



A000133X

THE NEWS OF THE Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc.

60 cents

JULY 2009

700 HUNDREDTH EDITION OF THE MELBOURNE BUSHWALKERS NEWSLETTER THIS MONTH!

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Sunday bus numbers have improved slightly but we still need more walkers to keep the bus as a viable concern. Try some of the alternate booking procedures if you are finding the evenings too chilly to come into the clubrooms.

Our club has been participating in a Bushwalking Victoria project "Where We Walked" and BWV clubs have provided information for the period 1 May 2008 to 30 April 2009. For your interest there were 1,873 walks, 24,476 walkers, and a total distance walked of 346,088 kilometres.

Our club participates in Search and Rescue call-outs when members of the public are lost in the bush. Gina Hopkins has been the Bush Search & Rescue delegate for Melbourne Bushwalkers for 10 years but has now just relinquished this role to David Laing. We thank Gina for all her efforts over this 10 year period and David for taking on the role. Gina remains a club contact for Search and Rescue purposes along with David, Derrick Brown, Jopie Bodegraven, Bill Metzenthien and Peter Leech. Thank you all for your assistance in this regard.

In addition to the July NEWS all members will receive a separate notification regarding the Club's Half Yearly General Meeting which is to be held on Wednesday, 19th August at 8.00pm. This notice will contain 3 Agenda items (a) Appointment of a Life Member, (b) Allocation of Wilky funds and (c) Resolutions to change the Club's Rules. The latter item contains many Resolutions to be put to the meeting and voted on and is the result of a thorough review of the Club's Rules by a sub-committee set up for this purpose.

Enjoy your walking over the winter months.

Margaret Curry



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

MEMBER OF

**Bushwalking
Victoria**



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.

Please note:

Next committee meeting will take place on

MONDAY 3 AUGUST 2009

TRACK MAINTENANCE GROUP

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

As provided by MBW member, Mark Heath.

2009 Activity Dates

Leader contact details

August 23 Walk into History track (Powelltown area)	David Rimmer
Sept 2-13 Grampians	Rod Novak
Sept 27 Condon's Track (Yarra Ranges)	Steve Robertson
Oct 5 Condon's Track (Yarra Ranges)	Steve Robertson
Oct 31 - Nov 1 Stronach's Camp (Baw Baw NP)	Geoff Kelly



SOCIAL NIGHT

WED 15 JULY - 8PM

At the clubrooms

Not to be missed !!

Susanna and Maddie's Slide night of their

El Camino walk - plus homemade tapas.

SEE full social calendar on page 7

NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

Forgive the layout of the previews this month: the edition is very full and every bit of space was of the essence so please read the previews carefully to make your selection

Reports

SUNDAY BUS BOOKING PROCEDURES - A REMINDER

Payment Methods to secure a seat

Members

1. Pay in the clubrooms by the Wednesday night prior to the day of a walk – you can book up to 4 weeks ahead.
2. Send in a cheque ensuring that it reaches the clubrooms by the Wednesday night prior to the day of the walk.
3. Purchase pre-payment vouchers from the Treasurer or Walks Secretaries in the clubrooms and send an email to busbookings@mbw.org.au advising the voucher number and date/name of walk. Vouchers may also be posted as per cheques.
4. Use a credit from a cancelled walk and send an email to busbookings@mbw.org.au advising the date/name of walk.
5. Use a bank-to-bank transfer via the internet. (see details under "Frequent Questions" on our website at www.melbournebushwalkers.org.au).
6. Go to an ANZ bank branch and deposit directly into the club's bank account (013-006 005846013). Give the date of the walk and your phone number as the reference (eg. 170590762461 for 17th May) and send an email to busbookings@mbw.org.au or contact the leader of the walk giving your details and the reference.

Visitors (Temporary Members)

We need you to speak with a leader of the walk so they are assured that you are capable of doing the walk. This limits you to personally visit our clubrooms on a Wednesday night prior to the date of a walk, up to 2 weeks ahead, when the leaders will be available in the clubrooms.

PHOTO COMPETITION FOR 2010 BUSHWALKING VICTORIA CALENDAR

Following the success of the 2009 Bushwalking Victoria 75th Anniversary calendar, BWV has decided to produce a 2010 calendar. All proceeds from the sale will go to the BWV Bushfire Recovery Fund. All members are invited to enter a competition for photographs to be used in the 2010 calendar.

Criteria:

- .. Photographs must have been taken in Victoria
- .. Primary focus in photographs should be the landscape, not people (people are OK but should not be the predominant feature)
- .. Only digital colour photos in JPEG format may be entered

There are two categories:

Category 1: These will be used as the photo of the month and printed in approximately A4 size. Photos must be high resolution (minimum of 5 mega pixels), landscape orientation. No image manipulation is to be used)

Category 2. These will be used on the calendar details page and will be printed approximately 5cm x 5cm in size. Photos must be as high resolution as possible, landscape orientation preferred, but portrait orientation is acceptable. No image manipulation is to be used.

Copyright remains with the photographer, but the photographer assigns Bushwalking Victoria the right to use the image free of fees or royalties in the Bushwalking Victoria 2010 calendar, on the Bushwalking Victoria website or in any other Bushwalking Victoria promotional material.

How to enter:

Images may only be submitted on CD or DVD

Maximum of 3 photos per photographer

An entry form to accompany entries is available on the "What's New" page of the Bushwalking Victoria website, <http://www.bushwalkingvictoria.org.au>

Closing Date is **30th June 2009**

Winning photographers with images selected for:

... Category 1 will receive 5 free copies of the calendar

...Category 2 will receive 2 free copies of the calenddar"

The NEWS article refers to 'Winning photographers in each category will receive 5 free copies of the calendar'.

Noticeboard

NEW LOOK SUNDAY WALKS PROGRAM

Interim Measure or Long Term Solution?

The spring walks' program is running alternate bus and car pool walks. We hope that this will be only an interim measure to stem the loss on bus bookings until our flyer promotion for Melbourne Bushwalkers has a positive effect.

All car pool walks will be circular walks. Published previews of these walks will include the car pooling cost that will need to be paid to drivers. To participate on one of these walks meet at our normal departure point at Southbank Boulevard for an 8:45am departure. (Please always check our website for any changes to the departure point due to road closures etc.) If you are happy to be a driver please bring your car.

Thank you for your support.

Halina Sarbinowski - Sunday Walks Secretary

PHOTOGALLERY SUBMISSION MADE EASY!

The club is pleased to make available a simple online method of preparing trip photos for the club photogallery.

Just mail your chosen photos to photos@mbw.org.au to start things rolling. Within a few minutes you will be sent a link allowing you to arrange your photos in your web browser. That's it! But if you want a little more information, read on...

You won't need to sequence your photos when emailing as they will be initially sorted by time taken, and you'll be able to make adjustments later if you wish. It doesn't matter about the size of your photos either, although you can use the "make smaller for emailing" options in your computer if you're trying to send everything on a single email.

Captions are not required in the email as you will be able to type any captions you need, straight against the photos in your browser. No written text is needed in the message either, although you may wish to put a trip name in the subject line for your own reference, as this will be reflected in the reply.

The system allows for multiple contributors per trip, and there is no requirement to coordinate in advance with the other photographers as the later submitters will see a panel where they can slot their own photos into the existing set.

As far as scheduling your submissions, there are two simple rules, one which provides quick turnaround for the weekly Sunday walks, and the other which offers equal lead time for all other activity types:

Sunday walks: By Tuesday night (midnight) following the trip.

All other activities: By one week after the finish of the activity.

(e.g. for a Wednesday walk, by the following Wednesday night, or for extended pack carry by one week after returning from trip)

It will be possible to fill gaps where trips have missed the regular schedule, however submitters will have to manage any coordination required (per notes on screen).

So send in your next trip photos and enjoy!

Noticeboard

SOCIAL EVENT

WEDNESDAY 22 JULY. THE JOHNSTON COLLECTION

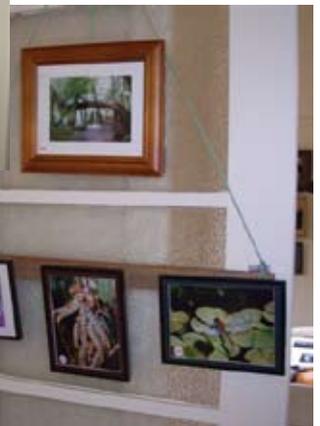
What, you've never been to the Johnston collection? Always meant to visit? Come on, let's make this a Bushies' Social Event and head to East Melbourne this coming Wednesday, 22 July.

Meet at Parliament Station at 11am and we will walk across Treasury Gardens to the Hyatt for the midday tour (this is the designated meeting point). Afterwards we can amble over to Fitzroy for a late lunch.

You MUST BOOK AND PAY with Susan Maughan, Social Secretary no later than 15th July. Susan will be in the Club Room that night for the El Camino slide show. The cost is \$ 22 or \$18.50 for Seniors.

Please contact Susan

Herewith some photos of art work taken at the inaugural Art and Craft Exhibition at Jean Giese's house on Saturday, May 9.



Noticeboard

ADVANCE NOTICE - TRACK MAINTENANCE

Weekend 12 & 13 September at the Grampians. Come along and join in with Bushwalking Victoria 'Track Maintenance Group' as well as bushwalking clubs from Mildura, Warnambool and Stawell. The Melbourne Bushies have hosted this event over the past five years. The plan is to do track maintenance on the Saturday and to go for a walk on the Sunday. For further information, contact Rod Novak.

EASTER 2009 REUNION

On behalf of the Tasmania walkers I would like to thank Carolyn and Gerhard for hosting the very enjoyable weekend of dinner, slide show and walks. The contributions from the walkers were also appreciated.

Bob Oxlade.

CONGRATULATIONS !

Congratulations are in order for Lynda Larkin and her daughter Anita on the arrival of their little boy and grandson **Kazadi** on Wednesday 16 June at a very healthy 8.7pounds!

NEW MEMBERS

COLIN & JOSEPHINE BELLINGHAM	Life Members 14
VINCENT BORG	Honorary Members 9
PHILLIP R COOPER	Single memberships 278
KERRY MC KEAND	Family memberships 106 (= 2x 53)
CATHERINE MERRICK	Total membership 407
MICHAEL J MURRAY	This time last year 403

WILLIS'S WALKABOUTS

Tell us

I'm doing a major revision of both the Willis's Walkabouts website and program.

I'd like to know what you'd like to find on our website. For example:

- how to get here
- where to stay
- what to bring
- how to get a permit for your own walk
- weather

All the above are on the current website. I know that some of them are hard to find but with your help we will amend this.

what you want...

Lack of guides may force me to cut back on the program. Do I keep a mix or concentrate on one or two types and areas?

- long walks of two weeks or more (food drop if over 2 weeks)
- a series of shorter walks
- walks with Aboriginal guides
- overseas walking trips

To have your say, please go to our website and fill in our short questionnaire. It should take no more than ten minutes. If you've got more time, you can provide more details and **you might win a major prize.**



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

Phone 08 8985 2134

www.bushwalkingholidays.com.au

Fax 08 8985 2355

Noticeboard

ADVANCE NOTICE - BUSHWALKING VICTORIA 75TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Tree Planting Weekend at Lurg Hills - 8 & 9 August.

All welcome.

Come along for a fun weekend digging holes and planting seedlings with fellow bushies from all the BV clubs.

Club Contact: Rod Novak.

SUNDAY BUS SURVEY

The results are now loaded on the Club Website
Please find them under 'About MBW' & "Download Documents"
Mick

FOR SALE

Large travel back pack. Kathmandu brand.
Straps zip away in enclosed section.
Separate zip up section for tent/sleeping bag.

Used on only 2 trips. EC. \$100.

Please contact Lynn James

FULL SOCIAL CALENDAR

JULY

Wednesday 15 July - 8pm

Susanna and Maddie's Slide night of their El Camino walk-plus homemade tapas. Not to be missed !!

Wednesday 22 July

See full ad on page 5

Wednesday 22 July

Cheese and wine night

Wednesday 29 July - 8pm

Roger Wyatt's food presentation with tastings. Featuring gourmet dehydrated meals.

AUGUST

Friday 14 August

Restaurant night in Fitzroy. The Penang Affair comes highly recommended. This Malaysian restaurant is located at 325 Brunswick Street, Fitzroy. The restaurant is booked for 7:15, so would love to see you there.
Book with Susan Maughan no later than 10th August.

Wednesday 26 August

"Back by popular demand...." Gluhwien* and Apple PieNight. (*mulled wine, served warm.) Just perfect for a bleak winter's night.

"Be sure to ring these dates in your diary,"-

Susan Maughan Social Secretary.

GOURMET DEHYDRATED MEALS!

No time to dehydrate your own meals
Tired of the "commercial" meals available
But still want to keep the pack weight down,

And pay less than full price?

Chefsaway gourmet meals are the answer

FREE TASTING NIGHT

8pm Wed 29 Jul 09

In the club rooms

View and taste the range from Vegetarian through to Lamb with Winter Vegetable

Purchase each 200gm meal for just \$10 (RRP \$14.95) and assist your club financially as well as getting a 33% discount off retail!

Please contact Roger Wyatt

Noticeboard

REGENT HONEYEATER PROJECT

GREY-CROWNED BABBLERS - SURVEY OF THE LURG HILLS, 2009

Hello everyone,

We have just completed the annual Grey-crowned Babbler survey of the Lurg Hills and have some VERY exciting news to share about how these rare birds are fairing in our district. After locating the last couple of elusive family groups, there were instant powerful insights about the effectiveness of our planting strategies over the past 14 years.

One of the Babbler groups had spent the hot summer nesting in the dense shade of some deciduous trees, right beside a farm dam in a creek line. From there they had only a short flight to feed in the road verge and adjacent paddock trees. This fits the pattern of many other families that spend their time in the cool, moist conditions of farm house gardens.

The final group was about 1km from the nearest roadside, feeding and nesting in a planting site that was planted 5 or 6 years ago around a cluster of old Grey Box paddock trees. This Babbler family had shifted 3 km from a narrow roadside verge in the dry foothills, down to the plains where the food is more secure. Not surprisingly, the family has grown from 4 to 6 over the past year!!

2 years ago the vegetation on site was only 3 year old and much more open of course. There were no Babblers!!

This shifting down to more fertile habitat has been observed with several family groups, and in each case it seems that the birds had to wait until our plantings were old enough and dense enough to provide secure habitat.

Further good news is that the original dense grassy weed layer has largely disappeared due to competition with our planted saplings. This has left a lot of bare ground and sticks, which improves the opportunities for ground-foraging birds like Babblers.

The total Babbler population for the Lurg Hills is now officially 81, compared with the previous highest of 72. Given that these delightful birds have declined all across Victoria down to only 0.1% of their former population, these gains are really significant!

It looks like we have turned the population decline around in fact! And our strategy is exactly what we've been applying for Regent Honeyeaters since the mid 1990's. Restoring/bulking-up degraded remnants on the more fertile country, gives these shy birds a safe place to be, right in the best food reserves where there is enough food to raise their young.

It's news worth sharing, and cause for being hopeful about all the other rare species that will benefit from our strategic plantings in the same way! Think about rare species as sensitive indicators of environmental health.....

Sincere thanks for your part in creating the habitat that has made such a difference! Special thanks also to local volunteer Nigel Lacey, for his painstaking work to monitor the Babbler families over the past 8 years. I don't know anyone else who has attempted such a thorough long-term survey of an entire district.

Ray Thomas, - Regent Honeyeater Project

19 April 2009



Reviews

WILSON'S PROMONTORY PACK CARRY

Queen's Birthday Weekend 5-8 June 2009
Leader Mohammad Akbari

We camped at Tidal River on the Friday night. A couple of the "lads" decided to have a party and consumed half of their weekend wine you would think the older one would have had more sense. Nevertheless, they were up and ready to go the following morning. Mohammad arranged a car shuffle for the Monday walk from Telegraph Saddle back to Tidal River. As the weather was perfect our Leader decided upon the alternative route along the coast to Oberon Bay. We stopped just short of Oberon Bay for a morning tea break and admired the magnificent views across the bay and back to Norman Point. We continued our walk inland and just as we reached Halfway Hut light rain started to fall. After lunch we commenced to walk to Roaring Meg our next camping spot in light drizzle. The tents were barely erected when the rain became seriously "wet", a party of six chose to walk down to South Point approx. 8 kms return. On the way we met Jan Colquhoun who was on her way back. On reaching the Point the weather was so bad there was no chance of a photo shoot although Mohammad did manage a group shot. On return to camp (where Kerrie and Ralph joined us) the rain was bucketing down, so everyone retreated to their tents to prepare for dinner. The rain continued all night.

The next day although overcast at first was rain free but windy. We commenced our way towards the lighthouse at South East Point again the scenery was spectacular. On arrival at the lighthouse we ditched our packs and climbed the steep ascent to explore the area around the lighthouse. In 1880 the Wilson's Promontory School commenced with a total of 14 pupils and closed later that year when the numbers dropped to six.

After leaving the lighthouse we started off to our next campsite at Little Waterloo Bay the track followed the coastline and in the distance saw a number of container ships off shore. Stopping a few kms from

Waterloo Bay we had lunch before tackling the steady climb prior to the descent down to Waterloo Bay. On reaching the Bay we walked along the soft sand to Freshwater Creek then crossed the creek and up a short climb to our campsite.

As we were the first group to arrive we commandeered the best sites besides the Creek. After eating a few of us went for a walk along the beach, the weather seemed fine apart from the cold wind. However, upon returning to camp it started to rain at approx. 8 pm and continued all night, it stopped long enough to have breakfast. But as we were packing up our sodden tents the rain recommenced and we walked all the way along the Telegraph Track in very heavy rain and strong winds. Mohammad had told us there was a small climb towards the finish at Telegraph Saddle but we were unprepared for the extent of the climb (which in its self was not that steep) but in the conditions was back breaking. On reaching the Saddle one walker was heard to say she wasn't going to walk a step further. It was then we learnt that the car shuffle was not on and we had to walk another 3 kms or so back to Tidal River. So the bedraggled group headed down the mountain. The hot showers at Tidal River were very welcome.

Many thanks to Mohammad for organising such a character building walk and my fellow walkers Chris, Deb, Mark Fay, Fang, Jerry, Kerrie, Ralph and Phillip for their company.



Ray Spooner

A reminder that to view all available previews and any notifications of changes to walks, just log on to the walks program and previews pages on the MBW website:
http://www.melbournebushwalkers.org.au/activities/Walks/MBW_walks_program.htm



DANDENONGS EXPLORER

SILVAN AREA

DATE	Saturday 25 July
STANDARD	Easy
DISTANCE	13km
LEADER	Doug Pocock
TRANSPORT	Private
AREA	Silvan
MAP REF	Melways 120 & 122

The final route we take will depend on the weather on the day. If it is fine then we will walk in the wetter forest but if wet then we will walk on the drier northern slopes. Whichever way we go we will find the usual Dandenongs uphill to give a bit of cardiovascular workout. At this time of year we should see the early wildflowers.

Meet at the Sylvan Overflow Carpark on the north side of Stonyford Rd Silvan, Melways 120 H 11. Be there ready to leave at 10.00am



PACK CARRY

LERDERDERG GORGE - MIDDLE SECTION

DATE	1-2 August
STANDARD	Medium
LEADER	Jopie Bodegraven
TRANSPORT	Private
AREA	1 hr west of Melbourne
MAP REF	Meridian Lerderderg & Werribee Gorges 1;35,000

This is a good walk to get some mid-winter exercise in some fabulous gorge country close to Melbourne and with a Saturday morning start. We are walking/hopping the section of gorge between Whisky Creek and Long Point which is about 12km. Add to this 2km of the rocky bed of Whisky Creek and about 9km of track to get in and out and we have 23km. There are ways of aborting the gorge section if we are going too slow but hopefully this will not be necessary. If we are going well we may do a side trip up the Old River to have a look at the best (the only?) waterfall in the Lerderderg area.

We will meet 9.00am Saturday morning at the gate at the end of Loh's Lane. To get there exit the Western Freeway at the Myrniong turnoff and head north. After 1 km turn right into Mount Blackwood Road and after 6 or 7km and just before Mt Blackwood, turn right into Loh's Lane.

So join me for a weekend of fun, frolic, rock hopping, some scrub and a lovely remote gorge camp close to Melbourne



SUNDAY BUS

AIREYS INLET - ANGLESEA

DATE	Sunday 2 August 2009
STANDARD	Easy & Easy/Medium
DISTANCE	12km & 15km
LEADERS	Andrew Francis & Elizabeth Ingham
TRANSPORT	8:45pm Bus from Southbank Blvd
AREA	Surf Coast
MAP REF	Vicmap Anglesea South 7721-3-S (1:25,000)

We will be walking along the coast between Aireys Inlet & Anglesea. The easy/medium group will start at Moggs Creek walking along the beach with dramatic views approaching the lighthouse from the west. The easy group will start at the Aireys Inlet lighthouse with both groups walking along the cliff top paths viewing Eagle Rock, Eagle Nest Reef and the beautiful green & blue ocean. Then the walk continues along sandy beaches, past rocky outcrops including Urquhart Bluff and Table Rock. At the end of the walk we will have time in Anglesea for coffee.



BASE CAMP

LURG HILLS, NORTH-EASTERN VICTORIA

DATE	8 - 9 August
STANDARD	Easy
TRANSPORT	Private
AREA	Lurg Hills, north-eastern Victoria

Are you a "digger" or a "planter"? Or, can you multi-task? All welcome to come along and join in with this BV 75th anniversary special event. Meet bushies from all the Victorian clubs. We will be helping Ray Thomas and his awesome Regent Honeyeater Project. This fun weekend will start with an early Saturday morning drive up to Winton, then tree planting on Saturday, with dinner provided on the Saturday night, and a bush dance. Basic accommodation with a sleeping bag in the scout hall. Sunday has us tree planting until a late lunch then after packing up there will be a nature walk. Bookings with Rod Novak. NB. Important to RSVP to Rod before the 29/07/09 to allow for accommodation & catering arrangements, etc. You need to bring strong boots, leather gloves, and if a planter - small gardening tools. Contact Rod for a detailed information sheet.



TOFS

WERRIBEE GORGE

DATE	Thursday 6 August
STANDARD	Easy
DISTANCE	9 km
LEADERS	Alister Rowe,
TRANSPORT	Private
AREA	Werribee Gorge State Park
MAP REF	Melway Key Map 7

The walk will commence at 10.30 AM.

Take the Pentland Hills Road off the Western Highway just past Bacchus Marsh. It goes under the Freeway. Turn left into Myers Road and follow it to the Park. The Park is well signposted. Park in the second car park on the right. There is an information board and toilets there.

We do the short gorge walk which does NOT include the tricky bit along the river. However we visit Eastern and Western lookouts and walk through the Gorge along the aqueduct.

The final part of the ride will be along the main drag back to Diamond Creek, before retracing our steps along the creek trail back to Eltham.



SUNDAY BUS

YANKEE CREEK - LERDERDERG WALK

DATE	Sunday 9 August
STANDARD	Easy / Easy Medium
DISTANCE	15 km & 18 km
LEADERS	Phillip Geschke; Allan Martin
TRANSPORT	Bus from Southbank Blvd
AREA	Blackwood

Well, this walk in the Goldfields, last lead in Sept 2007, was very popular. Allan and I intend ensuring there will be good reason for an abundance of walkers fighting to get on this Bus trip. Gold nuggets could be found by the lucky ones with a keen eye. The walks will be conducted in the usual relaxed and jovial manner, with time for photos (EM walkers may need to be quick) and views. We will encounter forests, 4 wd tracks, some open clearings and an occasional farmhouse. The gold diggers certainly left their mark. Abandoned mines, aqueducts and furrows, a mess of mounds and a broken bridge can be seen amongst the wounded forests. In August we should see a greener and wetter landscape than witnessed in the recent summer walks. Hills and the occasional fallen log make walking a little challenging, although Park Rangers may have cleaned these up. Where possible, we have varied the walk a bit from the last time. Contact Phillip Geschke.



CYCLING

ELTHAM TO HURSTBRIDGE

DATE	Saturday 8 August
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.

The first part of our ride offers leisurely riding along the Diamond Creek Trail in a beautiful area made famous by the Heidelberg artists last century. It will be clear why they were so inspired with their famous depictions of golden wattle and sunlight filtering through the trees, mainly red river gums and box ironbark.

Once past Diamond Creek we will make our way to Hurstbridge via Wattle Glen, with a moderate climb up Wilson Rd before our descent into Hurstbridge for lunch. Bring your own lunch or take advantage of the bakeries and cafes in the township.

After lunch we will head north along Arthurs Creek Rd, which has a distinctly rustic ambience as it is flanked by green pasture lands and old farms. A fairly undulating road, but not seriously so, until perhaps the climb back towards Hurstbridge along the Strathewen-Hurstbridge Road, which those less fit may find a bit taxing.



WEDNESDAY WALK

You Yangs (changed from Bostock Reservoir)

DATE	Wednesday 12 August
STANDARD	Easy/Medium
DISTANCE	12km
LEADERS	Margaret Curry
TRANSPORT	Private
AREA	Little River
MAP REF	You Yangs 1:25,000

Although only 352 metres high, the granite peaks of the You Yangs dominate the landscape between Melbourne and Geelong. The park contains an amazing variety of trees, shrubs, birds and wildflowers. The park is also the home of many possums, koalas and wallabies.

The walk commences with a short climb up Flinders Peak to obtain spectacular views of the surrounding countryside. We then walk along the West track which skirts the Peak and continue past The Saddle through mixed open forest. We later divert onto a dirt track passing an old sand quarry before climbing a steep track for about 20 minutes back to The saddle. We then return on the East track all the way back to the cars.

There are some easier walk options on the trip if required.

Travel on the Geelong Road, take the Little River exit and follow the signs to the You Yangs. From the park entrance drive up Turntable Drive past the You Yangs Park Information Centre and follow the sign for Flinders Peak Road. Meet at 10.15am at Turntable Car Park where there are toilets.

For further information and bookings phone Margaret.



BASE CAMP

KOOYOORA STATE PARK RAMBLE

DATE 14-16 August 2009
STANDARD Easy
DISTANCE Not too far, about 10 km per day
LEADER Ken MacMahon
TRANSPORT Private

AREA 50 km northeast of Bendigo
MAP REF Parks Vic pamphlet or 'The Kooyoora Country' booklet by Algona

I have fond memories of going to Kooyoora on one of my first weekend trips with the Bushies back about 1974. The leader then was the late Fred Halls who was passionate about this delightful area of granitic hills located by the Calder Hwy near Inglewood.

Fred knew where to find gnamma holes - deep drill holes in the rocks that held water and other artefacts used long ago by the Jaara aboriginal people. He also took us to the rocky tors overlooking the northern plains and showed us spectacular patches of orchids too.

I've kept an old hand-drawn 'treasure' map of the area produced by Fred and I hope to use it to find his special places again.

This area is generally warmer than Melbourne at this time of year, so come along and enjoy some winter sunshine... hopefully. It would be a good idea to bring your own drinking water. Participants are welcome to come along on Saturday morning if they prefer.



SUNDAY BUS

BRITANNIA RANGE

DATE Sunday 16 August
STANDARD Easy/Medium and Medium
DISTANCE 14 km and 16 km
LEADERS Lesley Hale & Peter Hogan
TRANSPORT Bus from Southbank Blvd - 8:45am
AREA Yarra State Forest
MAP REF Gladysdale 1:25 000

The forest is magnificent! Mountain Ash, Messmate and Mountain Grey Gum flourish above an understory that includes lush tree ferns along Britannia Creek. Listen for the lyre birds

that also enjoy this environment.

Gold was the attraction in the 1850s; then came the loggers who established mills and tramways which were deserted by the 1920s. If you look hard enough you can find overgrown reminders of this activity - timber tramways, and mill remnants along the creek.

The walks start along Britannia Creek Road, ascend 400m (by different routes), continue along the undulating Britannia Range Track, and descend steeply to rejoin Britannia Creek Road for the return to the bus.

As the Range Track is also enjoyed by 4WD vehicles and Trail Bikes, it is deeply rutted with sections that are muddy and slippery in winter. Good boots are essential and walking sticks are useful



SATURDAY WALK

MT MACEDON

DATE SATURDAY 22 AUGUST

STANDARD Medium (sustained climbing)
DISTANCE 12km
LEADERS Ian Hoad
TRANSPORT Private
AREA Mt Macedon

Mt Macedon is high and exposed and, in August, we must be ready for wind (almost inevitable), rain (highly possible), snow (certainly possible), mud (certainly possible), leeches (probable) and football talk (hopefully avoidable). We'll start and finish at the front of the (closed) hotel in the main street of Mt Macedon Township, at 10:00am. There is parking in the main street. The nearby store/post office/cafe/info centre/newsagency has good coffee and other sustenance for early arrivers, and for after the walk.

The walk may be north-east, past Mt Towrong and up to the Sanatorium Lake area, or north-west, to the Mt Macedon summit area. If the weather should happen to be fine, we may get to combine the two.

Feel free to call me on the Thursday or Friday evening before the walk (not before 6:00pm, please) for clarification of the walk plan. You don't have to tell me in advance that you want to come on the walk, but it would be helpful if you should be late reaching the start line.



SUNDAY BUS

YOU YANGS

DATE Sunday 23 August
STANDARD Easy/Medium & Medium
DISTANCE 12 & 17 km
LEADERS Del Franks & Dale MacKenzie
TRANSPORT Bus from Southbank Blvd
AREA You Yang Regional Park
MAP REF You Yangs 1:25000 & Parks Vic Visitors Guide

The You Yangs Regional Park is an area relatively close to Melbourne, about 55km, near the small settlement of Little River on the way to Geelong. The intrepid English navigator and explorer, Captain Matthew Flinders, entered Corio Bay on May 1st, 1802 and embarked on a 20 mile return trip from Geelong, across the flat larva plains to the You Yangs, a steep, rocky outcrop, which can be recognized by its distinctive sawtooth formation on the western horizon of Port Phillip Bay. Both walks will retrace some of the great explorer's steps to the top of Flinders Peak, experiencing the historical ambience of the area, including an aboriginal cave and excellent views from a number of different vantage points. So come and join Dale and me on what should be a wonderful walk.

then it is only 2.2km to the right hand turn into the Pyrenee's Walking Track. This is a rough track for 200m (standard sedan can access) to a overnight camp. Look for a fire or lights. On Saturday we will leave half the cars at the walk end then drive back to, Avoca, take the last left (Faraday St) 50m before the bridge over the Avoca River, which becomes Vinoca Road as it turns away from the river around the sports ground. Then stay on the bitumen, until it ends then continue straight. Past No2 Creek Road (signage to Lookout), and continue to Waterfalls Track and the picnic area, the walk start. Please call Roger Wyett



SUNDAY BUS

DOMINO TRAIL-TRENTHAM

DATE Sunday 30 August
DISTANCE 14 km & 18 km
LEADERS John McCall and Elizabeth Ingham
TRANSPORT Bus from Southbank Blvd

A great way to kiss goodbye to Winter and welcome the delights of Springtime. This walk, in mainly flat and gentle terrain, takes in Lyonville Springs, Trentham Falls, the Coliban River, a rail trail complete with historic trestle bridge and tunnel and just to put some icing on the cake for you, a midway coffee stop. As well as all this, we get to enjoy stands of Manna, Peppermint, Mountain and Swamp gums, Wattle coming into bloom and possible sightings, of fauna. In short, a most enjoyable walk, an absolute must for both pleasure seekers and discerning walkers. Be advised, book early as this walk is a perennial club favourite.



PACK CARRY

PYRENEES STATE FOREST

DATE 28-30 Aug 09
STANDARD Easy/Medium
DISTANCE 18km
LEADER Roger Wyett
TRANSPORT Private
AREA Pyrenees State Forest – Avoca
MAP REF Avoca 7523-N 1:50,000

While this walk is rated Easy/Medium, most of the medium is on Day One with an initial 400m ascent to Mt Avoca, then 9km of undulating terrain in an area that is not often walked. The effort will be rewarded with an overnight camp site with tank water, fireplace and a "day" shelter on Cameron's Track to ensure a dry evening meal. While this is a short overall distance experience in pack carry's is required, due to the terrain. Day Two will be less arduous with a further 9km back to the cars and a late lunch in Avoca and a side trip to the award winning local wineries. This is an ideal winter walk, with overall distances to allow for shorter days, and shelter to pass the long night hours with tall tales, red wine and cards (you guess which is optional). Be prepared for the full spectrum of winter weather, as this area can get snow but hopefully it will be crisp and clear for a walk with pristine forest and views to Mt Cole and surrounding areas.

Direction for Drivers: Friday overnight camp is at the walk's end GR If travelling from Avoca take the Pyrenees Highway through Amphitheatre and Elmhurst. 1.3km after the 100km sign out of Elmhurst take the right turn to Landsborough over the railway then 8.1km to turn right into Glenlofty-Warrenmang Road (dirt),



TOFS

MOUNT MACEDON

DATE Thursday 3 September
STANDARD Easy
DISTANCE 10km
LEADERS Janet Norman
TRANSPORT Private
AREA Mt Macedon
MAP REF Parks Victoria – Macedon Regional Park

Meet at 10.15 a.m. (note early meeting time) at the Car Park near The Memorial Cross on the top of the mountain at the end of Cameron Dve. To get to Mt Macedon take the Calder Hwy and follow the signs just past Gisborne to Mt Macedon. We will need to do a car shuttle to Sangsters Road hence the slightly earlier start. The walk will follow the Macedon Ranges Walking Trail from the Tea Rooms past the Camel's Hump, Day's Picnic Ground, through the Sanatorium Lake Picnic Ground, down the ZigZag Track and Sangsters Road to the cars. Please contact Janet .

