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THE NEWS OF THE Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc.

ABN 14 396 912 508

November 2018

**Melbourne Bushwalkers
2018 Christmas Party**

Monday 10th December, 7pm to 10pm

**BYO Plate to Share
Drinks can be purchased from the bar.**

**Mission to Seafarers
717 Flinders Street
Docklands**

CHANGE OF SUNDAY WALKS DEPARTURE LOCATION FROM 22ND JULY

Due to redevelopment works in Southbank Boulevard the departure point for all Sunday walks (bus and carpool) commencing on or after Sunday 22nd July will depart from the Alternate Departure Point (Cnr. A'Beckett Street and William Street) adjacent to the clubrooms.

Visit the location map on the website for more details on public transport and parking options.

https://mbw.org.au/MBW_club_locn.php

Details of the redevelopment plans for the area can be found here:

<https://www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/building-and-development/shaping-the-city/city-projects/southbank-boulevard/Pages/transforming-southbank-boulevard-dodds-street.aspx>

Due date for contributions (including January previews) to December News: 21 November

MEMBER OF



Bushwalking Victoria

Members of the Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc meet on Wednesday evenings between 7:00 and 9:00 pm in the clubrooms 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 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 2 December 2018

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the following new members:

Loretta Monda
Anne Michelson
Thao Ly
Cam McDowell
Tanja Ramljak
Holly Mullaney

TIM DENT 1942–2018



If you were in the club in the 1960s and 70s you will remember Tim Dent, who died on October 9 after a battle with cancer. Tim joined in 1966 and was active for many years. He established himself as an excellent navigator and led many very rewarding trips to the Victorian high country and elsewhere. In 1969 he traveled to England via the Asian overland route and returned two years later with a wife, Helen. Tim and Helen were an integral part of the club scene in the 1970s and participated in many walks and also cross-country skiing trips, many of which were at Wilkinson Lodge.

But Tim was much more than a bushwalker. By the 1980s he had gravitated to orienteering and rogaining, at which he excelled, to put it mildly. He represented Australia in international orienteering events. In rogaining he and his partner were world champions in various age groups, and were well-placed in the open category until well into their seventies. Marathon running was also part of Tim's repertoire.

All this activity and achievement came with a mild-mannered and modest demeanour, Tim will be remembered and missed by those who were privileged to know him.

Jerry Grandage

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN – NOVEMBER 2018



Melbourne Bushwalkers is an organisation that never ceases to engage my attention with the breadth and depth of its membership interests. Go a little deeper than the small talk around planned walks and equipment selection, not that these aren't absorbing and, at times, provocative topics, and you can be stimulated by any number of insights and personal perspectives. It is our shared passion for bushwalking that binds our membership community together, often so much so that we can overlook the fact that we all have many other and different interests and histories. While day walks offer many opportunities to engage in conversation, the time spent sitting around a camp fire or grouped together around a make-shift cooking area after a day filled with varied and challenging walking is my preferred time when conversation flows more readily. It is a great time to relax and a time to let thoughts and ideas wander.

Now that the warmer months are with us again I have been making the most of the chance to get out and do multi-day activities at the weekends. I am grateful to the members who have taken the time to lead activities for other members to join, albeit with some provisos on skills and fitness. I have found it notable how often I have been walking with members that I have not walked with before on a multi-day activity, or whom I have not walked with for many months, sometimes years. It is more than a simple observation that the weather is getting warmer that explains the breadth of participation. There is good reason to note that we are expanding the cohort of members with a new or renewed interest in multi-day walks. Our challenge as a club will be in providing the number and diversity of activities to kindle the interest. The attention given by the club Committee through our many volunteers to building general member skills, providing leader training and offering advice on equipment selection, all go towards underpinning our future success.

In recent months I have also taken the opportunity to attend the Bushwalking Victoria Board meetings as a visitor. Bushwalking Victoria is the umbrella organisation through which individual affiliated clubs like our own can channel ideas and concerns to government and public land managers, or simply to draw on the experience of other clubs. As a club we have benefitted from the framework material assembled for leader training, drawn upon templates for policy development and united in our concern around the potential introduction of undue regulation of adventure activities. It is not appropriate to comment here on confidential Bushwalking Victoria Board discussions, however, I can note that the matters and initiatives before the Bushwalking Victoria Board are pertinent to our future as a club and the better informed we are the greater the opportunity to respond. Four areas of note this year that I can mention are the maintenance of a watching brief on the development of the Australian Activity Standards, discussions on the options for engagement with the active bushwalking Meetup community, a discussion paper on the implications for clubs of an aging membership profile, and the development of a Child Safety Policy and Code of Conduct. These topics are not unrelated and reflect a continuing evolution of community expectations for behaviour, responsibility and commitment.

Another issue that continues to evolve and impact on our activities is the important question of privacy. Bushwalking Victoria released last year a framework document for a privacy policy that was duly considered by the Melbourne Bushwalkers Committee. It is an area we continue to monitor and stay informed about in our choices around membership records and member interactions. It is also an area in which we individually have to be informed. The expanding impact of the digital revolution, still in its infancy according to some commentators, makes the sharing of information or the inadvertent release of information all too common. Social Media postings, photo sharing sites, personal blogs and even articles to digital publications are well within the reach of us all.

As a club we post photographs to our website and, from time to time, our Facebook Page. We respect the request of any member not to be photographed and will immediately remove any personal photograph a member does not want to have displayed. We never tag members and avoid identification by name. We cannot, however, police the actions of members who participate in our activities and post to personal sites. We do not place any restrictions on members posting or publishing comments based on their experiences of walking with Melbourne Bushwalkers, however, we do request that any member doing so respect these guidelines:

1. There should be an acknowledgement of the club in any posting or article based on a club activity; and
2. Any photographs of members posted to any site other than a club site should seek the prior permission of the members photographed before publication.

Ian Mair

Social Event

**Wednesday 28 November, 8 pm,
Clubrooms, Cnr. A'Beckett and William Streets, City
WALKING THE DOLOMITES**



Located in northern Italy, between the two Italian provinces of Trentino and Alto Adige, they cover some 350 000 acres. It's an expansive region, encompassing 18 major peaks and a number of charming mountain towns.

The Dolomites have always had an enormous impact on the imagination of those who have set eyes on them. The majestic grandeur of these stone giants has inspired epic sagas in its inhabitants since prehistory, to the point where it has become an essential part of their cultural identity. They are universally acknowledged as 'the most beautiful mountains on Earth' and have become a worldwide standard of mountain beauty.

The human being has softened the territory of the South-Tyrolean Dolomites, through work and agriculture. In this way, a unique landscape has been created in the Alps, which is researched and appreciated by the most demanding tourists. There is nature and there are many events, but there are traditions as well; the landscape presents cities with the fascination of Middle Europe, mediaeval castles, gothic churches, isolated huts, historic and design hotels, and restaurants. In the summer, the most fascinating characteristic of these territories are geraniums. Every balcony has plenty of them. A peculiarity.

South Tyrolean Dolomites represent a lifestyle: a union of nature, entertainment, relaxation and wellness. The local cuisine is unique. The typical Alpine cuisine has been connected to the Italian one. And do not forget culture, harmonies characterised by art and the majesty of the landscape. Come along for an evening to discover the beauty of the South-Tyrolean Dolomites in winter and summer.

Susanne has walked extensively throughout the region, she will share her experiences.
Wine and Cheese also available.



FIRST AID TRAINING

When: Saturday, 24 November

Where: Premium Health, 115–117 Gardenvale Road, Gardenvale

Time: 9:00 am to 3:30 pm

The course leads to the HLTAID003 first aid certificate. Six to eight hours of prior private study is required (course book provided) with a pre-class test sheet to be completed. During the 7+ hours of class work participants must:

- demonstrate competent CPR performance on an infant and adult manikin (1 manikin per student)
- participate in three first aid scenarios
- complete a written knowledge assessment
- apply first aid procedures for a variety of first aid conditions

Satisfactory completion of the course requirements leads to a nationally-recognised certificate valid for three years.

The instructor is an experienced trauma paramedic with a strong bushwalking background. The course will be tailored towards bushwalkers. The provider, Premium Health, have 30 years' experience and currently deliver first aid training to 45,000 participants per year.

Cost:

Melbourne Bushwalkers members who enrol will qualify for a club subsidy reducing the cost to \$50 per attendee. Melbourne Bushwalkers walk leaders who have led at least two walks in the preceding 12 months will be eligible to attend for free.

Booking:

Send an email to firstaid@mbw.org.au to express your interest. Check the club website for further details.



EASTERN STRATHBOGIE RANGES TRAVERSE 22-23 SEPTEMBER 2018

Leader: Ray Thomas Distance: 20km, medium
Maps: Mt Strathbogie, Moonee Moonee Creek, 1:25,000



There were 11 in our party, consisting of our leader Ray, (MBW/VMTC), Jude, Owen, Sylvia (MBW), Paul, Jurgen, Sal and Wendy (VMTC), Charlie and Sigrid (Bayside), and prospective new member Andrew, a neighbour of Ray.

Most of us camped on Friday night at James' Reserve on Lima East Road, ready for a quick and early departure, 7:30 am on Saturday. Two cars were left at the walk's end point about 2 km north of Friday night's camp, and the party then proceeded quite a distance to the walk start point on the very southern edge of the Strathbogie Ranges.

It took the best part of an hour to get cars sorted, but was the only way to easily traverse the entire eastern escarpment, following the high ridges overlooking the Broken River and Lake Nillahcootie.

Photos were taken and we picked up a day's supply of water at the creek only about 100 m from where we parked the cars. From here it was up and up; our aim being Mt Strathbogie, the highest point, for lunch. Ray had planned a kind route, ascending an open ridge with lots of little knolls to break up the climb; 14 of them in all, providing a good rest on each!

The weather was excellent for walking, about 20 degrees, full sun and a gentle breeze ... what more could you want?

On the way up, Ray described the geology and vegetation as it changed with altitude and aspect. We started in the lower Sedimentary country on the Mansfield side of Mt Strathbogie, and we saw how the rocks

(continued over the page)

EASTERN STRATHBOGIE RANGES TRAVERSE *(continued from page 6)*

had been baked very hard by the molten granite beneath. A succession of tough metamorphosed peaks still stick out, long after the softer unbaked rocks have broken down and washed away.

Eventually we climbed out of the Sediments into the more fertile Granite country, and the change in vegetation was dramatic! Tall, moist forests quickly replaced the stunted forests of the dry foothills, and the huge granite boulders coated in velvet green moss, were absolutely magnificent.

We went over the top of Mt. Strathbogie (with its large telecommunications tower) and stopped on the second, more picturesque peak, for lunch among the boulders. At only a little over 1000 m, the area is covered with stands of snow gums and mountain gums that have survived here on this isolated peak since the end of the last Ice Age!!

After lunch, it was steeply down a northern spur clambering over, down and through mazes of huge granite boulders and flowering dry forests, until we reached a dirt road. This was a pleasant stroll, giving an opportunity to relax and enjoy the forest scenery for a couple of kilometres until we reached our next stage – Sandy Creek.

This proved to be a delightful well-flowing little creek, fern-lined, with beautiful clear water and a sandy base. The winter floods had left plenty of debris and fallen trees around, which made progress slow in places, and required plenty of creek crossings. Following vague deer tracks really helped the situation, and we even heard the loud warning honk of a deer very close by. But our hard work and concentration along the creek was very well rewarded by the spectacular views from the top of some magnificent, high waterfalls.

As we were running a bit behind time, the decision was made to camp for the night on a low ridge, right opposite the falls. This was a spectacular camp site, with gentle sounds of the cascades filtering through the trees, and outstanding views to boot. To top it off, we were high enough to be out of the cold air drainage basin, so had a warmer night, and completely dry tents in the morning. What a bonus!

The dawn chorus of birds was the prelude for another spectacular day.

We continued down the creek valley for several more kilometres, with mostly beautiful open peppermint forest. By now we had seen masses of delicate wildflowers amongst the native grasses – austral bears' ears, colonies of slaty helmet orchids, blunt greenhood orchids, the curious low heath bush known as 'honey pots', and a myriad of other natives.

From a carefully pin-pointed bend in the creek, Ray navigated and led us splendidly up and up again, until we reached the very scenic Lightning Ridge. Atop the ridge, we had a well-deserved rest and a break for lunch beside the roadway.

Then we were off-track again, traversing magnificent country with huge rock slabs, moss-covered granite tors, and beautiful long-distance views out to the Great Divide. Splashes of green and gold revealed many different wattles, some which were rare. Ray even spotted a very rare pea species, which is known from only a couple of other spots near Euroa. The discovery was so special that a specimen was taken as a botanical record for the National Herbarium.

Nearing the final stretch of our walk, we felt lucky to have such easy going route through beautiful open forests, soft underfoot with a massive carpet of native tussock grasses. Again, Ray explained about the ecology that underpins the scenery. The Wiry Tussock Grasses are so long-lived and so tough, that they gradually dominate over shrub species that simply die of old age after 40 or 50 years.

With less competition from the shrubs (and little grazing as well), the grass tussocks grow thicker and thicker, eventually covering the ground completely. And here the shrub seeds lie buried, dormant under the matted vegetation, only germinating when the next bushfire cracks the hard seed coat, and starts the process all over again.

We reached Scott's Peak, with the most outstanding 180 degree views towards the Alps. Standing on huge granite slabs, we could easily see lots of familiar landmarks: the snow-clad peaks of Buller, Stirling & Buffalo in the distance; Mt Samaria just beyond Lake Nillahcootie below us; and The Paps and Mansfield further up the Broken River to the south and south east.

From here it was down a long, steep spur, through extensive stands of flowering shrubs, a brief sortie to look for some hidden caves (that still remain hidden!!), and finally down the scarp to farm land, and the road back to the cars. After another long car shuffle, it was time to return home, ready to return again next time for another great adventure with Ray.

The accompanying photo is courtesy of Andrew Newton, prospective new club member.

Sylvia McLean

MITCHELL RIVER THREE DAY PACK CARRY 28 TO 30 SEPTEMBER 2018

It was Grand Final weekend and the weather prediction was not good. But a small group of 6, including two visitors had made the long drive to Gippsland on Thursday afternoon, to the isolated but pretty Echo Bend Campground on the edge of the Mitchell River National Park for the 3 day walk.

We set out on Friday morning in sunshine and followed the river for about 16 kilometre, the track often climbed high, giving us wonderful views of the river valley and then would drop back down so we were walking down on its banks and could see and hear its many rapids. I had rafted this river around 30 years ago, so lots of memories for me. Day one was a very scenic and enjoyable walk but with a few challenging climbs to test our fitness.

We reached our secluded campground by the river in the late afternoon and set up our tents before the predicted rain started. It was an early night as the rain settled in and continued for most of the night.

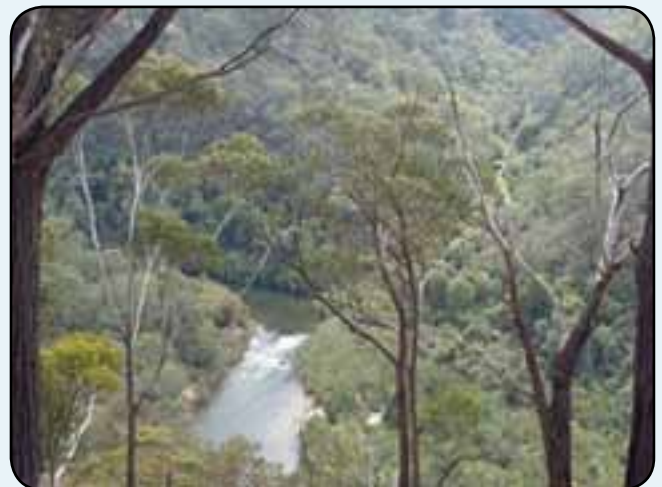
Saturday, we awoke to sunshine again and lots of bird song. We set off up the track to Angusvale with only day packs, again following the river and enjoying the scenery. This was around an 18 kilometre return walk including a few small side trips to view the rapids/river or views.

Back at our campsite we relaxed around our small campfire and Di (our Leader and a Collingwood Supporter) was able to pick up and listen to the end of the Grand Final.

Sunday, again we had a beautiful sunny day, after a cold night and packed up our still wet tents and headed back to the Echo Bend Campground. We met some people rafting the river and were able to watch them attempt the rapids from the viewpoint above the Amphitheatre. A quick visit to the Den of Nargun on the way back as well.

A very enjoyable walk, with thanks to our small team consisting of Ian, Gael, Di (our leader), our two visitors Sal and Wendy and myself.

Jill Allen



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.

**ALTERNATIVE DEPARTURE POINT
FOR SUNDAY WALKS OPPOSITE
CLUBROOM**

When advised, the alternative departure point for Sunday walks noted on the walks program and in previews will be at the bus stop on the northern corner of A'Beckett Street and William Street, opposite the clubrooms at the Royal Historical Society building.



BTAC will be undertaking track maintenance with Parks Victoria along the North-South Cathedral Circuit. For details and expressions of interest please contact David Miller, BTAC's Projects Coordinator on projects@bushwalkingvictoria.org.au with a copy to environment@mbw.org.au.



TRACK MAINTENANCE

HOWQUA TRACK WORK

DATE 1-2 December 2018
STANDARD Easy/Medium
MBW CONTACT John Terrell
TRANSPORT Private
ACTIVITY AREA Howqua River

BTAC will be undertaking track maintenance with Parks Victoria in the Howqua area of the Alpine National Park. For details and expressions of interest please contact David Miller, BTAC's Projects Coordinator on projects@bushwalkingvictoria.org.au with a copy to environment@mbw.org.au.



SUNDAY BUS

STARLING GAP - ADA TREE
 (PLEASE NOTE: ALTERNATIVE DEPARTURE POINT)

DATE Sunday 2 December 2018
RETURN TIME About 6:45 pm
STANDARDS Easy/medium and Medium
DISTANCES About 14 and 18 km
LEADERS Theo Mertzandis and Bettina Brill
TRANSPORT Bus - leaving cnr A'Beckett and William Streets (opposite clubrooms) at 8:45 am
ACTIVITY AREA Yarra State Forest
MAP REFERENCE Rooftops - Yarra Valley-West Gippsland adventure map 1:50,000

FIRE BAN DISTRICT Central
TEMPERATURE REFERENCE SITE Yarra Glen

This is a walk along well-formed foot tracks that are gently undulating through mature forest (except for a steep descent at the start of the Easy/Medium walk). It's ideal for this time of year with plenty of shade.



TRACK MAINTENANCE

CATHEDRAL RANGE TRACK WORK

DATE 24-25 November 2018
STANDARD Easy/Medium
MBW CONTACT John Terrell
TRANSPORT Private
AREA Cathedral Ranges

We will pass through remnants of ancient eucalyptus and rainforest that have escaped fire for centuries. There will be shady fern gullies and some of the largest trees in Victoria including the Ada Tree. This is a 75 m giant mountain ash that only escaped the axe because it was thought to be termite-ridden. Others were not so lucky and we will see their huge stumps decaying back into the soil. We will pass other remnants from the era, including a mountain of sawdust, tramway alignments, an impressive log bridge and some old machinery.

This is a walk steeped in history and rich in biodiversity. Come along and enjoy the fresh forest air, meeting new people, the scenery and the exercise!

Don't forget: bring spare footwear – it may be muddy – and extra water.



TOFS WALK

WILSON BOTANIC PARK – BERWICK PARKLANDS

DATE	Thursday 6 December 2018
STANDARD	Easy
DISTANCE	Approximately 10 km
ELEVATION	Mostly fairly even with some slight slopes
LEADER	Rosemary Cotter
TRANSPORT	Private
ACTIVITY AREA	Berwick
MAP REFERENCE	Melway map 111 B6
FIRE BAN DISTRICT	Central
TEMPERATURE REFERENCE SITE	Melbourne

Linking small parks and linear green areas adjacent to the Botanic Park makes for an interesting walk. A couple of years ago we observed that there were some excellent tree plantings along the way and in the Botanic Park there is a wealth of native plants as well as a good collection of southern hemisphere conifers. The Park was opened in March 1992 in memory of early pioneers.

Note that the nearest train station is 2 km from the park.

The leader has yet to re-preview this walk for possible changes so talk with the leader later in November if you want further details.



PACK CARRY

TALI KARNG: MCFARLANE SADDLE – WELLINGTON RIVER

DATE	7–9 December 2018
RETURN TIME	10 pm Sunday 9 December
STANDARD	Medium
DISTANCE	31 km: Saturday 20.5 km, Sunday 11.5 km
LEADER	Claire Luxford
TRANSPORT	Private – approx. 300 km from Melb CBD
ACTIVITY AREA	Alpine Region, Gippsland
MAP REFERENCE	Tali Karng–Moroka 1:50,000
FIRE BAN DISTRICT	North Eastern
TEMPERATURE REFERENCE SITE	Mt Buller

Friday night we plan to camp on the banks of the Wellington River at Platypus campsite Number 14. The walk ends here. There will be an early start Saturday morning commencing with a drive to McFarlane Saddle approx. 20 km away. The track is fairly well defined and offers pleasant walking.

Lake Tali Karng is a freshwater lake nestled between hills, high up in the Victorian Alps accessible only by foot. It is an extraordinary place of stillness and beauty.



The Tali Karng walk offers magnificent views and landscape. The scenery changes from snow gum forests with towering trees to grassy plateaus that are home to native alpine grasses. Our route will commence at McFarlane Saddle and cross the Wellington Plains, and descend to the lake which is 13 km. There is little change in elevation but a very steep descent to the lake dropping approximately 600 m in a kilometre. The descent is 4 km in total.

The lake is a sacred site of the Gunaikurnai people (local indigenous people) and they have requested that we do not camp at the lake.

If the weather permits we can certainly have a swim in the lake and spend time exploring and visit Snowden Falls at the far end of the lake before making our way to camp on the Wellington River below the lake.

At the Western end of the lake we will follow the Clive Lanigan Walking Track and climb over a shallow saddle (which forms the top of the landslide that created the lake) and descend the boulder-filled Valley of Destruction.

Sunday: The Wellington River/Clive Lanigan Track route is 11.5 km and has 13 river crossings; please wear shoes you are happy to get wet as there will not be time to take your shoes off at each river crossing.

The 2006 bushfires destroyed all traces of track; in 2010 a new track was cut following the original route.



SUNDAY PUBLIC TRANSPORT

WILLIAMSTOWN – WESTGATE PUNT – PORT MELBOURNE

DATE	Sunday 9 December 2018
STANDARD	Easy/Medium
DISTANCE	12 km
LEADER	Susanne Etti
TRANSPORT	Private
FIRE BAN DISTRICT	Central
TEMPERATURE REFERENCE SITE	Melbourne

Meeting at Flinders Street Station (underneath the clocks) at 8:45, we will be taking the train to Williamstown via Newport. It is an easy 12 km gentle walk from Williamstown to Port Melbourne via the Yarra Punt all along the waterfront and on foot paths (concrete).

When arriving in Williamstown we will take the scenic bay route along The Strand. Along our walk we will have some of the best views of the city skyline.

We will finish the day with a coffee in Port Melbourne before taking tram 109 back into the city.

Be sure to bring a valid MYKI card to travel to Williamstown on the day, plus \$5 for the Westgate Punt.



SOCIAL

MELBOURNE BUSHWALKERS CHRISTMAS PARTY

DATE Monday 10 December 2018
TIME 7 pm to 10 pm
VENUE Mission to Seafarers Victoria (MtSV),
 717 Flinders Street, City.

Meet up with other bushwalkers you've met during the year, check out the new clubrooms.
 Bring a plate of food to share. Drinks can be purchased at the bar.
 See poster on page 1 of this newsletter.



WEDNESDAY WALK

ROYAL AND PRINCES PARKS PARKVILLE WANDER

DATE Wednesday 12 December 2018
STANDARD Easy
DISTANCE 10–12 km at the most
TOTAL ASCENT Barely noticeable
LEADER Sandra Mutimer
TRANSPORT Private and public
ACTIVITY AREA Royal and Princes Parks, Parkville
MAP REFERENCE Melway maps 29, 43
FIRE BAN DISTRICT Central
TEMPERATURE REFERENCE SITE Melbourne

In 1845 Governor Charles La Trobe set up large areas for parkland and open space around the growing city of Melbourne and this included Royal Park. Although its size has gradually been reduced since then, at 170 hectares it remains the largest of Melbourne's parks.

This will be a relaxed walk in which we will be wandering through Royal and Princes Parks and discovering lots of interesting things along the way. There will be views of the CBD skyline as we go through sections of native bushland, wetlands and an Australian native garden and visiting a few surprising places.

Then afterwards we will have our Christmas get-together, or whatever you'd like to call it, with shared plates of goodies at a place not far away from where we met and where the cars are parked. For anyone who would like to join us after the walk we will be at the Trin Warren Tamboore (Bellbird Waterhole) and you will need to look for the carpark off Oak St reet/ Manningham Road, Parkville

We will meet at 10:15 am, ready to leave at 10:30 am, at the Zoo carpark off Poplar Avenue close to the Royal Park station. Drivers will need to pay \$2 to park for 5 hours parking. For those travelling by train you will reach the Royal Park station on the Upfield line, and by tram stop 26 or 27 on the 58 line.

To book on the walk or to find out more about it please contact me.



PACK CARRY

MT BULLER WEST RIDGE
 (TIMBERTOP SADDLE TO MIRIMBAH)

DATE Friday 14 to Sunday 16 December 2018
STANDARD Medium/Hard
DISTANCE Approximately 21 km
TOTAL ASCENT Approximately 1500 m up,
 approximately 1700 m down
LEADER Agajan Akbari
TRANSPORT Private
ACTIVITY AREA Timbertop – Mt Buller
MAP REFERENCE Buller–Howitt Alpine Area
 Outdoor Recreation Guide 1:50,000
FIRE BAN DISTRICT North Eastern
TEMPERATURE REFERENCE SITE Mt Buller



Rugged, beautiful and scenic, this classic excursion provides a spectacular walk with magnificent views of Mt Buller and the surroundings.

Plan is: after car shuffle to Mirimbah picnic ground Saturday 8:30 am, we drive to the start of the walk at Timbertop Saddle and walk via Mt Timbertop to Round Hill. The walk continues until a saddle where we may camp Saturday night (if not suitable we will camp elsewhere). On Sunday walk continues via West Ridge to Mt Buller Summit. Subject to the party preference we will either descend to Mirimbah picnic ground via McLaughlin Shoulder – Mirimbah Spur (overgrown off-track) or McLaughlin Shoulder – Klingsporn (good track).

During this walk, we will be walking through snow gums, hopefully seeing some wild flowers and be rewarded with superb views of Victorian Alps. Walk also includes some exposed ridge walking, steep clambering/descending, rock scrambling as well as walking on scree-like surfaces, fallen trees and other objects on hiking paths. Participants are required to be prepared for hot and cold weather conditions, well equipped with all types of hiking gear and carrying own personal first aid kit and have valid Ambulance Victoria (or similar) membership.

Suggested Friday night campsite is just north of Sawmill Settlement (off Mansfield–Mt Buller Road – route: C320) before Mt Buller/Mt Stirling winter snow check point GR 58933/4437. Direction: After Sawmill Settlement turn left at Carters Road. The camping area is about 100 m past the picnic area on the right hand side.

If you are interested in the walk or would like more information contact me via email.



SUNDAY BUS

PORTARLINGTON – INDENTED HEAD + WINERY
(PLEASE NOTE: ALTERNATIVE DEPARTURE POINT)

DATE	Sunday 16 December 2018
RETURN TIME	Return to cnr. A'Beckett and William Streets at 6:30 pm
STANDARDS	Easy and Easy/Medium
DISTANCES	12 km and 15 km
TOTAL ASCENTS	Negligible
LEADERS	Deb Shand and Angela Vetsicas
TRANSPORT	Bus – leaving cnr A'Beckett and William Streets (opposite clubrooms) at 8:45 am
TRANSPORT COST	Standard Sunday Bus charge of \$25 applies
ACTIVITY AREA	Bellarine Peninsula
MAP REFERENCE	Melway maps 473–4, 460, 445–6
FIRE BAN DISTRICT	Central
TEMPERATURE REFERENCE SITE	Geelong

This walk takes us along the foreshore of Port Phillip Bay on a good bitumen or gravel trail with easy gradient where we will be rewarded with expansive and ever-changing views across the Bay to Melbourne and the You Yangs. Pelicans often frequent the clear waters, and the trail passes historic boat sheds built in the 1920s as well as the wreck of the P.S. Ozone paddle steamer.

Indented Head is a picturesque bayside town and popular holiday destination that was originally named by Matthew Flinders after he landed in the bay in 1802. John Batman also camped here in 1835 where he met escaped convict William Buckley, so the area is steeped in history.

We will finish the walk near St Leonards at the Edwards Point Wildlife Reserve on an inland bush track. This salt marsh area is a haven for many bird species including the endangered Orange Bellied Parrot.

After the walk the bus will take us to the Flying Brick Cider House where we can enjoy a glass of the local brew, wine or coffee and cake before returning to Melbourne in a merry mood.



TOFS WALK

O'SHANNASSY AQUEDUCT TRAIL (CENTRAL SECTION)

DATE	Monday 17 December 2018
RETURN TIME	3:00 pm
STANDARD	Easy
DISTANCE	10 km
ELEVATION	Mainly flat, with some downhill
LEADER	Janet Hodgson
TRANSPORT	Private
ACTIVITY AREA	Warburton
MAP REFERENCE	Melway maps 289, 290
FIRE BAN DISTRICT	Central
TEMPERATURE REFERENCE SITE	Yarra Glen

This walk follows the O'Shannassy Aqueduct through beautiful temperate rainforest with picturesque views overlooking Warburton and surrounds. We will inspect an interesting old trestle bridge before leaving the aqueduct trail and walking into Warburton township for the mandatory coffee and cake. We will then follow the Yarra downstream back to the Warburton Golf Club.

Meet at the Warburton Golf Club (Melway map 289 J4) at 10:15 am for a short car shuffle.

For bookings and further information ring Janet.



SUNDAY CAR POOL

ANAKIE GORGE CIRCUIT
(PLEASE NOTE: ALTERNATIVE DEPARTURE POINT)

DATE	Sunday 23 December 2018
RETURN TIME	6:30 pm to City
STANDARD	Easy/Medium
DISTANCE	13 km
ELEVATION	Moderate
LEADER	Halina Sarbinowski
TRANSPORT	Carpool – leaving cnr A'Beckett and William Streets (opposite clubrooms) at 8:45 am
TRANSPORT COST	\$14.00
ACTIVITY AREA	Brisbane Ranges
MAP REFERENCE	Brisbane Ranges National Park 1:50,000
FIRE BAN DISTRICT	Central
TEMPERATURE REFERENCE SITE	Geelong

This is the Sunday last walk for 2018 so we have chosen a walk with spectacular views and if the weather is kind an opportunity for a swim.

The Brisbane Ranges National Park rises from the flat landscape that is so typical of the area. The Brisbane Ranges are bounded by the same geological fault that runs through nearby Lerderberg and Werribee Gorges, which has created a landscape that is always enjoyed by bushwalkers. The park's lightly wooded hills are criss-crossed with numerous small gorges and narrow valleys. The area is also of great scientific interest, since it is home to over 600 plant species (about one fifth of Victoria's total) and some 170 species of native birds.

Starting from Ballan Road, the walk will follow the Ted Errey Nature Circuit, which not only visits Anakie Gorge but also two lookouts with the best views of the park. Once reaching Stony Creek Picnic area we will be able to explore the new alignment of the Burchell Track (the longest walk throughout the Park) and enjoy lunch on the shores of the Lower Stony Creek Reservoir. If warm bring your bathers. After lunch we will explore the Waddawurong Walk before following the final sections of the Ted Errey Nature Circuit which climbs steadily up through open forest, over a spur before descending into a small valley. The creek and surrounding swamp land are crossed by a boardwalk. The final section of the walk will be along the Outlook Track which follows the ridge line with fine views over the area and finally along Redbeak track for our return to our cars.



BASE CAMP

CHRISTMAS AT CAMP EUREKA, YARRA JUNCTION

DATE	24–28 December
STANDARD	Easy/Medium day walks
DISTANCE	10–15 km
ELEVATION	TBC
LEADER	Susan Maughan
TRANSPORT	Private
TRANSPORT COSTS	8c/km (per person)
AREA	Warburton
FIRE BAN DISTRICT	Central
TEMPERATURE REFERENCE SITE	Yarra Glen

The CAMP EUREKA is now into its fourth year. Located at YARRA JUNCTION, it offers a bush setting for our festivities and has many walking tracks close by, not to mention coffee drinking and river swimming opportunities in Warburton.

THE ACCOMMODATION

Cabins for 1–2 people or family groups, two large dorms, and numerous camping sites.

Stay 1, 2, 3 or 4 nights or come up for the day.

THE FACILITIES

BBQs, large kitchen with everything (the camp is famous for hosting the annual Fiddlers Convention for 100+ people), private access to Little Yarra River for cooling off on hot days and communal outdoor dining table.

THE WALKS

Day walks suited to the weather conditions.

THE PLAN ...

CHRISTMAS EVE – self cater. CHRISTMAS DAY – share a plate for dinner. BOXING DAY – BBQ. 27th – a local pub for dinner.

PLUS– Bring something ‘wacky, batty or tacky’ for the SANTA SACK & OP SHOP GLAM for dinner on Christmas Day.



PACK CARRY

MT JAGUNGAL CIRCUIT

DATE	Wed 26 December to Tue 1 January
STANDARD	Medium
DISTANCE	45 km
TOTAL ASCENT	1600 m rise
LEADER	Ian Mair
TRANSPORT	Private
ACTIVITY AREA	Kosciuszko National Park
MAP REFERENCE	

Leaving Melbourne on Wednesday 26th December, returning Tuesday 1st January.

This is the classic Jagungal walk. Located in the centre of Kosciuszko National Park north of the main range, the predominant peak in the region is Mount Jagungal (2061 m), the seventh highest peak in Australia. Since it stands alone in an extensive plain, Mount Jagungal is visible for many kilometres in all directions. With spectacular subalpine scenery and a couple of creek and river crossings, the trail is reported to be easy to follow, although steep in some places. The side trip up to Mt Jagungal summit, though, could be overgrown and scrubby with some rock scrambling. From the summit a trig marker on top highlights views as far as the eye can see, with Mt Kosciuszko and Mt Townsend off to the south west.
 Day 1 (26 Dec): Drive to Khancoban

Day 2 (27 Dec): Drive to Round Mountain Car Park with side walk to Patons Hut (2 hours return) and walk to Round Mountain campsite (45 minutes)
 Day 3 (28 Dec): Round Mountain to Farm Ridge
 Day 4 (29 Dec): Farm Ridge to Jagungal Saddle or Tumut River (depending on weather)
 Day 5 (30 Dec): Side trip to Jagungal summit
 Day 6 (31 Dec): Return to Round Mountain Car Park via Round Mountain fire trail
 Day 7 (01 Jan): Drive to Melbourne
 Contact Ian if you want to share the experience of this part of the Kosciuszko National Park.



PACK CARRY

PORT DAVEY TRACK, TASMANIA

DATE	Wed 26 December to Wed 2 January 2018
RETURN TIME	See description below
STANDARD	Medium
DISTANCE	71 km
LEADER	Ian Langford
TRANSPORT	Private
TRANSPORT COST	See arrangements below.
ACTIVITY AREA	South West National Park, Tasmania
MAP REFERENCE	Tasmap 1:100,000 South Coast Walks, Chapman, John. 2017. South West Tasmania

The Port Davey Track is a well-graded track that follows river valleys to Bathurst Narrows, a strait between Port Davey and Bathurst Harbour. The Narrows are crossed by rowboat. The track then crosses low hills and plains to Melaleuca. At Melaleuca there is an airstrip, walkers’ huts and a campground. The Port Davey Track is all on track and does not reach high elevations but is exposed above the Lost World Plateau. This walk is within the abilities of most pack carry walkers. Manageable days are scheduled and the pace will be sensible.

Special requirements:

Windproof parka, hood, gloves, over-trousers, winter clothing, warm sleeping bag, water containers for 5 litres.

Itinerary

December 26th a.m. Fly Melbourne–Hobart Airport, 3 pm mini-bus to Scotts Peak Dam (booked). Camp at Huon Campground. Walk campsites as follows: 27th Junction Creek, 28th Crossing River, 29th Watershed Camp, 30th Spring River, 31st Farrell Point, 1st Melaleuca, 2nd fly to Cambridge Aerodrome, fly Hobart Airport–Melbourne.

Food

7 days food. The bus company can buy food in Hobart or bring food from Melbourne.

Fuel

Buy fuel from bus company.

Cost Estimates

Return flight Tullamarine–Hobart: see airline websites, airport bus Melbourne return: \$36, bus Hobart–Scotts Peak: varies, e.g. \$70 for party of 7, flight Melaleuca to Cambridge Aerodrome: \$300, park pass: \$30.

SUN 30: NO SUNDAY WALK – HAPPY NEW YEAR

Bus transport meets at Southbank Boulevard, south side of the Arts Centre, before 8:45 am. After 22 September we will meet the bus at the Alternative Departure Point, corner A'Beckett Street and William Street, adjacent to the Clubrooms. Leader or deputy will be there rain, hail or shine!

December 2018					
1-2	MNT: Howqua track work	Pvt	E/M		John Terrell (MBW contact)
Sun 2	DAY: Starling Gap – Ada Tree	Bus	E/M&M	CN:md	Theo Mertzandis & Bettina Brill
Thu 6	TOF: Berwick Parklands	Pvt	Easy	CN:me	Rosemary Cotter
7-9	PC : Tali Karng: McFarlane Saddle–Wellington River	Pvt	Med	NE:mb	Claire Luxford
Sun 9	DAY: Altona – Westgate Punt – Port Melbourne	Car	E/M	CN:me	Susanne Etti
Mon 10	SOC: Melbourne Bushwalkers Christmas Party				Social Secretary
Wed 12	DAY: Royal & Princes Parks, Parkville wander	Pvt	Easy	CN:me	Sandra Mutimer
14-16	PC : Mt Buller West Ridge (Timbertop Saddle to Mirimbah)	Pvt	M/H	NE:mb	Agajan Akbari
Sun 16	DAY: Indented Head – Portarlinton & Winery	Bus	E&E/M	CN:ge	Deb Shand & Angela Vetsicas
Mon 17	MOF: O'Shannassy Aqueduct, central section	Pvt	Easy	CN:yg	Janet Hodgson
Sun 23	DAY: Anakie Gorge Circuit	Car	E/M	CN:ge	Halina Sarbinowski
24-28	BC : Christmas at Camp Eureka, Yarra Junction	Pvt	E/M	CN:yg	Susan Maughan
26-1	PC : Mt Jagungal Circuit	Pvt	Med		Ian Mair
26-2	PC : Port Davey Track, Tasmania	Pvt	Med		Ian Langford
Sun 30	DAY: NO SUNDAY WALK – HAPPY NEW YEAR	Car	Easy		