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THE NEWS OF THE Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc.

60 cents

JANUARY 2010

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Half Annual General Meeting of the Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc will be held on Monday, 22 February, 2010, 7.45 pm at The Clubrooms, Royal Historical Society of Victoria, Corner of A'Beckett & Williams Streets, Melbourne
Members are invited to attend - Non-members are welcome but are not eligible to vote.

Business:

Apologies
Confirmation of minutes of the 2009 Half Yearly General Meeting
President's report
Treasurer's report
Determination of the annual subscription fee for 2010
Walks Secretaries' reports
Election of Office Bearers & Committee members
Appointment of Auditors
Conferral of Honorary Memberships
Award of Spoons
General Business
(Nomination forms & Appointment of Proxy forms are available at the clubrooms).

WE WISH
ALL OUR MEMBERS
AND GUESTS
A HAPPY AND
PROSPEROUS 2010 !

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Now that Christmas and New Year have passed, hopefully members will have the time to participate in many of the Club's activities. Please ensure you carry a minimum of 2 litres of water, wear sunscreen, take a sun hat and are aware of the Club's Fire Season, Total Fire Ban and Extreme Heat policies. If you are coming into the clubrooms, please note that the Queen Victoria Night Market will run until the end of February on Wednesday nights and make parking that little bit more difficult.. Travelling by train or bookings over the internet may be an easier option.

During 2009 members were advised of changes made to the Club's Rules. Following on from this the same sub-committee carried out a complete review of the Club's By-Laws. The updated By-Laws are now on the website and copies available in the clubroom.

The Club committee has recently formulated a Risk Management Plan to ensure the safety and well being of its members when participating in Club activities. The Plan is on the website with copies also available in the clubroom. Members, and particularly leaders, are asked to familiarise themselves with its contents to understand the risk controls that have been determined.

Our Annual General Meeting will be held on Monday 22nd February, 2010 and it is hoped that as many members as possible will be able to attend. We are currently seeking nominations for the positions of Treasurer and General Walks Secretary and welcome expressions of interest on these roles to the current office bearers, myself or Mick Noonan, Vice President.

Advance notice is given that the Club will celebrate its 70th Anniversary on Sunday 2nd May, 2010 at the Nioka Bush Camp, Plenty Gorge Park. More details in subsequent NEWS.

Happy New Year to everyone and look forward to seeing you 'on the track'.

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

**Cnr. William and A'Beckett Streets,
Melbourne Vic 3001
entry from William Street)**

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 7 DECEMBER 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.

2010 Activity Dates

Leader contact details

January 2010 Bogong High Plains	Steve Robertson rob7859@bigpond.net.au 9762 5367
March 19 - 23 Baw -Baw Track Clearing	Andy Gillham agillham@parks.vic.gov.au
April 30 - May 2 Grampians	Mark Heath 9578 7813

A NOTE FROM YOUR EDITOR

The emailed version of this edition contains all the submissions received this month.

The selection as to which review to publish or not publish in the print version was simply made on the 'first received' basis.



SOCIAL NIGHT

Friday 15 January

Boheme Restaurant and Bar
368 Bridge Road, Richmond.

7:00 for 7:15. Licensed and BYO but \$5 corkage

Book with Susan **no later than Wed 13th Jan** on 9754-7443

Please note:

No cheese and wine night in January.

Noticeboard

COMMITTEE POSITIONS - TREASURER & GENERAL WALKS SECRETARY

We are seeking nominations for committee to the roles of Treasurer and General Walks Secretary. These positions will fall vacant at the Club's Annual General Meeting in February. If you feel you have the knowledge and/or interest in either of these positions, or know anyone who may be suitable, please contact Ray Spooner (Treasurer), Jane Williams (General Walks Secretary), or alternatively Margaret Curry (President) or Mick Noonan (Vice President). Detailed Position Descriptions are available.

Your Committee Needs YOU !

MELWALK

Melwalk is an exciting new Bushwalking Victoria project to develop a system of urban walks in the Greater Melbourne area. The plan is to link existing tracks and pathways into a coherent network backed by freely available comprehensive maps and walk notes.

Bushwalking Victoria is seeking support from enthusiastic volunteers to assist with its development. They would like to form a small working group and will also need a team of volunteers to research and walk the proposed routes, as well as carry out other small tasks.

Should any member feel they can contribute in any way to this project please contact Margaret Curry (9500 0664) to advise of your interest. Bushwalking Victoria would like to build a database of interested people that the working group can call on. Any input that our members can make will contribute greatly to the success of Melwalk.

SOCKS SEW WEED SEEDS

Most bushwalkers are people who love nature, so it might come as a surprise to them that their walks could be helping to spread weeds.

An ecologist from Griffith University in Queensland has researched how seeds can be carried on a person's clothing. By wearing different items made of various materials while walking along the roads in Kosciusko National Park, the researcher measured how a leisurely walk through the scrub could help disperse different plants.

According to her findings, 40% of the seeds identified were non-native. As for her clothes, the thicker, fluffier hiking socks that keep our feet comfortable on long walks carried the most seeds. Surprisingly, a quarter of the seeds that attached themselves stayed on board even after 5km of hiking.

So what can we do about it? Wearing light trousers reduced the amount of seeds carried by 17%, while thinner, cotton/nylon sports style socks also reduced the load. This means covering our socks with the right material could make all the difference.

Importantly, as tempting as it is to pick the burs out of our clothes, it might be better to leave them in and clean them once we get home. Just be careful about what you do with those seeds, though. There's nothing worse than growing prickles where there should be pickles!

CSIRO Science by Email

Noticeboard

****ATTENTION LEADERS****

AM RADIOS FOR FIRE SEASON

During the Fire Season we want all Leaders to carry an AM Radio so they can stay in touch with any relevant announcements.

If you have not got access to one you can borrow one from the club. Same process as booking out a First Aid Kit - just use the Equipment borrowing book"

CLUB CHRISTMAS PARTY

Approximately 130 members attended the Club Christmas Party on Tuesday 15th December at The Trades Hall. It was a successful night with members mingling to catch up with those not seen recently, discuss past trips or plan for future activities.

Congratulations to the lucky winners of the Leaders' Draw – Jean Giese, Carol Corrigan and Graeme Walkden.

MELBOURNE BUSHIES IN NZ – ONLINE ARTICLES

With three of New Zealand's Great Walks under my walking boots, thanks to Melbourne Bushies, I wrote a few articles recently for online publication. They are a little different to my previous submissions to The News. You can read about Lake Waikaremoana, Tongariro National Park and the Heaphy Track. It's thanks to the leadership of Brian Wallbank and Quentin Tibballs that I went on these Great Walks. There are only 6 more Great Walks for me to complete now and I'm looking forward to the next one.

For Tongariro National Park, go to <http://www.webwombat.com.au/travel/articles/bushwalking-tongariro-national-park-new-zealand.htm> There are links at the bottom of this article to the other two.

Marjie Courtis

GENERAL WALKS SECRETARY AGM REPORT

The most important issue we've all had to come to grips with in 2009 is the safety of our leaders and walkers during the fire season. On our spring, summer and autumn programs, you will now see additional information regarding fire ban districts and temperature reference sites included for walks from November to April.

I've enjoyed my 2 years as General Walks Secretary with the Bushies. I've met some great people and am pleased I could give something back to the Club. Working full time in a busy job and becoming a grandmother have impacted heavily on my time. I'm moving on from the GWS role and I'm sure the Club will find someone else who is passionate about walking and admin!

Regards

Jane Williams

Noticeboard

KNOWBODY STUDIOS

Physiotherapy, Clinical Pilates, Alexander Technique

@ East Melbourne 5/ 80 Gipps St

Ph 9415 8812

Email: marilyn @knowbody.com.au

Mail : PO Box 244 East Melbourne Vic 8002

Website :www.knowbody.com.au

Physio for bush walkers

Walking workshops

Fitness for bush walking

Find solutions to problems with walking. eg

- ➔ Hip and low back pain
- ➔ knee pain or giving way
- ➔ Ankle weakness
- ➔ Tendonitis/arthritis to name a few.

Learn the **right exercises for you** and explore the best way to attain and keep your fitness for bush walking

If any of these topics interest you then you may like to phone or email

Maddy Lock (see above) for an appointment or any queries.

Maddy is an experienced sports physiotherapist, Movement educator and bush walker.

(Special rate for MBW members on request)

EQUIPMENT

With Jetboil's fancy featured Personal Cooking Systems starting to proliferate it's time to consider Roger Caffin's research (http://www.backpackinglight.com/cgi-bin/backpackinglight/canister_stove_efficiency_p3.html). He found that for practical applications none of the upright heat exchangers models he tested saved anywhere near enough fuel to justify their extra weight. Add factors such as cost, bulk and the use of expensive little gas canisters and you have to wonder about the future of functional design! But not for long!

Therm-a-Rest have released their NeoAir sleeping mat! It's a 65mm thick inflatable that keeps you warm with small overlapping air pockets and reflective surfaces rather than the usual foam or feathers. This enables the full-length version to roll up into a tiny 410g bundle. Pity about the \$330 price tag, but at least you are paying for true leading edge technology rather than hype and spin. In any case you can import one for about half the price.

John Fritze

WILLIS'S WALKABOUTS

Karijini in the Pilbara

The spectacular gorges of Karijini are beautiful at any time of year. Come in April if you want to enjoy the swims and see the creeks flowing. Come in winter if you want warm days and cool to cold nights.

Our April 2009 clients had this to say.

"The most comprehensive and fabulous tour of Karijini on offer" Brian Alston, Wagga Wagga

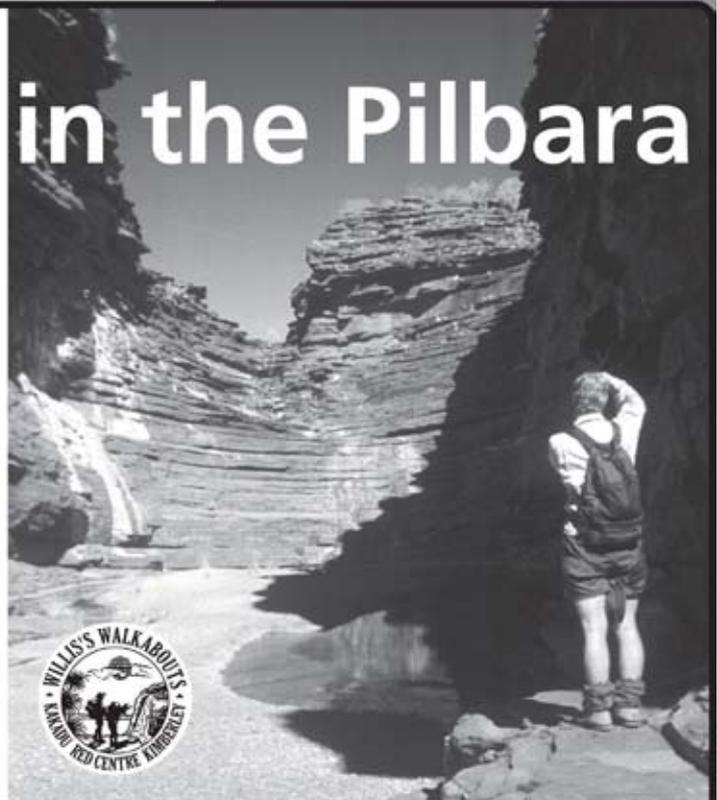
"What a great trip – pools, gorges, fabulous rocks and vistas." Kathy & Andy Anderson, Canberra

"...the patches of paradise just got larger and larger as the walk went on. Frog choruses, starscapes and gorges a go-go." Tracey Dixon, Scotland.

Join us and experience the Karijini magic for yourself.

Russell Willis

www.bushwalkingholidays.com.au



12 Carrington St Millner NT 0810

rrwillis@internode.on.net

Phone 08 8985 2134

Fax 08 8985 2355

Noticeboard

SOCIAL EVENTS

Friday 15 January

Dinner at Boheme Restaurant and Bar, 368 Bridge Road, Richmond.
7:00 for 7:15. Licensed and BYO wine (\$5 corkage). Mediterranean style.
Book with Susan 9754-7443 no later than Wednesday 13th January.

COMING UP:

FEBRUARY

Wednesday 17 February

A photographic display by Mansfield photographer RICHARD WHITE in the Clubroom.
It commences at 8:00 and serendipitously co-incides

with our cheese and wine night. Richard specialises in black and white photos of the High Country, an area close to our hearts. I strongly recommend checking out his website to view the spectacular images that he captures, plus seeing the impressive portfolio of his overseas work. It's a real coup that we have managed to book him for this night-let's make it special.
POP THIS DATE IN YOUR DIARY NOW.

Saturday 27 February

Let's take Melbourne's iconic 96 tram along the whole route and explore as we go.
Here's a chance to view our wonderful city as a tourist and visit some places we take for granted. The tram departs in East Brunswick at Nicholson Street near Blyth Street.

We can meet for a 9:30 breakfast before departing at 10:25. Details to follow in the next News but bring your bathers so that we can cool off at MSAC in Albert Park. Would you like to use the waterslide (I'm working on getting a group discount!!). The day will terminate in Acland Street.

MARCH

Saturday night visit to the Melbourne Cemetery.

Slide night-Walking in the Dolomites. Deb Shand and Agajan.

APRIL

Sat. night BBQ, Wattle Park.

And much, much more to look forward to in 2010...

2 NIGHTS AWAY AT INVERLOCH - FEBRUARY 9 - 10, 2010

OPTIONS FOR ACCOMMODATION:

We can stay at the Big 4 Holiday Park.

1. Share between 4 to 5 people a Deluxe cabin. All linen provided. If share between 4 people will be \$84 each for the 2 nights. I need to know who will commit to this option by the 7th of January. There are 3 such cabins available.
2. You can contact BIG 4 on 5674 1447 and book a slightly cheaper cabin to share just between 2 of you. An en suite cabin is \$95 pn for 2. So the option 1 is a better deal.
3. Camp sites can be booked. A large powered site is \$39 pn, an en suite site is \$49 pn and a medium powered site is \$35. You may book this phone no. given in 2.

WALKS :

There are many short walks to do around Anderson inlet where the holiday park is situated. And around the environs of Inverloch.

On Wednesday there will be a 19km early morning walk will start at 8am at the mouth of Powlett River finishing at Cape Patterson. A good spot for a swim along with many others in the walk.

There is a shorter walk of 15km which is also a coastal walk and can finish at Cape Patterson as well. This walk if starting later may be very exposed however you could stop and swim on the way.

A sunset walk from the Kilcunda pub could also be spectacular a 2 km return trip.

Tuesday night we can have a Barb Q at the Camp kitchen and Wednesday night there are a few options for a pub or bistro meal with a special group deal.

All bushies are most welcome to come on the great summer 2 day jaunt.

Please phone Maddy Lock on 9415 8812 or 0419 345 846, email: marilyn@knowbody.com.au for queries or for booking the Deluxe cabins by January, 72010

If you are coming for the Wednesday walk just for the day only. Please phone me as to the location and start time

Notice board/Review

EQUIPMENT

With Jetboil's fancy featured Personal Cooking Systems starting to proliferate it's time to consider Roger Caffin's research (http://www.backpackinglight.com/cgi-bin/backpackinglight/canister_stove_efficiency_p3.html). He found that for practical applications none of the upright heat exchangers models he tested saved anywhere near enough fuel to justify their extra weight. Add factors such as cost, bulk and the use of expensive little gas canisters and you have to wonder about the future of functional design!

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John Fritze

MAJOR MITCHELL PLATEAU WEEKEND WALK 24-25 OCTOBER

Mick Noonan's trip to the Grampians gave nine people a wonderful experience. The Major Mitchell Plateau is unique in the region in being an elevated roadless area which demands its pound of flesh whichever approach is used by the walker. It feels remote and detached from the otherwise flat Western District landscape and offers magnificent views of the saw-toothed Serra Range stretching into the distance.



For three of us the weekend began at the Jimmy Creek campsite where we enjoyed the birdlife and the wildlife on Saturday morning. Others were slumming it (?) in the Halls Gap Youth Hostel and they denied themselves this pleasure. We met up with the rest of the group and then experienced the long, steady uphill grind to the top of Mount William, the highest point in the Grampians. The leader established a cracking pace and for much of the time only one member of the group seemed willing and able to keep up with him – but catch-up stops were frequent. The morning was sunny and warm and it was a joy to see the

prolific and colourful wildflowers against the backdrop of reddish Grampians sandstone. Following recent rains the local landscape was much greener than usual and the creeks and watercourses were a delight to the eye. Mount William and the on-going down-and-up-again walk to the Plateau gave us great views of the equally green distant landscape to the east.

Camp was established and during the night the weather changed such that we woke to a misty morning on Sunday. The conditions added to the ambience and remoteness of the scene even if the views from the Plateau were hidden from us. The track on the edge of the Plateau led us onwards and eventually downwards to Jimmy Creek. The Plateau contrasted with the first part of the walk in that it had been burnt in a recent (presumably January 2006) fire. After nearly four years of regrowth the vegetation is replenishing well, as one would expect.



Mick and Carol had gone to the trouble of doing this walk in its entirety as a preview and in the process drove two cars up from Melbourne to enable the necessary car shuffle. Thankyou to both of them – it was a good trip. The group consisted of Mick and Carol, Ralph, Kerry, Max, Brian, Fang, Rosemary, and

Jerry Grandage

Reviews

EXPLORING THE WONGUNGARRA 5-7 DECEMBER 2009

Two things were driving me to do this trip. An article in Wild Magazine described a trip down the river by 3 intrepid fellows in early November of 1990 to search for the spotted tree frog. They described an exhausting trip, wading and floating down a wild remote and freezing river. The other was an Easter trip a few years back where we crossed the river en route from Mt Murray to the Blue Rag Range, camping at a spot described in the above article as a rocky ledge at a remarkable goose-neck in the river. We explored a short section and it indeed looked very interesting. Finally in early December, four of us, John Fritze, Phil Brown, Ray Thomas and I were assembled at the start of the Blue Rag Range 4WD track on the Dargo Road, south of Mt St Bernard near Mt Hotham.



The weather was perfect and we knew the river levels would be suitable so we set off with big smiles. The 7km along the range was easy and fast. The views were extensive. Most of the area had been burnt out in 2003 so there were silver tree skeletons everywhere. Soon we were heading down the spur to the river. We were expecting thick regrowth from the fires and we certainly got it. We pushed and weaved and ducked our way down that spur. Luckily it was all downhill so we still managed to get down to the river for a latish lunch. It was too early to camp and there was nowhere to camp anyway so off we set down the river.

The sides of the gorge were either too steep or too thickly vegetated to negotiate so our only option was simply to wade down the river. The river bottom consisted of pebbles and rocks and was very slippery and quite treacherous. We all selected stout sticks and shuffled, slid, clambered and

rock hopped our way downstream as best we could. It was great challenging fun and we did have some falls and near falls. We thought we were going great guns and figured we must be nearly at our goose-neck campsite but when we took a GPS reading we had only come half as far as we thought. We were doing roughly a kilometre an hour. Somewhat deflated we looked for a campsite and after wasting precious energy climbing up to what looked on the map like a level spot perched on a spur but which turned out to be scrub and broken rock, we did find a shingle bank by the river big enough for four tents and we had a good night.

Next day was more of the same with some rocky gorgy bits and some massive log jams to negotiate. The river was becoming bigger and wider with more possible campsites and by mid afternoon we were suitably exhausted and made camp on another shingle bank. We had intended to go further down the river the following day to where the Blue Rag Range 4WD track came down to the river but decided to shorten the trip by a day and climb out the next morning. That evening we psyched ourselves up for the 1500m climb and 15km walk out the next day up the untracked spur with unknown scrub.



We had all had tumbles over those two days. I had the first, falling flat on my face after tripping in the thick scrub coming down the spur. Phil had the most spectacular; Ray had the most along the river, probably due to all the tomatoes and zucchinis in his pack and John gets a special award for drowning his camera.

We were up at daybreak and gone by 6.30am. The spur was monstrosously steep but the scrub was a non-issue as the spur was mostly unburnt and the local wombats had made wonderful tracks for us to follow. We hit the 4WD track on the ridge and by early afternoon were back at the car, knackered but very satisfied with what we had done. We stopped at the General Store tavern at Hotham for drinks and some games of darts and camped at the JB Plain campsite just before Dinner Plain.

Next morning we wound down with the half day return walk out to Mt Tabletop. It is a very worthwhile mountain with an impressive basalt cliff line and extensive views and the walk was through lovely unburnt snow gum woodland. John unfortunately stabbed himself in the hand with a jagged stick, having completed

the hard part of the trip relatively unscathed except for his camera. We returned to Melbourne via the Myrtleford Medical Clinic having successfully sated our desire to explore this wild alpine river. For more photos of the trip, log onto the photo gallery on the club website at

<http://www.melbournebushwalkers.org.au/>

Jopie Bodegraven

Reviews

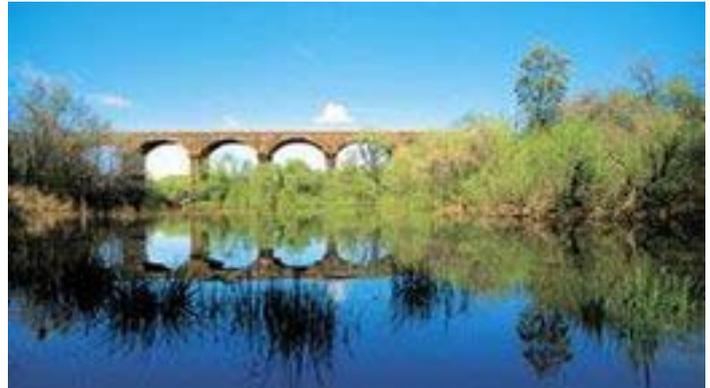
CYCLING WEEKEND AT CASTLEMAINE 17-18 OCTOBER 2009



The weather promised to be fair so a weekend of cycling seemed just the ticket. Fourteen cyclists met up at Harcourt, near Castlemaine on Saturday morning, unloaded bikes and prepared ourselves for the promised 67 km of ups and downs - and that was just Saturday!

With a cool wind blowing, we set off north to Sedgewick, then to Mandurang South, back through Sedgewick, then to Sutton Grange, Faraday, and return to Harcourt. These were mainly locality names, with a few very nice residences, and lots of forest and farmland. There were plenty of hills to test our legs and keep us warm. As if these weren't sufficient, a few hardies decided to cycle to the top of Mt Alexander (742 m) where there is a lookout - they said. I took their word for it and took a well-deserved rest - when I got cold and cramped up! Back at the cars we loaded the bikes and drove to Castlemaine for camp. Hot showers and a few stretches were followed by good pub grub at The Bridge Hotel.

On Sunday we drove to Malmsbury where some of us had a second breakfast at the bakery and stocked up on pies and other goodies. Chris and Fiona started off a minor cycle maintenance session which soon grew and a number of bikes were upside down and almost in bits before you could say "ratchet". What did they know that I didn't? Perhaps it was the prospect of more hills - and they were right. In fact today there was no flat stuff at all, I was either puffing up or whizzing down hills all day. I have never been up and down the gears so often! I found that my highest gear was slightly higher than most, and the lowest also was higher, so that I was often in front of the group on the downhill - and at the back on the uphill! Yes, alright, it may not just have been the gears! The route today took us to Vaughan Springs, where we stopped for morning tea, then to Chewton for lunch and coffee in the sunshine.



Then to Faraday where we turned back south to Elphinstone. For those who weren't totally worn out Jopie had planned an extension at this point so the hardy cyclists left us on a minor road to cycle further east while the remainder returned to Malmsbury on the old Calder Highway. However, they discovered their route to be blocked off by the new Calder Highway so they had to return and follow us back to Malmsbury. Today's route was very green with attractive old cottages dotted about. One such tiny cottage was in need of some TLC and had a distinct lean - and a sign told us that it had just been sold! At Malmsbury we relaxed in the bakery courtyard with more coffee and goodies - this cycling business certainly makes one hungry!



Thanks to Jopie for planning and leading this most enjoyable weekend.

Jopie, Jenny Flood, John Fritze, John & Lindsay Markham, Fiona Kelly, Chris, Ross Berner, Phillip Brown, Sue Ralston, Del Franks, John Prent, Linda Larkin and me,

Derrick Brown.

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



SUNDAY BUS - REVISED

SORRENTO BACK BEACH/POINT NEPEAN

DATE Sunday 24 January
STANDARD Easy & Easy/Medium
DISTANCE 12km and 14 km
LEADERS Halina Sarbinowski & Sue Haviland
TRANSPORT Bus from Southbank Blvd 8:45am
AREA Mornington Peninsula
MAP REF Point Nepean National Park – Vic Parks notes.

On December 6, 2009 new tracks were opened in the Point Nepean National Park. These tracks gave access to the Quarantine Station - a previous restricted area that in the past was only open to the public on special open days - and a second track links Point Nepean with London Bridge. New tracks in the park have assured minimal road slogs (an unfortunate feature of the park in the past.)

Both walks will take advantage of these new tracks. Distances of both walks have been kept short so that there will be plenty of time to explore Point Nepean barracks and installations and also the Quarantine Station.

While we explore this park we will visit Cheviot Beach where Prime Minister Harold Holt disappeared, Eagles Nest the site of the largest disappearing gun, the Battery Observation Point to enjoy spectacular views of Port Phillip and the ocean beaches.

After exploring Point Nepean we will walk along Wilsons Folly Track to London Bridge (the one still standing). The E/M group will have an additional circuit that will include the Farnsworth Track to Portsea back beach and return along the beach.

There is an entry fee for Point Nepean - \$8.10 for adults but if you would like to reduce the walk you can take the transport (mini tram) back to the bus at a total cost of \$16.80. As there is a limited number of people allowed to visit Point Nepean National Park on any one day we will have to confirm bookings to ensure entry. Please finalise your booking the Wednesday before the walk so that our access to the park is assured. Any bookings after this date may not be able to visit the park. A consolation is perhaps lazing at one of the beautiful beaches of the Mornington Peninsula while waiting for the bus to return from the park.



TOFS WALK

JELLS PARK

DATE Thursday 4 February
STANDARD Easy
DISTANCE 10 or 11 km
LEADER Alister Rowe
TRANSPORT Private
AREA Wheelers Hill
MAP REF Melway 72 A9
FIRE BAN DISTRICT CN
(November to April only)
TEMPERATURE REFERENCE SITE me

This walk replaces the previously advertised Sanctuary Lakes walk.

Meet at 10.30 am in Jells Park South's first carpark, off Ferntree Gully Road (Melway 72 A9).

We will walk up the right bank of Dandenong Creek to High Street Road and return on the other side.

Quite a nice walk through Shepherds Bush and around Jells Lake.

Afternoon tea at the restaurant. Book with Alister



BC/PC

SURF COAST - JAN JUC - MOGGS CREEK

DATE 6 - 7 February
STANDARD Easy
DISTANCE No data provided
LEADER Michael Stringer
TRANSPORT Private

No preview available at time of printing - please see leader in clubrooms





SUNDAY CAR POOL – DAY WALK

ENFIELD STATE FOREST

DATE Sunday 7 February
 STANDARD Easy/Medium
 DISTANCE 16km
 LEADER Roger Wyatt
 TRANSPORT Car Pool
 AREA Enfield State Forest
 FIRE BAN DISTRICT CN
 (November to April only)
 TEMPERATURE REFERENCE SITE ba
 (November to April only)
 TRANSPORT COSTS (per person) \$22.00

Enfield State Forest is SE of Ballarat, in an old gold mining area. The walk is a circuit that is all on foot tracks through light eucalypt forest, with some undulation but a mainly flat track (one hill). This forest provides a variety of tracks and is not as heavily utilised as the neighbouring Wombat Forest and still has a picnic area with toilets available at our lunch point. Subject to the weather on the day, I would expect this walk to take approx 5.5hrs, plus transport, thus a relatively early finish.



SUNDAY BUS

STARLING GAP - ADA TREE

DATE Sunday 14 February
 STANDARD E and E/M
 DISTANCE 14km and 18km
 LEADERS John Fritze and Janette Kodaih
 TRANSPORT Bus from Southbank Blvd
 AREA West Gippsland
 MAP REF Ada River 1:25,000
 FIRE BAN DISTRICT Eastern
 TEMPERATURE REFERENCE SITE West and South Gippsland

This is a walk along well-formed foot tracks gently undulating through mature forest (except for a steep descent at the start of the E/M walk). It's ideal for this time of year with plenty of shade and none of the little suckers that plague it at other times. We will pass through remnants of ancient Eucalyptus and rainforest that have escaped fire for centuries. There will be shady fern gullies and some of the largest trees in Victoria including the Ada Tree. This is a 75m giant Mountain Ash that only escaped the axe because it was thought to be termite ridden. Others were not so lucky and we will see their huge stumps mouldering back into the soil. We will pass other artefacts from the era including a mountain of sawdust, tramway alignments, an impressive log bridge and some old machinery. This is a walk steeped in history and rich in biodiversity. Come along and enjoy it while you can!
 PS You will find some photos in the gallery.



MIDWEEK 2 NIGHT STAY & WEDNESDAY WALK ON FEBRUARY 10

INVERLOCH

DATE 9 - 10 February
 STANDARD Easy & E/M
 DISTANCE 15km & 19km
 LEADERS Maddy Lock
 TRANSPORT Private
 AREA Powlett River to Cape
 Patterson
 MAP REF 512R11
 FIRE BAN DISTRICT Central
 (November to April only)
 TEMPERATURE REFERENCE SITE Central
 (November to April only)
 TRANSPORT COSTS (per person) N/A

Both walks are coastal so are very exposed. The E/M walk may start early in the morning to avoid the heat. There will be many opportunities for swims. Bring 2 litres of water and sun protection as well as lunch or snacks. The E/M walk may start early in the morning ie 8am. to avoid the heat..

We will be staying at the Big 4 Caravan park at Inverloch. You can stay in shared cabins or book your own cabin or camp site. Ph. 03 5674 1447. Please contact Maddy Lock for more information, bookings for the shared cabins and if you are coming for the Wednesday walk only.



MOFS WALK

EAST KEW LINEAR PARKS

DATE Monday 15 February
 STANDARD East
 DISTANCE 10.5 km
 LEADER Jean Giese
 TRANSPORT Private
 AREA East Kew
 MAP REF Melway 45 & 46
 FIRE BAN DISTRICT CN
 (November to April only)
 TEMPERATURE REFERENCE SITE me

During the hot weather we need to keep out of the bush but there are many good metropolitan parks to explore. We will link up several parks in East Kew, starting and finishing in Hays Paddock.

Meet in the Hays Paddock carpark at Melway 45 J1 to start walking at 10.30 am. Book with leader .



SUNDAY BUS

SHERBROOKE – HERMONS SADDLE CIRCUIT

DATE Sunday 21 February
STANDARD Easy/Medium
DISTANCE 14 km
LEADER Del Franks
TRANSPORT Car from Southbank Blvd
AREA Sherbrooke - Dandenongs
MAP REF Melways maps 75 & 124

While I have not had a chance to preview this walk yet, the planned walk is a circular walk which combines picturesque walking paths and quiet roads with parts of the Puffing Billy track. From John’s Hill lookout there are spectacular views across Silvan Dam, Kinglake National Park and the bays, and lots of colourful gardens along the way. The may include an interesting timber stairway. There are a few hills, but you have to expect that in the Dandenongs.

Later in the day if there’s time we could also check out the Puffing Billy Railway Museum as we approach Menzies Creek.



BASE CAMP

WILSONS PROM (TIDAL RIVER)

DATE 26-28 February
STANDARD Easy
DISTANCE Various
LEADER Rosemary Cotter
TRANSPORT Private
AREA Wilsons Prom
Temperature reference site: West and South Gippsland
Fire Ban District Code: Eastern District

This will be an easy and relaxing weekend comprising a variety of walks around Tidal River. Access to different park areas may determine which specific walks are available on this weekend. Check with leader in the Clubroom on the two Wednesdays prior to weekend for further details or by phone for a more detailed information sheet.



PC - MT FEATHERTOP

NORTH WEST SPUR AND BUNGALOW SPUR

DATE 26-28 February
STANDARDS Medium / Hard
DISTANCE: 22 Km
LEADER Agajan Akbari
TRANSPORT Private
AREA Alpine (Razorback - Feathertop - Bungalow Spur)
MAP REF Bogong Alpine Area Outdoor Leisure Map1:50000 and Rooftop’s Mt Feathertop – Hotham Forest

Activities Map 1:30000

Climbing MT Feathertop via the North West Spur (steepest route to the Summit) provide a changing but a great rewarding walk in Victorian Alps.

Starting from the Harrietteville Road, we will be walking through the different levels of mixed forest, alpine ash and snowgum. The climb is around 1500m at list 3 to 4 k of the climb is very steep the rest of the climb should be gentle.

The view from the top of the Mt Feathertop is spectacular and extends for 360 degrees. What makes it special is that views are different in every direction.

Saturday night we camp at Federation hut camping ground - a very good camp site with water.

Sunday we break the camp site heading towards the Harrietteville via Bungalow Spur (1200 m gentle steep downhill).

This walk is one of classic walk in the area and therefore is recommended. If interested contact me by telephone or see me in clubroom prior to the walk.



SUNDAY BUS

WONTHAGGI HEATHLANDS & WETLANDS

DATE Sunday 28 February
STANDARD Easy / Easy Medium
DISTANCE 15km /18 km
LEADERS John McCall & Max Casley
TRANSPORT Bus from Southbank Blvd
AREA Wonthaggi - South Gippsland

This is a most enjoyable summer walk that takes in an interesting mix of inland and coastal terrain . Though not at all demanding for those seeking a physical challenge, this little trek compensates by means of what it offers in a visual sense , variety of terrain and the opportunity to enjoy refreshments in Wonthaggi at its conclusion.

We will start at the beginning of the rail trail at Wonthaggi and make our way to the State Coal Mine Historic Reserve where we sidetrack through an area that presents mining ruins, mullock heaps, woodlands, heathlands, wetlands and a generally undulating landscape.

We then continue on past a wind farm before arriving at Baxters Beach where we can enjoy a relaxing lunch and a bit of a splash around if you are so inclined



