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THE NEWS OF THE Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc.

ABN 14 396 912 508

August 2013

BUSHIES AUCTION AUGUST 28TH

I have been reliably informed that another auction of amazing bushie artefacts, memorabilia and used gear from various decades is soon to take place. As in previous auctions, anyone submitting gear would make the night run smoother if they do the following:

Attach a card to the item giving your name and a brief history of the gear, i.e. how long have you had it, how much it has been used and anything else you consider relevant.

If you want a certain minimum price for the item just 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 and possibly buy some gear very cheaply.



Graham Hodgson (Auctioneer)

MELBOURNE BUSHWALKERS BUSH DANCE

DANCE THE NIGHT AWAY WITH
BUSHWAZEE

Saturday 7 September 2013

St Oswald's Hall

High Street, Ashburton

7.00pm (band starts 7.30pm) until 11.00pm

Tickets \$20 Per Person

Tickets can be purchased in the club rooms & at the door on the evening
(see website for other purchase options)

Bring-a-Plate, Drinks & Dancing Shoes

Tea & Coffee Available

Due date for contributions to September News: 21 August

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 Whippey

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 21st of the month.

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 5 August 2013

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the following new members to the Club:

MARINA TAN, DANIEL CATANIA,
ISABELLE SELLES, DANA ZIROJEVIC,
HAGAI AVISAR, PAULA ROBERTS,
LIZ TELFORD

ADVANCE NOTICE AND CALL FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

Bibbulmun Track, Western Australia 18-26 October, 2013

The 970 km Bibbulmun Track in the south-eastern corner of Western Australia ranks amongst Australia's top long distance walking tracks. The 128 km section from Walpole to Denmark is regarded by many as one of the highlights of the track, passing through stunning forests of karri and tingle trees, with place names as captivating as the Valley of the Giants, before entering into the rolling hills of the coastal zone beside the Southern Ocean. As if the scenery and natural beauty were not enough at any time of the year, the month of October is a special time with the wildflowers close to their best.

Halina and I will be walking this section and have added it to the club program so that others may share in the experience. Whilst it is still some months away it is recommended to book flights early to take advantage of lower fares.

If you are interested please speak to Ian Mair or Halina Sarbinowski. As I am going to be away in Western Australia during September and October be sure to contact me before end-August if you are interested.

Ian Mair

CHRISTMAS PACK CARRY ADVANCE NOTICE.

To enable walkers to plan ahead I would like to advise that I will be leading a Medium grade pack carry in East Gippsland from 26 December 2013 until 1 January 2014. This will be to Reedy Creek Chasm in the Buchan Headwaters Wilderness Zone of the Alpine NP.

There is also the Expressions of interest from Ian Mair of the very interesting NZ walks from January 4-19 2014 and any other walks that maybe on the program at Christmas.

Bob Oxlade.

MELBOURNE BUSHWALKERS BUSH DANCE

DANCE THE NIGHT AWAY WITH BUSHWAHZEE

**Saturday 7 September
St Oswalds Hall
96 High Street, Glen Iris
7:00pm (band starts 7:30pm) until 11:00pm**

**Tickets \$20 per person
BYO Plate (to share) & Drinks
Tea & Coffee available**

Tickets are on sale NOW:

- in the MBW club rooms on Wednesday evenings; OR
- on the Sunday Bus Walks; OR
- EFT payments to Melbourne Bushwalkers account ANZ 013006 005846013 and advise bushdance@mbw.org.au (Please note "DB" before your name on the EFT payment. Once payment confirmed you will be issued by email with a ticket number and your ticket can be collected on the night) OR
- at the door of St Oswald's on the evening.

For further information or booking:

- contact Susan Maughan or
- email bushdance@mbw.org.au



PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Firstly, **thanks for the kind thoughts** I received about my Dad's passing away while I was overseas. I know many of our members have had similar sad experiences and/or struggle with issues of caring for their parents. The 'pilgrim' walk across France and Spain was great apart from some very heavy rain periods in France. My thanks to Ian Mair and the Committee for keeping the Club running smoothly while I was away.

At the **July Committee Meeting** we discussed the leaders training weekend on November 23–24; Stuart Hanham's report on our Emergency Contact System; Ian's report on the Bushwalking Victoria Club Leadership Day that he, Halina and Poppy attended; and we reviewed the 2012 Incident Reports (down to 8 from 17 in 2011) for trends or additional actions that could be needed.

The Committee have a number of major activities running at present. There is our **Future Directions** work. While the response from members to the recent survey request was not great we should have the summary of the first piece of work on the Club's Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats available shortly. Work is progressing on **our rules changes** to comply with the new Consumer Affairs requirements. We are now targeting a late October Special General Meeting to approve the new rules (to be confirmed in August). We are reviewing our long established **Emergency Contact System** and the benefits of having a **Walkers Intention Form** available to members and leaders.

It is pleasing to see that our First Aid Course is booked out and that we have a West Australian and a New Zealand trip coming up in the Programs.

Having just spent 35 days at about 25 km a day walking across France and Spain I can't help but reflect on why people do this! Believe it or not Carol and I are not alone in engaging in these long distance walks. For me it's the challenge, the time to reflect, the adventures and the people, and that once you have done one of these long distance walks you are never quite the same again. It gives you a different perspective on modern life and what you need to exist (at least for 35 days of walking!). If you are not convinced come to the future presentation on the trip to find out more.

Reminders for this month:

- 1 Tickets are now on sale for the Bush Dance! Please pre-book – See Kerry Mc Keand's notice.
- 2 **Membership fees are now overdue** and need to be paid, expect a call to remind you! Overall more people paid on time this year than last which is great.
- 3 If you have thought about leading or are a new leader or want to share your experiences or catch up on what is new then make a note in your diaries to keep the **Leaders Training Weekend** on 23–24 November free.
- 4 **Federation Day** is on October 13th this year. It is being organised by Boroondara BushWalkers and the theme is 'Lerderderg and beyond'. Bookings are open now and need to be completed in early September – See Michael Murray's notice.

While there is still 1 month of the Winter Program to go, Spring starts soon and it is a great time to get out into the natural environment. So for those of you who hibernate in winter it's time to start thinking of those first spring steps with your fellow Bushies. Hope to see lots of you at the Bushdance!

Mick Noonan

The question often arises as to how long you need to boil water to kill all the bugs. Below is an extract from the Princeton University Outdoor Action Program Guide to Water Purification. In short, just bring it to the boil, that's all you need to do .

'Boiling is the most certain way of killing all microorganisms. According to the Wilderness Medical Society, water temperatures above 160°F (70°C) kill all pathogens within 30 minutes and above 185°F (85°C) within a few minutes. So in the time it takes for the water to reach the boiling point (212°F or 100°C) from 160°F (70°C), all pathogens will be killed, even at high altitude. To be extra safe, let the water boil rapidly for one minute, especially at higher altitudes since water boils at a lower temperature.'

If you would like to see the whole article on water purification, here is the link.

<http://www.princeton.edu/~oa/manual/water.shtml>

Sent by Jopie Bodegraven

ENVIRONMENTAL EVENTS

Wirilda Track clearing weekend 31 August–1 September

This is an activity being organised for Melbourne Bushwalkers to join with the Friends of Tyers Park in helping to clear one of our well-loved walking tracks in Gippsland. It is a beautiful area and a track worth keeping open. So don't leave this activity for others to do – come along and get involved, and find out how enjoyable track clearing can be!

It is possible we'll have the use of the Wirilda Environment Centre to sleep in overnight, or you can pitch a tent outside if you prefer to be under the stars. Tools will be provided, you just need to bring camping gear, food, and garden gloves.



Regent Honeyeater Planting 21–22 September

Although there are a number of planting weekends organised by Ray Thomas, I would like to gather a group of Melbourne Bushwalkers to attend this weekend. We can organise car-pooling to travel up to Benalla on Saturday morning. Free accommodation is provided in the Scout Hall, or you can bring a tent and camp outside. There are also motels and a caravan park in Benalla if those options appeal more after a day toiling in the soil. Saturday night dinner and bush dancing is provided, so there is plenty of fun to be had!

If you haven't been on a tree planting weekend before, consider coming this year. It's a wonderful way to learn more about bush plants and animals, put something back into the world and meet many other people from different places who enjoy the outdoors.

Further redundancies at Parks Victoria

The Victorian Government will shed 60 further Parks Victoria personnel on top of redundancies last year. This will impact rangers and field personnel, and this can only have a negative effect on park access, invasive weed and pest control programs, fire responsiveness and park services.

Help save Victorian Parks

The Victorian National Parks Association (VNPA) is campaigning to prevent the Victorian Government granting 99 year commercial leases for tourism development in National Parks. More information at: <http://vnpa.org.au/page/nature-conservation/take-action>

Victorian Alps wild horse management plan

In partnership with the Department of Environment and Primary Industries (DEPI), Parks Victoria is developing a Victorian Alps Wild Horse Management Plan to guide the management of wild horses and their impacts on public land in the Victorian Alps. Community input and expert advice is essential to ensure the plan considers the range of views on wild horses and that management controls are effective and practical. More information at: <http://parkweb.vic.gov.au/explore/parks/alpine-national-park/plans-and-projects/victorian-alps-wild-horse-management-plan>

Grampians National Park update

The Wonderland Loop and Venus Baths Loop walks have re-opened following the completion of flood recovery works.

Deb Shand

2013 Social Calendar

August 28: Wine & Cheese and Bushies' Auction

Sotheby's stand aside, the Bushies' Auction is back on the calendar. This is your chance to make a few bob from surplus gear and contribute to the recycling revolution. Bring along your once loved treasures and the Bushies' auctioneers, Graham and his assistant, will put your goods under the hammer. Further details concerning the auction are on the front page of this Newsletter and on the website.

September 7: Bush Dance

Kick off your hiking boots and put on your blue suede shoes – the Melbourne Bushies will be hosting another Bush Dance on 7 September 2013. The dance will be held in St Oswald's Hall, High Street Asburton. The start time is 7:00 pm for a 7:30 pm start to the music, and dancing will continue until 11:00 pm. Please bring-a-plate, drinks and your dancing shoes. Tea and coffee will be available.

Tickets will be on sale for **\$20 per person** in the MBW club rooms on Wednesday evenings **OR** at the door of St Oswald's on the evening **OR** on the Sunday Bus Walks (details will be announced on the Bus). Please see the MBW website for details of purchase options.

Susan's Social Corner

Lunches – Susan will continue to play social host for lunches throughout the year. Keep an eye on the *News* and the website for details of upcoming events.

Other Fun Events

Join us for the occasional casual evening stroll to visit restaurants. Details will be posted here in the newsletter and on our website.

Bushies' Christmas Party

The Bushies' Christmas Party will be held on 10 December 2013. Further details of the party will be provided later in the year.



MENTORED LEADERS AND LEADERS TO MENTOR

The committee has been concerned for some time at the diminishing number of pack carries and base camps on the club's program. As part of the effort to address this decline, it has introduced a system of mentoring for new leaders in these activities.

Have you secretly harboured the desire to take a group of walkers out on a pack carry or base camp but haven't volunteered because you don't feel confident of your capacity to do so?

Hesitate no longer. It is now possible to volunteer to lead either of these activities in the knowledge that you can have the benefit of an experienced leader to mentor you as you plan, organise and lead the activity.

The first step in converting your ambitions into actuality is to get the process underway by contacting directly the coordinator of the activity you are interested in –

Base Camps – Wendy Fortington

Pack Carries – Jopie Bodegraven

We are also asking experienced leaders of pack carries and/or base camps to offer their assistance in the mentoring process.

If you would like to mentor a novice leader please talk to the relevant coordinator in the first instance, and then let Cecily Hunter (General Walks Secretary) know what activity you would like to mentor so your name can be added to the list that is being kept.

Cecily Hunter

NATURE AT ITS BEST IN THE WARBY RANGES PACK CARRY WEEKEND 19TH-21ST JULY

This gentle midwinter pack carry into the Warbies led by Bob Oxlade proved to be a real taste of what nature has to offer the pack carrier. Friday night's camp at Taminick Gap was a mild induction to the weekend weather with rain falling overnight while we were safely ensconced inside tents and warm sleeping bags. Saturday morning we crossed the road for a hike up Mt Glenrowan where we found on a side trip to Chick Hill a very big koala checking us out in a nearby low tree branch. From the 514 metre peak of Mt Glenrowan great views were had down over the town, where Ned Kelly and gang used to sit on horseback checking out the old coach road routes. On the walk down the weather turned again, with drenching rain and cold – a taste of what was to continue over the next day.

Saturday afternoon we relocated to start the pack carry along Salisbury Track and had a steep steady climb up the Salisbury Falls, flowing well with the downpours, along a pretty forest route and then on the Friends Track over Mt Warby, with views east to Lake Mokoan. At Wenham's camp that evening, flames from the fire Bob painstakingly lit were a distant vista as we huddled to cook under the toilet shelter while it poured down sleety rain and cats and dogs in freezing conditions all evening and well into the night.

On Sunday we woke to a crispy cold morning and navigated cross country through the granite boulder ranges to a large area of fully skirted 2-3 metre grass trees (*xanthorrhoea australis*) which grow only 1cm annually. The return walk was on the Friends Circuit with lunch at Kwat Kwat lookout over the Wangaratta township, and then along the Alpine View track looking out to Mts Buffalo, Cobbler and Bogong.

Over the weekend in this arid zone without much undergrowth we saw the beginnings of wild flowers and wattles, acacias, orchids and grevillea. Also there were lots of big grey roos and some wallabies, the curious big koala, and many birds including scarlet crested wrens, white throated tree wrens, willy wag tails, turquoise parrots, currawongs, eastern rosellas, crimson rosellas and treecreepers.

The total distance for the weekend was 32 km. Bob was the clever leader of the small group made up of Dianne, Debbie and Ian.



Dianne McKinley

BUSH SEARCH AND RESCUE

The annual training weekend for Bush Search and Rescue – Victoria (BSAR) was held on the weekend of 21–22 July at Arnold Gap on Lake Mountain in what turned out to be realistic search conditions.

After a 7 am departure from Northcote, some 40 plus BSAR members, BSAR trainers and prospective BSAR members arrived to falling snow, which continued into Saturday night. However this did not stop training in:

- Search techniques
- Radio and GPS usage
- Use of a bothy shelter, and portable stretchers including the SKED (see photo of the SKED in use in a prior non alpine activity)
- Light and sound searching at night along a feature using whistles and torches, a technique that is used on the first night of a search to draw attention to searchers by the lost person, who may be able to respond as the sound and reflected light (particularly off a wet tree canopy) can be heard and seen for up to 500 m in some conditions.

Sunday dawned to find all the tents had withstood some 6 inches of snow, with drifts up to a foot deep, a test on all present of their equipment preparedness and ability to snow camp. We then had a search for two people lost on Mt Arnold, thus some 8 groups of 4 received a variety of tasks, which resulted in the successful



evacuation by SKED being hauled up and down snow covered trails as a sled! We were all glad to see the bus turn up at the end of the weekend, until it got stuck on ice in the car park!

The training was attended by two club members, and it would be great to have more experienced walkers undertake such training and ultimately assist in a real search. For more information google bsar.org or contact David Laing, the club delegate.

Roger Wyett

Cassie Pace baked a cake and took it on a Sunday carpool walk to share and a couple of people suggested including it in the newsletter. The recipe is below.

BANANA AND COCONUT CAKE

125g butter, softened
1 cup brown sugar
2 eggs
2 ripe bananas, mashed

½ cup milk
1¼ cups plain flour, sifted
1 cup desiccated coconut

1 teaspoon baking powder
¼ teaspoon mixed spice
pinch of salt

Preheat oven to 180°, line loaf tin with baking paper.

- 1 Cream butter and sugar, then beat in eggs one at a time.
- 2 Stir in mashed bananas and milk. Fold in flour, coconut, baking powder, mixed spice and salt. Mix until smooth.
- 3 Sprinkle raw sugar or sugar and cinnamon on top before baking (optional).
- 4 Pour into cake pan and bake for approximately 1 hour.

Previews of walks and activities

FEDERATION DAY – 13th OCTOBER 2013 LERDERDERG and WESTERN GORGES

Well club members, that time of the year is fast approaching – Federation Day. The 2013 Federation Walks are being coordinated by Boroondara Bushwalking Club. I can only say that the organisers have put together a fantastic list of walks.

The walks are being held in the western gorges area north west of Melbourne. This includes Lerderderg State Park which is a favourite of many bushwalkers, Brisbane Ranges National Park, Wombat State Forest and Werribee Gorge State Park

A variety of walks will be available with gradings from easy to medium/hard, including those interested in geocache and photography. All up there are 23 walks. In the past walk booklets have been provided but due to costs walk information will be provided on the internet.

Registrations open on 1st August and close on 13th September 2013. The registration fee for the event is \$20. I strongly advise that registering early will ensure that you will get the walk that you want.

When selecting walks, look through the list of walks available and number 1 to 4 in order of preference. I strongly suggest that you register well before the close off date. This event is taking the place of the Sunday Bus so booking one week before the event will bring grief.

Please note that information regarding Federation Day can be found on www.boroondarabushwalkers.org.au. (Click 'Federation Day Walk 2013' on left hand side of home page). All bookings are to be made to Michael Murray (Coordinator MBW). Cheques are to be made out to Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc.

*Michael Murray
MBW Coordinator*

Willis's Walkabouts

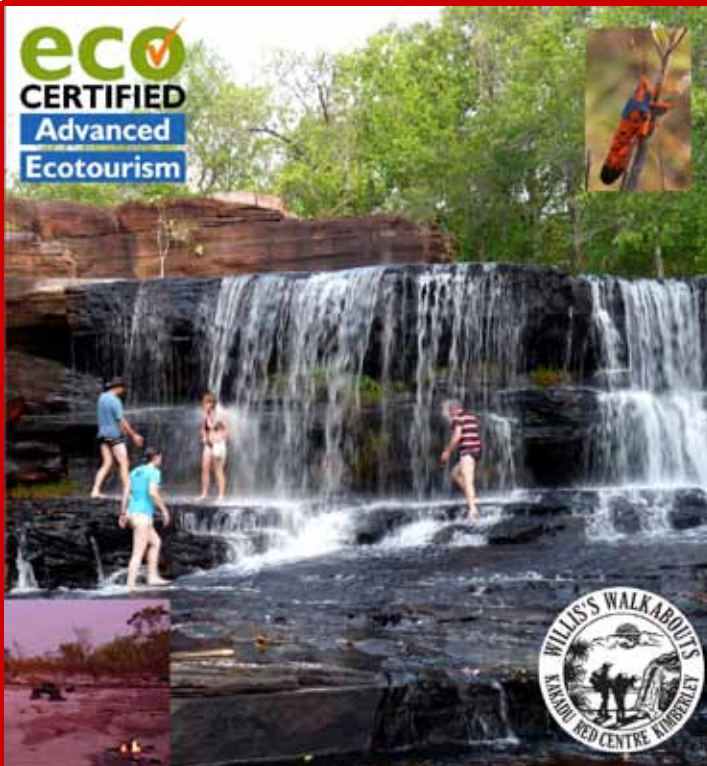
Gunumeleng

The most **dramatic** season of all!

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.

Our Gunumeleng (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.

Curious? Visit our website and have a look at the trip notes for Kakadu Highlights Nos. 10, 11 & 12. Better still, join us and see for yourself.



www.bushwalkingholidays.com.au 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

**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.

 **SUNDAY CAR POOL**

NEW: MT PIPER AND SPRINGS PLAINS NCR

DATE Sunday 18 August 2013
STANDARD Easy/Medium
DISTANCE 15 km
ELEVATION 230 m
LEADER Richard Long
TRANSPORT Carpool from Southbank Blvd at 8:45 am
AREA Broadford and Tooborac
MAP REFERENCE Heathcote 1:25,000 (7824-3-2)
TRANSPORT COSTS (PER PERSON) \$20

This walk consists of two parts, the first of which is at Mt Piper Nature Conservation Reserve. This is reached via a turnoff on the road between Kilmore and Broadford. Mt Piper is a prominent cone-shaped peak visible from the Hume Freeway near Broadford. It is of volcanic origin, being a quartz plug resulting from hydrothermal solutions activity. The mountain and reserve are thickly wooded bushland surrounded by cleared grazing land.

By a steep walking track we ascend the mountain from which good views in all directions are obtained, including Broadford and high country to the east. After descending we follow the circular walking track around the mountain and return to the car park. The reserve is a refuge for some endangered flora and fauna.

Our cars then proceed via the Northern Highway through Pyalong and Tooborac to the Spring Plains N.C.R. for the second part of the walk, which is about 12 km long; this takes us about half an hour. We leave some cars at Argyle and return via Hardings Lane to the walk beginning at the south-east end of the reserve. It is slightly undulating wooded country with farmland encroaching at several points. Our walk is entirely along unsealed tracks, there are no viewing spots. Being close to spring, the interest is in early wildflowers. At Argyle we are ferried back to where we had left the remaining cars for the trip home.



 **PACK CARRY**

BAW BAW NATIONAL PARK SNOW SHOE

DATE 24–25 August 2013
STANDARD Medium
LEADERS Ralph Blake and Kerry Press
DISTANCE 30 km (approx)
TRANSPORT Private
AREA Baw Baw National Park
MAP REFERENCE Baw Baw Plateau 1:25,000



This walk will be a two day pack carry walking with snow shoes in Baw Baw National Park, commencing and finishing at the Mt St Gwinear car park.

On Saturday morning we will pack carry on snowshoes beyond Mt St. Gwinear, later setting up camp in a more remote and sheltered spot amongst the beautiful snowgums. Here we will also have lunch before exploring with day packs this sparkling and enchanted snowy landscape for the rest of the afternoon. The snowshoes offer much freedom to walk across frozen creeks and snowy plains, up and down hills and through wooded forests with ease and joy. Sunday will be spent exploring further afield, returning to our camp in late afternoon to pack up and make our way back to the car park by 5 pm.

Participants will not need prior snowshoeing experience. However they do need to be fit, experienced with multi-day pack carries, and well-equipped and prepared for snowcamping and walking, and for the changeable (and sometimes extreme) weather conditions.

Group size limit of 10, so book early for this exhilarating bushwalk on snowshoes in the pristine sparkling snowscape of Baw Baw National Park.



SUNDAY CAR POOL

RICHARDS TRAMWAY – WARBURTON EAST

DATE	Sunday 1 September 2013
STANDARD	Medium
DISTANCE	15 km
LEADER	Stuart Hanham
TRANSPORT	Car pool leaving Southbank Blvd at 8:45 am
AREA	Big Pats Creek, east of Warburton
MAP REFERENCE	Rooftop's Yarra Valley – West Gippsland Adventure Map
TRANSPORT COST (PER PERSON)	\$14

After a beautiful drive through the Yarra Valley and Warburton, we will start a gradual climb around the tight curves of the historic Richards' Tramway, which was used to extract a large volume of timber from the surrounding forest, until the 1930s. After passing through several tramway cuttings, the track flattens out and meanders along the side of a steep mountain, with glimpses of the Yarra Ranges. The vegetation changes from lush regrowth forest to starkly attractive burnt out areas. Further along, we will encounter towering tree ferns and soaring mountain ash.

Continuing through a dark, damp fairyland zone, we will see a mini-waterfall and another deep tramway cutting, before stopping in an impressive quarry for lunch. Returning along the same route may remind you of the Tanglefoot Track near Toolangi. Before relaxing too much, the group will climb straight up the side of the mountain on the appropriately named F Track. This is very steep and potentially slippery, but the view from the top is dramatic. Having reached the Mississippi Fireline, we'll proceed down a series of long, steep hills, before rejoining Richards' Curves.

Back in Warburton, there is a good choice of cafes and bakeries in which to relax. Due to the big climb, and steep descents, this walk is not suitable for beginners. Boots with a good tread are recommended.



TOFS WALK

NOOJEE TRESTLE BRIDGE AND TOORONGO FALLS

DATE	Thursday 5 September 2013
STANDARD	Easy
DISTANCE	8.2 km
ELEVATION	Long gentle climb to Falls
LEADER	Ron Evans
TRANSPORT	Private
AREA	Noojee
MAP REFERENCE	Melways X912 V4

This walk consists of two short walks – one along the old railway track and the other to the Toorong Falls.

In the morning, we follow the old railway track to the historic trestle bridge which has been restored, and continue walking to the end of the track. From there we will loop back to the trestle bridge and walk back into Noojee along the main road for lunch.

After lunch we take our cars to the Toorong Falls car park (9 km) and complete the loop walk up to the Toorong Falls and return via the Amphitheatre Falls. The falls were cascading during the June preview, so hoping for the same in September. Note, the track can be slippery when wet.

Both walks will include walking along parts of the Latrobe River and the Toorong River, with mature trees, and fern gullies. At the end of the walk, we hope to and time permitting,

have tea/coffee at a friend's property in Noojee where he feeds a variety of wild parrots.

We meet at 10:30 am, at the Noojee steam locomotive car park. From Melbourne take the Monash Freeway/Princes Freeway to Warragul, turn off at the Neerim South/Noojee exit C426, and follow C426 into Noojee. Turn right at the Mt Baw Baw tourist road, also C426, go past the Noojee pub where you will see the locomotive steam engine and car park. Allow at least 110 mins for the drive from Melbourne.

Ring Ron for details and to book.



CYCLING

CYCLING: BASS COAST TRAIL

DATE	Saturday 7 September 2013
STANDARD	Medium
DISTANCE	50-60 km
LEADER	Del Franks
TRANSPORT	Private
AREA	Bass Coast

The ride will start at Anderson Car park opposite the roundabout turn off for Phillip Island at 9:30 am.

This trail is best known for the trestle bridge at Kilcunda, which has a surf beach as its backdrop. The trail traverses farmland with spectacular coastal and rural views. The area is also rich in historical mining sites, including the Mining Museum in Wonthaggi.

After Wonthaggi the ride will be extended to Cape Patterson. While this ride is a there and back again ride it should give us a comprehensive view of the Bass Coast Line.

The surface of the ride will include fine gravel and bitumen, so is suitable for most bikes.

If you are interested in this ride please give me a call.



WORK PARTY

REGENT HONEYEATER PLANTING

DATE	7-8 September 2013
STANDARD	Easy
LEADER	Ray Thomas
TRANSPORT	Private

For details of this weekend, please see page 5, June News.



SUNDAY BUS

CAMELS HUMP – MT CHARLIE

DATE	Sunday 8 September 2013
STANDARDS	Easy/Medium and Medium
DISTANCES	17 km, 19 km
ELEVATIONS	E/M 170 m, M 320 m approx.
LEADERS	Deb Shand, Marilia Cipolloni
TRANSPORT	Bus – Leaving Southbank Blvd at 8:45am
AREA	Macedon Range
MAP REFERENCE	Vicmaps T7823-3-4-2, T7823-3-1-3, T7823-3-2-4

This walk starts by climbing the Camel's Hump near Mt. Macedon to admire the views over Hanging Rock and beyond, then through Day's Picnic Ground to the delightfully reflective Sanitorium Lake. From there we wend our way along

tracks down off the mountain and along country lanes with grand gateways and rural views.

The best part of the walk is left to last as we climb Mt Charlie through open forest lush with grass trees, with the bonus of some off-track walking to reach the summit. We then have a steepish descent which may require some bush-bashing before we can locate the overgrown and elusive track that leads us back to the bus.

If you enjoy a good walk with some hills (less for the E/M group) and scenic views, then this is for you. It is not suitable for visitors unless they have bushwalking experience.

Be prepared with warm clothes if the weather is cool – on the preview we found that Mt Macedon can be bitterly cold and foggy even when the sun is shining in Melbourne!



WEDNESDAY WALK

POWELLTOWN – SEVEN ACRE ROCK

DATE Wednesday 11 September 2013
STANDARD Easy
DISTANCE 16 km
LEADER Doug Pocock
TRANSPORT Private
AREA Yarra State Forest
MAP REFERENCE Rooftop Yarra Valley – West Gippsland

A pleasant walk in the forest near Powelltown. There is a gradual climb to the lunch spot and a gradual descent after lunch back to the cars. Lunch is at Seven Acre Rock with excellent views to the south. On the preview it was interesting to see the vegetation change at the Rocks.

Take the Warburton Highway and turn off on the Yarra Junction – Noojee Rd. Travel 14.7 km to Learmonth Creek Rd (just before Powelltown) and turn right. Park about 200 metres up here at the junction with Torbet Rd. I have it on good authority that the weather will be fine, but being Powelltown make sure you have wet weather gear.



SUNDAY CAR POOL

CURRAWONG FALLS AND IRONBARK GORGE

DATE Sunday 15 September 2013
STANDARD Easy
DISTANCE 11 km
LEADER Del Franks
TRANSPORT Car pool leaving Southbank Blvd at 8:45 am
AREA Airey's Inlet and Anglesea Heathland
MAP REFERENCE The Otways and Shipwreck Coast

This walk has not been done by the club as a Sunday walk since 2004 due to fires in the peat grounds. This was a delightful walk and although we saw evidence of the 2009 fires, Parks Victoria had done a great job in restoring the path.

The walk will first do the Ironbark Gorge Circuit Walk and then head down the track towards the Currawong Falls. While there is a steady climb up to a lookout point it is not too strenuous. About 1 km down this track there is a lookout point which was a great spot for morning tea.

We will then follow the track to the trig point and the falls. Watch out for the blind bends just before and after the Tree Fern Grove Point.

If we finish the walk in time we should be able to enjoy a drink in Airey's Inlet or Anglesea.



MOFS WALK

BIRDSLAND RESERVE

DATE Monday 16 September 2013
STANDARD Easy
DISTANCE 10 km
ELEVATION Some hills
LEADER Alister Rowe
TRANSPORT Private/public
AREA Belgrave Heights
MAP REFERENCE Melway 83 and 84

Meet at 10:30 am in the carpark at Melway 84 B2. The turnoff into the Reserve is to the right off McNicol Rd, almost opposite Apsley Rd. Alternatively, I could arrange a pick-up from Tecoma Station at 10:00 am.

I guess this area is familiar to most. Given a fine day, it is an excellent place for a walk with some good views and bushland scenery. Book with leader.



WORK PARTY

REGENT HONEYEATER PLANTING

DATE 21–22 September 2013
STANDARD Easy
LEADER Deb Shand
TRANSPORT Private

Although there are a number of planting weekends organised by Ray Thomas, I would like to gather a group of Melbourne Bushwalkers to attend this weekend. We can organise car-pooling to travel up to Benalla on Saturday morning. Free accommodation is provided in the Scout Hall, or you can bring a tent and camp outside. There are also motels and a caravan park in Benalla if those options appeal more after a day toiling in the soil. Saturday night dinner and bush dancing is provided, so there is plenty of fun to be had!

If you haven't been on a tree planting weekend before, consider coming this year. It's a wonderful way to learn more about bush plants and animals, put something back into the world and meet many other people from different places who enjoy the outdoors.



SUNDAY BUS

YANKEE CREEK

DATE Sunday 22 September 2013
STANDARDS Easy and Easy/Medium
LEADERS Michael Murray and Kevin Hitchman
TRANSPORT Bus – Leaving Southbank Blvd at 8:45 am

For details of this walk please contact the leaders, or see next month's News.





SOCIAL WALK

SOUTH SURREY PARK – BACK CREEK

DATE Thursday 26 September 2013
STANDARD Easy
DISTANCE 5 km
ELEVATION Flat
LEADER Jean Giese
TRANSPORT Private
AREA Surrey Hills, Camberwell
MAP REFERENCE Melway 60

This walk was on the program last January but we had to cancel because the forecast was for 34 degrees—far too hot for the seniors of our club! We should be right this time to enjoy the lovely Surrey Park and the green reserves which link it to Lynden Park. Lunch afterwards in Café Via Biscotti.

Meet on the corner of Riversdale Rd. and Verdun St. Melways 60G2 before 10:30. Book with leader.



PACK CARRY

BRISBANE RANGES

DATE 27–29 September 2013
STANDARD Easy
SIZE LIMIT 12
DISTANCE 25 km
ELEVATION Between 300 and 400 m
LEADER Judith Shaw
TRANSPORT Private
AREA Brisbane Ranges
MAP REFERENCE Meridian map 1:30,000, Brisbane Ranges National Park

The Brisbane Ranges National Park, set within a low-lying mountain range, is a rugged landscape of steep rocky gorges and open stringybark forest. It is one of Victoria’s richest koala and bird habitats, and there is a good chance of encountering eastern grey kangaroos, wallabies, echidnas, possums, sugar gliders and eagles. We will see the area at its best, in early spring, with magnificent displays of grass trees, wattles, orchids and a variety of other wildflowers.

This is an easy overnight walk suitable for first-time pack carriers. The track is well-made and mostly flat, with one or two steep sections involving climbs or descents of up to 100 m. The pace will be leisurely, with plenty of time for photography and bird-watching. From our starting point at Boar Gully at the northern end of the ranges we follow the Burchell Track 10 km to our overnight stop on the banks of the Little River. The next day we continue along the Burchell Track for 15 km, finishing at Fridays picnic ground on Sunday afternoon, with optional afternoon tea at the nearby historic mining town of Stieglitz.

We start at 9 am on Saturday and finish mid-afternoon on Sunday. The starting point is about an hour’s drive from Melbourne so there is the option of camping at Boar Gully on Friday night or driving up from Melbourne on Saturday morning. If camping on Friday night you will need to contact Parks Victoria on 131963 to book a campsite.

Telephone or email Judith to book or for further information.



DANDENONGS EXPLORER

DATE Saturday 28 September 2013
STANDARD Easy/Medium
DISTANCE Approximately 12 km
LEADER Maureen Hurley
TRANSPORT Private
AREA Yarra Ranges

At the time of writing I had not previewed this walk. Please keep an eye on September’s News and/or check out the website for further details of this walk.



SUNDAY CAR POOL

QUARRY TRACK (BRISBANE RANGES)

DATE Sunday 29 September 2013
STANDARD Easy/Medium
ELEVATIONS in total 310 m
LEADER Richard Hanson
TRANSPORT Car – Leaving Southbank Blvd at 8:45 am
AREA Brisbane Ranges
MAP REF Meridian Maps – Brisbane Ranges 1st Ed 2010
LEADER Richard Hanson

This will be a circuit walk which will include part of the 3 day Burchell Trail. It will start from Boar Gully Camping Ground and follow the Little River Track, Wallaby Track, Macs Track, Thompson Highway, Slate Track, Quarry Track, Old Thompsons Road back to Boar Gully Camping Ground.

It will be spring, we should have wildflowers and the weather will be warmer. The walk will include grass trees, a slate quarry and will be a great opportunity for a pleasant walk close to Melbourne.



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 2013				
Sun 1	Richards Track (Warburton East)	Car	E/M	Stuart Hanham
Thu 5	Noojee Trestle Bridge and Toorong Falls	Pvt	Easy	Ron Evans
Sat 7	Cycling: Bass Coast Trail	Pvt	Med	Del Franks
7-8	Regent Honeyeater planting	Pvt	Easy	Ray Thomas
Sun 8	Camels Hump – Mt Charlie	Bus	E/M & M	Deb Shand and Marilia Cipolloni
Wed 11	Powelltown – Seven Acre Rocks	Pvt	E/M	Doug Pocock
Sun 15	Currawong Falls and Ironbark Gorge	Car	Easy	Del Franks
Mon 16	Birdsland Reserve	Pvt	Easy	Alister Rowe
21-22	Regent Honeyeater planting	Pvt	Easy	Deb Shand
Sun 22	Yankee Creek	Bus	E & E/M	Michael Murray and Kevin Hitchman
Thu 26	South Surrey Park – Back Creek	Car	Easy	Jean Giese
27-29	PC: Brisbane Ranges	Pvt	E/M	Judith Shaw
Sat 28	Dandenongs Explorer	Pvt	E/M	Maureen Hurley
Sun 29	Quarry Track (Brisbane Ranges)	Car	E/M	Richard Hanson

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