



THE NEWS OF THE Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc.

60 cents

Edition 672 | FEBRUARY 2007

MELBOURNE BUSHWALKERS INC

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

8.00 pm, Wednesday 28 February 2007

Trades Hall, Victoria Street entrance, Carlton

Come along a cast your vote (members), non-members are also welcome to attend but may not vote

At the AGM all Committee positions will become vacant and the club is looking for members to nominate for any specific role. If you are interested contact Jan Palich for information on what each position entails.

Currently the positions that **need** a new representative (interested person) are:

- Treasurer
- General Walks Secretary
- Sunday Walks Secretary
- Social Secretary
- General Committee Member

To nominate for these or any other position for the 2007 Committee complete the nomination form below and return it to The Secretary, GPO Box 1751Q, Melbourne, 3001 or place in The Secretary's pigeon hole in the clubrooms. Proxy forms available from the clubrooms.

Nomination Form for the Committee of the Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc.

Position:..... Name of Nominee:

Proposed by:..... Seconded by:

Signature of Nominee: Date:

Return to The Secretary, Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc, GPO Box 1751Q, Melbourne 3001, or place into the Secretary's pigeon hole in the clubrooms.

A little bit of history ... this month, 44 years ago ...

Sunday 3 February 1963

"EMERALD CROSSING - BALD HILL - MENZIES CREEK"



Well, things haven't changed much, we still program this area for our Sunday walks. However in 1963 the starting point was reached by travelling on the 8.56 am Melbourne / Belgrave train, connecting up with the 10.45 am bus from Belgrave to Emerald Crossing. The walk was led by Joan Brackstone.

Sixteen walkers went on this trip which as far as I can see proceeded along roads in a northerly direction before turning west by a little brown house with a green roof and adjoining orchard "Shipton" and followed the spur down, cross creek-branch and followed an obvious fence up hill. They continued on to another low modern red brick farm house with sheds and horse yards. Bald Hill was a little to the south of this farm and was reached via a well defined cart track. Bald Hill is topped by a white farm house in bad repair. On the eastern flank of Bald Hill, two separate groups of Aboriginal rocks were seen. They are connected with the fire legend and were used as an offering place for branches by the Aborigines before a kangaroo hunt, when a good catch was hoped for. Then the walkers went along Patgona Road, Wellington Road and into Clematis. From Clematis they followed the railway line or road to Menzies Creek (not sure which). At Menzies Creek, they boarded bus to Belgrave and then home by train.

Our walks are a little different in the Dandenongs now, as we don't walk through farms or travel to our Sunday walk by public transport.

Jan Palich - February 2007

Members of the Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc meet on Wednesday evenings between 7.00 and 9.00 pm in the club rooms at:

**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

www.melbournebushwalkers.org.au



The News of the Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc (**The News**) is published monthly, and is the official newsletter of Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc.

Editor: Christine Salau

Walk previews, walk reviews, articles, poems, news items, photographs of club events, reports of new gear, book/movie reviews, letters to the editor, advertisements, etcetera are always welcome. However, the Editor reserves the right to edit contributions where space, clarity or propriety dictate, and to maintain editorial consistency. **Note - photographs should be sent as separate files which are capable of being edited.** 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 club rooms
- Posting a diskette or hand written material to The Editor at 16 Carinya Road, East Bentleigh 3165.
- **The most preferred method is emailing an unformatted text file to news@melbournebushwalkers.org.au**

Closing date for receipt of material for The News is the last Wednesday of the month.

Only advertisements that directly relate to bushwalking (eg gear, maps, trips, tours etc) can be accepted. For current advertising rates (artwork ready), please contact the Editor.

Club rooms Duty Roster:

Wednesday 14 February - John Fritze and Jan Palich
Wednesday 21 February - Peter Havlicek and David Liang
Wednesday 28 February - Lynda Larkin (AGM night)
Wednesday 7 March - Fay Dunn and Mark Heath

Next Committee Meeting:

Monday 7 March 2007

Navigation Lesson

COMPASS CAPERS

As a culmination of the series of navigation articles which have been inserted regularly by Jopie into The News, Jopie will be running face-to-face navigation training. If you are interested, please ensure you call Jopie to let him know that you will be participating

NAVIGATION TRAINING

by Jopie Bodegraven

Find out how easy it really is

* Theory Evening*

*Thursday 29 March 2007
8 pm in the clubrooms*

* Practical Day *

*Saturday 31 March 2007
St Andrews and Kinglake Nat Park*



Come along and learn my version of how to navigate. It will start with a theory evening in the clubrooms. Then on the Saturday we will go out to St Andrews where we will drive to four different vantage points for exercises involving map orientation, interpretation of contours and landforms and use of the compass. Then to practice our skills we will go on a 9 to 10 km walk in the southern part of Kinglake National Park where I'll endeavour to make sure that everyone is navigating their way correctly around the route and knows at all times where we are.

The map we will use will be the Kinglake National Park Outdoor Leisure Map at 1:25,000 scale. You may like to buy your own copy or if you don't wish to do that I can organise a photocopy of the section we will use. You must have a suitable compass and a clipboard, paper and biro for the evening and the map orientation and interpretation exercises on the Saturday.

The walk on Saturday will be 60% off track with just a few small patches of light scrub including some prickly currant bush so you may like to wear long trousers.

If we have more than eight participants I may split the group up and have a second practical day on the Sunday.

You must book for this course by Wednesday 21 March to give me time to get materials together. Book by ringing me or seeing me in the clubrooms any Wednesday after the AGM.

Jopie Bodegraven



Cheese and Wine Evening

will not be on this month due to the AGM, so why not come to the AGM instead ... 8.00 pm, 28 February, Trades Hall



THE NEWS OF THE EQUIPMENT STORE

How to buy a sleeping bag

Buying a sleeping bag might seem like a daunting task but in essence involves little more than finding the lightest model with the warmth you need at a price you can afford.

Start by reading the excellent article on sleeping bags in the FAQ section of the Confederation of Bushwalking Clubs NSW site (www.bushwalking.org.au/FAQ/FAQ_Index.htm). Follow it up with a Google search on "sleeping bag comparison". This will throw up some useful charts comparing features and prices and give you a pretty good idea of what's available and what you need. Next visit the bushwalking shops and find the assistants who know what they are talking about. Explain what you plan to do with the bag and how warm you sleep then ask for the lightest one that will do the job. Err on the side of warmth as all bags will lose some over time. Refine your search by considering aspects such as size, zip length, water resistance, durability, etc. but be careful not to add any unnecessary weight. It's a good idea to weigh the bag at this stage as quoted weights are often inaccurate. If the resultant bag proves too expensive look at the cheaper options but not before considering the club discount, discounts available at the periodic sales and mail order prices. Also bear in mind that lighter bags are more compact and may enable you to carry your gear in a smaller, lighter and possibly cheaper pack.

Finally, if you are not prepared to make a commitment at this stage there is no need to rush. You can hire a bag, or a complete set of back packing equipment from the club at very reasonable rates.

John Fritze



Wednesday Walk - Midweek Trip MID-WEEK FAIRHAVEN SO- JOURN

20-22 March 2007

Join Susan and Stuart down at Fairhaven at the same beach house as last year. The dates are Tuesday 20 March and Wednesday 21 March, but book now as places are limited and filling up. There is space for camping in the garden.

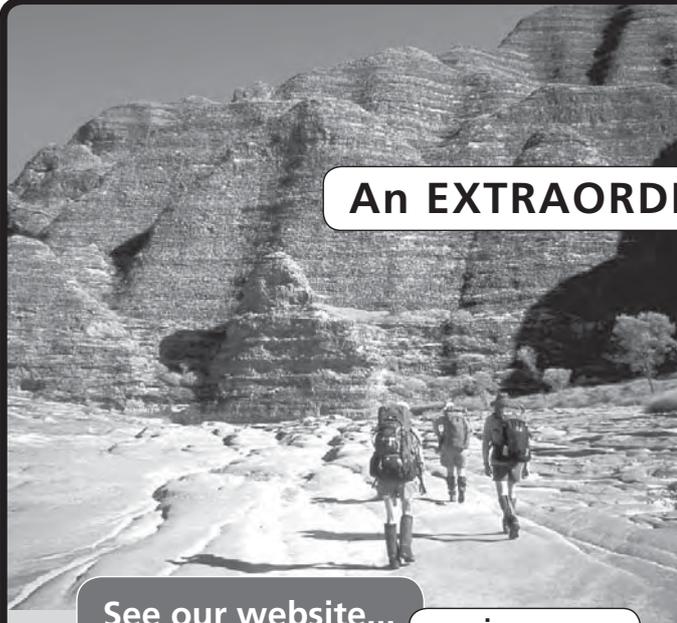
We will "tag" this on to Margaret's Wednesday Walk.

Tuesday night will be a BBQ. Please bring something to share around the table. On Wednesday, after the walk, we will have a pub meal, with the venue to be decided down there. As we got such a great report card last year the rates are reduced and it should work out to be approximately \$15 per person per night.

WILLIS'S WALKABOUTS

Beehive Bliss!

An EXTRAORDINARY walking destination



See our website...

or give us a
call for details.

www.bushwalkingholidays.com.au

Piccaninny Gorge, by far the largest gorge in the Bungles. Sheer red cliffs silhouetted against clear blue skies. We walk to a base camp and spend three or four days there as we explore the fascinating side gorges. Every gorge is different. Some are palm filled, some are very narrow and require swimming, **all are stunning!**

Piccaninny East, a landscape amazingly different from Piccaninny Gorge. Here we find a distinct vegetation, magnificent pools you'd never find on your own, gorges, open areas, great sunrise and sunset views of the domes for which this **World Heritage Wonder** is famous.



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

Phone 08 8985 2134 Fax 08 8985 2355



Sunday Bus CORONET BAY - CORINELLA

DATE	Sunday, 11 February 2007
STANDARD	Easy and Easy/Medium
DISTANCE	15 km and 18 km
LEADER	Mick Noonan and Mohammad Akbari
TRANSPORT	Bus
AREA	Bass Coast
MAP REF	Melway Key Map - Page 18

This is a very popular coastal walk through mangroves, mud flats, waterbird habitats, pebbly beaches, coastal cliff tops, and stretches of sand. The coast here is a marine national park with views of Phillip Island, French Island and the Mornington Peninsula. We should see ibis, spoonbills, herons, plovers and pacific gulls. Black swans should also be seen feeding on the seagrass.

This is also a walk through history. At the tip of Settlement Point (where guns were once placed) we can see French, Phillip and Reef Islands where convicts collected seashells to burn and make lime for mortar. At Corinella a cairn stands where the original settlement was established in 1826 – here there were military barracks, convicts quarters, a storehouse, a black-smiths forge, workshops and the Commandant's House, recorded as Government House in the London Archives.

The East/Medium walk starts near Reef Island, and follows a pebbly coast to Cutty Sark Road, where the Easy group will start their walk. From here both walks follow the same route, along the beach, then up to a cliff top track. There's a jetty at Corinella which is probably good spot for lunch! We continue above the beach line, with striking views of white mangroves below us. Later we descend to water level, walking along beach, mud flats and beside mangroves to Tenby Point, and on to Grantville Jetty, passing the ruins of Queensferry Jetty along the way.

This should be a great walk for summer – hope to see you there! P.S. remember water, the sunscreen and insect repellent (flies!)

Thanks to Jean Woodger and Liz Moore for the excellent preview from the April 2005 walk which I re-used extensively!



Cycling SOMERVILLE - SOMERS

DATE	Saturday, 17 February 2007
STANDARD	Easy/Medium
DISTANCE	59 km (or shorter depending on weather)
LEADER	Ross Berner
TRANSPORT	Car or Train to Somerville Station
RETURN TIME	About 4.20 pm (Somerville Station)
MAP REF	Melway maps 107, 148, 154, 164/5, 193, 194/5

The meeting place for ride is the east side of Somerville Railway Station (Melway 107 F12) at 9:25 AM. If weather is hot I will be looking for a prompt departure!! The route is mainly on off road trails with a few quiet streets.

If you are travelling by train, take the Frankston Train departing from Flinders St at 8:00 am to Frankston. Then change to Stony Point Line train that is usually on the adjoining platform leaving about 2 minutes after Frankston Train arrives. (A Metcard valid for zone 3 is needed for all journeys on the Frankston and Stony Point lines.) The route has several options and the option taken will depend on weather conditions, particularly if forecast temperature exceeds 30°. In particular, this includes shortening of the afternoon leg of ride by cycling to Morradoo or Bittern Stations. Bring at least 1 litre of sports drink, but not those containing caffeine, in liquid or equivalent in powder. You will also need to get other drinks along



Cycling ... 17 February continued SOMERVILLE - SOMERS

the way. Also bring bathers, as we will spend time at beach at Somers if the weather is hot.

The route is based around the Somerville–Somers Rail Trail, which is the off road cycle trail on the Peninsula. The rail trail follows the rail line to Hastings then the foreshore. South of Hastings we join the Bittern Coastal Wetlands Boardwalk passing through the southernmost stand of mangroves in the world. On to Jacks Beach, a former whaling station, and around the coast to Stony Point. We head inland where we rejoin bike trail at Morradoo station, but leave the rail line and follow the western boundary of the Naval Base to Somers and the beach. The afternoon ride will return to Somerville along the rail trail, which is largely an in land route. It may be extended to include Coolart if weather not hot or shorten to finish at Morradoo or Bittern Stations if very hot.

Those riders who want an extra challenge may wish to meet me at the car park on the east side of Frankston Station (Melway 100A E7, Fletcher Rd) at 8:15 AM for a ride to Somerville. This adds 12 km to the start of the ride. It initially follows the Frankston - Baxter Rail Trail. The gap between Baxter & Somerville is on narrow and often busy roads. This extension should not be attempted by anyone not used to riding on narrow busy roads.

I expect to be in clubrooms on Wednesday 7 Feb to discuss ride, or call me.



Sunday Bus MOORABOOL RIVER GORGE

DATE	Sunday, 18 February 2007
STANDARD	Easy and Easy/Medium
DISTANCE	10 and 13 km
LEADER	Doug Langton and David Laing
TRANSPORT	Bus - Southbank Blvd
AREA	North Geelong
MAP REF	Lethbridge and Medina 1:25,000

Although the two walks are relatively short, they cover spectacular country as well as an area of privately owned land where the club through its past good agencies has been allowed to walk. The beginning of each walk will be through undulating, often rocky forest country close to or through a major sand quarry and beside or across the Moorabool River. Water depth is zero at the moment so the more difficult walkers will cross the river a number of times whilst the easier walkers will mostly remain on the river's eastern side. Both groups will follow the river closely, sometimes up above it, sometimes along the bank. The harder walk will have some greater challengers in the early section of the walk whilst for the bulk of the walk the two groups will cover the same general path. There are beautiful lunch spots by the river normally but at best at the moment, there will be quiet water holes and river gum shade. Unfortunately some climbing is required immediately afterwards.

The river also becomes very spectacular with both the prominent gorge and its massive cliffs and an amazing collapsed structure where enormous basalt boulders, the material forming the gorge cliffs, in a very large and randomly placed pile which we can see clearly from a distance but not be confronted by. In the past a swim has been possible just above this fascinating collapsed structure but with the lack of flowing water, this probably can't happen.

A surprisingly spectacular walk similar to other basalt gorge areas immediately west of Melbourne which are not normally available to us.



Wednesday Walk WESTERNPORT BAY

DATE	Wednesday, 21 February 2007
STANDARD	Easy/Medium
DISTANCE	10 km
LEADER	Alister Rowe
RETURN TIME	3.30 pm
MAP REF	Melway 256

This February walk assumes that the day is likely to be hot. Meet at 10.00am in the car park at the end of Beach Rd, Shoreham, Melway Ref 256 F10. We will walk around the beach to the Coolart wetlands, maybe with a few diversions along the way. A car shuffle will be necessary, hence the early start. We may get wet feet if the tide is right in.



Dandenongs Explorer KALORAMA TO DOONGALLA

DATE	Saturday, 24 February 2007
STANDARD	Easy
DISTANCE	11 km
LEADER	Liz and Philip Wood
RETURN TIME	3.00 pm
MAP REF	Melway Page 52 and 66

The walk starts at Kalorama Picnic Area, Yosemite Road – car park nearest the toilet block (Melway p.52 ref J10) at 10.30am and climbs from there on Kyeema Track to skirt Mount Dandenong, before descending Channel 10 Track to Doongalla for our lunch stop. After lunch we follow Camelia Track and Fireline Track to return to Kalorama via Mountain Road. Some long climbs and short descents are involved, and there may be slippery bits if the weather is wet, but the pace will be relaxed and there are some fine views in good weather.

For bookings or queries please contact us.



Sunday Bus RED HILL WINERY WALK

DATE	Sunday, 25 February 2007
STANDARD	Easy and Easy/Medium
DISTANCE	13 and 15 km
LEADER	Peter McGrath and Sybille Holdheide
TRANSPORT	Bus - Southbank Blvd
MAP REF	Mornington Peninsula Wine Touring map

The Mornington Peninsula is a splendid place to be at this time of the year. It is a bit cooler down there. It is good to be down by the seaside. The wine industry continues to bubble along in this area. The area produces good wines. So this should be a day well spent.

We will visit three wineries on the Easy walk – Maritime Estate, Red Hill Estate and Stoniers. The first is a smaller winery with interesting wines, the second a large established brand and the third won the prize for the best white wine in the world in 2000.

The Easy/Medium walk will have a slightly more bushwalking emphasis, climbing Arthur's Seat via the OT Dam before visiting Massoni Main Creek Vineyard around lunch time, and Stoniers at the end of the day.



TOFS ELWOOD TO SANDRINGHAM

DATE	Thursday, 1 March 2007
STANDARD	Easy
DISTANCE	11 km
LEADER	Keith White
RETURN TIME	3 pm approx
MAP REF	Melway 67 B8

The walk starts at 10.15 a.m at the end of Bay Street, Brighton facing the Bay, Melway 67 B8. There are traffic lights at the corner of Bay Street and St. Kilda Street and non-restricted parking in Bay St. The distance of the walk will be approximately 11 km.

The walk was planned in expectation of a hot March. We will follow the paths closest to the shoreline past the colourful Brighton bathing boxes and stop for lunch near Sandringham. After lunch, we catch the train to Elserwick. Note: you will need coins for the train (and your Senior's Card). We will link up with the Elwood Canal and follow this pleasant waterway to Point Ormond and along Elwood Beach to our cars. Don't forget your lunch, hat, sunscreen and water.



Sunday Bus ADA TREE - DOWEY SPUR - 8.30 am start!

DATE	Sunday, 4 March 2007
STANDARD	Easy/Medium and Medium
DISTANCE	expected to be less than 15 km
LEADERS	Elizabeth Ingham and Hans Edlinger
TRANSPORT	Bus - Southbank Blvd
RETURN TIME	7pm
AREA	Powelltown

Walk not previewed at time of publication. However, we'll be walking through "wet sclerophyll" forest- Beech Myrtle, Mountain Ash and tree ferns. Leeches optional...only if wet.

The medium group starts with a stiff climb up Doweys Spur which then levels out into a fairly easy walk on well marked tracks with only a few minor ups and downs. The easy/medium group will be doing the same walk minus the stiff climb. The walks include a 3.6km circuit of the Ada Tree. Distances not known at this time but will be at time of booking on. Note 8.30am start.

The Ada Tree is remnant from the 1939 fires. It is between 270 and 300 years old, is currently 76mts tall (down from it's original 120mts) and has a circumference of 15mts at its base. It is considered to be one of the largest in the world according to the 'Age'.

If you Google 'ada tree' and open the first site found (should be Dandenong's Panarama) you'll be able to view a 360 degree moving panorama of the tree and its immediate environs.



Sunday Bus WIRILDA TRACK - NOW ... BARWON HEADS TO QUEENSCLIFF

DATE	Sunday, 11 March 2007
STANDARD	Easy and Medium
DISTANCE	14 and 18 km
LEADERS	Peter and Jacky McGrath
TRANSPORT	Bus - Southbank Blvd - 9 am
AREA	Surf Coast
DISTANCE	14 & 18 km

Sunday Bus ... continued

WIRILDA TRACK - NOW ...

BARWON HEADS TO QUEENSCLIFF

Wirilda Track was burnt in the recent fires and is closed. Given the time of year, and pleasant country side around the west coast, we have relocated the walk to Barwon Heads to Queenscliff. There is now no necessity for a 8:30 start, so the start is now 9:00 from Southbank.

The longer walk starts at Barwon Heads (famous for its use in SeaChange) with a look around Barwon heads and the spectacular views around to Pt Lonsdale & Pt Nepean. From there it's off to Ocean Grove where the easier groups starts up at the Lookout.

Then its off the Pt Lonsdale for a look at the Lighthouse and lunch (yes! there are café's and coffee shops!). William Buckley lived in a cave near here on and off between 1803 and 1835.

Then there's more waves, seabirds, people and their dogs, and sand till be get to Queenscliff where there should be plenty of time for another coffee or a visit to the local historical sites before heading back to Melbourne.



Sunday Bus

MT ROBERTSON - GUM CREEK

DATE	Sunday, 18 March 2007
STANDARD	Easy and Easy/Medium
DISTANCE	15 km, both walks
LEADERS	Phil Geschke and David Laing
TRANSPORT	Bus - Southbank Blvd
RETURN TIME	6.30 pm
AREA	Kinglake
MAP REF	Melways 510 P1

Although starting at different locations along Mt Robertson Rd, both walks end at the Baptist convention centre after travelling a similar distance.

The more challenging walk will take walkers through a 200m drop to cross Gum Creek (feet should remain dry unless the drought breaks!) before rising 100m to join the other walkers path. This walk through ferns in Tall treed forests has previously been enjoyed by MBW walkers in 2000 and 2003.



Wednesday Walk

LORNE WATERFALLS

DATE	Wednesday 21 March 2007
STANDARD	Easy/Medium
DISTANCE	16 km
LEADER	Margaret Curry
TRANSPORT	Private
AREA	Angahook Lorne State Park
MAP REF	VicMap Lorne 1:25,000

This walk is through beautiful rainforest close to Lorne. It involves several fairly easy river crossings, one quite steep hill and several waterfalls. We pass through Sheoak Picnic Area, visit Swallow Cave and have some stunning ocean views from the boardwalk before reaching the cars.

(This Wednesday walk will coincide with the 3 day mid week beach-house get together at Fairhaven organized by Susan Maughan. Refer separate write-up in The News. Everyone is invited to attend a local pub for a bistro meal (perhaps after a swim) before either returning to Melbourne or staying overnight at the beach-house accommodation.

Wednesday Walk ... continued

LORNE WATERFALLS

The meeting time is 10.15am at Sheoak Falls carpark (300 metres from where the Sheoak Creek meets the ocean). The carpark is approximately 4km past Lorne Pier, heading south west along the Great Ocean Road. For information and bookings contact Margaret Curry.



Cycle

CAPITOL CITY TRAIL PLUS JAN'S EXTRAS

DATE	Saturday, 24 March 2007 (was 17 March)
STANDARD	Easy
LEADER	Jan Palich

Hi Everyone! Care for cycling, then come and join me for a lovely cycle around Melbourne. We will meet at the bike hire place, beside Princes Bridge Melbourne. The distance is approximately 35 kms of very easy riding on bike paths. We basically go around the city in a big circle about 6 kms out of Melbourne.

We will depart from the city in an easterly direction, past the boat clubs, through the agapanthus and to Dights Falls. Then we will call in to the Bakery (this is our first coffee stop or just a rest) at the Convent in Collingwood then up Merri Creek to North Fitzroy. We follow the old railway line past Carlton and the men playing "boules", under Royal Parade, past the zoo and over the freeway. For those who are interested, we can check out what has happened to the Commonwealth Games village. We then follow the bike path surrounded by graceful Greek pillars reaching for the sky (or should I say the freeway), past water ducks and grasses. This time we will deviate up Macauley Road to Kensington for the next coffee stop or to buy lunch. Then we leave and head back to the bike path and south till we end up at Docklands and maybe an ice-cream stop and then over the cycle bridge and back to Southbank.

If by any chance anyone wishes to go further afield, we can detour (20 mins each way) down the bike path to Port Melbourne then return back to Yarra Bank, another lovely meandering path. We can make that decision then, depending on interest, weather and time.

Which brings me to weather. If at 8.00am on Saturday morning it is pelting down with rain, this ride will be postponed to an alternate date. If raining where you live, call me at 8.00 am on the Saturday morning and I will let you know if it is raining in Melbourne too.

Anyway, hope I have aroused your interest to join me for a lovely cycle. To register your interest, find out timing and my mobile number, call me by the Thursday before the ride and let me know you are coming; otherwise the ride will be cancelled.



Sunday Bus

CATHEDRAL RANGE - 8.30 am start!

DATE	Sunday, 25 March 2007
STANDARD	Medium and Medium/Hard
DISTANCE	15 km
LEADERS	Paul Logsdon and Lesley Hale
TRANSPORT	Bus - Southbank Blvd
AREA	Buxton

Circuit walk at the peak of Cathedral Ranges taking in 360 degree panoramic views. A challenging walk for those who would like something extra. Please ensure you carry plenty of water for this trip.



TOFS BIRDLAND RESERVE (early due to Easter)

DATE Thursday, 29 March 2007
 STANDARD Easy
 DISTANCE
 LEADERS Bernadette O'Connell
 TRANSPORT Private

A walk preview should be available for the March Newsletter. If you would like details earlier, please contact Bernadette.



Sunday Bus MT BLACKWOOD - BLACKWOOD RANGES TRACK

DATE Sunday, 1 April 2007
 TRANSPORT Bus - ****Note change of pick-up to Clubrooms****

ADVANCE NOTICE: Run 4 the Kids is being held on this Sunday morning which means that participants will be running along St Kilda Rd and Linlithgow Ave. It is pretty certain that these roads will be closed to traffic so we have changed the pick-up point to be departing from the Clubrooms at McKenzie Street.

Membership Secretary Report for 2007

The Membership Secretary's regular duties include:

- the maintenance of the register of members' particulars (address, 'phone, subscription status),
- the collection of subscriptions,
- giving advice about membership to potential or new members,
- assisting in the preparation of membership lists and in mailing the News, both paper and electronic versions.

As at the beginning of February 2007, the membership of the Club was 488 (February 2006: 490) including 13 Life and 11 Honorary members.

The number of members decreased by two during 2006 with 72 (2005: 72) new members joining and 74 (2005: 52) members relinquishing their membership.

MEMBERSHIP CHANGES:

New members:



Dandenongs Explorer EMERALD

DATE Saturday, 31 March 2007
 STANDARD Easy/Medium
 DISTANCE
 LEADER Stuart Hodgson
 RETURN TIME

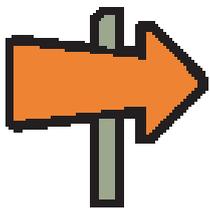
A walk preview should be available for the March Newsletter. If you would like details earlier, please contact Stuart.



Training NAVIGATION TRAINING DAY

DATE Theory evening, Thursday 29 March 2007
 Practical training, Saturday, 31 March 2007
 STANDARD Easy
 LEADER Jopie Bodegraven

For details please see the article under "Compass Capers" on page 2.



WANTED – Website Information Officer

Following twelve months of manning our website answering queries and giving out information, our Website Information Officer - David Arnold is moving on to another challenge.

The Club is looking for a member to monitor these queries from the website. This is not a Committee position and you do not have to attend any meetings. For detail of what the role entails, drop a note to info@melbournebushwalkers.org.au and chat with David. He can explain in more detail what is involved.

If you have decided to make a contribution to the club and have a computer at home, please contact Jan Palich on president@melbournebushwalkers.org.au or call and let me know you are interested in taking on this very important role with the club.

Add to membership list:

Altered Address/Phone:

MEMBERSHIP STATS:

Life Members	13
Honorary Members	11
Single memberships	350
Family memberships	114 (= 2x 57)
Total membership	488
This time last year	490

A few words from the Walks Secretary



Major Change to Activities Program Roles

2007 sees us bringing in a major change to the way we run our activities program. We are introducing a new system of Activities Program Roles. Whereas in the past we have had a Walks Secretary and Assistant Walks Secretary, ie two roles which are both committee positions, we are now having five positions. Two of these, Sunday Walks Secretary and General Walks Secretary will be committee positions and will be voted for at the AGM. The other three which are Assistant Sunday Walks Secretary, Pack Carry Co-ordinator and Base Camp / Lodge Co-ordinator are not committee positions and are simply appointed by the committee.

Reasons for the Change

There are sound reasons for these changes. Firstly the walks secretary job is a big one that is recognised as probably being too onerous for one person. By breaking it up we can involve more people in the process and share the workload around, both of which are desirable. Secondly the new roles are more specific in their duties so we can get people to take roles in line with their preferences. The Sunday Walks Secretary and his/her assistant only have to look after the Sunday bus walks. The Pack Carry and Base Camp Co-ordinators need to have a working knowledge of suitable areas and be able to deal with leaders but they don't have to deal much with the paperwork and stats side of things. The General Walks Secretary doesn't need to know much about walking areas and doesn't need to deal with leaders. He/she does need to be organised however and be able to handle the administration side of the activities program. Thirdly there has been overlap and confusion between the two existing roles. The new system removes this confusion by having each role's responsibilities clearly defined

We need people to fill these roles

Elsewhere in this News you will find a brief description of the new roles; the 5 listed above plus cycling & training co-ordinators. Read them and see if any of them sound like you. There are more detailed job descriptions available for the 5 main roles. Discuss it with Jan our president as I am in New Zealand till the 26th of February. I as outgoing walks secretary will be available as needed for ongoing advice and assistance.

Reimbursement for Sunday Bus Leaders

The committee has opted to be kinder to our Sunday Bus leaders without whom the Sunday bus program would collapse. This is possible because of the bus fees we charge participants. We now reimburse leader's preview travel costs at 20c per km as well as retaining their free seats on the bus on the day of the walk. Unfortunately we can't easily extend the same generosity to the other classes of walks without charging new fees or cross subsidising.

Trip Statistics

Yearly attendance Total for the 5 years 2002-2006							
Year	Total	Day	Week-end	Pack Carry	Members	Visitors	Trips
2002	2756	2200	556	226	2062	694	132
2003	2621	2089	532	137	2142	479	128
2004	2926	2357	569	177	2451	475	144
2005	3025	2482	543	185	2535	490	140
2006	3018	2571	447	188	2503	515	139

Walk Statistics 2006 vs 2005 and 2004						
Activity	Number of trips			Average attendance		
	2004	2005	2006	2004	2005	2006
Sunday Bus	51	50	50	35.5	38.6	39.7
Wednesday	12	12	12	15.7	17.7	13.1
Dand Expl	10	10	10	18.9	16.5	16.4
TOFS	11	10	12	10.9	9.6	15.1
Pack Carry	26	24	20	6.8	7.8	9.4
Base Camp	22	19	16	14.6	11.6	10.9
Lodge	1	3	3	19	12.7	12.3
Cycle W/end	2	2	2	7	21	15
Cycle Day	2	4	9	8	18	8
Canoeing	2	2	1	19	18.5	7
Tracks & Planting	2	3	2	8.5	9.7	6
Nav Training	2	1	1	8	7	6
Other day walks	1	1	4			9

Certain trends can be noted and conclusions drawn.

- 1 The Sunday bus trips continue to be very popular with many full buses
- 2 The TOFS easy walks are increasing in popularity. Is the club membership ageing?
- 3 Dandenongs Explorer walks remain popular but Wednesday walks have waned a bit.
- 4 The pack carry trips seem to be attracting slightly higher numbers
- 5 Base Camps are getting slightly smaller numbers
- 6 After a boom in 2005, day cycle trips seem to have lost popularity, although the two weekend cycle trips were quite popular
- 7 Our club is currently not big on canoeing.
- 8 Members are not keen on track maintenance and tree planting events
- 9 Their appears to be little interest in navigation training

Fires & Dry Conditions

A big issue at the end of 2006 was the bushfire situation in much of our favourite alpine walking areas. This has already led to cancellation of some trips and will severely limit where we can walk in 2007. Also the drier conditions have affected previously reliable water supplies and future trips, especially pack carries, may have to be planned with this in mind.

A few more words from the Walks Secretary



Thanks to Our Workers

The walks programme functions relatively smoothly due to the conscientious work of our dedicated band of leaders and co-ordinators. The leaders are too numerous to mention individually; there were 78 of them in 2006. Thank you to all of you. I will mention our co-ordinators though. Peter McGrath has been finding the leaders for our Sunday bus walks. Sandra Mutimer has been looking after the Wednesday walks and has recently handed over the reins to Margaret Curry. Liz Telford and Maureen Hurley have taken over the running of the Dandenongs Explorer walks from Warren Baker. Jean Giese continues to make sure we have nice easy walks for the not so vigorous among us with the TOFS walks. Thank you to all of you. You are crucial in providing the valuable service we do to our club members.

2007 will see new blood being injected into the running of the activities program with two new committee positions and several new co-ordinators. Please support them in any way you can, especially by volunteering to lead trips.

Jopie Bodegraven, Outgoing Walks Secretary

ACTIVITIES PROGRAM ROLES for 2007

POSITIONS VACANT - YOUR CLUB NEEDS YOU

We need people to fill the newly created roles listed below. Only the first 2 positions, General Walks Secretary and Sunday Walks Secretary, are official committee positions. Anyone taking up the other positions does not have to also be on the committee as their roles are not official committee positions, although they are welcome to be on committee if they wish. If you are interested in any of these roles, contact either our President, Jan Palich (94283639), or our current Walks Secretary, Jopie Bodegraven (94824691). More detailed role descriptions are available.

General Walks Secretary (committee position)

This is primarily an administrative role and does not involve coming up with walk ideas or finding leaders. There will be separate coordinators for those roles. He/she will therefore not need to be an experienced walker with a good knowledge of walk areas. He/she will coordinate the compilation of the activities program, receiving lists of trips and leaders from the Sunday walks secretary and the other coordinators, endeavouring to avoid any undesirable date clashes between trips. He/she may have to remind them of deadlines. He will email or post the required paperwork to all leaders except Sunday bus leaders, receive and file walk reports, keep stats, prepare a brief monthly report for News and also prepare an annual report.

Sunday Walks Secretary (committee position)

Will need to be someone actively doing Sunday walks with a reasonable working knowledge of day walking areas and be able to work with leaders. He/she will be responsible for all aspects of the Sunday bus walks, including convening a planning meeting each quarter to draw up a program, finding leaders and giving the general walks secretary a list of walks and leaders by the deadline date, emailing or posting out paperwork to leaders, receiving and filing Sunday walk reports, issuing credit notes, keeping stats and preparing a brief monthly report for News and an annual report. He/she will be assisted by an assistant Sunday walks secretary

Assistant Sunday Walks Secretary

An active Sunday walker who will assist the Sunday walks secretary in various ways including by standing in for him/her when on holidays or when they cannot be at clubnights, being on the walks planning committee, issuing credit notes etc. Would be ideal for a keen newer member who might then take over as Sunday walks secretary in some future year.

Overnight Trip Co-ordinators

1. Pack Carry Coordinator
2. Base Camp and Lodge Coordinator

These two positions involve coming up with trips and leaders for the quarterly program and generally dealing with any issues involving trips and leaders. The 2 would try to work in together, probably having a joint planning meeting to avoid date clashes. The general walks secretary will advise of deadline dates and the coordinators will give him/her a list of walks and leaders for inclusion in the program. Coordinators do not get involved in the paperwork or stats side of things. The General Walks Secretary does that. It would be desirable for both co-ordinators to also be on committee, but not essential.

Cycling Co-ordinator

Responsible for organising cycling trips and leaders (currently up to one a month) and advising the General Walks Secretary of trips and leaders by the program deadline date.

Other co-ordinators

We currently also have co-ordinators for Wednesday Walks, Dandenongs Explorer Walks and TOFS walks. They are all continuing in their roles.

Training Co-ordinator

Does not have to run training activities him/herself. Ideally the club would run 1 or 2 navigation courses and up to one first aid course a year. Each navigation course would probably involve one midweek evening theory night followed up by a practical day in the bush and could be run by a different person or persons each time. The training co-ordinator simply endeavours to make sure that the courses happen. The first aid course would be run by an external group (St John, Red Cross etc) and the co-ordinator would liase with them and promote the course to members. It would be desirable but not essential for him/her to also be on committee.



Base Camp MOUNT BUFFALO

DATE	9-11 February 2007
STANDARD	Easy/Medium
LEADER	Jan Colquhoun
TRANSPORT	Private
RETURN TIME	Optional
AREA	NE Victoria
MAP REF	Mt Buffalo Plateau 1:30,000 Eurobin & Buckland 1:25,000

This base camp aims to explore many of the highlights of the Mt Buffalo Plateau with a series of interconnected shorter walks. On the Saturday we take a car pool from our campsite at Lake Catani to The Reservoir picnic area. From here we have the option of exploring Og, Gog and Magog and Eagles Point before returning to the car park to ascend Mt. Dunn, which offers some of the best views of the plateau itself. We shall then walk back to the campsite via the Giants Causeway, Stanley Rocks and the picturesque Long Plain. We shall then drive to The Chalet for afternoon tea and further walks to some of the nearby lookouts. On Sunday we shall explore The Corral, The Castle, Mahomets Tomb, the Cathedral and the Hump. This area was burnt in fires two years ago but it has regenerated since. The many twisted and windswept dead trees have given this area an eerie atmosphere. On our way out of the park we have the option of taking a short hike to Rollisons Falls before heading back to Melbourne.

The campsite at Lake Catani has toilets and the lake is suitable for swimming. The proposed walks are flexible depending on the needs of the group, the weather and any subsequent fire damage to the park. I will be in the clubrooms for the two Wednesdays preceding the walk.



Pack carry MT FEATHERTOP VIA THE RAZORBACK - ** NOW WILSONS PROMONTORY **

DATE	16-18 February 2007
STANDARD	Easy/Medium
LEADER	John Fritze
TRANSPORT	Private cars

As the Feathertop area is closed due to the bush fires and unlikely to be reopened in time we have relocated this walk to the Prom (Refuge Cove loop). Unfortunately a maximum group size of twelve applies and has already been reached.



Base Camp TARRA BULGA NATIONAL PARK

DATE	23-25 February 2007
STANDARD	Easy/Medium (Saturday) and Easy (Sunday)
LEADER	Mick Noonan
TRANSPORT	Private
RETURN TIME	Sunday at 5-6 pm
AREA	South Gippsland
MAP REF	Carrajung 8221-3-S, 1:25,000

Its on again! If you were thinking of trying a base camp, have never seen Tarra-Bulga National Park, or had a great time when the club went there last then this is the walk for you! The park features in the first issue of Parks Victoria's new "Parks Discovery" magazine.

Secluded 200km east of Melbourne away in Gippsland, is Tarra-Bulga, the nearest 'town' is Balook close to the eastern end of the Grand Ridge Road. This park is one of the best temperate rain forests in Gippsland with real trees (giant Mountain Ash, Messmate, ancient Myrtle Beech and Blackwood), huge lush ferns, cool rainforest gullies, the famous Corrigans suspension bridge, Cyathea Falls, epiphytes growing on the trunks of tree ferns, etc. There's also wombats (dangerous for night driving!), possums, owls, lyrebirds, wallaby's, etc etc.

On the Saturday (14km) we will see the Information Centre, historic Balook (yes there is a tea room) the suspension bridge, fern gullies, Wild Cherry Track, with a long gradual climb after lunch, lots of views etc. On the Sunday (11km) we check out Cyathea Falls, Lyrebird track, plenty of views and magnificent forests.

There is no camping in the National Park so we are staying at the Tarra Valley Caravan Park. There is a choice of camping or cabins (up to 6 in a cabin), gas fired BBQ's, wood for a fire, a sheltered eating area, toilets, electricity!, water and a fridge in the Cabin we can share!... camping luxury remote from nearby towns and relatively immune from the weather ...!!! Bring something to share for the Saturday night.

Give me a call for more info or see me at the Club on the two Wednesdays before. You can either drive down on Saturday morning (via Traralgon & Balook) or the Friday night (via Gippsland Highway & Yarrum if arriving after daylight to avoid the roos and wombats!) I'll have lots of maps and more info at the Club. So if you're new to base camping or have not been to Tarra-Bulga (walk last done in Nov 2005 and then back in 1999) or seen the real Gippsland mark this trip in your calendar!

Federation of Victorian Walking Clubs



VicWalk CONSERVATION & TRACK MAINTENANCE

The following work days have been scheduled.

March 2007	Condon's Track - Steve Robertson;
April 2007	Powelltown - Dave Rimmer
5-7 May 2007	Riggall's Spur - Jim Harker
26-27 May	Boronia Peak, Grampians - Rod Novak
31 May - 3 June	Otways - Jim Harker



Pack carry ?? MITCHELL RIVER NP ??

DATE	2-4 March 2007
STANDARD	Easy
DISTANCE	34 km (Only 12km with full packs)
LEADER	Bob Oxlade
TRANSPORT	Private
AREA	East Gippsland
MAP REF	Vicmap 1:50,000 Cobannah Tabberabbera Also Rooftops 1:50,000 Mitchell River NP Forest Activities

Although there have been recent fires in the vicinity it appears the park has not been affected. Access is currently restricted but could be OK by March. Another venue will be organised if necessary.

This interesting walk has great Gorge scenery and nice campsites by the river.

Friday night camp will be at the delightful Bark Inn Camping Park.

The walk has been done previously over three days, but, with a short car shuffle we can see all of the features in two days.

We will begin walking in about the middle of the walk and approx 6km to our campsite. After erecting tents we will continue along the river approx 7 km with Daypacks to the early settlement area of Angusvale and return to camp.

On Sunday we return along the river gorge to the Camping Park viewing several features along the way, including the legendary Den of Nargun.

This walk will suit lots people so come along and explore this nice Park.



Pack carry Venue dependent upon areas open?

DATE	9-12 March 2007
LEADER	Dave Laing

Details unavailable at time of production of the Newsletter.



Base camp PROM IN A DAY

DATE	16-18 March 2007
STANDARD	Hard (possibly also Medium/Hard)
DISTANCE	About 45 km
LEADER	Bill Metzthen
AREA	Wilson's Promontory
MAP REF	Wilson's Prom Nat Park Outdoor Leisure Map

A walk of the southern circuit of the Prom in one day can be claimed to be a tradition of the club. The walk has been on our summer or autumn programme for about 20 years.

The aim is to walk from Tidal River to Sealers Cove, to Waterloo Bay, to Oberon Bay, and finish back at Tidal River. The walk has been programmed later than usual this year so we will need set off at 7 am on Saturday morning to ensure that we have enough time to swim (swim suits are not compulsory on this walk) at several of the beaches and make it back to camp before dark.

If there is enough interest, it might be possible to also run a shorter version of the walk.

There is no pressure on the Sunday. A late start is in order, perhaps with a short walk and/or swim to follow and then a relaxed drive home.



Base camp AIRE RIVER (OTWAYS)

DATE	9-12 March 2007
STANDARD	Easy/Medium
LEADER	Sylvia Ford
DISTANCE	12 km, 14km, some km
RETURN TIME	Monday, early evening
AREA	Otways
MAP REF	Glenaire 1:25,000, The Otway and Shipwreck Coast Outdoor Leisure map

The Aire River camping ground lies to the west of Cape Otway. It has a long drop, no water so b.y.o., and I can't remember about a fireplace, I'll find out. We shall gather here on the Friday night where some good person going early has bagged us a good spot. Saturday's walk goes SE towards Cape Otway along the beach and visiting Rainbow Falls. We return via the top path. On Sunday we'll go NW along the cliff to Castle Cove and Dinosaur Cove, and return. On the Monday we'll pack up, maybe drive round to Johanna Beach as it is lovely, and then check out Triplet Falls. Now we have options: close by is the Otway Fly which is a tree top walk. If you haven't done it I really recommend you do, it's almost other worldly. On our way back to Colac is the Gellibrand Blueberry farm. At 18 different varieties this is a great pick-your-own place. Colac has at least one good coffee and cake place, - oops, this is a walk report, nearly forgot. Do come, should be good.

To book contact Sylvia.



Lodge Weekend MT BULLER - ** NOW MT HOTHAM **

DATE	23rd to 25th March
STANDARD	Easy / Medium – Various
DISTANCE	Various
LEADER(S)	Dianne McKinley
TRANSPORT	Private
RETURN TIME	Late Sunday
AREA	Mt Hotham and Feathertop
MAP REF	Bogong High Plains 1:50,000

This is the trip to replace the previously planned Mt Buller weekend which is not possible due to the current closure of the Park and lack of suitability of walks on Mt Buller following the summer fires.

The planned walks for Hotham are in progress and will be posted in the March edition of the NEWS. A trip to Mt Feathertop is likely, with easier/medium trips in the area also to be scheduled. Please see the March NEWS for an updated preview of walks.

Accommodation will be at the Royal Children's Hospital Lodge. The cost is \$60 for the weekend. You need to bring a towel and sleeping sheet. No sleeping bags – doonas are provided. This is a 22 bed lodge with all cooking facilities and a comfortable lounge and open fireplace, and great views of the High Plains. The accommodation consists of bunk-style rooms. Everybody will assist in tidying the lodge prior to departure.

To book or for further information, contact Dianne.

Member reviews

Mt Bogong Pack Carry - The Australia Day Weekend



The Never Ending Hill

With the large number of trip cancellations over the summer due the threat of fires there were a lot of frustrated bushwalkers in the club who just wanted to 'get up a mountain'. Very kindly Derrick Brown offered to lead a walk, on short notice, up Mt Bogong- about the only mountain in the high country where the tracks were open.

It proved to be popular with 22 participants, the largest pack carry group in most peoples' memories. On Friday we set off from our campsite at Mountain Creek on the climb up 'The Staircase' spur. For those who don't already know Mt Bogong(1986m) is the highest mountain in the state. We started our climb at 600 meters, with 1400 meters to reach the summit. As we made our way up and up I was soon to realize what I had gotten myself in for! It was relentless, each time you looked up there was another hill with no end in sight. We had morning tea at Bivouac Hut. I was flagging it by then, as the midday sun beamed down on us with no shelter or breeze. The fitter among us strode on ahead while the rest of us continued in stops and starts. We are very much in debt to Ken MacMahon for his patience as a whip and the fact that he didn't really hit us with sticks, as he threatened to. One person turned back to spend the night at Bivouac Hut and then he walked out in the morning, returning safely. Once we left the tree line we regained some energy; a cool breeze and the sight of the summit provided encouragement. After admiring stunning views and the obligatory photo shoot at the top we descended to the saddle below quartz knob, our campsite, at around 3pm.

For eight of us (David E, Fran, Roy, Peter, Halina, Del, Kerry and I) it was our first time up Mt Bogong. The image that shall always remain in my mind as a memory of this trip was when we collected water from the nearby stream. It was surrounded in daisies and as you looked downstream to find yourself on top of layers of blue mountains - a surreal perspective. A sight well worth the climb.

Now for those things that, as every pack carrier knows, really matter. Firstly, the lightest pack award went to John Fritze at 11kg for three days- no surprises here! John amused us on Saturday night by demonstrating his dish cloth that was the size of a fingernail. The best meal award went to Diane Gomez who produced a home made spaghetti bolognese on the second night. Ken took out the smartest person award for sharing meals with her. Then there were the tents. Derrick was sporting a bright orange tent which he picked up in the Kathmandu sales. It proved to be a case of follow the leader in more ways than one as two others had visited the same sale and three others had taken a sudden fondness for orange. There were a total of six orange tents that huddled together, no doubt for safety, at each camp site. So for those who have to be up to date with their gear it's clearly time to throw out those drab little MacPacs! Meanwhile Mohammad was an inspiration as he advised us on the virtues of micro-lights.

We were fortunate to have Bill along who advised us accurately and those of us who were brave enough to leave the warmth of their tents at 9.30 pm enjoyed a perfect view of the Mc Naught comet.

On Saturday we retraced our steps to the Hooker Plateau where we dropped packs and walked out to the West Peak where we had excellent views to the north, west and south including views of Mt Beauty township, Mt Feathertop, Mt McKay not to mention the burnt bush. Retrieving our packs we returned to the summit, where we met a group from VMTC at the cairn. We continued along the ridge before dropping to the tree line and the Cleeve Cole Memorial Hut, where we lunched and made camp. Here we met member of the Essendon Bushwalking Club. After lunch we went to the Madisons Hut site, then to Howmans Falls. Here we relaxed at the top of the falls while Ken and John climbed and slid down the sheer slopes opposite us to the bottom of the falls. Needless to say they had cameras in hand.

It was a chilly evening and people retired to their tents early. I took the soft option and spent the night in the rather cozy hut. The walk out on Sunday was via the Eskdale Spur, passing the (newly built replacement) Michell Hut to Camp Creek Gap, where we picked up a footpath to the road.

Jan Colquhoun

Bushwalking by the Stars ... by Geoff Crapper

AQUARIUS 20th January to February 19th



AQUARIAN MAN:
Possesses an unbiased and open mind, free from superstition and prejudice. He is a reformer at heart who has to believe in the work that he is doing. He loathes formality and convention and does not recognise superiors unless they have earned his respect. He finds encounters with the opposite sex easier to handle on a friendship level rather than on an intense emotional basis..Best match Gemini,Libra.

AQUARIAN WOMAN:
The female Water Carrier is basically a career woman and domesticity to her is an institution to be avoided at all costs. She does not seek material things and feels strifled by overbearing men. The more light-hearted jovial type of man who loves life and fun will appeal to Miss Aquarius. Best match: Gemini,Libra

WALK IN TURKEY

7 to 24 April 2007

John Basarin, a leader with the Bayside Bushwalking Club, also a co-author of books on Gallipoli and native of Turkey, conducted a successful walking tour to Turkey in October 2006, with participants from various Bushwalking Clubs.

Based on the interest shown in this walk, John is planning to repeat it in April for members and friends of bushwalking clubs.

The itinerary is designed to maximise opportunities for walking through three of the most interesting regions for Australian travellers to Turkey.

Highlights include:

- 3 day walks at Cappadocia (Central Turkey)
- 4 day walks at Lycian Way (Southern Turkey)
- 2 day walks at Gallipoli (Western Turkey)
- together with 4 days of sightseeing in Istanbul (2 days at start/end) and a day by boat on the Mediterranean.

The average walk per day will be 10 kms, staying at special-type accommodation and only carrying daypacks. There will also be local guides as well as a bus accompanying the party. The trip includes visits to the historical sites of Ephesus and Troy, and the culinary delights of Turkish cuisine will further enrich the experience.

The land cost, including accommodation, travel, guides, and most meals for a group of more than 10 walkers, will be same as this year, i.e. \$3406 (single supplement \$511).

There is scope to extend the stay and participate in the Anzac Day commemoration at Gallipoli. For further information or reservation of a place, please contact John Basarin on 0438 055 056, 9502 0605 or john@fairychimneys.com.au.

Oxfam Trailwalker Melbourne

Two Melbourne Bushwalkers, Paul Logsdon and Christine Salau are walking the 100km Oxfam Trailwalker to fight poverty. Can you help by sponsoring us and our team? The Oxfam Trailwalker is an endurance event where teams of four complete a 100km course from Jells Park to Wesburn Park in less than 48 hours, and our aim is to complete the entire 100km in under 24 hours!

Any donation to our team will help Oxfam Australia achieve its vision of a fair world in which people control their own lives, their basic rights are achieved and the environment is sustained. If you would like to sponsor us by donating online please visit www.oxfam.org.au/trailwalker/donate/ then complete the donation form, making sure to use our details as listed below. If you would like further information please email us c/- news@melbournebushwalkers.org.au.

Our team name is “**Justputsomething**” and team number is “**102**”



WALK SECRETRY'S REPORT

What the club did in December (trip stats)

Activity	Date	Trip	Std.	No.
Sunday Bus	3	Cumberland River (Lorne)	E&M	46
	10	Rye Back Beach - Sorrento	E&E/M	34
		(Total Fire Ban walk)		
	17	Cape Schank - Rye Ocean Beach	E&E/M	43
TOFS	7	Edithvale - Seaford Wetlands	E	26
Wednesday	13	Maribyrnong River Meander	E	19
Dand. Exp.		no walk in December		
Cycle	9	Docklands to Altona	E	5
Base Camp	1-3	Rubicon River & Mt Torbreck	E/M	6
	26-6	Tasmania Day Walks	E/M	10
	26-1	Native Dog Flat	E/M	6
Pack Carry	8-10	Mt McDonald-The Nobs: cancelled due to bushfires		
	8-17	Alpine Walking Track: cancelled due to bushfires		
	23-1	Snowy Mountains	M	4
	26-1	Blue Rag Range: cancelled due to fires		
Canoe	26-31	Upper Murray	E/M	7

