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THE NEWS OF THE Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc.

60 CENTS

EDITION 644 OCTOBER 2004



New Life Member

William Cone and Vicki Scrivenger
are pleased to introduce

James Julian Cone

who was born on
20 September 2004.

Mother and baby are well.

Navigation talk

Quentin Tibballs will be giving a navigation talk in the clubrooms on Tuesday evening 19 October from 7.30 to 9.00 pm.

Quentin has previously contributed a series of excellent navigation and first aid articles for *The News* as well as running several leaders training days (see page 6) so this promises to be an informative and fun evening suitable for beginners and experienced alike.

Interested participants should contact Quentin preferably on [redacted] and he will send them some pre-reading or, via email:

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Slide Night

Les Southwell will be showing some slides of

The Ducane Range

(Cradle Mountain – Lake St Clair)

from his recent expedition into the wilds of Tasmania and, also a recent walk in the

Victorian Alps.

To be held in the Club rooms, together with the monthly wine and cheese night. Commencing 8pm on Wednesday 27 October.

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
 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

As recently discussed in *The News* your committee has considered the working of the contact system. Many leaders were forgetting to ring the contacts on return from a trip and eventually ringing them next day or even several days later. The contacts always assumed that everything was OK even though they had not heard. This has been an issue for as long as I have been in the Club.

It has been decided to recognise the situation and change the system. From now it is not necessary to ring the contacts upon return from a successful trip, the contacts will assume everyone has returned safely. However we stress the importance of letting contacts know if there are any problems on the walk which may result in the late return of a trip. Use whatever means you can to notify delays or problems.

If there are problems on a walk that cannot be sorted out by those on the trip then the contact can start the ball rolling for assistance. The first thing the contacts would do would be to discuss the situation with the Walks Secretary or President or similar and decide on a course of action. I cannot think of any time that this Club has had to call out Search and Rescue to help with any situation but as a last resort they are there to help us.

Leaders must make sure that visitors are aware of the contact system. Occasionally the contacts have received phone calls from people worried that someone has not arrived home when expected. On these occasions the contacts have re-assured the callers that as far as they were aware there was no trouble. In most cases the delay was a social one and not the bus being late.

October is Bush Month for Trust for Nature and we have received some brochures from TfN detailing properties that are open to visitors. This event provides you an opportunity to visit private bush properties not normally open to the public. These brochures are available in the Clubrooms for anyone interested.

We have had notification from National Parks that our application to rebuild Wilky was unsuccessful. We are considering our options.

Doug Pocock

Wine & Cheese evening



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

VicWalk News Summary

Bushwalkers Search & Rescue

Three skiers on the summit of Mt Bogong contacted emergency services to seek urgent assistance on Sunday 8 August. Two of the men were very cold and the third was already suffering severely from hypothermia.

They had dug snow holes beside a snow pole near Eskdale Point with blizzard conditions prevailing.

Five members of Birkebeiner Nordic Ski Club and one member of Mt Hotham Ski Patrol responded to the callout and were transported by police to Camp Creek Gap. They commenced the climb up Eskdale Spur in very cold, windy conditions with snow falling.

The rescue team reached the three skiers at 4.15am. Tents and emergency procedures were organized and the hypothermic man was dug out of his snow hole, which was covered by over a metre of snow. He was in a serious condition.

After four hours of rewarming the group, the ambulance Medi-Vac helicopter was able to land during a break in the weather and the three men were airlifted.

The rescue team packed up their gear and commenced the descent, meeting police SAR personnel near the top. All returned to Mt Beauty at 12.30pm.

The police gave high praise to the rescue team. Weather conditions were severe and the situation for the three skiers was life-threatening. Members of the rescue team are to be commended for their great efforts, which undoubtedly saved the lives of the three men.

Compiled by Jim Harker

Skills

A Guide to First Aid on Club Trips is also now on VicWalk's website. Thanks to Bill Metzthen for putting it there.

I was browsing in the Melbourne Map Centre (MMC, near the corner of Waverley and Warrigal Roads) recently and came across a 30 page publication called *Map Reading Guide – how to use typographic maps*, produced by Geoscience Australia. For the princely sum of \$2, yes, two dollars, it is an excellent, inexpensive way of easily spreading mapping and navigation knowledge to your club members. Metropolitan clubs can get their own copies from the Melbourne Map Centre and presumably other major map shops. Country clubs that can't find copies can email me and I will send out at cost plus postage.

Jim McLaughlin

WILLIS'S WALKABOUTS

Kakadu and Kimberley

green and grand...

90% of our visitors **come north to escape the cold** and enjoy our perfect weather. They never see our landscape at its tropical best.

National weather reports don't show tropical reality. Most of our rain comes in short sharp, localised bursts. **Rain that lasts for days on end is more likely in Melbourne than Darwin.**

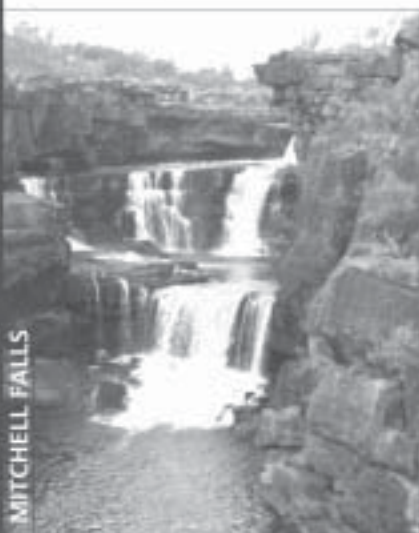
Airfares have never been cheaper. Why not consider a summer holiday? Come see our waterfalls at their magnificent best. Walk through a lush, green landscape carpeted in wildflowers.

Easy, hard or in between. We offer everything from trips where you walk by day and sleep in an air-conditioned room at night to major treks lasting three weeks or more. For more information, see our website or ask for our brochure.

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 August 2004 meeting

Alpine National Park: Alpine Cattle grazing Taskforce decision postponed until November. Federation Hut and Michell Hut no progress before summer. Similar design as old. Experienced builders have been tendered. Wilkinson Hut – no result yet. (Jill Anderson – Parks Officer) Dry River – Proposed track clearing working bee is 7 – 8th May 2005.

Bunyip State Park: Discussions regarding park closures to Trail Bikes and Horses. New track to Bunyip Weir to Seven Acre Track. Logging Tracks middle of 350 Block – Bunyip Valley Rd. Track closures to Scout Track/Ridge/Horseshoe tracks and others due to noise levels. Friends of Bunyip are going to put steps in Ferris Track near creek crossing.

East Gippsland: ‘Great Walk in East Gippsland’ concept for a 300 km circular walk was rejected, but a second proposal was approved and \$70,000 will be allocated for a feasibility study of shorter walks that have the potential to be linked eventually.

Strzeleckis: press release on 6th August. ‘Hancock’s Victorian Plantations have announced they are to log in high biodiversity areas of the Strzelecki forest in South Gippsland. Areas to be logged are located within the boundaries of the high conservation value “Cores and Links” areas identified in the Strzelecki Ranges Biodiversity Study’.

Grampians: Melbourne Bushwalkers track work party on 14 – 15 August with ranger at Buandik (western Grampians). Rangers will place new signage at Mitchell Plateau

and Mt Difficult as they will become ‘fuel-stove only’ areas. The current walker registration system used for the Mitchell Plateau will be extended to the Mt Difficult [Gar] area.

Mornington Peninsula N.P.: Ostlers Lane working bee has cleared a path through the blackberries and new track markers are to be erected soon.

Yarra Ranges: Shire of Yarra Ranges Forest Policy. VicWalk to send letter with suggested adjustments to Shire of Yarra Ranges Forest Policy.

TRACKS.

Volunteer work undertaken by VicWalk Clubs in 2004 include: – Richards Tramline, Alpine NP – Fryers Track, GDT – Muskvale, Woodend Landcare Group, Merri Creek, Yellingbo Nature Reserve, GDT – Lerderderg SP, Sheeppark Flat, Sassafras – Monbulk, and the Grampians. There are also ongoing maintenance projects that include Arthur’s Seat and You Yang’s boneseed clearing, and McMillan’s Track

Tracks that need volunteer clearing work are: Riggalls Spur – Lake Tarli Karng, Fishers Track – Bunyip SP, and Lake Mountain – Grace Darling Track

Rod Novak, Club delegate



Daylight Saving

October 31st is the first day of Australian Eastern Summer Time (Daylight Saving). Clocks should be set forward one hour,

Grampians Working Party

August 13–15

This was a relaxing weekend, with bouts of easy activity interspersed with some serious but totally enjoyable food appreciation. Now for the details.

We, Joan and Ken MacMahon met at our old friend Sylvia's place in North Melbourne. As did a new member, Diana, originally from the exotic country of Columbia. Boy did we pepper her with questions about her homeland! This weekend turned out to be the first time she'd slept 'under canvas (well nylon)', so we took her under our wing, not wanting her to be wet or cold.

We got away about 6pm with Ken behind the wheel and headed for Ballarat where thanks to Sylvia's prior knowledge we ate an excellent meal at Da Vinci's. Check it out if you get a chance.

Consequently it was around midnight when we arrived at our campsite, the delightfully named Buandik, way over on the western side of the Victoria Range. The last hour of our journey was through steady light rain, so what would the morning bring?

Well it was pretty cool but not raining and kookaburras and fairy wrens came quite close while we breakfasted. We were amazed by the strength of the blue on the adult male wrens. Must have been brand new feathers. Our party numbered nine and as well as the already mentioned folk included Mark, Max, Allan, Bob and our excellent leader Rod Novak.

David the ranger soon turned up, pleased to be out of the office, and kitted us out with bright orange safety vests and various handtools. Then up past the toilet blocks

we strode on our mission to clear the pleasantly ill-defined path which leads in a gentle fashion up to the spectacular Hollow Cave. There must have been a mini cyclone to have caused so many trees to fall. David used his chain-saw on the larger obstacles, cutting them into bits we used to make erosion runoffs.

We were mostly working with brown stringybark and cypress-pine. This last has the wonderful advantage of being termite resistant. The bush was gorgeous, the rocks intriguing and nearby was a waterfall which could be heard when the chainsaw was having a rest.

After a couple of hours we reached the spot where if you climb up the rocks you'll find yourself looking into an enormous double-sided cavern through which we could see across the valley to Red Cave. How many millenia has it taken to wear away such a large amount of rock?

Back at camp we listened as David talked, amongst many things, of his vision of a north-south walking track. He also wanted our opinion of various types of colorful track markers and had brought for our perusal the latest version of trackside information plaques. And so a couple of very pleasant hours passed by.

After farewelling him we followed the track to another set of falls, on nearby Cultivation Creek. These were really roaring with deeply tannin-stained water causing an enormous amount of dirty foam to build up. One guess as to which individual was brave/foolish enough to jump across onto wet rocks and explore the top of the falls. The rest of us watched staidly from a distance – far too cold to risk getting wet!

As darkness fell we shared our ample entrees by the light from a fire which Allan made sure was roaring well. There wasn't much room left for mains, what with those bottles of vino we emptied.

Next day we did several leisurely walks, the first to view some rock art and the second to have lunch on top of Mt. Sturgeon. Great views.

Our final activity was to check out the coffee and cake at Izzy's cafe in nearby Dunkeld.

This sort of weekend I can handle!

Nearly forgot to mention that many wildflowers were starting to flower and show their beauty in all the spots we visited. We had the yellow of hibbertia, the pink of tetraheca, the red of grevillea, the white of scented sundew, the green of greenhoods, the yellow of goodenia, the red of flame heath and lots I can't remember. The 'gramps' really is a paradise for us plant aficionados.

Many thanks to Rod Novak for his thoughtful organisation and his commitment to 'bushies' doing a bit to help our underfunded parks service. We had a great time.

Joan MacMahon



Dry Diggings

Pack Carry

11–12 September 2004



As we travelled to Daylesford on Sunday morning the sky was overcast and the forecast of rain and snow to low levels was on our minds. Leaving one of the cars at the Blowhole at Hepburn Springs we drove to Vaughan Springs to begin the walk.

The Dry Diggings Track is part of the Great Divide Trail stretching from Castlemaine to Daylesford through a historic gold mining area dating from the 1850s.

Instead of camping at the regular stop at Mount Franklin our plan was to divert from the track walking through Franklin Gorge to camp beside Tarilta Creek. It was occasional showers as we set off crossing a foot-bridge which was only 30cm above the swollen Loddon River. Passing by the remains of several early home sites, a mound of dirt in Stones Gully led us to explore a very large, clean tunnel in the hillside above the track. The Golden Wattle were very colourful and sightings of Flame Robins were a delight. We were also to see Grey Kangaroos and wallabies.

Our wise leader decided to avoid the creek crossings in the first part of the gorge and so we left the track and traversed light forest to arrive exactly at a beautiful camp site on the wide grassy flats beside Tarilta Creek. After sharing some nice entrees we enjoyed a cosy fire in an existing fireplace.

Our tents were surprisingly dry to pack in the morning and with sunshine at times the weather was much better than we had expected. The extinct volcano site of Mount Franklin was a feature of the scenery. As we followed the creek the gorge narrowed with more slippery creek crossings so we left it there and our good navigator led us back to the track again. We stopped for lunch at Golden Spring but there were not many takers for the mineral water.

When we arrived back to our car the Blowhole, a man-made creek diversion was spectacularly gushing with water. Once the car shuffle was completed we drove into Daylesford for coffee.

Thanks to Rod Novak for leading the walk and his sensible decision to avoid the slippery creek crossings in the gorge which are best attempted when conditions are more suitable.

Those present were, Clare, Ron, Bill, Rod, Ian and myself.

Bob Oxlade

Leader Training

It is hard to over-estimate the importance of training. Leaders are the lifeblood of our club. Without leaders, there would be no walks, and they need to be trained.

The club is presently organising First Aid training commencing 7 Oct 04 in the clubrooms. We already have fourteen people. There are spaces for more, so please let me know if you are interested.

On Saturday 7 Oct 04, Quentin led a band of nine people on a navigation training day exercise. It was excellent. Mt Disappointment did not live up to its name, with the wattle trees in full magnificent colour, the resident kangaroos providing hopping demonstrations, and the “top of the world” views providing titillation to the senses.

Quentin did a wonderful job, introducing a number of new leaders to the art of navigation. We managed to find all the checkpoints, providing instant feedback to evidence the acquisition of a new skill. It was a team effort at times. We all learnt something along the way.

I myself was re-acquainted with the topic of declination. If you don't know what that is, you are recommended to attend one of Quentin's training sessions. Seriously, declination matters!

The next training event is a navigation training night in the clubrooms on Tuesday 19 October 2004 at 7:30 pm. All leaders, both new and old, are encouraged to attend. Quentin will not disappoint you.

Peter McGrath, Assistant Walk Secretary

Athol Schafer

Life member Athol Schafer is now resident in

The Freemasons Nursing Home
(Coppin Community Hostel)
313 Punt Rd, Prahran, 3181
ph 9510 1378.

Athol would welcome any visitors.

The Birth of James Julian Cone

William Cone and Vicky Scrivenger announced the birth of their son, James Julian, on 20 September 2004, at Waverley Private Hospital. The child weighed 9 lbs at birth. Both mother and child are well.

The club congratulates Vicky and William on the birth of their son.

Farewell to Sibylle

Sibylle Holdheide has advised that she is returning to Germany. She has been resident in Australia for the past five years, and has led several bushwalks on behalf of the club. Due to a recent family illness, Sibylle has elected to be closer to her family.

Sibylle will be sorely missed both as a member and as a leader and the club wishes Sibylle every future happiness.

Sibylle will be leaving Australia in early November.

Notes from the Grey Nomads

The Top End
Hard/Medium Hard

After our lone exploring of the route up north, we were delighted to be joined in Kakadu by Jenny, Jopie, Marianne and Geoff. Aably led by Jopie, who'd planned and prepared the trips. We first did an eight-day pack-carry in the Brockman Massif area. This requires a permit, and has to be done after the wet season, but before the creeks have dried up. Although we'd picked the right, time, the weather was unusually hot and humid, and we had more than a little bother from the mosquitoes. We covered some most interesting territory, with some delightful, waterside camping sites and there was plenty of water flowing. There were no paths or tracks to follow, and the going was quite rough sometimes with the usual tropical vegetation to contend with. We found a number of rock art sites, and of course the flowers and bird life was prolific.

For our next trip we were joined by Graeme Broderick and Ken and Joan MacMahon, making us a party of nine. This was a twelve-day trip, starting and finishing at Barramundie Pool. We had more of a walk-in than planned, as the rangers had closed the road (effectively closing the area to all but serious walkers), as two saltwater crocodiles had taken up residence in the pool. Needless to say, we gave away the anticipated swim in that pool! However, we came across such an abundance of cascades, waterfalls, plunge pools and creeks over the next twelve days that even the biggest water babies in the party had no complaints. The temperature dropped (it even became quite cool for a couple of nights), the humidity dropped, and so we had perfect conditions that helped to make this a great walk. I was surprised to find that the cane toads had really arrived we found quite a number and evidence that they had been eaten, and subsequently caused the death of fresh-water crocs. There is apparently no method of combating them at present, and they seem to be there to stay.

Graeme, Ken, Marianne and Geoff left us after this trip, and we were joined by Alan Clarke, so we were back to six for the next part exploring Yellow Waters, and some of the more easily-accessed day walks in Kakadu. With warm days (delightful swimming), cool nights (the campfire was well-appreciated), we had some easy days exploring creeks, waterholes and gorges. Next stop was Darwin, for some re-stocking and dining out on the waterfront. Here Joan left us and we were joined by Dianne McKinley, Sylvia Ford, Max Casley and Ray Thomas. Our first walking was in Litchfield NP where we were to celebrate Gina's 50th birthday. Gina had firm ideas about this. She wanted a plunge pool campsite all to ourselves. This we found, with waterfalls, sandy beach and a rock-floored kitchen (no sand in your food!) and celebrated with sparklers, balloons, cake and wine.



After this we returned to Kakadu, where we went into several areas including Coronation Hill. Getting into the latter required a couple of ferry trips with our 4WD and it was while I was returning to collect the second party that I wrote off a tyre and wheel trying to avoid a very large python! As I had only one spare this meant that we really didn't want a puncture! In the event, all was well, and we had some delightful walking. Just before we left the area Alan found a wonderful rock art site with many colourful images, as well as grinding areas, grinding stones and bones. We ended this part of the trip with a 4-day visit to Katherine Gorge, where we explored all 13 gorges, using our lilos great fun.

All the bushies returned to Melbourne after this, leaving Gina and I to continue our travels west to Port Hedland, via Kununurra and Broome, where we stayed at the Broome Bird Observatory – of course! At Port Hedland we were to meet up with Doug Pocock and Jan Llewellyn, who were joining us for the next adventure – Karijini National Park and some canyon exploration!

Derrick Brown

PREVIEWS OF DAY WALKS OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2004

SUNDAY BUS: Garden of St Erth – Blackwood

DATE	Sunday 24 October
STANDARD	Easy/Medium & Medium
LEADERS	Lynda Larkin & Hans Edlinger
TRANSPORT	Bus– Southbank Blvd at 9 am

Please see the leaders in the clubrooms about this walk.

SUNDAY BUS: St George's Lake – Creswick

DATE	Sunday 31 October
STANDARD	Easy & Easy/Medium
DISTANCE	11 km & 16 km
LEADERS	Geoff Mattingley & Jean Woodger.
TRANSPORT	Bus– Southbank Blvd. at 9 am
RETURN TIME	approx. 7 pm
AREA	North of Ballarat – Melway 627 B3
MAP REFERENCE	VicMap 1:25,000 Creswick

NOTE: October 31st is the first day of Australian Eastern Summer Time (Daylight Saving). Clocks should be set forward one hour, preferably before going to bed on the 30th.

During the 1850s and 1860s the area surrounding Creswick emerged as one of the richest goldfields in Victoria. The town's population swelled to around 25,000 as miners tore apart the landscape in their efforts to extract every available ounce of gold. By the end of the rush, the forests had vanished and the land was badly eroded. In 1883 the first efforts were made at replanting the trees, and today the hills surrounding Creswick are covered in a combination of introduced plantations and regrowth native bushland providing walkers with a number of excellent forest trails. St George's Lake was originally built during the goldrush to provide water for the Creswick State Battery – a government-owned quartz crusher.

The Easy group will stay north of the highway, in the area surrounding St George's Lake. The Easy/Medium group will head south along part of the Great Dividing trail before heading east then north mostly along forestry tracks – there will be one section off the tracks through open forest. Both walks start and finish in the same place.

HISTORICAL WALK: Merri Creek – CERES

DATE	Tuesday 2 November
STANDARD	Easy
LEADER	Nigel Holmes
TRANSPORT	Private

Please see the leader in the clubrooms about this walk.

TOFS: Warramate Hills

DATE	Thursday 4 November
STANDARD	Easy
DISTANCE	10 km
LEADER	Jean Giese
TRANSPORT	Private
AREA	Gruyere, Seville
MAP REFERENCE	Melways, 283 & 285, Tarrawarra 1:25000

Proclaimed a flora and fauna reserve about ten years ago, this is an area well worth exploring. There are some hills (as the name implies) including one short, steep, pinch, but we will take our time and be rewarded by magnificent views of the Yarra Valley and surrounding mountains.

Meet at the end of Yarra Loch Way by the locked park gate of Yarra Loch Reserve at 10.15 am (Melways 285 G2). Book with the leader on

SUNDAY BUS: Lysterfield Lake Park (Including BBQ)

DATE	Sunday 7 November
STANDARD	Easy & Easy/Medium
DISTANCE	13 & 17 kms
LEADERS	Fiona Gallery & Marisa Rizutto
TRANSPORT	Bus – Southbank Blvd. 9 am
RETURN TIME	1830 hours
AREA	Outer southeastern suburbs of Melbourne
MAP REFERENCE	Parks Victoria map Lysterfield Lake Park & Churchill National Park

Lysterfield Lake was once the fresh water supply for the Mornington Peninsula. Land around the lake was fenced off to protect its quality. In 1997 it was joined to Churchill National Park when further land was purchased. It is now 1,668 ha of park for native birds, mammals and reptiles. It is also a recreational haven with many tracks for walking, cycling and jogging; a lake for swimming and boating; and BBQ areas for after activity relaxation. We will be making good use of these facilities and attractions on these walks.

Both walks will start in Birdsland Reserve to the north east of Lysterfield Park and end at the Lysterfield Lake visitor area, beside the lake at the southern end of the park. The Easy walk will take a more direct route to the lake after taking in views of the Monbulk Creek, the foothills of the Dandenongs, farmlands and the City. The Easy/Medium group will climb the Trig Point Lookout for views of Port Phillip Bay, Point Nepean, the You Yangs and the Bellarine Peninsula.

We will finish the walks with a BBQ provided by the Bushies Committee. Come prepared for a swim if you would like to try out the lake as well.



SUNDAY BUS: Cathedral Range

DATE	Sunday 14 November
STANDARD	Easy/Medium & Medium
DISTANCE	13 km & 16 km
LEADERS	Halina Sarbinowski & Lance Mobbs
TRANSPORT	Bus – Southbank Blvd. 8.30am start.
RETURN TIME	7:30 pm
AREA	North of Marysville
MAP REFERENCE	Cathedral Range Outdoor Leisure Series

This is one of the more challenging walks on the Sunday Walks Program with lots of hill climbing and rock hopping so wear your good walking boots. Fantastic views and a variety of landscapes ranging from forested ridges, open bush and rocky outcrops will reward your efforts. On preview several black wallabies and a lyrebird were also sighted.

Both groups will commence about 1.5 km from Neds Gully and make the steep ascent to Neds Saddle. From there the medium group will take in Little Cathedral then follow the rocky ridge top to Cathedral Peak. The Easy/Medium group will take the lower track below the ridgeline from Ned's Saddle to the Farmyard (so called because the lyrebirds in the area mimic the domestic animals on the valley farms below). The Medium group will follow the ridgeline to the Farmyard. Both groups will descend along Jawbone Creek, then take the river track back to the bus after passing through Cooks Mill camping area. Be prepared for all types of weather and make sure that you bring plenty of water for both walks are quite strenuous.

WEDNESDAY WALK: Creswick Miners' Walk

DATE	Wednesday 17 November
STANDARD	Easy/Medium
DISTANCE	Approximately 18km, with an option of 14 km but more details will be known by the time of booking
LEADER	Sandra Mutimer
TRANSPORT	Private
RETURN TIME	5.00 pm to the cars but ...
AREA	Creswick to north-eastern edge of Ballarat
MAP REFERENCE	Creswick and Warrenheip, 1:25,000

The 150th anniversary of the Eureka Stockade will be on the 3rd December this year and there will be many events commemorating this defining moment in Australia's history. The impressive reforms that developed from it and the democratic aspirations of the Ballarat Reform League with their inspiring charter, Eureka Oath and Southern Cross flag have led to Eureka being described as 'the birthplace of the Australian spirit.'

200 gold miners set off from Creswick to join the protests in Ballarat and the Creswick Miners' Walk is the route taken by them. It is part of the Great Dividing Trail and passes through the Creswick Regional Park and Creswick State Forest. We will be walking from

St George's Lake, just outside the Creswick township, to the north-eastern edge of Ballarat. There will be an option for a shorter version of this walk but those choosing it will need to wait to be picked up in the return car shuttle.

As this walk has not been fully previewed some details are not known yet but will be by the time of booking. If extreme heat is forecast on the day of the walk I will be prepared to modify the length of it and advise walkers to be prepared for these conditions.

We will meet at the carpark at St George's Lake, Creswick at 10.15 am. This can be reached by a marked turn-off 1.3 km from Creswick on the Creswick – Melbourne Road. A car shuttle will be necessary so if you'll be coming I would prefer to be notified before Tuesday, the day before the walk. Contact me on or, if delayed on the day of the walk, on



SUNDAY BUS: Labertouche Wildflower Walk

DATE	Sunday 21 October
STANDARD	Easy & Easy/Medium
DISTANCE	13 & 18 km Approx.
LEADERS	Peter Havlicek and ?
TRANSPORT	Bus – Southbank Blvd.
RETURN TIME	6.30 pm
MAP REFERENCE	Spion Kopje 1:25000 8022-2-3
LOCATION	Labertouche Wildflower Reserve
AREA	Bunyip State Forest, Labertouche (along Princes Highway, Gippsland)

The walk is in the Wildflower Reserve off Forest Road in the Bunyip State Forest. The walk is circular, starting at the Brighton Grammar School camp. The medium walk takes in a longer route along Bullock Link Track to South Hells Gate, then to Quartz Creek Road and down to a very pretty and interesting Nature Walk along Lawson Creek, then up Discovery Track and completing the circuit along Tea Tree Road. There is a great variety of bush flowers including Gudenias, Dusty Millers, Banksias, Grevilleas and Boronias along Discovery Track. Wallabies, lyrebirds and land yabbies are amongst the fauna observed on past visits.

The easy walk is shorter with less climbing, but takes in the pretty bits.

DANDENONGS EXPLORER: Birdlands

DATE	Saturday 27 November
STANDARD	Easy
LEADER	Warren Baker
TRANSPORT	Private

Please talk with the leader about this walk. Ph:

SUNDAY BUS: Yarra Rail Trail and Winery

DATE	Sunday 28 November
STANDARD	Easy & Easy/Medium
DISTANCE	15 & 17 kms
LEADERS	Quentin Tibballs & Peter McGrath
TRANSPORT	Bus – Southbank Blvd.
RETURN TIME	7 pm
AREA	Warburton
MAP REFERENCE	Gladysdale 1:25,000


'Melbourne's Mystic Mountains' is how this area is often described. The description is apt, with the mountains in the immediate vicinity of Warburton providing a green colour and the more distant ones blue, against the setting of a blue sky, green grass and the flowing waters of the Yarra River. The area is rich in history, of gold mining and later the timber workers with the associated tramways providing many of the trails through the region – if you know the history, you can almost see them working in the mind's eye.

The Easy walk starts at Yarra Junction, visiting Yarra Burn winery along the way. This wine tasting is free. The walk will proceed along the Rail Trail into Warburton before winding around the Yarra River in Warburton.

The Easy/Medium walk will commence at Launching Place, without a visit to the Yarra Burn winery. The group will walk into Warburton along the Rail Trail before launching itself up Mount Little Joe to enjoy the views overlooking Warburton. The walk will end beside the Yarra at Warburton.

On the way home, we will visit Lillydale Estate, where a tasting costs \$4, however the serve is generous. After, we will visit Elmswood winery – here the tasting will cost \$2, and the view across the Yarra Valley is unparalleled.

BOOTS FOR SALE

La Crosse, Leather, Gortex, Waterproof.
Suit size 45 (10 1/2–11 1/2)
worn once. Bargain at \$90
Bob Oxlade 

MISSING –

The Club's weekend trip "First Aid Kit"
Can weekend leaders check their home equipment
cupboards?
Please return a.s.a.p.

I can **HOUSE SIT** for you
from mid November and
anytime into 05.
I'm reliable, tidy and mature.
(Sorry no pets).
Susan Maughan:



Daylight Saving

October 31st is the first day of Australian Eastern Summer Time (Daylight Saving). Clocks should be set forward one hour,

PACK CARRY: Royal National Park, NSW

DATE	29 October – 2 November
STANDARD	Easy/Medium
DISTANCE	Approx. 50km
LEADER	Alan Clarke
TRANSPORT	Plane, Train and Ferry
RETURN TIME	Tuesday pm
AREA	Outer Sydney
MAP REFERENCE	CMA: Royal National Park

Starting at Sydney Central Railway Station, we will take the train south to Waterfall, and then spend four days walking through both Royal and Heathcote National Parks. The actual route depends on which camping areas are available but will include the coast walk of RNP which is in parts quite spectacular. There will also be swimming holes, rainforest and fabulous views. We will return to Sydney airport via ferry to Cronulla and train to the airport.

Please note: Because of the need to book flights, this walk was advertised last month and booked out very quickly, I am both delighted and sorry to say. To those who missed out I hope that this trip will be repeated from time to time.

PACK CARRY: Cobberas Area

DATE	29 October – 2 November
STANDARD	Easy/Medium
DISTANCE	Approx. 47 km, 32 km with pack
LEADER	Leo Lynch
TRANSPORT	Private
RETURN TIME	Approx. 9pm Tuesday
AREA	NE of Omeo
MAP REFERENCE	Suggan Buggan 1:50,000, 2nd. Ed.

This walk will start and end at Native Dog Flat. On Saturday we have a 10km walk, mostly off-track, involving a lot of uphill and downhill walking with a full pack. The intended route is to follow Cowombat Flat Track for about 4km before leaving the track to head up the spur leading to Moscow Peak, from Moscow Peak we will go to the saddle between Miscow peak and Mount Cobberas No. 2. If water is available we will camp here on Saturday night. On Sunday we will follow the spur to the right of Mountain Trout Creek for 6km down to Cowombat Flat, where we will camp for the next two nights.

On Monday we will do a 16km round trip from the campsite to The Pilot. Most of this walk will be on a 4WD track.

Tuesday will be a 16km walk along Cowombat Flat track back to the cars.

Part of this walk is reviewed in the Spring 2002 edition of Wild Magazine.

BASE CAMP: Buandik, Western Grampians

DATE	29 October – 2 November
STANDARD	Easy/Medium/or whatever
DISTANCE	Variable – your choice
LEADER	Graeme Thornton
TRANSPORT	Private
RETURN TIME	Tuesday night
AREA	Western Grampians
MAP REFERENCE	VicMap Leisure Map 1:50,000 North+South Grampians

This will be (... mostly! ...) a base camp at Buandik on Cultivation Creek in the western Grampians. I think it is a spectacular area with numerous possibilities for exploration. I'm hoping to run several alternate walk activities from, well, basically lay about, to wild-flowering/birding, to thrashing around looking for aboriginal sites and exploring some rugged country. What and where will depend on the group. We might even have an option for some to do an overnight pack-carry camp-out if an interesting area to explore is found.

As this is a four day extra long weekend we can have a leisurely arrival in daylight on Saturday morning (1am at Buandik). We will leave sometime Tuesday afternoon, but, again, for those with time, it leaves a possibility for some to stay on until Wednesday or Thursday for more of whatever you're into. Let me know if you would be in for an extra-long-long w/e. I'll see how much interest there is.

Note that the weather could do anything and there may be scrub, rock and cliffs. I'm very practiced at avoiding most scratchy scrub and some broken country, but have failed badly. Rod Novak's august August work-party at Buandik reports both tank water and water in the creek. But those with sensitive constitutions might want to bring enough water sufficient until we see how the camp supply goes; I expect it to be fine.

PACK CARRY: Bogong High Plains – Mt. Hotham

DATE	29 October – 2 November
STANDARD	Medium
LEADER	Jerry Grandage
TRANSPORT	Private
DISTANCE	70km. (20km. with day packs)
MAPS(1)	Outdoor Leisure Map, Bogong Alpine Area, (2) 1:50,000 Topo. map, Dargo Plains – Cobungra.

This will involve three days of pack-carrying and a full day's side trip. We will approach the Bogong High Plains via the Cobungra River, Mt. Battery, and MacNamara's Hut. This is an unusual route that comes with the Walks Secretary's recommendation. I haven't done it before. A day will be spent exploring the High Plains without packs and this will enable us to see the recovery process following the January 2003 fires. We will finish by following Swindlers Spur to the Mt. Hotham area.

CYCLE TRIP: Leongatha to Foster Rail Trail

DATE	6–7 November
STANDARD	Easy/Medium
DISTANCE	100 km
LEADER	Stephen Rowlands
TRANSPORT	Private
RETURN TIME	Sunday afternoon
AREA	South Gippsland
MAP REFERENCE	Rail trails of Victoria page36

The ride will start Saturday morning from Leongatha and follow The Great Southern rail trail to Foster. Lunch and morning tea can be bought along the way from one of the many towns that we will pass through or you can bring your own. Accommodation on Saturday night will be at the caravan Park in Foster with a meal that night at a Pub or restaurant in town. For more information please give me a ring on .



PACK CARRY: Garden Range – Seven Creeks Gorge

DATE	12–14 November
STANDARD	Easy/Medium
DISTANCE	22 km
LEADERS	Ray Thomas and Ken McMahon
TRANSPORT	Private
RETURN TIME	Mid to late afternoon at cars, depending on time to view Gooram Falls Sunday pm
AREA	Strathbogje Ranges above Euroa
MAPS	Mt Wombat and Merton 1: 25,000

Rendezvous: From Euroa, take the Strathbogje Road, which is the 2nd street on the right, about 200 m after crossing the Seven Creeks bridge in Euroa. Friday evening car camping in a short track on LHS across the road from the Waterhouse Reservoir, which is at the tip of the big sweeping left hand turn, about 9 km from the Seven Creeks Bridge in Euroa. **Car shuffle:** 14 km each way along Forlonge Rd, at the foot of Garden Range. The walk will meander up through Garden Range, checking out the extensive wildflower displays in natural rock gardens, visiting gorgeous little gullies with masses of rosy-hued Heath Myrtle, admiring delicate moss beds with Sun Orchids and Chocolate Lilies, and marveling at the spectacular cliff-top views. From the top of Garden range we make our way across to Mt Wombat and descend through tall Blue Gum forest to camp on the shady Wombat Creek.

Sunday's walk follows the Seven Creeks from Polly McQuinn's reservoir down through a spectacular rocky gorge with several impressive waterfalls and delightful rock pools, finishing near the popular Gooram Falls Reserve. The walking is really varied, with everything from dry open forests and huge granite slabs, to tall Blue Gum forests, and swimming holes galore if the weather is warm enough to tempt you.

Water is available at the start of the walk from the Waterhouse Reservoir, and from Wombat Creek on Saturday Night. Sunday's walk down Seven Creeks Gorge has all the water you need. Contact Ray Thomas, ph: H email: or Ken McMahon in the Club rooms.

BASE CAMP: Cape Liptrap

DATE	19–21 November
LEADER	Jopie Bodegraven
STANDARD	Varied
TRANSPORT	Private
AREA	South Gippsland near Walkerville
MAP REFERENCE	Maitland Beach & Walkerville 1:25,000

Come one and come all to a wonderful weekend on a wonderful section of coast only two and a half hours from Melbourne. The coast around Cape Liptrap is rugged and spectacular. As well as some great cliffs there is some fascinating geological folding and some superb limestone platforms and rock sculpting. It's one of my favourite coastal areas.

We will be base-camping at Bear Gully, a basic National Parks type camp area right on the coast with longdrop loos and water from a creek (needs boiling). There will be both medium and easier options. The medium option is a continuous coastal walk divided up into two day-walks so that we can enjoy the coast with light packs. It will involve some rock hopping on Saturday and a lot of rock hopping on Sunday. The easier option also does the same walk on Saturday, but on Sunday will do shorter and easier sections along some of the prettier sections, including some lovely rock platforms. I will be seeking another leader to lead the easier options on the Sunday. (You don't need to know the area). You can even do the bludge option if you wish and that is to just enjoy the camping and maybe do some very short bits.

This weekend has been timed to have low tide just before midday so that we can enjoy and traverse the rock platforms. Be warned that we will be starting fairly early to take full advantage of the low tide.

There are no pubs nearby so it will be an old fashioned cook your own dinner on Saturday night but do bring something to share for happy hour. Ring me on 9482 4691 with any questions and to book or see me in the clubrooms on the two Wednesdays prior. See ya there.



PACK CARRY: Baw Baws

DATE	26–28 November
STANDARD	Medium
DISTANCE	30 km
LEADERS	Ralph Blake
TRANSPORT	Private
RETURN TIME	Sunday evening
AREA	Baw Baw National Park
MAP REFERENCE	Baw Baw 1:25,000

On Friday night our camp will be at the Mt Erica car park. On Saturday we will walk along the Alpine Walking Track to Mt Erica and then to Mt St Phillack. Camp will be made somewhere near St Phillack saddle. Mt Whitelaw will be visited on Saturday afternoon.

Other places to visit on Sunday are: Mt Baw Baw, Mt St Gwinear, and Mt Kernot. Then we will return via Mt Erica and down to the car park.

NEW MEMBERS:
Garis Alexander

Sylvia Harris

Meredith Brown

Peter Mc Grath

Catherine Cardinet

Athol Schafer

Chris Clement

MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS

Robert Lindsay

Life Members	10
Honorary Members	10
Single Memberships	323
Family Memberships	106 (= 2 x 53)
Total Membership	449
This time last year	454

Wendy Nicol

Peter Havlicek, Membership Secretary

Rosemary Ann Parker

Walks Secretary Report

September 2004 Walk Statistics

Debbie Roe

September 2004	Trips	People	Average	September 2003
Sunday Bus	4	135	33.8	29.5
Other day	4	53	13	15
Pack Carry	2	18	9	0
Base Camp	2	18	9	11
Cycle	0	–	–	13
Cancelled	0	–	–	1
Total	12	224	–	10/198

Jane Tan

Ken MacMahon, Walks secretary

Add to membership list:
Julie Tu

Clubrooms Duty Roster

October 13	Deb Henry, David Lang
October 22	Rod Novak, Mark Heath
October 27	John Coe, Carol Criddle
November 3	Fay Dunn, Doug Pocock

Altered Address/Phone:
Mark Clifton

Next committee meeting

Monday 25 October, 7 pm in the clubrooms

WALKS PROGRAM OCTOBER 2004

1 - 3	Pack carry: Grampians, Mt Difficult area	Private	Medium	Bob Oxlade
Sun 3	Dromana - Greens Bush - Cape Schank	BUS	E & M	Mark Heath & Dion Marriet
Thu 7	TOFS: You Yangs, Northern End	Private	Easy	Jean Giese
8 - 10	Federation base camp: Walhalla area	Private	Various	Ralph Clayton
* Sun 10	Walhalla Area (with Vicwalk) 8:30am start	BUS	E & E/M	Mick Noonan & Lesley Hale
15 - 17	Base camp: Camperdown Volcanic Country	Private	Easy	Sylvia Ford
Sun 17	The Monk Walk: Castlemaine - Vaughan	BUS	E & E/M	Jean Woodger & Doug Langton
Wed 20	Wednesday Walk: Mornington Peninsula Nat. Park.	Private	E/M	Bruce Campbell
22 - 24	Pack carry: Tarli Karng	Private	Medium	Bill Donald
Sat 23	Dandenongs Explorer: Kallista - Sassafras	Private	Easy	Liz Telford
Sun 24	Garden of St Erth - Blackwood	BUS	E/M & M	Lynda Larkin & Hans Edlinger
Melbourne Cup Weekend				
29 - 2	Pack carry: Mt Hotham - High Plains	Private	Medium	Jerry Grandage
29 - 2	Pack carry: Royal National Park, NSW	Private	E/M	Alan Clarke
29 - 2	Base camp: Buandik (Western Grampians)	Private	E/M	Graeme Thornton
29 - 2	Pack carry: Cobberas Area	Private	E/M	Leo Lynch
Sun 31	St George Lake - Creswick	BUS	E & E/M	Geoff Mattingley & Jean Woodger

* Sorry, members only.
8.30am start.

Bus transport: meet in Southbank Boulevard, south side of the Arts Centre, before 9am. The leader or deputy will be there rain, hail or shine. Fees must be paid to reserve a seat on the bus. Bookings are made on Club Night. Telephone bookings are not accepted.

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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