



THE NEWS OF THE Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc.

60 cents

January 2009

LEADERS DISCUSSION NIGHT

On Monday 9th February at our clubrooms, (corner William and A'Beckett Streets, Melbourne), between 7.00 – 9.00pm, a get-together for leaders of all types of walks/activities – Sunday, Wednesday, Saturday, MOFS, TOFS, Base Camps, Pack Carries, Cycling and Skiing trips will be held.

Any members interested in leading any of the above activities are also invited to attend.

This will be an opportunity to review resources available to you, gain ideas from other leaders and discuss any issues. Drinks, nibbles and pizzas will be provided on the night, therefore an idea of numbers attending would be great. If, however, you have forgotten to respond please feel free to still come along. Please diarise this important Club function.

RSVP to Del Franks or Mick Noonan

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of the Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc
will be held on
Wednesday, 25 February, 2009,
Commencing at 8.00 pm
at

The Royal Historical Society of Victoria, 239 A 'Beckett Street, Melbourne

Members are invited to attend - Non-members are welcome but are not eligible to vote.

BUSINESS

- Confirmation of minutes of the 2008 Half Yearly General Meeting
- President's report
- Treasurer's report
- Determination of annual subscription fees for 2009
- Walks Secretaries' reports
- Wilkinson Lodge
- Election of Office Bearers & Committee Members
- Appointment of auditors
- Appointment of Life Membership/s
- Conferral of Honorary Memberships
- Award of spoons

(Nomination forms and Appointment of Proxy forms are available at the clubrooms.

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**

Visitors are always welcome!

General correspondence should be directed to:

The Secretary
Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc
PO Box 1751

MEMBER OF

**Bushwalking
Victoria**



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

Jan 7	Marg Curry & Ray Spooner	Yes
Jan 14	Lynda Larkin & Mark Heath	
Jan 21	Mick Noonan & John McCall	Yes
Jan 28	Delwyn Franks & Howard Friend	
Feb 4	Marg Curry & Jane Williams	Yes
Feb 11	Lynda Larkin & Halina Sarbinowski	

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
24-26 Jan 2009 Alpine Mossbed rehabilitation	Steve Robertson
2-3 May 2009 Grampians	Rod Novak

Please note: Next committee meeting

MONDAY 2 FEBRUARY 2009

SOCIAL NIGHTS



***** HELD AT NEW CLUBROOMS**

WHEN Wednesday, 28th January

WINE and CHEESE night

Did you miss our wine-tasting night for our very own label back in August?

Don't despair, as you can come along on 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.

**Friday, 20th February
Dinner in the big city
(Details to follow.)**

**Wednesday 25th February
Strawberries and champers,
prior to the AGM.**

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

On behalf of the Committee of the Melbourne Bushwalkers, I would like to extend to all members and readers our very best wishes for a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year.

As 2009 comes upon us, I believe that we should embrace it with a deep sense of appreciation for all our good fortune and a determination to contribute to maintaining the excellent quality of life we are currently able to enjoy, which to a significant extent is made possible by the cumulative effort and spirit of organizations such as ours and a host of other voluntary groups, who play a very valuable role in the community in practical and creative ways by providing enjoyment, wholesome recreational pursuit and social opportunities.

Our club has been around since the early 1940's. We conscientiously strive to maintain a vibrant program and keep alive the ideals and purposes on which the club was established. For the successful achievement of these goals, our thanks and appreciation must go to our leaders, the Committee and all those who work so industriously behind the scenes.

This is an ongoing process and for the Melbourne Bushies to keep functioning as well as we presently do, I would like to encourage

those who enjoy the club in a more passive manner to perhaps think about participating at a deeper level by either offering to run activities or joining Committee. It is important to give as well as take, to show appreciation and actively support your club and in so doing also experience the personal rewards and the satisfaction that comes with giving.

Our Annual General Meeting is just around the corner in February, so now is a good time to pen this date in your diaries as a reminder to come along and be involved.

By the time of the 2009 AGM, I will have completed two years as your President and have enjoyed greatly not only the privilege, but also the challenges and rewards associated with this important role. However, with a busy year ahead, I should forewarn that I will not be standing for nomination or re-election. I therefore invite members to think about whether there is one amongst you who may like to take on this key role, or else you may wish to nominate a "suitable suspect".

A Safe and Happy New Year to all.

Lynda Larkin

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S REPORT 2008

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 current, potential or new members,
assisting in the preparation of membership lists and in mailing the News.

As at the end of December 2009, the membership of the Club was 473 (end January 2008: 474 – note difference in date) including 14 Life and 10 Honorary members.

Peter Havlicek

Noticeboard

IT'S RAINING SURVEYS!!!!

Thanks to all those who have sent in their Surveys, we had over 90 at last count!

Having fun analysing the results - you will see a number of changes around the Sunday Bus that should make it more popular including the new booking system that's being rolled out.

Survey results will later appear early next year on the web-site.

Thanks!

Mick

PHOTOS FOR WEBSITE

We would like more members to submit photographs for the Photogallery on the club's website.

If several people on a trip wish to have their photos put on the website, one person only should be nominated to take responsibility for collecting and preparing photos before submitting to the webmaster.

Guidelines for submitting photos are on the Club's website under "Quick Picks" - "Frequent Questions" - "How do I get photos published

on the website". Appendix 'D' of these Guidelines contains a detailed worked example using Windows XP.

If you have any problems in following the guidelines to prepare photographs for forwarding to the webmaster, please contact Max Casley.

A worked example using Apple Mac will be advised as soon as possible.



INVESTA TREKS 2009 - KOKODA TREKS

Deep in the heart of many people is the desire for adventure, the desire to see and to be a part of something greater than themselves.

Jacob Robinson, from INVESTA TREKS, knows what this desire for more, is like.

In 2007 he went to PNG to walk the Kokoda Trail and to see work of the Salvo's in PNG. Having seen the living conditions of so many in the Port Moresby region, he now organises building project trips to help to improve the conditions of locals.

He also employs the services of local experienced guide Paul Yobuwa, and along with experienced ports, work together to guide people along the famous Kokoda Trail.

"INVESTA TREKS is all about investing," says Jacob, investing into the lives of others, and other communities we seek to provide people with an opportunity to be involved in something greater.

Next year we have five treks along the Kokoda Trail and two building projects, however if there are groups who would like to trek at a different date, we are happy to accommodate. Our 10 day trekking package is very professional says Paul, who has been guiding people for some years, and trekked the Kokoda trail over 85 times.

As we are not in this to make money, we are able to offer a far cheaper package, while not taking away from our experience.

If you are interested in assisting in a building project or trekking the Kokoda Trail check us out at <http://www.salvos.org.au/INVESTATREKS>

Noticeboard



Do you want lead a bike ride?

We are looking for rides for later this year.

If you have an idea for a ride please call me to discuss,

Ross Berner

BUSHIES GOOD FOOD GUIDE

Some suggestions from Max's recent Baw Baw trip:

ERICA HOTEL

A new menu with mains from \$17 although the bistro did not open until 6.30 pm on the Friday night. Reasonable fare at bistro prices. Schnitzel at \$17 was good value and Faye and Jerry raved about their Chicken Pesto and salad dishes. One downside is that all the meals came with chips (regardless of requesting salad or vegetables). Steaks are \$26, drinks at bar prices, and the bistro has lots of interesting historic pieces with the 1939 fire memorabilia, and lots of forestry relics.

COFFEE BEAN AND SINFUL BITES IN GEORGE STREET, MOE

A great breakfast and lunch menu but we found it for an early afternoon tea stop (especially when it is storming rain up at St Gwinear!!). A great range of yummy Foccacia's very good value at \$7 and all came with a side salad.

Jerry had the Warm Tandoori Chicken Salad and was most impressed. Great tasting coffee and good parking. Worth checking out next time en route in West Gippsland.

Rod Novak

WILLIS'S WALKABOUTS

Ultimate Kimberley Expedition

Six weeks across the top
15 March to 25 April 2009

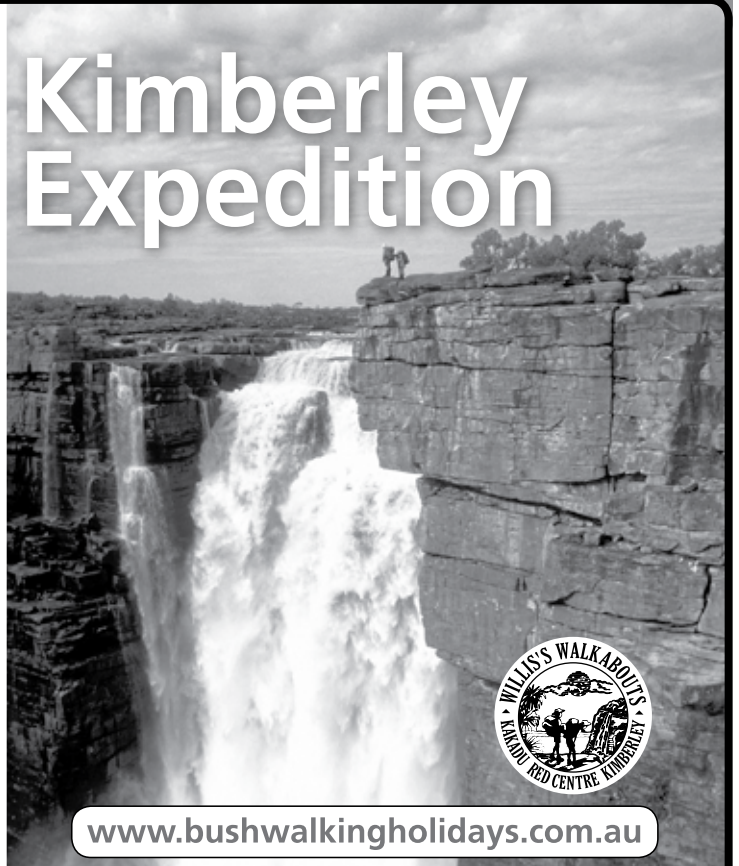
This is the longest single expedition we offer.

You see an incredible variety of scenery and a wealth of Aboriginal art sites. The Fishing is great in several places along the way.

Why so early? If we went any later, we couldn't be sure all the waterfalls and creeks would be flowing, let alone flowing well. If you want to see the best this area has to offer, you have to go when it offers it.

This will be the first time since 2004 that this trip has run. It may be the last. We can't be sure that our transport will remain available or that we'll still be able to obtain all the necessary permissions.

Too long? The trip is divided into four sections any of which can be done on its own. This could be your trip of a lifetime. **Put it off and you may miss out.**



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

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Reports

BAW BAW PACK CARRY

Dec. 13-14 Leader Max Casley

Some high-profile fair-weather walkers intended to accompany Max on his third attempt at traversing the Baw Baw Plateau but piked out in view of the weather forecast for the weekend. Friday night produced heavy rain but on Saturday morning conditions improved and it seemed that the pikers had got it badly wrong. Max's intended route was from Stronach's Camp across to St. Phillack via the Alpine Track and thence to the Gwinear car park. The weather was fine and the sun even shone a few times as we proceeded up through beautiful alpine ash and snow gums with frequent patches of primeval myrtle beech rainforest. After the rain the vegetation was looking magnificent and the moss covered granite boulders were the brightest of green.

We reached the campsite in mid afternoon just as light rain started falling again. Soon we were under cover, experiencing the familiar view of the inside of our tents and listening

to the rain and the wind as they both intensified. There we remained until the following morning. The rain was heavy for much of the night and the wind in the trees was ferocious. The good news was that our campsite in the tall snow gums was blissfully calm. Some of us found that our tents were in less than perfect condition. The night seemed interminable.

On Sunday morning the wind had abated slightly but it was still raining and cloudy. In view of the intended day's walk being longer and more exposed than Saturday's effort we took the softer option of retracing our steps to Stronach's. Eight walkers packed up their saturated gear and splashed along the Alpine Track to the start of the walk. Thus ended a very memorable trip.

Part of the appeal of bushwalking trips is that they don't always work out as planned. Max's three attempts at this trip have been thwarted by snow, a road closure and now heavy rain. Hopefully he will try again. The group this time consisted of Max, Rod Novak (who

was returning after a long recovery from illness), Fay Dunn, Peter Leech, Sun Ho Lee, Bob Oxlade, Jan Colquhoun, and Jerry Grandage



Reports

MELBOURNE CUP WEEKEND - MT COBBLER, MT SPECULATION, RAZOR, QUEENS SPUR

1-4 November 2008

What an opportunity to avoid the Melbourne Cup! This is one of my favourite areas and with four days in hand this trip was not to be missed. We camped on Friday night near Sawmill Settlement where a friendly fire welcomed us. As we made camp I realised that something was missing from my pack - my breakfasts for four days! What was happening? How could I have done this? Passing the begging bowl around while muttering about losing one's marbles proved to be fruitful, but in the event I was able to buy cereal at the shop down the road in the morning and was thus saved from starvation.

We drove up the Circuit Road to our start point, from where we quickly began our climb - up the appropriately-named Muesli Spur! This is not named on most maps but is on the VMTC map. The weather was fine and the spur was easy enough. By early afternoon we were on the Speculation - Cobbler road from where we had an easy walk to the Cobbler Plateau. En route we came across a large Red Indian-style tepee. No people, but full of provisions! There was a large fireplace in the tent. We made camp in a grassy clearing with plenty of time for cups of tea before cooking dinner and yarning around the campfire. We had thirteen tents for fifteen people!

Next morning we sauntered up to the summit of Mt Cobbler (1628m) to take in the partly mist-shrouded views. Then it was back to camp, pick up packs and take the road to Mt Speculation. A sub-group took the detour along the cliffs to Mt Koonika (1600m) and this proved to be easy and worthwhile. Mt Speculation was clearly a popular objective, with several other groups already there, including some four-wheel drivers. Gina and I had our regular site,



right on the edge of Speculation, looking down into The Terrible Hollow. Returning from the spring with our water it began to rain, and three chaps carrying guns came running past on their way back to their cars. Mmmm, guns in the National Park?? We all retired to our tents - and stayed there as the rain came on seriously. During the night I had to get up and the mist was so thick that I couldn't see more than a metre or two. I was careful not to walk more than a step or so from the tent as we were right on the edge but I couldn't see it!

We were all toggled up next morning for a side trip to The Razor (1460m) as it was windy and threatening rain. It did rain lightly on and off all day but this did not mar the trip for us. We followed the Alps Walking Track as well as we could until it turned off for The Viking, but fire damage and lack of maintenance have obscured the track totally in several places. We lunched on The Razor, while Jopie explored the way to the very end of The Razor, and with Gina shouting directions from a high point he found a way to cross the chasm and climb to the top of the end peak without the long trek down and around that we have done in the past. Our second night on Speculation was very cold and windy, with ice on the tents in the morning and frozen water in water bottles!

Our route out was via Horrible Gap, Mt Buggery (morning tea and tent drying out time), Queens Spur, over the Pimple and down to the King River and back to the cars. We all met up at Mansfield for an excellent pub meal, while around us the locals in their finery celebrated the Melbourne Cup. For me our way of celebrating was much better! Thank you, Jopie, for leading this excellent walk and thank you fellow-travellers for your company. Leader - Jopie
Bodegraven with Jenny Flood, Trish Elmore, Del Franks, John Fritze, Gina Hopkins, Bob Oxlade, Bert Reeh, Chris McAuley, Richard Hanson, Richard Stevens, Julian St John, Phillip Brown, Frances Moloney and I - Derrick Brown.

ATTENTION BUSHIES!!!! ALL SUNDAY BUS WALKS NOW LEAVE AT 08:45

ATTENTION - ATTENTION!! WEDNESDAY WALKS 2009

Effective January 2009, Wednesday walks will be scheduled on the second Wednesday of the month, instead of the current practice of being held on the third Wednesday of the month.

 **SUNDAY BUS**

LAL LAL FALLS – MT DORAN

DATE Sunday 11 January
STANDARD E/M & M
DISTANCE 14 & 16 km
LEADERS Peter Leech & Fotina Lennon
TRANSPORT Bus from Southbank Blvd
AREA Lal Lal – 20 minutes from Ballarat

This walk is interesting because of its variety of terrain and vegetation. Both group will be starting from the same place and head off in the same direction to the picnic areas then a diversion to the lookout and to the old blast furnace. Most of the walk will be on tracks however there will be some off track walking to visit some special features, such as Champion Hill and the Moorabool River and for the medium group when the return from Mt Doran.

Just of note about the area. Lal Lal is a quaint little village settling between the shadows of Mt Buninyong and Mt Doran. Only 20 minutes drive from Ballarat. Lal Lal boasts a history of gold, coal, kaolin and iron mines, hotels, breweries, a famous racecourse, brickwork's and a bluestone railway station with a bluestone water tower and pumping station.

A short distance from the junction of Iron Mine road with the road from Lal Lal is the Lal Lal Falls. Here water drops thirty meters into gorge formed by the collapse of lava tunnel. The Aborigine's believed that Bunjil, their creator, lived here.

 **WEDNESDAY WALK**

DONNA BUANG

DATE Wednesday 14 January
STANDARD E/M
DISTANCE 13km
LEADER Jerry Grandage
TRANSPORT Private
AREA Yarra Ranges
MAP Juliet South 1:25,000

On this walk you will see some of the more impressive forest scenery in the Melbourne area, including some beautiful myrtle beech rainforest. Starting from the Mt. Victoria turn-off, we will walk gently uphill to Mts. Victoria and Donna Buang, followed by a (mainly) downhill walk to Mt. Boobyalla and Acheron Gap.

 **PACK CARRY**

MT MCDONALD & THE NOBS

DATE 16-18 and 16-20 Jan
STANDARD Medium
DISTANCE 15-20km
LEADERS Bert Reeh
TRANSPORT Private
AREA Alpine NP
MAP REF Watersheds of the King, Howqua and Jamieson Rivers(Bush Maps Victoria)

Mt McDonald is the southern gateway to the central Alpine part of the Australian Alps Walking Track (AAWT) in Victoria, offering spectacular views to other peaks and across the Jamieson River.

Starting from Sheeppark Flat on Saturday morning we will drive to near Upper Jamieson Hut and start our walk with a 900m climb to this peak. After lunch we will follow the AAWT to our campsite on the flank of The Knobs and take in more views from the rocky ridgeline.

On Sunday we will continue to at least High Cone and possibly Mt Clear before dropping down to Clear Creek and back to the Jamieson River along Brocks Rd.

For those with the time and inclination, there is an extension of the 2-day Mt McDonald walk. Instead of dropping down to Clear Creek we continue along the AAWT to the King Billies. If we have time and energy to spare a side trip to Mt Magdala would be rewarding. From the King Billies we loop around the Jamieson River headwaters on 4wd track to Lovick's Hut and on to Bluff Hut. From there a foot track will take us along the Bluff escarpment to its highest point. A short steep descent then brings us to Bluff Car Park and back to our starting point via an easy car shuffle.





CYCLING

EASTLINK TRAIL

DATE	Saturday 17 January
STANDARD	Easy Medium
DISTANCE	43 km (or 73 km – if starting from Caulfield)
LEADER	Ross Berner
TRANSPORT	Car or Train to Blackburn Station (or Caulfield Station)
RETURN TIME	About 4:00 PM (Dandenong Station)
AREA	Dandenong Valley – Eastern Suburbs.
MAP REFERENCE	Melway maps 47, 48, 49, 63, 72, 81, 89 & 91A

Join us as we ride Australia's biggest Infrastructure Project since the Snowy Scheme, "The Eastlink Bike Trail". (Oh and it does include a Toll road as well.)

The meeting place for ride is the south side of Blackburn Railway Station in South Parade (Melway 47 K10) at 10:30 AM. (Blackburn is on both Lilydale & Belgrave lines, suggest catching 9:50 Belgrave train or earlier. (There are several coffee shops in South Parade near station).

From Blackburn we head to the Koonung Trail through side streets and follow it to the start of the Eastlink Trail. This is the highest point of ride and the Trail descends into the Mullum Mullum Valley through several bush reserves (here the toll road is in the tunnel) and passes by the beautiful Yarran Dheran Reserve. At Ringwood the trail climbs a small rise before following Dandenong Creek. It passes the bush reserves Koomba Park. Lunch will be at Jells Park, where you can buy something at Kiosk. In Mulgrave the trail leaves Dandenong Creek and follows Eastlink closely through Dandenong North & Noble Park. At Keysborough, we rejoin with the Dandenong Creek, which we will follow to Dandenong Station (where we return by train). Most of the ride is on high quality sealed bike path. The only sections of gravel are a small one in Jells Park and the last 2 km on Dandenong Creek Trail.

Those who want a longer ride can join me at Caulfield Station (Melway 68 E1) at 7:30 AM (Catch 7:08 from Flinders St. on Pakenham Line). Note that Dandenong & Caulfield are on same line. From Caulfield I will be riding on several trails including Anniversary Trail, Stradbroke Park Trail, Glass Creek Trail, Koonung Trail & Bushy Creek Trail.

If you wish to discuss ride or book on ride ring Ross

DO YOU WANT LEAD A BIKE RIDE?

We are looking for rides for later this year.

If you have an idea for a ride please call me to discuss, on 9886 6679 or 0403 167 004.



SUNDAY BUS

TOORADIN MARKET - GEORGE BASS WALK

DATE	Sunday 18 January
STANDARD	Easy & Easy/Medium
DISTANCE	approx 11 & 13 kms
LEADER(S)	Jan Colquhoun & Linda Stewart
TRANSPORT	Bus from Southbank Blvd at 9:00am
AREA	Wonthaggi
MAP REF	George Bass Costal Walk- Vic Parks Visitor Guide

Previously we have driven past the Tooradin Market, held on the third Sunday of each month, with people commenting on how interesting the market looked. Well, for the first time we shall stop at the market for an hour, before returning to the bus and continuing our journey to the start of the George Bass Walk. You will have the opportunity to stroll around this local market that specializes in farm produce and crafts, or perhaps enjoy a coffee in a local café.

Our walk begins a few kilometres outside the seaside town of Kilcunda. We enjoy panoramic views down the coast before crossing the historic railway trestle bridge. The walk then joins the George Bass Coastal Trail. These rugged sculpted sandstone cliffs and broad rock platforms represent some of Victoria's most spectacular costal scenery. Each bay has its own character. Don't forget your swimsuit as there may be time for a dip in the sheltered Half Moon Bay.

MOFS



VALLEY RESERVE, MT WAVERLEY

DATE	Monday 19 January
STANDARD	Easy
DISTANCE	10 km
LEADER(S)	Alister Rowe (ph 9435 5958)
TRANSPORT	Private
AREA	Mount Waverley
MAP REF	Melway 70 F1

Park in Amber Grove near Waimarie Drive. You could also take the train to nearby Mt Waverley station. The walk will begin at 10.30 am at the Waimarie Drive entrance to Valley Reserve. We will walk through the reserve and the retarding basin wetland and across Waverley Road to have lunch at Fairway Reserve near Forster Road. A cut lunch could be purchased en-route at Pinewood shops. Afternoon tea at Mt Waverley would be an option. Some suburban streets but very little bicycle track!!



PACK CARRY

MITCHELL RIVER NP

DATE	23-26 January
STANDARD	E/M
DISTANCE	42 km
LEADER(S)	Bob Oxlade
TRANSPORT	Private
AREA	East Gippsland
MAP REF	Vicmap 1:50,000 Cobbannah-Tabberabbera & Rooftops 1:50,000 Mitchell River N.P Forest Active

This is a beautiful walk through the Mitchell River Gorge. The Mitchell River is said to be the only Victorian river to flow wild from its source in the Alps to the sea and due to our low water reserves it is often in the news. I consider the walk is best done over 3 days and this is a good time of year for it. Friday night camp is at the delightful Echo Bend Bark Hut and Camping Park and a safe place to leave cars. Saturday. A 1 km bush track to the Park and we will view several features including the legendary Aboriginal Den of Nargen. Heading north upstream we follow the river and gorge with some spectacular scenery until leaving the track for our campsite by the river for Saturday and Sunday nights. Approx. 14 km today.

Sunday. With day packs we continue along the river to the site of the former settlement of Angusvale. An optional return is to cross the river to a ridge track which will bring us back to the river opposite our camp. Approx. 14 km today. On Monday we return to the cars via Saturday's track but will be viewing the scenery from the north this time with contrasting effects. We can use the Camping Park facilities before departing for home.



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

BASE CAMP

CAMPERDOWN

Dates	23 – 26 January
Distance	Various
Leader	Lance Mobbs Mob. 0428572124
Standard	Easy
Transport	Private
Area	Camperdown – Volcano country

With this trip, we will again be camping at the Camperdown caravan park situated approximately 5km from the town centre on Park Ave. On Sat. and Sun we will drive from the caravan park to various old extinct volcanoes where we will do our walks. Monday will see us do a short walk on the way home. All the walks are easy and should suit everyone. Could people bring along some munchies for Sat afternoon get together at the Botanic Gardens next to the caravan park.



SUNDAY BUS

DRYSDALE – QUEENSCLIFF RAIL TRAIL

DATE	Sunday 25 January
STANDARD	Easy & Easy/Medium
DISTANCE	15km & 17km
LEADERS	Andrew Francis & Ben Howes
TRANSPORT	9am Bus from Southbank Blvd
AREA	Bellarine Peninsula
MAP REF	Melway maps 456, 470-1, 485-6, 500

This new walk is suitable for all, with only slight elevation providing views of the You Yangs and Mornington Peninsula during the day. Drysdale is the starting point for this pleasant Australia Day weekend walk, which meanders along the trail that runs beside the tourist railway with remnant stands of sheoaks and other indigenous vegetation. Queenscliff, finishing point, will be a delightful spot for a coffee or a visit to local historical sites before heading back to Melbourne. All are invited on the preview where we will ride the stream train, contact Andrew Francis



BASE CAMP

MT BULLER (LODGE BASED)

DATE	30-31 January
STANDARD	Medium
DISTANCE	Approx. 15k each day
LEADERS	Di McKinley, Paul and Val Beers
TRANSPORT	Private
AREA	Mt Buller
MAP REF	Buller - Stirling

There are two walks scheduled. Saturday we will do a circuit up to the Summit and then down McLaughlin's Shoulder to Thank Christ Corner where we pick up the Klingsporn Track to climb back up to the village (approx 15k).

Sunday we will do a circuit out to Howqua Gap via Corn Hill and return via the Quarry to the village (approx 15k). The Buller Walking Trails Maps (mtbuller.com.au) provide additional shorter and longer routes which interested walkers are invited to lead and provide as alternative walks. On Friday and Saturday night we will stay at the Royal Children's Hospital Lodge in the Buller Village. This is 2-6 bed dorm accommodation costing \$60 for the 2 nights (Junior \$30) with full cooking facilities. Bushies staying for the weekend will bring just sheets (as doonas are provided), food for all meals, and are to assist in leaving the lodge clean and comfortable. Club car pooling will be organised. To book on this weekend please let Dianne or Paul and Val know by the 21st Jan. Lodge payment is required at the time of booking.

Contacts: Dianne or Val and Paul Beers



SUNDAY BUS

LOWER LERDERDERG GORGE

DATE Sunday 1 February
STANDARD: Easy & Medium
DISTANCE 11 and 13km
LEADERS Mick Noonan and Max Casley
TRANSPORT Bus – Southbank Blvd. at 8:45am

The Lerderderg River has cut a rugged 300m deep gorge through sandstone and slate in the plains north of Bacchus Marsh. The area has koalas, kangaroos, wallabies and echidnas as well as a variety of birds. The river bed supports Blue Gum and Manna Gums, with the cliffs covered by grevilleas, wattles and hakeas.

Both walks are relatively short and both will have some steep climbs and drops in and out of the gorge. If you have been waiting for a harder Sunday Walk then try the lower Lerderderg Gorge where there is no track, so rock hopping and wet feet are included, in return some beautiful scenery is on offer, and possibly a swim (including inadvertent ones) –depends on what rainfall we get in January. The easier walk will include the climbs, some on rough rocky tracks, but will avoid river rock hopping, water and stay more on tracks. Depending on timing we may get to one of the look-outs. Be sure to bring changes of footwear and some spare clothing for the Medium walkers – good walking boots essential!.



WEDNESDAY WALK

HISTORIC CITY WALK TO VICTORIA MARKET.

DATE Wednesday 4 February
STANDARD Dead easy
DISTANCE Several city blocks
LEADERS Susan Maughan
TRANSPORT Tram, if hot.
AREA City

Meet at the Information kiosk, Fed Square at 5:30 p.m. We will meander along the back lanes and city streets, noting historic points of interest along the way. We should reach Victoria Market by 7p.m., in time for a spot of dinner. From there it's a short stroll in to the Clubroom. If it is a hot February day, this can be amended/shortened to include an historic alehouse and a tram ride to the Market.

No need to book, but please be on time, as I will depart promptly at the advertised time.



TOFS

FOOTSCRAY PARKS PLUS RIVER CRUISE

DATE Thursday 5 February
STANDARD Easy
DISTANCE 8 km
LEADERS Jean Giese
TRANSPORT Private
AREA Footscray/ Maribyrnong
MAP REF Melway 28 and 42

On this occasion we combine a walk along the Maribyrnong River and parks of Footscray with a river cruise on the "Blackbird" (cost \$16). Catch the 10.08 am Werribee train from Flinders Street Station or meet at the south east entrance to Footscray railway station to commence walking at 10.30 am. Book early with the leader so we know the number to book on the "Blackbird". We may or may not have it all to ourselves.



PACK CARRY

MT BUFFALO NATIONAL PARK

Date- 6 - 7 February
STANDARD Easy
DISTANCE Sat 15km plus side trips
 Sun – 8km, (if time permits explore gorge area,
 approx 3 km)
LEADER Claire Luxford
TRANSPORT Private
MAP REF Mt Buffalo Plateau Forest Activities Map, Rooftop's, ed 2, 2006.

Come and enjoy "some of the most diverse and attractive sub-alpine scenery in Victoria" during a weekend of leisurely walking at Mt Buffalo National Park. This walk has something for everyone including sculpturesque rocky outcrops, snow plains, forests and peaks. (suitable for those inexperienced doing pack carries.)

On the Friday night we will camp at Lake Catani Camp Ground. (Hot showers available.) Saturday morning without packs starting at the Reservoir, walk part of the central Buffalo Circuit. Included will be a walk to Mt Dunn through snow grass plains and Snow Gum woodlands for extensive views from this most central boulder covered peak of Mt Buffalo. We will do a loop back to the reservoir taking in Stanley Rocks and Drillhole rocks. In the afternoon with packs walk the Mollisons Galleries Track, with a side trip to Og Gog & Mac and Eagle Point along the way. Camp on Saturday night at Rocky Creek Camping Area, Sunday we return to the Reservoir along Rock Creek Track with a side trip to Macs Point where we look over a steep drop to Bunyip Creek and beyond. Time permitting we will explore the Gorge area before heading home.



SUNDAY BUS

CAPE WOOLAMAI-SAN REMO

Date Sun 8 February
Standard Easy and Easy /Medium
Distance 4 kms and 17 kms
Leaders John McCall and Lynda Larkin
Transport Bus from Southbank
Area Phillip Island

The great Woolamai wander.

An irresistible combination of sun, surf, sand, coastal cliffs and especially beautiful views from the cape, followed by an indulgent choice of coffee, drinks at the pub ,or fish and chips in the cosmopolitan haven of San Remo.

Don't be late to book. This walk definitely rates as a perpetual favourite.



WEDNESDAY WALK

Date: Wednesday 11 February
Standard: Easy/Medium
Distance: 12km plus optional 4.4km
Leader: Fay Dunn
Transport: Private
Area: Angahook State Park
Melways: 511 10C

This walk combines a 12km easy/medium walk to Currawong Falls with the option of a further 4.4 km easy walk to Ingleston Gorge. The walk to Currawong Falls crosses exposed heathland, dry forest and fern gullies and at times there are expansive coastal views. The optional extra of Ironbark Gorge is a gentle climb through magnificent red iron bark forest with views across the cliffs before we descend to the gorge. Here there are large ironbarks which still show the scars of the Ash Wednesday bushfires whilst the ground is covered in maidenhair ferns and thick green moss.

The walk will commence at 10.30 from the Distillery Creek picnic area. Please contact Fay for further information



CYCLE TRIP

ALTONA - WERRIBEE CIRCUIT

DATE Saturday, 14 February
STANDARD Easy
DISTANCE 50-55 km
LEADER(S) Del Franks
TRANSPORT Private/Trail
AREA Hobson Bay, Wynthenvale
MAP REF Melways

This ride will start at Altona at 9.30 am and most of the ride in either on bike tracks or back streets. We will ride up to the Federation Trail via Grieves Parade. The Federation trail has a great surface and will take us all the way to the Werribee river. We will then follow the Werribee River into the new northern suburbs then through some back streets and reserve parkland into Hoppers Crossing. At Hoppers Crossing people will have the choose whether to catch a trail home or continue the ride back to Altona for coffee & cakes.

The meeting place for this ride is on the South Side of the Altona Train Station at 9.30am. There is a train the leaves from the City lat 8.45 and arrives at 9.18. There are places to bye food and coffees at Altona, & Hoppers Crossing but is best to BYO.

If you are interested in this ride please see me at the clubrooms on Wednesdays in the club room.



SUNDAY BUS

MT ST LEONARD – MT TANGLEFOOT

DATE Sunday 15 February
STANDARD Easy & Easy/Medium
LEADERS Elizabeth Ingham & Hans Edlinger

Please refer to the website later on in the month asd no preview has been submitted at time of publication.



MAROONDAH DAM/DONNELLYS WEIR

DATE Monday 16th February 2009
STANDARD Easy
DISTANCE 10-11 Km
LEADER(S) Rosemary Cotter
TRANSPORT Private
AREA Healesville
MAP REF Melway 270 K10

We will meet in the grounds of the Maroondah Reservoir Park in the vicinity of the kiosk. We will start out across the dam wall and inspect the water level before following tracks to a hill top for lunch. There are a couple of steeper hills which we will take at an easy pace to suit everyone. Much of the day will be spent in dappled shade with the areas adjacent to Donnellys and Sawpit Weirs being under pines (gloriously cool and quiet). However, should the day turn out to be a hot one, then note that there are parts of the walk in open sunshine.

Meet at 10.15am adjacent to the cars, ready for a 10.30am start. Return should be by 3-3.30pm depending on how hot it is and number of stops we take. A short car shuffle could be arranged if anyone doesn't wish to walk the whole distance in hot weather, please contact leader beforehand if this is the case.



GRAMPIANS NATIONAL PARK ECO-LODGE WEEKEND

DATE 20 - 22 February
STANDARD Easy/Medium
DISTANCE Saturday 13 kms & Sunday 10 kms approx.
LEADER(S) Carol Corrigan
TRANSPORT Private
AREA Grampians National Park
MAP REF Vicmap Outdoor Leisure Maps 1:50,000

Halls Gap is approx. 3 hour drive from Melbourne so some people may choose to drive there on Saturday morning.

We will be staying at the stylish and comfortable YHA Eco-Lodge, Cnr Grampians & Buckler Roads, Halls Gap. There is a variety of accommodation available and you can discuss your preference before booking by phoning 5356 4544. On line bookings can be done at www.com.yha.com Book early as this place is very popular. There are BBQ facilities as well as a good kitchen at the Lodge. We will share a communal meal on Saturday evening.

Spectacular views are guaranteed all weekend! Rock pools, shady stringy bark and native pine forests, impressive rocky outcrops, waterfalls, and mountains are also included this weekend. Saturday will be a leisurely day. We will meet at 9am at the YHA Eco-Lodge before meandering along Stony Creek

to Venus Baths and Splitters Falls. Then it is on to the fantastic lookout at The Pinnacle, via Grand Canyon. The return is via Turret Falls and Wonderland Picnic area as the loop route remains closed at time of writing. We should arrive back at Halls Gap in time for afternoon refreshments i.e. coffee, cake, ice cream.

On Sunday we will leave the Lodge at 9am to drive 50 kms south to Mt Abrupt. After an invigorating climb of approx. 400 mts we will be rewarded by 360 degree views of the Grampians National Park. Further rewards (read gourmet treats) are to be found in the historic township of Dunkeld at lunchtime. It will then be an early return to Melbourne via the Glenelg Highway.



CORONET BAY – CORINELLA

DATE Sunday 22 February
STANDARD EASY / EASY MEDIUM
DISTANCE 15KM / 18KM
LEADERS Allan Martin & Dale Mackenzie
TRANSPORT Bus from Southbank Blvd 9.00 AM
AREA EAST WESTERNPORT
MAP REF CORINELLA 7921-2-2

For years I have driven to Philip Island straight past the Corinella exit sign and thought nothing of the cluster of houses off in the distance.

Previewing this walk, I was surprised to find that Corinella was actually the first "Bricks and Mortar" settlement in Victoria in 1826 – while time has erased most of the past history of the town, the walk planned for this day was another pleasant surprise. This is basically a full beach walk (tide permitting) but not like most other coastal beach walks I have been on due to the constantly changing terrain we encounter. Both groups follow the same route with the E/M group starting 3km back along the beach. The first section is typical beach walking, but after only a few km, the terrain changes to rocky outcrops, headlands, mangrove bush bashing and coastal terrain that is more like that found in areas of Southern NSW estuary walks I have done than what you would expect so close to Melbourne. The area during the preview was rich in bird life with many species noticed. Although we follow the sea for the entire route, the murky water covering the mud flats did not look particularly inviting for a swim if the walk is on a hot day. – A good sun hat and insect repellent to ward off sand flies around the Mangrove areas is highly recommended as well. – This is a great walk for both beginners as an introduction to Bushwalking and our regular walkers who enjoy some diversity with beach walking - and I promise there are NO hills to climb on the day.

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!

January				
Sun 11	Lal Lal Falls - Mt Doran	Bus	E/M & M	Peter Leech & Fotina Lennon
14	Donna Buang	Private	E/M	Jerry Grandage
16-18	PC: Mt McDonald - The Nobs - Mt Clear - The Bluff	Private	Med	Bert Reeh
16-20	PC: Mt McDonald - The Nobs - Mt Clear - The Bluff	Private	M/H	Bert Reeh
17	Cycling: East Link trail	Private	E/M	Ross Berner
Sun 18	Tooradin market - George Bass Walk	Bus	E/M & M	Jan Colquhoun & Lynda Stewart
19	Vallley Reserve Mt Waverley	Private	Easy	Alister Rowe
	Australia Day weekend			
23-26	BC: Camperdown Volcano Country	Private	Easy	Lance Mobbs
23-26	PC: Mitchell River National Park	Private	E/M	Bob Oxlade
Sun 25	BC: Drysdale - Queenscliffe trail	Bus	E & E/M	Lance Mobbs

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