



A000133X

THE NEWS OF THE Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc.

60 CENTS

EDITION 639 MAY 2004



We have received subscriptions from 205 members – so there are still over 200 who have not yet paid. This is the dreaded 'Red Nose' issue!! If you have not yet paid, reach for your cheque book and do it now, please. Your membership lapses after the end of May (no News, visitor's fees!!??). But we will still accept late subs. Avoid the hassle.

WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY

6 June 2004

**RALLY & MARCH FOR
TASSIE'S FORESTS**

Midday at the State Library

Wine & Cheese evening

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



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 1751 Q,
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:
- Placing diskette or hand written material in the Editor's
pidgeon hole in the clubrooms
- Posting diskette or hand written material to either:
The Editor,
Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc.,
PO Box 1751 Q, Melbourne, Vic, 3001
or
R. Hampton, *The 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)
1/4 Page	\$35	\$90	\$330
1/2 Page	\$55	\$150	\$550
Full Page	\$100	\$250	\$900

Presidential Paragraphs

Congratulations to one of our long standing contacts,
Sue Errey, for receiving a Boronia Award for services to
the Guiding movement. Sue's community service to the
Melbourne Bushwalkers was recognised in this award.

And speaking of the contact system Ken MacMahon
and I are looking at the operation of the system. We
consider that it would be more appropriate for leaders to
use the system only if there are problems rather than
ringing after every walk. Walkers would still let 'those at
home' know the contact system to use if they have any
problems. If you have any views please contact Ken or
myself.

The committee has formalised the position of Club
Room Coordinator. Jan Palich has agreed to continue
what she has been doing over the last few years. If you
want to use the clubrooms outside of Wednesday
evenings please contact Jan.

Doug Pocock

VOLUNTEER AFRICA



MBW member, Julie Tyers, is organizing an event to
help cover costs for participating in and providing
funds for a volunteer project in rural Tanzania. The
program which has been set up by a non-profit
registered British charity, Volunteer Africa, is
concerned with the development of health and
education facilities for people in Third World
countries. Julie has been selected for a hands-on role
in Tanzania and would welcome support for this
humanitarian cause at a fund-raising night which
she is organizing at

COOPERS INN

(cnr Exhibition & Lonsdale Streets)
Friday 28th May 2004 at 7.30 pm
with West African Rhythm band, ZaZu
Tickets \$20

Door Prizes and Raffles

For further info. please contact Julie.

VOLUNTEER AFRICA

Federation Weekend – the Upmarket Version!

A large number of Melbourne Bushwalkers will be participating in what should be a fun weekend from Friday 8th to Sunday 10th October this year. To facilitate this the Coranderrk Lodge has been booked at Rawson Village.

The Lodge facilities are inexpensive but accordingly relatively basic, as many who have stayed there know. Many Melbourne Bushies however are accustomed to the slightly finer things in life and therefore may be inclined to partake of some of Rawson's better (although still relatively inexpensive) accommodation i.e. motel rooms. Rawson's motel rooms are rated 3 stars.

While the lodge accommodation will be sorted closer to the event, those who prefer the higher standard of accommodation will need to book this fairly soon. The number to contact is As of mid
 April there were ten motel rooms still available.

Meals and other extras will also be sorted close to the event, unless you particularly want to make your own arrangements.

Alan Clarke

WILLIS'S WALKABOUTS

The Red Centre

Our trips go to wonderful places you will never find if you go on your own.

You certainly won't see them with another tour operator.

Our reputation has gained us permission to visit magnificent areas not open to the general public.

Watarrka. No other area in central Australia gives you the experience of EVERY major habitat (mountains, desert dunes, riverine, gorges) — and art sites as well. (Our website has a report one of our clients wrote about one of our Watarrka walks.)

West Macdonnells. Deep, rugged gorges, permanent waterholes and spectacular mountain views. Our walks include the only nearly permanent creek in the region.

Great weather. Crisp, clear days and cool to cold nights in winter, hot to warm days and cool nights in spring.

Want more information. Visit our website or ask for our brochure and trip notes.



www.bushwalkingholidays.com.au

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

Phone 08 8985 2134 Fax 08 8985 2355

Tracks, Huts and Conservation

Notes from the VicWalk Conservation Committee March 2004 meeting.

Alpine Cattle Grazing: Cattle removed from the Mt Cope trial after five weeks. The PV requirement for daily supervision to keep them off burnt areas had been relaxed to 2 or 3 visits per week. Even so, the cattle have now been removed. ABC TV program *Stateline* on Friday 12th March had a 15 minute segment on the alpine cattle grazing issue showcasing both sides of the issue. A balanced report but science had a stronger case than the cattlemen's heritage position. Other press reports include a feature article by Phil Ingamells (VNPA campaigner) in the *Albury Border Mail*, and a 'letter of the week' in *Stock and Land* by Tom Guthrie (farmer and VNPA member) on the unsustainable practice of cattle in the alpine national park.

Lake Cobbler area illegal hut: PV have inspected and will remove the hut as per the management plan for the park. A legal process must be followed but they will begin this process shortly with the objective of having the hut removed by the end of May 2004.

Howqua River: rangers had been releasing koalas in the Howqua River area (where they were wiped out in the 1939 fires) but they didn't know if any had survived. Recent reports were that a few had been seen but mostly on the river flats.

Bunyip State Park: Advisory Committee met on 15 March to discuss 4WD and trail bikes. These associations claim 'a minority element' is responsible for the excessive noise, damage and vandalism.

Central Highlands: Big Creek Re-alignment Project at Starling Gap. A new logging road was constructed (by a Forestry company) with permits at Starling Gap but has yet to be used. It will now be closed!! A real eyesore especially considering the tourist traffic to Ada Tree and it cuts across the heritage 'Walk into History Track'. This new road will now be closed for rehabilitation and the 'old road' will now be improved to handle the logging trucks.

East Gippsland: recent Channel 31 TV documentary on the Goolengook Forest. It showed 'before and after' footage of a logging coup, napalm being used for hot regeneration burns, and footage of police arrests at Australia's longest running forest blockade.

Tasmania: Styx Valley logging – recent visit by the Federal Opposition leader in March. No real decision by the Federal Labor Party yet – but he did say no logging jobs will be lost. Major protests in Hobart, lots of letters to the editor about the 'forest on wheels' tourists complaining about the number of log trucks. Recent change of Leader in Tasmanian politics. New incumbent very pro logging.

Otway Ranges: bushwalkers urged to write a letter to

Minister Thwaites asking for Government support for the **Trans Otway long distance walking track**. ORWTA gave a presentation to Otway Shire and they now endorse the project. Now all local Councils/Shires in the Otway Region support this project.

Rod Novak, Club delegate

BUSHWALKING NZ

Expressions of interest requested for
Bushwalk in New Zealand around
January 17th to 23rd 2005
in Mount Aspiring National Park,
low altitude, intermediate standard
contact Quentin

Easter 2004. Canoeing on the Lower Glenelg National Park



Eventually we head off and the overnight camp is only 4 km downstream which is lucky because by the time we've finally packed our canoes it's time for lunch. But the leader knows that we have come for exercise and as GLENELG is a palindrome, he sneakily suggests that we begin the trip by paddling UPSTREAM. Now this is probably a good idea for those who need to hone their skills and get their bodies into some shape. Luckily there

It was a mad rush to beat the Easter traffic as we headed out of Melbourne at 4 pm on Thursday night. We drove the four hours to Hamilton in Victoria's western district, dining en route at the Dunkeld Hotel, beautifully renovated and a highly recommended venue. Good Friday morn we met up with the group (7 canoes and 14 paddlers) at the Pines Landing. Those who had camped out overnight attested to the chilly autumn night. Well, only the women, men don't feel the cold do they? A short car shuffle at Nelson brought back the drivers and the canoes and then the hardest decision of the trip. How do we fit all this huge pile of essential gear into the canoe and if it won't all fit in, what will we leave behind?

It's at times like this that those less experienced always regard the more experienced with awe. Not only do they have just the right size esky that fits in perfectly between the tent and the barrel but they always know where their morning tea is and if it happens to rain, their jacket is always right at the top. No, they don't have to burrow down like some mad wombat, listening to the abuse of their canoeing partner at the same time.

is practically no current at all on the river so paddling upstream is a breeze. Conversely, if you were hoping for some help from the current whilst paddling downstream, it wasn't to be. I worried that the leader would not have cared if there had been a current, I'm sure he would still have suggested the upstream start. Anyway, we eventually arrived at Moleside Landing at about 2 pm. It was a beautiful sunny afternoon and after setting up camp on the green grassy site, those who hadn't had enough exercise went for a walk and the rest of us worn out by so many decisions in one morning, sat back and soaked up the late autumn sun. Gerhard went down to the jetty for some fishing with instructions from Caroline not to return until he had caught dinner. I think she had to resort to opening a tin of tuna. The evening was quite warm and tents were dry in the morning.

We headed off after breakfast at 9 am into a beautiful still day. The water was so smooth it felt great gliding along. Of course, we had the usual hint of competitiveness creep in. I was very intrigued at how quickly the



McMahons kept getting to the front without showing any excessive effort. I came to the conclusion that Ken must have extra big muscles, however as he kept himself fully covered to keep out of the sun, it didn't seem likely that I would be able to check my theory. After a dry lunch, the rain came down, until we reached our overnight camp at Georges' Rest, just under 20 km from the morning's departure. Another great camp site, not so green but flat and wood for a good fire and a chance to dry out. The easter bunny's arrival was eagerly awaited and strange things happened in the night (such as Sylvia and Gerald's food barrel being opened and Gerhard fighting off the possums to save their food). Whether this was the easter bunny playing tricks, who can say, but eggs were found outside every tent on Sunday morning.

Sunday was fine and sunny and became warmer. It was convenient for those of us ornithologically challenged that we had members in the group who pointed out various water birds on the way. I learned that I had been completely wrong over what I thought was a Heron and was intrigued to see my first Musk duck. We arrived at Patterson's Canoe Camp in the early afternoon which proved to be fortuitous as we were joined in the late afternoon by a younger canoe group but as the first law of camping goes, 'he who has control over the camp fire has warm bottom'. Actually, some of our group appeared to be overheated from the sun's rays or the effort to reach camp first as they decided to take the first swim of the trip. The chilliness of the water promptly cooled them down, it was one of the shortest swims seen on a canoe trip. Note: Ken McMahon's muscles are of reasonable size.

This was the most interesting camp site with a gigantic walnut tree – unfortunately only empty shells left. We discovered the world's largest leech (about 7cm long) and promptly moved our tent. There was easy access to the top of the cliffs joining up with the Southern Coastal Walk and we discovered a fresh water spring. After an early dinner, we broke into an impromptu singalong, led by the dulcet tones of our talented leader. We focused on Musicals of the 50s, 60s, and 70s, and it was truly a glorious event. And in the words of that famous diarist, Samuel Pepys 'And so to bed'. Monday morning was another glorious day.

It was only a 7 km paddle to the Princess Margaret Rose Caves. We had a quick exploration around the extremely well kept grounds and read the history of the caves and then continued down, past a number of fascinating shacks that straggle alongside the river. These are under threat by Parks Victoria. It was just midday when we arrived at Donovans Landing and we lolled in the sunshine whilst the drivers went to Nelson and collected cars and we unpacked the canoes. Many thanks to Doug for his great organization. Everything was perfect, from campsites to the weather. Our group consisted of –

Doug Pocock, Jan Llewellyn, Joan & Ken McMahon, Gerhard and Caroline Braun, Gerald Kelly, Jo Jackson, Ray Radford, Peter and Susan Green, Frances Moloney, Mark Heath and myself.

Sylvia Harris



Good Food Guide

AMBIENCE CAFÉ AND GALLERY

Nelson

Worth a visit for all Great South West Walkers. Delish cakes and coffee, especially after a few days on the track. Approx. 30 minutes from Simson's camp, head east up bitumen road near Jetty and hill. Otherwise follow signs from town.

THE BARWON HOTEL

Winchelsea

Worth a visit from western district trips to allow the Geelong road traffic to dissipate (until the ring road is built!!). Meals from 6 to 8 pm with traditional country pub fare. Recommend the steaks, roast, chicken parma and grilled Dory. Big servings and drinks at bar prices.

Rod Novak



WINCHELSEA SHIRE HALL TEA ROOMS

Winchelsea

Old grey-stone building on north side just past the Barwon River. Lunches are cheap, good size, and quick. Tea and coffee good also.

SULLYS

Portland

55 Bentinck Street. Small place with great food, prices and service. Very popular too – you may need to book.

Note: most of Portland's eateries are on or near Bentinck Street on the waterfront.

PELICANS ON BANK

Port Fairy

19 Bank Street. Tracey Jamieson found this one when she did the Murray to Moyne, thanks Tracey. On main street near the centre of town. A nice café with good coffee and cakes. Several other places nearby too.

Alan Clarke

Glenelg River Gorge – Discovery Bay Great South West Walk

9-12 April Easter 2004

We drove down early on Friday morning for a picnic lunch 55 km past Portland at Lake Monibeong. The plan was to walk beside Discovery Bay and Glenelg River which had been named by explorer Thomas Mitchell in 1836. After lunch we drove to the start of the walk beside the Glenelg River which we followed downstream past red gums, stringybarks, and grass trees. Our first camp at Murrells was a bit slopy and small, but we fitted in. Derrick swam in the river and Marisa paddled and later found that she had a huge leech on her – considerable effort was needed to stop the bleeding.

First night entrees provided by Rod and Derrick were magnificent. Cask of wine plus fruit cheeses. After-dinner treats were provided by Marisa – alcoholic biscuits.

Saturday was an 8 am start for a 26 km walk along the banks of the river. This took us briefly into South Australia. We kept looking for the Bushies' canoeing group but did not see them. Rod kept us on the move so we arrived at Simsons camp site in good time. This was a level and spacious site. Tracey and Bill treated us grandly with pre-dinner nibbles such that we scarcely needed dinner. Stuart provided after dinner fruit cake. Once again we sat around a cosy fire that evening.

Sunday morning the Easter Bunny & Bilby were busy, visiting three times leaving chocolate eggs. We went into Nelson and spent time and money sampling the best coffee and muffins in the town. (Marisa and Alan had driven down a day early and done some serious research on this aspect of the walk.)

After leaving Nelson we went to the ocean beach and walked along the shore of Discovery Bay. There was plenty of bird life – black faced shags, pied oyster catchers, red capped plovers and Rod and Alan saw the endangered hooded plovers. That night we were at White Sands Camp – the most remote site of the walk. Pre-dinner nibbles were dips, oysters and cashews from Max and Amanda. Amanda constantly produced huge supplies of fresh food from a tiny rucksack. Alan provided after dinner kahlua biscuits. After dinner Bill suggested a beach walk.

Monday was our last day and along the cliff tops we found extensive aboriginal shell middens and razor-sharp stones presumed to be tools. There was a dead dolphin washed up on the beach and several oil slicks at the water's edge marred the otherwise unspoilt scene. We finished at Lake Monibeong. Marisa left us for Mildura. The rest of us went to Port Fairy for coffee and tea. Later we had dinner at the Barwon Hotel at very reasonable prices.

Thanks to Rod for a very enjoyable trip with good weather, good company delicious entrees and Rod's 'lucky dip' of treats.

The party was: Rod Novak (leader), Marisa Rizzuto, Alan Clarke, Bill Donald, Amanda, Stuart Mattingly, Derrick Brown, and us: Tracey Jamieson and Max Casley.

Max Casley

Ski cross country with

Wintergroup Inc*



*A0010337D

Wintergroup is a social cross country ski club which caters for all levels of skiing: from day trips at Lake Mountain to backcountry touring in the alps; for beginners to the very experienced.

Formed in 1966, it continues to encourage 'bushwalking on skis' with a varied program in the winter months.

Interested?

Contact Becky on 9386 3572 or Fay 9380 8917 for more information and a copy of our 2004 program

PREVIEWS OF DAY WALKS MAY/JUNE 2004

SUNDAY BUS: Mt Caroline – Break O’Day

DATE	Sunday 23 May
STANDARD	Easy-Medium & Medium
DISTANCE	12+ km approx.
LEADERS	Peter Havlicek & Mark Heath
TRANSPORT	Bus – South Bank Blvd. at 9.00 am (along Canterbury Rd, through Lilydale)
RETURN TIME	6.30 – 7.00 pm
AREA	Yea area – Minto Hills
MAP REFERENCE	Mt Caroline 1:25 000 – 7923-2-1

The walk is over some high hills with magnificent views. We start off near the Melba Highway and climb Mt Caroline (some 250 m) and are rewarded with great views. The land is open, populated by placid cows and sheep. The walks continue along an undulating ridge (more visual feasting) before descending into the valley of Tea Tree Creek. The last part of the walk climbs again 110 m along a fire access track among the trees.

DANDENONGS EXPLORER: Doongalla

DATE	Saturday 29 May
STANDARD	Easy
LEADER	Warren Baker
TRANSPORT	Private

Please phone Warren Baker about this walk.

SUNDAY BUS: You Yangs

DATE	Sunday 30 May 2004
STANDARD	Easy & Medium
DISTANCE	12 & 17 km
LEADERS	Max Casley & Sara Watson
TRANSPORT	Bus – Southbank Blvd.
RETURN TIME	6.30 pm approx.
AREA	Near Lara and Geelong
MAP REFERENCE	You Yangs 1:25,000

This is a good winter walk. When it is raining in Melbourne it is often sunny at the You Yangs.

The You Yangs are a low group of hills in the flat plains to the south west of Melbourne. In 1802 Matthew Flinders climbed Flinders peak to get views of Port Phillip Bay and the surrounding area.

The easy group will go to Big Rock and climb Flinders Peak for some good views. Then we will continue mainly along good tracks to the north returning around the eastern side of the hills. The medium group will do an extra section among the hills to the north of the main peaks and then finishing at the same place as the easy group.

This area has koalas, wallabies, possums and sugar gliders. It is noted for its bird life. An enjoyable walk.

THURSDAY 'TOFFS': Churchill – Lysterfield Park

DATE	3 June 2004
STANDARD	Easy
DISTANCE	11 km
LEADER	Jean Giese
TRANSPORT	Private
MAP REFERENCE	Melways 82

Enjoy a walk in a remnant pocket of bushland on tracks and through open bush, with some great views. Plenty of birds and kangaroos guaranteed. Meet in the parking area near the toilet block (Melways 82 B10) at 10.15 am. Book with the leader

SUNDAY BUS: McHaffie Point. – Observation Point, Philip Island

DATE	Sunday 6 June
STANDARD	Easy & Easy-Medium
LEADERS	Liz Moore & Liz Telford
TRANSPORT	Bus – South Bank Blvd. at 9.00 am

The easy and easy-medium walk will both commence with a pleasant stroll along the Ryall Board Walk. The bus will then take us to the beach where the easy-medium group will walk back towards Ryall for a couple of kilometres before turning and following the easy group as it walks towards Cowes. Both groups will enjoy beautiful views of Somers, Crib Point and French Island. Come along for a relaxing coastal walk on ever popular Philip Island.

SUNDAY BUS: Garden of St Erth – Blackwood

DATE	Sunday 13 June 2004
STANDARD	Easy Medium & Medium
LEADERS	Lynda Larkin & David Pickersgill
TRANSPORT	Bus – Southbank Blvd.

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

HISTORICAL WALK: Williamstown

DATE	Monday 14 June 2004
STANDARD	Easy
LEADER	Nigel Holmes
TRANSPORT	Train

Please contact Nigel Holmes, about this walk.

WEDNESDAY WALK: Murrindindi River

DATE 16 June 2004
STANDARD Easy
DISTANCE 13 km
LEADERS Rod Mattingley
TRANSPORT Private
RETURN TIME 4.00 pm
AREA Toolangi State Forest
MAP REFERENCE Taggerty South 1:25,000

Meet at 10.15 am at the entrance to the Murrindindi Scenic Reserve, 19 km from Devlins Bridge. Leaving a couple of cars here, we will drive 9 km to the start of the walk at the Murrindindi Cascades car park. The walk follows the Murrindindi River walking track downstream past the cascades, an old timber tramway and Wilhelmina falls. A car shuffle will be required at the end of the walk.

CONSERVATION DAY with CVA

DATE Sat 19 June 2004
STANDARD Easy
DISTANCE Conservation activity
LEADERS Rod Novak
TRANSPORT Private
RETURN TIME Late afternoon
AREA Greater Melbourne area
MAP REFERENCE Melways

This trip has to be postponed, as Conservation Volunteers Australia doesn't have an activity for this Saturday.

We will organise another trip for the warmer months. However, CVA do have lots of exciting projects mid-week during June eg bandicoot habitat at the Melbourne Wildlife Sanctuary, weed control in Point Nepean National Park, and track building on the Great Ocean Walk – Apollo Bay to Port Campbell. If you are interested then go to their website www.conservationvolunteers.com.au and click on their 'Better Earth' projects. CVA are very professional with their risk management and safety training, they provide free transport from the city, and you have a fun day contributing to the environment. Why not give it a try?

SUNDAY BUS: Sugarloaf Reservoir

DATE Sunday 20 June 2004
STANDARD Easy & Easy Medium
DISTANCE 12 km & 14 km
LEADERS Halina Sarbinowski & Vik Dunis
TRANSPORT Bus – Southbank Blvd at 9.00 am
RETURN TIME 6.30 pm
AREA Yarra Glen

Both walks traverse the Sugarloaf Reservoir taking the same route with the E/M walk starting a few kilometres before the circuit of the Reservoir. Abundant sightings of kangaroos are guaranteed. The walks will be off and on grassy tracks in beautiful bushland with great views.

Due to the proximity to Melbourne we should be back to Southbank at a reasonable hour. Remember the warm and waterproof clothing.

DANDENONGS EXPLORER: Baynes Reserve – Emerald

DATE Saturday 26 June 2004
STANDARD Easy
LEADER Warren Baker
TRANSPORT Train

Please talk with the leader about this walk.

SUNDAY BUS: Anakie Gorge – Steiglitz

DATE Sunday 27 June 2004
STANDARD Easy Medium & Medium
LEADERS Peter Havlicek & George Zamora
TRANSPORT Bus – Southbank Blvd.

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

All keen bushwalkers should visit the following internet site. Go to:-

<http://mc2.vicnet.net.au/index.html>

and register with 'bushwalker' forum.

PREVIEWS OF WEEKEND WALKS MAY/JUNE 2004

BASE CAMP: Terrick Terrick National Park

DATE	28-30 May 2004
STANDARD	Easy/Medium
DISTANCE	Various
LEADER	Geoff Mattingley
TRANSPORT	Private
RETURN TIME	Sunday 7 pm
AREA	North of Bendigo
MAP REFERENCE	VicMap 1:25,000 Mitiamo

This National Park consists of extensive areas of Northern Plains Grasslands with isolated granite outcrops. It is described as containing one of the largest, most intact tracts of indigenous northern plains vegetation in Victoria, together with an abundance of wildlife. Over 100 species of birds have been recorded, together with 26 rare or threatened plants.

There is only one camping area/picnic ground near Mt Terrick Terrick. We will camp there on Friday and Saturday nights; on Saturday we will do a walk of 12-14 km which will cover the main section of the park. On Sunday we will pack up and drive to the Greater Bendigo National Park (formerly Whipstick and Kamarooka State Parks) and do a half-day walk there. Like Terrick Terrick, this park has a large number of birds, but also has relics of eucalyptus oil harvesting and charcoal burning.

Campfires are permitted at the camping area, but firewood must be brought from outside the park. There is a toilet and tables but no other facilities. Bring water for the whole weekend. As for all base camps, it is a good idea to bring a folding chair.

Details of how to get there will be available in the clubrooms on the two Wednesdays prior to the walk.

PACK CARRY: Wyperfeld - Lake Albacutya

DATE	11 - 14 June 2004
STANDARD	Easy
DISTANCE	48 km
LEADER	Max Casley
TRANSPORT	Private
RETURN TIME	Late Monday evening
AREA	Hopetoun - Jeparit (Mallee)
MAP REFERENCE	National Park pamphlets

This area is mallee country with a chain of normally dry lakes which are at the northern end of the Wimmera River which flows north from the Grampians. They rarely fill, only after heavy rains upstream.

The first day we will do a day walk exploring and visit Be Al, the old red gum, to see how it is managing the drought. The next two days we will do the pack carry, walking along the course of Outlet Creek up to Lake Albacutya. This will take us past magnificent red gums and across beautiful sandy ridges. Our camp will be near Leg of Mutton Lake (dry). This will involve a car shuffle and a

water dump. On the way home on Monday I hope we will dine together at a pleasant café perhaps at St Arnaud.

BASE CAMP: Wyperfeld National Park

DATE	11 - 14 June 2004
STANDARD	Easy
LEADER	Pearson Cresswell
TRANSPORT	Private
RETURN TIME	Late Monday
AREA	NW Victoria
MAP REFERENCE	Wyperfeld NP Visitors Guide (Parks Vic)

The camp will be at the Casuarina campground west of Patchewollock. This will allow us to explore the northern end of the Wyperfeld National Park including Pine Plains, Wirrengren Plain, Snowdrift (white sand dunes), various tracks and lookouts. Be prepared for cold nights and beautiful clear days. It's a long trip (about 450 km from Melbourne) but an easy drive and well worth it to sample the subtle charms of the Mallee. And as for the Birthday business, forget about that other impostor, it's actually mine!

PACK CARRY: Chiltern - Mt Pilot National Park

DATE	25 - 27 June 2004
STANDARD	Easy
DISTANCE	25 km
LEADER	Doug Pocock
TRANSPORT	Private
RETURN TIME	Reasonable
AREA	Beechworth
MAP REFERENCE	El Dorado 1:25000. Bush Maps Vic-Beechworth

This is a walk that appears to be new to the club. It is in an unburnt area of the Chiltern Mt Pilot National Park. On Saturday the walk will leave the ford on Reedy Creek and will climb gently onto the ridge south of the creek. This ridge is followed, with extensive views to the south, to Native Dog Peak. Here we will explore Kelly's Caves near Kelly's Lookout. (Yes, that is Ned Kelly) If we have time we will also look for the Police Caves where the police looked out for Ned while he looked out for them. Carry water for the day. We will drop down to Reedy Creek to camp where the leader will have organised a water drop as the quality of the creek water is suspect.

On Sunday we will return to the cars maybe direct or maybe with a bit of a detour.

This walk would be excellent as an introduction to weekend walking, if you have thought of trying weekend walking talk to me.

Friday night campspot at the ford on Reedy Creek 606797 or else come up from Melbourne on Saturday morning. I will probably be walking in the Kimberley prior to the walk but should be in clubrooms on the Wednesday before. You can leave a message on

NEW MEMBERS:

Barbara Busch

Friederike Jankov

Margaret Laurie

Tania L Miezis

Ronald C Milthorpe

Nicole Sinclair

ALTERED ADDRESS/PHONE:

Paul Beers

Charlotte Bradly

Sheena Burgess

Margaret Curry

Mary Daley/Ed Neff

Andrew Francis

Tracy Guest/Graeme Thornton

Janet Norman/Keith White

Helen Pitt

Therese Pollard/Mark Tischler

Gudrun Schell

MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS

Life Members	10
Honorary Members	10
Single Memberships	377
Family Memberships	100 (= 2 x 50)
Total Membership	497
This time last year	493

*Peter Havlicek, Membership Secretary***Walks Secretary Report****April 2004 Walk Statistics**

April 2004	Trips	People	Average	April 2003
Sunday Bus	4	147	37	180
Other day	4	62	16	45
Pack Carry	3	31	10	31
Base Camp	1	20	20	41
Lodge	1	19	19	8
Cancelled	1	-	-	-
Total	14	279	20.4	305

The Spring Program is is being prepared with a planning meeting on 4 May The mid-week 'TOFS' easier walks

*Ken MacMahon, Walks secretary***Clubrooms Duty Roster**

May 12	Howard Friend, Jan Palich
May 19	Lynda Larkin, Doug Pocock
May 26	Ron Hampton, Carol Criddle
June 2	Rod Novak, Deborah Henry
June 9	Mark Heath, Fay Dunn

Next committee meeting

Monday 7 June, 7 pm in the clubrooms

WALKS PROGRAM MAY 2004

30-2	P/carry: Major Mitchell Plateau, Grampians	Private	E/M	Bill Donald
Sat 1	Cycle trip: Cranbourne Botanic Gardens	Private	Easy	Meryllyn Whimpey
1-2	BSAR 12 hr Rogaine & Search Practice	Private	E/M	Gina Hopkins
Sun 2	Toolangi-Pauls Range-SchoolhouseRidge	BUS	E & M	Ralph Clayton & Maureen Hurley
7-9	Base camp: Tidal River	Private		Sylvia Ford
Sun 9	Wombat Station – Sailors Falls – Twin Bridges	BUS	E/M & M	Halina Sarbinowski & Lance Mobbs
14-16	Pack carry: Track 96 Goldfields, Briagolong	Private	Medium	Bob Oxlade
Sun 16	Golden Gullies, Castlemaine Hist Reserve	BUS	E & E/M	David Arnold & Alan Clarke
Wed 19	Weds Walk: Sherbrooke Forest, Dandenongs	Private	E/M	Stuart Hodgson
Sun 23	Mt Caroline – Break-O-Day	BUS	E/M & M	Peter Havlicek & Mark Heath
28-30	Base camp: Terrick Terrick	Private	E/M	Geoff Mattingley
Sat 29	Dandenongs Explorer: Doongalla	Private	Easy	Warren Baker
Sun 30	You Yangs	BUS	E & M	Max Casley & Sara Watson

The News of the Melbourne Bushwalkers
 Print Post Approved PP No 338888/00016
 If undelivered please return to:
Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc.
GPO Box 1751Q, Melbourne 3001

**SURFACE
 MAIL**

**POSTAGE
 PAID
 AUSTRALIA**

ALTERATION TO PARTICULARS / SUBSCRIPTION RENEWAL

NAME (new) _____ NAME (old) _____

ADDRESS _____ ADDRESS _____

PHONE Home _____ Bus. _____ PHONE Home _____ Bus. _____

EMAIL _____

SUBSCRIPTION FEES: ORDINARY – single membership \$45.00 CONCESSION – single membership \$30.00 (proof required)
 FAMILY/COUPLE – membership \$70.00 CONCESSION – couple \$38.00 (proof required)
New members joining on/after 1st October 2003 \$24.00 less visitor fees *The News* – \$20.00
 Make cheques or money orders payable to 'Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc.' and post to:
 Membership Secretary, GPO Box 1751Q, Melbourne, 3001