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# THE NEWS OF THE MELBOURNE BUSHWALKERS INC.

EDITION 616

JUNE 2002

60 CENTS

## **Quarterly Club Barbeque**

**7 - 9 pm, Wednesday 26 June\***  
**Clubrooms**

*B.Y.O. meat & a plate to share*  
*Wine & soft drink available*

*\*Please note change of date -  
from now on*

*we will hold our regular  
Wine & Cheese/Barbeque Nights  
on the 4th Wednesday  
of each month  
rather than on the 3rd Wednesday  
to avoid clashing  
with our Wednesday Walks.*



## **Elvis Night**

*Great cabaret show starring Mark Andrew*

**8 pm, Friday 5 July**  
**Kingston City Hall**

*(old Moorabbin Town Hall - Melway p.77 D.5)*

*Slip on your blue suede shoes & rock 'n' roll!*  
*Dress up & dance B.Y.O. drinks & nibbles*  
*Cost: \$17.60 to \$19.80 depending on numbers*

*Book with me in the clubrooms  
or ring me on from 8 June.*  
*Bookings by 15 June to ensure a Bushies table.*

*Payment & collection of tickets from me  
or Halina Sarbinowski on Wed. 19 June in the club.*

**Carol Criddle**  
**Social Secretary**

## **Film Night**

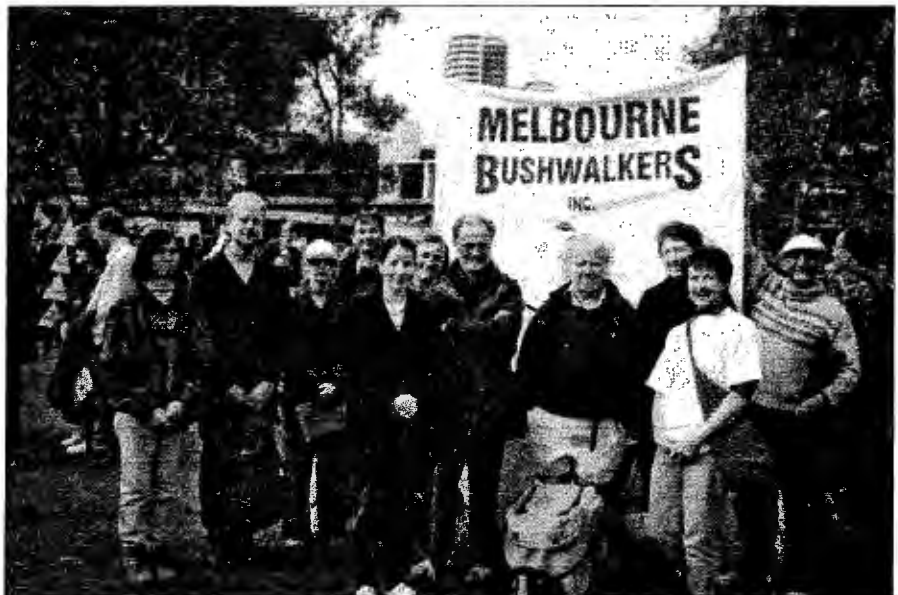
**Friday 26 July**  
**Clubrooms**

*More details in July News.*

## **Bush Dance**

**8 pm, Saturday 22 June**  
**Wandin North Hall**  
**Cnr Clegg Rd & Warburton H'way**  
**(119 C.11)**

*Refer to May News for details*



## **Open House**

**20 Tarcoola Drive,**  
**Yallambie (20 K.8)**  
**10 am onwards, Sun. 30 June**

*Refer to May News for details*

## **Melbourne Bushies Show They Care!**

Above are some of the club members present at the Forest Rally on Saturday 18 May in Batman Park, Melbourne. Various groups attended the rally & displayed their strong opposition to the clear-fell logging and unsustainable wood-chipping of Victoria's old growth forests.

See Rod Novak's article on page 8 for more details.

Photo: Clyve Radford

Members of the Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc.  
meet on Wednesday evenings  
between 7.00 & 9.00 pm in the Clubrooms,  
Victorian Horticultural Society Hall,  
48 MacKenzie Street, Melbourne.

Visitors are always welcome.



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

*The News of the Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc.*  
is the newsletter of the Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc.  
& is published monthly.  
Editor: Vicki Scrivenger.

Walk previews & reviews, articles, poems, news items,  
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 contributions  
where space, clarity or propriety dictate  
& to maintain editorial consistency.

Contributions to *The News* may be sent to the Editor by:

- ★ Emailing to:
- ★ Placing diskette or hand written material  
in the "Red Box" in the clubrooms
- ★ Posting diskette or hand written material to either:  
The Editor, Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc.,  
PO Box 1751Q, Melbourne, Vic., 3001  
or V. Scrivenger, *News* Editor,

Electronic mail is preferred.

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

Advertisements in *The News*

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

Advertising Rates (Artwork Ready):

Size:	1 Issue:	3 Issues:	12 Issues (1 Year):
¼ Page	\$30	\$80	\$300
½ Page	\$50	\$135	\$500
Full Page	\$80	\$220	\$800



## FEDERATION WEEKEND

### 2002

18 - 19 - 20 OCTOBER

The Geelong Bushwalking Club along with the Otway Ranges Walking Track Association (ORWTA) are co-hosting the 2002 Federation Weekend. Their aim is to showcase the Otways at their best and also some sections of the proposed Trans Otway Walk, especially between Lorne and Apollo Bay.

Erskine House at Lorne is the venue for the Friday night get-together; the Saturday night dinner (\$25 pp); the walk registration and walk departures. There will be twenty walks of different grades which will highlight what the Otway Region has to offer the walker. October is the best month to view the many waterfalls, rivers, creeks, sea-scapes, beautiful tree ferns and forecast. But, it can also be wet, so come prepared.

**Accommodation - Camping - Tel.: 5289 1398** Foreshore Park from \$16 double un-powered sites. Cabins from \$60 per double. **I or Trish Elmore will make a block booking to accommodate some attendees.**

Erskine House - Tel.: 5289 1209. Accommodation starts at \$115 double to apartments (holds 6) at \$295 per night. There will be a 10% discount if you mention VicWalk.

Other options - Lorne Visitor Information Centre - Tel.: 5289 1152.

If you are interested in joining in with walkers from other clubs in this Federation Weekend, please advise me or Trish by 10 September. You will also need to advise if you wish to attend the dinner.

JAN PALICH

### Late News



*For those who have not heard  
Peter Chalkley and Mary Leonard  
are the proud parents of a son, Jack,  
now a year old.*

*They have no definite plans apparently  
but may return to Australia at some stage.*

# JULY DAY WALKS, ETC.



## Dandenongs Explorer: Sherbrooke Forest

**DATE** Saturday 29 June  
**STANDARD** Easy  
**DISTANCE** Approx. 13 km  
**LEADER(S)** Warren Baker  
**TRANSPORT** Private

Meet at 10.30 am at Grant's Picnic Ground (Melway: p.75 K.4).

The initial part of the walk is similar to the first walk of the year passing through the western part of Sherbrooke Forest. We will then work our way down to Moxham's picnic ground where we will have lunch.

After lunch we will follow Sassafras Creek to Baynes Reserve. We will follow the creek back to Kallista where we will have afternoon tea before returning to the cars.



## Sunday Bus: Ship Rock - Kurth Kiln (Gembrook)

**DATE** Sunday 7 July  
**STANDARD** Easy & Easy/Medium  
**LEADER(S)** Tracey Jamieson & Ralph Clayton  
**TRANSPORT** Bus - South Bank Blvd at 9.00 am

Please talk with the leaders in the clubrooms about these walks.

## FROM THE WALKS SECRETARY

**Attention Sunday Walkers** - Just a reminder to you all - members, visitors *and* leaders - that **visitors must come in to the clubrooms in person** on Wednesdays to book on a Sunday walk. If you are a visitor and cannot make it into the clubrooms on a Wednesday night then your alternative is to book on a Wednesday walk or a Saturday walk. Once you become a member then bookings may be made through a friend or by post.

**Credit Vouchers for Sunday Walks** - A credit voucher may be issued in lieu of fees paid for a walk which you were unable to attend, on condition that there was a satisfactory reason for non-attendance and that you informed the leader. A **request for a credit voucher must be put in writing** to the Walks Secretary, stating the walk you missed, the reason for non-attendance and the amount paid. You can either collect the credit voucher in the clubrooms or it can be posted to you. Please note that credit vouchers are non-transferable and are only valid for 12 months from the date of the walk credited.

**GINA HOPKINS**



## Beginners Ski Trip: Lake Mountain

**DATE** Saturday 13 July  
**STANDARD** Easy  
**LEADER(S)** Alan Ide  
**TRANSPORT** Private

The format of this day depends very much on how much snow there is, who wants to come, how much they can ski (if at all) and how many experienced skiers come along to help with tuition. In the past we have broken up into several "Beginners" and "Intermediate" groups.

The plan is to meet at the car park near the Stevenson River in Marysville at 10.00 am **after** having hired whatever gear you need for skiing.

If you want to come please contact me and I will try to organize people into cars. My email is: . . .  
& my phone numbers are:

. . . It costs \$22.00 per car to get on to the mountain so we will want to cram as many bushies into each car as possible. Car costs will be divided up between passengers and drivers; personal costs will be hire of skis, boots & poles (around \$18.00) and trail fees (\$9.50).

Check these links for snow conditions and gear prices:  
[www.mmtourism.com.au/crosscountry](http://www.mmtourism.com.au/crosscountry) &  
[www.lakemountainresort.com.au](http://www.lakemountainresort.com.au)

If there is no snow we will go for a walk in the Marysville area.



## Sunday Bus: Cobaw Ranges (Kyneton)

**DATE** Sunday 14 July  
**STANDARD** Easy/Medium & Medium  
**LEADER(S)** John Coe & Bill Donald  
**TRANSPORT** Bus - South Bank Blvd at 9.00 am

Please speak with the leaders in the clubrooms about these two walks.

**House Sitter Wanted**  
**in Glen Waverley**  
**during August to end September.**  
*For further details please contact*  
**Marika Jagow on**



### Wednesday Walk: Long Forest Flora Reserve

**DATE** Wednesday 17 July  
**STANDARD** Easy/Medium  
**DISTANCE** Approx. 15 km  
**LEADER(S)** Sandra Mutimer  
**TRANSPORT** Private  
**RETURN TIME** 4.00 pm at the latest  
**AREA** Bacchus Marsh  
**MAP REFERENCE** Lerderderg & Melton 1: 25,000

We will meet at the beginning of Djerriwarrh Track in the south eastern section of Long Forest Flora Reserve, Melway p.113 & 112. This is not clearly marked so you will need to keep a look out for it on the right side of the road when travelling north along Longforest Rd from the Western Freeway. It is around a km. from the turn - off from the freeway, past a 65 km sign and number 105 on the left hand side of the road and is where there are two white poles on the right hand side. Be aware that you will need to be in the right side lane to turn into Longforest Rd from the highway at Anthony's Cutting. A car shuffle will be necessary so that we can start our walk in the northern section of this Reserve off Canopus Circuit.

Long Forest Flora Reserve is a small and isolated area of remnant mallee vegetation 50 km from Melb. between Melton and Bacchus Marsh. The reserve's sandy tracks pass through bull mallee, moonah, grey box, manna and blue box trees with turkey bush and saltbush and lots of other interesting vegetation and is also rich in bird life. It provides us with a good location for walking in the middle of winter, although I'm not planning to meet any of its 16 species of bull-ants that include 2 that occur nowhere else in Victoria.

Our walk will take us westwards to Long Point, along pleasant tracks with some steepish places, then southwards along creek flats and beside the Coimadai or Pyrites Creek, part of it off track. We will make our way to the south-eastern section of the reserve and down to the river flats of the Djerriwarrh Creek.

References: *The Mallee At Our Back Door* - a Friends of Long Forest Malle publication and *Wild Places of Greater Melbourne* - Robin Taylor, CSIRO Publishing.

### For Sale

#### Second Hand Shirt

*Wilderness Wear Microlite short sleeved shirt  
in small blue/white check.  
As new, worn once only. \$85 new.*

*Offers invited.*

*Please Contact Rosemary Cotter on*



### Sunday Bus: Sugarloaf Reservoir

**DATE** Sunday 21 July  
**STANDARD** Easy & Easy/Medium  
**DISTANCE** Approx. 12 & 14 km  
**LEADER(S)** Maureen Hurley & Howard Friend  
**TRANSPORT** Bus - South Bank Blvd at 9.00 am

This is a pretty walk in the Yarra Glen area. Both walks traverse the Sugarloaf Reservoir taking the same route. You will see plenty of kangaroos on this walk and some beautiful scenery. The Easy/Medium walk will walk a couple of kilometres longer to differentiate the walks, unless an extra hill or two can be found! This walk is on and off grassy tracks in beautiful bushland with great views!

It is a good walk for this time of year because of the close proximity to Melbourne, meaning you will be home at a reasonable time. Remember the warm and waterproof clothing.



### Dandenongs Explorer: Hermon's Saddle

**DATE** Saturday 27 July  
**STANDARD** Easy/Medium  
**DISTANCE** Approx. 12.5 km  
**LEADER(S)** Sue Upton  
**TRANSPORT** Private  
**RETURN TIME** Approx. 4.00 pm  
**MAP REFERENCE** VICMAP Cardinia Ck 1:25,000

Meet at 10.30 am at Hermon's Saddle Reserve (Melway p.124 E.10).

This is an easy/medium walk passing John's Hill lookout on Ridge Road which, weather permitting, provides extensive views of Melbourne and the bays. After lunch we follow the track along the valley of Menzies Creek for a short distance, climb a timber stairway constructed in 1994, pass close to the Puffing Billy railway track at Clematis and a little later at Menzies Creek before returning to our cars.

If the weather is as good as it was the day of the preview there will be great views to enjoy.



### Sunday Bus: Switzerland Range

**DATE** Sunday 28 July  
**STANDARD** Easy/Medium & Medium  
**LEADER(S)** David Arnold & t.b.a.  
**TRANSPORT** Bus - South Bank Blvd at 8.30 am

Details about these walks will appear in the July News.

# JULY WEEKEND & EXTENDED WALKS, ETC.



## Ski Trip: Start of Season - Timms Lookout

<b>DATE</b>	Friday 5 - Sunday 7 July
<b>STANDARD</b>	Medium
<b>DISTANCE</b>	Unknown
<b>LEADER(S)</b>	Stephen Rowlands
<b>TRANSPORT</b>	Private
<b>RETURN TIME</b>	Sunday Evening
<b>AREA</b>	Falls Creek
<b>MAP REFERENCE</b>	Bogong High Plains

If there is good snow cover we will ski a short distance (couple of km) with packs & make camp. We will then spend the rest of the weekend exploring.

If anyone has any questions please give me a ring on



## Base Camp: Chiltern Box-Ironbark Nat. Park

<b>DATE</b>	Friday 5 - Sunday 7 July
<b>STANDARD</b>	Easy/Medium
<b>LEADER(S)</b>	Rosemary Cotter
<b>TRANSPORT</b>	Private
<b>RETURN TIME</b>	Approx. 7 pm Sunday Evening
<b>AREA</b>	34 km north of Wangaratta
<b>MAP REFERENCE</b>	Park notes

This National Park straddles the main Hume Highway. The Saturday walk will explore the northern part of the park on foot and by car and take in the historical/cultural sites. On the Sunday we will follow the White Box Walking Track (8.5 km) south of the highway and possibly even go as far south as Mt. Pilot for those who haven't visited this site. We will be on the look out for migratory birds up from Tasmania over winter. Note that the walks will not be previewed prior to the weekend.

Camping will be at the Chiltern Caravan Park alongside Lake Anderson. Tea on the Saturday night can be arranged at the local hotel/pub. Leader will need to know numbers in advance to book places at the Caravan Park and for the Saturday night meal.



## Ski Trip: The Bluff - Mt Lovick

<b>DATE</b>	Friday 19 - Sunday 21 July
<b>STANDARD</b>	Medium
<b>DISTANCE</b>	Approx. 20 km
<b>LEADER(S)</b>	Ralph Blake
<b>TRANSPORT</b>	Private
<b>RETURN TIME</b>	Sunday Night
<b>AREA</b>	Near Mansfield
<b>MAP REFERENCE</b>	Buller South & Howitt - Selwyn

On this trip I hope to explore The Bluff and surrounding area on skis. For Saturday night we will be snow camping somewhere along the mountain range. Depending on snow and/or weather conditions this trip may end up going to another area (such as Baw Baw National Park).

Participants should be fully equipped for ski touring and snow camping. There will be a minimum group size of four and a maximum of eight.



## Pack Carry: Brisbane Ranges National Park

<b>DATE</b>	Saturday 20 - Sunday 21 July
<b>STANDARD</b>	Easy/Medium
<b>DISTANCE</b>	Approx. 34 km
<b>LEADER(S)</b>	Bill Donald
<b>TRANSPORT</b>	Private
<b>RETURN TIME</b>	Late Sunday Afternoon
<b>AREA</b>	Steiglitz
<b>MAP REFERENCE</b>	VMTC Brisbane Ranges

The walk will start at the Little River camping ground, heading south along tracks through the Brisbane Ranges. Camp on Saturday night will be at the Old Mill camp site. Sunday is more of the same, also picking up Sutherlands Creek.

As the walk is close to Melbourne we will meet on Saturday morning for the car shuffle. Be prepared for some cold weather. On the bright side we should spot some koalas. Group limit is 8.



## Ski Lodge: Mt. Hotham

<b>DATE</b>	Friday 26 - Sunday 28 July
<b>STANDARD</b>	Easy/Medium
<b>LEADER(S)</b>	Dianne McKinley
<b>TRANSPORT</b>	Private
<b>RETURN TIME</b>	Late Sunday Night

MBW skiers (X-country & down-hillers), snow shoe shufflers, skaters, and lounge lizards are welcome to come along also. The lodge is cosy & comfy, making it easy to relax alongside the huge open fire with fantastic views of the snowfields. Activities will depend on the snow conditions. The x-country skiers will have 2 full day trips such as Dinner Plain, Wire Plain trails for skaters or Mt. Loch and the Huts. For those who have not had a chance before, lessons can be taken at the nearby Big D.

We have booked beds at the R.C.H. ski lodge for the Friday and Saturday nights & are unsure at this stage of how many beds we will get. The lodge cost for the weekend is \$90. Payment is required with bookings, to Di by 3 July. You need to bring sheets, a towel and all food. Before departure on Sunday late afternoon we all pitch in and clean up the lodge. It will be a full and fun weekend.



## YOUR NEW COMMITTEE AT WORK!

Members of the 2002 Committee at their monthly meeting in the clubrooms on Monday 6 May.

Clockwise from left: Jan Palich (Treasurer), Trish Elmore (Vice-President), Carol Criddle (Social Secretary), Peter Havlicek (Membership Secretary), Doug Pocock (Wilkinson Lodge Manager), partially hidden, Vicki Scrivenger (*News* Editor) - camera shy and thus, editing herself out of the photo! William Cone (Secretary), Pearson Cresswell (President), Howard Friend (Maps Officer), Deborah Henry (Website Manager), Marika Jagow (Vice-President), Tracey Jamieson (Assistant Walks Secretary - Sunday Walks), Quentin Tibballs (First Aid & Training Officer), Carol Lee (Library Officer) and taking photo, Paul Beers (Publicity & Promotions Officer) - on the job! Absent: Gina Hopkins (Walks Secretary).

**PAUL BEERS**  
**PUBLICITY & PROMOTIONS OFFICER**

## WILKINSON LODGE REPORT

...And it came to pass that the gas stove at Wilkinson Lodge was no longer working and there was great wailing and gnashing of teeth. So the Lodge Manager said "Who will right me of this grievous state?" and Bill and Marilyn said "Yea, verily we shall travel with Steven unto the High Plains and right this wrong".

And so the three wise persons traveled to the place known as Wilky bearing a new stove and brass fittings and even a ball valve which they offered unto the Lodge. And in great snow storms the new stove was fitted and the ball valve plumbed into the place of the gate valve in the oven drain line. The Lodge Manager was greatly pleased with the work done and prophesied that much porridge and toast will be made on the new stove and there will be great rejoicing. Here endeth the lesson.

Please note that the new stove controls need to be depressed and turned anti-clockwise to turn on the gas. The knob needs to be kept depressed for 15 seconds to allow the safety cut-out to activate. Refer to the instructions written up next to the stove.

The ball valve on the stove drain line is clearly open or shut, parallel to the line is open and perpendicular to the line is closed. Please bear this in mind when starting or closing Wilky.

**DOUG POCOCK**  
**WILKINSON LODGE MANAGER**

# QUENTIN'S QUIZ

## LESSON 2: THE MAP LEGEND

By "map legend" I mean most of the things in the margin of the map. Let us look at this marginal information in order of importance.

**Scale** - There will be a bar scale which you can use to measure things on the map. The actual "representative fraction" such as 1:50,000 will also be shown. The user should always keep in mind the actual scale of the map eg. 1:50,000, even though as we saw in the previous lesson it is possible to do some useful measuring without actually knowing the scale. The reason for knowing the scale is that it determines the level of detail shown. For instance, a 1:25,000 map shows farm fences, whereas a 1:100,000 map generally does not (except in sparse areas where the fence is considered as a navigational feature).

**Contour Interval** - It is essential that you know this for many purposes. We will discuss why in a future article.

**Date on the Map** - The date on the map always appears in the "credit note" – a little block of text that tells how the map was made, when, by whom, and any accuracy limitations.

**Symbolization** - The actual symbols used to portray roads, streams, timber cover, etc. Note that just because something appears in the legend does not mean that it will be shown on the map, even if it exists on the ground. A good example is fences. The legend will show them for most scales, but they only appear on the map if they have some significance. If there are lots of them, they are all left off because they do not serve much purpose, whereas one isolated fence might be shown as an aid to navigation.

Also each map series may have a different set of symbols to portray the same thing. For instance, on some maps roads are just plain red lines, and on others they have "casings" that is, a pair of parallel black lines filled in by a red infill. Lesser standard roads might be shown by a narrower red line in the first case, or in the second case, by leaving out the red infill or breaking the red infill into very small dots so that the line appears to be pinkish.

**The Declination Diagram** - This is a little diagram showing the relationship between various north points – more on this later.

**Questions for Novices:** Answer the following questions about any map that you happen to have. The maps most suitable would be any 1:25,000 or 1:50,000 metric scaled map for Victoria, and a good example is the Reedy Creek 7923-3-1 map which contains the area of a permanent rogaining course occasionally used for our club navigation training – this map or any map (perhaps of the area of your next walk, so you could test your skills), may be purchased from map shops (e.g. *Melbourne Map Centre*, Chadstone/Kew), or you could peruse one of the clubroom maps.

- 1) What is the scale of the map?
- 2) What is the contour interval? Does it appear underneath the scale bar?
- 3) How far apart are the grid lines?
- 4) When was that map made?
- 5) Has it been field checked? If so, when?
- 6) Are there any accuracy limitations?
- 7) What is the symbol for a vehicle track? A foot track? Timbered areas?
- 8) What is the value of the grid-magnetic angle?

### Question for Experts:

On maps of 1:25,000, 1:50,000 and 1:100,000 the grid lines always have two digits. On a 1:250,000 map they only have one digit (except on some very old maps). Why is this so?

QUENTIN TIBBALLS  
TRAINING CO-ORDINATOR

Answers to Questions for Novices: Because you used your own map, the answers will be different for each reader, so mark them all correct. Answer to the Question for Experts: The reason is to give consistency to grid references across all the scales mentioned. All grid references refer to the same point, regardless of the map scale. Moreover, all four figure grid references are accurate to 100m and all six figure grid references are accurate to 10m. None of these things would apply if the 1:250,000 map had two digit grid numbers, like the others.

# MELBOURNE BUSHIES AT FOREST RALLY

BATMAN PARK, MELBOURNE

SATURDAY 18 MAY

An ongoing issue is the clear-fell logging and unsustainable wood chipping of Victoria's old growth forests – and it certainly has a significant impact on our walking areas. With the state ALP conference considering a forests policy, the environmental movement wanted to show a clear opposition to these outdated practices. The Forest Rally was held at Batman Park, directly opposite the state conference, and it was a day for thermals, hats and jackets. The rally was organised by the Australian Conservation Foundation, Environment Victoria, the Wilderness Society, the Victorian National Parks Association, with 15 environmental groups from regional Victoria, with many bushwalkers, bird watchers, field naturalists and other interested people. The Melbourne Bushies were there with a group of 20 around our banner.

The Rally started with Rod Quantock who warmed up the crowd with his humour, then we were welcomed onto Wurrunjerrie land by tribal elder, Harry Terrick. The day alternated with passionate guest speakers from the regional areas and entertainment. We listened to music from *The Scared Weird Little Guys* and *Killing Heidi* as well as some street theatre. A special international guest was the naturalist, David Bellamy and club member, Ralph Blake enjoyed 10 seconds of fame with a short discussion with Mr Bellamy on bushwalking in Australia. The jovial comment "It's too hot to walk in Australia" was overheard from Mr Bellamy and Scotland as being the place to walk!

Thank you to all the Melbourne Bushies for supporting this very important day.

ROD NOVAK

## S.O.S.!

(SUSAN'S OCCASIONAL SERIES!)

Walkers often have a favourite area that they return to time & again, so with this in mind I asked **Jean Woodger** to chat with me about hers:-

Jean named the **Lancefield - Pyalong area**, 75 km north of Melbourne. After crossing private farmland, the terrain is full of hilly peaks & very grassy. It is dominated by huge boulders, resulting in wonderful & amazing formations. After climbing the peaks the walker is rewarded with an uninterrupted, open view of the countryside. The rocks are particularly old & the area is a favourite of geology students. There is evidence of the area being quarried by Aborigines & the rock used for trade.

**Bob Steel** nominated the **High Plains**, "of course" & highlighted one walk to **Mt. Feathertop** that he did a few years ago which was paid for in full by the hosts of a visiting American businessman. All he wanted to do was go walking, & after a series of phone calls Bob & a couple of mates piled into the private plane, flew to **Hotham**, & acted as guides.

Bob's first trip to **Mt. Hotham** is forever planted in his memory. His party camped at the old Fed. Hut & that evening he headed off for **Mt. Feathertop** on his own. It was perfectly still. The flowing Kiewa West River could be heard & **Fainter**, **Niggerheads** & **Bogong** off in the distance were all visible. After two & a half hours of solitude, Bob returned to the "civilisation" of the campsite.

SUSAN MAUGHAN



# WILSONS PROM PACK CARRY

10 – 12 MAY

With the superb autumn weather, and not having visited Refuge Cove for some twenty years, I decided to join Max's trip on 'The Circuit' at Wilson's Prom. We camped at Tidal River on the Friday night, and yes, the people next door partied all night, a real pain. Saturday morning and it was a beautiful sunny day. We checked in for our 'hikers' permit' and were told, so far, that 29 people would be camping at Refuge Cove. We met our visitor – Martin – who was returning to bushwalking having been active with the Sydney Bushwalkers in the 1960s. Up to Telegraph Saddle, then to Windy Saddle and down to the swamp near Sealers Cove. My memory of the 'dreaded Sealers Creek swamp' from some years ago faded as we sped along the boardwalk and bridges. We made a human caterpillar as we joined the procession of hikers (scouts, school groups and a University of Melbourne landscape class comprising 25 American exchange students) bouncing along the wooden elevated path. Sealers Cove was a welcome lunch break, and the warm autumn sun was enjoyed.

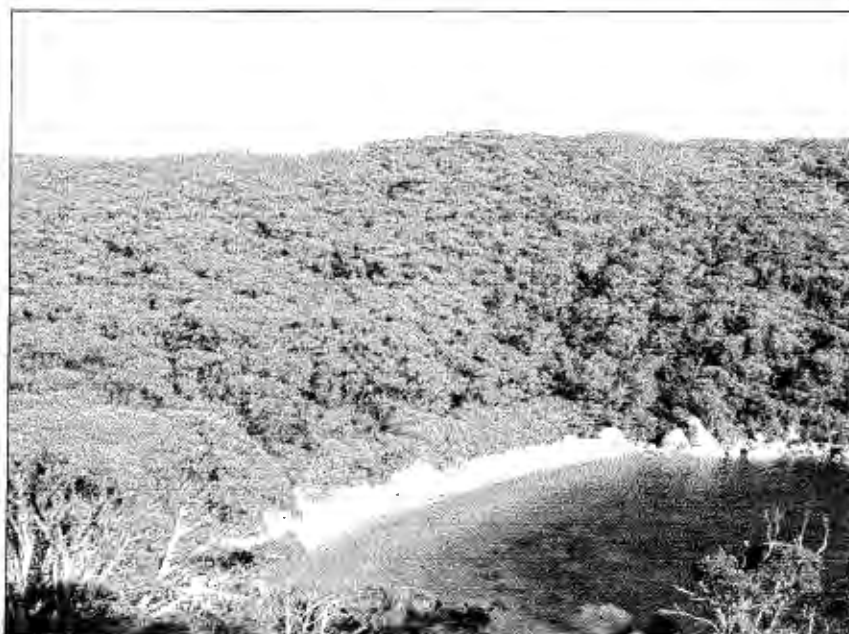
We continued on to Refuge Cove, catching some great views of the eastern bits of the Prom along the way, and were lucky to be one of the first groups into camp. Paul and Martin selected the 'best spot' on the edge of the camping area and next to the creek, but unfortunately it was very sandy and the sand gets into everything. We then enjoyed an afternoon tea with Martin providing the entertainment as he 'primed' his ancient Optimus choofa. Our near neighbours were a very noisy group of cadets on bivouac, with their tarps strung between the trees. At 5 pm Max declared 'time for entrees' and delicious treats emerged. Pizza bread, rice crackers and dips, smoked oysters, camembert cheese and a nice drop of red wine (thanks Paul) was enjoyed by all. Dinner cooked by candlelight and muscat and port followed. The campsite at Refuge Cove even had a flush loo. However, queues formed with the 53 people camping here (it has a limit of 60!) It certainly is a favourite spot, with the Ranger saying that even mid week it was still crowded with the school outdoor education groups.

On Sunday we left camp at 8.30 am and climbed up Kersop's Peak, enjoyed one of Max's toffee treats, as we gazed out to the Lighthouse and Rodondo Island. We had a leisurely stroll to Little Waterloo Bay, stopping to allow another big group (25+) of American exchange students going by. We then lunched at Little Waterloo Campsite (good water point) and the warning notice on the toilet indicates the pressure of 'loving the prom to death'. This notice claimed the campsite's composting toilet is used by 5300 hikers each year and the rangers are appalled by the rubbish being dumped into the toilet. Such things as a sleeping bag, disposable nappies, empty gas canisters and other rubbish! We continued our journey towards the Lighthouse Track and considered our options, whether to go straight up the road to the car or opt for the longer trip along the coast. The passing flock of raucous yellow tailed black cockatoos (a sign of rain!) and the black clouds on the horizon decided for us and we opted for the quick escape route. We almost made it back but with 30 minutes to go, the rain started! Back to the car, down to Tidal River for a hot shower, then off home via a great meal at Korumburra.

Thank you Max for a great bushwalking weekend.

Party: Max (leader), Debbie, Paul (who took the photo below of Refuge Cove), Martin and me.

**ROD NOVAK**



# BUSHIES, BRUNCH AND BEEF AND BURGUNDY

WEDNESDAY 15 MAY

"Here comes another car. Is that the 10th?" Car No. 13: "Where are you?" Car No. 14: "Look who's here! Haven't seen him for ages". Two more old-timers. "Giddy..." What's brought 26 Bushies out on a chilly Wednesday? Moreover, they're all congregating at the tradesman's entrance.

When a former member & well-known author ("Just call me Ty") opened his home & Parkland gardens to us, old & new friends flocked to take up the opportunity to be guided around Mt. Macedon. Our day began with a morning walk up to & around the Cross, then a retreat to the sloping green lawns of his garden for lunch. Some sat by the 100 year old oak, while others milled around a "room" of birches surrounded by dry stone walls.

Our curiosity was piqued by the acreage of trees, shrubs & ferns around us, so as soon as lunch was concluded, Ty gave the group a conducted tour of his low-maintenance Park. And we were enthralled! With a mixture of modesty & well-deserved pride it was explained to us that everything had personally been planted, planned & constructed following the devastation of the 1983 fires. There was a theme to the selection & grouping of the trees & plants, all of which are catalogued due to a working relationship with the Botanic Gardens. There is also a Zen element with the recent introduction of a small Japanese garden.

Now it was time for the afternoon walk. A short walk took us to the steps leading to Mt. Towrong & a grand view over the remains of this volcano. You could clearly see where once the lava had surged & flowed steadily southward. We circled back & down, admiring some of Mt. Macedon's stately mansions as we headed back to Ty's "Corsham Park". And what an afternoon tea was awaiting us! Exactly 26 beef & burgundy pies (sorry, the cat missed out), courtesy of Sandra, Sandy's choicest chocolate cake, Susan's "Oops-I-nearly-burnt-the-brownies", Margot's most fruitful cake & lots more goodies to replace the calories. Future leaders note: A new standard of Wednesday Walks has been established!

Many thanks Sandra for a terrific day & organising 2 walks for us plus the added enjoyment of a special social occasion.

SUSAN MAUGHAN & STUART HODGSON



## Celebrate the 50th anniversary of the conquest of Everest in 2003

We have priced our Everest region treks in 2003 to make it affordable but this is a *once only offer*.

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\*\* minimum numbers, no other discounts apply but the same excellent service and inclusions at no extra cost. *We're celebrating our 5th birthday!!*

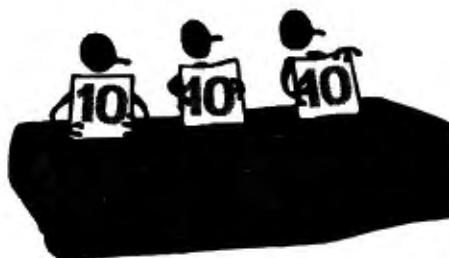
Mingmar and Marilynne Sherpa of Om Trek  
03 9781 1280 [msherpa@labyrinth.net.au](mailto:msherpa@labyrinth.net.au)  
<http://travel.to/kathmandu>

## MBW GOOD FOOD GUIDE

**Korumburra** – *The Austral Hotel* (on the corner in the middle of town).

We stopped here on the way home from the Prom. It was Mother's Day and we were lucky to get the last table. Debbie scored a free champagne for being a mother. We chose the \$13.50 three course option with beautiful cream of brussel-sprout soup, superb roast lamb and vegies and with a choice of chocolate mousse or apple crumble. Fantastic value and highly recommended.

ROD NOVAK



# MT. AVOCA & PYRENEES PACK CARRY 24 - 26 MAY

Leader: Bill Donald of a group of fourteen.

Following Bill's detailed instructions, about nine of us arrived at our Friday night campsite which was at the end of our walk in the Pyrenees State Forest. Roger's decision to light a fire on the 4WD track was a good one on this crisp evening.

At daybreak we were greeted with much bellowing by an inquisitive herd of young bulls on the adjoining property, & were those gun shots from duck shooters? or the automatic shots to protect the vines at a nearby vineyard. The remainder of our group arrived right on time for the 45 minute drive to the walk start at the waterfalls picnic area near Avoca.

The sun was peeping through as we began a steady climb in light forest. This morning's section of the walk had good examples of forest re-growth after fire damage with large areas of beautiful young blue-gums becoming established. Morning tea was had at Mt. Avoca, 747 metres. We then crossed over ridges & gullies, the alternating green on one side and dry forest on the other was quite a contrast.

A final 600 metres was on a steep 4WD track & we arrived at a very nice campsite with sheltered seating & a raised circular fire place. As we arrived about 3.45 pm we had ample time to enjoy the treats that had been brought along. When the full moon rose it shone on the moist leaves on the tops of nearby trees & we saw the most beautiful display of sparkling fairy lights.

Sunday morning was good walking through many green gullies & drier tops with nice views to the mountains in the south. We saw lots of bird life, also kangaroos & wallabies & enjoyed the fine weather. After a steady descent we arrived at our cars approx. 12.15 pm for lunch.

After returning for other cars, some had a brief visit to the Blue Pyrenees winery, then coffee, etc. at the Avoca bakery & home for dinner.

Thanks to Bill for leading this excellent walk & for the company of Peter & Margaret, Jill, Jan, Gerhard & Carolyn, Carol, Marika & Sak-Hong, Jan, Stuart & Roger.

**BOB OXLADE**



## WALK WITH TIM BOWDEN ON SOUTH GEORGIA ISLAND



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## CONSERVATION REPORT

**Upper Bunyip Action Group** – This group is trying to save the 350 block - at the southern edge of the Yarra State Forest – from logging operations. The 350 block is south-east of Mt Beenak and south of Seven Acre Rock and contains the relatively untouched headquarters of the Upper Bunyip River. It is next to the northern boundary of the Bunyip State Park. This area is a reserve water catchment for Melbourne, and being subject to a Special Area Plan, has until now been relatively undisturbed. NRE will commence logging operations this summer and bushwalkers are needed to write letters asking for this special area to be added to the Bunyip State Park. The action group are lobbying for a walking track to be developed from Fishers Loop up to Seven Acre Rock and across to Tomahawk Gap. Also, this area contains habitat for the endangered Leadbeaters possum, Powerful Owl, Sooty Owl and Mask Owl, as well as the Spotted Quoll and the rare Tall Astelia. So Melbourne Bushies, we need your help. For more information go to [www.nex.net.au/users/ubag](http://www.nex.net.au/users/ubag) or telephone the convenor Bob Johnson on 9702 1622.

**Central Highlands** – a picnic was organised by the Warburton District Environment Group and other groups at the Ada Tree on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> May to showcase the recent clear-fell logging in the area eg Starvation Creek catchment with Starvation Creek being a water supply catchment for Melbourne water. Big Creek Road has been re-aligned near Starlings Gap and this has impacted upon prime Leadbeaters possum habitat. Most bushies would know the Ada Tree walk (with the Ada Tree being one of the tallest trees in Australia). Logging will commence next to this area in summer with the Ada River Road and the 'Walk into History Track' being widened to take the log truck traffic.

**Forest Rally** – thank you to all the Melb. Bushies for 'putting their best foot forward' at the Forest Rally in Batman Park on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> May. Many were lucky to meet David Bellamy in person.

**NRE have published** *Sustainable recreation and tourism on Victoria's public land*. Public submissions welcomed – deadline is 24<sup>th</sup> June. Download from their website at [www.nre.vic.gov.au](http://www.nre.vic.gov.au)

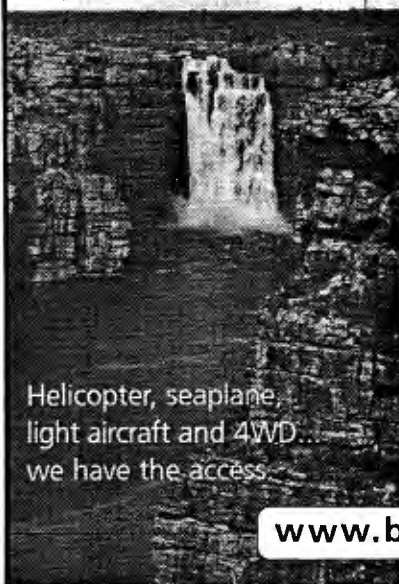
**East Gippsland Opinion Poll** – a market research company conducted a telephone survey of 400 residents in East Gippsland in April. Interesting results from the local residents include: 67% against clear-fell logging in old growth native forests, 59% believe tourism has greater potential for long term jobs, 46% believe there is too much wood-chipping, and 50% believe the Regional Forest Agreement for East Gippsland has not worked.



**ROD NOVAK**  
**CLUB DELEGATE**  
**VICWALK CONSERVATION COMMITTEE**

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## NEW MEMBERS

MARTIN MOWBRAY

ROBYN STRINGER

LIZ & PHILIP A WOOD

## ALTERED ADDRESS/PHONE

NANCY BELYEA

ADRIAN BOLZAN / CELESTA FONG

MARIANNE GEMPERLE

JAN GUSTAV LOVGREN

RITA MAHONY

BRIAN MARRIOTT (NEWS subscriber)

CAROLINE SPOWART

PAUL A WAKEFIELD

VALMA A WALLACE

## MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS

Life Members	11
Honorary Members	10
Single Memberships	359
Family Memberships	110 (= 2 x 55)
Total Membership	490
This Time Last Year	476

**PETER HAVLICEK**  
**MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY**

## APRIL WALKS STATISTICS

April 2002	Trips	People	Average	Apr. '01
Sunday Bus	4	154	38.5	35
Other Day	2	30	15	19
Pack Carry	1	12	12	12
Base Camp	1	16	16	18
<b>Total</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>212</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>296/13 trips</b>

**GINA HOPKINS**  
**WALKS SECRETARY**

## MARCH 2002 ACCOUNTS

	\$
Opening Balance	45,304.10
Income	6,445.36
Expenditure	5,924.30
<b>Closing Balance</b>	<b>45,825.16</b>

## APRIL 2002 ACCOUNTS

	\$
Opening Balance	45,825.16
Income	6,960.85
Expenditure	6,951.86
<b>Closing Balance</b>	<b>45,834.15</b>

**JAN PALICH**  
**TREASURER**

## CLUBROOMS DUTY ROSTER

Wednesday 5 June - W Cone & D Henry  
Wednesday 12 June - M Jagow & T Jamieson  
Wednesday 19 June - T Elmore & Q Tibballs  
Wednesday 26 June - P Beers & P Cresswell  
Wednesday 3 July - D Henry & V Scrivenger

## NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday 1 July at 7.00 pm in the clubrooms

## JUNE 2002

<b>Sun 2</b> Britannia Range – Britannia Falls	BUS	E & E/M	Alan Miller & Nick Dow	#
<b><u>Queen's Birthday Long Weekend:</u></b>				
7 – 10 Pack carry: Hattah Lakes National Park	Private	M	Roger Wyatt	
7 – 10 Base camp: Hattah Lakes National Park	Private	E/M	Gina Hopkins	
7 – 10 Pack carry: Wilsons Prom Lighthouse track	Private	E/M	Alan Clarke	
7 – 10 Base camp: Bentley's Plain	Private	E/M	Lance Mobbs	
<b>Sun 9</b> Andrew Hill – Island Creek – Kinglake	BUS	E/M & M	Peter McGrath & Sibylle Holdheide	#
Mon 10 Historical walk: Williamstown circuit	Private	Easy	Nigel Holmes	*
<b>Sun 16</b> Sutherlands Creek – Beards Gully, Steiglitz	BUS	E & E/M	Jerry Karbownik & Quentin Tibballs	#
Wed 19 Wednesday Walkers: Werribee Gorge	Private	E/M	Stuart Hodgson	
<b>Sun 23</b> Birdsland Reserve – Lysterfield Lake	BUS	E & M	William Cone & Halina Sarbinowski	#
28 – 30 Pack carry: Dry Diggings Track	Private	E/M	Bob Oxlade	
Sat 29 Dandenongs Explorer: Sherbrooke Forest	Private	Easy	Warren Baker	
<b>Sun 30</b> 8.30 am start Kilcunda - San Remo	BUS	E/M & M	Linda Larkin & Ches Volpato	#

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Address .....  
 .....

Phone h)..... w)..... h)..... w) .....

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    **Family/Couple** -membership \$50.00    **Concession** – couple \$28.00 (proof required)  
    **New members joining on/after 1 October 2002** \$21.00 less visitor fees      *The News* – \$18.00

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