



ADDEX

# THE NEWS OF THE MELBOURNE BUSHWALKERS INC.

EDITION 631

SEPTEMBER 2003

60 CENTS

## *Expressions of Interest for 3 Christmas Walks in Tasmania*

**1) The Overland Trail: 26 Dec. 2003 to 4 Jan. 2004**  
- led by Cherie Horne.

The Overland Trail is the best known and most popular walking track in Tasmania. It is 80 km long and takes 5 to 10 days to complete, depending on weather and side trips. There are huts along the way, but must not be counted on for shelter as they may be full. Hence tents must be carried. This walk is for the experienced overnight walker. Fuel stoves are necessary for cooking. Contact Cherie Horne on

**2) Day Walks in Cradle Mountain and Lake St. Clair:**  
26 Dec. 2003 to 4 Jan. 2004 - led by Peter McGrath.

Peter McGrath visited Cradle Mountain and Lake St. Clair last Christmas, and the day walks were the best he has seen. Accommodation will be YHA or similar standard, costing around \$25 per night. Cooking will be communal, YHA style, or pub grub. A sleeping bag and a day pack are required to do this trip. These walks will resemble the usual Sunday day walk standards. Contact Peter McGrath on

**3) Frenchmans Cap: 5 Jan. to 11 Jan. 2004**  
- led by Quentin Tibballs.

Frenchman's Cap is a more difficult walk than the Overland Trail. It takes between 4 and 5 days. The walk has some steep extended climbs and extensive sections of mud. There are two huts, only one of which is heated. The huts are often crowded so tents must be carried. This is a Fuel stove only area. This walk is for the serious overnight walker. Contact Quentin Tibballs on

Expressions of interest are required by **10 October** to the respective leaders. This will be followed by an information evening in mid October. If you intend to come on Quentin's walk, it will be assumed you will be coming off either Peter or Cherie's walk, or you will have to make your own way to Lake St. Clair. Travel to Tasmania on day journeys costs: \$290 return. A car costs \$110 return. Moneys will be required by the end of November.

**Slide Night:  
Cows in Alpine NP**  
**Wed. 10 September**  
**8 pm, Clubrooms**



Guest speaker **Philip Ingamells, VNPA** will show us some of the devastating effects of cattle grazing in the Alpine National Park. *See also an article by Philip on pages 7 and 8 inside.*

**N.B. Bookings for walks, etc. to be made between 7 and 8 pm on this night please.**

## **Restaurant Night**

**Thursday 25 September**

**7 pm, Kari Guru Indian Restaurant**  
**450 Nicholson Street, Fitzroy North**

Come along for some good food and great company!

Cost: \$23 for a banquet. (Dessert is extra but you won't need it because there is heaps of food.) BYO/licensed.

Limited pasta menu if you don't like Indian.

RSVP Liz Moore on \_\_\_\_\_ by 24 September.

ENQ.:

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

WEBSITE: [www.melbournebushwalkers.org.au](http://www.melbournebushwalkers.org.au)

EMAIL: [info@melbournebushwalkers.org.au](mailto:info@melbournebushwalkers.org.au)

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

## QUESTIONS FOR THE COMMITTEE

Secretary, William Cone answers some questions.

**When did you join the club?**

In 1993.

**What made you decide to join the club?**

I enjoy bushwalking, and wanted to do some walking in  
Melbourne after moving here from New Zealand.

**What do you like about the club?**

The club's organised walks make it easy to go for a walk. Also  
the club has built up a lot of knowledge of many places to  
walk. I've been on some very enjoyable day walks in areas I  
would never have gone to visit on my own.

**Which club activities do you do?**

I mostly do club day walks – about once a month. I have done  
some club base camp trips or walking trips based at lodges.

**Do you have a favourite walk/s or walking area/s?**

Melbourne has a surprisingly large number of good places for  
walking close by and a diverse range of choices. For day walks  
I particularly enjoy walking in the Dandenongs or the  
mountain ash forests east of Melbourne. For weekend trips  
either Wilsons Prom. or anywhere in the Alpine National  
Parks is paradise.

**When did you join the committee?**

I have been on the committee in 2002 and 2003 as Secretary.

**What do you like about this/these job/s?**

The Secretary gets to hear about most things that are going on  
in the club.

**What don't you like about this/these job/s?**

It can be a little bit repetitive.

**What made you first stand for committee?**

I benefit from being a member of the club and I'm happy to  
spend some time helping the club run smoothly. The activities  
of the club are maintained by people who put in a lot of time  
and thought, especially walk leaders and committee members.

**What skills do you believe you bring to the committee?**

I'm well organised.

**What are your plans for 2003 as Secretary?**

The main job as Secretary is to provide information to  
committee members and other people who need it in a clear  
and timely way.

**What other interests do you have besides bush walking?**

Reading, films and dancing.

**What music do you like?**

Eighties music because that was playing when I was a  
teenager. Local Melbourne bands such as *My Friend the  
Chocolate Cake*.

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### *Treasurer's News*

*Wanted: expressions of interest  
in becoming the club's Treasurer.  
Please ring Jan Palich on  
to find out what is involved.*

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# PREVIEWS OF DAY WALKS, ETC. - OCTOBER 2003

## Sunday Bus: The Blowhole - Somers

<b>DATE</b>	Sunday 5 October
<b>STANDARD</b>	Easy and Easy/Medium
<b>LEADER(S)</b>	John Coe and Howard Friend
<b>TRANSPORT</b>	Bus - Southbank Blvd - 9 am

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

## Sunday Bus: Bass Coast Rail Trail & Walk

<b>DATE</b>	Sunday 12 October
<b>STANDARD</b>	Easy and Easy/Medium
<b>DISTANCE</b>	15 and 19 km
<b>LEADER(S)</b>	Halina Sarbinowski and Michael Cronin
<b>TRANSPORT</b>	Bus - Southbank Blvd - 9 am
<b>RETURN TIME</b>	7.30 pm

The E/M group will commence the walk at the Wonthaggi Railway Station and follow the Wonthaggi - Anderson Rail Trail till Kilcunda with the Easy group joining the rail trail where it intersects with Lower Powlett Road. The rail trail passes through open farmland crossing several bridges before it heads towards the coast.

After crossing the trestle bridge at Kilcunda both walks will leave the rail trail and follow the spectacular George Bass Coastal Walk. This walk offers panoramic ocean views from a narrow, winding path along the cliffs that rise high above the pounding surf of Bass Strait. This is one of my favourite walks and hopefully it will become one of yours.

## Wed. Walk: Green's Bush/2 Bays Walk. Tk.

<b>DATE</b>	Wednesday 15 October
<b>STANDARD</b>	Easy/Medium
<b>LEADER(S)</b>	Bruce Campbell
<b>TRANSPORT</b>	Private
<b>RETURN TIME</b>	3.30 pm (back to cars)

Meet at the locked gate on Hyslops Rd, 1.6 km south of Browns Rd (Melway 254. B3) at 10.15 am. The quickest approach from Melb. is via the Mornington Peninsula Freeway to the Jetty Rd turn-off (Melway 170. E/F 4) thence south on Jetty Rd approx. 3 km to Browns Rd, then east approx. 1.5 km via Browns Rd to Hyslops Rd. Hyslops Rd is a gravel road, finishing at a locked gate (our meeting place) from which excellent views can be seen ranging from Port Phillip Bay to the north; Portsea and the Heads to the west; and Bass Strait to the south. A car shuffle will be needed from here to Boneo Rd before the walk commences.

The walk is entirely on well-developed, gently graded walking tracks with no long climbs for steep descents. Traversing the Two Bays Walking Track, we enter the Mornington Peninsula Park, also known as Greens Bush, just 200 metres from the start point. We first traverse a section of 1.5 km of open bushland including messmate, peppermints, manna gums, blackwoods, silver banksias, ti-trees and grass trees.

After crossing Greens Road, near the "Boogoolum" property, we will follow the Baldry Circuit via the Baldry Crossing, then beside Main Creek for a short distance before re-joining the Two Bays Walking Track. This section includes some areas of quite luxuriant mixed eucalyptus and blackwood forest, with tree ferns in the lower gullies. The next section of the Two Bays Walking Track traverses undulating country in a general south-westerly direction with occasional views to open farmland to the east. After crossing Limestone Creek, we traverse the western side of the valleys of Limestone Creek and Main Creek before reaching our destination at the car park at Boneo Road. This section includes open bushland; the final kilometre of which was once cleared for grazing purposes and is now home to large numbers of kangaroos.

Please call \_\_\_\_\_ to book or for details or, if no answer, call Sandra Mutimer on \_\_\_\_\_

## Sunday Bus: Pyrites Creek, Gisborne

<b>DATE</b>	Sunday 19 October
<b>STANDARD</b>	Easy/Medium and Medium
<b>LEADER(S)</b>	Brian Crouch and Hans Edlinger
<b>TRANSPORT</b>	Bus - Southbank Blvd - 9 am

Please speak with the leaders in the club about these walks.

## Dandenongs Exp.: Grants Picnic Reserve

<b>DATE</b>	Saturday 25 October
<b>STANDARD</b>	Easy
<b>LEADER(S)</b>	Warren Baker
<b>TRANSPORT</b>	Private

Please phone Warren Baker on \_\_\_\_\_ about this walk.

## Sun. Bus: Labertouche - Boronia Reserve

<b>DATE</b>	Sunday 26 October
<b>STANDARD</b>	Easy and Easy/Medium
<b>DISTANCE</b>	13 and 18 km
<b>LEADER(S)</b>	Mary de Salis and Peter Havlicek
<b>TRANSPORT</b>	Bus - Southbank Blvd - 9 am
<b>RETURN TIME</b>	6.30 pm

The walk is in the Wildflower Resv off Forest Rd in the Bunyip SF. The walk is circular, starting at the Brighton Grammar School camp. The Med. walk takes in a longer route along Bullock Link Tk to South Hells Gate, then to Quartz Ck Rd and down to a very pretty Nature Walk along Lawson Ck, then up Discovery Tk and completing the circuit along Tea Tree Rd. There is a great variety of bush flowers along Discovery Tk. Wallabies, lyrebirds and yabbies are amongst the fauna observed on past visits. The Easy walk will go along a track, which we would like to be known as the "Peter Crohn" track (in memory of one of our past members), then continue along a flatter route.

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

Jan Llewelyn and I recently attended a thanksgiving service held at Warburton for "The Snow Girl" Jenny Laycock and Kirk McLeod. These were a young couple who were lost on Donna Buang for five days in 1953. It was a very moving service and the Melbourne Bushwalkers were mentioned as it was one of our members who actually found them and many of our members were on the search. Some of our old members, including Jock Low and Gordon Coutts were at the service. It was interesting to hear that despite the hundreds of searchers including volunteers from the army, the CRB, forestry workers, etc. it was the Federation S&R who found them and did all the hard work carrying them out. Part of the service was to thank current volunteers and on behalf of the club I would like to thank all those members who represent MBW in the S&R.

Recently the committee had reason to discuss the age-old issue of private trips. One of our leaders found that a potential participant of his trip had changed his mind and decided to go on a private trip. What really upset the leader was that the private trip organiser was openly approaching people in the clubrooms, and had a notice on the board.

Obviously, for various reasons there will always be private trips organised. At present any snow trips can only be private trips because of insurance constraints. That said, anyone wanting to organise a private trip should consider the following points.

The Walks Secretary goes to considerable trouble organising and getting leaders for the walks program. It can be very demoralising for people to find that competing events are being organised. If you want to have your own trip try to do it so that it does not clash with a programmed club trip. The clubrooms are for organising and booking onto programmed club trips. If private trips are organised in the clubrooms this could lead to complications with our insurance cover. Common courtesy should prevail and common sense used in the matter of private trips.

The recent training exercise organised by Quentin Tibballs, Training Officer was highly successful. One feature was participants from some other clubs. Quentin intends to continue to include other clubs and this will give us the opportunity to learn from them as well as the chance for them to learn from us. Thank you Quentin and those who helped on the day.

There has been comment made regarding a campfire policy for the club. There will be a meeting held in the clubrooms on Tuesday 9 September at 7 pm to finalize the document. Please give me a ring if you are interested.

**DOUG POCOCK**

## WALKS STATISTICS

July 2003	Trips	People	Average	July 2002
Sunday Bus	4	132	33	36
Other day	3	35	12	21
Pack Carry	1	10	10	5
Base Camp	1	8	8	6
Total	9	185	-	8 / 196

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## For Sale

### Skis

*Rossignol Caribou AR cross country skis*  
208 cm (no bindings) New \$50

*Rossignol Saga AR*  
200 cm with 3 pin Nordic norm bindings  
fishscale base New \$80

*Fischer Coutry Crown*  
190 cm with 3-pin Nordic norm bindings \$100

### Boots

*Artex NNN BC boots, size 42 Brand New \$100*  
*Various used boots size 42 (3 pin binding)*  
Make an offer

### Wheel Chains

*Various wheel chains, wire loop type*  
to fit 13 inch & 14 inch tyres Make an offer

**Michael Mann**

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## WALKS SECRETARY'S REPORT

**Summer Walks** - The new Summer Walks Program is taking shape with lots of wonderful trips to tempt you. If you've never been to Tasmania - a must for all bushwalkers - now is the time to consider it. We are very fortunate to have leaders prepared to offer their time to plan and organise these interstate trips. (See article on front page.) I hope that many of you are able to take advantage of this great opportunity.

Closer to home, if you'd like to do some day walks this summer with the club, now is the time to seriously consider taking the plunge and volunteering to lead one of the Sunday walks. We have a number of beach walks and river walks planned where the navigation is not at all challenging, and as a first time leader you will get plenty of help and support from the more experienced leaders. If you'd like to discuss this and get more information about leading a walk, please call either Peter McGrath ( ) or myself ( ), or talk to us in the clubrooms.

**GINA HOPKINS**

# PREVIEWS OF WEEKEND WALKS, ETC. - SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2003

## Base Camp: Paddy's Range State Park

DATE	Fri. 12 - Sun. 14 September
STANDARD	Easy/Medium
DISTANCE	12 - 14 km each day
LEADER	Max Casley
TRANSPORT	Private
RETURN TIME	Sunday Evening
AREA	South of Maryborough, Central Victoria

After discussion with the ranger I have decided to change the venue and make this a base camp at Paddy's Range State Park which is about 170 km north-west of Melbourne. The camp ground has toilets, tank water, fire-place and picnic tables.

The park is Box-Ironbark forest and is well known for wildflowers, goldmining relics and is home to more than 140 native birds including eagles, peregrine falcons, crested bellbirds and the rare painted honeyeaters and swift parrots. Some club members visited here last year for wildlife studies. Rod Novak says that the historic railway station at Maryborough is well worth visiting so we will try to fit that in too.

Please contact me for further details on

## Pack Carry: Snobs Gap - Mt. Torbreck

DATE	Friday 3 - Sunday 5 October
STANDARD	Easy/Medium
LEADER	Bill Donald
TRANSPORT	Private

This walk in the Eildon area has not been done by the club since the late 80s. At the time of writing this, the walk is a largely unknown quantity. Please see me in the rooms in the two weeks preceding the walk for details.

## Base Camp: Grampians, Boreang

DATE	Frid. 10 - Sun. 12 October
STANDARD	Easy/Medium
LEADER(S)	Pearson Cresswell
TRANSPORT	Private
MAP REFERENCE	Northern Grampians 1:50,000

Boreang campsite is a pleasant spot in the middle of the Grampians, in the Glenelg River valley and accessible from Halls Gap via the Glenelg River Road. We shall use it as a base to explore some of the spectacular features of the area, including the Eastern Wall and Castle Rock. At this time of year there should still be good flora to enjoy too.

Bring long trousers: this leader likes Grampians scrub!

## Pack Carry: Tali Karng

DATE	Fri. 17 - Sun. 19 October
STANDARD	Medium
LEADER(S)	Mike Low
TRANSPORT	Private

Please talk with Mike Low in the clubrooms about this pack carry or phone him.

**N.B. Mike Low's correct phone no. is**

## Trip: Lord Howe Island

DATE	Sat. 18 - Sat. 25 October
STANDARD	Easy
LEADER(S)	Doug Pocock
TRANSPORT	Private

Please refer to the May issue of *News* for a preview of this trip. Doug Pocock's phone no. is

## Base Camp: Mt. Elephant & drystone walls

DATE	Fri. 24 - Sun. 26 October
STANDARD	Easy
LEADER(S)	Sylvia Ford
TRANSPORT	Private
RETURN TIME	8 pm Sunday
AREA	Western District
MAP REFERENCE	Otways & Shipwreck Coast

This walk will be around the main volcanic areas between Colac and Camperdown. It hasn't been previewed yet, however, a sheet with the details will be available well before the walk. Hopefully we will visit four volcanoes, two lakes, one floating island amidst the Stony Rises and whatever bits of stone wall that are sufficiently different and interesting. The bird life could be quite good. At the very least by the end you will be able to drop "tuffs" and "moar" and "blebs" into your conversation.

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## Track Maintenance Day

**Saturday 8 November**

*Volunteers required.*

*Please call me on \_\_\_\_\_ for details.*

**Rod Novak**  
**Conservation Officer**

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# SEVERE ALLERGIC REACTION

## (ANAPHYLAXIS)

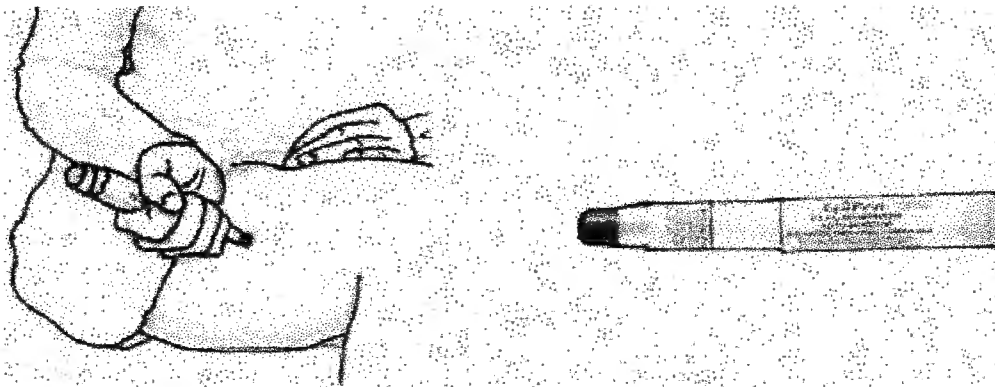
Anaphylaxis is the most severe form of allergy and results from exposure to a foreign substance such as the venom of a bee or wasp sting or edible substances such as nuts (peanuts most commonly but others as well, e.g. cashews, walnuts, etc.)

The reaction may result in collapse and be life-threatening. There may be a profound drop in blood pressure, spasm of the lower airways and swelling of the throat resulting in difficulty breathing and various other symptoms such as watering eyes, skin rash with itch, diarrhoea and vomiting. Generally the more rapid the onset the more severe the reaction and will almost always occur within 30 minutes. In the USA there are about 200 deaths a year from reactions to peanuts.

The victim may have had a previous severe reaction and be carrying medication for immediate self-administration. The most important of which is adrenalin in a syringe for self-injection but they may also have antihistamine or cortisone tablets or asthma inhalers. The adrenalin preparation is called an "Epipen" (epinephrine is American for adrenaline.) It's a little larger than a fountain pen and is designed to be self-injected intramuscularly into the outer side of the thigh. The victim will probably have had prior instruction on its use, however, instructions are printed on its side.

Why does anaphylaxis occur? The immune system copes generally with foreign invasion of either substances (e.g. toxins) or microorganisms by either manufacturing antibodies (which are inactivating proteins and are substance specific) or by cellular means (an immune cell may ingest and kill a bacteria). These antibodies are mostly of a type that are free in the blood. However, with anaphylaxis the antibodies are a different class and are attached to the surface of particular cells that contain histamine and other compounds. These substances are released by cell rupture when the allergy causing agent combines with antibody on the cell surface resulting in an anaphylactic reaction.

It is important to appreciate that a person having such a reaction may need help in the self-administration of adrenalin (via the Epipen) and it should be given urgently. An Epipen and mode of administration are illustrated below.



Further first aid treatment for anaphylactic reactions may be learnt at a first aid course. *I am organizing a course in November so please contact me if interested. (See page 5 for details.)*

### Questions

- 1 Of the medications mentioned in the article that a person who suffers from severe allergies may be carrying which is the most important in the immediate treatment and may require help with its self-administration?
- 2 Where are instructions for the use of an Epipen written?

*Answers on page 11*

**QUENTIN TIBBALLS  
TRAINING OFFICER**

# COWS IN THE ALPINE NATIONAL PARK

Briefing paper, August 2003

## Background

Summer grazing of sheep and cattle in sub-alpine and alpine regions of Victoria has been happening since the 1850s, and even earlier in NSW.

The effects of grazing in alpine areas of NSW and Victoria has been the subject of many investigations since the mid 1940s. Grazing was removed from Kosciuszko National Park in the 1950s. In Victoria, grazing was removed from Mount Buffalo NP in 1952, from areas around Mounts Feathertop, Hotham and Bogong in 1956, from areas around Mount Howitt in the 1980s and from the northern Bogong High Plains, the Bluff and part of Davies Plains in 1991.

## Current situation

Grazing licences still cover some 314,000 hectares of Victoria's Alpine National Park, and much of that is in alpine and sub-alpine areas. Though figures for the previous year are not available, around 6,000-7,000 head of cattle are involved. It is likely that around 3,000 cattle were brought to the Bogong High Plains alone.

Current seven-year cattle grazing licences for Victoria's Alpine National Park expire in August 2005, but notification of non-renewal probably should be given by August 2004, according to current legislation.

## Reasons to end cattle grazing throughout Victoria's Alpine National Park

In general, grazing in the Alpine National Park:

- is an exploitative activity inappropriate for a national park;
- is a 19<sup>th</sup> century farming practice, bearing little relationship to current farming practices aimed at improving the land;
- compromises the tourist potential of the high plains through a great reduction in the extent of flowering plants;
- is inconsistent with the Memorandum of Understanding signed by the ACT, NSW, Vic. and Fed. Gov'ts, particularly in regard to 'complementary policies and management practices throughout the Australian Alps national parks';
- compromises the formation of a three state 'Australian Alps National Park';
- compromises the possibility of World Heritage nomination for the Australian Alps and associated slopes to the SE coast.
- is inconsistent with the objectives of Victoria's 'Native Vegetation Management Framework'
- Costs the public far more to manage than is returned in licence fees.

In particular, cattle grazing in the Alpine National Park:

- causes extensive damage to alpine and sub-alpine peat bogs, through the trampling of sphagnum and peat, subsequent lowering of the water table and eventual drying out of these wetland areas (bogs occupy around 1,300 ha of the Bogong High Plains alone);
- significantly affects the water regime in the alps, through the aforementioned processes;
- is a threat to soil conservation in the alps, with extensive soil loss on the high plains and subsequent siltation of streams.
- has been shown to affect the distribution of both terrestrial and underwater invertebrates;
- pollutes mountain streams, making them unsafe sources of drinking water for walkers and other park visitors;
- affects, through the above processes, many of Victoria's major rivers (the Murray, the Snowy, the Kiewa, the Mitta Mitta, the Ovens, the Macalister and the Mitchell have all or some of their headwaters in grazing licence areas);
- changes the species composition of grasslands, with greatly reduced occurrence of tall, showy herbs (eg Snow Daisies);
- severely degrades large areas of heathland and grassland, particularly by significantly increasing the abundance of bare ground, and often increasing the abundance of flammable shrubs;
- has caused the spread of weeds (eg Broom, Bent Grass) particularly through the increases in areas of bare ground;
- increasingly leaves the high plains vulnerable to invasion by new highly invasive weed species, such as Orange Hawk Weed;

*Continued over page*

Since grazing was incorporated into legislation as an allowable activity in the Alpine NP Act, it has regularly appeared as a significant threat to endangered species and communities under Victoria's Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act. In particular:

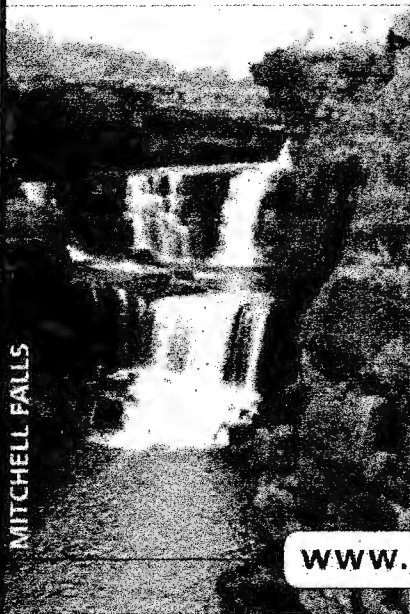
- soil erosion and vegetation damage caused by grazing is listed as a Potentially Threatening Process in alpine areas of Victoria (Nomination no. 211)
- grazing is clearly implicated in the listing and action statement of another FFG Threatening Process: the increase in sediment input to rivers and streams due to human activities.
- several alpine and sub-alpine species and communities affected by cattle grazing are separately listed as threatened under the Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act, notably the:
  - Alpine Water Skink (Nom. 222; Action Statement 114);
  - Alpine Stonefly (Nom. 81);
  - Alpine Bog Skink (Nom. 390);
  - Alpine She-oak Skink (Nom. 393; Action Statement 113);
  - Mountain Daisy (Nom. 169);
  - Silky Daisy (Nom. 220);
  - Drapetes (Nom. 179);
  - Dwarf Sedge (Nom. 176);
  - Rock Tussock Grass (Nom. 177);
  - *Caltha introloba* Herbland Community (Nom. 202);
  - Alpine Snowpatch Community (Nom. 192);
  - Alpine Bog Community (Nom. 159);
  - Fen (Bog Pool) Community (Nom. 182).

PHILIP INGAMELLS  
ALPINE CAMPAIGNER  
VICTORIAN NATIONAL PARKS ASSOCIATION

WILLIS'S WALKABOUTS

## Green and Grand

### walk the wet



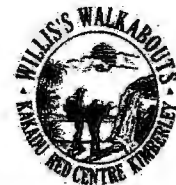
90% of visitors to the north come during the dry season. They never see **Kakadu** or the **Kimberley** at their lush, green, magnificent best. They never see the thundering waterfalls for which the region is famous. They leave, having seen only one small facet of our wild and wonderful land.

**Easy, hard or somewhere in between, it's your choice.**

We offer everything from a fully accommodated trip where you walk by day and return to airconditioned rooms at night to a six week expedition. Book early and save up to 20%.

Check out our website or ask for our brochure.

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



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

Phone 08 8985 2134 Fax 08 8985 2355



# RAWSON LODGE WEEKEND

15 - 17 AUGUST 2003



For Rawson Lodge, read Rawson Motel - Four of our group had already booked motel accommodation - indeed two visitors booked into a B&B in Walhalla - the rest of us booked rooms in the lodge, basic but perfectly adequate. But whoa! we were sharing the lodge with six families, all set to party the weekend away, very loudly! The result was that we were moved into luxury motel rooms instead, except for Marilyn and Bill who just managed to survive one night and when another motel room became vacant (sorry folks, it was first come, first served), they too were similarly relocated. We also had our own common room, with wood burning heater, lounge chairs, TV and tea and coffee making facilities. All this actually cost less than we had expected to pay for the lodge!

Friday night was a very chilly and clear night, stars galore. The cosiness of our common room and dinner by an open fire in the bistro warmed us all to the core. We woke to a heavy frost and brilliant sunshine. It was a 'good snow' weekend, Marilyn and Bill went skiing, of course, whilst the others set off walking, guided by Max Casley's excellent navigational skills. As we passed a small dam, we noticed a duck perched on a tree branch. An incongruous sight somehow, but quite normal for a wood duck.

The rest of the walk encompassed some of the Australian Alps walking track, the old Steel Bridge at Poverty Point, where we lunched in warm sunshine, and a track following the Thomson River south, before heading back up some hilly bits to Rawson. Graeme discovered a leech which had accompanied him back to his room, so he took it outside and spoke to it severely (well, worse than that really).

A little quality time before another enjoyable dinner in the bistro.

Sunday dawned fine and not so cold. Breakfast was enormous as usual. To start the day, all except the skiers and a couple of others who set off to do their own thing, drove to Walhalla and walked the tramway above Stringers Creek down to Thomson Station, passing several mine sites along the way. As we paused at a lookout above Walhalla, we were entertained by flocks of currawongs in chorus, an unforgettable sound above the valley. We had our lunch at Thomson Station before taking the train back to Walhalla. Max's instructions to sit on the left facing forward proved to be spot on. The views from this aspect were certainly the best. After a short inspection of Walhalla, we all headed back home, with an afternoon tea stop in Yarragon (where better?).

Barry, Bill, Carol, Dianne, Elizabeth, Graeme, Howard, Jean, Jo, Marilyn and Ray all thank you Max for organising such an enjoyable weekend.

**JEAN WOODGER**



## TREE PLANTING WEEKEND

LURG HILLS: 9 - 10 AUGUST 2003

Thank you to Rosemary Cotter for organising this weekend in the Lurg Hills (near Benalla) for the Regent Honeyeater Project.

18 Bushies attended.

3,691 seedlings were planted!

Scrumptious meal and barbeque enjoyed.

Photos taken by Iris Curran.

**ROD NOVAK**



## MBW GOOD FOOD GUIDE

**Yea:** *Collectables Café*, western end of town, along main drag. Excellent coffee, cake alright.

**Mansfield:** Pub at the round-about with bistro called *Mingo's*. Great fires, very good food but a bit expensive (7.5 - 8 out of 10).

**Euroa:** *Jumbuck Café*, over 7 Creeks bridge going out of town on left hand side. Still the tops! 10 out of 10 for: fire, especially quick and friendly service, terrific food, lovely atmosphere and great coffee.

**SYLVIA FORD AND FRIENDS**

**Beaufort:** *Columbine Cottage*, on the highway at the western end of town. Our group of 10 enjoyed afternoon tea. Good service and usual prices for nice hot drinks and selection of cakes, scones and light luncheons.

**Korumburra:** *The Austral Hotel* - Sunday nights special of 3-course meal including roast of the day for \$13.50 sounds like good value.

**BOB OXLADE**

## NEW MEMBERS

STAN ANSON

MARY DALEY

MARC GERBER

KATE HAMILTON

MIE NAKAMURA

DAVID PICKERSGILL

RAY THOMAS

## ADD TO MEMBERSHIP LIST

SUSAN & TONY RALSTON

## ALTERED ADDRESS / PHONE

DENNIS BARSON

MICK MANN

## MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS

Life Members	10
Honorary Members	10
Single Memberships	336
Family Memberships	94 (= 2 x 47)
Total Membership	450
This Time Last Year	434

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

## ACCOUNTS

### June 2003

	\$
Opening Balance	51,994.56
Income	7,588.86
Expenditure	3,924.04
Closing Balance	55,659.38

### July 2003

	\$
Opening Balance	55,659.38
Income	5,000.72
Expenditure	10,593.99
Closing Balance	50,066.11

**JAN PALICH**  
**TREASURER**

## CLUBROOMS DUTY ROSTER

Wednesday 3 September: T Elmore and D Henry\*  
Wednesday 10 September: D Laing and D Pocock  
Wednesday 17 September: T Elmore and H Friend\*  
Wednesday 24 September: P Beers and J Coe  
Wednesday 1 October: D Henry and V Scrivenger\*  
Wednesday 8 October: W Cone and P McGrath

\*J Palich, Treasurer present

## NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday 6 October at 7 pm in the clubrooms

## Answers

- 1 An Epipen.
- 2 On its barrel.

## FROM THE MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

This month you will find tucked inside your *News* the **VicWalk membership card**. This entitles you to rebates at many shops that sell bush walking gear.

E-mail *News* subscribers, please contact me to send you a card by gastropod (snail?) mail or pick it up at the clubrooms.

**PETER HAVLICEK**

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## *Level 2 First Aid Course*

### *A Weekend in November*

*This first aid course will be run by the Victorian Ambulance Service in Parkville and will be specifically for bushwalkers with provision for coverage of prior nominated topics.*

*Please call me on \_\_\_\_\_ if you are interested.*

***Quentin Tibballs***  
***Training Officer***

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## ALTERATION TO PARTICULARS

Name (new) ..... Name (old) .....

Address ..... Address .....

.....

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

Email .....

### **Subscription Fees:**

**Ordinary** – single membership \$45.00

**Family/Couple** - membership \$70.00

**New members joining on/after 1 October 2003** \$24.00 less visitor fees

**Concession** – single membership \$30.00 (proof required)

**Concession** – couple \$38.00 (proof required)

***The News*** – \$20.00

**Make cheques or money orders payable to 'Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc.' and post to:**

**Membership Secretary, GPO Box 1751Q, Melbourne, 3001**