



Correspondence should be directed to:

The Secretary,  
Melbourne Bushwalkers,  
Box 1751Q, G.P.O.,  
MELBOURNE, 3001.

Meetings are held in the clubroom, 377 Little Bourke Street,  
entrance from Racing Club Lane, every Wednesday night between  
7.00 and 9.00 p.m. Visitors are always welcome

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OCTOBER - WALK PREVIEWS

DAY WALKS

October 4

DAYLESFORD - TRENTHAM

EASY/MEDIUM

LEADER: Carol Strickland  
TRANSPORT: Van from Batman Ave., 9.15 a.m.  
EXPECTED TIME OF RETURN: 7.00 p.m.  
MAP REFERENCE: Forest Com. Daylesford-Trentham.  
APPROXIMATE DISTANCE: 14 km

At this stage I am not exactly sure where I shall commence the walk. However, we will be lunching at the Bullarto Reservoir followed by a bush bash over Babbingtons Hill. From this point we will head over to the Lyonville mineral spring before heading to Trentham where the walk will end. This should be a pleasant walk if the weather stays kind.

October 11

BARFOLD - CAMPASPE RIVER - PIPERS CREEK

MEDIUM

LEADER: Stan Attwood  
TRANSPORT: Van from Batman Ave. at 9.15 a.m.  
EXPECTED TIME OF RETURN: 7.00 p.m.  
MAP REFERENCE: Woodend 1:100000

The upper reaches of the Campaspe River flow through an interesting volcanic gorge. Between Barfold and its junction with Pipers Creek, the river drops some 60 metres over two waterfalls, Queens and Mitchells.

We will do the walk in reverse, starting at the bridge over Pipers Creek and following the winding creek through rolling hills to its junction with the Campaspe. Then following the river up stream, we come to the two falls and finish at Barfold Bridge. There will be a few fences to cross and some rock-hopping unless the river is high. When previewed in April it was just a small stream. Don't forget water for lunch as the Campaspe is rather polluted.

October 18

JUNCTION HILL- YEA SPUR - MT. MARION

MEDIUM

LEADER: Graham Hodgson  
TRANSPORT: Van from Batman Ave. 9.15 a.m.  
EXPECTED TIME OF RETURN: 8.00 p.m.  
MAP REFERENCE: Yea and Glenburn 1:50 000

This is probably the most picturesque walk in the Yea area. The trip will follow the tops of the Yea spur which give magnificent views both east and west as well as towards Mt. Tallarook. The last time I led this walk in October the temperature was over 30°C, so here's hoping!!

N.B. There is no water at any point during the walk so please bring along your water bottle.

October 25     ANGLESEA - URQUHARTS BLUFF - AIREY'S INLET     EASY

LEADER: Alison Blaker

TRANSPORT: Van from Batman Ave. 9.15 a.m.

EXPECTED TIME OF RETURN: 8.30 p.m.

MAP REFERENCE: Anglesea 1:50 000

APPROXIMATE DISTANCE: 11 km

This walk promises to be a bludge, very easy walking on sand. Come along and maybe this will be your first opportunity to swim this season, so don't forget your bathers. A good walk for beginners and those who have spent the winter skiing. Hopefully everyone will be able to start their 'summer tans'. Bring water for lunch, sun tan lotion, bathers and rain-gear (you won't need it though).

WEEK-END WALKSOctober 2 - 4     BARWIDGEE CREEK - MURMUNGEE - EVERTON     EASY/MEDIUM

LEADER: Marijke Mascas

TRANSPORT: Van from Batman Ave., 6.30 p.m.

EXPECTED TIME OF RETURN: 9.00 p.m.

MAP REFERENCE: Beechworth &amp; Yackandandah 1:50 000

APPROXIMATE DISTANCE: 27 km

We camp the first night on Barwidgee Creek said to be the coldest spot in Victoria. After a leisurly breakfast we climb up onto the hills, heading north. Much of the day will be spent on tracks and we pass lots of gold diggings. Total for the day 12 km, so we should arrive at our most idyllic camp spot early. On Sunday after climbing up from our camping spot onto the range we will be walking the whole day along an open ridge with tremendous views over Mt. Buffalo and the Ovens Valley. Distance for the day 15 km. This is not a hard walk, so come along and enjoy it after the skiing.

October 9-11     NAVIGATION WEEKEND: MELVILLE CAVES     EASY

LEADER: Bob Steel &amp; Graham Mascas

TRANSPORT: Private

MAP REFERENCE: Dunolly 1:100 000

(maps will be provided for course participants)

INSTRUCTION EVENING: Tuesday 6th Oct. 7-10 p.m.

Location of the Navigation week-end this year is the Melville Caves. There will be an instruction night prior to the weekend, on Tuesday 6th Oct. in the clubroom. Intending participants are strongly advised to attend this evening as well as the weekend.

The instruction evening will be from 7.00 to 10.00 p.m. and participants should bring a pencil, ruler and a compass (preferably a Silva type compass). There will be charge of \$3.00 which includes a map.

The weekend will consist of set courses, round which participants will be required to navigate in groups of three.

October 16-18     GRAMPIANS: TROOPERS CREEK BOTANIC BLUDGE     EASY

LEADER: Joan Locke

TRANSPORT: Bus from Batman Ave at 6.30 p.m.

MAP REFERENCE: ??

APPROXIMATE DISTANCE: Not long enough to measure.

This is a base camp weekend for the "lazy bones" amongst us. We will be doing several easy half-day strolls covering the heathlands near Troopers Creek and the escarpment of the Mt. Difficult Range.

With luck we'll have the services of a botanical expert to name the trees, shrubs, herbs and orchids for us. Just in case we miss out though, I suggest anybody coming, try to get hold of the excellent (and cheap) field guide called "An Introduction to the Grampians Flora". It is written by Rodger Elliot and published by Algonia.

On the Wednesday prior to the walk there will be a natural history slide show (Photoflora of 1973) to which everyone is welcome.

October 16 - 18      BRIGGS BLUFF - MT. DIFFICULT -      EASY/MEDIUM  
TKOOPERS CREEK

LEADER: Geoff Mattingley  
TRANSPORT: Bus from Batman Ave. 6.30 p.m.  
ESTIMATED TIME OF RETURN: 9.00 p.m.  
MAP REFERENCE: F.C.V. Grampians: Grampians 1:100 000  
APPROXIMATE DISTANCE: 16 km

This walk will be a good introduction to weekend walking for those who haven't tried it before. The scenery will be typical 'Grampians rugged', with the wildflower season at its peak. Scrub should be minimal, with most of the walking being on tracks. At this time of year the weather should be good, so come along and enjoy what should be a pleasant relaxed weekend.

October 16-18      BRIGGS BLUFF - MT. DIFFICULT RANGE -      MEDIUM/HARD  
CARTERS TRACK

LEADER: Prue Hardiman  
TRANSPORT: Bus from Batman Ave. 6.30 p.m.

This will be a very scenic walk with beautiful views along ridge tops and masses of wild flowers. We will be exploring the area off the main tracks, but there is no heavy famous Grampian's scrub to bash through. The area does have large flat rocks, over which we will be scrambling, so please make sure your boots have good tread on them.

We will be starting the walk at Briggs Bluff, then traversing along the Mt. Difficult range to Carters Track. The walking distance will be approximately 12 - 15 kms and because of small camping sites, the groups will be limited to 12 people, so please book early. Water will be in abundance so do not bring your five gallon containers.

October 30 -      ROCKY TANGE - LITTLE RIVER GORGE AREA      MEDIUM  
November 3

(Cup Day W/E)      LEADER: Glen Sanders  
TRANSPORT: Private  
EXPECTED TIME OF RETURN: Yes  
MAP REFERENCE: Jacob's River and Murrindal 1:100 000  
APPROXIMATE DISTANCE: 50 km

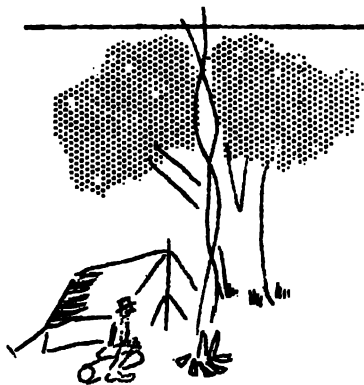
Tyrone Thomas calls this the best Easter walk in Victoria. (Walk 1973 P. 60) We will spend the first two days exploring the area around Mt. Stradbroke including the spectacular 300m chasm. The last two days will see us moving south to the area around Little River Gorge, investigating the Falls, Hanging Rock and Langhams Bluff.

If however, the levels of the Snowy and Little Rivers are not too high (seems unlikely considering all the snow) we will not go to Stradbroke at all, but will take 4 days to do the 3 day walk described in "120 Walks in Victoria" No. 100, pausing along the way to search for archaeological evidence of aboriginal camp sites, and, with luck, seeing a demonstration of eel-cooking, aboriginal style. I will decide which walk to do when we get there, to add an element of mystery to the trip. Whichever way we go, it would be a pleasant ramble with superb views. So why not take Monday off work, give the horses a miss, and join me? I'm excited already and I haven't even done the preview yet!!

October 30 -      SNOWY MOUNTAINS: KING'S CROSS - TABLETOP      EASY/  
November 3      MOUNTAIN - MT JAGUNGAL - ROUND MOUNTAIN      MEDIUM

LEADER: Graham Mascas  
TRANSPORT: Private

FOR DETAILS OF THIS WALK SEE LEADER IN CLUBROOMS



# A LONG THE TRACK

## AN EVENING'S ENTERTAINMENT

We had finished tea, it was dark outside on the first night of Spring, and Wilky was fairly quiet. Just then, we heard a postie's whistle outside the door. A young couple from the Rover Chalet came in and delivered an impressively formal invitation to a snooker tournament and supper the following night. Similar invitations were delivered at Cope and Wallace's Huts.

Television has never shown anything like the inaugural Annual Bobong High Plains "Pot White" Tournament.

How those Rovers had worked! Below their chalet they had built a substantial snowy amphitheatre. The stage was replaced by the table, 100% snow, apart from the timber "cushions". The umpire had a throne, carefully carved, and "divots" were smoothed out by the trowel boy. A wall high enough to protect even standing spectators almost surrounded the scene. A fire on a huge B.B.Q plate added a cheery note and the whole was brilliantly lit by two incandescent bulbs.

Cues and rest were standard, but the painted golf balls spun, slithered and swerved in ways not foreseen by Newton. Part way through the challenge match, a peremptory order sent us all outside the wall to warm up with the Hokey Pokey. Later the Wallace's team showed real skill - a sure sign of a mis-spent youth?

Spectators and players needed inner warmth. Biscuits were delivered on a tray sliding down a toboggan run - complete with tunnel - starting from the chalet and curving around to finish at the side of the table. A member's clubroom was downstairs under the table --- if it had not been invented till that particular night, there was the occasion to coin the word "ingenuity".

After the games we had supper inside the chalet, which was followed by an old-style sing-song. Our clubrooms on Wednesdays resemble a long-deserted crypt in comparison with the noise then. Finally the songs became slower and quieter and it was time to ski back in the dark along the aqueduct and through the snow gums to snug, welcoming comfortable Wilky.

A day or two later, we saw the Rovers as they hurtled back to Falls Creek, and also as they left the bus at Tawonga South but those stories can be told another time.

Graeme Laidlaw.

### HALF YEARLY GENERAL MEETING

The half yearly General Meeting will be held  
in the Clubroom at 8.00 p.m. on

WEDNESDAY 30th SEPTEMBER, 1981

"GOLD"

Fryerstown had a population of 13000 a hundred years ago. Today its population is about 130. In those days the gold was a yellow metal which people were collecting in the creeks and ground. Now the gold is the blossom of wattle in spring.

The walk started on the outskirts of Fryerstown and we rambled along an old road looking at the stone foundations and ruined chimneys of houses. Across a creek which had yielded the yellow metal, then up to the chimney and boiler-house of the Duke of Cornwall Mine. Negotiating two fences and a road we wandered amongst the dumps of a couple of mines until we reached the inhabited section of the town. Here the methodist church, the courthouse and the Burke and Wills Memorial Mechanics Institute gave us some flavor of what the town may have been like at the peak of its prosperity.

Back in the bush we walked slowly uphill towards the lookout tower seeing some kangaroos on the way. Then we found a sunny spot for lunch. In the afternoon we wandered back to our camping place.

On Sunday we climbed the Mork to look down on Castlemaine and explored Spring Creek where we found alluvial diggings, a big mine and a number of stone houses.

We finished our historical ramble in the Castlemaine Market Building, which has an excellent display of life on the goldfields.

Geoff Law

BOGONG IN WINTER

At the appointed time (8.00 a.m.) at the appointed place (Mountain Creek) on Saturday morning only three walkers were present although there were eight names on the booking list. We even started climbing the mountain without our leader as he went searching the streets of Mt. Beauty looking for a group of misplaced walkers.

The new Bivouac Hut was a welcome spot for morning tea, and as other members of the party straggled in, morning tea stretched into lunch. The pot bellied stove warmed the small room very efficiently, and many articles of clothing were dried by wrapping them around the hot chimney pipe. In fact we had a very efficient steam laundry.

Eventually everyone had arrived, eaten and dried their clothes so Philip once more lead us out into the snow. We were climbing in the cloud and so could see little except snow and snow gums.

Suddenly we climbed out of the cloud into the sunshine. White billowing clouds below us, dazzling white mountains above us and friendly snow gums around us. Out came the cameras.

Soon we were above the tree line and following the snow poles up the spur, with the sun glistening on the snow crystals. We walked slowly absorbing the spectacular view which continually altered as we gained height.

The top of Victoria with a large mound of stones iced with snow to mark the point. As the sun was almost horizontal we descended a few metres to a flat area and erected our tents. While the foundations were being flattened the skiing group visited us on their way back from West Peak. When the sun set seven bodies disappeared inside their tents.

I looked out my tent on Sunday morning and could see nothing. Once more we were inside the clouds. Philip easily lead us to the summit cairn and then down to the junction signpost.

Here temporary confusion occurred as the signpost was pointing in a different direction to that in which our instincts and compasses pointed. We hesitated, we wandered around, we checked, then we decided to ignore the signpost and almost immediately regained our confidence as we found snowpole after snowpole leading us to safety.

I confess I was glad when we were back amongst the snowgums and I was no longer frightened of sliding off the icy slopes and then out of sight in the cloud. A brief stop at Bivouac Hut for lunch and before too long we were back to the cars.

Even the trip home was slightly eventful. Graham changed cars four times. Is this a record for a club trip?

I'm not sure if Philip was glad, or sorry that he did not have a chance to use the climbing rope which he carried, but I know I'll have crampons as well as an iceaxe next time I climb Mt. Bogong in winter.

Thanks Philip for an experience which I'm glad I did not miss.

Geoff Law.

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YOU MAY BE ABLE TO HELP HERE

The Federation of Walking Clubs requires a new Secretary - somebody able to attend Council Meetings on the 1st Tuesday of each month, at 6.00 p.m.

Duties are not onerous, mainly arranging correspondence and writing a few letters. No minute taking.

If you are interested see Athol Scahfer in the Clubrooms or ring 211 2649.

INTERESTD IN NATURAL HISTORY?

The RAOU (Royal Australasian Ornithologist Union) has written to the club with information about a series of courses being held during the next few months at the Rotamah Island Bird Observatory. i.e.

1. Finding Nests                      October 22 - 25
2. Natural History Photography   November 7 - 9
3. Native Animals: Habits and Habitats   November 21-27
4. Bird in the Hand                  December 6 - 12

The Observatory is in the Lakes National Park. You live in during the course and the cost including meals is \$12.00 per night.

For further information ring: RAOU on 370 1272 or see the information box in the clubrooms.

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BERGANS IGNELL 2-MEN SNOW TENT  
EXCELLENT CONDITION. \$170 o.n.o  
Ring Glenn Sanders B)347 0464  
H)329 9163

FROM OUR FOREIGN CORRESPONDENT

ABSENT FRIENDS: Nearly a year since the club last heard from its African Correspondent, but the other day a massive missive turned up from Gramstadtneuchatel, Austria. (Austria? - yes, he's giving Africa a rest for a while). When previously last heard of, he was accompanying an overland trucking safari to Johannesburg and returning as trainee and assistant driver. Some terminal, though unspecified, fate seems to have overtaken the original leader, for from Nairobi onwards, the St. Albans Terro was left as driver, leader and sole factotum. "Well it was certainly better being a leader than a trainee", he writes, "I made the decisions and if they were wrong I had to get us out of the (expletive deleted) and there was no one else to have a go at me." (One can imagine the fate of any mere passenger who had the tenacity to complain - probably still walking!). There are, however, limits to what even the most robust constitution will take, for "... driving 8-10 hours nearly every day, maintenance (of the truck) and repairs on top of that, plus borders, visas, accounts etc., did get too much for me at one stage and I ended up in hospital in Cameroon for 4 days. Hospital conditions were, bluntly, African: hot water only in the morning until 8 a.m., no water at all 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.; buy all drugs as they are supplied; no food supplied... So my girlfriend had to come in every day to feed me. A lovely lizard lived in a hole in the wall where a light should have been, and the ceiling and walls were kept together by cobwebs. I spent 16 hours a day on drips, so you can imagine I was glad when we left," presumably to leap straight back into the truck and drive off into the desert!

Those who know him will recognise (and those who do not, be startled by) his elegant turn of phrase in his description of what was clearly a very frightening experience in the southern Sahara Desert: "The season meant that there were lots of sand storms. I remember the worst storm very well. I had stopped early on a small rise as I saw lots of storm clouds building up. I was out pointing my bum at the ground behind a dune when for some reason I turned around and the storm hit me right in the face. I started running as fast as I could towards the truck. The sand stung like hell and my adrenalin was pumping into me like a fire hose. Then I realised I had run too far. I looked around and there was the truck, behind me - I was lucky the sand cleared for a minute." After a few months of this sort of thing the whole party looked pretty ragged - it took eleven days and a special trip to Rabat on Stan's part to get the truck past the border post into Morocco because the authorities thought they were mercenaries going to join the Mauretanian rebels! In the end he got the truck at least (he doesn't deign to mention the passengers) back to London. Track Travel now want him to lead another trip, but he is taking a few weeks in Europe while he decides whether to do that or go to the U.S.A. For any who wish to write to him, he gives the following address:

Stan Klusik, C/- 161 Glenarm Road, Clepton, London E5, England.

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FROM "SKITOUR" AUGUST 1981SKI AREASWINTER CAMPING - MT. BUFFALO NATIONAL PARK

It has been decided to allow remote camping at Mt. Buffalo on a trial basis for one year only. Your participation, comments and suggestions will be most welcome.

The main limiting factor we have had to consider has been water catchments. It is due to these restraints that many of the following permit conditions have been included.



Permit Conditions

- . Camping at Salt Lick Plain only. Salt Lick Plain is beyond the resevoir and nearby to Wild Dog Plain. A map will be provided with the Permit.
- . Maximum stay two (2) nights.
- . Maximum of twenty (20) people at any one time.
- . Maximum of three (3) groups.
- . No wood fires.
- . It is essential that the toilet located at Salt Lick Plain is utilised. Soiling the bush will not be tolerated.

Permits will be available from the National Parks Service Office at Mt. Buffalo only.

The following information will be required before a Permit can be issued.

- . Dates
- . Number in group
- . Names, ages and addresses
- . Emergency contact
- . Where your vehicles are to be parked.
- . Registration number/s, make and color of vehicles  
(Vehicles left overnight at Mt. Buffalo are to be parked at the start of the Resevoir Road)

It is advisable to obtain your permit beforehand by writing to us with the above information, however details will be accepted over the phone during office hours - phone (057) 55 1216.  
No permits will be issued by Park staff after normal hours viz. 8.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m.

Maps will be located in a box at the start of the Resevoir Road.

It depends on the feedback and results we get this winter whether or not the decision to allow remote camping is to be continued.

BOGONG NATIONAL PARK - WINTER VISITOR SURVEY 1981.

The National Parks Service is conducting a survey of winter users of the new Bogong National Park (to be declared on Oct.1, 1981)

The Service needs your assistance to ensure future management of the park reflects the needs of the users as closely as possible.

If you would like to be involved in this survey, please write your name and address on the forms available from:

Recreation Research Officer, National Parks Service,  
P. O. Box 41, East Melbourne, 3002.

by September 14th or bring it along to the STAV meeting on that day.

NOTE: At the next meeting of STAV (Monday Sept. 14, - Bushgear meeting rooms), two representatives of the National Parks Service will briefly outline the planning currently being undertaken for the new Bogong National Park, give further details of the survey being undertaken of winter visitors to this area, and discuss management issues with STAV members.

NAVIGATION WEEKEND

COME TO THE ANNUAL NAVIGATION WEEKEND AT MELVILLE CAVES  
LEARN HOW TO FIND YOUR WAY AROUND THE BUSH IN SMALL PARTIES  
YOU MAY GET LOST, BUT A SEARCH & RESCUE HAS BEEN ARRANGED.  
ALL YOU NEW-COMERS FIND OUT HOW THE LEADERS IN THIS CLUB  
MANAGE. FOR DETAILS SEE PAGE 3 OF THIS NEWSLETTER  
IT WILL BE A WEEKEND FULL OF FUN, AND THE WEATHER WILL  
BE GOOD! VOLUNTEERS FOR CHECKPOINTS NEEDED. (SEE LEADERS)

FROM THE A.C.F. NEWSLETTER - JULY 1981

EXPORT WOODCHIPPING THREATENS OTWAYS

Smorgon Consolidated Ind. plan to establish an export woodchip industry based on the Otway Ranges in Victoria.

This was announced on 4th June by the then Victorian Premier, Hon. R.J. Hamer, and although only limited information is available at present, a reasonable picture of the proposal can be prepared.

The total volume of woodchips to be exported has yet to be finally determined, but could be as high as 200 000 tonnes. The chipmill and shiploading facilities will probably be established at Geelong, and the chips are planned to be sent to Japan. Smorgons are currently negotiating with a large Japanese firm.

Mr. Hamer said the raw material is to come from sawmill wastes, "logging waste", and plantation thinnings.

The term 'logging wastes' has been used in conjunction with every Australian woodchip scheme, and experience shows that in fact it has merely been a euphemism for clearfelling.

Woodchipping opens up forests which would not be economically suitable for logging.

Smorgons had been taking substantial quantities of pulpwood from the Otway State Forest to its pulpmill in West Footscray for many years, but were forced to cut back this intake because of effluent disposal problems.

Conservationists are thus concerned this export proposal will cause a re-introduction of large clearfelling operations in the Otways.

Private forests are also being purchased by Smorgons and other companies in the Otways for conversion to pine plantations.

**WHAT YOU CAN DO:**

Members opposed to this proposed scheme should write, expressing their opposition to the Victorian Premier, the Federal Minister for Home Affairs and Environment (Hon. Ian Wilson) and the Federal Minister for Primary Industry (Hon P. Nixon), who grants the federal export licence.

WELCOME TO THE FOLLOWING NEW MEMBERS

Alison HYAMES, 17a Evans Crt, TOORAK, 3142 B)602 1333  
Maureem MCINERNEY, 336 Barkers Rd. HAWTHORN, 3122 H)818 4866 B)51 5238  
Sheila MCINERNEY, 336 Barkers Rd., HAWTHORN, 3122 H)818 4866 B)848 4744

NEW NEWS SUBSCRIBER

Kevin GOSSIP, 58 Prince St. GISBORNE, 3437

ADDITIONS/ALTERATIONS TO THE MEMBERSHIP LIST

Gilbert COATES, 13/241 Williams Rd. STH YARRA, 3141 H)24 8524 B)609 4636  
Elaine COLLINS B)342 7344  
Paul GRAY B)697 5000  
Dianne LAWRENCE, 2/7 Railway Pde, BAYSWATER, 3153  
Jan LLEWELYN, B)665 5111x5680  
Clyde (NOT CLIVE) MITCHELL  
Chris MURPHY, 5/80 Kinkora Rd. HAWTHORN, 3122  
Norm MacLEISH, 3 Linden St. CAMBERWELL, 3124 H)836 8475  
Sheina NICHOLLS, H)830 1964  
Caroll ne STRICKLAND, H)387 6059  
Christine TIGHE, 4/110 Normanby Ave., THORNBURY, 3071 H)44 4049  
Ted WISHART, Postcode, 3196

CLOSING DATE FOR OCTOBER NEWS, Wednesday Oct. 7

Send all your articles etc. to Marijke Mascas, 12 Hillcrest Rd., GLEN IRIS, 3146 or "post" in the "Red Box" in the Clubroom.