



THE NEWS OF THE Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc.

60 cents

SEPTEMBER 2008

We have gone thataway! Remember?

Our new Clubrooms are now situated at 239 A'Beckett Street Melbourne

Entrance on William Street



FEDERATION WEEKEND

Mt Cole State Forest, Mt Buangor and Langi Ghiran State Parks.

18 – 19 October 2008

Registration Entries close Friday 3 October

The annual Federation Weekend is fast approaching! The Ballarat Bushwalking and Outdoor Club is pleased to be hosting this year's Federation Weekend, with walks planned in Mt Cole, Mt Buangor and Mt Langi Ghiran State Parks. It's a beautiful area to walk in and there are a wide variety of walks available. It's also a fantastic opportunity to meet and mix with other walkers from participating clubs.

If you are interested it is advisable that you register early as you are likely to get your walk preferences.

Accommodation: The Beaufort Caravan Park has been set aside for tent accommodation (cost \$ 8 pp per night), and there are only 17 powered sites available. Caravan sites should be booked direct with the park on 03 5349 2196.

Other accommodation options are available in the Beaufort area – details are available on www.ballarat.com/bushwalking/federation_weekend.htm

Saturday Evening: there will be a 2 course Gourmet BBQ and live entertainment.

Costs:

Registration: \$ 20 per person
Tent site: \$ 8 per person per night
BBQ and entertainment: \$ 15 per person

What you need to do!

- Contact Katrina Murphy, Base Camp Coordinator for a registration form and list of walks or download from our website www.melbournebushwalkers.org.au
- Complete registration form and forward with cash / cheque to Katrina by **no later than Friday 26 September 2008**. Cheques can be written out to Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc
- For car pooling purposes, let Katrina know if you are willing to drive and take passengers, and/or if you need a lift.

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

Royal Historical Society of Victoria

**239 A'Beckett Street
Melbourne entrance on William Street**

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: Catherine Cardinet

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.

Please send your contributions as unformatted text files by email to news@mbw.org.au

Closing date for receipt of material for The News is without fail the 2nd 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:	Treasurer present
Sept 3 Susan M and Halina	YES
Sept 10 Mark and Lynda	
Sept 17 Mark Heath, Ray Spooner	YES
Sept 24 Del Franks, Peter Havlicek	

Next Committee Meeting:
Monday, September 1 2008

TRACK MAINTENANCE GROUP

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

As provided by MBW member, Mark Heath.

2008 Activity Dates	Leader contact details
September 2008 Condons Track (exact date TBA)	Steve Robertson 9762 5367 srob7859@bigpond.net.au
25-26 October 2008 Stronachs camp	Geoff Kelly 9328 4228 gpkelly@bigpond.net.au

SOCIAL NIGHTS



** HELD AT NEW CLUBROOMS

WHEN WEDNESDAY 24 SEPTEMBER, 8:00
WHERE 239 A'Beckett Street, Melbourne 3000

LAUNCH OF MELBOURNE BUSHIES' OWN WINE LABEL.

THIS IS A CHANCE TO IMPRESS YOUR FRIENDS, STOCK UP FOR THE FESTIVE SEASON, REPLENISH THE WINE CELLAR, BUY YOUR XMAS PRESENTS.....

Did you miss our wine-tasting night back in August?

Don't despair, as you can come along on 24th September and sample our selection and make your purchases. The prices are very reasonable for these quality wines. So, bring your cheque book or old-fashioned cash and let's get into the spirit of things.

Looking forward to seeing you in the Clubrooms for a unique evening.

WEDNESDAY 22 OCTOBER: Wine and cheese night.

Come along for our wine and cheese night and catch up with fellow Bushies. If you would like to order your Melbourne Bushwalkers' specially selected wine, speak to Susan on the night

Launch of MBW's own wine. The Members' own Art and Craft Exhibition.

See page 7 for full program

Greetings All.

As we welcome in the Spring, how fresh and green our bush lands and forests are looking with the recent rains which are hopefully falling also where they are most needed and filling our catchments before the Summer arrives.

Several weekends ago I participated in a walk in Lerderderg Gorge in the vicinity of Bears Head Range. We were treated to spectacular views of the gorge with its steep valley walls adorned with a dense profusion of golden wattle coming into bloom. It is undoubtedly a great time of year to be out in the bush savouring the beauty of our famous native tree for the short duration of its glorious flowering.

On Wednesday, September 20 we held our Half Year General Meeting in our new club rooms. It was well-attended and we welcomed on to Committee 4 new members, with all Committee positions now filled. Those elected unopposed were:

Vice President Margaret Curry
Vice President John McCall
General Walks Secretary Jane Williams
General Committee Mick Noonan

Members are reminded that Committee meetings are held on the first Monday of each month and that these meetings are open to all members. We are always willing to listen to and discuss with you any possible concerns you may have or innovative ideas you may wish to share.

We value greatly the inspiring spirit in which our members contribute to the running of the club, the generous manner in which they give of their time and energy and the skills and expertise they bring with them to help ensure a high standard of club operations and activities is maintained. Thank you All, and happy walking, skiing, cycling and living.

Lynda Larkin President

WILLIS'S WALKABOUTS

New Year at the Top

Wet, wild and wonderful

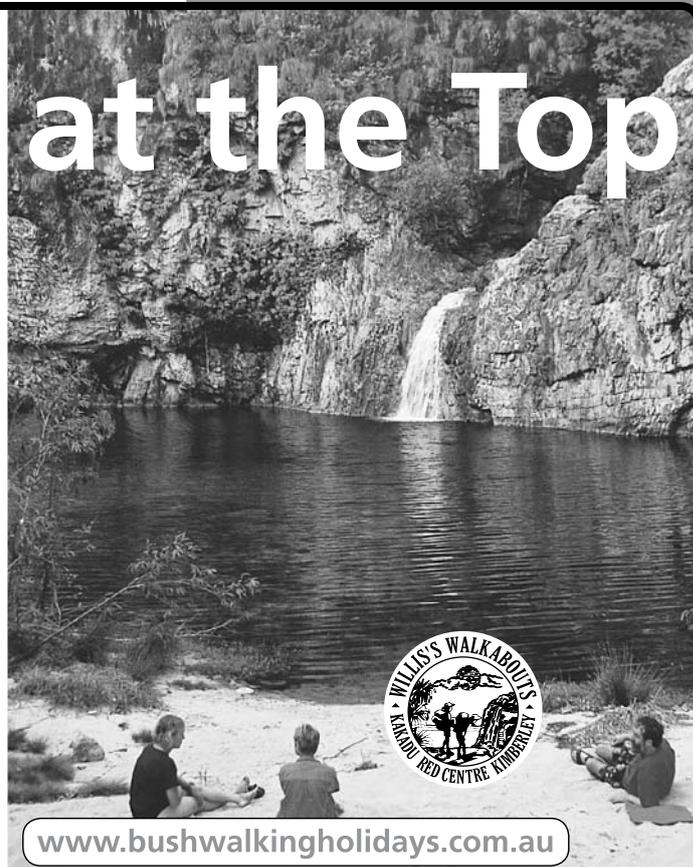
We love it and we want to take you there. Anyone who has lived in the north knows that summer is the best time to enjoy the **wild rivers, gentle creeks, thundering waterfalls, carpets of flowers and spectacular storms** for which our region is famous. Warm rain and cosy rock shelters mean that comfort is never far away.

If you find that hard to believe, click the photo galleries link on our website and see what it's really like. See what we saw on previous New Year trips. See what our wet season accommodated trips are like. **Browse the galleries for great trip ideas at any time of year.**

We offer everything from trips with full accommodation to major expeditions. We give you the tropical summer the way it was meant to be experienced — on foot.

Visit our website or ask us for more information.

12 Carrington St Millner NT 0810 walkabout@ais.net.au



www.bushwalkingholidays.com.au

Phone 08 8985 2134 Fax 08 8985 2355

Reports

EQUIPMENT OFFICER'S REPORT

Kiss

Hiking is a great way to enjoy the unadorned beauty of nature and your companions, and meal times should be no exception! Forget those tarted up creations and think laterally. Do you really need a hot meal? What about those wholesome raw and precooked foods? They may be a little on the heavy side but, for short trips, the saving of a stove and pot will more than compensate. If you do need to cook consider one-pot meals. The ingredients can usually pre-packed into a single zip-lock bag then, at meal time, tipped into a pot, covered with water, boiled, let to sog, eaten from the pot then cleaned up with a little water and your fingertips. If this seems to break all the rules of fine cooking and etiquette, remember the "kiss" principle, and give it a go!

Cheating on the hills

It's not strictly equipment and not really cheating but if you place your hands on your hips when you start puffing it will allow your lungs to work more efficiently and make climbing a little easier.

****Equipment demonstration evening****

Wednesday 1 October at 8:00PM

We've been wombatting around trying to find the best gear for Bushies type walks. We can't say we've got all the answers but we've found some bargains, some new gear that you are unlikely to see anywhere else, a few things that we wouldn't touch with a barge pole and some of our old favourites. We are also full of ideas on how to reduce weight and keep your stuff organised. Come along and have your ears bent.

John Fritze Equipment Officer

PACK CARRY TRIPS for SUMMER

TRIPS and LEADERS NEEDED

It's time to start planning our trips for summer, all those lovely alpine, coastal and river trips, and I invite your suggestions for trips and your offers to lead them.

Let me know what trip(s) you would like to lead and when and I will slot it/them into the pack carry program, fiddling with the dates to avoid clashes with other pack carries and also liaising with Katrina Murphy, our base camp coordinator to avoid any date clashes there. No-one will be approached individually to lead. I am relying on what is volunteered in response to this note and the email that I have circulated. What is volunteered is what goes onto the program.

The completed list then goes to Jane, our General Walks Secretary, to be included in the final program which will be published with the October News. The deadline for offers is Wednesday 17 September which is a bit earlier than normal because I will be interstate for a week from the 19th.

So hit me with all those offers.

If you would like to lead a base camp or lodge trip, please contact Katrina.

Jopie Bodegraven Pack Carry Coordinator

INSURANCE CLAIMS FOR WALKERS

Participants in Melbourne Bushwalkers' activities have the right to lodge an insurance claim if they are injured.

This has the advantage of helping you to pay for medical treatment or covering you for loss of work hours. It's a good idea to inform the leader of your activity about any incidents or injuries no matter how small they might seem at the time. You may not necessarily feel the effects of an injury straight away, instead discovering at a later date that treatment is required. Of course we will take immediate action to make sure you're safe and get any treatment you need at the time of the injury. Your leader will inform the General Walks Secretary when serious injuries occur, so that a review can occur at committee level and so we can take any action necessary to minimise the likelihood that something similar happens again.

If you want to lodge an insurance claim, please contact Jane Williams, General Walks Secretary or any committee member for information regarding the claims procedure. We can help you to lodge your claim and make sure that you have all the necessary information about how to track and monitor your claim and treatment

Jane Williams General Walks Secretary

Reports

Life Members 14
 Honorary Members 10
 Single memberships 304
 Family memberships 110
 (= 2x 55)
 Total membership 438
 This time last year 433

Enclosed (tucked in under the staple of the NEWS) are the 'Bushwalking Victoria' 2008-2009 cards. These are not MBW membership cards, but entitle bearers to discounts at a variety of bushwalking equipment stores, travel, etc. A list of participating discounters will appear on our website. E-mail NEWS recipients please claim your card from the Membership Secretary at the clubrooms. Unclaimed cards will be snail-mailed next month.

Peter Havliceck Membership Secretary

GENERAL WALKS SECRETARY'S REPORT

Trip attendance numbers received from leaders for most trips between March and July 2008 are listed below.

These statistics may be incomplete as some reports may not yet be available.

Who's done what in the past six months

TYPE	DATE	TRIP	GRADE	NOS
WEDNESDAY	19-Mar	Tallarook State Forest - Warragul Rocks	E/M	9
	16-Apr	Lake Mountain Ski Trails	E/M	14
	23-Apr	Ruffey Lake Park, Doncaster (20th Anniv Wed walks)	E	36
	21-May	Domino Trail, Trentham	E/M	16
	18-Jun	Kurth Kiln Regional Park	E/M	24
	16-Jul	Anakie Gorge	E/M	17
	TOFS/MOFS	6-Mar	Cherry Lake - Altona Foreshore	E
3-Apr		Organ Pipes, Sydenham Park	E	10
1-May		Blue Lake, Plenty River (Yellow Gum Park)	E	14
5-Jun		Fairfield/Yarra Bend Parks	E	21
3-Jul		You Yangs	E	8
SATURDAY	29-Mar	Lysterfield Lake Park	E	15
	24-May	Kalorama - Doongalla return	E/M	16
	28-Jun	Middle Park to Sandringham	E	18
	26-Jul	One Tree Hill		20
PACK CARRY	7-Mar	Mt Hotham area-Swindlers Gap-Paling & Young Spurs	M	7
	20-Mar	Freycinet (Tasmania)	E/M & M	23
	20-Mar	Watchbed Ck - Grey Hills - Timms Lookout	E/M	7
	4-Apr	Prom Lighthouse Accommodation Weekend	E	9
	12-Apr	Cape Liptrap - Venus Bay	E/M	10
	24-Apr	McFarlane Saddle - Tali Karng - McFarlane Saddle	E & M	14
	6-Jun	Great South West Walk Portland (SW Vic)	E/M	16
	11-Jul	Wilsons Prom Lighthouse - Oberon Bay Circuit	M	5
BASE CAMP	7-Mar	Buffalo Plateau	E/M	17
	20-Mar	Cobberas / Native Dog Flat (Alpine Nat Park)	E & M	17
	4-Jul	Ulupna Island, Murray River (Strathmerton)	E	8
CYCLING	15-Mar	Outer Circle Railway		13
	19-Apr	Mount Eliza Park	E/M	11
	17-May	Circuit ride to You Yangs	E & E/M	6
	12-Jul	Ruffey Creek - Green Gully	M	6
SKIING	26-Jul	Barjarg to Stirling		8

PARADISE LOST – SLIDE SHOW AND TALK

WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 17TH 2008 START TIME IS 8 PM

Stretching like a string of pearls in a beautiful blue sea, Flinders Island is the largest of the 52 granite islands situated in the eastern Bass strain between Tasmania and mainland Victoria.

Flinders Island is a largely undiscovered paradise for bush walkers, bird watchers and historians.

This presentation will introduce you to the beauty of the island and it's unique walks from the heights of Mt Strezelecki to rock hopping over red granite boulders to find your own Killiecrankie 'diamonds'.

Presented by Linda & Michael Buck in the club rooms



WALKTOBER SENIORS WALK

As part of Walktober, a national initiative conducted annually to promote recreational walking in the community, all bushwalking clubs have been approached by Bushwalking Victoria to host a walk during Seniors Week. These walks are to be 5-7 kms long at locations chosen by participating clubs. The walks must be suitable for groups of fit, elderly people and are being organized in collaboration with Parks Victoria and the Department of Community Services, who will take care of transport and the administrative side of things.

There has been an enthusiastic response from member clubs including Melbourne Bushies. We have chosen a walk in

KURTH KILN REGIONAL PARK

To be held on

THURSDAY 9 OCTOBER 2008

Special thanks to Max Casley and Andrew Francis who have agreed to help with leading our walk.

If you would like to come along and join the fun and perhaps even lend a hand, we would love to hear from you.

For further details please contact Lynda ASAP.

VACANCIES

The position of Base Camp /Lodge Coordinator has become vacant. Katrina Murphy is unable to continue in the role and will be finishing up in October after the Federation weekend.

Ideally someone can step into the role at around that time as activities for our Autumn program will need to be coordinated. The position is not labor intensive and can be a personally rewarding and enjoyable undertaking. It is a great opportunity to make a very valuable contribution and play an important part in the running of the club.

For further details or expressions of interest please contact Katrina or Lynda Larkin (President).

Notices and Members' Walks

MOUNT MACEDON WALK

Wednesday 20 August

The 14 walkers had a great day, the slight drizzle as we set off didn't dampen spirits and the day cleared up. The weather was a little foggy in spots at the top of Mt Macedon but that added to the beauty and was good for walking briskly.



READ YOUR FULL SOCIAL CALENDAR HERE!

WEDNESDAY 3 SEPTEMBER at 8 pm. Dr Keith Thompsom will give a lecture on the night sky.

WEDNESDAY 17 SEPTEMBER.at 8pm. Presentation of Flinders Island-slide show.

WEDNESDAY 24 SEPTEMBER at 8pm. LAUNCH OF MELBOURNE BUSHIES' OWN WINE LABEL.

WEDNESDAY 1 OCTOBER at 8pm John Fritze will present an equipment night.

WEDNESDAY 22 OCTOBER Wine and cheese night

YOU MAY WELL REMEMBER.....

Stan Mackowaik - a long time but now ex member - living in New Zealand has just married in Levin.

MANY HAPPY RETURNS from us all to you and to your bride Stan!





SUNDAY BUS

BLACKWOOD – GARDEN OF ST ERTH

DATE Sunday 7 September 2008
STANDARD Easy/Medium & Medium
LEADERS Nik Dow & Ian Langford
TRANSPORT Bus from Southbank Blvd at 9 am

Please discuss this walk with the leaders on the relevant booking nights.



SUNDAY BUS

TALLAROOK STATE FOREST – WARRAGUL ROCKS

DATE Sunday 14 September 2008
STANDARD Easy & Easy/Medium
DISTANCE 14 km & 17 km
LEADERS Hans Edlinger & Dale MacKenzie
TRANSPORT Bus from Southbank Blvd at 9 am
AREA Tarwool/Seamory
MAP REF Strath Greek 7923-4-2

The Medium group will take the mountain track to Mt Hickey then descend to Tallarook picnic ground which is the starting point of the easy group and the finish point for both walks.

All walk will be on walking tracks and 4WD tracks.

Depending on the weather tracks can be muddy and slippery.

The Easy group will walk clockwise with two small climbs towards the reservoir then up to Warragul Rocks for panoramic views of the Goulburn River and the snow capped mountains of the Victorian ski fields (weather permitting). Also for the easy group, not steep. Easy/Medium group have a good climb up to Mt Hickey, following the Warragul Rocks track in an anti-clockwise direction towards the reservoir with two small climbs before returning to the picnic ground and the bus.



MOFS

MT EVELYN TO LILYDALE LAKE & RETURN

DATE Monday 15 September 2008
STANDARD Easy
DISTANCE 12 kms
LEADER Bob Steel
TRANSPORT Private
AREA Lilydale/Mt Evelyn Area
MAP REF Melway Maps 38 and 118/120

Meet at the old railway station (now a café) in Wray Crescent, Mount Evelyn (Melway 120, B1) to start walking at 10:30. Get there earlier for a coffee before setting out. We will walk down the Mt Evelyn Aqueduct track to Lilydale Lake where we will have lunch sitting on the beach (or in a shelter, if inclement). We then walk around to the start of the Warburton Rail Trail to climb gradually back to Mount Evelyn.



WEDNESDAY WALKS

FERNSHAW – DOM DOM

DATE Wednesday 17 September 2008
STANDARD Easy-medium
DISTANCE 17 kms
LEADER Jerry Grandage
TRANSPORT Private
AREA Yarra Ranges
MAP Juliet North 1:25,000

Starting at Fernshaw Picnic Ground, we will follow Morley's Track through magnificent Mountain Ash forest to Carters Gap and then do a circuit round Mt Dom Dom to finish at Dom Dom Saddle. If you're sufficiently enthusiastic you can go to the top of Dom Dom.

CYCLING



ELTHAM TO HURSTBRIDGE

DATE Saturday 20 September 2008
STANDARD Easy/Medium
DISTANCE Approx 55 km
LEADER Lynda Larkin
TRANSPORT Train to Eltham Station or car
RETURN TIME Approx 3 pm

Meet at Eltham Station at 9.45 for a 10.00 am start. Once out of town, we follow the trail along Diamond Creek, which is densely lined with wattle trees, river red gums, yellow box and red ironbark trees. Once past Diamond Creek we will make our way to Hurstbridge via Wattle Glen, with a moderate climb up Wilson Rd (fine gravel road with good scenery) before following a loop down into Hurstbridge for lunch.

After lunch we will head north along Arthurs Creek Rd (winding, undulating, sealed road) through an area which was cleared for agriculture in the 1850's. Here we can enjoy a distinctly rustic ambience best experienced in spring, with green pasturelands, old farms and remnants orchards from the old days. From Arthurs Creek Rd we head back towards Hurstbridge along the Strathewen-Hurstbridge Road

Be prepared for a moderately challenging climb followed by a wonderful long downhill run. The final part of the ride will be along the main road back to Diamond Creek, before retracing our steps along the creek trail back to Eltham where bakeries and coffee shops await the thirsty riders.



SUNDAY BUS

LABERTOUCHE WILDFLOWERS WALK

DATE Sunday 21 September 2008
STANDARD Easy & Easy/Medium
DISTANCE 14 km & 18 km
LEADERS Carol Corrigan & Richard Hanson
TRANSPORT Bus from Southbank Blvd at 9 am
AREA Bunyip State Forest
MAP REF Spion Kopje 1:25,000 8022-2-3

The Bunyip State Forest is a delight in spring with masses of wildflowers, tree ferns, large eucalypts and banksias. Lyrebirds were spotted on the preview.

We will visit the waterfall on the Lawson Creek Nature Trail. Both walks will start and finish at the Brighton School Camp. The track may be slippery in places during wet weather.



SUNDAY BUS

ANGAHOOK SPRING WILDFLOWERS WALK

DATE Sunday 28 September 2008
STANDARD Easy/Medium & Medium
DISTANCE 17km & 20km
LEADERS Andrew Francis & Tracey Jamieson
TRANSPORT Bus 8:45am start from Southbank Blvd
AREA Great Otway National Park – Aireys Inlet
MAP REF Vicmap Anglesea South 7721-3-S (1:25,000)

One of the best walks on the calendar, with views of the ocean during the day, walking through Ironbark, Peppermint and Gum forests accommodating many birds, grass trees and wattles in bloom.

Both walks will commence at Distillery Creek Picnic Ground at the rear of Aireys Inlet. A mixture of walking tracks and dirt roads, moderate climbing and fairly long distances to cover. The climbs are not too taxing and are long and steady rather than short and sharp. A visit to the area's picnic grounds and Painkalac Dam will be included. Both walks finish on the Great Ocean Road after viewing the surf coast from lookout. Please note 8:45am start.



SUNDAY BUS

MT DANDENONG – WESTERN TRAIL (DAYLIGHT SAVING)

DATE Sunday 5 October 2008
STANDARD Easy/Medium & Medium
LEADERS Lance Mobbs & Mark Heath
TRANSPORT Bus from Southbank Blvd at 9 am

Please discuss this walk with the leaders on the relevant booking nights.



SUNDAY BUS

WONTHAGGI HEATHLANDS AND WETLANDS

DATE Sunday 12 October 2008
STANDARD Easy & Easy/Medium
DISTANCE 14 km & 18 km
LEADERS John McCall & Hans Baer
TRANSPORT Bus from Southbank Blvd at 9 am
AREA South Gippsland Coast

Please discuss this walk with the leaders on the relevant booking nights.



WEDNESDAY WALK

STEIGLITZ GOLDFIELDS WALK

DATE Wednesday 15 October 2008
STANDARD Easy/Medium
DISTANCE 11 km
LEADER Ed Neff
TRANSPORT Private
AREA Brisbane Ranges
MAP REF Melways 611, D4

A pleasant circuit walk starting and finishing in Steiglitz, a once booming gold mining town.

The walk commences by following Sutherland Creek and includes approximately 500 m of rock hopping before the track leaves the creek and heads through bush and open forest. There are many signs of the gold mining past including the sites and mullock heaps of several old mines. The walk finishes by walking up Regent Street which was once Steiglitz's main street. Meet at 10.15am for a 10.30 start in the car park at the Steiglitz Courthouse.



SUNDAY BUS

THE MONK WALK: CASTLEMAINE - VAUGHAN

DATE Sunday 19 October 2008
STANDARD Easy & Easy/Medium
DISTANCE 14 km & 17 km
LEADERS Mick Noonan & Les Southwell
TRANSPORT Bus – Southbank Blvd, 9:00 am
AREA the Great Dividing Trail, Castlemaine, Vaughan Springs
MAP REF Castlemaine & Guildford, 1:25, 000
RETURN TIME: 6:30 pm

Both walks start at Castlemaine and follow the Dry Diggings Track (also the Great Dividing Track). We are walking largely 'on-track', through a woodland corridor with great 360 degree views from The Monk (elevation 510m), along an open ridge overlooking the Loddon Valley, visiting Central Springs, and for the longer walk finishing at Vaughan Springs.

This area has great wildflowers in Spring, silver wattle blossoms, and dry box woodland. It's famous for its gold mining ruins, ghost towns, water race, diggings etc. Fryerstown used to have 15,000 people at the height of the gold mining! Come and enjoy this lovely part of Victoria and walk part of both the Great Dividing Trail and the Dry Diggings Track!



SUNDAY BUS

MURRINDINDI CASCADES & WILHELMINA FALLS

DATE Sunday 26 October 2008
STANDARD Easy/Medium & Medium
DISTANCE approx 13 & 16 kms
LEADERS Jan Colquhoun & Peter Leech
TRANSPORT Bus from Southbank Blvd at 9:00am
AREA Toolangi State Forest
MAP REF Taggerty South 1 : 25 000

Our walk starts with a gradual ascent up a well maintained track towards the Wilhelmina Falls.

As the track approaches the Falls the it steepens and offers a choice of dramatic lookouts. The falls plunge 75 m, down smooth granite slabs with the water gliding in shafts across the rock surface; a spectacular sight. The walk continues down the Boorondara Walking Track which was once a narrow tram track built to service the Traford Mill Site. The track follows the Murrindindi River. for some time through forests of tree ferns, blackwood wattle, sassafras and myrtle beech. In areas the track meanders through a thick carpet of ferns with tall straight gum trees scattered between them. It's at its best when the late afternoon light sets the ferns aglow. The track crosses the river several times over wooden bridges before reaching the Cascades. The whole area is enchanting and wouldn't be out of place in 'The Lord of the Rings'. The Murrindindi River Walk has stunning scenery throughout, however both the easy/medium and medium options include two substantial climbs.



BASE CAMP

BUANDIK - GRAMPIANS

DATE September 6 to 7, 2008
STANDARD Easy/Medium
DISTANCE 20 km
LEADERS Bob Steel and Michael Mann
TRANSPORT Private
AREA Western Grampians
MAP REF Outdoor Leisure Map – Southern Grampians; Victoria Gap & Victoria Range maps 1:25 000 (7323 – 1-3 & 7323-2-4)

We will camp at the Buandik Camping area on the western side of the Victoria Range. Access is via the Glenelg Hwy to Dunkeld, then to Cavendish and up along the Henty Highway to Buandik.

Detailed instructions will be provided. Walks will be fairly easy but will entail some scrambling on rocky escarpments off-track. Other walks to Aboriginal Cave paintings are on tracks. As it is a Base Camp, bring your luxuries AND own drinking water! Also, as it is a fair distance from Melbourne for an ordinary weekend, come for three or four days if you can. Leaders will be there from Friday afternoon to at least Monday.



PACK CARRY

ARTHUR'S SEAT – CAPE SHANCK

DATE September 13 to 14, 2008
STANDARD Easy
DISTANCE 28.5 kms
LEADERS Susan and Michael Stringer
TRANSPORT Private
AREA Mornington Peninsula
MAP REF <http://www.parkweb.vic.gov.au/resources05/05_0289.pdf>

On Saturday morning, after a car shuffle to The Pines/Fingal Picnic Area, we will set out from Seawinds, at the summit of Arthurs Seat following the Two Bays walking track. Detailed instructions will be provided.

The walking is easy. There is one steepish downhill section of gravel track and some suburban streets leading to undulating track through Greens Bush. A short side trip to 'Long Point' will enable us to collect water. From there we will proceed to Highfield Camping Area to pitch camp. On Sunday morning we will continue on the Long Point Circuit and Two Bays track. A side trip to Bushrangers Bay may be undertaken without packs before passing Cape Schank lighthouse and returning to the cars. Contact Susan and Michael Stringer



BASE CAMP

CAPE LIPTRAP

DATE September 19 to 21, 2008
STANDARD Easy
LEADER Lance Mobbs
TRANSPORT Private
AREA Gippsland

Please see leader in the clubrooms for more information



BASE CAMP

BOREANG - GRAMPIANS

DATE 3 – 5 October 2008
STANDARD Easy & Medium
DISTANCE Various
LEADERS Ken & Joan MacMahon
TRANSPORT Private
AREA Grampians, Western Victoria
MAP REF Northern Grampians Outdoor Recreation Guide
 1:50,000

Easily accessible, spacious and grassy, Boreang camping ground in the Upper Victoria Valley is a great base from which to explore some enticing Grampian features that this club hasn't visited for some time.

On Saturday I intend for all to drive to Stony Peak area from where the medium grade walkers will walk back to camp via as many rocky outcrops and waterfalls as we can fit in. Expect a little bit of scrub and rock hopping in between – the recent fires have opened up new possibilities, so depending on the group and the weather we might do some exploring! The easy group will climb Stony Peak which is all covered in knobby bits (the rocks that is), Tower Hill and visit Calectasia Falls mainly using tracks. If this group is feeling energetic a climb up Mt Rosea could also be fitted in.

On Sunday, we will drive to the Asses Ears – Wallaby Rocks area for a bit more exploring, once again separating the power walkers from the flower talkers. The wildflowers should be at their peak, so come along and celebrate spring. Please remember that Parks Victoria charge a small fee for camping, for which toilets, water and fireplaces are provided.



CYCLE BASE CAMP

SOUTH GIPPSLAND HILLS & GREAT SOUTHERN RAIL TRAIL

DATE October 25 to 26 October 2008
STANDARD Easy/Medium
LEADER Jopie Bodegraven
TRANSPORT Private
AREA South Gippsland

MAP REF brochure. maps

Warragul & Wonthaggi & Foster 1:100,00. GSRT Vicroads & RACV

The South Gippsland Hills are beautiful in spring with rolling green hills and extensive views. We will do 2 separate day rides, starting with a Saturday morning start and staying Saturday night at the Korumburra Tourist Park with dinner at the Austral Hotel. Sounds civilized to me!

We will meet at 9.30am on Saturday at the main junction in Loch (where the road to Cape Horn heads south) . There is a coffee shop and if I remember correctly, a bakery there for the early birds. We then do a 2 km car shuffle to our starting point at Cape Horn Lookout so that we start 120m higher than our finish. Yippee! The ride takes us along open ridgetops with wonderful views to Westernport and to Bass Strait as well as beautiful valley sections. There are of course ups but they are not too steep and the corresponding downs are great fun. Total distance is about 54km but there is a shortcut that can reduce this to 46km if needed.

We will need all our food and water as there is none en route. On Saturday we ride the Great Southern Rail Trail from Leongatha to Foster. This is 50km and includes the new bridge over the Tarwin River. We will need to do a 38km car shuffle first as it is not a circuit. There will be water and possibly coffee stops along the route. There is plenty of camping room at the Caravan Park. If you wish to use an on-site van or cabin, contact the Caravan Park direct at 56552326 for enquiries & bookings. So join me for a fun weekend.



PACK CARRY

MT COBBLER - THE RAZOR - MT BUGGERY

DATE Oct 31 to Nov 4, 2008
STANDARD Medium
LEADER Jopie Bodegraven
TRANSPORT Private
AREA beyond Mansfield
MAP REF Howitt-Selwyn 1:50,000. Rooftops Bright-Mansfield
 Adventure Map. S Brookes Watersheds of the King, Howqua & Jamieson Rivers

This is one of those classic trips in the Victorian Alps taking in several of the big name peaks, Cobbler, Koonika, Speculation and the Razor, but with a twist. The Razor, one of our hardest to get to peaks, will be done as a side trip with day packs from a 2 night base camp at Mt Speculation.

We will see first hand the aftermath of the recent bushfires here and we will also be helping with a weed survey being carried out by the Federation.

Look out for more information in the next edition of MBW

