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# THE NEWS OF THE Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc.

60 CENTS

EDITION 654 **AUGUST 2005**

## NOTICE OF HALF YEARLY ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Half Yearly Annual General Meeting of the Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc will be held on Wednesday 31st August 2005, 8.00 pm at The Clubrooms, 48 McKenzie Street Melbourne. All welcome.

Appointment of Proxy forms are available from the clubrooms.

## Missing Walk Reports

While Graham Wills-Johnson has been scanning all the club's old walk reports, he found that there were gaps in some of the years, in that there are documents missing from our archive room. It would probably mean that someone has borrowed these reports with the full intention of returning them to the club, but have forgotten.

If you are that person who might still have the club's old walk reports, could you please return them to the club rooms or give me a call and I will collect them from you.

The missing documents are:

- 1942-1945 Everything
- 1974 Weekend reports for the entire year
- 1979 All walk reports for the entire year

If you cannot assist, can you please search your memory for someone else that may have these reports and get back to me, as they are part of the club's history and it is a shame that the old reports cannot be found.

*Jan Palich, President*

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### WEDNESDAY LECTURE

Clair Vincent from the Bureau of Meteorology on reading weather patterns in the Alps and at the Proms. Wednesday, 10 August, 8.00pm in the clubrooms. See page 4.

## CLUBROOM FRIDAY FLICKS

Yes, it's on again. Thanks to all who came along to see 'Death in Brunswick' and made it such a memorable evening. And to those who haven't yet attended one of these nights – give it a go. They're great fun, very social, and a wonderful opportunity to catch up on some Australian films that you may never have seen, or at least not for a long time!

Our main feature this time around will be **DAD AND DAVE COME TO TOWN**, made in 1938. This was the third in the Cinesound series about the bumbling outback Rudd family. As the title suggests, the Rudds decide to forsake the rural life and move to Sydney to operate a women's fashion emporium which Dad has unexpectedly inherited. The familiar comic theme of 'fish out of water' is used here to great effect as Dad et al innocently struggle to cope with lifts, traffic rules, police and other unfamiliar aspects of city life. Despite its age, the movie still holds up well with plenty of action, gags and a pacy dialogue. Look out for a very young Peter Finch as the gangling youth who falls in love with Dad's daughter.

The accompanying short is called **FLARE – A SKI TRIP** in which a team of six skiers have a wonderful time executing all sorts of breathtaking freestyle tricks around various New Zealand mountains: bumps, Moguls and somersaults galore. The film culminates in a skier's dream – to ski down the untracked slopes of a live volcano!

Show starts at 7.30. A light supper will be provided at interval. No need to book – just show up, but if you need any further info. ring Stuart.

**Note: this is not a video or DVD but an authentic cinematic projection.**

7:30 pm Friday 26th August

**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,  
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](mailto: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:

The Editor,  
Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc.,  
PO Box 1751, 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

Apologies from the president. President's Corner will be back again next month.

*Note for your Diary:*

## **CLUB AUCTION OF BUSHWALKING EQUIPMENT**

**Date: Wednesday 19 October**

For all those walkers who have bushwalking equipment lying around in cupboards and garages – now is the time to think about what you would like to pass on.

The club is holding an auction for pre-loved bushwalking equipment on Wednesday 19 October. 10% of all sales will be donated to conservation. So you have plenty of warning – please diarise this date and if you have any queries, please contact me. Jan Palich.

## *Wine & Cheese evening*



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

# Strike me pink – or is it lucky?



**H**ow lucky can you be? Over the three day QB long weekend, it poured a deluge on the Friday night, then opened up again Monday as soon as we hit the cars for the drive home – with three magnificent days in between! But then, our whole weekend was like that. Well almost. We were all very disappointed with our Friday night dinners at the Victoria Hotel in Ouyen, where we waited for over an hour for a sub-standard, luke warm meal. Boo!

We were Max Casley's pack carry group of ten, meeting up with Doug Pocock's base campers at Lake Crosbie camp ground. This worked well with two short local walks on Saturday, exploring the salt museum with its rusting machinery and huge salt piles as well as two other pink lakes – Lakes Kenyon and Hardy – the latter with the remains of a tennis court and school house site. A family of emus grazed at some distance from the camp and our keener ornithologists also spotted a variety of local birdlife. Saturday night was a party atmosphere around a cheery fire with an abundance of good food and drinks. With a glorious star show overhead, Doug pointed out the shape of a mallee fowl or emu formed by the dark patches in the Milky Way and described the interesting aboriginal hunting legend that accompanies it.

Then the more serious stuff of the pack carry began on Sunday morning and instead of an extended car shuffle, we decided to walk the Remote Wilderness Track circuit, leaving the cars at the start, saving considerable time. A chance meeting with the Ranger before departing base-camp confirmed that he had just replenished both track watertanks with clean, fresh water. We got away around 9.45am in fine conditions with a cool breeze and made good time across the sandy track, made firmer by the recent rains. Bob photographed a bearded dragon lizard on the track but although there was constant birdsong and frequent emu tracks, bird sightings were rare and no further emus seen. We reached the first watertank by lunchtime and after a refill and sunny lunch break, pressed on for approx. another 5–6 km until 4pm, to a lovely flat camp-site, making the days trip around 21–22km.

Monday morning opened up a similar day and we went on, sighting bounding kangaroos and although large footprints, no emus. Morning tea was at the second water tank, at Mt Crozier (111m) where we again filled up before the testing (joke) ascent to take in the sweeping mallee views. Then we searched for and found the track's continuation choosing this route over a road trek. We sighted a wedge tailed eagle and its tree nest along the way. After the intersection at Honeymoon Hut track about 2km, an unsigned intersection appears with the Remote Wilderness Walk turning west and Salt Bush Flat track continuing north. From here it was just 1–2km west to the cars.

Done again, this walk could be split over three days, still retaining a local walk on the first morning, with two and half days for the approx. 40km circuit. This might prove more comfortable than two longish days. Certainly though, avoiding the car shuffle is the idea.

The ever affable and unflappable Max deserves a round of applause for organising a thoroughly enjoyable weekend. Thanks for leading Max – on behalf of Frances Moloney, Nicole Mahoney, Fang Fang, Dianne McKinley, Diane Gomez, Bob Oxlade, Quentin Tiballs, Gerry Grandage and yours truly, Paul Beers.

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

**Blue Mountains Trip  
2005 Cup Weekend  
28th Oct to 1st Nov 2005**

Like last year's successful trip to the Royal National Park in Sydney, I am giving people early warning for this year's trip so that people can take advantage of early plane fares should they wish. I already have enough to go so the trip will go ahead. For logistical reasons participation will need to be limited to a reasonable number of people.

The plan is to fly to Sydney on Friday evening, and stay in the very convenient, and quite reasonable, backpackers near Central Station that we used last time. Then it's the morning train to Blackheath in the Blue Mountains, and taxi to the start of the walk. We then spend three days walking along the Gross Valley, with side trips to visit lookouts and waterfalls, finishing up through a lovely narrow canyon. The last day will be more leisurely, with a chance for a shower and a civilised lunch before returning home via Sydney.

Please note that short cuts on this trip will be very limited, and the grading is medium, with a total distance of about 36km over the three main days including some climbs.

Indicative costs per person are – flights - \$180; Airport buses – \$18; Backpackers – \$25; Train – \$30; Taxi – \$5; Caravan Park night 3 – \$10; Airport Parking – \$10 = \$288 plus individual expenditure.

Please let me know if you are interested and I can give you further information.

Alan Clarke

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

**Tasmania's Overland Track in September**

for those who like to do things a bit different

Expressions of interest are invited for a planned North to South walk of the Overland Track. Sidewalks to Pine Valley etc. if time permits. Dates approx: Saturday 10 September to Sunday 18 September.

Dion Marriott

## Forthcoming lecture series

Susan Maughan is organising a series of lectures to be held in the clubrooms on Wednesday evenings at 8am. The first, which is scheduled for 10 August will be a talk by Clair Vincent from the Bureau of Meteorology on reading weather patterns in the Alps and at the Proms.

The second, on 21 September is a talk and slide show by Charles Tivendale a scientist with the Australian Antarctic Division who will talk about his two one-year stints at Mawson in the Antarctic.

For further details please contact Susan Maughan.

## WILLIS'S WALKABOUTS

# Nowhere is a place

**...and we've been going there for 15 years.**



*Nowhere is a Place* is the title of a book about Patagonia. Willis's Walkabouts first Patagonia trip was in 1990. Russell Willis's first Patagonia trip was in 1977. There are few other operators who have that kind of experience. No other tour operator offers the kind of Patagonian bushwalking trips that we do. In the words of one of our clients,

*"The Patagonian Andes are a wonderland of rugged mountains with granite spires, snow covered mountains, glaciers, beech forests, fields of daisies, waterfalls and more. The opportunity for some terrific trekking shouldn't be missed. The aim for budget travelling with some comfort in mind makes the trip affordable but not too rough."* (Helen O'Callaghan, Hobart)

For full details of our 2005 trip, see our website or ask for the trip notes.

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



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

Phone 08 8985 2134 Fax 08 8985 2355

## Queens Birthday base camp at Pink Lakes and northern Wyperfeld

As we were expecting 10 to 15 base campers at Pink Lakes, Doug and I went up early to bag spaces. We left home on Thursday and were joined at our Wedderburn property, as a halfway house, by Liz and Phil Wood in their slow combi. Rain held off until after dinner around the campfire, then stopped for us to get going in the morning – and show off our mallee fowl's nest. (Best of all I found Doug's long-lost wedding ring embedded in the red Wedderburn mud near our caravan.) Luckily for the Mallee, however, we had very heavy rain on the drive up to Pink Lakes and were frightening the budgerigars and red rumped parrots off the side of the road where they had been drinking as we drove along.

The campsite was not as busy as we had feared, and we all managed to find spaces, even those who arrived during the spectacular electrical storm which almost blew one tent's pegs out of the mallee sand. Max's group added 10 to our party and ours ended up only 9, so we all squeezed in.

On Saturday we had a lazy 10 am start, looked at the site of the old state school, then did the nature trail around Lake Hardy, coming back early for lunch. We then did the nature trail starting around Lake Crosbie, going over to Lake Kenyon, coming back to the remains of an old settlement adjacent to abandoned salt works. We went over to what remained of an old railway track, which used to carry the salt from Lake Becking, then back around Lake Crosbie to our campsite. In the evening the two groups joined up for dinner around the campfire.

Next morning Max's pack carriers took off earlyish, and the rest of us packed up lunches and walked around Lake Kenyon in lovely mallee bush, full of birds. After lunch 4 left us to return early and the rest proceeded back to the salt mines (where we met a former salt worker/

farmer and his wife), then around the beautiful pink salt lake – Lake Becking – then back to camp again.

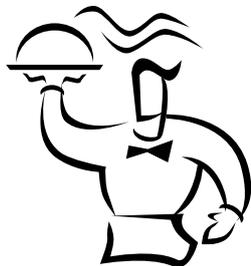
We had considered moving to Casuarina campsite in the north of Wyperfeld NP, but decided that we didn't want to risk not finding a campsite, considering the long weekend, so went over there Monday morning where we did a short walk, had lunch then headed for home (Doug and I for Wedderburn) – the Woods had already left to explore Mildura.

The weather was wet Friday morning, overcast Saturday, warm to hot Sunday and fine and pleasant Monday morning, with cold mornings, evenings, and nights – typical inland weather and worth the drive from Melbourne. The birds were spectacular and Doug had to deter me from sticking bird books and binoculars under everyone's noses. However seeing a couple of beautifully coloured mulga parrots feeding on the vegetation between our van and Ralph's tent on Monday morning was a pretty unbeatable experience – and a group of emus in front of the campsite during breakfast on the first morning.

Thanks Greens, Woods, Jean and Ruth, Ralph, Lindy and Keith for your company, as well as all our other old friends in Max's party.

Jan Llewelyn

### MELBOURNE BUSH WALKERS



## Dine Out

September 2005 venue:

### Yeah Maan Restaurant

340 Punt Road, South Yarra

Friday 9th September at 7.30pm

Melbourne's first authentic Jamaican restaurant.

Fully licensed/BYO wine only.

If you would like to attend please phone Charlotte at least a week before for reservations and you can also take the opportunity to let her know your favourite restaurants.

## The Wilderness Shop

969 Whitehorse Road, Box Hill

Ph (03) 9898 3742 Fax (03) 9899 5398

Email: [wildshop@ozemail.com.au](mailto:wildshop@ozemail.com.au)



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# A Lerderberg Adventure

Pack Carry, 25–26 June 2005



**M**ID-WINTER seemed like a good time to do a packcarry up the Lerderberg. Under an hours drive from town so we could have a Saturday morning start. Anyway we had a gap in the walks programme and I hadn't been in the bowels of the gorge for over 25 years and my memory doesn't remember back that far so I wanted to go in and have a 'butchers'.

Seven hardy souls turned up at the carpark at the bottom end of the gorge and we knew it was midwinter. We had had to scrape the ice off our car windscreens. And John had his shorts on. Worse still, Derrick changed into his as I watched in horror. The weather was perfect and fortune smiled on us as the water levels were just nice, a bubbling stream; unlike the nearly dry riverbed I had seen 3 weeks earlier before we got our early winter rains.

The track petered out after 3 km and from then on it was rockhopping, scrambling around a few tricky bluffs, jumping across the water, occasionally slipping in when the rocks were damp and we were not sufficiently gymnastic or in some cases, opting for the safer but wetter 'walk through' crossing technique.

I was basing our times on notes from a recently published book *Weekend Walks around Melbourne* which we have in our club library. Unfortunately the author is obviously one hell of a bushwalker because our times were consistently 50% more than his and I thought we were a reasonably fast group! Needless to say we had no hope of reaching our



The team (minus leader) on a Lerderberg Gorge beach

intended camp so propped at the first half reasonable camp spot we found an hour before dark. This was just as well because it took us over an hour next day before we found anything remotely resembling even a bad campsite. (We had passed oodles of good campsites earlier on Saturday of course). We actually made quite a good camp and all slept fine except poor John whose arm kept going to sleep before he did!

More interesting gorge, a few patches of prickly stuff and a climb up an easy spur and track brought us to the top of Mt Blackwood for stupendous views extending from Mt Buninyong to the You Yangs to the Dandenongs. If you've never savoured the view from this marvellous volcanic peak, I strongly recommend it. You can drive to within 3 minutes walk from the summit and the views are huge.

Bob gets the 'walk through water' award; Ron gets the 'falling in' award, Derrick gets the piker's award for not going in for a swim when the opportunity arose, Gina gets the 'shock horror' award for saying she was tired (she had a cold), John gets the 'scratched legs' award, Jen gets the 'amazingly light pack' award (9kg at start) and I don't have to accept any award because I'm writing this article. He He!

All in all, a very enjoyable walk but next time we'll do it when the days are longer and it's warm enough to swim in some of the numerous pools.

*Jopie Bodegraven*



Derrick shows Ron how to negotiate a tricky bit of the gorge

# Beeripmo Walk – Mount Cole

Rain was forecast for the first time for weeks, but we needed a training walk, had never been to Mount Cole and thought it would be nice to catch up with Rosemary Cotter, the leader. The rain held off while we had dinner, then again for breakfast. A couple of very active yellow robins on the ferny creek at the campsite seemed to enjoy the rain, however. We set off through magnificent tall eucalypts, on a pleasant low key path, then through gullies of tree ferns. Morning tea was in a shelter with a water tank and toilet near by. The day was cold and we shivered through lunch in a rock shelter – we had made a side trip without packs to this, through most impressive boulder country, with great views. The walk provided us with a few challenging climbs – just what we needed – and some pleasant ridge walking, again with dramatic

views. Along the ridges we saw heaths blooming and the indigenous Mount Cole Grevillea. We set up camp in a low key camping ground with water, toilets and fireplaces. The evening was very cold, so we were pleased to have the fire Doug managed to get going (with assistance from Paul). The next morning was also very cold, but all right once we got walking. We did a diversion to a morning tea spot with a view over the surrounding area. Lunch was on the track as we were making good time and didn't want to get back to the camping ground too soon.

After an early finish we regrouped in Beaufort for afternoon tea – in our first sunshine for the weekend. The group consisted of Rosemary, our leader, Bob Oxlade who had pioneered the walk for the club two years ago and was therefore a great source of helpful information, Colin, rejoining the club after many many years, John Fritz, also a recent 'rejoiner', myself and Doug, Gerrard, on his first walk with the club, Paul Beers and Andreas. Thanks Rosemary, we were most impressed with the beauty of the area and would like to return.

*Jan Llewelyn*

## Good on you, Melbourne Bushwalkers

Once again I had the opportunity to see walkers from this club rise to the occasion and work together to overcome a problem. This happened on the 15 June Wednesday walk to East Lerderderg.

The unfamiliar morning drizzle meant that we were sometimes walking over wet rocks and on a track that was soft and slippery in parts. Bruce Campbell was unfortunate to slip on a narrow section of track on a ledge above the Lerderderg River and was heading down the steep and rocky slope towards the river until he was saved by his tight grip on a sapling combined with the efforts of Mary Daley and Max Casley who were able to hang on to him and then with difficulty drag a very relieved Bruce back to safely. We were lucky to have Dr Ruth Reid on the scene to offer support and guidance on the injuries that Bruce had sustained as a result. Our next task was to get him to a point where a four-wheel drive could reach to pick Bruce up, and that was easier said than done. A way had to be found from the river to intercept Cowans Track so scouting efforts were made by Max Casley, Graeme Thornton, Michael Mann and Gina Hopkins to find a route that was more of a gentle climb, didn't have too many ups and downs and travelled through more bushwalker friendly open dry forest. Gina was successful in doing this and when she was able to gain mobile reception contacted assistance so the locked gate at the end of the track could be opened.

Meanwhile a team of walkers worked hard guiding, pushing, pulling and dragging a stoic and outwardly cheerful Bruce up the hill when obviously he must have been in considerable pain. This was a great effort by Max [there's that man again!], Mary and Margaret Curry, supported by Ruth. In these efforts a more serious injury was narrowly averted when Mary fell heavily on to a stump and sustained bruised ribs.

From the top of this ridge a police vehicle was able to take Bruce and Mary back to the road where paramedics, another police vehicle and a member from the local S.E.S. were waiting.

Since then we have found out that Bruce had sustained a vertical fracture and another fracture to his tibia and has undergone surgery to have two plates screwed on to the bone. We wish Bruce a speedy recovery and he would like to thank people for their concern and good wishes for his recovery and wanted us to know that he is planning to catch up with everyone again on the Wednesday Walkers' December end-of-the-year get-together.

Despite Bruce's unfortunate injury you couldn't help coming out of the day thinking what a wonderful job everyone had done in responding to this situation and I am grateful for the support and valuable assistance I received as leader of the walk. Bruce would like to thank everyone for their assistance with a special thanks to Mary and Max in saving him from his slide towards the river, a dangerous situation with serious implications. All members of the group – Bruce Campbell, Max Casley, Margaret Curry, Mary Daley, Ed Neff, Judith Hall, Gina Hopkins, Michael Mann, Ruth Reid, Pam Rosso, Alister Rowe, Halina Sarbowski, Marion Siseman, Graeme Thornton and Doug Wilhoft – had their part to play in this and I apologise to those I have omitted to mention specifically and admit that as a leader I failed to be everywhere at the same time. *Sandra Mutimer*



# Halina's Halls Gap lodge weekend

22-24 July

no mention of her winnings) and then back to the track, this time to the Balconies for a late lunch and more great scenery. After descending to the gushing Mackenzies falls late afternoon we walked through to Zumsteins along the river track and were greeted by feeding kangaroos and wallabies.

With everyone contributing to Saturday night dinner, nibbles and drinks by the fire at the Eco Youth Hostel, dinner round a large table with plenty of chatter followed by a hilarious game of charades made for a great winter's night get together. We all loved the hostel.

Sunday saw us walking again with a strenuous climb and hike to Mt Rosea. The rocky terrain interspersed with gnarled trees, varieties of mosses and wildflowers were great to enjoy. At the summit of Mt Rosea the wind roared up from the west and we felt the weather changing but it was not until back at the coffee shop in Hall's Gap that the rain began. All our hiking was over by then

and we felt invigorated by being in the great Victorian outdoors.

Our thanks go to Halina for organizing this very enjoyable weekend with no hiccups and plenty of laughter and friendship. A great way to explore the beautiful Grampians.

Cheers,

Judy Reddoch

The cold wet weekend forecast for 22nd July didn't eventuate, enabling the thirteen Bushies led by the enthusiastic Halina Sarbinowski to enjoy two wonderful days exploring the rugged trails of the Grampians.

Saturday dawned to sunny skies and off we set to walk the Wonderland Loop with rewarding views over Hall's Gap and beyond from the Pinnacles. Our group photo was shot here. Back down in town Halina's day was made when she bought the last lotto ticket in town (still

## Walks Secretary report

### Trip figures for June 2005

	June 2005			June 2004	
	Trips	People	Average	Trips	Average
Sunday Bus	4	172	43	4	39
Other Day	3	45	15	4	9
Pack Carry	2	18	9	2	7
Base Camp	1	11	11	1	11
Cycle Day	1	24	24	0	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>270</b>			

The Sunday Bus continues to be full, or nearly so. The other day walks are all popular. Jan's day cycle ride was well attended. Overnight trip numbers are moderate which is normal for this time of year. All in a ll a good month.

Jopie Bodegraven, Walks Secretary

## Additions to Library List

The following publications have just been added to the Library.

*Common Native Plants of Wilson's Prom. Plant Identikit*

Roger Elliot and Trevor Blake

*Discovering Binna Burra on foot*

Trevor Lackner

*A Walk through Black Hill Reserve*

Lois Pricor

*A Conundrum in Kin Town*

Peter Grumont

*The Grampians in Flower*

I.R. McCann

*The Coast and Hinterland in Flower*

I. R McCann

*Mt Worth State Park – Management Plan*

National Parks Service

Doug Langton



## SUNDAY BUS: Vaughan Springs and Golden Gullies

DATE	Sunday 21 August 2005
STANDARD	Easy and Easy/Medium
DISTANCE	13 km and 18 km
LEADERS	Dave Laing and Lesley Hale
TRANSPORT	Bus – Southbank Blvd at 9 am
RETURN TIME	Approx. 7 pm
AREA	Goldfields – Castlemaine Historic Reserve
MAP REFERENCE	Guildford 1:25,000

We drive via Malmsbury and both groups start walking about 11am from Vaughan Springs Reserve, heading south on the Great Dividing Trail and looping back to the Reserve. The walk follows footpaths/pads, water races, 4WD tracks and a made road, and traverses forested hills and gullies as well as the charming valley of the River Loddon, which flows well at this time of year. The area is dotted with ruins and relics from its mining past and includes colourful rock formations. There is something for everyone on this very pleasant walk.

## DANDENONGS EXPLORER: Grants–Sassafras–Ferry Creek–Grants

DATE	Saturday 27 August 2005
STANDARD	Easy
DISTANCE	11 km
LEADER	Liz Telford
TRANSPORT	Private
RETURN TIME	3.00 pm
AREA	Kallista and Sassafras

The walk will commence at Grants Picnic Ground and soon we walk along the Sassafras creek for the first part of the walk. This is very pleasant walking with lovely tall stands of tree ferns on the edge of the creek. After we arrive at Sassafras we have to walk a small section along a road but there are several large houses to admire along the way. Then the rest of the walk is along the outer edge of the Dandenong Ranges National Park. The walk is very easy, with no major hills and only a 20 minute section of steep downhill to walk. There is the possibility of extending the walk if people are keen. We should finish about 3.00 pm and then off for coffee and cakes

Please meet at Grants Picnic Ground in Kallista at 10.45 am (Map 75 K4 in the Melways). If there has been a lot of rain, parts of the track will be muddy and it would be advisable to wear boots. If you have any queries please call me but generally there is no need to book.

## TOFS: Tomahawk creek – Kurth Kiln

DATE	Thursday 1 September 2005
STANDARD	Easy
LEADER	Jean Giese
TRANSPORT	Private
RETURN TIME	2.30 pm
MAP REFERENCE	Gembrook South 1...25,000

An old charcoal kiln – Kurth Kiln – provides historical interest to this 11 km walk beside Tomahawk Creek and through sometimes light and sometimes dense, forest. If taking the Warburton Highway, turn south into Lusatia Park Road or Gembrook-Launching Place Road then southwest into Beenak Road (Melways Touring Map page10). If on the Princess Highway, turn north into Pakenham Road, then Gembrook Road and Beenak Road (Melways Touring Map page14). We will meet in the parking area near the corner of Beenak Road and Soldiers Road on Tomahawk Creek (map page 14) at 10.15 am. Book with the leader.



## SUNDAY BUS: Camel's Hump – Mt Charlie

DATE	Sunday 4 September 2005
STANDARD	Easy/medium and Medium
LEADERS	Roger Browne and Lynda Larkin
DISTANCE	Approx 15 km and 19 km
TRANSPORT	Bus – Southbank Blvd at 9 am

Both walks will be traversing parts of Macedon, Woodend, Romsey and Riddles Creek with a variety of enjoyable features including good climbs at Camel's Hump and Mt Charlie, (each of which are inevitably rewarded with fine views), easy walking through picturesque open farm country and beautiful sections of tall eucalyptus and beech forest.

This walk is an old favourite, not done by the club since 1997 when it was led by the intrepid Stuart Mann and Jean Giese. Book early or miss out.



## SUNDAY BUS: Yarragon Scarp – Kerrie Brae

DATE	Sunday 11 September 2005
STANDARD	Easy and Medium
LEADERS	Ron Milthorpe and Hans Edlinger
TRANSPORT	Bus – Southbank Blvd at 9 am

Whilst not for the faint hearted, this walk offers panoramic views across the Latrobe Valley to Mt Baw Baw and it's spring snow. The Yarragon Scarp forms part of Strzelecki Ranges and is sited on one of Australia's most active fault line as the Strzelecki Ranges rise above the lowland plains. The walk follows several roads and crosses interesting bush and farmland along the scarp.

## NAVIGATION and Leader Training Day

DATE	Saturday 17 September 2005
STANDARD	Easy & Easy/Medium
DISTANCE	Approx. 10 to 15km
LEADER	Quentin Tibballs
TRANSPORT	Private
RETURN TIME	5.30pm approx.
AREA	Mount Disappointment (Kilmore area)
MAP REFERENCE	Reedy Creek 1:25,000

This Training Day will be conducted on the Victorian Rogaining course at Mount Disappointment near Kilmore and will be suitable for beginners and intermediate standard participants (or experts who just want some practice). We will have a preliminary education session on navigation in the clubrooms on Thursday 15th Sept (7.30pm to 9.00pm) and I would like those intending to do the course on the following Saturday to attend this if they can.

The day will be divided into morning and afternoon sessions of about 2 hours each, beginning at 11.00am and 1.30pm. Those attending will be divided into small groups and each person will take a turn as leader and be required to navigate their party between predetermined grid points. However, whilst doing this the other members of the group will be given instructions 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 i.e. please bring your own lunch and a compass if you have one (there will be spare if you don't) also, maps of the area will be provided. The day will finish early (4.00pm) and you will be able to make it back to town by 6.00pm)

Please phone or email for further details – thanks Quentin.

## SUNDAY BUS: Steiglitz – Sutherland Creek

DATE	Sunday 18 September 2005
STANDARD	Easy and Easy/medium
LEADERS	Doug Langton and Mohammad Akbari
TRANSPORT	Bus – Southbank Blvd. at 9am
RETURN TIME	7pm
AREA	Brisbane Ranges National Park
MAP REFERENCE	Steiglitz Historic Park Map

Preview uncompleted.

Walks will be directed towards visiting features of this old gold mining area, walking along Sutherland Creek as well as taking in more expansive views from higher vantage points. Walks should be of the order of 12 to 15kms.

## WEDNESDAY WALK: Angahook wildflower walk

DATE	Wednesday 21 September 2005
STANDARD	Easy-Medium
DISTANCE	16km
LEADER	Sandra Mutimer
TRANSPORT	Private
RETURN TIME	Approximately 4:30pm
AREA	Angahook – Lorne State Park, Fairhaven / Moggs Creek Area
MAP REFERENCE	Vicmap The Otways & Shipwreck Coast, 1:50,000

We will meet at 10.15am at the Distillery Creek Picnic Area lower car park [on the right hand side]. This can be reached by turning off at Bambra Road just before crossing the Painkalac Creek and reaching the township of Fairhaven.

The walk will start at Distillery Creek but a short car shuttle will be necessary to leave cars at the Moggs Creek Picnic Area where this walk will end. It will connect these two picnic areas in the Angahook – Lorne State Park in the Fairhaven/Moggs Creek area and will also include the Ironbark Gorge walk and the aptly named Ocean View Trail. We will be walking on tracks and fire trails, travelling through several different types of vegetation where it is anticipated we will be able to see the spring wildflower display at its best.

## DANDENONG EXPLORER: O'Donohue's Picnic Ground – Sandals Road

DATE	Saturday 24 September 2005
STANDARD	Easy
DISTANCE	Up to 10km
LEADER	Warren Baker
TRANSPORT	Private.
	Meet at Donohue's Picnic Ground at 10am.
RETURN TIME	About 3pm
AREA	Sherbrooke Forest
MAP REF	Melway G3

I have been in the habit of having a shorter walk on Grand Final day. This year will be no exception. We will start a little earlier than usual and do a circuit down to Grant's Picnic Ground, along Cole Ridge Track, and Lipscome track. After crossing Monbulk Road (carefully) we will work our way up to Ridge Track and do a circle back to O'Donohue's Picnic Ground via Wattle track and Lloyd's track. I plan to have several short breaks and a late lunch at Kallista so I suggest a supply of refreshments might be in order.

## SUNDAY BUS: Rye Ocean Beach – London Bridge

DATE	Sunday 25 September 2005
STANDARD	Easy and Easy/medium
DISTANCE	14km and 18km
LEADERS	Halina Sarbinowski and Liz Moore
TRANSPORT	Bus – Southbank Blvd. at 9a.m.
RETURN TIME	7pm
AREA	Mornington Peninsula Ocean coast
MAP REFERENCE	Melways Map Refs 156 166 167 and 251

The stretch of coast between Rye Ocean Beach and Portsea must be one of Victoria's most picturesque, offering stunning views, beautiful beaches and fascinating rock formations.

The easy/medium walk starts at Rye Ocean Beach and the easy at No 16, with both groups finishing at London Bridge. Track (along the cliff tops) and beach walking are involved. Be sure to have sufficient water and enjoy the day.

## TREE PLANTING: Regent Honeyeater Project

DATE	27–28 August 2005
LEADER	Marika Jagow
TRANSPORT	Private
AREA	Benalla Area 2 ½ hrs from Melbourne
RETURN TIME	Sunday 5pm

Join in on a fun weekend of tree planting. For those Bushies who have been before you know what I am talking about. If not come along and find out. This weekend involves a day and a half of tree planting to support the regrowth of plant life for the endangered Regent Honeyeater. Free accommodation (or bring your tent), BBQ and bush dance provided as well. Come on the Saturday or both days. See the leader in the clubrooms to confirm numbers for the accommodation and meeting point details. BYO gardening gloves and gum boots.

## BASE CAMP: Lake Eildon National Park

DATE	2–4 September 2005
STANDARD	Easy
LEADER	Diana Gomez
TRANSPORT	Private
RETURN TIME	Early Sunday evening
MAP REFERENCE	Lake Eildon Outdoor Leisure Map

Treat yourself after winter to the wonderful scenery of the lake and surrounding mountains and the great variety of plants and wildlife we will find there.

We will stay at the Candlebark Camping Ground which has full amenities (hot showers, gas barbecues etc). Saturday: after setting up a car shuffle to Devil Cove, we will walk the Keg Spur track, steep in parts, to High Camp Point where we will be rewarded with marvellous views of Mt Buller and the lake. We then follow an easy undulating track to Blowhard Summit (one of the highest points) before descending to School Point on the lake and following the shore to finish at Devil Cove. Approx 16 km.

Sunday: We leave our campsite and go to the other side of Collier Bay at Lakeside Camping Ground. We will walk along the lake through the bush and do our last climb to enjoy more spectacular views before returning to the cars. Approx 8 km.

It is spring, so come prepared for any kind of weather; warm, cold, wet or windy. Bring some luxuries such as folding chairs, lights etc.

Looking forward to seeing you! Please feel free to phone and discuss any issues prior to booking.

## PACK CARRY: Burchell Trail – Brisbane Ranges

DATE	10–11 September 2005.
STANDARD	Easy
DISTANCE	25 km.
LEADERS	Mohammad Akbari
TRANSPORT	Private
RETURN TIME	Sunday Evening
AREA	Brisbane Ranges National Park

MAP REF	Stanghton Vale 1:25,000 & Eclipse Creek 1:25,000. Brisbane Ranges National Park Visitor Guide
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Brisbane Ranges National Park is 80 km West of Melbourne. Burchell Trail traverses the length of the Brisbane Ranges and should provide enjoyable walking experience. According to park Victoria, in spring there is a magnificent display of wattles, hakeas and bush peas and therefore the park is regarded as Victoria's richest wild flower habitat.

The walk commences on Saturday (after a car shuffle) we camp over night at Little River camping area with the opportunity to have a campfire. Depending on what time on Sunday the walk is completed, we may have time on the way home to dine out or just chill out with a drink or a coffee etc. at Bacchus Msarsh. This is a good walk and therefore recommended. Limited to 12 people.

## MOVING BASE CAMP: Kangaroo Island and SE South Australia 18–28 September 2005.

Due to unforeseen circumstances this trip has been postponed for twelve months.

## BASE CAMP: Kamarooka and Whipstick (Greater Bendigo National Park)

DATE	23–25 September 2005
STANDARD	Easy
LEADER	David Arnold
TRANSPORT	Private

Details of this walk will appear in the September News

## PACK CARRY: Mt Stapylton – Golton Gorge – Potters Creek

DATE	30 Sept. –2 Oct. 2005
STANDARD	Easy/Medium
DISTANCE	26 km
LEADER	Bob Oxlade
TRANSPORT	Private
RETURN TIME	Approx. 9.30 pm
AREA	Northern Grampians, Western Victoria
MAP REFERENCE	Vic Map 1–25000 Mount Stapylton

This scenic walk is at the most northern end of the Grampians and amongst the most rugged of any terrain in the park. A good wildflowers display could also be expected. Beginning from Mt Zero picnic ground a short side trip to the summit will give excellent views of the area. Then, with packs we will cross the slope of Flat Rock, then through a huge amphitheatre surrounded by cliffs. We take a side trip to the rugged Mt Stapylton summit, or as far as you prefer to go before descending to camp at the head of Golden Gorge. On Sunday morning we will do a circuit of the gorge without packs and may view some waterfalls. After this we can probably shortcut to Potters Creek and follow it along returning via a lower track to the amphitheatre and retracing our route to the cars. A good time of year for this interesting walk.

# Book Reviews



## **The Rose Notes**

Andrea Mayes

Many of our more longstanding members (well – it sounds better than just plain ‘old’ doesn’t it?) will remember Andrea Mayes who was a regular Sunday walker with our club. Well, she’s just written a book. It’s called *The Rose Notes*, and it’s a corker. Published by Penguin no less, it was favourably reviewed by *The Age* and has enjoyed honourable mention in several other mainstream media. It’s a novel based on a theme of inheritance, and set in the Riverina district of NSW. It took her five years to write. Although predominantly inspired by the three years that Andrea spent working on a farm, her bushwalking experiences do come through, especially where her character has difficulty getting tent pegs into the ground and how she deals with a snake bite.

It’s a good yarn, difficult to put down and recommended reading for the next time you go base camping!

*Stuart Hodgson*

## **Snakes, Lizards and Frogs of the Victorian Mallee**

Michael Swan and Simon Watharow

CSIRO Publishing

ISBN 064 309 1343

\$29.95

The Victorian Mallee region encompasses the Little Desert, the Big Desert, the Sunset Country and the Hattah-Kulkyne. Each area is unique and with different topography, vegetation and fauna. The region experiences consistently higher temperature, lower rainfall and contains a greater diversity of reptiles than any other part of the state.

*Snakes, Lizards and Frogs of the Victorian Mallee* represents the first comprehensive publication on the herpetofauna of the region. It covers 56 species that inhabit the area as well as a further 24 species occurring in fringe riverine and woodland systems. The reader is able to identify species by means of a photograph supported by a distribution map, a diagnostic features key and descriptive species accounts.

The book includes a discussion of venomous snakes, information on first-aid for snakebites, and hints for snake prevention around the house.