



ADDEXK

THE NEWS OF THE MELBOURNE BUSHWALKERS INC.

EDITION 624

FEBRUARY 2003

60 CENTS

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday 26 February

8.00 pm, Trades Hall,

Cnr of Lygon & Victoria Streets, Carlton

Come along and cast your vote (members).

Non-members also welcome to attend but may not vote.

New committee to be installed.

All committee positions become vacant in February.

**A form for the nomination of officers
and committee members is on page 13.**



Wilkinson Lodge

*Joyous news, on-ground confirmation
that Wilkinson Lodge has survived
the recent devastating bushfires.*

Further details in the clubrooms.

*Let's keep our fingers crossed
for the rest of the summer.*

Doug Pocock

Wilkinson Lodge Manager

MEMBERSHIP FEES - 2003

Following the refurbishment of the "Horti Hall" complex by our landlord Mint Inc., additional costs have been incurred by the club in respect to electricity, gas, water and increased rent. At the AGM last year I advised that an increase of membership fees would be required to cover these costs. An example of these and other costs are:

	2001	2002
Rent - venue	1,980	3,300
Electricity	0	280 plus connection \$350
Gas	0	97
Water	0	*365
Federation (VicWalk) Insurance	4,937	6,222

* Note: The club has to cover the water cost for kitchen, toilets and outside watering in the garden. Unfortunately the outside costs are not negotiable with our landlord.

These new expenses have made quite an impact on our "Admin. Account" or working account, increasing fixed costs by about \$9 per member. The Committee is recommending that Annual Membership Fees be increased at the next AGM on Wednesday 26 February 2003. The recommended fees are:

Single Membership \$45	Couple Membership \$70	News Subscribers \$20
Single Concession \$30	Couple Concession \$38	

JAN PALICH, TREASURER

PEARSON CRESSWELL, PRESIDENT

ENQ.:

CLUB OPEN: 7 - 9 PM WED., HORTICULTURAL HALL, 48 MACKENZIE ST., MELB.

WEBSITE: www.melbournebushwalkers.org.au

EMAIL: info@melbournebushwalkers.org.au

John McCall 9397 1871.

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.
and 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
and 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 Editor's pigeon hole 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) in:
printed edition only: as below, or
printed & on-line editions: as below + 25% or
on-line edition only: as below + 25%.

Size:	1 Issue	3 Issues	12 Issues (1 Year)
¼ Page	\$35	\$90	\$330
½ Page	\$55	\$150	\$550
Full Page	\$100	\$250	\$900

WILKY WINTER 2003 BOOKINGS

Bookings will open on Wednesday 5 March and will
follow the system used in previous years.

1. An experienced member shall nominate to be leader
of a chosen week. Preference will be given to a leader
who will put together a full group, especially favoured
will be groups with lots of "brownie points" gained
through work parties, committee work etc. It is leaders
responsibility to collect fees up front – NO PAYMENT,
NO BOOKING. Leaders are also responsible for
organising the food for the party so should consider
collecting the food kitty at the same time. Any group
should have at least two experienced Wilky users.
2. For the first two weeks only Club members can book,
bearing in mind that at least three weeks are put aside
for outside groups. If you want to book please talk to
the leader first.
3. After those two weeks then members' families and
friends can fill vacancies up to a full week of eight.
4. The weeks run Saturday to Saturday and groups are
expected to book for the entire week. If groups are not
filled, the Manager may offer places to any interested
parties or may combine two small groups.
5. Winter fees will be \$35 for members and \$70 for non
members. Note that children under 16 take their parents
status, over 16 they are classed as visitors. Refunds will
only be made in exceptional circumstances.
6. March 5 is not far off so start thinking now about
whether you want to go into Wilky this winter and who
you would like to ski with. If you have not been into
Wilky before then talk to me and I may be able to
suggest a group for you.

DOUG POCOCK
WILKINSON LODGE MANAGER

CREDIT VOUCHERS FOR BUS WALKS

A walker who has paid for a Sunday Bus walk and was then
unable to attend, is entitled to a credit voucher provided that
the leader was informed before the walk. Please note that not
showing up on the Sunday does not entitle you to a credit.

A request for a credit voucher must be put in writing to the
Walks Secretary, stating the following:

- your name and address
- the date and name of the walk missed
- the amount paid

Leaders must note in their walk reports the names of non-
attenders who had paid and the reason and notice given. This
information is used to validate a request for a credit voucher.

Credit vouchers are non-transferable and are only valid for 12
months from the date of the walk credited.

GINA HOPKINS
WALKS SECRETARY

PREVIEWS OF DAY WALKS, ETC. - FEBRUARY/MARCH 2003

Dandenongs Explorer: Sherbrooke Forest

Date Saturday 22 February
Standard Easy
Distance 8 - 9 km
Leader(s) Warren Baker
Transport Private/Public

This year I want to have a few more walks which are accessible by public transport. We will meet at Puffing Billy station (Melways 75 G9) at about 9.45 am. Trains - Flinder's Street 7.29 am, 7.49 am, 8.29 am and 8.29 am (Box Hill 8.03, 8.23*, 8.43 and 9.03* am) arrive at Belgrave 8.47, 9.07*, 9.27 and 9.47* am). (* Lilydale trains need to change at Ringwood).

I plan to walk into Sherbrooke Forest and do a short round trip via, Welch, Paddy, Neumann and Lyrebird Tracks and Cole Ridge Road. Morning tea at Grant's Picnic Reserve. We will have some lunch in Belgrave. My reason for shortening the walk is that it is likely to be hot at that time and I do not want to stress the party.

I would like people to ring in as want the flexibility to cancel the walk if there are fires in the Dandenongs.

Sunday Bus: Blowhard Spur, Fraser Nat. Pk

Date Sunday 23 February
Standard Easy and Medium
Distance 14 and 18km
Leader(s) Lloyd Young and Alan Miller
Transport Bus - Southbank Blvd at 8.30 am
Return Time Late
Area Lake Eildon
Map Reference Collier Bay 8023-1-3

Both walks are circuits which go inland up some hills then eventually follow the flat tracks around the lake. The easy trip is completely on tracks. The medium trip has an off-track section.

It may be hot so bring plenty of water. If possible we will stop for a swim, however, if the water in the lake is too low, it may not be possible.

Note that it is an early start, bus leaves at 8.30 am, and we may be back later than usual.

Sunday: Castella-Victoria Range-Toolangi

Date Sunday 2 March
Standard Easy and Easy/Medium
Distance 13 and 17 km
Leader(s) Hans Edlinger and Max Casley
Transport Bus - Southbank Blvd at 9 am
Return Time 6.30 pm
Area East of Kinglake
Map Reference Toolangi 1:25,000

This walk is among tall trees in the Toolangi State Forest which lies to the east of the Melba Highway near the top of the Dividing Range. The forest is fairly thick in this area and so we will mainly follow tracks and roads. However, there will be a short distance of walking off track - we will give you more details when you book in on the walk.

Bring plenty of drinking water just in case it is hot.

Sunday Bus: Red Hill Winery Walking Tour

Date Sunday 9 March
Standard Easy and Easy/Medium
Distance 13 and 15 km
Leader(s) Peter McGrath and Quentin Tibballs
Transport Bus - Southbank Blvd at 9 am
Return Time 7 pm
Area Mornington Peninsula
Map Reference Melway

Does the thought of combining a visit to three top vineyards on the fashionable Mornington Peninsula with some enjoyable walking interest you? If so, this is the walk for you.

The Easy walk will commence at the T'Gallant vineyard, before walking 4 kms through some pleasant bush to Red Hill Estate. We will then proceed to Stoniers Winery at Merricks, via the old Red Hill railway track.

The Easy-Medium walk will climb Arthur's Seat via the OT Dam trail, before following riding trails to the old Red Hill Railway line, and walking along that to Merricks, where we will visit Stoniers winery. The OT Dam was built many years ago to provide the water for the passionfruits used to produce Cottees Passiona.

Red Hill Estate has one of the best views of Westernport Bay on the Peninsula. Stoniers recently won an international award for its chardonnay.

It is planned to spend an hour at each winery. There is a \$2 tasting fee at each.

This is the first time this walk has been held. It is hoped that it will be of interest to members.

Sunday Bus: Wombat SF – Jim Crow Range

Date	Sunday 16 March
Standard	Easy and Easy/Medium
Distance	13 & 16 km
Leader(s)	Gina Hopkins and Derrick Brown
Transport	Bus – Southbank Blvd at 9 am
Return Time	7 pm

This walk is in the northern section of the Wombat State Forest and we finish at the Tipperary Mineral Springs in the Hepburn Regional Park quite close to Daylesford. Much of the walk will be off track in very pleasant, open dry forest, sometimes in gullies where there is much evidence of the area's goldmining past. The terrain is generally undulating, sometimes gently and sometimes less so, but none of the ups and downs go on for very long. As the walk is planned to be off track the route can be varied to suit on the day.

On the preview we saw lots of Black Wallabies and the area is rich in bird life – bronzewings, robins, treecreepers and many different honeyeaters.

Wed.: Lyonville Springs-Bullarto Reservoir

Date	Wednesday 19 March
Standard	Easy/Medium
Distance	13 km
Leader(s)	Trevor Thomson
Transport	Private
Return Time	Back to cars by 3.15 pm
Area	Trentham
Map Reference	Daylesford, Coliban, Bullarto, Trentham 1:25,000

Meet at Lyonville Springs picnic ground at 10.30 am - turn off the Woodend-Daylesford Rd onto the signposted road 1 km east of Lyonville.

The walk is around the headwaters of the Loddon where it passes by a volcanic hill, and downstream enters a small gorge, making for reasonably interesting terrain. Good stands of forest remain despite past and present intense logging.

The route planned is to follow an old tramway route, then on through the forest to picturesque Bullarto reservoir, walking around its perimeter. Next to climb Babbington Hill for wide ranging views (aided by recent logging clearing) which include from Mt. Macedon to Mt. Franklin, plus several other volcanic hills that encircle Bullarto. This relatively recent volcanism is thought to be the source of all the mineral springs' carbonation.

Continuation through the forest leads to the Loddon gorge, the Coliban spring, and to the site of Orde's sawmill. Orde and Lyon (of Lyonville) were noted for their infamous 'chopping war' over timber rights in the 1880's.

Mostly we will follow 4wd tracks, with some easy untracked sections. Ring me on _____ to book or for more information.

Sunday Bus: Mt. Worth State Park

Date	Sunday 23 March
Standard	Easy/Medium and Medium
Leader(s)	Tracey Jamieson and Hans Edlinger
Transport	Bus – Southbank Blvd at 8.30 am

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

N.B. 8.30 am start.

Dandenongs Explorer: Doongalla

Date	Saturday 29 March
Standard	Easy
Leader(s)	Warren Baker
Transport	Private

Please phone Warren Baker on _____ about this walk.

Federation Day: Warburton area

Date	Sunday 30 March
Standard	Easy - Medium
Distance	Various from 5.5 - 17 km
Leader(s)	Jan Palich (contact & transport only)
Transport	Private
Map Reference	Supplied by organisers on arrival

No bus - why? There are 16 walks to choose from on the day and the starting times range from 8.30 am to 1.00 pm and the departure time from Melbourne will need to be a personal decision. Some of these walks will be held in the surrounding area - which is another reason cars are required.

This will be a great day so do come along and support the Federation Day Walk which is held annually by a different club each year. I have a list of the walks for your perusal.

Federation wish to know the numbers from our club one week before. So if you are wanting to go you need to let me know on the 1st Wed. night booking date, and also so that I can help you with transport.

This is a private transport event. I will need people who are willing to drive, so that they can share their car with someone else. If we have no drivers - we cannot assist anyone to go.

See you in the club rooms as normal.

N.B. There will be no bus this Sunday.

PREVIEWS OF WEEKEND WALKS, ETC. - FEBRUARY/MARCH 2003

Base Camp: Nest Boxes for Endangered Species Monitoring Weekend

Date Saturday 1- Sunday 2 March
Standard Easy
Leader(s) Rod Novak
Transport Private
Area Benalla / Lurg

The Melbourne Bushies have helped with tree planting for the Regent Honeyeater / Endangered Species project at Lurg Hills (near Benalla) for the past few years. This weekend activity involves checking and mapping the 137 nest boxes in the regrowth forest for sugar gliders and squirrel gliders. Close encounters with endangered species guaranteed. On Saturday evening we will also do some stag watching for gliders and spotlighting.

We drive up to Benalla early on the Saturday morning and have only one night camping. You need to bring your walking and camping gear, 2 lunches and a picnic tea. Sunday breakfast can be enjoyed in the many cafes and bakeries in Benalla.

For more information contact me on

Base Camp: Cathedral Mountain, Buxton

Date Tuesday 4 - Wednesday 5 March
Leader(s) Susan Maughan and Stuart Hodgson
Transport Private

Join us on Tues. to Wed. or drive up early and meet us there on Mon. evening.

Proposed itinerary: Tues. am - general ramble, Tues. pm - explore Little River Falls and Wed. - up to Ned's Saddle, across to Cathedral Mt., along to Cathedral North and back down to Ned's Gully (involves car shuffle).

We'll camp at Cooks Mill with a bush tea on Tuesday night and perhaps repair to the Buxton Hotel for dinner on Wednesday (serves meals from 6 pm) before heading home.

Phone Susan on _____ or Stuart on _____ for directions, suggestions, input, details.

VISITOR'S FEE INCREASE

The visitor's fee (rebateable on joining the club) will rise from \$5.00 to \$8.00 per trip from 1 March 2003.

COMMITTEE

Pack Carry: Mt. Clear - Mt. McDonald

Date Friday 7 - Monday 10 March
(Labour Day Long Weekend)
Standard Medium
Leader(s) Jopie Bodegraven
Transport Private
Map Reference Tamboritha-Moroka 1:50,000
Howitt-Selwyn 1:50,000
Skene North 1:25,000

This walk is in a part of the Alps that could be affected by bushfires so it will be subject to the weather forecast and fire situation at the time. Hopefully the bushfire risk that forced us to cancel our Australia Day walks will have abated by Labour Day. I will be in Tasmania from Feb. 9 until March 1 so you can ring me on _____ before or after that period. I will be in the clubrooms on Wed. 5 March too.

Our walk takes in the southernmost part of the high alpine section of the alpine walking track. South from where we will be the AWT passes through a lot more forest and lower ridges but we will be enjoying the fabulous views from, and alpine vegetation on, Mt. Clear, High Cone, The Nobs and Mt MacDonald.

Friday night we will camp at Sheeppark Flat. Saturday, day 1, we drive on into the Jamieson valley where we will do a short car shuffle and then walk 11 km and climb 840 metres to our campsite at Chesters Yards. Day 2 is full of good views, taking us over Mt. Clear, High Cone and the Nobs. The distance will be 14 km if we find water where I hope we will

Base Camp: Moroka Gorge & Mt. Wellington

Date Friday 7 - Monday 10 March
(Labour Day Long Weekend)
Standard Easy/Medium
Distance 30 - 40 km
Leader(s) Pearson Cresswell
Transport Private
Return Time Late Monday
Area Wellington Plains
Map Reference Howitt & Maffra 1:10,000

This base camp is an opportunity to explore some terrific country at the southern end of the Alpine region - assuming that it is spared by the fires.

On Friday night we shall camp at Breakfast Ck. on the Wellington River north of Licola. On Saturday we will drive on to McFarlane's Saddle for a day walk over Mt. Wellington, Spion Kopje and surrounding areas. Expect fantastic views. Then on to our base camp at the Horseyards on the Moroka River. On Sunday we will walk in to the spectacular Moroka Gorge. Monday will be a half day walk, possibly Trapyard Hill or Crolls Gorge, before starting the drive home.

Pray for pleasant autumn weather - and no fires.

Bicycle Base Camp: Bucolic Barfold

Date Sat. 15 - Sun. 16 March
Standard Easy/Medium
Leader(s) Sue McInnes
Transport Private

Please talk with Sue McInnes in the clubrooms or phone her on about this bicycle base camp.

Pack Carry: Crooked Riv.-Grant Hist. area

Date Friday 21 - Sunday 23 March
Standard Easy/Medium
Distance 25 km
Leader(s) Bob Oxlade
Transport Private
Return Time Late Sunday
Area West Gippsland

Located approx. 120 km north of Stratford. A hundred years ago it was the busy scene of the gold rush days in the Crooked River goldfields. The walk is mostly on tracks.

On Saturday we begin our walk from the Wongungarra River, then follow Jungle Creek and a steep climb of 900 metres up Eldorado Spur to the site of Grant at 1200 metres for camp and a visit to several historic sites (approx. 8 km with packs).

On Sunday we follow part of Macmillan track, then an old mining route to the New Good Hope mine. We continue down to the Crooked River. There will be several river crossings today. We continue on past the remains of Talbotville to our cars.

A fairly good fitness level will be required for the Saturday portion of the walk.

Base Camp: Warburton area

Date Friday 28 - Sunday 30 March
Standard Various
Leader(s) Sylvia Ford
Transport Private
Return Time 7 pm Sunday Evening

The main idea of this base camp is that we can turn up early for the Federation of Walking Clubs annual day walks on Sunday 30 March at a civilised hour and get the pick of the walks. Consequently we are going for a soft option so we can include the Sunday walkers and stay at the scenic Warburton camping ground which has all mod. cons. including on-site accommodation.

None of this has been sussed out by me yet but I have it on good authority (Jan Palich, whom better?) that the camping ground is terrific and the eateries in Warburton exceptional. I'll do a front page (please Ed.) blurb in *March News* with all the low down. Subsequently can you let me know a.s.a.p. what you require so I can make bookings. My phone no. is 9329 7816. I just might get my act together and invent a Saturday walk too, it'll be entirely optional though.

Mt. Stirling Volunteers' Working Day Saturday 8 February

Commencing at 10 am on the summit - there will be marking and laying of a new walking track.

A barbeque lunch will be provided.
For more details contact Elizabeth Doery on



WALKS STATISTICS

Dec. 2002	Trips	People	Average	Dec. 2001
Sunday Bus	4	109	27	28
Other Day	1	17	17	10
Pack Carry	3	22	7	8
Base Camp	2	30	15	17
Lodge	1	6	6	
Cancelled	1			1
Total	11	184	-	158 / 10

The number of Sunday walkers in December 2002 was a little lower than usual and the low numbers have continued into January 2003. Hopefully, as the weather cools a little, more of you will be tempted to get back to walking again. Base camps continue to be popular and we are looking at different places to go and explore in 2003.

**GINA HOPKINS
WALKS SECRETARY**



Party Pics

Among those enjoying the company as well as the food and beverages provided at the MBW Christmas party on Wednesday 18 December 2002 at Trades Hall were: Gina Hopkins and Trish Elmore, Sandra Mutimer and Pearson Cresswell and Mike Low, Ian Langford and Max Casley.

Photos: Paul Beers



Monika & Max have Moved

I have just heard from Monika Hollander that she (and her dog, Max) have moved to Lakes Entrance.

She invites anyone to call in and stay overnight as she has plenty of room.

All Bushies welcome.

*Her phone number is
and her new address is*

She says she is really missing the bushwalking. She asks us to let her know if we are walking anywhere near her area.

Jan Llewelyn

WALK LEADERS - 2002

The committee would like to thank the following (67) members
for leading club walks or other activities in 2002:

Alan Clarke
Alan Ide
Alan Miller
Alister Rowe
Bill Donald***
Bob Oxlade
Bob Steel
Brian Crouch
Ches Volpato
Clare Lonergan
David Arnold*
David Easton
Deb Henry
Di McKinley
Doug Pocock*
Elizabeth Ingham
Fay Pratt
Fiona Gallery
Geoff Mattingley
George Zamora
Gina Hopkins
Halina Sarbinowski
Hans Edlinger
Howard Friend

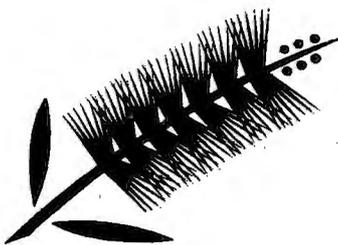
Ian Langford
Jan Llewelyn
Jan Palich
Jean Woodger
Jerry Grandage
Jerry Karbownik**
John Coe**
John Kittson
Jopie Bodegraven
Lance Mobbs
Lynda Larkin
Marika Jagow
Mary de Salis
Maureen Hurley
Max Casley**
Mike Low
Millicent Henry
Nick Dow
Nigel Holmes
Paul Beers
Pearson Cresswell
Peter Havlicek
Peter McGrath*
Quentin Tibballs*

Ralph Blake
Ralph Clayton
Rob Davis
Rod Novak
Roger Wyett
Rosemary Cotter
Sakhong Wan
Sandra Mutimer
Steve Axford
Steve Bentley
Stuart Hodgson
Sue Ralston
Sue Upton
Sybille Holdheide
Sylvia Ford
Tracey Jamieson***
Trish Elmore
Warren Baker
William Cone

* Leader of 5 activities in '02

** Leader of 6 activities in '02

*** Leader of 8 activities in '02



PRESIDENT'S REPORT - 2002

The year 2002 was another good year for the Melbourne Bushwalkers. Membership remains steady after last year's increase and our activities are as popular as ever.

The renovation of the clubrooms is finally complete and we are all enjoying the improved facilities, including the social events and wine & cheese nights. This does come at a cost, with increased rent and utility fees, which means that subscriptions will have to go up. However the committee believes that the subscription represents great value for money when you consider the services that the club offers. And that is only possible because club members are such willing volunteers. 2002 was the Year of the Volunteer!

All members should be aware that the club provides insurance (through Vicwalk) covering them for accidents while on club trips and also protecting the club against liability claims. The turmoil in the insurance industry has affected us, with higher premiums and some limitations on the activities covered. The worst effect is on ski trips, but insurance considerations have forced us to change many of our procedures for walks booking, membership application, etc., increasing the administration workload on leaders. The unfortunate committee spends an inordinate amount of time discussing matters related to insurance. We are hoping that the situation will stabilise soon, but the changes are frustratingly slow. We would rather be walking!

Now to the acknowledgments:

- * First to the Committee for all their hard work during the year - without them the Club would not function.
- * Second to all of the walk Leaders - those unsung heroes and heroines by whose efforts we actually get to put boot on track. Without them the Club would soon fade away.
- * Thirdly to Club Contacts, who play a vital role in our safety system, and to Margaret Borden for her role as phone contact.

I shall be standing down from the Committee this year - a welcome break after 7 years. It's been a privilege to be President of this great club and I look forward to lots more walks - and especially to the fun and satisfaction of leading them. To all those who haven't tried - give it a go!

Which only leaves it for me to wish all of you - members & visitors: Happy walking in 2003!

PEARSON CRESSWELL

TALK TO THE EXPERTS

- RIGHT GEAR
- RIGHT ADVICE
- RIGHT PRICE



EQUIPMENT
bogong

Bogong people walk a lot, here and overseas. We really use the gear we sell. We talk to hundreds of people each week about their walking and their gear. What we learn we pass on to you.

So if you want your equipment to best match your needs and budget, seek out the specialists - come talk walking with Bogong people.



BOGONG EQUIPMENT

374 Little Bourke St. Melbourne 3000
Tel: 9600 0599 Fax: 9602 1997
email: bogong@bogong.com.au

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WALKS SECRETARY'S REPORT - 2002

Yearly attendance totals for the 5 years 1998 - 2002:

Year	Total	Day	W/E Total	Pack Carry	Members	Visitors	No. of Trips
2002	2,758	2,200	558	226	2,064	694	132
2001	2,613	2,011	602	208	1,999	614	137
2000	2,552	2,047	505	189	2,098	454	134
1999	2,734	2,230	499	213	2,208	526	139
1998	2,916	2,411	505	201	2,368	548	138

Walk statistics for 2002 (compared to 2001):

Activity	No. of Trips		Average Attendance	
	2002	2001	2002	2001
Sunday Bus	51	49	34.4	33
Wednesday	12	12	15.3	13.2
Dandenong Exp.	10	10	19.7	17
Training	3	1	11.7	9
Historical	3	3	9.7	6.3
Cycle	1	2	15	8
Pack Carry	29	22	7.8	9.4
Base Camp	15	21	14.5	11.3
Lodge	6	6	10.7	9.2
Canoe	2	5	18	11
Lilo	-	1	-	10
Track Maint.	-	-	-	-
Cancelled	14	22	-	-

In 2002 we had 2,758 people involved in 132 trips, with the majority of those doing day walks. The Dandenong Explorers are attracting an ever increasing number of walkers (maximum of 30 last May) and the Wednesday walks are also well attended. The Sunday Bus attendances are up from last year but are still just below the break-even point of 35. Weekend trips continue to be enjoyed by a regular core group of walkers. The total number of trips is slightly lower than previous years due to the fact that no ski trips were run because of the lack of insurance. The other statistic of note is the high proportion (25%) of visitors on trips in 2002, one of the highest number in years.

Thank you to everyone who has helped out with planning and leading walks and activities in 2002. Particular thanks go to Tracey Jamieson, Assistant Walks Secretary, who is stepping down from the Committee this year. Tracey has done an excellent job in keeping the Sunday walks going so smoothly and has led so many terrific walks. Most importantly she has found and nurtured some new leaders which is good news for the future of the Club. Well done to those new leaders. Thank you to Sandra Mutimer (for Wednesday walks) and Warren Baker (for Dandenong Explorers). Thanks, too, to Alan Clarke, Brian Crouch and Quentin Tibballs for the navigation training days.

GINA HOPKINS

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S REPORT - 2002

The Membership Secretary's regular duties include: the maintenance of the register of members' particulars (address, telephone, subscription status), the collection of subscriptions, giving advice about membership to potential or new members, assisting in the preparation of membership lists and in mailing *The News*.

As at the beginning of February 2003, the membership of the Club was 470 (February 2002: 470) including 11 Life and 11 Honorary members.

The number of members remained steady during 2002 with 64 (2001: 72) new members joining and 64 (2001: 56) members relinquishing their membership.

PETER HAVLICEK

WILKINSON LODGE MANAGER'S REPORT - 2002

Usage of Wilky was 703 nights with 387 of these being visitors. This figure could have been higher except for the High Plains road being closed in spring due to political arguments about maintenance. The road closure meant the Introduction Weekend had to be curtailed.

The Bogong work party was cancelled due to lack of interest but the spring clean maintenance w/e was well attended. During the year the roof was replaced under adverse conditions. The gas stove was replaced as the old one had had it.

Outside groups using Wilky have included Maroondah bushies, VMTC, VNPA, MUMC, and Winter Group.

Some members are still having trouble following the instructions regarding the water and the lamps. Would you please check the instructions and ensure that you are doing the right thing.

Thanks to everyone who has attended work parties and done their bit to keep Wilky in the good shape that it is.

DOUG POCOCK

EDITOR'S REPORT - 2002

Thanks to all who contributed to *The News* in 2002 - in many ways it was a bumper year for the publication. Special thanks to: **Rod Novak** for his monthly column, *Tracks, Huts and Conservation* and for his pro-active campaigning on certain conservation issues (it is very pleasing to record he enjoyed some successes on these fronts last year too); **Quentin Tibballs** for his informative and practical eight-part series on navigation - a "must read" each month for some members I'm sure; **Paul Beers** for his plenitude of "pics"; **Susan Maughan** for her occasional series relating the favourite walks and walking areas of several of our long-time club members and finally, special thanks to **those members who turn up regularly in the clubrooms on "newsletter night" to help fold *The News* for posting, you know who you are, and to Peter Havlicek** for co-ordinating this great mail-out effort each month and for posting the aforementioned newsletters.

VICKI SCRIVENGER

CONSERVATION REPORT - 2002

Rod Novak and Bill Metzenthien are the Melbourne Bushwalkers' delegates to the Federation of Victorian Walking Clubs' Conservation Committee. This committee meets on the fourth Wednesday of the month to discuss bushwalking and conservation issues and concerns. During 2002 the VicWalk Conservation Committee focused on the Box-Ironbark campaign (with success), the Otway Ranges, East Gippsland forests, Lake Mountain, Central Highlands (Richards Tramline and the Walk Into History Track), Upper Bunyip Action Group and the 350 logging coupe, Mt. Stirling (lobbying to close the Summit Road to vehicles), Yarra Ranges, Portland Wind Energy Project, Victorian Alps, Kosciuszko National Park Management Plan Review and the Tasmanian World Heritage Bushwalking and Track Review. Details of these projects have been discussed in the Conservation columns in *The News* in 2002. If you require further information on these issues or would like to help then contact Rod or Bill.

Conservation activities for the Melbourne Bushies in 2002 included: attending the successful 'Rally for the Forests' on Saturday 18 May (and many Bushies met David Bellamy), letter writing for the Box-Ironbark (new national park) campaign and the Bunyip State Park (lack of walking tracks / overrun by trail bikes), participating in the Regent Honeyeater Project and helping to plant 5000 seedlings, track maintenance activities and writing submissions on the Portland Wind Energy Project (impact on the Great South West Walk) and logging in Melbourne's water catchments. Importantly, the Melbourne Bushwalkers practice and encourage minimal impact bushwalking.

Donations from the club have been directed to the Victorian National Parks Association Box-Ironbark campaign and the Upper Bunyip Action Group campaign to save the 350 forestry block from logging.

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

NEW MEMBERS

NEIL FOSTER

COLIN S MACKLIN

GAIL REDMAN

FELYSHA RIVERS

ALTERED ADDRESS/PHONE

PETER GRINGINGER

ED LAWTON

JOYCELYN NESVOLD / BERT REEH

RAY SCADDAN

MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS

Life Members 10
Honorary Members 10
Single Memberships 346
Family Memberships 104 (= 2 x 52)
Total Membership 470
This Time Last Year 470

PETER HAVLICEK
MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

Magical Kakadu

it's time!

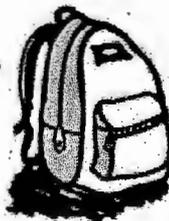
Think you can't manage?

Try light pack walking
with Willis's
Walkabouts

Walk for a week carrying 10 kg or less! You can do this while carrying all your own food and equipment without sacrificing comfort. The climate makes it easy in Kakadu and the Kimberley.

Want to know how it's done? Ask for our Light-Pack Bushwalking notes. You will discover you can visit places you thought you could never see because of the heavy weight you would have to carry.

Ask for our brochure or visit our website.



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

ACCOUNTS

October 2002

	\$
Opening Balance	45,122.24
Income	1,994.72
Expenditure	5,394.24
Closing Balance	41,722.72

November 2002

	\$
Opening Balance	41,722.72
Income	5,000.88
Expenditure	2,809.62
Closing Balance	43,913.98

**JAN PALICH
TREASURER**

CLUBROOMS DUTY ROSTER

Wednesday 5 February: P Cresswell and D Henry*
Wednesday 12 February: C Criddle and T Elmore
Wednesday 19 February: P Havlicek and D Pocock*
Wednesday 26 February: P Cresswell and M Jagow*
Wednesday 5 March: W Cone and V Scrivenger*

*J Palich, Treasurer present

NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday 3 March at 7.00 pm in the clubrooms

THE MELBOURNE BUSHWALKERS INC. NOMINATION OF OFFICERS & COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Positions: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Walks Secretary, Assistant Walks Secretary,
Membership Secretary, Social Secretary, Wilkinson Lodge Manager, *News* Editor or General Committee

Nomination

Name of Nominee.....Position.....

Proposed by.....Seconded by.....

Acceptance of Nomination

I,.....agree to stand for this position.

Signature of Nominee.....Date.....

Enter names & position as appropriate & return to:
The Secretary, Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc., GPO Box 1751Q, Melbourne, 3001.

WALKS PROGRAM - FEBRUARY 2003

Sat 1	Cycle trip: Capital City Trail	Private	Easy	Jan Palich	*
Sun 2	Starling Gap – The Bump	BUS	E/M & M	Ralph Clayton & Tracey Jamieson	#
7-9	Pack carry: Bogong HP - Timms Lookout	Private	Easy	Doug Pocock	
Sun 9	8.30 am start Inverloch – Cape Patterson	BUS	E & E/M	Peter McGrath & Halina Sarbinowski	#
14-16	Base camp: Mt Buffalo Lake Catani	Private	E/M	Rod Novak	
Sun 16	Bostock Reservoir - Ballan	BUS	E & E/M	Jean Woodger & Vic Dunis	#
Wed 19	Dandenongs Traverse, Kalorama	Private	E/M	Susan Maughan	
21-23	Pack carry: The Crinoline – Caledonia R	Private	Medium	Mike Low	
Sat 22	Dandenongs Explorer: Sherbrooke Forest	Private	Easy	Warren Baker	
Sun 23	8.30 am start Blowhard Spur, Fraser NP	BUS	E/M & M	Lloyd Young & Alan Miller	#
28-2	Base camp: Wilsons Prom in a Day	Private	Hard	Merilyn Whimpey	

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GPO Box 1751Q, Melbourne 3001

**SURFACE
MAIL**

**POSTAGE
PAID**

ALTERATION TO PARTICULARS

Name (new)	Name (old)
Address	Address
.....
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 2002 \$21.00 less visitor fees | <i>The News</i> – \$18.00 |

Make cheques or money orders payable to ‘Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc.’ and post to:

Membership Secretary, GPO Box 1751Q, Melbourne, 3001