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THE NEWS OF THE Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc.

60 CENTS

EDITION 642 AUGUST 2004

Christmas Day Walks in Tasmania

Following the excellent walks held last year, a programme of day walks will be held in Christmas this year. The walks will be typical day walks standard.

We will leave Melbourne on 26 December 04 on the Spirit of Tasmania at 7:00 pm. We will be staying at the historic Waldheim until 31 December 04, then departing for the Lakeside Lake St Clair Backpackers where we will stay until 3 January 05, returning to Melbourne at 7:00 am on 4 January 05. All accommodation will be four bunks per room.

Tasmania was recently voted the number 2 ecotourism destination in the world. We have picked the eyes out of it. There will be two day walks around Cradle Mountain, one day walk in the Walls of Jerusalem NP, then two day walks around Lake St Clair.

The cost of the ferry is \$482 return, plus a share of vehicle expenses @ \$110 return. Accommodation at Waldheim and Lakeside Lake St Clair is around \$25 per night. Food is self cook. Bring along a sleeping bag.

Numbers are limited to 12. Expressions of interest are required to Peter McGrath by 1 September 04. An information evening will be held in the clubrooms on 15 September 04. Payment for the ferry is required by 1 December 04.



TIME CHANGE! Please note

The 8 August Sunday Bus walk to Mt Hickey, Tallarook State Forest will now depart from Southbank Boulevard at 8.30 am.

First Aid Training

The club has organised Intermediate First Aid – Level 2 training from the Australian Red Cross. The training fee for walk leaders, and members will be generously subsidised. All you will be required to do is give up five evenings over five weeks.

First aid training, while not mandatory for leaders, is a well-regarded attribute of a well-equipped walks leader. The training is to the workplace level. Therefore, attendees may be eligible to take up first aid responsibilities in their workplace if they pass the course.

The training will take place in our clubrooms, commencing 7 pm over five consecutive Thursday nights. The first session will run for four hours, with the remainder three hours duration. There will be an examination at the end.

Responses are required to Peter McGrath, Assistant Walks Secretary, by 1 September. The group size is limited to 10 people and preference will be given to walk leaders. If we do not have 10 people by 1 September, then further responses will be required by 29 September and training will commence in the following month. Telephone Peter McGrath.

Slide night

Les Southwell will be showing some slides of his recent expedition into the wilds of Tasmania of

The Ducane Range

(Cradle Mountain – Lake St Clair)

And a recent walk in the Victorian Alps.

Held in the Club rooms, together with the monthly wine & cheese night, commencing 8 pm on Wednesday 27 October.

Half-yearly General Meeting
Wednesday, 25 August, 2004 8 pm, Clubrooms

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: Ron Hampton.

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: pagination@bigpond.com.au
- 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

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)
1/4 Page	\$35	\$90	\$330
1/2 Page	\$55	\$150	\$550
Full Page	\$100	\$250	\$900

Update on Bushwalker Campfire regulations

National Parks: All bushwalkers must heed that the National Parks Regulations (2003), Subsection 25 (Lighting and maintaining fires) says, in general "a person must not light or maintain a fire in a park". A sub-regulation allows two exceptions – in "a public fireplace" or "an area set aside".

Andrew Graystone, Manager Fire and Compliance, Parks Victoria, says this is a significant change from earlier versions of the regulations, which were written in the style "you can light fires unless told not to".

The word 'park' is as per the *National Parks Act (1975)*, ("the Act") and includes land referred as national, state and wilderness parks, remote and natural areas, marine sanctuaries and several other types. There are nine schedules in the Act listing the various types. Don't assume that just because a park area is not actually called a "national park", it does not come under the jurisdiction of the Act.

Other areas not covered by National Parks regulations (and the Melbourne metropolitan area), fire lighting is regulated by the *Country Fire Authority Act* and the *Forests Act*.

The *CFA Act* applies to all areas except forest and protected public land. It gives us the regulations we are most familiar with, that is you can light fires for warmth and cooking provided no restrictions apply such as total fire bans. The familiar dimensions for trench depth and cleared areas are in this Act.

The Forests Act would cover most of the remaining forested areas. It is pretty generic, basically saying if you light a fire make sure you don't let it get away from you.

The major advice for leaders is, if you choose to run trips where fires will be lit for cooking, verify they are permitted. The various Acts can be accessed at www.dms.dpc.vic.gov.au, or you can get a pamphlet or speak directly to the appropriate land manager. And remember, ignorance is certainly no excuse!

Jim Mc Laughlin, VicWalk NEWS, June 2004

Wine & Cheese evening



4th week
 of every
 month
 in the
 clubrooms,
 7-9 pm

Notes from the VicWalk Conservation Committee

23 June 2004 meeting

Alpine Cattle Taskforce – It's believed approx. 400 submissions were received by the Taskforce with a ratio of 3:1 against cattle in the ANP. The Chairman was expecting about 1,000 submissions.

Victorian Alpine Resorts 2020 Strategy – has been released by DSE. Copies are available on www.dse.vic.gov.au. Of interest there is a section on 'wind farms' for the alpine resorts which was not mentioned in the draft version.

Alpine National Park – Track Clearing Project – Peter Duncan, ranger based at Heyfield has a project for track clearing. They are keen to get any volunteers. He says Ben Cruachan club are very active on McMillan's track and are always looking for other clubs to help. 'The main area I would like to focus on are the two tracks leading in to Dry River from the Howitt Road at Bryce Plain and Howitt Hut. There is a series of switchbacks that require reinstatement and rebenching with handtools – pretty hard yakka; standard track clearing and vegetation pruning – require crosscut chainsaw accreditation (Peter says he can operate the chainsaw); redefinition of crossing through a wetland area – may require movement of rock to harden route'. The period he would like to work in is November to Christmas and March to May. A VMTC group in May (not sure of exact date yet). Other clubs can contact him on 03 5139 7711 or email pduncan@parks.vic.gov.au. He says he can supervise a group of up to 20.

Baw Baws – Walhalla – Friends of Baw Baw are holding a 'Mosses, Fungi & Lichen Walk' on Sunday 27th June.

Central Highlands – a report on a logging company sought permission to enter the 'Special Protection Zone'

to access an adjacent logging coup near the Ada Tree. DSE at Powelltown refused this request.

East Gippsland – Gippsland Forest Management Plan to be released on 23rd July at Lakes Entrance. Also in the area, the Potoroo Review (magazine of Environment East Gippsland) discussed a funding application to develop a 'world class iconic walking track'. The proposal is from the Orbost and District Community Forum and partners include DSE, PV, East Gippsland Shire Council, farmers, logging industry and local people. It is planned for a walking track with 'eco-lodges' but VicWalk have not seen any details to date. .

Mallee Parks – 2000 seedlings (mainly Callitris) were planted by the Friends Group over the Queen's Birthday weekend.

Mount Stirling – The Mt Stirling Board of Management has now been subsumed by the Mt Buller Board of Management and will operate a 'Joint Management Board' with CEO Sandy Jeffcote. Charles Street (VNPA rep) has been appointed to the Joint Management Board.

Snowy Mountains – new Management Plan has been released. The Jagungal area is closed to walkers except on defined tracks. This position will be reviewed next Spring.

Tasmania – the World Environment Day on 6 June organised by the Wilderness Society attracted 12,000 people at the State Library for the walk to Federation Square. The guest speakers (eg Richard Flanagan) spoke of experiences at the Styx Valley and Tarkine Forests. Video and Paul Kelly (singer) were very good. Many bushwalkers attended.

*Rod Novak – Club Delegate,
VicWalk Conversation Committee*

Have you no committment for 2–2¹/₂ hours on the 1st Tuesday of each month at 6pm?

Like to know more about the Victorian Federation of Bushwalking Clubs?

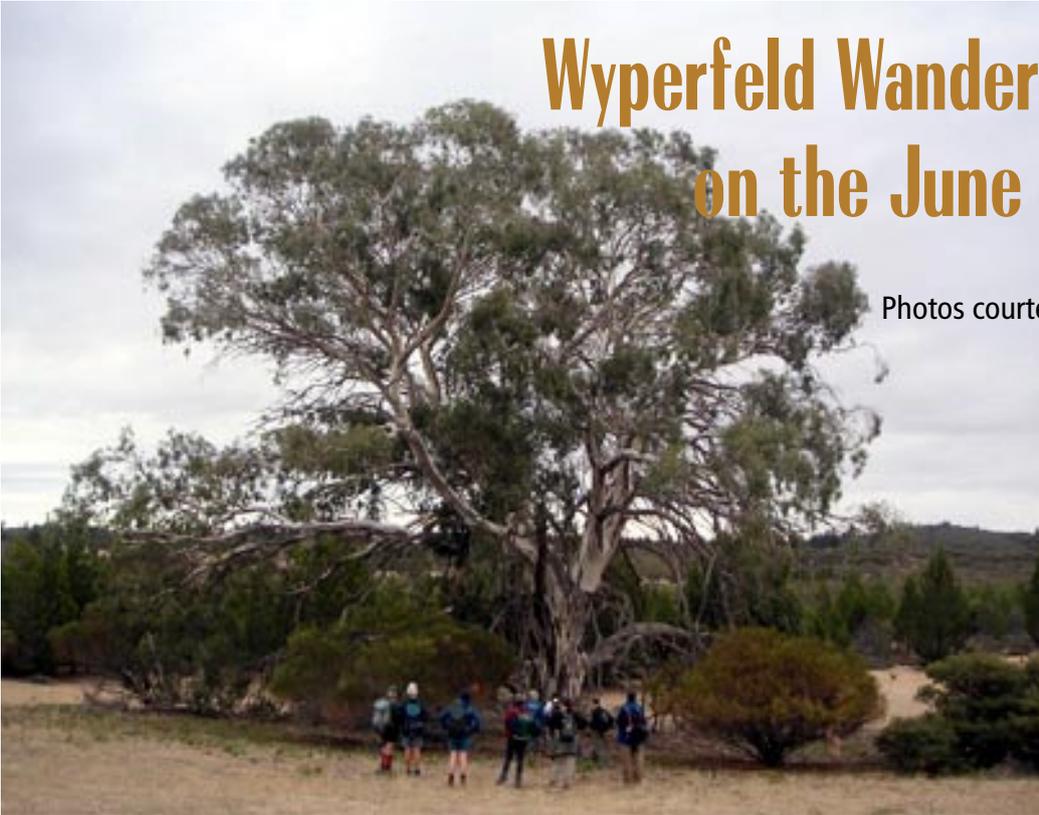
Melbourne 'Bushies' can have up to six delegates. We have three, with sometimes only one attending meetings.

To find out more (no obligation) talk to me in the clubrooms, on a walk or ring me.

Carol Criddle – General Committee, VicWalk Delegate.

Wyperfeld Wandering on the June weekend

Photos courtesy of Dzung Nguyen



Big Tree

INSPIRED by thoughts of wide open spaces and catching up with apostle birds again, I signed up for Max's long weekend walk. On the journey up three of us discovered a great food place in Ararat (yes, Ararat! – and see elsewhere for further details) breaking the long journey to the NW. Saturday saw us setting out for 'The BIG Tree' going via Mt Mattingley and Black Flat, joining forces with the base campers en route. And WHAT a big tree it was! The red gum had an enormous umbrella like canopy with branches sweeping low to the ground. There were quite a few dead branches on the SE side and the ground was strewn with bark and leaves. I saw one person standing at the bole of the tree with both arms outstretched, and even then there was 40–50 cm each side of both hands. A mighty tree indeed. What tales it could tell. We sat around/near it munching our lunch in quiet awe. We then moved on to the SE via Lake Brambruk where we saw a dozen or so emus in the distance. Max then did a masterly piece of navigation over several sand hills taking us exactly back to our camping area (note that the camping area is immense). We shared pre-prandial nibbles with the base campers (as well as alcoholic beverages – now was it Merlot or Shiraz?) and the usual assorted Bushies tales/goss.

On Sunday four of the pack carrying group set off for the car shuffle, Max depositing a dozen or so shiny pillowy water containers along the way for the evening's camp. On our return, Quentin and GT kindly drove us over to the Nine Mile Square CP. Then off the ten of us strode along the Desert Track, the warming sun and gentle sandy incline ensuring we weren't cold. We were soon to leave this track and plunged down amidst the bushes on

the first of our many compass bearings. Maddy collected a couple of emu feathers to adorn a hat at a later stage. And so we continued in warm sunshine (enabling tent drying for some at lunchtime), past The Kidneys (more dry lakes), and on to the Leg of Mutton (dry) lake where we found an excellent circular bricked fireplace resplendent with a hotplate and a griddle. And just the other side of an old timber bridge (which had train rails as under-support) we re-united with our variously tasting wine-flavoured water. Do not scoff (as some did), it was the closest to a warming drop that night. Initially camp was a very draughty spot but the wind died down in time for our dinner preparations.



Frances, Claire, and Maddy



Deb



**Max in relaxed
lunchtime mode**

On the Monday we set off to the SW following a dry creek course known as Outlet Creek (rather a puzzle as the creek at the other end of Lake Albacutya also bears the same name). Eventually we reached the northernmost tip of Lake A which had not been filled for 32 years. According to local intelligence, it is usually filled approximately every 25 years, but this was a tad longer. Many bushes and even well developed trees could be seen growing across the Lake. We set off to cross it, initially through dead bushes some 2-3 metres high following animal tracks. We weren't at all sure how far we could go before we might sink into m.u..d but fortunately this wasn't to be. The surface was uneven and one had to be wary of the potholes heavily disguised by grasses etc. Mobs of 'roos and emus were seen in the far distance but we never did get any closer to them, they keeping their distance. Lunch was had in a sheltered spot out of the wind and just before an 'in-your-face' heavy shower of rain that had us all re-dressing and walking staunchly onwards to keep warm. The distance across the Lake to Western Beach was approximately 7-8 km, the last half dozen kilometres into a strong headwind. Then – there were our welcome cars – mine with a large pink/brown spider stowaway which

rather startled me by showing itself when I got into my car on Tuesday morning heading off to work! It must have clung on for the 460km trip home.

Sadly I never did see any apostle birds, and in fact Max and I remarked on how quiet a lot of the areas had been. We did spot one red capped robin at our start across the lake, and marvelled at an eagle's nest jumbled together in a tree just before we reached Lake A. There were also interesting trees (Gerry to the fore here and I learnt there are three types of native pines all with distinctive fruit), and some flowers to be seen. There were also spectacular sunsets and cloud formations and black thunderous skies – especially on the way home (with veils of rain down to the very palely green paddocks).

On the way home our group stopped at the Beaufort Pub where we all enjoyed a filling meal (and I got dobbed in to write this – thank you Frances!). Thank you to Max for planning the route etc, and thanks also to other members of the wandering Wyperfeldians - Max, Gerry, Clare, Maddy, Frances, Andreas, Mohammad, Dzung, and Debbie – for a great w/e.

Rosemary Cotter

A weekend



is not enough...

Today's high pressure lifestyle means that even a week may not be enough time to fully de-stress and relax. You need two or three weeks to do it properly.

Get away from it all. Find yourself a place where there are no phones, no cars, no hassle; a place where every day brings perfect weather, every hour brings another beautiful pool. You relax because you are **enjoying** the moment too much to want to move on.

At the end of your holiday, you feel *At peace with yourself and the world, as one with nature.*

Want to find our more? Check out our website or ask for our brochure.



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

Phone 08 8985 2134 Fax 08 8985 2355

12 kilometres conquered...

It was my first bushwalk in a few years, and as the day Wednesday 21st July approached my excitement built as memories of being surrounded by the beauty only our natural wonders can provide overtook my thoughts. Despite much preparation on my part, I arrived later than the expected meeting time, and fortunately the group was nice enough that Bruce waited for me while the others went ahead and started! The You Yangs provided wonderful scenery to explore, and with each step I took, I found a view to impress (especially once Bruce and I finished 'bush-bashing' our way through dense shrubs and obnoxious weeds, to meet the others with a view to cherish). Reflecting on my day as I headed towards Geelong to find a nice café to indulge in a hot dinner to warm my bones, many moments came to mind. I vividly remember the rather difficult, and steep climb that made several of us stop continually to catch our breath and slow our heartbeats. This reminded me of the human spirit, and people's ability to go on despite the obstacles they meet. Although it was tough, we each took it step by step, refusing to give up (the koala sighting helped recover my breath, and gave me a chance to enjoy watching the dozing cutie). The day was certainly one to remember, with the lovely people I met, the spectacular views, and the few new bushwalking related words/phrases I learnt on the way. Many thanks must go to Margaret Curry for organising such a fantastic day. I'm looking forward to my next adventure.

Lauren Trengove

WHERE SUNDAY WALKS COME FROM

Sunday walks do not mysteriously appear. They were not written down in the bible. They were not received with the Ten Commandments.

No, there is a Walks Committee. Each quarter, about six or seven of us get together to pool our ideas to put out that new Walks Program. The current members of the committee are:

- Max Casley
- Jopie Bodegraven
- John Coe
- Lynda Larkin
- Peter McGrath
- Ken McMahon

Rod Novak and Sylvia Ford will also be present at the next meeting

Essentially, a better result is achieved the more minds that contribute to it. As you can see, there are lots of minds that contribute to our current program. But we can always do with more.

There are lots of terrific walks out there. The hardest part is finding out about them. So, if you know of a walk that you really want to do, or you would like to attend the meeting, please let us know.

Peter McGrath, Assistant Walks Secretary

TIME CHANGE! Please note

The **8 August** Sunday Bus walk to Mt Hickey, Tallarook State Forest will now depart from Southbank Boulevard at **8.30 am**. The walk will be lead by Jerry Karbownik and Hans Edlinger.

SUNDAY BUS: Bungal State Forest

DATE	Sunday 22 August
STANDARD	Easy/Medium & Medium
DISTANCE	12 km & 16 km
LEADERS	Les Southwell & Mark Heath
TRANSPORT	Bus – Southbank Blvd. at 9 am
MAP REF	Lal Lal, Yallock 1: 25,000 topographical

This walk will be held in of the Bungal State Forest to the south-east of Ballarat. It follows a part of the East Moorabool River and up into the low ridges and foothills on the western side. It is typical of the dry, open country of the Ironbark forests, with a fair scattering of wildlife. The walking is partly on tracks and partly across several modest ridges and gullies bordering the river valley. Some creek crossings will be required, but nothing too difficult.

DANDENONGS EXPLORER: Kallista

DATE	Saturday 28 August
STANDARD	Easy/Medium
DISTANCE	14 km
LEADER	Eleanor Weekes
TRANSPORT	Private
RETURN TIME	3.45 pm approx.
AREA	Kallista
MAP REFERENCE	Melway 124 J10

Meet at John's Hill Reserve (Melways 124 J10) Ridge Rd., Kallista at 10.30 am. We will walk down Ridge Road in an easterly direction to join the track running besides Menzies Creek and follow this track northwards to Butterfield wildlife reserve for lunch.

After lunch we follow the pathway beside Woori Yallock Creek to Moxham's reserve for a short refreshment stop. There may be a bit of scrub bashing along this area and a few crossings of the creek.

The last part of the walk involves an uphill gradient in returning to John's Hill reserve via Priors Rd., Portman Road, William Rd., and finally along Ridge Rd. After that a well earned cup of coffee and refreshments.

SUNDAY BUS: Burgan Track, Northern Kingslake

DATE	Sunday 29 August
STANDARD	Easy/Medium & Medium
DISTANCE	13 & 16 km
LEADERS	Nik Dow & Fiona Jarman
TRANSPORT	Bus – Southbank Blvd. at 9 am
RETURN TIME	Approx. 7 pm

These two walks will take in most of the northern section of the dissected Kingslake National Park. The walks are not long but there are hills all the way. Most of the time we are under the messmate and peppermint Eucalypts, coming out into the open to admire the power lines that cut a gash through the park. The other noticeable inhabitants are trail bikes, including all the places where there are meant to be none. On our first preview we had a good look at a male lyrebird perched in a tree branch going through an extensive repertoire of imitations. There might be a kilometer or so of off-track walking for the Medium group but most of the walking is on roads including even a short section of main road. There will be a fair bit of mud around if there has been rain so wear boots with deep tread and bring clean shoes to change into at the bus.

THURSDAY TOFs: Cranbourne Botanic Gardens

DATE	Thursday 2 September
STANDARD	Easy
DISTANCE	10 km approx.
LEADER	Bob Steel.
TRANSPORT	Private
RETURN TIME	1700
AREA	Near Cranbourne
MAP REFERENCE	Melway map 133

Meet at the **second car park – Stringybark Picnic Area** – within the grounds at **10.30 am**. Follow South Gippsland Highway through Cranbourne to Bullarto Road, turn right and follow signs.

There are interesting walk on tracks and minor roads through the gardens. Many interesting native plants and some of Melbourne's best remnant indigenous vegetation to see, and some views from higher points. Couple of small lakes to view. The gardens are constantly being developed. We will have afternoon tea at the end of the walk.

Phone Bob Steel anytime.

LEADER'S TRAINING DAY

DATE	Saturday 4 September
STANDARD	Easy & Easy/Medium
DISTANCE	Approx. 10 to 15 km
LEADER	Quentin Tibballs
TRANSPORT	Private
RETURN TIME	5.30 pm approx.
AREA	Mount Disappointment (Kilmore area)
MAP REFERENCE	Reedy Creek 1:25,000

This Leader's Training Day will be conducted on the Victorian Rogaining course at Mnt Disappointment near Kilmore (not at Bacchus Marsh as previously advertised because of problems with cinnamon fungus) on Saturday



31st July. This day will be suitable for beginners and intermediate standard participants (or experts who just want some practice). I would like those interested to contact me at least a few days prior to the exercise so I can send them a map of the area on which they will be required to mark some grid points (although this is not an absolute requirement it just means you will have more time walking in the bush rather than being spent over a map at the base marking your route).

The day will be divided into morning and afternoon sessions of about 2 hours each, beginning at 10.30 am and 1.30 pm accordingly, and will be suitable for attendance at one session only if desired. You will be divided into small groups of about 5 consisting of an experienced navigator, as a mentor and acting in an advisory capacity only, and participant who will take turns at being leader. As the leader you will be required to navigate your group on a route between various predetermined grid points. However whilst doing this the other members of the group, who are not the leader at a particular time, will be given instructions by the mentor at a time not of your choosing to play act a misadventure for which you as leader will be required to manage.

Gear to be taken will be your usual for a day walk ie please bring your own lunch and a compass if you have one (however there will be spare if you don't) Also maps of the area will be provided.

Please phone me for further details – thanks Quentin.



SUNDAY BUS: Lafranchi Hut (Daylesford Area)

DATE	Sunday 12 September
STANDARD	Easy & Easy/Medium
DISTANCE	13 & 16 km
LEADERS	Max Casley & Halina Sarbinowski
TRANSPORT	Bus – Southbank Blvd. at 9am
RETURN TIME	6.45 pm approx.
AREA	East of Daylesford
MAP REFERENCE	Eganstown 1:25,000

Lafranchi's Hut is an intact example of an early mining village to which it once belonged. Each spring hundreds of bluebell, jonquil, iris and daffodil bulbs flower around it as a reminder of the mining families who lived in the mining village. Unfortunately, on the preview we found that thieves had taken many of the bulbs so the flower show will not be as amazing as it could have been.

Both walks visit the hut and walk through open forest areas mainly on quiet tracks but with some off track sections. The Easy walk has one short steep section. The harder walk will do more off track walking in steeper areas and go past an old slate mine.

This is an area in which there has been intense gold mining activity which can be seen in almost every creek gully. It is a historically interesting area and offers pleasant walking.



SUNDAY BUS: Flinders – Coolart – Somers

DATE	Sunday 5 September
STANDARD	Easy & Easy/Medium
DISTANCE	13 km & 15 km
LEADERS	Mary De Salis & Keith McKenry
TRANSPORT	Bus – Southbank Blvd. at 9 am
RETURN TIME	7.00 pm
AREA	Mornington Peninsula
MAP REFERENCE	Melways

The Easy walk will commence at Point Leo, and the Easy Medium group at Shoreham. The walk involves pleasant coastal views over Westernport Bay, and provides a pleasant beach experience. Both walks will end at Somers, and if we need to fill in time, will visit South Beach and Sandy Point.

Both walks will end with a visit to the historic Coolart Wetlands and Homestead, which is located just off Somers Beach. Access to this area will entail an extra cost of \$4.80. The Grimwade family built the homestead in 1895. The Luxton family, who also owned McEwens hardware stores, acquired it in 1925, and developed the property into a sanctuary for native wildlife.

The splendid old home is worth a visit, and there are walks around the wildlife sanctuary. You will enjoy this beach experience.

WEDNESDAY WALK: Tanglefoot Area

DATE	Wednesday 15 September
STANDARD	Easy/Medium
DISTANCE	15 km
LEADER	Jerry Grandage
TRANSPORT	Private
AREA	Toolangi State Forest
MAP REF	Rooftops Toolangi – Black Range

This will be a superlative walk – you will see specimens of the tallest moss species in the world. We will walk through the Wirrawilla rainforest which has beautiful myrtle beech, sassafras, tree ferns etc. and then do a circuit in the Tanglefoot area. We will be on a track all the time and the hill climbing will be minimal.



SUNDAY BUS: Angahook Spring Wildflower Walk

DATE	Sunday 19 September
STANDARD	Easy & Medium
LEADERS	Sybill Holdeheide & Nik Dow
TRANSPORT	Bus – Southbank Boulevard at 9 am.

Please talk with the leaders in the clubrooms about this walk.

DANDENONGS EXPLORER: Olinda half day walk

DATE Saturday 25 September
STANDARD Easy
LEADER Warren Baker
TRANSPORT Private

Please talk with the leader about this walk.



SUNDAY BUS:

Quarry Track – Anakie Gorge (Brisbane Ranges)

DATE Sunday 26 September
STANDARD Easy /Medium & Medium
LEADERS Jerry Karbownick & David Elias
TRANSPORT Bus – Southbank Boulevard at 9 am.

Please talk with the leaders in the clubrooms about this walk.



Good Food Guide

'COBB & CO' TEA ROOMS.

Blackwood

We visited these tea rooms to warm up after Dianne McKinley's Lerderderg Gorge pack carry on 17–18th July. We had very cold weather, occasional snow flurries, hail, lots of rain on the Saturday night and a very cold 'river crossing' to contend with.

I can highly recommend these 'bushwalker friendly' tearooms. The scones were fresh from the oven, and Devonshire tea deal at \$6.95 offered great value, and flexible enough to allow the coffee drinkers their lattes, flat whites, cup of cino, etc. We met up with another Bushwalking Group, 'Essendon Bushwalkers' who had enjoyed a day walk in the area. Highly recommended.

Rod Novak

ARARAT EATERIES

Ararat has long had a bad reputation for good eating places with the Bushies. On the June long weekend, some of us discovered otherwise. Read on

KERRY'S

On the left hand side as you drive through the town, just beyond Siciliana's. Described by Barry Murray as having a wonderful ambience, nice music and friendly staff. Not only that but it has beaut coffee, focacias and cakes, oh - and muffins. Unfortunately only open during the day until 6pm.

SICILIANA'S

From the outside this appears to be a large pizza palace with a bar at the window end. We* discovered it had much more including pasta and M.E. dishes, even some curry flavours. Each of us selected differently and had a) LARGE serve of lasagne + salad, b) 6 skewers of lamb + bread + salad, c) large slice of cake + hot chocolate. Mains were \$14- and excellent value. This is also situated on the left and just before a set of traffic lights.

* Rosemary, Frances and Dzung

Rosemary Cotter



Club Library Book Review

Huts of the Bogong High Plains by Alan Clarke, (2004).
[in the Club library]

Alan has written a very informative booklet on the Bogong High Plains. There's lots of background information, with the aboriginal history, early explorers, the cattlers, pioneers and gold, SEC hydro works, early naturalists eg Masie's Plots and the front cover has an illustration of Wilkinson Lodge. Bushwalking and cross-country skiing history of the area are also discussed. Alan led a *Melbourne Bushwalkers* club trip to many of these huts in late December 2002, and has possibly the best collection of photos of the huts taken just before the February 2003 bushfires. Many of these colour photos appear in his book. A 'must read' – and available from your club library.

Rod Novak

Lost Property

A pair of boots were mistakenly removed from the luggage compartment beneath the bus at the end of the Mineral Springs Walk on Sunday 18 July. The boots which were in a plain, plastic supermarket bag are Hi Tech, brown leather and very new. This was obviously a case of mistaken identity as in there place was an older, and smaller pair of boots in a similar plastic bag. So, if you were on the Mineral Springs Walk and your boots are now inexplicably newer and larger please contact either Matthew Cameron, or Ken MacMahon, Walks Secretary.



Late August to early October in GLEN WAVERLEY. Please call Marika for details

BASE CAMP: Warby Ranges

DATE	27 – 29 August
STANDARD	Easy
DISTANCE	25 km
LEADER	Bob Steel
TRANSPORT	Private
RETURN TIME	1900 Sunday
AREA	Near Wangaratta
MAP REF	Rooftop's Warby Ranges – Wangaratta Forest Activities Map (GDA94); Warby Ranges 1:25 000 (GDA66)

Base camp will be at Wenhams Camp, on Booth Road, in the Warby Ranges. Toilets available. Bring own water. GR 284777 (GDA66) or 282782 (GDA94) – Confusing isn't it! Campsite is clearly marked on Rooftop map as are walking tracks. Anyway, it is easy to find. Take the Yarrawonga Road out of Wangaratta, then Wangandary Road up onto the Range. Turn left into Gerret Road, then left into Booth Road. National Park camping area is signposted, on left. About 20 kms from Wangaratta.

Walks will not be too strenuous – some waterfalls & cascades, wildflowers, views, pleasant walking on tracks and through open forest. Longer walk on Saturday, shorter walk on Sunday.

Could be a bit cool, so bring warm clothing. See me in the Clubroom for more info & directions.

TREE PLANTING & Box Ironbark Forest Tour

DATE	4–5 September
STANDARD	Easy
LEADER	Howard Friend
TRANSPORT	Private
AREA	Near Benalla, 2 hours from Melbourne
RETURN TIME	Approx. 5pm Sunday

This is the second of two weekends that club members will be assisting Ray Thomas and the Regent Honeyeater project. If you enjoy good, honest, physical work in the great outdoors, these weekends are for you. Members are invited to partake on the Saturday or the full weekend. The format is: Saturday – tree planting all day, dinner and bush dance in the evening. Sunday – tree planting in the morning, barbeque lunch & tour of Box-Ironbark forest. Please contact me or see me in the clubrooms, I will need to advise numbers for catering.



PACK CARRY: Dry Diggings Track

DATE	11–12 September
STANDARD	Easy/Medium
DISTANCE	28 km
AREA	Near Daylesford
RETURN TIME	8pm Sunday evening

This pack carry trip will have a very early Saturday morning departure from Melbourne, meeting at Daylesford, and then driving up to Vaughan Springs to start the walk. The walk is on a well-defined track and has lots of historic gold landscapes in the Upper Loddon State Forest, interesting mineral water at Hepburn Springs and will finish at Daylesford Lake. Be prepared for cold, wet and windy conditions. See the leader at Clubnight for an information sheet.

BASE CAMP: Wedderburn Wildflowers

DATE	17–19 September
STANDARD	Easy
LEADER	Doug Pocock
TRANSPORT	Private

Please talk with the leader in the clubrooms about this walk.



EXTENDED PACK CARRY:

Wilsons Promontory National Park.

Circuit Walk combine Tidal River/ Oberon Bay/Lighthouse/ Waterloo/Refuge/ Sealers/Telegraph saddle

DATE	24-28 September
STANDARD	Medium
DISTANCE	60 km plus side trips without packs
LEADER	Marisa Rizzuto
RETURN TIME	Tuesday pm
TRANSPORT	Private
AREA	Southern Wilsons Promontory
MAP REFERENCE	Wilsons Promontory National Park 1:50 00

This is a classic 4 night 60km circuit walk in Victoria's most loved national parks. Its great variety of scenery, terrain, vegetation and wildlife make it a magnet for all seasoned hikers. It is one of my most favorite places in Victoria to visit. The plan is to drive down on the Friday evening to be ready to start walking at 8 am on the Saturday. We will be travelling in an anti clock-wise direction doing the long walk down to Roaring Meg after our 1st night at Tidal River. We will have time to visit South Point and the Lighthouse. (South Point is the most southerly point on the Australian mainland). From the Lighthouse we will walk to Little Waterloo Bay via the south east coast track, which was constructed in late 1998.

Because this is an extended walk, you will need to have done another pack carry in the last 6 months to be able to come on this walk. In addition, I need to pay the park authority in advance so will need \$25 from you for camping fees to ensure a place on this trip. (This is not refundable) If you have any other questions regarding this trip please do not hesitate to give me a call.

Please Note: Limit 10 walkers

Walks Secretary Report

July 2004 Walk Statistics

July 2004	Trips	People	Average	July 2003
Sunday Bus	4	166	42	132
Other day	4	63	16	35
Pack Carry	1	7	7	10
Base Camp	1	12	12	8
Cancelled	0	–	–	–
Total	11	247	–	9/190

Sunday walks have been pretty well supported this month, with the bus fully booked on two occasions. This is pretty amazing for a cold, wet July. To avoid disappointment book early and don't just 'rock up' at Southbank on Sunday morning without a prior booking.

Ken MacMahon, Walks secretary

Clubrooms Duty Roster

August 11	Peter Havlicek, Mark Heath
August 18	Rod Novak, Fay Dunn
August 25	Howard Friend, Jan Palich
September 1	Carol Criddle, Deb Henry
September 8	David Laing, Doug Pocock

Next committee meeting

Monday 6 September, 7 pm in the clubrooms