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NOVEMBER, 2000

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WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST BUSHIE



Photo: Lloyd Young

Alexander Joshua Ide

Born to Pam and Alan on 10 October 2000

I am told that Alexander has already been booked in for his first pack carry for the Viking-Razor trip in a week or two!

1st Vice-President's Weekend at Murrindindi 25-26 November 2000

Whoop it up at an unsurpassed weekend of revelry, entertainment, gourmet dining and, of course, great walking.

The Sunday Bus Walkers will join the festivities for afternoon tea.



NOT TO BE MISSED!

(more information in Weekend Walks Section)

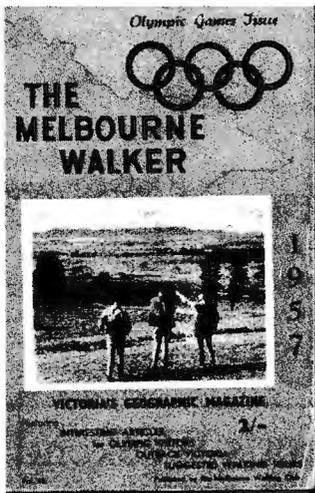
MELBOURNE BUSHIES CHRISTMAS PARTY WEDNESDAY 20 DECEMBER AT 7PM

Mark the date in your diary for this year's Melbourne Bushies Christmas Party. Bring along a plate of goodies to share.

Due to the renovations at the club rooms we may or may not be able to hold it in the big hall. If not another suitable venue will be booked.

Watch this Space.





Hidden Treasures

The Club has come into possession of a number of old copies of Walk Magazine dated between 1951 and 1979 which make very interesting reading. A number of the members who are mentioned in these magazines are still active in the Club today. This excellent magazine was written and published by the

"Bushies" over many years and have fascinating insights into Club activities. Great Holiday reading.

We also have some Melbourne Walker Magazines printed between 1953 and 1977. Members wanting copies are asked to make a Two Dollar donation per copy.

I will have books at the Clubrooms on Nov 15th and 29th for those who are interested. For further details contact Brian Crouch. Phone

Brian Crouch

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

Edited by **Clare Lonergan**.

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 electronic mail is preferred, and that walk previews, articles, etc. for The News may be sent to the Editor

- ◆ By emailing to:
- OR
- ◆ Placing disk (or hand written material) in the "Red Box" in the clubrooms
- ◆ By posting disk (or hand written material) 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

Last Wednesday in each month

ELECTRONIC MAIL IS PREFERRED

CAR STICKERS

The Melbourne Bushwalkers Club has been given car stickers from Federation of Victorian Walking Clubs that promote bushwalking with the the VicWalk logo and the statement "Walk with a Club"

These are available FREE in the Clubrooms.

MacPac Microlight Tent for Sale

\$290 or ONO. The tent has only been used once and is in excellent condition.

Please ring Liz Telford on _____ if you are interested. Only cash or bank cheque accepted.

FOR SALE

LA SPORTIVA
LEATHER WALKING BOOTS

Women's size 39`

Very good condition \$100

Marion Siseman -



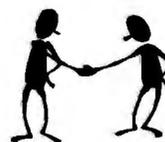
GET WELL SOON

GINA

I am sure all Bushies will join with me in wishing Gina Hopkins a speedy recovery from her recent illness.

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

Walk's Secretary's Report



The Sunday Bus "Mystery" destination and barbecue [15th October] was a great success. 38 walkers enjoyed the day walking from Dom Dom Saddle to Fernshaw. We had a great BBQ spot at the historic Fernshaw picnic ground with Bob as our master chef supervising the catering. Veggie burgers, gourmet sausages, burgers and chicken wings were all enjoyed. Many thanks to Jan, Fiona and Liz for helping with the catering and to Alan Miller and Lance Mobbs for leading the walks on the day. Also, thanks to the Committee for helping to promote the

day.

Federation Weekend – Halls Gap, Grampians. This bi-annual event was held on the weekend of 20-22nd October, with absolutely superb weather – warm and sunny – just perfect for bushwalking. Over 350 walkers participated from all over Victoria with 28 representing the Melbourne Bushies. Lots of interesting walks on offer- I really enjoyed the Glen Falls and the Tunnel Track. The Saturday night entertainment was very educational with a slide show from the historical society and a speaker from the Koori community (who shared quite a few Koori secrets). Also, a 'Friends of the Grampians' slide show of the birds & flowers, and finishing with a Ranger speaking on the future of the track network. Thank you to Trish Elmore who organised the club booking and travel arrangements for this great weekend.

Changes to the Summer Walks Program Change of Leader – Historical Walks

Nigel Holmes phone will lead the Australia Day historical walk on Friday 26th January.

Change of Leader– Pack Carry

Trish Elmore phone will lead the pack carry trip of 23-25 February to Helicopter Spur and Mt Howitt. **Sunday Bus** on Sunday 28th January - Lerderderg Gorge. Lynda Larkin who will co-lead with Jill Dawson.

Day Walks for November/December, 2000

Saturday 2nd December Easy	Training Day
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Leader	Brian Crouch
Transport	Private
Area	You Yangs State Park

The day will include:

- Basic navigation and leadership skills development.
- Understanding Maps
- Using a Compass
- Converting Bearings
- Grid References
- Judging Distance

The first stage will be theory on Wednesday 29 November at the Clubrooms. Saturday will be applying those skills in the Bush.

The You Yangs is a good area to practice in which is close to Melbourne. There will also be some Leadership Skills Development on the Saturday. Come along to learn and/or share your knowledge while having an enjoyable day in the bush.

Sunday 3rd December Easy & E/Medium	Mt. Toole-Be-Wong, Ben Cairn, Pantom Gap
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Leaders	John Kittson & Fay Pratt
Transport	Bus from South Bank Boulevard at 9am
Area	SE of Healesville (along Don Road)

Approximate distance from Melbourne	80 km
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Map reference	Juliet South 8022-4-8 Scale 1:25 000
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Expected time of return	7pm
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The bus will take us out along Canterbury Road, via Lilydale, with our toilet stop at Healesville. Then along the Don Road to Don Gap which is our starting point for both walks at GR. 767265 on the Juliet South Map. From this point we will head south east along the Donna Buang Road to Ben Cairn at GR. 783243 for lunch.

This area has good varied bird life to be seen,

along with tall mountain ash and fern gullies. Also being a summer walk it should be cooler than in Melbourne. The easy group will retrace their steps back via Don Gap and onto Pantong Gap and the bus at GR. 741262.

The easy/medium group will do the same, but will climb up to Mt. Toole-Be-Wong at GR. 737254, alt. 733m and then on to "Moora Moora" for a kilometre, retracing their steps back to the bus at Pantong Gap.

Bring plenty of drinking water for the day as there is none available during the walk.

Sunday 10 December	Lorne Waterfalls
E/Medium & Medium	

Leaders	Jan Palich and David Everitt
Transport	Bus from South Bank Boulevard at 8.30am
Distance	12km & 14km
Area	Lorne
Expected time of return	7pm

NOTE 8.30AM START

This is a fantastic walk through towering treefern forests, visiting many delightful waterfalls, and walking along babbling creeks. The preview was done on a fine day after a week of heavy rain - so the creeks were very full and the waterfalls quite spectacular. The previewers have voted this walk the best walk of the year!

The medium walk starts from the parking area at the mouth of Sheoak Creek, and we walk up the creek via Sheoak falls to the Sheoak picnic area, climbing 120 metres in 3 km. The easy/medium walk starts at Allenvale Mill, meeting the route of the medium walk near Sheoak Picnic area after about 1.5 km. Both walks follow the same route from here.

From Sheoak Picnic Area, the track visits Won Wondah Falls and Henderson Falls, then passes through The Canyon, where we pass between towering walls, and exit by climbing up through a hole in the ground! From The Canyon, we walk to Phantom Falls, and pass Allen Dam before reaching Cora Lynn Car Park. The best part of the walk begins here - the narrow winding track follows beautiful Cora Lynn Creek, on a narrow path covered with leaf litter, through magic treefern forests, with sunlight glinting through the trees, and off the waters of the creek. You must be prepared to get your feet wet here as the many creek crossings necessitate wading the narrow creek, with water up to mid-calf height after rain.

When nearing Cora Lynn Falls, the track starts to climb, and continues to climb until we reach Blanket Leaf Picnic Area, and the end of our walk. It is about 260 metres height gain between Cora Lynn car park and Blanket Leaf Picnic Area.

Good boots are necessary - you should expect wet, muddy boots at the end of this walk. This also means that a change of shoes for the bus is essential. In return for soggy feet, you will be rewarded with a superb walk.

Wednesday 13th December Easy	East Melbourne – Botanical Gardens Metropolitan Walk
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Leader	Barbara Weston
Transport	Private or tram/train
Distance	8 kms
Map Reference	Melway Map 2G

MEET: under the clocks at Flinder St. Station at 10am

In the morning we will cross the gardens, and into East Melbourne. With grateful thanks to Athol Schafer for his historical walks notes, we will take in some of the local history as we pass. Then we cross the Morell Bridge and into the Botanic Gardens. We can lunch at the Observatory Cafe or BYO on the lawns nearby.

After lunch I have booked us on the guided Heritage Walk, examining aspects of local aboriginal heritage. This part of the day's activity, though highly recommended, is optional, and I need at least 10 people to get the group discount of \$9.90 each. At this price it is really worth it.

Home via St Kilda Rd - either through the gardens or by tram if your feet are too sore to walk.

Please ring me at home to book as I will not be in the club rooms.

Saturday 16 December Easy	Cycling: Inner Eastern Circle
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Leader	Jan Palich
Transport	Bicycle
Distance	45km
Area	Melbourne

This is my second cycle around Melbourne, or should I say another "meander" with coffee stops. Like last time, we will meet at the bike hire place at Yarra Bank, beside Princes Bridge Melbourne. If you need to hire a bike, costs are: 3 hours \$14-\$19 / 4 hours \$16-\$22 / 24 hours-\$20-\$24

The distance is approximately 45 kms of easy riding on bike paths along the not-so-successful "Outer Circle Railway". You will negotiate three mountain passes: the "Col De Summerhill", "Mt Canterbury" and "L'Harp". I will explain all, when you book for the ride.

Riders will depart from the city in an easterly direction, under yet another freeway, but this time using a hanging walkway. Then 2 laps around the Velodrome, just kidding - it is not compulsory (only for the energetic). Continuing along next to Gardeners Creek - watch out for ducks, then through Nettleton Park, and leafy trees to the Anniversary Trail.

The trail takes us north through Burwood, East Camberwell and Canterbury until we join the old railway line where the path meanders all the way through Kew and down to the Yarra River. The 1st coffee stop is in Deepdene among the "flowers".

Bring your lunch, as we will be having a picnic near the Yarra. Or if you are not into eating you can just snooze while others eat. Next stop - Fairfield Boat House, then on to Dights Falls and back along the river to Richmond - through the agapanthus, and finishing the ride along the new Burnley Boardwalk.

Which brings me to the weather. If at 8.00 am on the Saturday morning, the weather is looking very dodgy and decidedly wet, please ring me to see if the ride is still on.

Anyway, this is set to be another great ride. To register your interest, call me on _____ by the Thursday before the ride and let me know you are interested, otherwise the ride will be cancelled.

Sunday 17 December Easy & E/Medium	Portsea to Somewhere Nice for a Picnic
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Leaders	Clare Lonergan & Alan Miller
Transport	Bus from South Bank Boulevard at 9am
Distance	12km & 14km
Area	Mornington Peninsula National Park
Expected time of return	7pm
Map reference	Melways 156, 157.

As this is the last Sunday walk for 2000 and very close to Christmas we thought we would give it a festive flavour.

We have not previewed the walk yet, but rest assured it will be verrrrry nice! We will commence the walk at London Bridge and who knows where we will finish the walk. A touch of mystery to whet the appetite?



I have ordered the very best of weather and have engaged, at great expense to The Melbourne Bushies, a Master Caroller and choir to entertain us, organised for Father Christmas to visit us (a little earlier than the rest of the world) and liaised with our Coach Captain to stow on board our eskies filled with goodies. Yes. I am asking you to bring something delicious to share at our picnic which may be food or drink (alcoholic and non).

Please wear your best Christmas walking attire (but do not forget hat, sunscreen and drinking water for the business part of the day) and join us for a great walk and picnic.

Bus fares

Due to the hike in petrol costs and the implementation of the GST the cost of bus transport has increased and accordingly we have regretfully needed to increase the Sunday bus fares to:

Members \$18.00 Concession \$12 Visitors \$23
A late fee of \$2.00 for both members & visitors who have not booked on or before the Wednesday preceding the walk is applicable.

The Isdell River

The What?

Many of the best bushwalks in the north are in places like the Isdell River region that most people have never heard of.

The Isdell is one of the longest and most interesting rivers in the Kimberley, fed by numerous smaller creeks each of which has its own unique character. This is gorge country. There are small, shady gorges; broad, grassy gorges; gorges filled with

paperbarks and flowers; dry gorges; gorges where the water reaches from cliff to cliff.

It's not easy to get to. On our major expeditions, we'll fly you into one of the local stations, walk you out into the wilderness and bring in a helicopter food drop ten days later. On our Gibb River Road Gorges trips, we'll take you on a short walk off the road into a magnificent wilderness that the 4WD tourists can't even imagine.

Ask for our trip notes.

www.bushwalkingholidays.com.au



Willis's Walkabouts 12 Carrington St Millner NT 0810 Email walkabout@ais.net.au

Phone (08) 8985 2134

Fax (08) 8985 2355

Weekend Walks for November/December/January

17-19 November E/Medium	Mt. Buffalo Pack Carry for Advanced Beginners
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Leader	Brian Crouch
Location	NE Victoria
Return	By 8pm Sunday
Total distance	22km

Note there is limit of 10 people on this trip and prior bookings are essential.

Friday night camp will be at Lake Catani in Mt Buffalo National Park (fires permitted).

We will be walking in a remote area of the park away from normal public access and vehicles. The whole walk is on the Plateau, so not much climbing. On Saturday we walk 10km via Mt Dunn, Long Plains and Wild Dog Plains to camp at Rocky Creek Camping Area.

On Sunday we will again enjoy the undulating track and spectacular scenery as we view Molisons Galleries, then onwards to Eagle Point. There may be chances for some side walks before we pass through Five Acre Plain to finish back at our cars. Total distance walked on Sunday is 12Km.

This will be a fun weekend so book early.

25-26 November Easy+	1st Vice-President's Murrindindi Base Camp
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Leader	Anne Wilkins
Transport	Private (and bus for Sunday Walkers)
Distance	Various
Expected time of return	Sunday evening
Map reference	Taggerty South
Area	East of Glenburn, which is between Yarra Glen and Yea

This year the president's weekend is a base camp at Murrindindi, a gorgeous area with waterfalls and plenty of forest. It's a very civilised 75 km or so from Melbourne with some great walks along the Murrindindi River, in the scenic reserve and in the Toolangi State Forest.

The plan is to camp at the Bull Creek camping area, with options to either come up on the Friday night for two nights camping [and a pub meal on the way] or early Saturday morning for one night under nylon. Either way there will be walks to interest all, drinkies and nibbles on Saturday evening with some fun and entertainment around the camp fire and we will meet the Sunday bus walkers for afternoon tea – really you'd be mad to miss it!

So highlight those couple of days in your diaries, research the funny skits, songs and remember those side

splitting jokes. Late November is a fantastic time to camp, do some walking and rub shoulders with presidents [past]. The club has a great range of tents etc for hire if you require anything or are new to overnighing - look forward to seeing you all.

1-3 December Medium Hard	Base Camp Victoria Range Rockhoppers
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Leader	Jopie Bodegraven
Map Reference	Northern Grampians Outdoor Leisure Map 1:50 000

This is a weekend for those who love rockscrambling along spectacular clifflines with good views. The basic prerequisite is that you are happy on rocks and don't mind the possibility of some Grampians scrub to connect up the good bits.

Although the trip name says Victoria Range we will in fact be base camping at the relatively new Stapylton Campground. This avoids a much longer drive in the dark on Friday night to any of the further campgrounds.

On Saturday we will drive to the very rocky extreme northern end of the Victoria Range and assault its rocky ramparts. Nothing technical, just lots of interesting and some challenging exploration of rocky ribs, peaks and ridges. We had a similar day there on a Bushies base camp many years ago and it was very spectacular and great fun although a bit scrubby in places. Then on Sunday we will tackle the cliffline about 6 km as the crow flies due south of the campground, accessing it from Smith Rd.

Make sure you bring scrub protection for your legs.

1-3 December Easy	Introduction to Wilkinson Lodge Bogong High Plains
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Leader	Doug Pocock
Transport	Private

Wilkinson Lodge was once described as "the jewel in the crown of the Melbourne Bushwalkers". Wilky is a comfortable hut on the Bogong High Plains some 10 km from Falls Creek. In winter it is necessary to ski the 10km but in summer it is possible to drive to within 750m. The hut is hidden in trees and is quite secluded, it is an ideal place for a holiday.

The hut will hold eight people with mattresses provided in the loft for sleeping, all cutlery, crockery and cooking utensils are provided. There is a shower and an inside toilet, a well equipped kitchen with slow combustion stove, and a common room for meals/ socializing etc.

Wilky is situated in the Alpine National Park and is

a good centre for exploring the Park. There are plenty of walks from wildflower wanders to masochistic marathons. There is also bike rides, fishing, or whatever.

Because Wilky has peculiarities of its own, users are required to be familiar with the running of the place (and how to find the place in the fog or dark) before they can have access on their own. This weekend is programmed to introduce members to Wilky so that they can then book the lodge for holidays and take their friends and relatives to this wonderful place. There is a limit of eight for this weekend.

8 – 10 December	Mt. Bogong Pack Carry
Medium	

Leader	Rod Novak
Transport	Private
Area	Alpine National Park
Expected time of return	10pm Sunday evening
Approximate distance	25km

A VERY STEEP climb up the Staircase (elevation gain is 1400 metres) to bag Victoria's highest peak [1986metres]. Lunch at the summit and then we will camp near the Cleve Cole Memorial Hut. On Sunday we will climb back to the summit and then descend via the Eskdale Spur. A classic walk suitable for the fit, experienced and well-equipped walker. Expect both hot and/or cold (snow!) conditions on this alpine walk. See the leader in the Clubrooms for more information.

15-17 December	Pack Carry – Otway
E/Medium	Ranges

Leader	Alan Clarke
Transport	Private
Distance	13km & 9km
Map Reference	Otways Outdoor Leisure Map

This is a one kilometre walk-in base camp that has it all! Good camp sites, fresh running streams with bathing pools, huge Ash and Fern trees, the biggest Pine tree that you are ever likely to see, a historic site, a 200 ft waterfall, beautiful walking through lush rainforest, plus other surprises, all in an area that the Bushies have almost certainly never been before, and only 2½ hours from Melbourne.

The only thing that it does not have is abundant parking and tent sites (which is not necessarily a bad thing) so numbers will be limited to about 12.

23 December to 1 January	Pack Carry – Snowy
Medium	Mountains (NSW)

Leader	Ralph Blake
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For more information phone leader

26 December to 1 January	Mt Skene to Walhalla
Medium	

Leader	Rod Novak
Transport	Private
Area	Northern Gippsland
Expected time of return	10pm Monday 1st January
Approximate distance	125 km

Trip Limit: Note: Maximum of 9 walkers only.

This Christmas – New Year trip will be along the 'Australian Alps Walking Track' starting at Mt Skene and after 7 days of walking we'll be in Walhalla enjoying an ice cream or two. Special attractions on this trip include the tall forests, old gold diggings at the Red Jacket and Blue Jacket, the Black River, Baw Baw plateau and the Thompson River. This trip is suited for fit, well-equipped and experienced bushwalkers.

Note: the daily walking distance will be 20 + kilometres. For more information contact Rod Novak at Clubnight.

26 December to 4 January	Christmas Base Camp
E/Medium	Bogong High Plains

Leader	Lance Mobbs
Transport	Private Pyles bus to Mt. Beauty
Area	Bogong High Plains near Wilky Lodge (GR 275162 approx)

Access: From Falls Creek, take the Omeo Road across the Rocky Valley dam wall and follow the road around the shore, passing first, the turn off to Mt Nelse and then Langfords Gap, both on the left. Continue along the road as it climbs around Basalt Hill until the access track from Wallace's Hut is met coming in from the left at a T junction about 10 km from Falls Creek. Park near the barrier on this track and walk down past Wallace's Hut till you reach the second snow pole. (Watch out for a red marker tied to a pole) the camp will be in a small clearing amongst the trees to the left of the track.

Facilities: Water from the Aquaduct. Toilet near Wallace's Hut. If Wilky is occupied and we're nice to them, we might be lucky enough to score a shower, otherwise a bush shower is the order of the day. (Supplies can be obtained from Falls Creek).

Walk suggestions: Since there will be a wide range of walks from just a 10 minute ramble looking at flowers to a full day marathon, this is a golden opportunity, not only for the serious walkers, but also for the newcomers to the club who wish to try out some overnight camping without the worry of carrying a pack. Families are also welcome. (Note: You do not have to stay for the whole week, this trip is not only designed for people who can stay the whole week, but also for people who have other commitments and cannot make the full trip. You can come and go anytime you want.

Places of Interest: Mt. Cope with excellent views, Cope

Creek Gorge, Rocky Nobs, High Plains Falls, Scrubby descent from ridge. Tawonga Huts – Good views of Feathertop. Several huts – Fitzgeralds, Kellys, Johnsons, etc. Mt. Nelse. Some cycling along the aquaduct and tracks.

Note: I will most likely be staying on for another week after the 4th, so if you cannot make it up there in the first week, then there will still be an opportunity to come for either a base camp or to do some overnight walking possibly going over Mt Bogong itself.

26 December to 7 January	Pack Carry/Lilo/Canyon Kowmung River & Blue Mountains
Medium Hard	

Leader Jopie Bodegraven

Transport Private

Maps Kowmung part 1:25 000
 Kanangra, Yerranderie, Shooters Hill, Gurnang, Blue Mountains 1:25 000 Mt Wilson
 Wollangambe, RockHill 1: 100 000 Wallerawan Wollemi Nat Park (CMA 1: 150 000)

Book Canyons Near Sydney by Rick Jamieson

This trip is in 3 parts. The first 2 parts are an exploration of the Upper Kowmung River in the Kanangra area of the Southern Blue Mountains. This area is composed of

granite and the Kowmung has carved a spectacular gorge through it with some very impressive waterfalls on some of the tributaries.

Part 1 is a 3 day backpack, travelling as light as possible, in the spectacular Upper Kowmung area, entering the valley via Box Creek Falls, detouring to visit Tuglow Falls and Chardon Canyon and then following the river downstream past lots of cascades and waterfalls with lots of, at times, demanding rockhopping and occasional swims and floating of waterproofed packs. We also detour to see Morong Falls. This section is not suitable for liloing because it is too rocky with too much portaging. Our third and fourth night's campsite is at a lovely creek side spot 230 metres above the river. On day 4 we do a 5 km each way day walk back to our nearest car, do a further car shuffle and walk back in with all of our lilo gear and food for a 2 day & 3 night lilo trip down the river as far as the Uni Rover Trail. This is part 2 of the trip. After the 1,000 metre climb out to the road we drive on to the Blue Mountains where we will do 3 or 4 days of relatively easy to medium canyon day trips. These will probably include Rocky Creek & Bell Creek and 1 or 2 others to be decided. We may or may not include some abseils depending on who is on the trip. Wet suits are essential for this section because they are wet cold canyons and may involve swims and liloing, but boy are they spectacular!

If you think you're up to the rigours of this trip, you'll experience some of the most spectacular waterfalls and gorge and canyon scenery that Australia has to offer.

With a bit of fiddling it may be possible to do just 1 or 2 sections of the trip if transport can be arranged.



TENZING'S HIMALAYAN TRAVEL CENTRE

Nepal / India / Sikkim / Bhutan / Tibet

DARJEELING BHUTAN TREK (SIKKIM & BHUTAN)

This trip takes you trekking in the hills of Darjeeling, and visits the Tenzing family. Then drive to Bhutan sight seeing in Paro and Thimphu, trek in remote area. ex Kath 13 Dec – 06 Jan \$4800 15 Apr – 09 May 2001 \$4500

SIKKIM KANCHENJUNGA TREK (SIKKIM)

A classic trek in the eastern Himalaya. Visit the Tenzing family, trek up to Gocha La, 5000 meters for outstanding views of third highest peak in the world. 11 Apr – 05 May and 17 Oct – 10 Nov \$3648

NANDA DEVI TREK (INDIA)

Himalayan explorers Bill Tilman & Eric Shipton were the first westerners to undertake this alpine trek. You can follow in their footsteps. Visit Rishikesh, cross Kuari pass, Trishul base camp and the beautiful lake at Nainital.

11 May – 01 Jun also 21 Sept – 12 Oct. ex Delhi \$3245

TO THE BIRTH PLACE OF TENZING (TIBET)

This trip was first run in 2000, and proved very popular, with trip fully booked out. Join Tashi Tenzing as he visits the birth place of his grandfather, and stay with old Tenzings family. Fly to Lhasa and then drive onto Yueba, where you will meet descendants of Tenzing Norgay. Move onto Rongbuk and then drive back to Kathmandu. 24 days ex Kathmandu, 08 Jul – 31 Jul ex Kathmandu \$5990

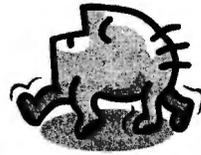
MANASLU/HERZOG/ANNAPURNA TREK & CLIMB OPTION (NEPAL)

The ultimate trek, three options on the one trip. Trek the Manaslu Circuit, link up to the Annapurna Circuit & attempt Pisang Peak (6091m) cross Tilicho Lake area. Fly out of Jomsom. 30 Sep – 28 Oct contact office

Darren Miller (also after hours) ph 9395 1210 fax 9395 1216 email parbat@mira.net

"With the Tenzing family network, you experience the Himalaya like no other"

Bushies' Burlblings



Review of Jenny and Jopie's Trip to the National Parks of the South Coast of NSW

Many weeks ago, I made a tentative inquiry about going on this trip, and, to my relief, found they already had more than the 12 that the camping facilities limited the trip to. Just to appear keen, though, I did ring back later to find that a couple had pulled out, and that Gene and I had moved up from the waiting list

With a mind full of trepidation, (knowing how unfit I've become, how my tendency to walk slowly has only exacerbated over the years, how easy it is for me to fall behind, then get lost, and concerned about how my daughter, who seems to have been brought up to think too independently for my liking, would enjoy such an experience, especially as she would be the only child, and so on), we were warmed by the willingness shown to include us at the introductory evening hosted by Rod. Given that I would have to be responsible for turning back if things became too hard, and I had to be responsible for Genevieve and so on, it all sounded eminently possible.

Driving up on the Friday, we listened to some of the Olympic opening ceremony. Bob's troop carrier had a tyre blow-out but he handled that well, and some rather kind 4-wheel drivers stopped and stayed to help.

Friday night saw Bob, Eileen, Genevieve, Roger H and Andy stay at Joy's half-way house in Albury. Picture this poor woman, who had only just joined the club (name listed on the last newsletter as a new member) being told to expect up to 12 people coming to stay! She coped! She provided us with a magnificent cake (which used no less than one litre of organic cream!), comfortable beds, and a cooked breakfast. How do we get more new members like this?

The camping ground at Greenpatch, Jervis Bay, was fine. The first morning saw Jenny and Jopie doing some very advanced yoga - almost a bit too good to be inspirational, though! Joy and Quenton went off sea-kayacking, which they afterwards thoroughly recommended. The rest of us left cars at Summer Cloud Bay and walked to some magnificent coastline from there. We had a great walk, but, unfortunately came back to find two of the cars had broken windows and hundreds of dollars worth of possessions stolen from them. The two cars with burglar alarms had been tampered with, but not broken into. When it was reported to the local police, we were told how very common it is there. Apparently locals leave cars empty and windows down. Probably the particular people who did this were caught in the act a few days later after a few more robberies (as Jopie recognised his jacket among, but it would certainly make

you think of choosing the option of an alarm next time one changes cars!

Jenny and Jopie, and Jan and Liz needed to repair windows, and replace some essential items, so could not join us for all of the walks in the next couple of days. The rest of us saw some of the most remarkable coastline I have ever seen. There were beautiful little bays, like Honeymoon Bay, rugged perpendicular cliffs and rocky outcrops.

We'd been told to bring food for 4 days for this segment of the trip. Luckily we didn't have to - we found many shops catering for ice-creams. A bakery that Joy told us of that overlooked a nudist beach (pity I don't see better!) No rough trip this!

The next camping ground was inland by the River at Yadboro. From there we all climbed the rather remarkable looking Pigeon House that Captain Cook commented upon, and most of the fitter members climbed the Castle. Spectacular scenery, and a pleasant place to camp. Incredibly helpful and considerate group, too, as quite a few times when the going was rough, Red Roger helped by carrying an extra pack, and hands and encouragement were always available.

From there to Pebbly Beach and many walks along the most amazing rock shelves I have ever seen! Often we were walking along a flat shelf that was between 3 and 25 metres wide and extended for a kilometre or more along the beach. Again, remarkable cliffs and occasional sandy beaches.

Because it was Jenny's birthday, and because we were deprived of the Olympics (Jopie's portable TV was among the things stolen), and because we had the wild party-goer Jan among us, we did start having mini-olympic parties. Jan, with some help from Gene, organised a fun dress-up party for Jenny. Most of the costumes were great - ranging from a wet-suited olympic swimmer to a mad axeman, from Rainbow Girl to a Pink Lady (the variety of apple most of us had stopped to buy at Gundagai). There were a few regrettable moments, as when Queenie looked in urgent need of obstetrical attention, and when Beach Barbie was mistaken for The Dance of the Great White Whale! To the best of my knowledge, there was no formal check on whether or not the Roman Senator did actually deserve the name he gave himself. Regrettably, there was much cheating at the games. My partner and I cheated heaps - like we never changed over the stone in the stone and spoon races, but even so we didn't win. Just how much the winners cheated, I couldn't imagine! Many were the gold medals given that night. Even those who did not win gold got to eat their snakes after the judging of "the longest snake" and the snake with the most knots in it. Definitely Queenie/Goldilocks/Goldisocks was the wildest dancer! Unfortunately Joy, Quenton and Jan left us here, due to other commitments, but Jan did leave Gene as her official

protege to carry on the party coordination. So, even at our last lunchtime en route home, outside the Visitor Centre in Lakes Entrance, we were to be seen trying to tear our Mintie wrappers into the longest strip, and competing in an obscure competition not to suck the Mintie for the longest, but who could suck it quickest without chewing! There were various excesses on the trip. After 5 days without hot showers, upon finding hot water at Bournda, the early arrivals made up an elaborate song and dance routine, but one was too busy actually enjoying the hot shower to perform it for the others upon arrival. It was finally performed on the last morning.

Rain had set in on the Monday of the second week. Some, undaunted, still climbed Mt Dromedary, while others of us did the tourist trip of fudge and cheese tastings along the way. Andy bussed it back to Melbourne, leaving us to ever increasing and unremitting rain. Tuesday saw people buying dry gloves, hats, socks, etc, and hiding out for lunch and dinner at Merimbula's RSL - thoroughly recommended for good and inexpensive meals on wet days! The three R's, who didn't stay for dinner, did one of the noblest acts imaginable: rescuing drowned tents with their inland lakes and re-erecting them under the picnic shelter! Upon returning back, I was so rapt I think I didn't stop grinning for half an hour. It was especially noble for them to have done that for all of the rest of us, as two of the three R's hadn't even needed to move from in-tent lakes!

Rain showed no sign of stopping for the next few days, so we decided to leave for home on the Wednesday, a couple of days early.

Except for the rain on the last couple of days and the earlier break-ins, it was a wonderful trip! Lots of things made it great. The scenery was magnificent, and the walks well thought out and interesting. The group benefited from Jenny and Jopie's experience. The group was incredibly kind, considerate and helpful - especially the three R's, and Red Roger, the porter, in particular. And the group had fun and was fun! Once when hitching a lift near Pebbly Beach with Jenny and Jopie, I had to laugh at one of the things that made the trip so great. Jenny commented on the beauty of the spotted gum forest with its fern undercover - anyone else would have commented on how rough the road was, how dusty it was, and so on. One morning Jenny stayed around camp, and one R jokingly said he expected Jenny to find 18 species of birds in the group's absence. She found more than that number. I loved their enjoyment of what they saw.

Thanks, Jenny and Jopie for sharing it with us, and thanks, the rest of you, for a great trip!

Eileen

Hotham Lodge Weekend 8-10 September 2000

Cast:

The downhill mob: Anita, Connie

The serious cross-country mob: Di, Trish, Ralph, Jopie, Anna, Max, David L

The beginner's cross-country mob: David E, Lillian, Helena

The snowshoe mob: Dagmar, Roger

The lazing around in the lodge mob: Jenny, Adrian

The club's 60th anniversary celebrations continue! For this instalment of the celebrations, Di planned a celebratory meal at the Royal Children's Hospital Lodge at Mt. Hotham, with a little skiing, walking, coffee drinking or yoga thrown in to keep us amused while not eating.

We arrived at Hotham in several instalments between 5pm and 11pm. Our instalment arrived at the Big D a little after dark, in poor visibility and light rain. Di had given us instructions on how to find the lodge, so four hardy Melbourne bushies got out of the car, and headed in completely the wrong direction! Eventually we found ourselves, and found the inconspicuously-signposted lodge. It was excellent! The lodge is very comfortable, with a big living area, and a huge fire was blazing, bliss!

Saturday morning, we all awoke, at varying times, and split into lots of different groups. The visibility wasn't great, so some of us used that as an excuse to be lazy, while others headed out to experience the 2 metres of snow. I was in the lazy group: Saturday was blissful, we lazed around the lodge all morning, had some interesting discussions, a class from the Hotham school of yoga, a bit of reading, a little sleep. By 3:30pm, we decided we should see what it was like outside (cold, snowing), and went for a walk and a coffee. What a fantastic day! Of course, there were a few renegades who decided to ski out to Dinner Plain and back. Roger and Dagmar put on their snowshoes and walked to Dinner Plain, an excellent effort! Helena practiced her cross country skiing on one of the easy loops, and Lillian discovered that her bargain second-hand skis were both left-hand skis. The Dinner Plain ski mob arrived back exhilarated and tired, all with bright red faces, Anna completely exhausted.

Once we all arrived back at the lodge, the party began. Di and Trish had organised a group feast, and had brought up heaps of goodies for all of us. We began with dips while sitting around the fire, guzzling wine. The meal began with delicious pumpkin soup; the main course was pasta marina, followed by a desert of cheesecake. The finale was a freshly-baked anniversary chocolate cake, very delicious, especially finishing the last pieces for lunch on Sunday.

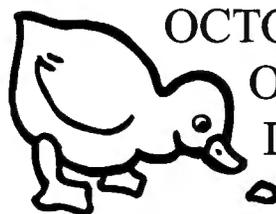
Sunday, we all awoke, at varying times, and this time fewer of us lodged. Anita displayed her excellent downhill ski costume - body-hugging ski suit, large

stylish gold earrings, and a fabulous furry hat - certainly the most stylish person on the slopes, so much so that the very young man at the coffee shop was so impressed that he offered to buy the ski suit. When the offer was declined, Anita was offered unlimited free coffee. And she also did some skiing with Connie. David E and Lillian decided that it was about time to get some ski lessons, and learn how NOT to fall over, Roger and Dagmar snowshoed again and Jenny and Adrian lodged again. The serious cross-country group had a very pleasant trip to Mt Loch, with brief views of the Feathertop and the High Plains before the cloud came in. They then skied out to Spargo's Hut and enjoyed lunch in the sunshine before returning back via Derrick's Hut.

So that was our weekend! We all had a fantastic time in our varying ways, with an excellent group of people. The RCH lodge is to be highly recommended, as very convenient, comfortable, affordable accommodation, well laid-out, with a great fireplace, and good views of the Big D ski-lift, and across the valley to the mountains beyond. The team effort for the clean up was brilliant - true Bushie style with everybody bunking in and making it happen.

Written by: DavidE, with assistance from Trish and Lillian

THE MYSTERY WALK (DOM DOM TO FERNSHAW RESERVE) SUNDAY 15TH



OCTOBER 2000 OR ODE TO DOM DOM THE DUCK

Why on earth would you stay in bed when a mystery walk could be had instead? Perhaps the weather had cast more than doubt on the chances of our barbecue being washed out. But no, we were surely blessed on this day, as the forecast showers were kept at bay.

The harder walk included a 5K trek, and whilst no-one sighted the aeroplane wreck, we arrived at a tree hut, and there to greet us, right on cue were the summit leeches! Thanks to Lance and Alan for clearing the track, t'was the only way up and the only way back.

We dreamt about finding "Fatso" out there, but alas, no wombats were to be seen anywhere. Away from the leeches when Dom Dom was done, we stopped for some lunch 'neath the midday sun, then onto the Morley Track we turned, by which time a barbecue was being earned.

Finally we came out at Fernshaw Reserve, but what did we walkers do to deserve such a feast of food and drink for all, and even a black and white soccer ball? Thanks to the Bushies for providing this treat, and to Bob and the crew for cooking the meat.

The surprise of the day was surely a duck that might otherwise have been way out of luck, t'was merely a babe that had lost its way, straight into John's arms on this fateful day. From there it found warmth in Helena's hat, then on the bus, it got better than that.

I nursed dear Dom Dom so close to my heart 'til the time came for our little friend to depart. A happier ending there could not be, for Bob had detoured to the Sanctuary. So next time you venture up Healesville way, you might just bump into that lucky stray..... Thanks to everyone involved in this walk - it was a 'bumper' day!

Jill Dawson

Book Review

The Wollemi Pine - the incredible discovery of a living fossil from the age of the dinosaurs by James Woodford is a "must read" for all bushwalkers. This is the story of the chance finding of a new tree species, in fact a living fossil by the Sydney Bushwalker David Noble. Wollemi Pine is now restricted to one gorge in the Blue Mountains and is a remnant of the once great forest covering all of Australia some 40,000 years ago. Today only 40 trees remain! This book provides a fascinating insight into the evolution of Australian vegetation, the discovery and protection of the highly secretive site, and the remarkable DNA chemistry, which has gob-smacked the scientists. A must read on your next walk.

Another good read is Murray Bail's *Eucalyptus*. I enjoyed this book on Jopie's moving base camp along the New South Wales south coast. It's somewhat difficult to read a book on a Jopie adventure. There is not much time left in the day when you are tired from adventuring up "The Castle" in the Budawangs, dodging waves whilst doing a coastal walk along the Murrumurang shore and Jenny's birthday Olympics by torchlight at Pebbly Beach. This interesting novel is based on a father - daughter relationship and is intertwined with fascinating people 'stories', which resemble the characteristics of the many species of Eucalypts. This book was a best seller list in 1999 and provides enjoyable reading in a bush setting.

Rod Novak

FIRST AID KITS

You may or may not be aware that the club first aid kits have been updated and changed. Some things such as needles, antiseptic creams etc., have been removed. The reasons for some articles being removed are, a) the difficulty of safe disposal of sharp objects, b) the risk of needle stick type injuries from 'used' needles, c) the potential risk of allergies to antiseptic products, d) the potential risk of allergies to certain medicines. Therefore I have endeavoured to make the first aid kits as simple as possible. The new first aid kit contents are listed below.

One additional item you may not be familiar with is the Laerdal Pocket Mask. This is a reusable mask which is used for EAR (mouth to mouth resuscitation), which provides a 'safe' barrier between the 'patient' and the first aider. Please feel free to familiarise yourselves with the mask. There are three masks, one for each kit. If you would like any advice regarding the masks please feel free to speak to me in the club rooms.

I would like to remind members that the first aid kits are for emergency use only and that we should all carry a small first aid kit. You should also carry items, such as medicines, which are specific to your own needs.

You may even consider attending one of the excellent first aid courses, that are organised by the club: you may be the first person at the scene of an accident, or, the leader of the walk has been bitten by a snake, what would you do?

May I ask the leaders of walks to check the contents of the first aid kits prior to a walk. If any contents are missing, or if you use any items from the kit during the walk, please could you arrange for the kits to be returned to the club rooms the following club night. This kit can be replaced by the one in the club rooms and given to the leaders of the following Sunday walk. (It may be an idea to let the bus driver know that the kit has been removed) Thankyou for your help and happy, safe walking

Amanda Smith

CONTENTS OF FIRST AID KITS

Laerdal Pocket Mask (for EAR)
 Red OR Medical Kit pouch
 Rubber gloves x 2 prs. (in zip lock bag)
 Sports tape x 1 roll
 Paper tape x 1 roll
 Sodium Chloride for Irrigation x 1 vial (can be used for irrigating eyes or wounds)
 Panadol tablets x 6 (in seal pot)
 Barley sugar x 3 (in zip lock bag, which can also be used for severed body parts)
 Safety pins x 4 (asst. sizes)
 Tweezers x 1 pr.
 Scissors (folding) x 1 pr.
 Elastoplast dressings x 6
 Skin closures 100mm x 12.5mm x 1 pkt.
 Skin closures 75mm x 3mm x 1pkt.
 Blister treatment (small) x 2
 Blister treatment (med) x 2
 Antiseptic wipes for hand washing (pre/post wound dressing) x 2
 Triangular bandage x 1
 Gauze swabs x 1 pkt.
 Eye pad x 1
 Melolin dressing 5cm x 5cm x 1
 Melolin dressing 10cm x 10cm x 1
 Combine absorbent pad 9cm x 10cm x 1
 Elastic bandage 4in x 1
 Crepe bandage 3in x 1
 Crepe bandage 6in x 1

NB if any contents of first aid kit used, please return the kit to the club rooms ASAP in order that it may be restocked for the following weekend's walk.

Walk Statistics for September

September 2000	Trips	Participants	Average	C /f Sept 1999
Sunday Bus	4	128	32	28.8
Other Day Walks - Wed: 8 - Dand: 9	2	17	8.5	11.7
Training Day	1	7	7	
Cycle	1	11	11	
Pack Carry	Nil	-	-	8
Base Camp	2	19	9.5	6.7
Ski Lodge	1	16	16	
Ski Trip	1	3	3	
Total	12	201		195

Cancelled trips = 3 weekend trips [Mt Margaret Pack Carry, Kamerooka

Conservation Forum

Wilson Prom - For walkers who have met Peter Sutton, the Lightstation Keeper at the south-east point of Wilson's Prom, there is an interesting article about him in the latest *Habitat* (October 2000, p.30). There is a copy on the Conservation Noticeboard in the Club Rooms.

South-West Tassie - Despite overwhelming opposition, it appears that tourist accommodation will be built in the world heritage/wilderness area of south-west Tassie. Floating accommodation will be built near Mount Milner and serviced by helicopters and float planes - up to eight times per day flying in tourists, coming in past Federation Peak and then flying along the south-west coast. For more information contact the Friends of the Quiet lands on

Rod Novak

New Members:

Jadzia Bondrov - New Member

Michael G Law - New Member

Joyce A Stalker - New Member

Change Of Address/'Phone

Rena B Burton

Margaret Barkley

Sylvia Ford

Life members	10
Honorary Members	10
Single memberships	317
Family memberships	96 (=2x48)
Total membership	433
Membership this time last year	472

Treasurer: Accounts for September 2000

Opening Balance	\$49,994.62
Receipts	\$3,116.71
Payments	\$4,965.78
Closing Balance	\$48,145.55

Duty Roster

8 November	Peter & Rod
15 November*	Brian & Alan Ide
22 November	Doug & Trish
29 November *	Alan Miller & Clare
6 December	Fiona & Debbie

**Date of next committee meeting:
Monday 4 December 2000 at 7PM**

The following items were discussed at the **VicWalk Conservation Committee Meeting** on 25th October 2000.

Yarra Ranges – a new track is proposed from Maroondah Dam to Donnelly's Weir. However, if this goes ahead then Melbourne Water propose to close the track to Graceburn and Echo Tunnel. Basically, Melbourne Water is against bushwalking in their catchment area. The Federation is still trying to negotiate access for minimal impact bushwalking in this area.

Otway Ranges – The Otway Ranges Walking Track Association have just released a preliminary report on the Trans Otway Walk and will meet with the Conservation Minister. The proposed walking track will be 70 kms and will link 10 waterfalls between Lorne and Apollo Bay.

State Forest Walking Track Survey – the Federation is disappointed with the small number of replies to date. We need to compile an inventory of walking tracks/routes in State Forests as a means of protecting them from logging activities etc.

Wilson's Prom – a bushwalker representative has been appointed to the Advisory Committee.

Devilbend Reservoir (Mornington Peninsula) – a public hearing on the future of this area will be held on the 28th October. Melbourne Water will issue a draft plan in December. The Federation is advocating a return of this land to bushland with walking tracks.

Snowy River – hooray. The river will have a 10 year plan to restore 21% of water flow.

Baw Baw National Park – the Friends of Baw Baw are lobbying for an extension of the southern boundary of the park to help to protect the habitat of the endemic Baw Baw frog populations

Mt Hotham Powerline – work is expected to commence this summer although their appears to be a delay in the paperwork / approval to start - to date.

Website – the website for the Tracks and Trails Conference held in May 2000 is www.tracks.vic.gov.au with a link to trails and tracks. Here you will also find Pearson's Conference paper.

Committee Positions Becoming Vacant in February 2001

At this point in time the bearers of the following positions will not be re-standing for re-election at the Annual General Meeting in February 2001.

- Assistant Walks Secretary
- Social Secretary
- Editor of News

As it is up to every Club member to put back into the Club what they have taken out, I ask you to seriously consider whether you, or a fellow club member you know, would be suitable for and able to take on any of these positions in 2001.

Please contact Pearson Cresswell or David Arnold for more information.

NOVEMBER

Wed 15	Wednesday Walkers: Angahook Wildflowers	Private	E/M	Sandra Mutimer	
17-19	Pack Carry: Adv. Beginners - Mt Buffalo	Private	E/M	Brian Crouch	
17-19	Wilkinson Lodge: Spring Clean Party	Private	Easy	Doug Pocock	
Sat 18	<i>Track Maintenance (and Devonshire Tea)</i>	Private	Easy	Fiona Gallery	
Sun 19	8.30 Start : CATHEDRAL RANGES	BUS	E/M & M	Jan Palich & Fiona Gallery	#
24-26	Base Camp: 1st Vice-President's Weekend	Private	Easy	Anne Wilkins	
Sat 25	<i>Dandenongs Explorer</i>	Private	Easy	Michael Humphrey	
Sun 26	MURRINDINDI -WILHEMINA FALLS	BUS	E & E/M	Lynda Larkin & John Kittson	#

DECEMBER

1-3	Base Camp: Victoria Range Rockhoppers	Private	Med/Hard	Jopie Bodegraven	
1-3	Wilkinson Lodge: Introduction Weekend	Private	Easy	Doug Pocock	
Sat 2	<i>Training Day: Leadership Skills</i>	Private	Easy	Brian Crouch	*
Sun 3	Mt TOOLE-BE-WONG	BUS	E & E/M	John Kittson & Fay Pratt	#
8-10	Pack Carry: Mt Bogong	Private	Medium	Rod Novak	
Sun 10	8.30 Start LORNE WATERFALLS	BUS	E/M & M	Jan Palich & David Everitt	#
Wed 13	<i>Wednesday Walkers: East Melbourne- Botanical Gardens Metropolitan Walk</i>	<i>PUBLIC</i>	<i>Easy</i>	<i>Barbara Weston</i>	*

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Alteration to Particulars

Name (new)	Name (old)
Address
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Phone h) w)	h) w)
Email	

Subscription Fees:	Ordinary – single membership \$35.00 Concession – single membership \$24.00 (proof required) Family/Couple -membership \$50.00 Concession – couple \$28.00 (proof required) New members joining on/after 1 October \$21.00 less visitor fees.
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