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THE NEWS OF THE Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc.

60 cents

Edition 683 | JANUARY 2008



Preliminary notice of
Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

**Wednesday
27 February 2008**

**Trades Hall
at 8.00 pm**

Agenda and proxy forms to be
included in next months newsletter.

EQUIPMENT DEMONSTRATION EVENING

8 pm Wednesday 16 January

John Fritze will be revealing his secrets to see what it takes
to reduce your weekend pack weight to 7kg (plus water).
Believe it or not!

WANTED - NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Job starts March edition of the News.

Every assistance will be given to the new editor to help them
on their way. If no-one "steps up" for this position there will
possibly be no more newsletters.

Contact Christine - news@mbw.org.au

EXTENDED PACK CARRY IN TASMANIA - SOUTH WEST CAPE AND PRECIPITOUS BLUFF End February to Mid-March 2008

Is anyone interested in this challenging trip in Tassie. It consists of flying in to Melaleuca or Cox's Bight, a four day side trip to South West Cape graded medium followed by a nine day walk involving two and a half days along a section of the South Coast Track (medium) and a challenging six days going over Precipitous Bluff, Pindars Peak and Moonlight Ridge, graded hard. There is a small group size limit. If interested, contact me Jopie Bodegraven.



Bathurst Harbour Panorama, Southwest Wilderness, Tasmania; Photograph by John O'Neill from Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia.

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:

- 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@mbw.org.au**

Closing date for receipt of material for The News is without fail 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 please contact the editor.

Club rooms Duty Roster:

January 16 David L, Lynda
January 23 * John F, Halina
January 30 Mark, Del
February 6 * Ray, John Mc
(* Treasurer in attendance)

Next Committee Meeting:

Monday, February 4 2008

SOCIAL SECRETARY: John McCall

Great things to do ...

Social events

1. BBQ on the Yarra

Wednesday 23 January 2008

Join Susan and Stuart, once again, for our post-Xmas BBQ on the Yarra. Bring-your-own everything plus an "unwanted", not needed, surplus Xmas pressie that we can put into a lucky dip and be given to a deserving bushy.

This proved to be a fun day last year, particularly as the weather was so obliging.

So see you at 1.00 at Yarra Bend BBQ spot, Melways 44 K3. Susan.

2. SAFARI NIGHT

Saturday 19 January 2008

Savannah Village, Werribee Open Plain Zoo

For details see Lynda Larkin's advertisement on page 3.

3. GELATI NIGHT

Wednesday 30 January 2008

Wot, no wine and cheese night?

No, but instead we have Lygon Street's best Gelati (as voted for by Jopie, Susan and Stuart).

Only \$2.10 per scoop, available from 8.00 pm.

Please bring exact change or loose coins – it will speed things up and avoid having your gelati drip.

So see you at the Bushies first ever Gelati night.



Cheese and Wine Evening

Wednesday, January 30

Gelati Night
(from 8.00 pm)

Reports

PRESIDENT:



Greetings All

The Larrikin is still in holiday mode (to some extent). Rest assured though that Committee is not allowing the dust to settle and we are all geared up for 2008 and preparing to face one of the biggest challenges Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc. has had to face for quite some time, that is deciding how to deal with the proposed rental increase for our club rooms at Mackenzie St, from the current rate of \$3,300 pa (including GST) to the proposed rate of \$20,000 pa (excluding GST).

We were notified of the rental increase shortly before Christmas and have therefore not been able to get together for a general discussion and proceed with a definite plan, but in the meantime the Committee has been canvassing ideas and preparing for discussion of this matter.

Included below is an article, "Rent Hike", submitted by the Club Secretary, Fay Dunn. The article outlines some important points relating to the proposed rental increase and several options to be considered and discussed at Committee, and subsequently the AGM, depending on how the situation develops, also on the nature of any decisions that may need to be made.

Your ideas, feedback and support would be greatly valued, and with that comes a reminder that Committee meetings are open to all members on the first Monday of every month commencing at 7.00 pm sharp. Be assured that you will receive a very warm welcome.

Have a very Happy New Year, Everyone, and lots of safe, enjoyable walking.

Lynda Larkin



COME ON A TRIP TO AFRICA WITHOUT THE JETLAG!!!

When : Saturday, 19 January 2008

Where: Savanna Village, Werribee Open Range Zoo

Time: 4.30 pm onwards

Celebrate Summer experiencing the best of Africa as the sun goes down. Come and relax with me and be swept away by the amazing sounds and vibrant rhythms of the exuberant and visually stunning African Royal Drummers. The spirit and warmth of these highly skilled traditional musicians is an excellent opportunity to experience a unique display of African culture that will leave you wanting more. Led by Kojo Owusu, the African royal Drummers play royal music from all regions of Ghana, especially that of the Asante people.

Bring a picnic tea or try the delicious African cuisine available to those who prefer another flavour. Very pleasant wandering along picturesque walking trails, or be taken on a safari tour of the Zoo by bus before dusk.

If you would like to come along, contact Lynda or else just turn up.

Location: 32 km south-west of Melbourne,
K Road, Werribee South
Melway ref. 201 D1



Cost : Adult \$23.00
Concession \$17.30
Children \$11.50
2 Adults and 2 Children \$52.40

RENT HIKE

Melbourne Bushies have been faced with some tough hikes in their time, but this is one of the biggest. Our rent has been increased from \$3,000 pa to a proposed \$20,000 pa (amounts exclusive of GST), plus rates, taxes and maintenance of the building. This increase has serious implications for the club and its members and the Committee would like your involvement in discussions on how we should respond to this.

The options available to us are to:

1. Pay the increase. This would mean at least doubling our membership fee.
2. Share the premises with another group. Still a threefold increase in our rent.
3. Find alternative accommodation.
4. Attempt to negotiate either lowering of the proposed rent or a graduated increase.

Option 1 seems the least viable and the Committee is following leads on the other options. If you have ideas on venues for our club or groups who would be suitable for us to share our premises with, please let us know.

Please pass your ideas on to any Committee member or come to Committee meetings to put your views. Committee meets on the first Monday of the month, in the Club rooms at 7.00pm.

You can speak to a Committee member directly, leave a message in the pigeon holes in the Club rooms or phone us on the numbers listed at the back of the Summer program.

Our building is owned by the State Government and managed through the Board of Mint Inc. We have been renting this cottage for over 20 years.

Fay Dunn, Secretary

Reports

GENERAL WALKS SECRETARY:

Congratulations to Mary Daley, Max Casley, and Rod Novak, the three winners of the leaders' prize draw at the club's Christmas party. On behalf of the committee and all club members I would like to thank the leaders who have volunteered their time and skill to lead trips for the club during the past year, and to those who will be doing so in the 2008 program, which is now complete to the end of May.

The autumn program accompanies this edition of News. Thank you to all coordinators, whose names are listed on the reverse side of the program, for providing their input once again.

The following is a list of leaders of activities during the past twelve months.

Happy walking ... David Arnold



SUNDAY WALK SECRETARY:

THANK YOU SUNDAY WALK LEADERS

I just want to take this opportunity to thank all Sunday Walk Leaders for their support in 2007. Over the year we have run 50 Sunday walks which have involved 100 leaders or co-leaders. All leaders are volunteers and give much of their time to lead these walks. This time not only involves leading the walk on the day but prior to the walk previewing it, writing up the preview for the newsletter, booking and collecting bus booking fees in the clubrooms on the two Wednesdays prior to the walk and after the walk writing a walk report for future leaders, reconciling monies collected and ensuring these monies are handed to the treasurer. Much of these tasks are the responsibility of the main leader and all take time and I and the club appreciate the efforts of all leaders.

Over the year I have come to rely on several people who constantly put their hands up to lead walks. Many of these leaders have moved onto other activities, some personal and some involving other types of walks/activities in the club and I do appreciate their continued support. Some leaders offer to lead walks on a quarterly basis. All this has made my role as Sunday Walks Secretary much easier than it might have been. I will continue to rely on these leaders but I hope that as people become more confident with their skills that they too will volunteer to lead a walk.

The autumn walks program has been finalised, however, we have already started to plan the winter program. To help and support all co-ordinators, ideas for walks for the program and especially volunteering to lead a walk will be greatly appreciated.

I wish to thank all leaders for their support in 2007. I hope that you all had a merry Christmas and that in 2008 that you will continue to enjoy walking and leading with Melbourne Bushies.

Cheers ... Halina Sarbinowski

P.S. Just a quick note to all leaders in relation to new members. It is best if you have a visitor who has completed their qualifying walks/activities to fill in their membership application at the end of the walk/activity. Applications require nomination and seconding by members of at least six months standing. These should be from two members who have participated with the visitor so this would be the best time to complete these forms.

2007 LEADERS		
One activity led:		
John Brister	Jan Brooksbank	Fotina Lennon
Sheena Burgess	Liz & Phil Wood	Keith McKenry
Fiona Gallery	Fay Dunn	Jacky McGrath
Gina Hopkins	Geoff Mattingley	Sandra Mutimer
Maureen Hurley	Trish Elmore	Susan Maughan
Stuart Hodgson	Mary Daley	Liz Telford
Ross Berner	Ray Thomas	Pearson Cresswell
Alex Stirkul	Dale MacKenzie	Derrick Brown
Dianne McKinley	Bernadette O'Connell	Bill Donald
Bill Metzenthien	Ed Neff	
Two activities led:		
Nik Dow	Marilyn Lock	Paul Beers
Paul Logsdon	Lesley Hale	David Elias
Liz Moore	Lynda Larkin	Roger Browne
Doug Pocock	Eleonora Axelsson	Tom Wilanowski
Peter Hogan	Philip Brown	Bob Steel
Hans Edlinger	Jerry Grandage	John McCall
Ian Mair	Jan Palich	Keith White
Rod Novak		
Three activities led:		
Mohammad Akbari	David Arnold	Elizabeth Ingham
Margaret Curry	Mark Heath	Carol Corrigan
Four activities led:		
Jean Giese	Jan Colquhoun	Les Southwell
Max Casley	Cameron Durrant	Jopie Bodegraven
Five activities led:		
Del Franks	Doug Langton	Graeme Walkden
Sylvia Ford	Alister Rowe	Lance Mobbs
Six activities led:		
Phil Geschke	Mick Noonan	Bob Oxlade
John Fritze		

2007 LEADERS ... continued		
Seven activities led:		
David Laing		
Ten activities led:		
Halina Sarbinowski		

Reports

EQUIPMENT OFFICER

More equipment for hire

As part of our cunning plan to make you carry less weight the equipment store has purchased a brand new pack for you to try. It's the Golite Jam 2. The male version has a capacity of 51 litres, weighs 620 grams and costs about \$145 to import (It's not available locally). The female version is slightly smaller. We think it's an excellent pack for the long weekend and highly recommend it for those prepared to exercise a modicum of self-control over their gear selection and packing. If this doesn't sound like you, come to our equipment demonstration evening and prove yourself wrong.



Equipment demonstration evening

Wednesday 16 January 2008 at 8:00 pm.

Here's an opportunity to see what it takes to reduce your weekend pack weight to 7kg (plus water) and how, even with average gear, you don't need to carry more than 9kg (plus water). We will introduce the Golite Jam 2 and demonstrate how it might accommodate different combinations of gear. We will have three sizes on hand for you to try and, to simulate a comparison with your own pack may even fill an old one with bricks.

Rechargeable batteries

If you need to charge an odd numbers of batteries, or batteries with different levels of charge, your bread and butter charger will not cut the mustard. It's only suitable for pairs of equally discharged batteries and will mischarge and possibly damage

batteries if forced to do otherwise. You need one that individually charges each battery. They cost upwards of \$40 from places like Dick Smith or J Car Electronics.

Non-rechargeable batteries

If you are planning a long trip in the sticks you might consider lithium batteries. They last up to seven times longer than alkalines, are 35% lighter, maintain a more uniform voltage, operate efficiently over a wider temperature range, and have an extremely long shelf life. Unfortunately they are also more expensive with two AA Energisers selling for about \$12. You can however buy lesser-known brands from electronics stores for about half this price.

John Fritze

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY, *Peter Havlicek*

Due to space constraints, the additions and alterations to member addresses are provided on page 9.

Membership stats:

Life Members	12	
Honorary Members	11	
Single memberships	335	
Family memberships	104	(= 2x 52)
Total membership	462	
This time last year	480	

WILLIS'S WALKABOUTS

Kakadu in close focus

No one else gets you this close

Kakadu is much more than an inspiring landscape with many deep gorges and beautiful waterfalls. It is also a subtle place where many of nature's masterpieces are seen only by those who walk through at a leisurely pace with a keen eye and sense of wonder.

Take your time. Enjoy a swim and look at the butterflies. Observe the small birds. Have a break and watch the small lizards. Relax around a camp fire. Soak up your surroundings while your guide prepares you a three course meal.

See our website...

or give us a
call for details.

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

Notice board

SUNDAY BUS FEE TO INCREASE

The Sunday Bus Walk fee will increase to \$25.00 from 1st March 2008.

The concessional rate will remain unchanged, at \$15.00. During 2007 the club has subsidised fees from reserve funds. After a review of bus expenses and patronage we believe the increased fee is more reflective of our actual costs. These fees however do not take into account transport reimbursement for leaders which will continue to be subsidised by the club. Also they do not reflect any possible increases in bus expenses.

This is still great value for a fantastic day out walking and we hope that you will continue to support the Sunday bus.

Further, late fees (for turning up unpaid on the Sunday) will be increased to \$5.00.



WEDNESDAY WALK FAIRHAVEN BEACH HOUSE BREAK



It's on again ... the Fairhaven Beach House Break

You have probably heard about how much fun we have so if you don't want to miss out in 2008, be sure to book in early. If we fill the house there is flat camping ground in the spacious garden.

Note, this is the third year we have been running this social event. So, diarise Tuesday 19 February to Thursday 21 February. Margaret's Wednesday Walk is in this area on the 20th, so come and join us to avoid the morning drive!

Susan Maughan and Stuart Hodgson, 9754-7443.

LILO FOR SALE

Double lilo used once. Heavy duty green with flock on top which is perfect for base camps or general camping, but not suitable for pack carries.



Best offer !

Contact Wendy Fortington



TOTAL FIRE BAN ON CLUB TRIPS

What happens to the trip?

During the hotter months we occasionally get a total fire ban on the day of a trip. This leads to questions such as: Does the trip still go ahead? Should the venue be changed? Can I pull out and get a refund (Sunday bus)?

The following guidelines have been adopted by the committee:

Sunday Walks

The walks committee as part of the Summer Program will select two or more coastal or metropolitan walks for which there are good track notes available and which can be led without previewing. In the event of a total fire ban day in the walk area, and the walk being in a high fire risk area, the leader shall relocate the walk to one of the metro or coastal walks selected by the committee, or another suitable walk of the leader's choice, unless the walk can be suitably modified to make it adequately safe to the satisfaction of the Sunday Walks Secretary.

The leaders should inform all those booking on the Wednesday prior, that the walk may be altered or relocated and the proposed destination. A total fire ban day will be an acceptable excuse for pulling out of the walk and qualifying for a credit note, provided the leader is notified no later than 7pm Saturday.

Private Transport Trips

These trips will be entirely at the leader's discretion to modify, relocate or cancel, having regard to the potential dangers of the walk area, but the leader must endeavour to contact all participants and a designated club contact if the trip is cancelled or relocated.

Member trip reviews

Pack Carry: BAW BAWs

30 November – 2 December 2007 - Led by Max Casley

The preview graded this walk as Easy/Medium, but it turned out to be even easier. The plan had been to walk a section of the Alpine Walking Track (AWT) from Stronachs Camp to Mt St Gwinear, with a car shuttle to complete the loop. However, as the day of the walk approached, it became clear that conflicting dates for completion of bridgework at Little Boys Creek on Thompson Valley Road should be interpreted as “non-completion”, and Plan B unfolded. Just to be certain, the Max car drove to the Creek and found that crossing via the new bridge (seemingly being constructed from the centre back/forward towards each bank) would require winged carriages.

The Friday night travellers booked in at Rawson Village for a stylish pre-walk dinner, and emerged just before dark to drive the final 25k to camp at the car park below cloud-topped Mt St Gwinear. And what a drive that was, inching along (or the metric equivalent) in the thickest of fogs in search of the next marker post on either side of this very curly road. Fortunately, one of the pauses to check whether we were pointing along the road (rather than across it to the valley) coincided with a wombat pausing a metre ahead.

No such excitement for the early Saturday arrivals who swelled our numbers to 18. We all set out in perfect spring weather up the grassy track to Mount St Gwinear, then off across Gwinear Flat and beyond, to set up camp late morning in the saddle among naturally hedged individual sites not far from a creek. With daypacks, we continued along a foot pad through the flowering bushland to the edge of Mustering Flat and crossed it, without too much trouble, to a rocky vantage point for lunch. The general objective then was to reach the site of Stagg’s (or Jan’s) hut as shown on a map. However, we found that the intervening area marked as “snow plain” was an apparently endless garden of thriving shrubbery, somewhat thicker than we might have preferred. After pushing through hopefully for a while we cancelled that plan and divided into several groups: the intrepids who fancied crashing westward and upward to eventually join the AWT several kms beyond camp, the wishfuls who resigned from the intrepids after testing their route, and the scratch-averse others who enjoyed the more straight-forward return.

At dinnertime we discovered the creek was alive with tadpoles that swam via our water vessels into the cook-pot. I carefully transported my first all the way back to her creek, but decided that the next half dozen could find their own way. The intrepids went to bed early, and the rest didn’t linger too long around the “virtual campfire”, a collection of tea candles, because the clear sky made for a crisp night.

In the morning we packed nice dry tents and headed back to the Gwinear Track to dump big packs, and join the AWT. We paused atop Mount Saint Phillack for morning tea to savour the glorious vista of distant ranges to the north, then took the alternate (winter snowpole) route across Currawong Flat and over The Tors to meet the track up to Mt Baw Baw summit for lunch. From here, amidst Victoria’s summer fly plague, we could enjoy picturesque rural plains and hills rolling

southward, as well as the fantastic mountains to the north viewed from Mueller’s Lookout. Our return to the packs was via the more northerly track option from McMillan’s Flat to Mount Saint Phillack. And we reached the cars in continuing fine weather, early enough to be home well before dark.

What a great weekend – in alpine scenery untouched by the bushfires that have scarred most of our high places in recent years, with enthusiastic companions, and only three hours from Melbourne. And it was a delight to have Tracey back walking with us. Many thanks Max, and other walkers – Angela, Bob, Deb, Del, Don, Doug, Evan, Fay, Jan, Jerry, John, Jopie, Linda, Liz, and Roy.

Lesley Hale

Vale

Clive Bray



Sadly we have lost another former club member, Clive Bray, who passed away at the early age of 66 recently after a long illness. Clive was active with the club in the 1960s, when, in the company of other members, he undertook many extended walks that included the Victorian Alps, Cradle Mountain National Park and South West Tasmania at a time when such undertakings were far more serious than today.

Known for his ferocious sense of humour and flamboyant shirts, Clive met his lifelong partner Liz on a club walk to Gunbower Island. Although his club membership lapsed when his profession took him overseas, he kept in touch with many of his friends from the early 1960s, some of whom are still members to this day. Clive’s unique sense of humour was with him to the end.

We extend our heartfelt sympathy to Liz and her family at the loss of a loving husband, father and grandfather.

(Contributed by John Siseman)



Sunday Bus

TOOLANGI - PAULS RANGE - SCHOOLHOUSE RIDGE

DATE Sunday 13 January
 STANDARD Easy and Medium
 LEADERS Peter Hogan and David Laing
 See leaders and book in the club rooms.



Wednesday Walk

HISTORICAL WALK, LOWER YARRA

DATE Wednesday 16 January
 STANDARD Easy
 DISTANCE (4.5 hours)
 LEADER Susan Maughan
 START 10.30 am
 MEET At The Leonda, Kew, Melway 45 A11

In mid 1995 I joined the late Athol Schafer on one of his historical walks and enjoyed it immensely. I have often thought about following the same route, so here it is, please join me. We take in various sights, a Prime Minister's 1920s residence, John Wren's pony racing track, and the entrance to "The Hawthorns". Plus Studley boathouse (lunch) and Dight's Falls. This might prove to be a thirsty day so we could end up at the Carringbush for a cold drink – what do you think?
 Susan.



Sunday Bus

RAWSON

DATE Sunday 20 January
 STANDARD Easy and Easy/Medium
 DISTANCE 14 km and 17 km
 LEADER(S) Mick Noonan and Dale MacKenzie
 TRANSPORT Bus – Southbank Blvd, **8:30 am**
 AREA Thompson SF and Walhalla Historic Area
 MAP REF Walhalla, 1:25, 000, Gippsland

The last time we did a Sunday walk in this area was the Walhalla Federation Weekend in 2004. The easy/medium group starts at Rawson and takes 4 wheel drive tracks to the Thomson River Bridge. From here we all wander along an old tramway walking track with fantastic views of the Thomson River to the Old Steel Bridge. Then it's back to the Thompson River Bridge via the opposite side of the river (with a chance for an ice cream at the Railway Station!). From here we take the old railway line which runs above the Thompson River to the site of the old Platina Station. We then continue along the old railway line to Erica. The walk has ferns, great forests, historic sites, fantastic river views, old and new railway bridges.

Depending on the weather, the river level and timing we should get a chance to see the Horse Shoe Tunnel that to this day still diverts the Thompson around where they searched for gold in the 1860's. Come and enjoy this lovely part of Victoria and walk part of the Alpine Walking Track!



Sunday Bus

PYRITES CREEK

DATE Sunday 27 January
 STANDARD Easy and Easy/medium & E/M
 DISTANCE 14 and 17 km
 LEADERS Mark Heath and Peter Leech
 TRANSPORT Bus
 AREA Gisborne
 MAP REF Toolern Vale & Bullengarook 1:25000

These walks have a few ups and downs amongst old growth Box-Ironbarks, dry Eucalypt forests and grass trees. The area has elements common to both Eastern and Western Victoria and is home to 150 bird species, including the Swift Parrot and Powerful Owl. The area was a significant source of Antimony during the Second World War.



Sunday Bus

PORTARLINGTON – EDWARDS POINT (WINERY)

DATE Sunday 3 February
 STANDARD Easy & Easy Medium
 DISTANCE 13km & 15km
 LEADER(S) Roger Browne & Richard Hanson
 TRANSPORT Bus from Southbank Blvd at 9am
 AREA Bellarine Peninsula
 MAP REF Melways: 473-4, 460, 446-5 and 458

We start in St Leonards going into Edwards Point Wildlife Reserve. This is notable for its sea and wetlands bird life as well as its native flowers and bushes. From there on, it is a pleasant beach walk taking in Indented Head and the fringes of Portarlington. Low tide is expected about 1:30pm, so we can expect to walk on firm sand.

After the bus pick up, we intend to visit Kilgour Estate winery. Besides tastings, there is a good restaurant for coffee, cakes, etc. Please note a surcharge is payable of \$3.00 is payable to the winery.



TOFS

FINNS RESERVE - WESTERFOLD PARK

DATE Thursday 7 February
 STANDARD Easy
 DISTANCE 10 km
 LEADER Jean Giese
 TRANSPORT Private
 START TIME 10.15 am
 RETURN TIME 2.30 p.m
 MAP REF Meb. 21 and 33

We will keep in the shade of the trees as far as is possible and have the option of a shortcut if the day proves too hot.

Finns Reserve has historical interest and walking close to the Yarra River is always pleasant. Bicycle paths will be avoided for most of the time.

Meet in the parking area at the end of Duncas St to commence walking at 10.15 am. Melway reference 33B4. Book with leader.



Sunday Bus

CUMBERLAND RIVER – LORNE

DATE	Sunday 10 February
STANDARD	Easy/Medium and Medium
DISTANCE	15KM/ 18KM
LEADERS	Lynda Larkin and John McCall
TRANSPORT	Bus from Southbank Blvd - Note 8.30am start
AREA	Lorne
MAP REF	Walking the Otways B1

Both walks will commence at the mouth of the Cumberland River 7 kms south-west of Lorne along the Great Ocean Rd. We will head inland following the foot track up the Cumberland River, making several relatively easy river crossings. A steep climb away from the river and through luxuriant rainforest will then lead us to the Upper and Lower Kalimna Falls, either of which makes a heavenly place to stop for lunch.

From this point we have a number of choices which may include a visit to the fascinating Canyon, with its steep walls and huge moss-covered boulders, Swallow Cave, Sheoak Falls or Castle Rock lookout, which offers superb views over the Cumberland River and the Ocean. So many wonderful choices. We will surprise and delight you on the day with whatever we decide upon. Book early so as not to miss this beautiful and very popular walk. Please remember to equip yourselves with proper sun protection, adequate water... and a change of shoes for the bus.



Wednesday Walk

BELLS BEACH AND IRONBARK FOREST

DATE	Wednesday 20 February
STANDARD	Easy/Medium
DISTANCE	14.5km
LEADER	Margaret Curry
TRANSPORT	Private
AREA	Torquay/Bells Beach/Point Addis
MAP REF	VicMap Torquay and Point Addis 1:25,000

This is an interesting and varied circuit. We start by walking through coastal scrub, pass the site of the old Jarosite mine (paint pigment from here used on the 'red rattler' Melbourne trains), and then through the beautiful Ironbark Forest Reserve, before heading to the clifftops with superb coastal views. The track leads us onto the Koori Cultural trail and there is also time to explore Point Addis before descending to the beach. Pleasant sand walking along Addiscott Beach (designated optional clothing area) backed by towering red cliffs, before crossing a rocky platform around the headland to reach the renowned Bells Beach and our cars. Bring bathers for a swim or 'bare all' at Addiscott Beach.

Drive through Geelong and then a further 22km to Torquay. Continue west along the Great Ocean Road for 3km, turn left onto Bells Beach Road then left again at the

T- intersection. Turn into the second parking area on your left signposted "Bells Beach Surfing and Recreation Reserve". Drive to the lower end of the carpark near the brightly painted toilet block. We will meet here at 10.15am for a 10.30am start. The walk will form part of the Fairhaven sojourn organised by Susan Maughan. Bookings for the Wednesday walk to be made to Margaret after 4th February by phone or email.



TOFS

WILLIAMSTOWN - ALTONA

DATE	Thursday 6 March
STANDARD	Easy
DISTANCE	11 km
LEADER	Janet Norman
TRANSPORT	Private
START TIME	10.30 am
RETURN TIME	3.00 p.m
MAP REF	Melway 54 J 9

The walk will begin at the car park at Cherry Lake off Millers Road Altona. Take the Millers Road exit if you are coming over West Gate Bridge. The car park is on the southern side of the lake. We will walk around Cherry Lake then head off for the sea through the Altona Coastal Park and along the Esplanade. Not a hill in sight but the chance of a sea breeze and the odd sea bird – perfect for a warm day. The length of the walk will be adjusted in accordance with the temperature and the sea breezes.

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY REPORT:

New members:

- Deliberately deleted for web version.

Altered Address/Phone:

- Deliberately deleted for web version.

(Membership stats on page 5.)



Pack Carry NORTHWEST SPUR – MT FEATHERTOP – BON ACCORD SPUR

DATE	11-13 January 2008
STANDARD	Medium/hard
DISTANCE	30 km
LEADER(S)	Gina Hopkins
TRANSPORT	Private
AREA	Alpine National Park, Bogong area
MAP REF	Bogong Outdoor Leisure Map 1:50,000

This is a classic walk to the second highest mountain in Victoria. In good weather the rewards are great with magnificent views all round. The Northwest Spur, starting from the Harrietteville Road, is the steepest route to the summit, and it's one that I haven't been up before. The climb is about 1,450m. After savouring the views from the top we'll collect water and walk on 2km to camp at the top of Diamantina Spur. Sunday we head south along the Razorback, with its ups and downs, and then down the Bon Accord Spur back to Harrietteville. This spur also has a steepish section near the top.



Pack Carry GREAT OCEAN ROAD – APOLLO BAY TO AIRE RIVER EAST

DATE	25-28 January 2008, Australia Day weekend
STANDARD	Easy/Medium
DISTANCE	38km
LEADERS	Carol Corrigan
AREA	Cape Otway
MAP REF	Vicmap 1:25,000 Otway/Princeton & Parks Vic GOW Info

Forests, clifftops, beaches – this lovely walk has it all as it passes through The Great Otway National Park. First day is 17 kms, but short 2nd and 3rd days ensure a leisurely pace with plenty of time for swimming, a tour of the lighthouse, and an early return home on Monday. There are a limited number of campsites so book early. Camping fees will be determined by number of walkers. For more details or to book on this walk contact me by phone or email.



Pack Carry BOGONG HIGH PLAINS

DATE	25-28 January 2008, Australia Day weekend
STANDARD	Easy/medium
DISTANCE	30 km
LEADER(S)	Ken MacMahon
TRANSPORT	Private
AREA	North east Victoria, Bogong High Plains
MAP REF	Bogong Alpine Area Outdoor Leisure Map

I intend to start this circular tour of the High Plains from Pretty Valley pondage. First night's camp will be out towards Mt Fainter South. We will visit Mt Fainter of course. Camp on Day 2 will be out towards Mt Cope. I have a delightfully secluded camp spot in mind, which is tucked away in a little-visited cove of old snow gums.

Pack Carry
BOGONG HIGH PLAINS ... continued ..

On Day 3 we should be back to the cars by early afternoon via Rocky Knobs.

I have it in mind for this walk to be a ramble with pack carrying limited to about 10 km per day and lots of time to explore the delights of this alpine area once we have set up camp. This walk would be suitable for beginners to pack carrying.



Base Camp PROM IN A DAY

DATE	1-3 February 2008
STANDARD	Medium/Hard
DISTANCE	45-65 km
LEADER(S)	Mark Tischler
TRANSPORT	Private
AREA	Wilsons Prom
MAP REF	Wilsons Prom Outdoor Leisure Map 1:50,000

Mark will lead a fast paced circuit trip from Tidal River, with the possibility of a longer 'side trip' down to the Lighthouse for the more energetic. Optional swims along the way. Bring Sun protection and lots of water and energy food. Meet 7am Saturday morning at the Tidal River Visitors Centre

Children Option: Therese will lead easy walks from Tidal River on Saturday and Sunday (early morning and evening walks if UV is too high) with time to swim in the river or play on the beach. May need protection from sun, wind, mozzies and March flies).



Pack Carry MT BOGONG

DATE	8 – 10 February 2008
STANDARD	Medium
DISTANCE	
LEADER	Bill Donald
TRANSPORT	Private
RETURN TIME	Sunday Evening
AREA	Mt Bogong
MAP REF	Bogong Alpine Area Leisure Series 1:50,000

On Saturday morning we start a leisurely ascent of Mt Bogong via The Staircase. Once at the top we will drop packs and head off to the West Peak as a side trip to check out the valleys below. Collecting our packs we will head towards the Cleve Cole hut area where we will make camp.

One Sunday we will retrace our steps along the ridge and head back down via the Eskdale Spur. The distance we travel will depend on the weather we encounter.

Please come prepared for 4 seasons in one day When the club did this trip in December 2005 the group encountered extreme weather in the form of hail, sleet and torrential rain.



Base camp ANGLESEA

DATE 15-17 February 2008
 STANDARD Easy/Medium
 DISTANCE About 14-16 km each day
 LEADER(S) Del Franks
 TRANSPORT Private
 AREA Anglesea
 MAP REF Anglesea 1:25,000

You will experience beautiful coastal scenery and bush on this part of the "Surf Coast Walk". Hopefully the weather will also provide for some great swimming opportunities as well so please bring your bathers.

Both walks that I have planned are circular walks starting in Anglesea. From the coastline, beach and clifftops, to the heathland, swampy gullies and light forests, these walks take in all that is Anglesea. Also the walks go through Coogoorah Park, an Aboriginal name meaning Swampy Reedy Creek. This is an adventure park set amongst bushland on the west bank of Anglesea Rive. It combines unique waterways, natural bushland islands, a network of bridges and boardwalks. I plan on camping at the Anglesea Family Caravan Park.



Pack Carry BUNGALOW SPUR - FEATHERTOP - RAZORBACK

DATE 22-24 February
 STANDARD Medium
 LEADER Mohammad Akbari
 Contact the leader for details.



Base Camp MT BUFFALO

DATE 7- 10 March 2008
 STANDARD Easy/Medium
 LEADER Jan Colquhoun

I have booked sites for 14 people and the site fees must be paid for by the club 30 days before the trip. To avoid the club paying for unused bookings, and so that unwanted site bookings can be cancelled in time, I need firm expressions of interest by the 6th Feb at the latest. Contact me via email for more details.



Pack carry FREYCINET NATIONAL PARK, TASMANIA

DATE 20-24-March, Easter 2008
 STANDARD Easy/Medium with M and M/H options
 DISTANCE 36km plus 16km options
 LEADER(S) Bob Oxlade
 TRANSPORT Private to Hobart then Charter Coach
 AREA Tasmania East Coast
 MAP REF Tasmapp Freycinet N.P.

The Freycinet Circuit is rated as one of the best five walks in Tasmania and features beaches, peaks and the world famous Wineglass Bay. Everything is confirmed for the walk and now is the time to arrange travel.

This walk is currently fully booked. Bob Oxlade

Bushwalking Victoria

TRACK MAINTENANCE GROUP

Track Maintenance and Conservation Activities. Bushwalkers are encouraged to assist with the following projects

2008 Dates	Activity	Leader	Contact Details
26-28 January	Alpine Mossbed Rehabilitation (booked out)	Steve Robertson	Details deleted for web version.
February TBA	Two Bays Track	Bev Williams	
15-16 March	Nest Box Placing, Benalla	Ray Thomas	
21 -24 March	Alpine Mossbed Rehabilitation	Steve Robertson	
5 - 6 April	Mt Buffalo	Jim Harker	
5 - 6 April	Nest Box Monitoring, Benalla	Ray Thomas	
2 - 4 May	Grampians	Rod Novak	
3 - 4 May	Nest Box Monitoring, Benalla	Ray Thomas	

Bus transport meets at Southbank Boulevard, south side of the Arts Centre, before 9.00am. Leader or deputy will be there rain, hail or shine!

Date	Activity/Location	Transport	Standard	Leader	Phone (H)
JANUARY					
11-13	PC: NW Spur - Feathertop - Bon Accord Spur	Private	M/H	Gina Hopkins	
13	Bus: Toolangi-Pauls Rge-Schoolhouse Ridge	Bus	E, M	Peter Hogan and David Laing	
16	Central Melbourne / BBQ	Private	Easy	Susan Maughan	
18-20	Lilo: Thomson River weekend	Private	Medium	Geoff Kelly	
19-20	BC: Cathedral Ranges	Private	Easy	AnnE Wilkins	
20	Bus: Rawson (8.30am start)	Bus	E, E/M	Mick Noonan and Dale MacKenzie	
25-28	PC: Gt Ocean Walk: Apollo Bay to Aire River	Private	E/M	Carol Corrigan	
25-28	PC: Bogong High Plains	Private	E/M	Ken MacMahon	
27	Pyrites Creek (Lerderderg)	Bus	E, E/M	Mark Heath and Peter Leech	
FEBRUARY					
1-3	BC: Prom in a Day	Private	M/H	Mark Tischler	
3	Bus: Portarlington - Edwards Point (Winery)	Bus	E, E/M	Roger Browne and Richard Hanson	
7	TOFS: Finns Reserve - Westerfolds Park	Private	E	Jean Giese	
8-10	PC: Mt Bogong	Private	M	Bill Donald	

The News of the Melbourne Bushwalkers

If undelivered please return to:
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