



**AUGUST, 2000**

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## Slide Night in the Club Rooms

**Wednesday 30 August  
at 8pm**

Doug Pocock  
will be presenting his slides of

*The Kimberly, Mitchell Plateau &  
Donkin Falls*

Refreshments will be provided.

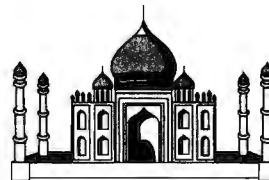
## Social Night

**The Everest Indian  
Restaurant**

**Friday 25 August**  
85 Station Street, Fairfield BYO.

There is nothing better at the end of a long week than to sit down with congenial company and enjoy a delicious Indian meal.

Phone Maureen H. on  
on or before Wednesday 23 August to  
book a place.



Cost: A banquet for \$23.50 or a choice of  
reasonably priced main meals are  
available.

## **DON'T FORGET!!!**

*Whilst I am in WA (with Alan Miller) playing amongst the wild flowers, David Arnold has kindly offered to edit the September issue of News.*



*Please send all walk previews, articles, advertisements, etc. to David by placing them in the red box in the club rooms or emailing or posting them to him. (details overleaf).*

*Clare Lonergan*

## Who's Who in the Melbourne Bushies

**Joan Haig**, who was the Assistant Matron at Preston & Northcote Community Hospital, has been an active Melbourne Bushie for many, many years. She has participated in and led many weekend and day walks. She was usually striding out in front, flying up a hill, with a number of us trying to catch up with her. She also enjoyed several walking holidays in the UK

I met Joan on my very first base camp. I was astonished that a person could be so self sufficient with so little gear! Joan carried a small light pack but managed to pull a three course evening meal out of it, together with full breakfasts and scrumptious lunches. This was a source of amazement to me as I had not learnt the art of carrying light and eating well. In fact I had no art at all! On the second day Joan approached me and in her forthright manner proceeded to point out all of my packing errors – such as the big hollows in the sides of the pack, and the top bulging over. She did it with such good grace and humour that she soon had us rolling about with laughter – me being the butt of the joke. I am if anything a quick learner and I never, ever, packed so badly again. For that Joan I am extremely grateful and I always remember the lesson you taught me.

Joan, who lives in the Somers area, often led walks in that general area. She was famous for her afternoon teas of homemade scones, jam and fresh cream that she fed to Wednesday walkers in the garden of her lovely home which overlooks the sea.

Recently, I am sorry to say, Joan has not been well

and has felt it necessary to let the club know that she now has to opt out of club walks. Joan wished to thank members for their friendship over the years.

On behalf of the Melbourne Bushies, and in particular Joan's special friends within the Club, I would like Joan to know how much she has been appreciated over the years as a valued leader, a member and most importantly, a friend. Our thoughts are with you Joan.

*Clare Lonergan*

### Half Yearly General Meeting of the Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc.

will be held at the club rooms,  
MacKenzie Street, Melbourne  
on  
Wednesday 30 August, 2000 at 7.30pm

All members are welcome and encouraged to attend.

#### AGENDA

Minutes from the AGM 23 February 2000  
General Business

**The News** is the official newsletter of the Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc. and is published monthly.

Edited by **Clare Lonergan**.

**The September 2000 edition will be edited by David Arnold.**

Articles (max 1000 words), walk reports, poems, snippets of news, photographs of club events, reports of new gear, book reviews, letters "to the Editor", advertisements, etc. are always welcome. The Editor reserves the right to edit articles, letters or other contributions, where space, clarity or propriety dictate, and to maintain editorial consistency.

Please note that articles for the September edition of **The News** may be sent to David Arnold by:

- ◆ Placing article in the Red Box in the clubrooms
- ◆ By posting to: GPO Box 1751Q
- ◆ By emailing to:

#### Advertising Rates (artwork ready)

¼ Page 1 Issue - \$30; 3 Issues - \$80; 12 Issues (1 year) \$300

½ Page 1 Issue - \$50; 3 Issues - \$135; 12 Issues (1 year) \$500

Full Page 1 Issue - \$80; 3 Issues - \$220; 12 Issues (1 year) \$800

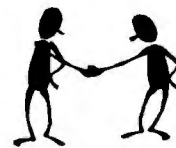
Only advertisements directly relating to bushwalking will be accepted (e.g. gear, maps, trips, tours, etc.)

#### Members Ads – FREE

**Closing date for receipt of material for *The News* is the last Wednesday in each month.**

Meetings are held in the Clubrooms,  
MacKenzie Street, Melbourne (rear of the  
Royal Horticultural Society Building) on  
**WEDNESDAY** evenings between 7.00pm  
and 9.00pm

*Visitors are always*



**Welcome!!!**

**General correspondence should be directed to:**  
The Secretary, Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc.  
PO Box 1751Q, Melbourne, 3001

## Lost On the "Mystery" Sunday Bus Trip [on 17<sup>th</sup> July].

A 'mystery' person has inadvertently taken the wrong plastic bag of smelly boots at the end of the day. I have your placky bag with a book (Shogun) a pair of slacks and your runners AND you have the Walk's Secretary's boots. **Please ring Rod Novak on \_\_\_\_\_ or see me in the Clubrooms.**

### FOR SALE

#### LA SPORTIVA LEATHER WALKING BOOTS

Women's Size 39  
Very Good condition \$100  
Marion Siseman

### Walk's Secretary's Report

#### "Mystery" Sunday Bus Trip 17<sup>th</sup> July 2000

A special thank you to Jill Dawson and Lynda Larkin for organising the "Mystery" Sunday Bus trip in July. It was a real hoot. All the walkers were kept guessing until the last minute (although John Kittson was positive that it would be Daylesford!!). We boarded the Sunday Bus on a warm and sunny winter's day and Bob had us on the Westgate in no time (and another great panoramic view of Melbourne). Could it be the surf coast?? Then Bob turned onto the Ring Road. Hmmm!! Maybe somewhere north along the Hume!! Yet another turn, and now we were heading up the Western Highway and someone whispered the Brisbane Ranges. Jill welcomed everybody on the Bus PA and kept us guessing by saying that no map would be passed around this morning, but it would be circulated on the trip home to check we had been where we were supposed to have been. Steve Bentley helped out by providing a height profile graph of the two walks. Thanks Steve. Another bus turn, this time on to the Trentham road, and the puzzle was about to be solved. We dropped the Medium group off near a bush track and the Easy group were driven into BLACKWOOD. We all enjoyed a walk down to the refreshing mineral springs (bush champagne), then a short stroll to the lake then up the steep hill. Nice forest tracks, warm sunshine and a long lunch at Tunnel Point. The two groups met here and after exploring the old gold tunnel and river diversion we then raced back (up a steep hill then along the old aqueduct route) to the PUB. After a refreshing cool drink and a game of pool, we boarded Bob's coach for the trip home. A fantastic day was enjoyed by all. Thanks to Jill, Lynda and Steve and all walkers for a grand day.

We are currently working on the first draft of the Summer Walks Program [Dec-Feb] and are seeking Walk Leaders for the Sunday Bus trips.

All Private Transport Trips: Please note the Committee

## Dancehall Racketeers CD Launch

East Brunswick Club  
Saturday 19 August

I had the extreme pleasure of seeing this brilliant group of musos recently and was delighted with their energy and talent.

They play a combination of Rockabilly and country music in a very lively style using Steel Guitar, Guitars, Fiddle. Piano and rythmm section. The music they play is lively and uplifting, really gets your body moving and to listen to.



**Contact me for bookings Brian Crouch**

has increased the car expenses rate to 7 cents per km per person.

### CHANGES TO THE WINTER WALKS PROGRAM

*Change of Leader* – Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> August. David Arnold has replaced Julie Ralph

### SUNDAY BUS PROTOCOL

It can be a mad rush at the end of the trip to catch a train or to get home to watch that favourite TV show. However, we need to remind all walkers to "double-check" for all their belongings at the end of the day. We have had several cases of lost property and misplaced gear at the end of the trip over past weeks. **Please check that you have all your gear from inside the bus and from the storage bins.**

**THE FEDERATION OF VICTORIAN WALKING CLUBS** has commenced a survey of walking tracks/routes in State Forests. This will help the Federation to protect a very important community recreation asset, as past land management reviews (eg RFAs) have ignored walking tracks. **Please note:** Walking tracks in National Parks, State Parks and Regional Parks (managed by Parks Victoria) are not needed for this survey. For this project we are only specifically interested in State Forests (as managed by NRE) with the aim to minimise impacts on our favourite walking tracks/routes from logging, trail bikes and other detriments.

**We need your help in identifying walking tracks in State Forests. Please see/and or ring Rod Novak if you can help.**

**CONGRATULATIONS** to Graeme Walkdon who completed his 100<sup>th</sup> Sunday Bus trip on the Mystery Destination on 17<sup>th</sup> July 2000.

*Rod Novak*

# Day Walks for August/September, 2000

|                                   |   |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| <b>Saturday 26 August</b><br>Easy | <b>DANDENONGS</b><br><b>EXPLORER</b>          |
| <b>Leader</b>                     | Michael Humphrey                              |
| <b>Transport</b>                  | Private                                       |
| <b>Area</b>                       | Brisbane Ranges National<br>Park Anakie Gorge |
| <b>Approximate length of walk</b> | 10 kms  |
| <b>Expected time of return</b>    | 3.30 – 4.00pm                                 |

As you can see above this walk is slightly “West of the Dandenongs” - I thought we would try something a little different!!!

We will meet at the Bacchus Marsh Railway Station Car Park promptly at 10.30 am.

This is a lovely walk (a little shorter than we are used to) through an area filled with ironbark, stringy bark, box and acacia trees with occasional views through to open country side. We will finish the walk back at Bacchus Marsh with our usual afternoon tea.

Please note that you need to book on this walk so please call me at home on [redacted]. If you are coming by public transport the train departs Spencer Street at 9.05am and arrives at Bacchus Marsh at 9.56 am, or give me a call and we may be able to make an alternative arrangement

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Sunday 3 September</b><br>Easy & E/Medium | <b>Creswick State Forest</b>              |
| <b>Leaders</b>                               | Bill Donald &<br>Maureen Peck             |
| <b>Transport</b>                             | Bus from Southbank<br>Boulevard at 9.00am |
| <b>Area</b>                                  | Ballarat                                  |
| <b>Approximate length of walk</b>            | 13 & 17 k m                               |
| <b>Expected time of return</b>               | 7.00pm                                    |

A pleasant stroll through an old gold mining area awaits. Water is also a feature of the walks as both walks follow various streams, creeks & lakes during the course of the walk.

The easy group will stay to the north of the main road, walking on tracks and forestry roads before a gentle walk to the ridge line for some great views before heading back down to the bus.

The medium group head south picking up the line of and crossing Slaty Creek. After lunch the walk is predominantly bush bashing and track walking as we weave our way back to St George Lake.

Rosellas and other bird life were in abundance during the preview, also a number of roos were spotted.

Be sure to bring a change of footwear, as the medium group will be doing a number of creek crossings.

|                                     |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| <b>Saturday 9 September</b><br>Easy | <b>Cycling: Melbourne</b><br><b>Meander Coffee &amp; Cake</b> |
| <b>Leader</b>                       | Jan Palich  |
| <b>Transport</b>                    | Train and bike  |
| <b>Area</b>                         | Melbourne   |
| <b>Approximate length of ride</b>   | 40 kms  |



Hi Everyone! Come and join me for a lovely cycle around Melbourne. We will meet at the bike hire place Yarra Bank, beside Princes Bridge Melbourne. Bike Hire (if required) is available, but please let me know so that I contact the hire place to ensure that they will be open for us.

Approx costs - 3 hours \$14-\$19 / 4 hours \$16-\$22 / 24 hours- \$20-\$24. I anticipate that we will be away more than 4 hours so bear that in mind if you are hiring a bike.

The distance is approximately 40 kms of very easy riding all on bike paths except for a little detour in Richmond where the bike path is being repaired. We basically go around the city in a big circle about 6 kms out of Melbourne.

We will depart from the city in an easterly direction, past the boat clubs, through the agapanthus then a slight detour for path repairs and up to Dight Falls then on up Merri Creek to North Fitzroy. This is our first coffee stop or just a rest. Then on along the old railway line over past Carlton and the men playing “boules”, under Sydney Road, past the zoo and over the freeway. We then ride the new bike path that is surrounded by graceful Greek pillars reaching for the sky (or should I say the freeway), past water ducks and grasses. This time we will deviate up Macauley Road to Kensington for the next coffee stop. I had the most magic muffin from the “Fruits of Passion” café there - can heartily recommend the food. Then we leave and head back to the bike path and south past the Colonial mess (street wise) and to the Yarra River. Once there, we head east again past the restaurants and food - maybe an ice cream stop and back to Yarra Bank.

If by any chance anyone wishes to go further afield, we can detour (20 mins each way) down the bike path to Port Melbourne then return back to Yarra Bank, another lovely meandering path. We can make that decision then, depending on interest, weather and time.

Which brings me to weather. If at 8.00 am on Saturday morning it is pelting down with rain, this ride will be postponed to a drier date. If raining where you live, please call me at 8.00 am on the Saturday morning and I will let you know if it is raining in Melbourne too.

Anyway, hope I have aroused your interest to join me for a lovely cycle. To register your intent, call me at home on [redacted] by the Thursday before the ride and let me know you are coming, otherwise the ride will be cancelled.

|  |                              |
|--|------------------------------|
| <b>Sunday 10 September<br/>Easy &amp; E/Medium</b> | <b>North Brisbane Ranges</b> |
|--|------------------------------|

|                                   |   |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| <b>Leaders</b>                    | Joan MacMahon &<br>Ches Volpato           |
| <b>Transport</b>                  | Bus from Southbank<br>Boulevard at 9.00am |
| <b>Area</b>                       | South West of<br>Bacchus Marsh            |
| <b>Approximate length of walk</b> | 14 & 17 kms                               |
| <b>Expected time of return</b>    | 7.00pm                                    |

Spring Creek meanders through this area and we will be walking down to it and up the other side several times during the walk. This will involve climbing approximately 120m in one case. We should be able to spot koalas at the creek crossing and numerous kangaroos along the northern part of the walk.

Wild flowers should abound at this time of the year and Joan, who is an expert in this field, will focus on the varieties encountered during the walk to the benefit of the easy walkers.

**Lovers of wild flowers take note!!!**



|  |                               |
|--|-------------------------------|
| <b>Sunday 17 September<br/>E/Medium &amp; Medium</b> | <b>Tallarook – Mill Creek</b> |
|--|-------------------------------|

|                                   |   |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| <b>Leaders</b>                    | David Arnold &<br>Anne Wilkins            |
| <b>Transport</b>                  | Bus from Southbank<br>Boulevard at 9.00am |
| <b>Area</b>                       | A few km SE of Seymour                    |
| <b>Map reference</b>              | Seymour 1: 25 000                         |
| <b>Approximate length of walk</b> | 12 & 15km                                 |
| <b>Expected time of return</b>    | 7.00pm                                    |

This walk could be described as another mystery walk, because we don't know exactly where we're going yet!

About all I can say is that we'll be in the vicinity of the Goulburn River, a little bit upstream from Seymour, and there could be some decent hills. Much of the walk will be on private property. It seems that the last time the Club did this walk was in May 1991, so information is a bit thin on the ground until we go up there to check it out for ourselves. I expect there will be some good views over the Goulburn Valley.

### Bus fares

The bus fares for the Sunday walks are as follows :

**Members \$15.00 Concession \$10 Visitors \$20**

**Late fee of \$2.00** (for both members & visitors who fail to book and pay for a seat, on or before the Wednesday before the walk.

|   |                                       |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| <b>Wednesday 20 September<br/>Medium-Hard</b> | <b>Cathedral Range<br/>State Park</b> |
|---|---------------------------------------|

|                                   |   |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| <b>Leader</b>                     | George Sawenko                          |
| <b>Transport</b>                  | Private                                 |
| <b>Area</b>                       | Maroondah Hwy near<br>Buxton & Taggerty |
| <b>Map reference</b>              | Cathedral Range 1:25 000                |
| <b>Approximate length of walk</b> | 12 km                                   |
| <b>Expected time of return</b>    | 5.00pm                                  |

The plan is to walk the northern circuit of the range encompassing Neds Gully, Cathedral Peak, The Farmyard, Cooks Mill, and a section of the Little River. Some initial climbing (not too steep) will be necessary to reach Neds Saddle and Cathedral Peak. The ridge track heading south along the top is rough and rocky in parts but the crisp mountain air and views are nothing short of exhilarating. I feel that this state park has something to offer everyone who loves rugged natural beauty. In Spring and early summer, there are wildflowers, including many orchids. Wildlife is plentiful. On previewing this walk we saw a Wedge-tailed Eagle, several performing Lyrebirds, a number of wallabies and a huddled Echidna threesome (apparently mum, dad and junior out for an afternoon forage). And there's a better than even chance of spotting a Satin Bower Bird.

We will meet at Neds Gully carpark at 10 AM (2.5 km inside the park's main entrance). The access road from Maroondah Highway is Cathedral Lane, 9 kms north of Buxton. Distance from Melbourne is 100 km. Whatever the weather outlook for the day, please bring warm and windproof clothing. The ridge track in particular is exposed to wind and weather.

To book, or for more information, please contact me by phone on

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Sunday 24 September<br/>E/Medium &amp; Medium</b> | <b>Mt Gordon Ridge –<br/>Marysville</b> |
|--|---|

|                                   |   |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| <b>Leaders</b>                    | Les Southwell &<br>Andrew Francis         |
| <b>Transport</b>                  | Bus from Southbank<br>Boulevard at 9.00am |
| <b>Area</b>                       | Marysville                                |
| <b>Approximate length of walk</b> | 15 & 17 km                                |
| <b>Expected time of return</b>    | 7.00pm                                    |

This is only the second time we have put this walk on the program. The Mt. Gordon Ridge is just on the Melbourne side of Marysville. There should be good views from the ridge and the wildflowers should be out.

A more detailed preview will be in the next edition of News.

**Saturday 30 September**  
**Easy**

**Training Day**

**Leader** Brian Crouch  
**Transport** Private  
**Area** Close to Melbourne  
**Want more info?** Call me or see me in the Clubrooms

This will be a fun day and informative in developing Navigation AND Leadership skills. All Members are urged to attend regardless of your aspirations to lead walks or not. These days are now being run every three months and so far have been well attended, fun and successful. The club provides lunch and we are fortunate to have experienced helpers to assist people learning on the day

We will have a preview night at the Clubrooms on Wed 27th as a lead in to the Saturday activities. Come along with an open mind and a willingness to share your experiences with others.

**Duty Roster**

16 August Rod & Amanda  
23 August\* Trish & Doug  
30 August Pearson & Fiona  
6 September\* Deb & Brian  
Next Committee meeting: 4 September at 7pm

**WALKS STATS for June 2000**

Twelve activities were scheduled for June with eleven trips running with 192 participants enjoying our great outdoors. The only cancelled trip was the Walks Secretary's epic Great South West Walk (12 day) with no interest!!  
Please help us to keep the Sunday Bus viable – come and join us for a fun Sunday walk in August and/or September

| June  | Trips | Total Walkers | Average | June 1999 Average |
|---|-------|---------------|---------|-------------------|
| Sunday Bus  | 4     | 122           | 30.5    | 40.5              |
| Pack Carry  | 2     | 12            | 6       | 11                |
| Base Camp   | 2     | 21            | 10.5    | 13                |
| Lodge   | Nil   | -             | -       | -                 |
| Other Day<br>Historical - 9<br>Wednesday - 14<br>Dandenong - 14 | 3     | 37            | 12.3    | 10                |
| Total   | 11    | 192           |         | 216               |

|                    |              |
|--------------------|--------------|
| Life Members       | 11           |
| Honorary Members   | 10           |
| Single memberships | 299          |
| Family memberships | 94 (= 2x 47) |
| Total membership   | 414          |

**2000**

# A Green Year

The three months from February through June were the wettest on record in both the Centre and the Kimberley.

The Red Centre is now the Green Centre. Every waterhole is full but many will disappear when the hot weather returns at the end of the year. If you want to see some of the best scenery that the Centre has to offer without having to carry lots of water, this is the year to come.

The late wet season in the Kimberley means that the water in August will be flowing as well as it normally does in June. Our late season trips will be the best they've ever been.

Ask for our brochure and see what we can offer you.

[www.bushwalkingholidays.com.au](http://www.bushwalkingholidays.com.au)

Email: [walkabout@ais.net.au](mailto:walkabout@ais.net.au)  
Willis's Walkabouts 12 Carrington St Millner NT 0810

Phone: (08) 8985 2134 Fax: (08) 8985 2355

# Weekend Walks for September, 2000

|                                 |  |
|---------------------------------|--|
| <b>1-3 September<br/>Medium</b> | <b>Ski Trip – Mark’s<br/>Mystery Destination</b> |
|---------------------------------|--|

|                                |                   |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|
| <b>Leader</b>                  | Mark Tischler     |
| <b>Transport</b>               | Private           |
| <b>Expected time of return</b> | Late Sunday night |
| <b>Approximate Distance</b>    | 20 – 30 km        |

Details of the ski trip destination will be decided just prior to the Wednesday before the trip. The leader could also be contacted at home if necessary.

It will be a ski in of a short to moderate distance with packs to establish our snow camping site and then a tour on both days to enjoy the sights of the area.

The location could be Lost Plain, Mt Stirling area, Mt St Gwinnear, Mt Skene or other more remote ski areas, depending on the best available snow at the time. Participants will be expected to enjoy themselves with good company and we expect to have a traditional tent party on the Saturday night.

Equipment required, a good standard of storm tent, snow bag or 3 seasons with lots of thermal clothing, thermal rest for insulation on the snow, a stove and thermal gear for the day and night. Advice on the other equipment required can be obtained from the leader in the weeks prior to the trip.

|                                  |   |
|----------------------------------|---|
| <b>8-10 September<br/>Medium</b> | <b>Ski Lodge: Mt Hotham<br/>Snow Party 60th<br/>Anniversary Celebration</b> |
|----------------------------------|---|

|                                |                   |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|
| <b>Leader</b>                  | Dianne McKinley   |
| <b>Transport</b>               | Private           |
| <b>Expected time of return</b> | Late Sunday night |
| <b>Approximate Distance</b>    | 0-100km           |

A weekend of relaxation and fun. Talented telemarkers, dangerous downhillers, and relaxed lodge lizards – come along. Hearty open fires, magnificent views and after a good day enjoying what pleases you most. Some very good company to celebrate our 60th Anniversary.

All you need to bring are sheets and a pillow case. We will share an evening meal, so look after your own brecky and lunch (x2).

Here’s hoping for good snow!!!  
(Your payment up front is the only assurance of a bed – some vacancies still). See Rod in clubrooms or phone Dianne

|  |
|--|
| Club Members would like to extend their sincere condolences to Rod Novak on the recent loss of his father. |
|--|

|                                |                                    |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <b>8-10 September<br/>Easy</b> | <b>Base Camp:<br/>Warby Ranges</b> |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|

|                                |                      |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|
| <b>Leader</b>                  | Doug Pocock          |
| <b>Transport</b>               | Private              |
| <b>Map Reference</b>           | Warby Range 1:25 000 |
| <b>Area</b>                    | Near Wangaratta      |
| <b>Expected time of return</b> | Sunday night         |
| <b>Approximate Distance</b>    | Varied               |

Warby Ranges has it all – waterfalls, views, wildflowers, good camp spots – a wonderful place for a walk.

At this stage plans are not finalised, but we are planning 2 walks on each day. One walk will cover more distance and will hopefully find lots of wildflowers. The other walk will be a wander and concentrate on bird watching. (This will probably not be qualifying standard). See the leader for details of Friday night camp spot. We will probably have another spot for Saturday night.

|                                 |  |
|---------------------------------|--|
| <b>15-17 September<br/>Easy</b> | <b>Ski Trip: Razorback –<br/>Mt Feathertop</b> |
|---------------------------------|--|

|                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| <b>Leader</b>               | Bill Metzenthien                                  |
| <b>Transport</b>            | Private   |
| <b>Map References</b>       | 1:50k Outdoor Leisure Map:<br>Bognong Alpine Area |
| <b>Limit</b>                | 12  |
| <b>Approximate Distance</b> | About 25 km                                       |

This is another of the classic ski trips on the club programme almost every year. This is an excellent trip for experienced cross country skiers.

The trip starts at Diamantina Hut on the slopes of Mt Hotham. We ski along The Razorback, usually to the top of the Champion Spur where camp is established. Then a side trip is made to Mt Feathertop and other features of interest. There should be opportunity to sample one or two of the numerous gullies which slide off the ridge.

Sunday can be spent exploring more of the gullies while returning to the cars. This trip depends upon weather and snow conditions. The ridge is quite exposed and not pleasant in blizzard conditions. It can also be very hazardous if the snow is icy. If conditions dictate, the trip will be changed to another area.

This being a ridge trip, don't expect to find water unless you descend for quite a long way. In other words bring enough fuel to melt snow for your needs. Campfires are banned in this area.

**15-17 September  
E/Medium**

**Base Camp: Kamerooka  
State Park**

**Leader** Lance Mobbs  
**Transport** Private

On this trip we will camp at Notley Picnic Area and do a walk on Saturday within Whipstick and then do one at Kamerooka State Park. I am hoping there will be plenty of flowers and birds out and about for the fanciers.

I can be contacted in the club rooms on Wednesday nights or call me .

**16-29 September  
E/Medium & Medium**

**Moving Base Camp:  
National Parks of the New  
South Wales South Coast**

**Leader** Jopie Bodegraven  
**Transport** Private

For details of this walk please see the July issue of News page 1. Jopie can be contacted on for further information.

**22-24 September  
Easy**

**Pack Carry: Mt  
Margaret – Croll's Gorge**

**Leader** Gina Hopkins  
**Transport** Private



A preview for this walk will be in the next edition of *News*. Alternatively, see the leader in the Club Rooms for more details with respect to this walk.

**New members:**

AMANDA CHARLTON

MICHAEL KILPATRICK

LINDY I ROBERTS

KAREN P SHERRY

VINCENT TONNA

**Add to membership list:**

CHRISTINE DENISON

LIZ DEVLIN

WENDY FORTINGTON

JILL GOODGE

JAN & STUART MATTINGLEY

LEE MULLANY

MERNA HAZEL O'SULLIVAN

SUSAN & TONY RALSTON

NINA SAVVA

**Altered Address/Phone:**  
ROSEMARY COTTER

DAVID EVERITT

VICTORIA SCRIVENGER

BILL SLADE

**From the Kitchen of Susan Maughan  
Unbaked Fruit Cake**

**Ingredients**

½ lb pitted dates  
½ lb chopped figs  
½ lb seedless raisin  
½ lb shelled almonds  
½ lb dried bananas  
½ lb dried currants  
½ lb dried apricots  
½ lb wheat sprouts  
4 tbsps honey  
8 oz creamed coconut

**Directions:**

Liquidise/finely chop fruit  
Add honey and mix well  
Press firmly into a loaf tin  
Melt coconut and spread over top  
Chill 24 hours. Slice thinly. Keep cool.



## Level Two First Aid Training

The Club has arranged for a First Aid Training Program to be run over two weekends in September by Vanessa Sparke from "Divers Alert Network" who is a Nurse Educator and a dedicated Outdoors Person. The Program has been designed to meet Bushies needs and will focus on the issues we are most likely to encounter. The aim is to have as many walkers as possible trained to assist with First Aid. This means the Club will support all members by subsidising the cost by \$50 per financial member.

Leaders whose previous First Aid Training has lapsed will benefit from the training as will people, who may or may not lead walks, and have no previous First Aid Training . The program will run Saturday 3rd September & Sunday 4th September and Sat 23rd September and Sunday 24th September at a cost of \$120 per person , however with the Club subsidy this will reduce to \$70 for members. See details below and contact me ASAP for more info or to make bookings.

Brian Crouch, Training Coordinator

| Day 1 3/9/00<br>0830 – 1300<br>Melbourne Bushwalking Club<br>rooms  | Day 2 4/9/00<br>0900 – 1530<br>The Dandenongs   | Day 3 23/9/00<br>0900 – 1530<br>The Dandenongs   | Day 4 24/9/00<br>0830 – 1300<br>Melbourne Bushwalking<br>Club rooms   |
|---|---|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Registration</li> <li>• Introduction</li> <li>• Introduction to First Aid</li> <li>• Approach to an incident</li> <li>• Anatomy and Physiology of respiratory and circulatory system</li> <li>• Respiratory arrest and airway clearance</li> <li>• EAR</li> <li>• CPR</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cross infection</li> <li>• Victim assessment</li> <li>• Respiratory conditions</li> <li>• Cardiac conditions</li> <li>• Hemorrhage</li> <li>• Chest injuries</li> <li>• Soft tissue injuries, dislocations and fractures</li> <li>• Head and spinal injuries</li> <li>• Lifting, moving, splinting and communication</li> <li>•</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Eye injuries</li> <li>• Diabetes</li> <li>• Epilepsy and convulsions</li> <li>• Stroke</li> <li>• Thermal injuries</li> <li>• Burns</li> <li>• Poisons</li> <li>• Venomous bites and stings</li> <li>• Scenario situations</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Resuscitation practice and assessment</li> <li>• First Aid theory revision and assessment</li> <li>• First Aid scenario practice and assessment</li> </ul> |

### August 2000 Vicwalk News Summary

President's report - I would like to remind you that all bushwalkers are welcome to attend Council meetings. This year our annual Council meeting in a country location will be held in Warrnambool on Saturday 2 September at 5 pm. We are particularly interested in having walkers who are based in the region near the country meeting attending it. If you are such a walker please let the VicWalk office (03 9455 1876) or the Warrnambool Walkers know of your intention to attend.

Most of you will now know that the parliament passed the National Parks Amendment Bill which returns the excised parts of the Alpine National Park. Many will not be aware that the sections dealing with the return have not been proclaimed and that the government has no intention of doing this until after the current ski season. For the present the affected areas remain part of the Falls Creek Alpine Resort and are subject to their regulations etc.

Search and Rescue - On Monday, 19th June, members were called out to assist with locating a 48 year old man and his 15 year old son, who had not returned after a walk in the Yarra Ranges. They had spent two very cold nights out. Apparently they did not find their way back to the track after going down to a creek for water. They were found on Monday morning and our members were contacted on the bus and advised to return. It was pleasing that 15 searchers were available to assist at very short notice.

On Sunday, 24th June, there was another call-out, this time for a missing 19 year old skier at Mt Hotham. A group of 22 searchers were just about to head into the field when they were informed that the skier had been located at Dibbins Hut.

### YARRA FORESTS

As a result of recent discussions with and a proposal developed by Parks Victoria it appears a possible new area may be opened to bushwalkers in the Graceburn -Badger Creek area, this is in principle only and is yet to be confirmed by Melbourne Water. We had hoped for more concessions, but at least this is a step in the right direction and we will continue to pursue our interests, possibly at Government level.

### ALPINE AREA

Discussed were the National Parks amendment bill which mainly related to Mount Mckay and the upper Wongungarra. We received a report that Mountain Bikes were seen on Mount Feathertop, the management plan bans this use. We intend following this up with the Ranger in Charge. Also discussed were recent meetings of the advisory committee for Mount Stirling.

*Jim Harker*  
Secretary

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## Conservation Forum



Discussion points raised at the Federation of Victorian Walking Clubs' **Conservation Committee** meeting held on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> July 2000.

**Hindmarsh BioLink** - The annual community planting weekend on 19-20<sup>th</sup> August will be based at Kaniva this year. The project aims to relink the Big and Little Deserts with vegetation corridors. 100 volunteers from Melbourne are required to assist the local volunteers. There is free camping on site - but you need to register. For more information contact the west Wimmera Shire Offices on 5392 7700.

**State Forest Survey** - A Federation project in progress. Refer to advertisement in *NEWS* requesting help and/or assistance with identifying walking tracks/routes in our state forests.

**Yarra Ranges** - there are plans to set up four logging coups at Armstrong Creek, Starvation Creek, Cement Creek and McMahons Creek adjacent to the Melbourne Water catchment area.

**Mt Stirling** - a draft Strategic Plan now offers a so called 'compromise' position among the many park users with a planned new access road to the Cricket Pitch and beyond to the Monument. The User Group is now incorporated

and is now known as the Advisory Group. There is a report on proposed logging next summer in the state forest around King Saddle. It is believed the road to this area will be closed during the week and re-opened at weekends.

**Mt McKay** - it appears that Royal Assent has been delayed on the National Parks (Amendment) Act - possibly until next summer.

**Alpine** - reports of increased skidoo traffic on the High Plains.

**Otway Ranges** - reports of a logging coup to start in the Sabine Falls area, which is a beautiful scenic area and the waterfall drops 400m into a picturesque valley.

**Australian Alps Walking Track** - The Federation is lobbying for the track to be re-routed onto the main range in Kosciuszko National Park.

**Box Ironbark** - The Federation has sent in a submission to the RFA endorsing the increase in parks, but also asking for more representation of significant flora and fauna values especially in the Rushworth - Heathcote State Forest.

**Rod Novak**

Club Delegate - Federation Conservation Committee

# G'Day from beautiful Montréal



Dear Bushies,  
G'Day from beautiful Montréal. Norma and I send you our greetings and thanks for the wonderful summer we spent walking with the club.

Clare suggested that some of you may be interested in our return trip via Malaysia and Thailand minus, of course, descriptions of tawdry Bangkok nightlife or furtive forays in the Golden Triangle.

There are many things to recommend Malaysia. It is inexpensive, safe and has good transportation and accommodation. English is widely spoken. Although there are a number of fascinating natural places on the peninsula like the Cameron Highlands, it is worth the effort to take the inexpensive flight to Borneo. **Bushies take note, Borneo has it all!**

We flew into Kota Kinabalu in Sabah, formerly North Borneo. Malaysia's highest peak, Mt. Kinabalu (12,000ft.) is a magnificent presence close to the capital. It is reputed to be a fairly easy climb, most people do it in two days, fit Ghurkas allegedly in an afternoon. The diving off the coast is world class, so we elected to pass on the climb and instead enjoy the reef then travel overland through Brunei into Sarawak.

The land still has a water-borne transport system; it is often faster, and safer, to go by boat than by bush taxi – minibuses. Maddeningly inefficient, the buses will not leave until they are full. Full being defined rather elastically by the driver. The roads are often unpaved and there are virtually no bridges over the numerous rivers. Sometimes the ferry will end that segment of a bus route and everyone will get off and board a different bus on the other side of the river. At other times we would remain on the bus and wait our turn to cross on the ferry. In this case you stay on the bus, the driver of course, gets out and closes the door behind him, leaving us packed in and sweating, travelling on a listing, rusting WW2 barge as it pushes cross the fast muddy waters of a tropical river.

We finally arrived in Kuching the capital of Sarawak. This would be the place for a fantastic two week sojourn. There are many opportunities for day hikes and extended stays in the national parks as well as staying in the bush with the hospitable Dyads who now collect tourist dollars rather than heads.

Kuching itself has a romantic colourful history linked to the exploits of James Brook, the White Rajah, who with his heirs ruled Sarawak for a century. Kuching is an attractive city with a beautiful waterfront and a wide range of accommodation.

We had three goals: to see a Rafflesia flower, a

probiscus monkey and an orangutan. The Rafflesia, named after Stamford Raffles of Singapore fame and not yet renamed over objections to his politics of imperialism, is the world's largest flower which can measure a meter across. They are rare and apparently will bloom unpredictably and the flower lasts only a few days. When we heard a flower had been sighted in Guning Gading Park we caught the bus the following morning. It was about a three hour ride through beautiful landscape to a town about 7 km from the park. It is a problem throughout Borneo that there is no public transport that runs directly to areas of interest to tourists. On the other hand, hitchhiking was never easier, almost every car would stop for you.

At the park entrance we were given some vague instructions in Malay as to where the flowers (there were in fact two) were last reported to be flowering. So we had a rough idea which direction to go but hey, how difficult can it be to find two red flowers measuring a meter across on the floor of a rain forest where everything else is green? We climbed for hours, backtracked down unmarked trails in suffocating heat and humidity. Fortunately there were numerous streams and waterfalls in which the water was surprisingly cool and refreshing. We did finally find them, they were magnificent and worth the effort.

Bako National Park is also near Kuching and is the state's oldest. Two hours by bus and then 45 minutes by boat brings you to the tip of an isolated peninsula. There are a few cabins which rent for \$10 a night and some cheaper dorm space. Here you are guaranteed to see wildlife -boars, owls, bats and lots of monkeys: long-tailed macques, silverbacks and if you are lucky the uncommon and reclusive probiscus. The walking is varied with some rugged climbs in the rain forest that then cross dry plateaus and also wet lands.

Probiscus monkeys with their large comic, pendulous noses are active at dusk. We were able to observe a family group for about 30 minutes until it was too dark to see them. The walk back through the jungle at night was fascinating and a little frightening as bats whisked by our heads while leaving their mountainside caves to feed on the insects attracted by the lights of the camp.

We never saw an orangutan. There are a number of rehabilitation centres where injured and captive animals are released into the wild where sightings are fairly certain, but we ran out of time.

We are now comfortably housed in our petite apartment overlooking downtown Montréal. Every Sunday morning I walk to my favourite wood fired bagel shop up on St. Viateur (best in the world) and I think about the friendly and gracious bushwalkers who explained so much about Australian life and culture. Where else can one learn about clotheslines that go up and down and all the culinary uses of vegemite!!!

Au revoir,  
David and Norma

# Roamers' Ravings



smoke that always seemed to follow me around. We talked about great times had on past trips and even close shaves on the Razor were mentioned.. A leisurely start next morning had us continuing northwards along the ridge. We made it to the Long Hill where the track swung around to the east. At one stage we lost sight of it. Rod sent out some search parties but after about ten minutes of bush bashing we still hadn't found it. Then someone spied a cairn on the edge of the rock outcrop where the last section of track we followed was. We went over and saw the track which had been hidden from view heading down the hill! Soon after that we had a wasp free lunch and enjoyed more fantastic views of the surrounding ranges. With lighter packs we continued eastwards. The ridge had become narrower and we eventually reached the point labelled on the map as a rock shelter. There were some overhanging cliffs with flat spots underneath. Looked like it could be quite a nice place to spend the night if you had to. As we headed towards Mt Tamboritha there was evidence of the bush fires which devastated this area about one and half years ago. Blackened trees with regrowth on them and fire breaks that had been bulldozed along the ridge top. The weather was still fine and sunny so we decided to conquer the summit of Mt Tamboritha. It was a steady climb through open grass land with more burnt trees. We didn't spend long at the top as it was quite cold and windy. Rod led us down the other side of the mountain and we picked up an old logging track and then a more substantial vehicle track. We passed some artefacts of past logging, a ramp which was used to haul the logs onto transport off the mountain. We reached Tamboritha Saddle and the end of a very enjoyable walk. Thanks to Rod for being our leader and organising such a wonderful weekend in the mountains.

*Ralph Blake*

## The Crinoline

20-21 May 2000

Autumn is one of my favourite times of year to go bushwalking. The weather can be calm, sunny and it's not oppressively hot. Hardly any blowies, mozzies or hyperactive bull ants with big nippers. The nights are cold and you may even get some frost to make things interesting. So with great enthusiasm I decided to have a go at walking to the Crinoline.

We met at Breakfast Creek on Saturday morning. There were quite a few veterans of The Razor Viking epic early in the year - Adrian, Celesta, Diane, David and myself. We were joined by Bob, Max, Bill and Rod, our leader. Our first task was to decide how much water to carry for the whole trip. The creek at our intended camp site would no doubt be dry after many months of minimal rainfall.

From Breakfast Creek we hauled our water laden packs up Mc Millan's track. It was quite steep. I wonder if Angus Mc Millan actually walked along this track or did his horse do all the work? Eventually we made it to the top of the ridge. Angus Mc Millan's track headed off steeply down the other side of the range, however we were to spend the rest of the trip walking along the ridge. See you later Angus!

The clouds had parted and the promise of fine sunny weather encouraged us to do a (pack free) side trip to The Sugarloaf. What an imaginative name for a mountain. I reckon those early explorer types must have had an obsession with loaves of sugar. Perhaps they never had enough food. Anyway, it was a nice little climb and the views were marvellous. After getting back to the packs we ambled along the ridge towards the Crinoline. A spot was found for lunch in the warm sun and some of us were visited by a few persistent wasps who no doubt wanted a share of what we were having.

After lunch we continued along slowly climbing up to the Crinoline. The ridge became steeper with numerous cliffs and terraces off to the sides. We made it to the summit of the Crinoline without too much trouble. Some large dark clouds were moving in from the south and we could see rain coming in as well. As we began the descent the rain came down in spite of us putting on our rain coats in the vain hope that it would stop the rain. The wet slippery rocks made progress slow and we had to spend quite a bit of time finding a safe route through several levels of cliffs. The showers had cleared by the time we were off the top and it was pretty straight forward following the track to our intended camp site.

By late afternoon we had made it to the campsite and as expected there was no water in the creek. Ten out of ten to our leader for advising us to carry water. Camp was set up and in no time at all we were enjoying dinner around a lovely little blaze with

## Pyrenees Ranges

7-9 July

When I think of the Pyrenees Ranges I think of the ones in France that the Tour de France push bike riders are struggling up at the moment.

Well on a fine winter's weekend five Melbourne Bushies decided to do a walk that the Club had not done for 7 years in our own Pyrenees Ranges west of Avoca.

Four of us met together for tea at Craig's Hotel in Ballarat on Friday night, then travelled together to camp in a picnic ground near the start of the walk. At night things are not so easy to find as they are in daylight so we missed our mark by only metres and eventually camped in front of someone's house (which we did not see). I had intended to put up my tent on what turned out to be their front lawn!

With Bill and Bob off doing the longer than expected car shuffle Debbie and I were joined by Paul, who had a home cooked meal and a comfortable bed to sleep in by staying with friends in Avoca. At last the walk



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began. Uphill along a very vague track in parts before we hit the orange track marker to help us on our way. Lunch was on top of Mount Avoca which was rather cool with the air temperature being 10° C at the most.

Continuing on through the forest we saw flowing creeks amongst green grass, kookaburras, cockatoos and many smaller birds darting around.

It was a long afternoon climbing up and over small hills. Gratefully we walked into camp just on dark; the last 600 metres seemed further than the signpost said. We cooked tea in a stone shelter, including a water tank, constructed by teenagers. I tried to light the fire but didn't persevere enough to keep it going. Bob had a go and succeeded after 1½ hours of relentless toil. Well done Bob!!

Next morning we awoke to mist surrounding us, but thankfully no rain. It had rained a bit during the night. We started walking at a brisk pace to warm up, descending south-west into another lovely valley. By early afternoon we arrived at our finishing point - Bob's Kingswood sitting beside a gravel road. Getting 5 people and 5 packs into it wasn't easy but we did it and travelled carefully along the Pyrenees Highway through Elmhurst and Amphitheatre (which is a really nice small town).

After lunch together at our starting point we dropped Paul off at his friends' house and the remaining 4 of us had coffee and homemade pies at The Avoca

Bakery, formerly a State Savings Bank building to finish off a great trip. Thank you very much Debbie. Party - Leader Debbie, Bill, Bob, Paul and me,

*Cameron McMillan.*

## **An anecdote to the Pyrenees Pack Carry**

7-9 July

After an enjoyable group visit to the Avoca Bankery Deb Henry and myself began our drive home. After about 25 km we were in nice sunshine although very dark clouds ahead and a beautiful rainbow in the sky.

I felt sure Deb didn't believe my recollection of a few years ago when driving along the Newell Highway, NSW and passing right through the end of a rainbow.

However, much to our surprise, as we approached a green grassy area on the roadside in front of 3 trees there was the end of our beautiful rainbow. Sorry folks, there was no pot of gold but it did convince Deb my story had been true.

*Box Oxlade*

**AUGUST**

|               |  |            |                    |   |
|---------------|--|------------|--------------------|---|
| 18-20         | Ski Trip: Tawonga Huts                 | Private    | E/M                | Gina Hopkins                            |
| <b>20 Sun</b> | <b>ANGAHOOK S.P. (Anglesea)</b>        | <b>BUS</b> | <b>E &amp; E/M</b> | <b>Julie Ralph &amp; Peter Havlicek</b> |
| 25-27         | Pack Carry: Lighthouse – Wilson’s Prom | Private    | M                  | Deb Henry                               |
| 25-27         | Ski Trip: Mt Buffalo (Porepunkah)      | Private    | E/M                | Stephen Rowlands                        |
| Sat 26        | <i>Dandenongs Explorer</i>             | Private    | Easy               | Michael Humphrey                        |
| <b>27 Sun</b> | <b>HAWKES HILL-MOLLISONS GORGE</b>     | <b>BUS</b> | <b>E/M &amp; M</b> | <b>Jean Woodger &amp; John Kittson</b>  |

**SEPTEMBER**

|               |  |              |                    |   |   |
|---------------|--|--------------|--------------------|---|---|
| 1-3           | Ski Trip: Mark’s Mystery Destination?                                | Private      | Medium             | Mark Tischler                           |   |
| <b>Sun 3</b>  | <b>CRESWICK STATE FOREST</b>   | <b>BUS</b>   | <b>E &amp; E/M</b> | <b>Bill Donald &amp; Maureen Peck</b>   | # |
| 8-10          | Ski Lodge: Mt Hotham   | Private      | Various            | Dianne Mc Kinlay                        |   |
| 8-10          | Base Camp: Warby Ranges  | Private      | Easy               | Doug Pocock                             |   |
| Sat 9         | <i>Cycling: Melbourne Meander Coffee and Cake</i>                    | <b>Train</b> | <i>Easy</i>        | <i>Jan Palich</i>                       | * |
| <b>Sun 10</b> | <b>NORTHERN BRISBANE RANGES</b>                                      | <b>BUS</b>   | <b>E &amp; M</b>   | <b>Joan MacMahon &amp; Ches Volpato</b> | # |
| 15-17         | Ski Trip: Razorback – Mt Feathertop                                  | Private      | Medium             | Bill Metzenthén                         |   |
| 15-17         | Base Camp: Kamerooka   | Private      | E/M                | Lance Mobbs                             |   |
| 16-29         | Moving Base Camp: National Parks of the New South Wales South Coast. | Private      | E/M                | Jopie Bodegraven                        |   |

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