  
**969 WHITEHORSE ROAD, BOX HILL**  
**PHONE 9898 3742**  
**[www.wildernessshop.com.au](http://www.wildernessshop.com.au)**

### **Annual MEGA BUYING NIGHT**

for Melbourne Bushies

**Monday 6th May 6–9pm**

20% off regular prices, 5% off sale items  
FREE nibbles, pizza, beer and soft drinks  
Lucky Door Prize!!!!

### **HELP WANTED – SOCIAL ACTIVITIES**

I am seeking the assistance of one or two people who may be interested in helping Susan and myself with managing social activities. These are non-committee positions and you can do as much or as little as you wish.

The aim is to have people who can provide back up for hosting a wine and cheese evening or people who are interested in being part of a team organising a range of other social activities.

*Kerry McKeand*  
*MBW Social Secretary*

## MELBOURNE BUSHWALKERS NON COMMITTEE POSITIONS 2013

Asst. Sunday Walks Secretary .....	Del Franks
Auditors .....	Richard Hanson, John Boyd
Conservation Officer.....	Deb Shand
Club Email Contact .....	Mark Heath
Database Administrator.....	Chris Schirlinger
Equipment Officer .....	John Fritze
First Aid kits.....	Carol Sissons
Library .....	Cecily Hunter
Maps Officer.....	Mark Heath
Navigation Training.....	Roger Wyatt
Newsletter Editor.....	Merilyn Whimpey
Regent Honeyeater, Tree Planting.....	Michael Murray
Social Sub Committee .....	Susan Maughan, <i>2 x Vacancies</i>
Training Officer .....	<b>Vacant</b>
Website and Facebook Manager .....	Ian Mair

### Activity Co-ordinators

Base Camp/Lodge .....	Wendy Fortington
Cycling.....	Ross Berner
Dandenongs Explorer.....	Maureen Hurley
MOFs/TOFs/Social .....	Jean Giese, Alister Rowe
Pack Carry.....	Jopie Bodegraven
Wednesday Walks .....	Ed Neff

### Bushwalking Victoria

BWV Delegate .....	Michael Noonan
Bush Search and Rescue Coordinator	David Laing

**BSAR Members** ..... David Laing, Derrick Brown, Gina Hopkins, Jopie Bodegraven,  
Bill Metzenthien, Mick Noonan, Roger Wyatt, Diane Woodcroft

**Committee Duty Roster Helpers** ..... Max Casley, Wendy Fortington, Diane Woodcroft, Jopie Bodegraven,  
Fiona Kelly, Susan Maughan, Graham Hodgson, Margaret Curry,  
Fay Dunn, Sue Haviland, Michael Murray, Deb Shand

**Club Emergency Contacts**..... Graham and Sue Errey  
Jim and Libby Marsden



## ENVIRONMENTAL EVENTS – APRIL 2013

### BOGONG HIGH PLAINS WILLOW HUNT 13–14 APRIL

This event organised by Bushwalking Victoria was originally scheduled for Australia Day weekend but was cancelled due to bushfires in the area. It has now been rescheduled as follows and more helpers are needed. Accommodation is courtesy of Parks Victoria in a ski lodge at Falls Creek, and BBQ dinner on Saturday night is provided. If you are interested contact Deb Shand at [deb.shand@bigpond.com](mailto:deb.shand@bigpond.com) and I will pass your details on to the organisers – I will be going. If a few people from the club can come we will try and organise carpooling.

Each year we Bushwalkers take to the High Country as guests of Parks Victoria. We walk across this countryside to reduce the impact of the willows that have spread from a small planting. We enjoy this wide land and the rugged beauty through which we walk.

### You are needed on 13–14 April.

If you are interested please contact Charlie on [charlifablitt31@gmail.com](mailto:charlifablitt31@gmail.com)

### REGENT HONEYEATER NEST BOX WEEKENDS 20–21 APRIL and 18–19 MAY



Full details were in last newsletter, but here they are again. Contact Deb (details above) if you are interested in attending and we can maybe organize a group of Bushies to go together on one or both of these weekends.

**It's on again!** Here's a superb opportunity to see our beautiful little gliders as they rest up for the day in our nest boxes....

...and with nearly 400 nest boxes to inspect, you're sure to have some delightful sights!

Come and join us for a weekend of fun, fascination, and friendly company, as you work with other volunteers to see who is at home in the boxes, gain some insight about the effects of this serious drought, and think about what we can do to assist the wildlife....

**Contact:** Ray Thomas  
Regent Honeyeater Project  
(03) 57 611 515

[ray@regenthoneyeater.org.au](mailto:ray@regenthoneyeater.org.au)



### Nest box weekend, 2012

Attendees are split into groups with defined survey areas and detailed notes and survey forms. Our team included family group, and keen VMTC walkers, Greg, Linda, Hannah and Katie.

Photo by Ian Mair

# 2013

## Social Calendar

Wine & Cheese Evenings, Presentations, Restaurants & Other Fun Activities



30 Nov 2012:  
Social Walk with Dinner in St Kilda  
Susan ran an experiment to see how many  
Bushies she could coax into a rotunda.  
Photo by Ian Mair

### Wednesday Evenings in the Club Rooms - Wine & Cheese

Presentations starting at 8.00pm

#### March 27 Wine & Cheese – Presentation Walking in Corsica By Mick Noonan

Some people say Corsica has the best walking in Europe. In 2010 Mick Noonan & Carol Corrigan walked along the Corsican western coast (Mare e Monti) and then across the middle of Corsica (Mare-Mare Nord), so come along and decide for yourself!

#### April 24 Wine & Cheese – Presentation "Trekking the Buri Gandakhi gorge at the foot of Manaslu" by Ian Mair

The Buri Gandakhi gorge is narrow with sheer cliffs on either side. Share the experience as Ian Mair takes us along winding riverside paths, through forest glades and across high suspension bridges as the trail winds its way from village to village to the river's upper reaches. Catch glimpses of the harshness and beauty of the country and its people as you come to appreciate some of the reasons why Nepal repeatedly draws trekkers back for more. Hear of the anguish as the rigours of altitude take their toll.

#### May 22 Wine & Cheese and Bushies' Bakeoff

Bake your best bush recipe whether it be damper or bush cup cakes (whatever these may look like) and enter your yummy bites in our bakeoff. Our panel of expert chefs will do a taste test and award numerous prizes on the evening. There will be a peoples' choice award so bake enough for the judges and others to taste.

## Been Walking?

Tell us about your walk?

Fill in a short online survey each time you walk in Victoria

[www.wherewewalk.org.au](http://www.wherewewalk.org.au)

Your feedback will help us make Bushwalking Better

Prizes awarded regularly until May 2013

Please help us to help you!

**Bushwalking Victoria**

**Parks VICTORIA**  
Healthy Parks Healthy People!

[www.bushwalkingvictoria.org.au](http://www.bushwalkingvictoria.org.au)



### MAKING OUR HISTORY MORE ACCESSIBLE

As the club embarks on another cycle of planning for its future, as outlined by the President in last month's News, it is also important to recognize our past and how we have arrived at what we are today. Those of you who were part of it or have read *The Melbourne Bushies – Fifty years along the track*, covering the years 1940–1990, will know what a fascinating history it is, full of engaging characters, memorable adventures and a place where life-long friendships have been forged. It is no less so today.

We are fortunate that the club has had its share of dedicated members who have given their time to ensuring the club has good records across the years, both in club and personal files. Now that we are fully immersed in the digital age it is opportune to make these records more accessible, whether it is simply to ensure their preservation or to provide easier access to those current and former members who would like to share some of their experiences with family and friends.

The initial focus is on three primary sources:

- (a) *The News*, the club's newsletter published monthly since 1948. Work on scanning these and making them presentable for online browsing is underway and a number of copies are already accessible at: [http://mbw.org.au/MBW\\_news.php](http://mbw.org.au/MBW_news.php) (We would be pleased to hear from anyone having unbound copies from 1954 to 1966 that we may borrow and scan.)
- (b) *Walk*, the club's journal published annually from 1949 to 1987. Digitised copies may be found at: [http://mbw.org.au/MBW\\_walk\\_magazine.php](http://mbw.org.au/MBW_walk_magazine.php) and the complete set will be added progressively.
- (c) Old Photographs and Slides. With well over 400 old images already online, and expanding weekly, the Photogallery Archive is attracting a lot of interest (<http://mbw.org.au/zenphoto/Archive/>). Browsing through the years is a great way to fill in a few hours whilst refreshing memories of former activities, colleagues and friends. In a measured way we are making contact with current and former members to seek access to their collections, however, we would be pleased to hear from anyone with old photos or slides they feel would be of interest. We can even help with the scanning.

#### Horst Eisfelder – Photographer

It is natural when checking into the Photogallery Archive to jump quickly to the earlier photos on file. We are fortunate to have an outstanding collection from the archives of Horst Eisfelder although few will recall his time with the club. He was only a member from April 1948 to 1956, but during that short period took many photos which he assembled into albums to share with fellow club members.

Horst was a keen photographer from an early age whilst living with his parents in Shanghai, China, where they migrated from Berlin, Germany, as refugees in 1938. He first took up photography as a hobby in 1941 using his brother's Agfa box camera. His photographs and documented history from that period have won him international recognition. The family moved to Australia in July 1947.

In Australia Horst worked in the printing trade, specializing in colour correction for colour printing. His introduction to Melbourne Bushwalkers came in 1948 through a friend from the CSIRO Division of Forestry Products which Horst recalls was the place of employment of around 10% of the membership at that time. He soon became active through participating in and leading walks and also served a period as Assistant Walks Secretary. His first pack, complete with a bamboo frame, was custom hand-made by former club Secretary Frank Pitt.

Horst's first camera was a 6 × 9 cm Voigtlander folding camera using full-frame 120 film, with no flash synchronization nor auto-focus. This probably contributed to his preference to shoot only with available light, even for shots around the campfire. Later, around late 1945/early 1946 he acquired a Japanese 'half-frame' 120 film camera and in 1955 purchased a 35 mm colour camera, but his preference for black and white remained, processing his own negatives and printing until the late-1960s.

Horst, now aged 87, lives in Melbourne with his wife Greta, whom he met in 1957, and retains his spirit of adventure and interest in walking, still meeting every three months with other former members of the club.



Horst Eisfelder in front of hut at Cynthia Bay, January 1951 (Horst Eisfelder Collection)

### WARRNAMBOOL TO PORT FAIRY RAIL TRAIL

We drove to Koroit on Friday and arrived at dinner time, had takeaway, then off to the caravan park which was our base for the next three days to pitch the tents.

On Saturday we got up with the sun and in no time we were ready for the ride east to Warrnambool. It was mostly down hill on a well formed trail and took us along board walks, back roads, near sand dunes and a shared path beside a slow flowing river, then onto the waterfront which took us to the whale watching platform. Pity it was the wrong time of the year. Back then to have lunch near the surf club and a refreshing swim in the surf. After the swim it was back on the bikes for a casual ride back to Koroit and the local IGA for beer and nibbles to have at the caravan park before going off to the pub for dinner.

On Sunday it was west to Port Fairy. We took back roads that overlooked the Tower Hill crater, then through dry flat farm land and on to the trail into Port Fairy where the folk festival was in full swing. We cruised around town on the bikes checking out the sites and you would not believe that in the thousands of people there, we just happened to bump in to a fellow bush walker who kindly offered a cold drink at a house she and another member were staying at for the weekend. Refreshed after our drink it was onto the trail back to Koroit and a cold beer at the caravan park.

Monday was going to be a hot one so it was gear into the car before a short ride to Tower Hill Reserve, an extinct volcano. We walked around an old crater then rode back to the car for lunch and put our bikes on the rack for the drive home. Thanks to the leader Del for a well organised long weekend and the company of Del and Bob for an enjoyable and fun time.

PS. Bob has a new car and the report from the back seat is that it is very comfortable and the air con works well!

*Philip Brown.*

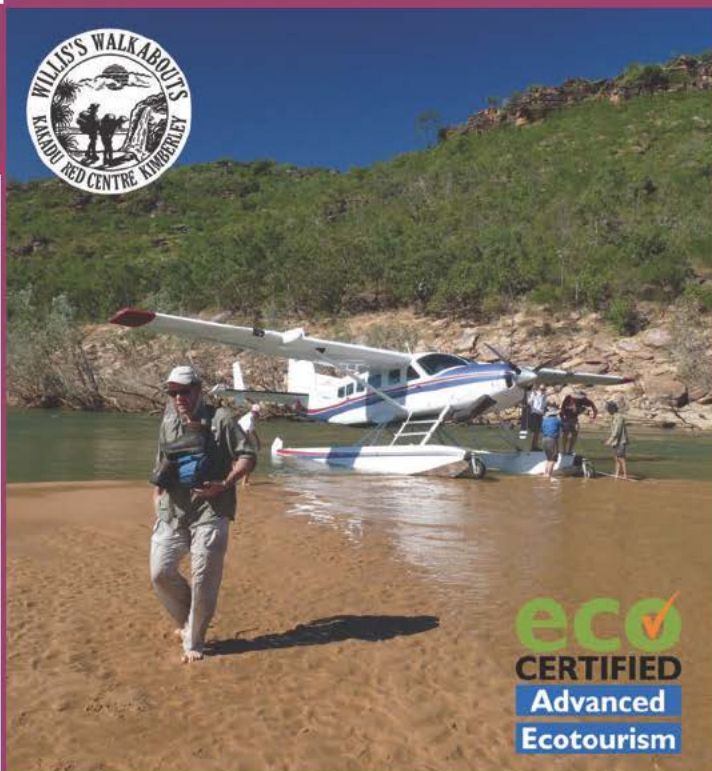
## Willis's Walkabouts

### Drysdale River National Park 2-16 June 2013

**Bushwalking at its best.** Why waste your holiday sitting in a 4WD? Using float planes allows us to reach the largest and most remote Kimberley Park in under two hours, allowing us more time to enjoy the spectacular scenery and wealth of Aboriginal art sites.

The Drysdale itself is wide and open, but some of the smaller creeks take us into dense patches of monsoon forest, a very different environment from the main river. This allows us to spend a good part of the first week exploring with daypacks.

**Special offer.** Recent circumstances have given me pause to reflect on my life and business. As a special thank you for your support, any member of the Melbourne Bushwalkers who books either our Drysdale trip or Mitchell Plateau No. 2 (7-20 July) and quotes this ad, will get a special \$1000 discount. Sorry, but our advance purchase discounts cannot be used with this offer.



[www.bushwalkingholidays.com.au](http://www.bushwalkingholidays.com.au) [rwillis@internode.on.net](mailto:rwillis@internode.on.net) Ph: 08 8985 2134



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](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](mailto: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.

**UPDATE FOR WONNANGATTA/  
 MOROKA BASE CAMP PLANNED FOR  
 15-19 APRIL**

I have at last visited the camp area, but it was very cold overnight, so I think it will be too cold in April as the altitude it is over 1500 m.

I have decided to defer it again with November after cup day as the most likely time.

*David Laing*



**DANDENONGS EXPLORER**

DATE Saturday 20 April 2013  
 STANDARD Easy/Medium  
 LEADER Maureen Hurley  
 TRANSPORT Private  
 FIRE BAN DISTRICT Central  
 TEMPERATURE REFERENCE SITE Mt Dandenong

The Walk will be in Yarra Ranges area, but has not been previewed at this time.

Please check the Website closer to the time.



**BASE CAMP**

**NORTHERN GRAMPIANS – MT DIFFICULT, MT STAPYLTON**

DATE 25-28 April 2013  
 STANDARD Easy Medium and Medium  
 DISTANCE Various but up to 16 km per day  
 ELEVATION Fluctuating with some 300-500m climbs  
 LEADER Roger Wyett  
 TRANSPORT Car Pool  
 AREA Northern Grampians  
 MAP REF Leisure Series 1:50,000 Northern Grampians  
 TRANSPORT COSTS (PER PERSON) Approx \$80 TBC, may be some camp fees as well

I intend to do the following walks over four days:

- Mt Difficult – Briggs Bluff – Beehive Falls (Medium with car shuffle) long day 14 km, 500 m ascent and descents
- Mt Stapylton – Medium but not for those with vertigo, approx 13 km

- Mt Rosea circuit – Easy Medium, but 16 km with continuous height fluctuation
  - Sundial circuit with early return to Melbourne
- Thus we will start the Base Camp at Troopers Creek and then relocate to Rosea Camp Ground so this trip can be joined by members wanting to walk for 4 days or just the two days of the weekend. Willing to take new members, but need to be fit and equipped as there are few exit options on some walks



**SUNDAY CAR POOL**

**SAILORS FALLS – DAYLESFORD CIRCUIT**

DATE Sunday 28 April 2013  
 STANDARD Easy/Medium  
 DISTANCE 16 km  
 ELEVATION Some short steep hills but no big hills  
 LEADER Max Casley  
 TRANSPORT Car Pool – Leaving Southbank Blvd at 8:45 am  
 AREA South of Daylesford  
 FIRE BAN DISTRICT Central  
 TEMPERATURE REFERENCE SITE Ballarat  
 TRANSPORT COSTS (PER PERSON) \$16 suggested

This is a circuit walk in the Wombat State Forest and southern Daylesford which starts and finishes at Sailors Falls Picnic Ground. It goes past two of Daylesford's lakes – Jubilee Lake and Lake Daylesford. Much of the walk follows the Great Dividing Trail and part of the Three Lost Children's Walk, through forest and along a dismantled railway track. It is on footpaths and quiet roads which can be muddy after rain, so bring appropriate footwear and a change of shoes for the trip back to Melbourne. Lunch will have a lake view with moorhens and ducks watching with great interest. If it rains there are shelters in which we can eat our lunches. This is a good walk, mainly through forest with plentiful bird life and one echidna seen on the preview.





**TOFS WALK**

**MORTIMER RESERVE – BUNYIP FOREST**

DATE	Thursday 2 May 2013
STANDARD	Easy
DISTANCE	10km
LEADER	Alister Rowe
TRANSPORT	Private
AREA	Bunyip State Park
MAP REF	Melway Page 14 R12

Meet at Mortimer Picnic Ground by 10:30 am after proceeding east from Gembrook. Cross Gembrook Road and turn right onto the Gembrook–Tonimbuk Road. We will do a circuit walk from the picnic ground, probably in a clockwise direction. This means the one very steep hill would be down rather than up. Hopefully we can expect mild weather and not too wet either, because leeches can be a problem. A fairly challenging walk for TOFs so coffee and cake in Gembrook after the walk.



**TRACK MAINTENANCE**

**THE GRAMPIANS**

DATE	4–5 May 2013
STANDARD	Easy
LEADER	Mark Heath
TRANSPORT	Private
AREA	Halls Gap
MAP REF	Melways 425 C11
TRANSPORT COST	\$60

Join Parks Victoria and Friends of the Grampians to improve walking tracks to the Asses Ears (near Zumsteins) on Saturday.

Complimentary camping for both Friday and Saturday nights will be available at the Smiths Mill camp ground.

On Sunday we be doing a short walk and checking out the ‘Grape Escape’ Wine, Food and Music Festival in Halls Gap.



**SUNDAY BUS**

**WELLS CROSSING – VAUGHAN SPRINGS**

DATE	Sunday 5 May 2013
STANDARDS	Easy and Easy/Medium
DISTANCES	13.5 and 16.5 km
LEADERS	Roy Rossebo and Steven Venturin
TRANSPORT	Bus – Leaving Southbank Blvd at 8:45 am
AREA	Castlemaine Diggings National Heritage Park
MAP REF	Daylesford–Castlemaine–Ballarat Forest Activities map

For most of the walk we will follow the Dry Diggings Track, part of the Great Dividing Trail. The track winds and undulates gently through the light shade of dry box and ironbark forest that is slowly regrowing around gold rush era ruins and relics. We will see plenty of clues to how the miners lived and worked.

This area is regarded as the best of the Australian gold rush localities of the 1850s. To quote the Dry Diggings Track notes:

‘To release the gold, early miners had to wash the clayey soil by panning by hand, later sluicing stream and gully banks under high pressure... Not just the covering of the

land, but its shape changed. In pursuit of gold, diggers quarried gullies and hillsides, dammed creeks, built roads, constructed water channels, and dug intricate networks of shafts, tunnels and open-cuts.’ (David Bannear)

The E/M walkers begin with some off-track walking, but the Easy group will stay on track for the entire walk. There are no serious hills or surprise creek crossings, and we all finish the walk at picturesque Vaughan Springs where thirsty walkers can refresh themselves with natural spring water.

This is a recommended walk for all who enjoy a relaxing ramble in the bush with a bit of history thrown in.



**WEDNESDAY WALK**

**CARDINIA AQUEDUCT TRAIL**

DATE	Wednesday 8 May 2013
STANDARD	Easy/Medium
DISTANCE	15 km
LEADER	Susan Maughan
TRANSPORT	Private
AREA	Pakenham
MAP REF	Melways 212–213

The short, sharp hills are ticked off in the morning, followed by an easy return walk adjacent to the 1928 aqueduct. Meet at the aqueduct car park on Thewlis Road, Pakenham, ½ km after crossing Brown Road. (Mel 213 H9 ). If coming on the Monash Freeway from the city, take the Cardinia Road exit, 6½ km after Officer. DEPARTURE TIME IS 10 A.M.

The morning walk is a combination of bush tracks and a dirt road with views. Lunch is at the Scout Camp, which offers shelter if needed. From there we retrace our steps for a while, cut down through the E.A. Owens Conservation Reserve and then drop down to the aqueduct. Approx. 4½ hours start to finish. A short 10 minutes’ drive takes us into Beaconsfield to the Corner Post Gourmet Cafe for coffee and cake (note – also licensed!).



**CYCLING**

**LILYDALE CIRCUIT**

Note change of date: Sat 11 May

DATE	Saturday 11 May 2013
STANDARD	Medium/hard
DISTANCE	65 km
LEADER	Phil Brown
TRANSPORT	Train/Private
AREA	Lilydale and Beyond
MAP REF	Melway 38 52 118 120 121 119 281 280 279 and 37

The meeting place is at the Lilydale Station at the far end of the platform at 9:30 am. You can take the 8:07 from Flinders Street.

From the station we will head south past Lilydale Lake on to the Olinda Creek Trail. At the end we zigzag our way through back streets up to the Mount Evelyn Aqueduct Trail where you can ride the single track or on the road beside. The trail is gravel all the way to Silvan Reservoir. The rest of the ride is on sealed road apart from a short section of the rail trail. The riding is in a farming area so we will see plenty of wineries, orchards and market gardens. Yes there are hills but the down should make up for the ups and I am looking forward to a 19% down and seeing who wins the prize for not using the brakes.

Coffee stops can be at Mount Evelyn and Coldstream.  
Lunch is at Wandin North.  
PS: The road riders could take the main road to Silvan Reservoir and meet the group there as a alternative to riding on the trail.



**SUNDAY PUBLIC TRANSPORT**

**MONTROSE-BELGRAVE (DANDENONG RANGES)**

**DATE** Sunday 12 May, 2013  
**STANDARD** Easy/Medium  
**DISTANCE** 15 km  
**ELEVATION** 200 m over the walk  
**LEADER** Mark Heath  
**TRANSPORT** 9:07 am Lilydale train from Flinders Street  
**AREA** Dandenongs  
**MAP REF** Melways 52, 66 and 75  
**TRANSPORT COST (PER PERSON)** \$3.50 (MYKI) (free if you've got a Seniors MYKI)

This varied walk starts on the dry western slopes of the Dandenong Ranges and ends on the wetter eastern side. At the start there are rare communities of long-leaved box and red stringybark eucalypts. Beneath these tall trees are cypress-like cherry ballart, dogwood, with its slender leaves and white flowers, and several other shrubs including the yellow and red flowering rough bush-pea.  
After a steady climb past Doongalla to the top of the range at Sassafra, we drop down through moist tree fern gullies and old stringybarks to the impressive Nicholas gardens. After a short climb to Sherbrooke forest we pass Sherbrooke falls on the way to Belgrave.  
The walk is mostly on formed dirt tracks with some narrow sections. The transport is train to Croydon, bus to Montrose and train for the return from Belgrave.



Alfred Nicholas Memorial Gardens  
Photo by Ian Mair



**PACK CARRY**

**PYRENEES ENDURANCE WALK**

(Changed from the Fortress – Southern Grampians due to fires in the area)

**DATE** 17-19 May  
**STANDARD** Easy/Medium  
**DISTANCE** 18 km  
**LEADER** Del Franks  
**TRANSPORT** Private Cars  
**AREA** Pyrenees State Forest – Avoca  
**MAP REF** Avoca 7523 –n 1:50,000  
**TRANSPORT COSTS (PER PERSON)** about \$45

*Due to fires in the Southern Grampians area the tracks for The Fortress and Mt Thackeray are currently closed so I have changed the walk to be the Pyrenees Endurance Walk which has not been done since 2009.*

While this walk is rated Easy/Medium, most of the medium is on Day One with an initial 400 m ascent to Mt Avoca, then 9 km of undulating terrain in an area that is not often walked. The effort will be rewarded with an overnight camp site with tank water, fireplace and a 'day' shelter on Cameron's Track to ensure a dry evening meal. While this is a short overall distance, experience in pack carrying is required, due to the terrain.

Day Two will be less arduous with a further 9 km back to the cars and a late lunch in Avoca and a possible side trip to a local winery. This is an ideal autumn/winter walk, with overall distances to allow for shorter days, and shelter to pass the long evening hours. As always, be prepared for the full spectrum of weather, as this area can get snow but hopefully it will be crisp and clear for a walk with pristine forest and views to Mt Cole and surrounding areas.



**SUNDAY BUS**

**O'BRIEN'S CROSSING – MT BLACKWOOD**

**DATE** Sunday 19 May 2013  
**STANDARDS** Easy/Medium and Medium  
**DISTANCE** 20 km (medium)  
**LEADERS** Judith Shaw and Christina Hughes  
**TRANSPORT** Bus – Leaving Southbank Blvd at 8:45 am

**Medium:** After a short climb we will head south for 5 km along a ridge above the gorge, then down to the river for morning tea at the site of an abandoned miner's cottage and mine workings. Then we head up the other side to join the Great Dividing Trail which we follow north, branching off to follow an old aqueduct trail back to O'Briens Crossing. There are plenty of historic sites in the area and if time permits we will detour to visit some of them. The tracks are well-graded and in good condition, with a few short, steep ascents and descents. We may be able to rock hop across the river if we are lucky but be prepared for wet feet! As the gorge is subject to flash flooding I have an alternate route if weather conditions make a river crossing inadvisable.

For details of the Easy/Medium walk, please contact Christina.





**MOFS WALK**

**DIAMOND CREEK–CANDLEBARK PARK**

DATE	Monday 20 May 2013
STANDARD	Easy
DISTANCE	9 km
LEADER	Pam Rosso
TRANSPORT	Private
AREA	Diamond Creek
MAP REF	Melways Maps 21 and 33

We will meet in the car park in Eltham Lower Park. Turn into the entrance off Main Road and go to the right of the roundabout just inside the entrance. The walk is mostly on shared paths and only has slight undulations. Meet at 10:15 am for a 10:30 am start. Melway ref for meeting place is Melway 21 H-10.



**SOCIAL WALK**

**VALLEY RESERVE, SCOTCHMAN'S CREEK**

DATE	Thursday 23 May, 2013
STANDARD	Easy
DISTANCE	5 km
ELEVATION	Little hills
LEADER	Jean Giese
TRANSPORT	Private
AREA	Mt. Waverley
MAP REF	Melways 70 and 71

Unfortunately I omitted this from the Autumn Program, but there will be a social walk on the 4th Thursday of the month, as we have come to expect and look forward to!

We will explore the Valley Reserve and walk along Scotchman's Creek, ending up in a café in Stephenson's Road for lunch.

Meet in the carpark in the reserve, Mel. 70 G2 to commence walking at 10:30.



**DANDENONGS EXPLORER**

**KALORAMA TO DOONGALLA RETURN**

DATE	Saturday 25 May 2013
STANDARD	Easy/Medium
DISTANCE	13 km
LEADER	Fiona Gallery
TRANSPORT	Private
AREA	Dandenong Ranges
MAP REF	Melways 52 and 66

The walk begins at 10:00 am at Five Ways in Kalorama, Melways 52 J9. This is on the Mt Dandenong Tourist Rd overlooking the Silvan Dam, where Ridge, Barbers and The Old Coach Roads intersect. We will walk to the Doongalla Homestead Site picnic area for lunch along fairly good tracks in front of Mt Dandenong. This is a walk that has a lot of steep ups and downs and may be slippery in places if wet. I expect to be back at the cars about 4:00. We will be having a morning tea break at the Mt Dandenong Lookout where there is a café for those wishing to purchase a coffee – well deserved as it is a bit of a climb to the top.



**SUNDAY CAR POOL**

**MARYSVILLE – RIVER AND MOUNTAIN LOOKOUTS**

DATE	Sunday 26 May, 2013
STANDARD	Medium
DISTANCE	15 km
LEADER	Stuart Hanham
TRANSPORT	Car - Leaving Southbank Blvd at 8:45 am
AREA	North-east to south-east of Marysville
MAP REF	Outdoor Leisure Map, 1:30,000 Marysville – Lake Mountain
TRANSPORT COST (PER PERSON)	\$16

From the eastern edge of Marysville, the walk climbs steadily over Red Hill, with distant views of the bushfire damage from 2009. Joining the Michaeldene Trail, it then proceeds over a rebuilt trestle bridge to an attractive lookout on the Taggerty River. Returning along a creek, we walk through a starkly beautiful zone of blackened trees, which contrasts with the red earth. After dropping to the Steavenson River, we head upstream through a green area, with clear views of what remains of Marysville.

After a lunch stop near the river, and with the flatter part of the walk behind us, we start our one hour ascent of the well-named Oxlee Climb. The track gets steeper as we approach Keppel Lookout, but is rewarded with great views over Marysville and towards the Cathedrals. We'll also check the nearby Three Towers Lookout, before returning through the amazing forest of silvery but dead trees that you may have missed on the way up!

After heading downhill past the remains of large properties, we will follow the Beauty Spot Nature Trail and see a large before and after 2009 photo. Then the walk goes through the ruins of the Marylands Guesthouse, around an attractive lake, where we can try a flying fox, and back to the cars. The town bakery will be our recovery spot.

Due to the long, steep climb, which would be slippery after rain, this walk is not suitable for beginners.



The view over Marysville from the Keppel Lookout  
Photo by Ian Mair

## MEMBERSHIP FEES ARE DUE!

Payment can be via:

- EFT (ensure your name and 'subs' appear in the comments)
- Cheque (post to the Membership Secretary) • In person on booking nights at the club rooms

Please advise any changes to your contact details as well. Thanks in advance to all who pay on time.

*Roger Wyatt*

## MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL 2013

Membership subscriptions are due 1st March 2013. You are not required to sign an Acknowledgement of Risk form on renewal, however you are advised that payment of fees implies acceptance of the risks involved in any activity you may undertake as a member of Melbourne Bushwalkers. Members are asked to read the following wording regarding your insurance cover through Bushwalking Victoria.

'In voluntarily participating in activities of Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc., which are described to me by the activity leaders, I am aware that my participation in the activities may expose me to hazards and risks that could lead to injury, illness or death or to loss of or damage to my property. I also acknowledge that I may encounter weather conditions that could lead to heat stroke, hypothermia or being in locations where evacuation for medical treatment may take hours or days.

In particular when participating in abseiling or above the snowline activities I am aware that these activities could expose me to additional hazards and risks.

To minimize risks I will endeavour to ensure that:

- Each activity is within my capabilities
- I will carry food, water and equipment appropriate for the activity
- I will advise the activity leader if I am taking medication or have any physical or other limitation that might affect my participation in the activity
- I will make every effort to remain with the rest of the party during the activity
- I will advise the leader of any concerns I am having and
- I will comply with all reasonable instructions of club officers and the activity leader

I have read and understood these requirements. I will consider the risks before joining any activity of the Club.

I acknowledge that I will take responsibility for my own actions and that payment of my subscriptions will be deemed as full acceptance and understanding of the above conditions'.

Please refer to the Renewal Slip below for methods of paying your subscription. If paying by cheque please return the renewal slip to assist the Treasurer and Membership Secretary to identify you. If any of your personal details have changed, complete the relevant information and forward to the Membership Secretary. The Renewal Slip also appears on the back page of the newsletter.

### 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: **Single member:** \$45 or \$55\*      Concession: \$34 or \$44\*\* (Proof required)  
 (Please circle your **Couple/Family:** \$72 or \$82\*      Concession: \$50 or \$60\*\* (Proof required)  
 membership category) **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: .....

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

Name: .....

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

Address: .....

YES/NO

Postcode: ..... Tel: H) ..... W) ..... Mobile: .....

YES/NO

Email: .....

YES/NO

**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!**

**May 2013**

Thu 2	TOFS: Mortimer Reserve – Bunyip Forest	Pvt	Easy	Alister Rowe
4–5	Track Maintenance – The Grampians	Pvt	Easy	Mark Heath
<b>Sun 5</b>	<b>Wells Crossing – Vaughan Springs</b>	<b>Bus</b>	<b>E &amp; E/M</b>	<b>Roy Rossebo and Steven Venturin</b>
Wed 8	Cardinia Aqueduct Trail – Officer	Pvt	E/M	Susan Maugham
Sat 11	Cycling: Lilydale Circuit (NOTE CHANGE OF DATE)	Pvt	Med	Phil Brown
Sun 12	Montrose–Belgrave (Train Based)	Train	E/M	Mark Heath
17–19	PC: Pyrenees Endurance Walk (Changed from the Fortress – Southern Grampians due to fires in the area)	Pvt	E/M	Del Franks
<b>Sun 19</b>	<b>O’Brien’s Crossing – Mt Blackwood</b>	<b>Bus</b>	<b>E/M &amp; M</b>	<b>Judith Shaw and Christina Hughes</b>
Mon 20	MOFS: Diamond Creek, Candlebark Park	Pvt	Easy	Pam Rosso
Thu 23	SOC: Valley Reserve, Scotchman’s Creek	Pvt	Easy	Jean Giese
Sat 25	Dandenongs Explorer	Pvt	E/M	Fiona Gallery
Sun 26	Marysville – River and Mountain Lookouts	Car	Med	Stuart Hanham

The News of the Melbourne Bushwalkers  
 If undelivered please return to:  
 MELBOURNE BUSHWALKERS INC  
 GPO BOX 1751, MELBOURNE 3001

