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THE NEWS OF THE Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc.

60 CENTS

EDITION 655 SEPTEMBER 2005

FEDERATION DAY WALK, BLACKWOOD **16 October 2005.** **Hosted by Essendon Bushwalking Club**

This year's Federation Day Walk is being held at Blackwood an hour or so west of Melbourne. It is the once a year opportunity we have to walk and socialise with members of other clubs and will be a fun and social day. We are not running a normal Sunday bus trip on this day so that as many members as possible can attend. The walks will be restricted to "members only" of Vicwalk affiliated clubs. The organisers have requested that everyone coming book by the middle of September with their club rep. Book with our walks secretary Jopie Bodegraven or see him in the clubrooms. Jopie will also attempt to rationalise car transport where required. Entry of \$10 payable on the day will cover a detailed booklet and afternoon tea. See the walks preview section of this NEWS for full details and a list of the walks.

More details on page 3

WEDNESDAY LECTURE **21 September 2005**

Charles Tivendale will present a talk and slide night of his two years in Antarctica, in 1972 and 1980.

It will commence at 8 pm with a 40–50 minute slide show, followed by a Q & A session.

Apologies for the August cancellation. It was unavoidable due to Claire, the meteorology lady, having a change of roster. I hope to reschedule this later in the year.

Susan Maughan

Club auction of bushwalking and related gear POSTPONED until November

Our auctioneer is unable to be in the clubrooms on the 19th of October due to work commitments. Our two backup auctioneers also have excuses like being in Vietnam and flying back from Europe on that day. Such are the problems of a bushwalking club whose members work and travel! Anyway the date of the auction has been changed to the 16th of November. This will give you extra time to dig out those underused, oversized or outdated items of bushwalking, skiing, cycling and other related gear. Then come along on the night and see what treasures, trash and surprises others are prepared to part with, and find out what others are prepared or not prepared to part with to get your offerings. The 10% commission on sales will go to the club's conservation fund which gets donated to various worthy conservation causes. Full details of the auction including procedures etc and the identity of the auctioneer (a closely guarded secret) will be revealed in the October NEWS. Stay tuned.

Les's annual **SLIDE NIGHT**

Les Southwell will be showing some slides of:

Marisa's September 2004 circuit of

WILSON'S PROMONTORY

(Before the recent disastrous fires);

some adventures in the

CRADLE MOUNTAIN RESERVE;

and for variety, a few recent day walks.

8 p.m. Wednesday, 12 October

Attention Members: The Vicwalk affiliation card (2005/2006) [useful for discounts at sports shops, etc] is included in your copy of the NEWS. e-mail recipients, please collect your card at the Clubrooms from the Membership Secretary.

P R E S I D E N T ' S C O R N E R

**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:

- 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 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

Thank you to those of you who attended our Half Yearly
General Meeting last Wednesday night. I had been told
that these meetings only last 5 minutes, however we
managed to ramble on for nearly an hour. Topics we
covered were Wilky update (still ongoing) and insurance
for snow activities.

I must touch on the skiing insurance and congratulate
the VicWalk Insurance Coordinators, both past and
present for successfully negotiating 'above the snow line'
insurance for bushwalking clubs. It has taken quite some
time, but VicWalk have recently advised us that there is
now insurance to cover skiing. This good news means that
the club can again include ski trips and snow camping
into the club programme. So all you walkers who may be
interested in skiing next year, talk to our Walks Secretary,
Jopie Bodegraven about what you would like on the
programme and we will see what we can do.

Now that we are into September with beautiful
spring weather and longer days, there are some great day
walks and weekend walking that have been organised by
our Walks Secretary and his Team – so check out the
Spring Program and put aside some dates for walking into
your already busy (if your like me) calendar. You will be
surprised how refreshed and fit you will feel from a day /
weekend of walking. Safe walking.

Jan Palich

Wine & Cheese evening



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

FEDERATION DAY WALK

16 October 2005 Hosted by Essendon Bushwalking Club

Come along and enjoy the 2005 Federation Day Walk hosted by the Essendon BushWalking Club on Sunday October 16th at the picturesque town of Blackwood, about an hours drive west of Melbourne. The Blackwood Recreation Reserve will be the Base and Registration Point.

The walks will be restricted to 'members only' of Vicwalk affiliated and associated clubs.

The cost for the day will be \$10.00/person, this includes a Detailed booklet and afternoon tea. Payment requested when registering. Booking for walks open Thursday 1 September and closes Saturday 1 October.

WHAT TO BRING

Walking gear including:

Day pack, waterproof jacket and pants, warm clothing, hat, gloves, sun hat, blockout, boots, first aid kit, enough food and water for the duration of the walk.

Afternoon tea:

B.Y.O. chair, cup & plate.

Accommodation if needed, will be up to the individual clubs to organise themselves, Caravan Parks in the area

include: Blackwood caravan park, contact (03) 53686539, Kyneton caravan park, contact (03) 54221612

Bacchus Marsh caravan park, contact (03) 53672775, Ballan Caledonian caravan park, contact (03) 53681462

Cross roads caravan park, contact (03) 53682000 also Barry Reef scout camp – camping and budget accomodation, contact David after 6.30pm (03) 93363046

For further information and bookings your club representative can contact: Frank (03)93107353, Ian (03)93303674, Michael (03)97403774 or Sylvia (03)54287364

WALKS PROGRAM

Access: From Melbourne, drive along the Western Highway for approximately 60 km and turn off at the exit marked - 'Greendale, Pykes Creek, Blackwood, Trentham Turn Off'.

Turn right (northerly) and drive approximately 17.5 km to Blackwood (passing through Greendale).

At Blackwood turn left at Simmons Reef Road (Cobb & Co Café on corner) follow this for 150m to a 'Y' intersection, veer right to Recreation Reserve (signposted).

Subject to alteration. Bookings for walks will close 15 minutes prior to departure times.

Remember to be at the departure point on time.

Walk No.	Grade	Dist. km	Depart Blackwood	Walk Description	Drive time to start of walk (minutes)
1	E	9	9.15 & 13.15	** Garden of StErth – Crown Dam	15
2	E/M	19.5	8.30	Newbury to Lyonville	20
3	M	12	9.00	East Walk – Cowan Track Circuit	20
4	E/M	15	9.00	Trentham to Blackwood via Blue Mtn	30
5	E	10	10.00	Babbington Hill	30
6	M/H	18	8.00	Blackwood – Ruths Gully Circuit	0
7	M	15	8.00	Whiskey Creek – Nolan & Kangaroo Tracks	15
8	M/H	16.5	8.00	Whisky Creek to Amber Lane Cicuit	15
9	M	17	9.00	Green Gully Circuit	0
10	E	12	10.00	Trentham – Domino Trail	30
11	M/H	18	8.00	Mt Blackwood – Long Point	25
12	M	20	8.30	Paradise Mill Circuit	0
13	E/M	16	8.30	Wombat State Forest South of Mt Wills	30
14	E/M	16	9.30	Yankee Mine Track	0
15	M	12	10.00	Yankee Gully Water Race Walk	0
16	E	8	9.30 & 13.00	** Blackwood Historic Tour	0
17	M	17	8.30	Tunnel Circuit	20
18	M	14	9.00	Balt Camp	30
19	E	9	10.00	Firth Park to Anderson Mill	40
20	E	15	9.30	Blackwood – Tunnel	0

** Walks 1 & 16 will be run twice

Map Notes

Vicmap has put the new series of A4 1:30,000 Topographic Maps online. The maps are available through Land Channel www.land.vic.gov.au

The maps cover Victoria and are created using the most current and accurate information from Victoria's spatial framework databases.

Four 1:30,000 scale maps fit into a single 1:25,000 scale topographic map. Each sheet can be identified by its tile number (ie T8124-3-2-3) and referenced to the existing 1:25,000, 1:50,000 and 1:100,000 index systems. The series uses the GDA94 datum and the Transverse Mercator (UTM) projection. Each map covers an area 5km east-west and 7km north-south.

File sizes are predominantly less than 1Mb to enable fast download. Purchase your selection through the Buy Vicmap data service, accessible from the Land Channel home page. Pay on-line using credit card and save the image to your computer.

Each A4 map costs \$1.50 per sheet and there is a \$1.10 service fee per order GST inclusive.

The maps can be printed out in colour or black and white and are for personal use only. Copyright remains with the State of Victoria.

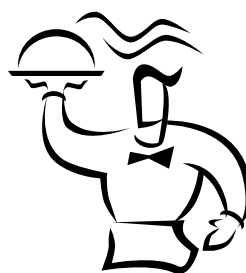
On the subject of the GDA94 Datum, a recent copy of "Behind the Log" from the FVWC Search & Rescue group points out the need to specify the Datum of the map that you are using when giving grid references. There is a

185 meter North/South and 112 meter East/West difference between the GDA94 Datum and the previous AGD66 Datum.

There are some new Internet sites providing Satellite imagery suitable for those with broadband connections. Readers might want to check out maps.google.com, worldwind.arc.nasa.gov, earth.google.com & googlesight-seeing.com

Mark Heath

MELBOURNE BUSH WALKERS



Dine Out

October 2005 venue:

CAMPARI

2 Waterfront Place,
Port Melbourne, 3207

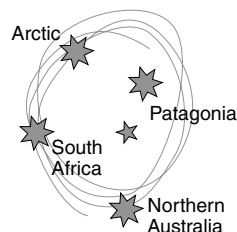
Friday 14th October at 7.30pm
Licensed.

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.

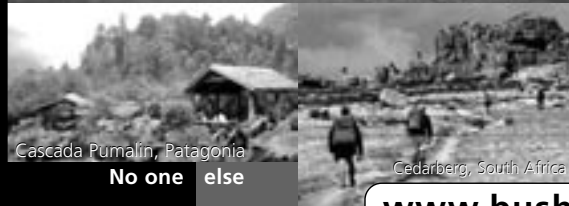
WILLIS'S WALKABOUTS

Bushwalking Overseas

Arctic – Africa – Patagonia



Aurora over camp on the frozen Great Slave Lake



Cascada Pumalín, Patagonia

No one else

Cedarberg, South Africa

We handle the hassle. You handle the holiday.

No one else offers tours like ours. You walk and you carry a pack. You do not do any serious mountaineering. You also experience the local culture and enjoy the local food. You do some of the best walks that can be done in those areas. (There are too many to do them all on one trip. That's one reason we've had repeat customers in all three areas.)

Patagonia. Our Spanish speaking guides have led 13 trips since 1990. Russell leads the 15th anniversary trip in late November this year.

Southern Africa. Russell's first exploratory trip in 1999 has been followed by six others – he will be in South Africa when this ad appears.

Arctic. Although we've only run two Arctic trips, Russell has been travelling to this region since 1971. The March 2006 trip will include 7-10 days on a dog sled with a local operator.



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

LANGI GHIRAN

Pack Carry 15 – 17 July

Our fearless leader, Bob Oxlade, justified the ‘easy’ word in the walk’s classification because the distances weren’t great and we used tracks, sometimes. But the distances weren’t great because we covered them in straight lines up and over, or through, whatever lay in our way – which was designed to ‘bag’ at least three peaks! If you’ve seen the amazing rock features in the Langi Ghiran State Park – massive granite slabs interspersed with huge boulders – you might be wondering. And our straight lines didn’t take us near water until Sunday afternoon so the weekend water supply came along for the ride, in our packs. (It was tempting to think that we might be able to collect it instead from the heavy downpours that were forecast.) Saturday’s weather was somewhat adverse but it improved markedly on Sunday, just before breakfast, when the last rain fell on tents newly dried by strong winds.

Langi Ghiran is a beautiful area, best visited in winter when its vegetation looks refreshed and dainty colourful fungi appear. The rocks are truly awe-inspiring and, once conquered, offer splendid views of the surrounding countryside – Mt Cole and Buangor to the east, the western plains, and distant Grampians. Wildlife was not abundant on our trip but the cockatoos (for which the area is named) made sure they were noticed vocally.

The route was a simple ‘loop’ from our Friday night camp at the picnic area at northern end of the Park: south on track to the Lar-ne-Jeering Aboriginal rock art shelter, then off-track northward and upward to Mt Gorrin and its neighbour, before descending to meet the track leading to our camp at Hidden Lagoon. Fearing overnight rains might see the lagoon come out of hiding, we set our tents carefully on higher terra firma and enjoyed a fireside dinner and floorshow between showers. On Sunday we continued northward, with a slow clamber upward to the several tops of Mt Langi Ghiran and a downward scramble and scrub bash to Easter Creek Track, before strolling via the scenic lookout and intriguing downhill stone water race to the reservoir, and cars beyond.

A bonus with all trips passing through Beaufort is the culinary experience: offerings include French delights (and a superb emu pie) at the licensed deli, *Traiteur & Bistro*, or much better than average pubfare from the historic Golden Age Hotel. Thanks Bob for a great winter walk enjoyed in the company of David, Marion, Max, Paul, and Ralph.

Lesley Hale

Base camp delights

‘Twas the first I have attended, it will not be the last!’

Lead by Jopi Bodegraven, a group of eight Bushies enjoyed a ‘cool weekend’ 19–21 August based from the Maldon Camping Ground. Two members took the soft option of a caravan; the balance suffered the delights of rain tapping their tents all night! We can vouch for the café’s of Maldon and the ‘Parlour Room’ of the ‘local’ which served our Saturday hunger pangs admirably. Our personal open fire toasted a back or two but a few local reds saw the pains vanish!

Saturday dawned cool and windy, the clouds giving way to the sun as we headed to the Bealiba Range near Dunolly where we found our way up an easy slope to walk the ridgeline of open country. Yellow flowers abound on small and big trees, ‘wattles’ we were advised as Jopi clambered over granite, both large and small variety in order to gain views of surrounding countryside. The wattles were in full bloom, the valleys green, the local roos and wallabies scampering ahead, what a way to spend a day.

Sunday threatened rain so armed with coats, we tackled the ridgelines to the north of Maldon where the showers parted as they approached. A break to refresh while seated on granite boulders equipped us with the means to reach the top of Mt Tarengower where the cool wind parted my few hairs remaining before making our way into town. Here, Jopi conducted an excellent walk about town viewing old homes and buildings before we were forced to sample another café for hot drinks.

A few slips on wet greasy slopes, a stumble on a fallen branch, a friendly ribbing from fellow walkers, a shared smile or two gave us a great weekend, wonderful sights, flowers abound and friends made. Many thanks Jopi, a delightful weekend. Now I am scanning newsletters for the next Base Camp!

Bruce Entwisle

*Melbourne Bushies extend their sympathies
to Marisa Rizzuto regarding the
recent loss of her father.*



Conservation

At the recent meeting, the many roles available within VicWalk Conservation Committee were discussed. It is important for as many clubs as possible to send delegates to these meetings. This does not have to mean a monthly commitment. Come along when you can, or just communicate your thoughts and wishes through the convener, Steve Robertson. We need your input, as we are proceeding for the benefit of all walkers. The Committee averages an attendance of 18 people, but we need more. Victoria is a large State, and there are many areas to cover. I sent out an email recently, and I was inundated with responses and help. Thank you to all those clubs that responded so quickly. Project officers are needed for several areas, and guidance will be given if required.

Please welcome Don Hutton as our new project officer for the Otways area.

We have extended our communication link, and all clubs will now receive minutes either by post or email. Full reports are tabled in the agenda and can be made available to non-agenda listed people by contacting Steve Robertson on srob7859@bigpond.net.au.

We need your club's communication so that we can assist you.

We all pass on our thanks to three people previously involved in positions on the Committee – Geoff Kelly, previous convener, Conservation Committee, Rod Novak, previous secretary, Conservation Committee and Darren McClelland, track clearing. Although they have passed on their positions, they are still keen to be involved with the Conservation Committee. Many thanks for their efforts on behalf of all Victorian clubs.

The Wilderness Society will be conducting a tour of Victorian country areas as well as Melbourne to promote Forests and Free Speech. This is in regard to logging issues. Details are:

Tue 11 October	Bendigo
Wed 12 October	Swan Hill
Thur 13 October	Mildura
Mon 17 October	Ballarat
Tue 18 October	Warrnambool
Thur 20 October	Geelong
Mon 24 October	Bairnsdale
Wed 26 October	Albury/Wodonga

and Melbourne at the Melbourne Town Hall on 14 November at 7.30pm. Anyone interested please contact them on 9662 2162 for location details.

Thanks to all for your recent communication. Keep the link going.

Best Regards, Yours in Walking Friendship

Steven Robertson, Convener, Conservation Committee

We have all received calls around dinner time from telemarketers. The rate of these calls seems to be on the increase, but what really got me hopping mad was one afternoon when two messages were left on my answering service (MessageBank), by an automated marketing 'robot'. I find this technique quite objectionable and it is essentially 'spam' sent to our home phone service. A Google search revealed that our Prime Minister used the technique during last year's election campaign to bombard thousands of households with his election propaganda. It is apparently rife also in the US, leading to some people recording a short burst of 'number unobtainable tone' on their outgoing message, to shoo the robot away!

A colleague had some time ago mentioned to me the possibility of registering a 'do not contact' request with the ADMA (Australian Direct Marketing Association). He had found this significantly reduced the number of calls he received. Companies which are members of the ADMA generally respect the request. I have now registered for no contact by phone, and am hopeful of a similar result (it is reassuring also that the company which sent the spam to my phone is an ADMA member and should respect this request). I did not lodge a request for no contact by email (email and mail are two other 'no contact' options), as this would have meant giving my email address, and that would most likely increase rather than decrease the email spam! To read more, or to register a "do not contact" request, go to www.adma.com.au. *David Arnold*

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SUNDAY BUS: Steiglitz – Sutherland Creek

DATE	Sunday 18th September 2005
STANDARD	Easy and Easy/Medium
DISTANCE	10 and 12 km
LEADERS	Doug Langton and Mohammad Akbari
TRANSPORT	Bus – Southbank Blvd. at 9 am
RETURN TIME	7 pm
AREA	Southern Brisbane Ranges National Park
MAP REFERENCE	Steiglitz Historic Park Map

Don't be misled by the relatively short distances of the two walks or the fact that there are no difficult hills to climb. Both walks start and finish at the historic Steiglitz courthouse whose padlock has opened other major Melbourne events. The courthouse is also surrounded by strikingly barked and marked yellow gums.

Apart from a fascinating walk, two aspects of the area will be seen and covered in some detail. The historic aspect in many senses will be seen along the full length of the walk. It is an old gold mining area and as much of the walk is along Sutherland Creek, alluvial pot holes are common. We travel two of the now totally forested streets of the old town before enjoying the other aspect of the area, its wild flowers. The spiky white and pink Hakea is in flower whilst the yellow and red bush-pea and the flat-pea are spectacular where present. There are 61 species of orchids known in the Brisbane Ranges and if lucky, we may find one or two of these in early spring.

The creek walk does have occasional water holes and large rocks and both require care. As a result the creek walk is both slow and exacting. It does also include some fascinating geology.

The longer walk leaves the creek close to Steiglitz and rises up the Deadmans Track with the last km or so along a sealed road. The shorter walk continues up Sutherland Creek into Steiglitz.

SUNDAY BUS: Rye Ocean Beach – London Bridge

DATE	Sunday 25 September 2005
STANDARD	Easy and Easy/Medium
DISTANCE	14 km and 18 km
LEADERS	Halina Sarbinowski and Liz Moore
TRANSPORT	Bus – Southbank Blvd. at 9 a.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.

SUNDAY BUS: Diggers Gully – Three Sisters – Flowerdale

DATE	Sunday 2 October 2005
STANDARD	Easy/Medium and Medium
DISTANCE	15.5 km and 17 km
LEADERS	Mick Noonan and Paul Beers
TRANSPORT	Bus – Southbank Blvd. at 8.30am
RETURN TIME	6.30pm
AREA	Kinglake – Flowerdale area north of Melbourne
MAP REFERENCE	Strath Creek and Reddy Creek (Yea Folder) 1:25000

Both walks start just south of the town of Strath Creek on McMansions Road, make their way down to Diggers Creek, along some narrow 4 wheel drive tracks, and then onto private property (some of which is fairly open) to climb and cross the 'Three Sisters' hills finishing at Coonens Bridge.

Bring good shoes and be prepared for large sections of off-track on both walks – down spurs, up hills, along Diggers Creek, past some small pretty waterfalls, and across the Three Sisters. The walks have been classified as Easy Medium and Medium because of the amount and type of off-track walking.

On the preview we saw a number of kangaroos, there were plenty of birds in the forests and along the creek, the forests around Kinglake & Strath Creek areas are quite beautiful (recommended if you have not been there before) and there should be more flowers out in October.

This walk has not been done since around 1999, so come along, enjoy the off track experience, and time permitting a drink or coffee at the Flowerdale Hotel before returning to Melbourne. REMEMBER THE 8.30AM START.

TOFS: One Tree Hill – Rifle Range Reserve

DATE	Thursday 6 Octoberber 2005
STANDARD	Easy
LEADER	Jean Geise
TRANSPORT	Private
RETURN TIME	2.30pm
AREA	Christmas Hills
MAP REFERENCE	Melways 265

Our 11 km walk will be through the One Tree Hill and Rifle Range Reserves, sometimes in open forest and sometimes beside farmland. There are great views and we hope the wildflowers will be in bloom. Meet to start walking at 10.15am in the small parking area just off the north side of the Eltham – Yarra Glen Road (Melway 265 B/C12) about ½ km east of the entrance to Sugarloaf Reservoir. Book with leader.

SUNDAY BUS: Murrindindi Cascades – Wilhelmina falls

DATE	Sunday 9th October 2005
STANDARD	Easy and Medium
LEADERS	Paul Logsdon and Linda Wilkinson
TRANSPORT	Bus – Southbank Blvd. at 9 am

Please see the leaders in the clubrooms about this walk.

FEDERATION DAY WALK: Blackwood

DATE	Sunday 16 October 2005
STANDARD	Various, Easy to Medium/Hard
MELB BUSHIES CO-ORDINATOR	Jopie Bodegraven
TRANSPORT	Private
AREA	1 hour west of Melbourne
MAP REFERENCE	Wombat State Forest 1:50,000

This is our opportunity to walk and socialize with members of other clubs and will be a fun day. It is hosted by the Essendon Bushwalking Club and will be based at the 'Blackwood Recreation Reserve'. Registration costs \$10, payable on the day and also covers a booklet and afternoon tea.

The organisers have asked that everyone books through their club rep, ie me, Jopie, by 28th September, so ring me on 9482 4691 or book with me in the clubrooms. I unfortunately won't be able to attend myself, but I will endeavour to rationalise transport, so let me know if you need a ride or can offer one.

The first walks start at 8.00am and you need to register and get your name on the selected walk list by 15 minutes prior. Allow 1 1/4 hrs travel from the city. My calculations are that you'll need to get up nice and early! The alternative would be to stay overnight at the caravan parks at Blackwood ph 5368 6539, Bacchus Marsh ph 5367 2775, Ballan ph 5368 1462, Crossroads ph 5368 2000 or Barry Reef Scout Camp (contact David after 6pm on 9336 3046). Bring lunch, morning tea and the usual day walk stuff plus chair, cup and plate for the provided afternoon tea so you can socialise in comfort.

How to get there: drive along the Western Highway for approximately 60km and turn off at the exit marked "Greendale, Pykes Creek, Blackwood, Trentham Turn Off". Turn right (northerly) and drive approximately 17.5 km to Blackwood (passing through Greendale). At Blackwood turn left at Simmons Reef Road (Cobb and Co Café on corner) follow this for 150m to a Y intersection, veer right to Recreation Reserve (signposted).

WED WALK: Woods Lookout & Steavenson Falls

DATE	Wednesday 19 October 2005
STANDARD	Easy/Medium
DISTANCE	12km and Steavenson Falls Visit
LEADER	Ed Neff
TRANSPORT	Private
RETURN TIME	By 3.30pm for afternoon tea in Marysville
AREA	Marysville State Forest
MAP REF	Marysville-Lake Mountain, Outdoor Leisure, 1:30,000

We will meet at 10.30am at a parking area at the end of Aubrey Cuzens Drive, near the entrance to Fruit Salad Farm (signposted). As you come into Marysville from Melbourne, turn left into Barton Avenue at Our Lady of the Snow Catholic Church. Aubrey Cuzens Drive is to the left almost immediately after turning into Barton Avenue and our meeting place is approximately 0.5km down this road.

This circuit walk is along lovely forest tracks and it starts with a warming climb of around 270m to the first television tower on a ridge NE of Woods Lookout, before following the ridge to the lookout and a fire tower and newer communications tower at Mount Gordon.

We then descend Mount Gordon Ridge towards Wilkes Creek, returning to our starting point via Gilberts Gully Loop Track.

We should have enough time to drive to the carpark at Steavenson Falls (\$2 Parking Fee) and view the spectacular falls. Then for some afternoon tea in one of the town's lovely bakeries.

You can telephone Ed on 9572 2382 to book or for further information.

DANDENONGS EXPLORER: Silvan Reservoir – Mt Evelyn Aqueduct

DATE	Saturday 22 October 2005
STANDARD	Easy
DISTANCE	14 km
LEADER	Doug Pocock
TRANSPORT	Private
RETURN TIME	Back to cars in time for afternoon tea!
AREA	Silvan – Mt Evelyn
MAP REFERENCE	Melways 120

The O'Shannassy Aqueduct was built in 1912–13 to boost Melbourne's water supply. In the 1920's Silvan Dam was built to receive and regulate the flow. The water passed along open channels until replaced by pipes in the 1960's. Parts of the disused channel were filled in and in the Kennett years of getting rid of public assets the land was offered to adjoining landowners. A local campaign ensured the land was acquired by the shire and a walking track developed. The walk will commence from the Silvan Dam Overflow Carpark on the north side of Stoneyford Lane (Melways 120 H 11). Meet at 10.00am. We will follow the pipeline to Hunter Rd turnoff where we will reach the Aqueduct track. At this section much of the old channel still exists. This will be followed as far as we can and then we will take to roadsides for a while until we pick up the aqueduct again.

Lunch will be at the old Mt. Evelyn Station on Warburton Rail Trail. Coffee is available there. After lunch we will head down to the recreation reserve before a short climb up to the pipeline track. We will follow this back to the cars with maybe a couple of little diversions to build up an appetite for afternoon tea. I think this is the first time that MBW has walked on this new track

Please note I will be O/S until Tuesday 18th and after that may be in a new house with a new phone number. Don't bother trying to contact me unless it is urgent, just turn up.



SUNDAY BUS:

MT Caroline – MT Bullamatite – Ti Tree Creek

DATE	23 October 2005
STANDARD	Easy/Medium and Medium.
DISTANCE	Easy walk, 18km and a total climb of 750m Medium walk, is 14 km plus 580m climbing.
LEADERS	Les Southwell and David Laing.
TRANSPORT	Bus from Southbank Blvd. at 9am
RETURN BY	7pm.
AREA	Between Yarra Glen and Yea
MAP	1:25,000.



Both walks start and finish at Ti Tree Creek, just off the Melba Highway and south of Yea. It goes up to Dunn Hill to Mt Bullamalite, then to Mt Caroline and return. The shorter walk bypasses Clarke Hill and Mt Caroline. Both walks are through open farming country, with good views of the Goulburn Valley, and the climbs are not too steep.

 **SUNDAY BUS: Lysterfield Lake Park plus barbecue**

DATE Sunday 30 October 2005
 STANDARD Easy and Easy/Medium
 DISTANCE 12 and 15km
 LEADERS Mark Heath and Ron Hampton
 TRANSPORT Bus – Southbank Blvd. at 9am
 RETURN TIME 6.30am
 AREA South East
 MAP REFERENCE Park Victoria – Lysterfield Lake Park and Churchill National Park

A pleasant ramble thru two of Melbourne historical parks nestled in the picturesque Lysterfield Hills. 172 species of birds have been recorded in the parks and echidnas may be spotted during the day. Trig Point has spectacular 360° views of Melbourne.

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 36 km 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. Call Dion Marriott .

Walks Secretary report

Trip figures for July 2005

	July 2005			July 2004	
	Trips	People	Average	Trips	Average
Sunday Bus	5	201	40	4	42
Other Day	3	53	18	4	16
Pack Carry	1	7	7	1	7
Base Camp	0	0	0	1	12
Lodge	1	13	13	0	0
TOTAL	10	274			

July is cold so we had a the lodge weekend at Halls Gap instead of a base camp. Sunday walks still strong

Jopie Bodegraven, Walks Secretary

**Additions to Library List
 (August 2005)**

The following publications, kindly donated by Susan McInnes, have been added to the Library.

- A Handbook of Cross-Country Skiing in Victoria.* 1997.
- The Great South West Walk Strip maps and track notes.*
- The Kooyoora Country by Road and Track*
 Fred Halls, 1981.
- Bushwalking in the Victorian Ranges*
 F.W. Halls, 1978.

Doug Langton

BASE CAMP:

Greater Bendigo NP (Kamarooka and Whipstick)

STANDARD	Easy
DISTANCE	10–12 km each day
LEADER	David Arnold
TRANSPORT	Private
RETURN TIME	7 pm Sunday
AREA	North of Bendigo
MAPS	Greater Bendigo NP Visitor Guide (Parks Vic.)

Well known for its history in gold mining and eucalyptus oil production, this is an interesting and pleasant area to spend a weekend of walking.

The former Whipstick and Kamarooka State Parks are now part of the Greater Bendigo National Park, representing some 17,000 hectares of Box-Ironbark forest and woodlands.

There are a number of short walks in the Whipstick area, including nature walks and a circuit to Old Tom Mine, where you will see remnants of a 'puddling machine' used for separating gold from crushed rock, and powered by a horse that had to walk in circles around the pond (though probably not as bad a job as the blokes who had to dig and barrow the rock!)

Further north, the Kamarooka park will make excellent off-track walking, and both of the areas are highly regarded by birdos, as (to quote the Park notes) they are reputed to have the greatest concentration of songbirds in Australia. 'We can also expect many wildflowers to be in bloom.

Camp will most likely be either at Notley or Shadbolt Picnic Areas, where there are picnic tables and toilets. 'Being school holidays, we can expect these two campsites to be quite popular.



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.

BASE CAMP: Kooyoora State Park

DATE	7–9 October 2005
STANDARD	Easy
LEADER	David Elias
TRANSPORT	Private
RETURN TIME	Sunday 6–7pm
AREA	NW of Bendigo between Inglewood and Wedderburn
MAP REFERENCE	Rheola North 1:25000

Kooyoora State Park is a beautiful, compact park approximately 60km north west of Bendigo. It comprises a variety of open woodland and rocky outcrops, together with a number of look-outs providing excellent views over the surrounding district. The walking will be fairly easy, approximately 12–13 km per day with no significant climbs, allowing plenty of time to enjoy the prolific birdlife and wildflowers (which will hopefully be in full bloom during our visit). The camping area has plenty of good grassy spots, and we will be able to enjoy a campfire in the evening. All in all, an excellent location for a Base Camp – first timers are warmly encouraged to attend.



PACK CARRY: Lake Mountain – Keppel's Hut.

Date	15–16 October 2005
Standard	Easy
Distance	27km
Leader	Jerry Grandage
Transport	Private
Map	Outdoor Leisure Map – Marysville-Lake Mountain

This should be a straightforward walk but there could be snow on the ground or even dropping out of the sky! So be prepared for any weather. We start at the Snowy Hill car park, walk up lake Mountain and down to Gerraty's, then across the ski area and on to Keppel's Hut where we will camp. The return on Sunday is via Upper Taggerty Road. We will see sub-alpine vegetation and myrtle beech forest and a range of scenery.

Grampians Track Work Party

DATE	21–23 October 2005
STANDARD	Easy and fun
LEADER	Rod Novak
TRANSPORT	Private
MAP	Grampians

Please note: Trip planning meeting at Clubnight on Wednesday 19th October at 7.30pm. This will be a combined Melbourne Bushies and VicWalk Track Group trip. We will be assisting the Grampians Track Support group and will be working on one of their key projects with ranger support. Come along and help with one of Victoria's favourite national parks. Bring your base camp equipment, strong work gloves (rigger type) and boots. An information sheet will be available at the Trip planning meeting.

BASE CAMP: Croajingalong National Park

DATE	28 October – 1 November 2005
STANDARD	Easy
LEADER	Ken MacMahon
TRANSPORT	Private
AREA	East Gippsland
MAP REFERENCE	Cann-Pt Hicks 1:50,000. Mallacoota Outdoor Leisure 1:50,000

The four day Cup Day long weekend is a great opportunity to visit beautiful Croajingalong National Park.

The plan is to spend two nights camping at Thurra River and the other two at Wingan Inlet. The parks service provides basic facilities of toilets and drinking water at both sites. A camping fee applies.

Primarily we will be exploring on foot, but I intend to incorporate some canoeing into the program as this will allow us to get to some really delightful places. If you don't want to go canoeing there is always that book you have been wanting to read or a walk on the beach.

Come and enjoy Croajingalong – East Gippsland is different!



PACK CARRY: Blue Gum Forest (Blue Mountains)

DATE	28 October – 1 November (Melbourne Cup Weekend)
STANDARD	Medium
DISTANCE	37 km plus extras
LEADER	Alan Clarke
TRANSPORT	Private
RETURN TIME	Tuesday evening
AREA	Blue Mountains
MAP REF	Katoomba 1:25,000

This is obviously an interstate venture, similar to the successful Royal National Park trip that we did last November. One big advantage of doing these trips then is that there is no Cup Day holiday interstate, so we get a four day trip without the big crowds!

This trip flies to Sydney on Friday evening, and takes the train to the Blue Mountains on Saturday am. Then we have 3 1/2 days

walking in the beautiful Grose valley before returning on Tuesday afternoon in time to catch an early evening flight home again. Highlights are the famous Blue Gum forest, waterfalls, escarpments, lookouts, and the deep, narrow, Grand Canyon

As I indicated in the last NEWS, approximate costs are under \$300 including fares and accommodation. This can be cheapened depending on when you fly and of course you are free to stay longer if you wish.

There are more camp sites than last year so there are still places if you are interested.



PACK CARRY: Razor – Viking Circuit

DATE	28 October – 1 November (Melbourne Cup Weekend)
STANDARD	Medium/Hard
LEADER	Jopie Bodegraven
TRANSPORT	Private
AREA	Alps north of Licola
MAP REF	Howitt – Selwyn 1:50,000

This is one of the classic alpine circuits. It is not an easy trip, with a steep and rough 950m off-track descent on day one followed by a steep, rough 850m off-track ascent on day two. There will be lots of other lesser ups and downs and sections of rough, vague or non-existent tracks but the rewards are great; spectacular alpine scenery with the Viking, Razor, Mt Speculation and the Crosscut Saw.

We will start at the Howitt carpark and walk to the top of the Devil's Staircase near Macalister Springs. It is then the aforementioned steep descent to the Wonnangatta River to camp in an unknown campsite. I'm sure there will be something suitable down there; all part of the adventure. The other two campsites will be more standard ones at Viking Saddle and Mt Speculation.

If the group is too big we may split up into 2 groups and do the circuit in opposite directions. Come prepared for ferocious alpine weather which is quite likely at this time of year, but we will hope for good weather of course. We will travel up on Friday evening, camping at Campsite No. 8 which is about 15 to 20 km beyond Licola. Turn right into the camp area immediately after the first crossing over the Wellington River.