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# THE NEWS OF THE Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc.

60 cents

MAY 2010

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Our Anniversary event was held on Sunday, May 2 and many thanks to all those who attended to make the day a success. We soon hope to put together a display of photos taken on the day and also to retain these for the Club's history.

In this month's NEWS there is an advertisement for the position of Field Officer with the Regent Honeyeater Project. Many of our members have supported this project by attending Nest Box Monitoring and Tree Planting weekends. If you or anyone else you know may be interested in the position, please follow up directly.

On another environmental matter you may be aware of or have read of the guided canopy tour facility proposed for the R J Hamer Arboretum in the Dandenongs. This is a popular walking area for many of our day walks and is a concern to members due to a national park being used for commercial purposes. Should you wish to support the fight against this development, then you can send a letter to Gavin Jennings MLC, Minister for Environment and Climate Change at [Gavin.Jennings@parliament.vic.gov.au](mailto:Gavin.Jennings@parliament.vic.gov.au) or Jason Wood MP, Federal Member for Latrobe at [Jason.Wood.MP@aph.gov.au](mailto:Jason.Wood.MP@aph.gov.au). (Jason is a Member of the Commonwealth Opposition and a passionate advocate for preservation of the Dandenongs).

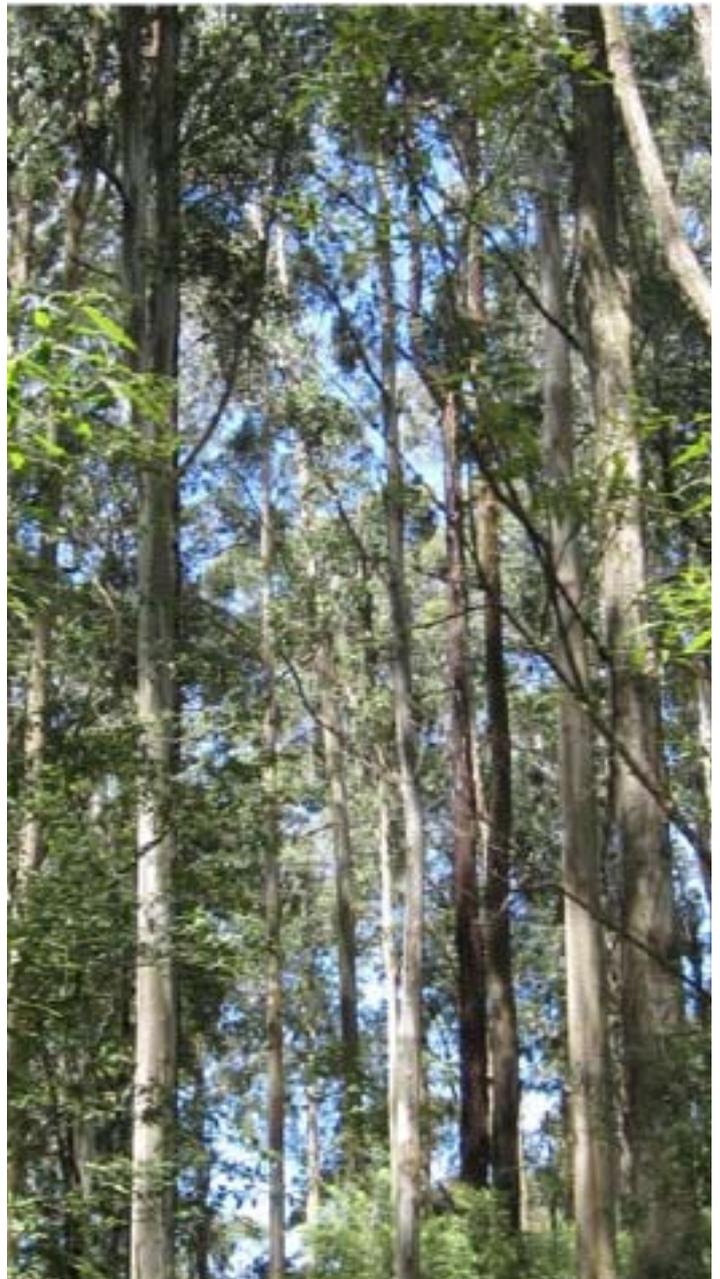
Last month I advised the appointment of Andy Elam to the position of Training Officer. Due to unforeseen circumstances, Andy is now unable to carry out this role, however his interest and enthusiasm for the position was appreciated.

A reminder again to diarise Federation Weekend 8-10 October 2010. This will be hosted by Waverley Bushwalking Club and held at Anglesea. Further details at a later date.

Now that the heat of summer has disappeared we hope to see as many members as possible out and about on the various planned Club activities.

Enjoy your walking!

**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



PO Box 1751  
MELBOURNE VIC 3001

[www.melbournebushwalkers.org.au](http://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](mailto: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 MAY**

## 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
2 May - Snake Island	Steve Robertson - 9762 5367 <a href="mailto:srob7859@bigpond.net.au">srob7859@bigpond.net.au</a>
October 2010 - Stronachs Camp (Baw Baw Nat. Park)	Geoff Kelly - 9328 4228 <a href="mailto:gpkelly19@gmail.com">gpkelly19@gmail.com</a>

## 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.



**COME JOIN US!**

**Wednesday 26 May**

Wine & Cheese Night  
and a talk by Les Southwell

## EARTH'S CLIMATE and GLOBAL WARMING

Whilst "climate change" is becoming ever more politicized and the effects more obvious, the underlying science has been poorly explained by the media. So I'm giving a talk on the basics of what drives Earth's climate, how the greenhouse effect influences it, and the likely consequences if the unbridled burning of fossil fuels continues to increase.

Doubting Thomases welcome.

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# Reports

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## FEEDBACK FROM THE LEADERS' NIGHT HELD IN NOVEMBER

Twenty members attended a Leaders' Discussion night last November. Many issues were addressed on the night with much of the session explaining the new Fire Season & Extreme Heat Polices. Some of the issues raised required follow up and these items are detailed below. In addition a new guide "Leading a Day Walk" is being produced which will provide a comprehensive information source for current and new Leaders.

### Types of Phones to be carried on Activities

The recommended approach of carrying Mobile Phones has been reviewed and re-confirmed. 3G Mobiles are a practical and generally reliable option particularly when a phone network with good country coverage is selected along with a phone with improved reception e.g. Telstra's NextG Blue Phones. Remember that the 000 and 112 Emergency numbers may still work when normal calls will not. Two 2 Personal Locator Beacons are also now available for borrowing with priority going to extended and remote activities.

Alternatives such as Satellite Phones are not practical for our activities. They remain a viable option for very remote areas and may be recommended by some local Authorities e.g. remote parts of Tasmania.

### Contact Details for the Panorama Bus Company

This has been provided to Sunday Bus leaders and may be needed to get a larger bus or if the Bus needs to be cancelled: Panorama Tel: 9438 3666, Fax: 9438 5235. Email: enquiries@panoramacoaches.com.au

### Information on how to get into the Leaders Database

This information was provided in the March Newsletter and will also appear in "Leading a Day Walk".

### Viewing Walk Reports Online

Getting the reports delivered to your email address within a few minutes of requesting them is considered adequate.

### Are Booking Lists and Walk Reports needed after a walk?

Both of these are provided to all leaders. The

Booking List is useful prior to the walk and for Sunday Walks it is automatically filled in from the Booking System. Walk Reports are needed after all Walks and all non Sunday Booking Lists also need to be returned with details of who participated. For Sunday Walks any changes to the Booking Sheet need to be emailed to the Sunday Walks Secretary.

### Assessing Visitors/walkers capabilities

This will be covered in "Leading a Day Walk". We have tightened up procedures to ensure new walkers come into the Clubrooms to meet the Sunday Walk Leader and a Leaders Checklist is now available for Wednesday nights. The leader has the final call on whether to accept a person on a Walk.

For the first time visitor unsure of how they will cope with our walk gradings it should be recommended that their first walk with us be a Saturday Dandenong's Explorer or a TOFS or MOFS walk. If it is believed they are suitable to participate in a Sunday walk then they can initially be asked to walk on a Sunday that offers an Easy Grade Walk.

### Mentoring and helping new Leaders

There is a program for Sunday walks with new leader put with experienced leaders and we are considering a broader Leader Mentoring program. The Activity Coordinators remain the key contact for any queries.

### Publicise and communicate Leaders issues

The correct approach for new and experienced Leaders is via the Activity Coordinator. If items of general interest come up then if they are specific to an Activity the Coordinator should communicate to all those Leaders - else pass to the General Walks Secretary for attention.

### Introductory Walks

The Committee reviewed the use of Introductory Walks but we felt that visitors would not wait for a month or so to undertake their first walk and that other approaches can be used. We recommend that as part of assessing visitors they be advised to take a suitable MOFS, TOFS, Saturday or Easy Sunday Walk if there is any doubt of their abilities. In addition it is recommended that a 'buddy system' be used to pair visitors with experienced walkers, this will be covered in "Leading a Day Walk"

**Mick Noonan - Vice-President**

# Reports



## FIELD OFFICER SOUGHT

Highly respected,  
environmental group  
Opportunity to learn and  
contribute  
\$35 to \$40,000 +\$5k pa car  
allowance + super

**Regent Honeyeater Project** is an award winning, independent, not for profit, organisation, which works with a huge volunteer base planting and restoring vegetation to provide a more secure future for threatened birds, mammals and plants in NE Victoria.

Based in Benalla and reporting to the Coordinator, you will be working with volunteers to manage the project's Nursery on a day to day basis to produce high quality plants, supervising in field activities (including

revegetation planting and monitoring wildlife) and the many other activities carried out by a busy restoration and reveg organisation.

You will need a plant /environmental oriented tertiary qualification or equivalent practical learning, with experience in environmental work in the field. Nursery experience, while valuable, can be learnt on the job.

For further information, the PD is at [www.regenthoneyeater.org.au](http://www.regenthoneyeater.org.au)

Applications should be received by the President, Rob Richardson, at [lurg@bigpond.com](mailto:lurg@bigpond.com) by CoFB Friday, 30<sup>th</sup> April. This should include a 1 page document addressing the "Qualifications and Essential Requirements" outlined in the PD. Enquiries can also be made to Rob at 03 5762 4214

**Regent Honeyeater Project Inc**

## EQUIPMENT

### Tents

The Terra Nova Laser Competition is one of the lightest and most functional three season tents currently available. It compares favourably with the well respected MSR Hubba HP yet is only about 2/3 the weight. It may be a little tight for the very tall or for those who like plenty of space around their heads when sleeping, have less high-level ventilation, be a little fiddley to pitch and possibly not last as long but it is more stable, less bulky, pitches fast and taught, won't blow away and makes better use of available space. It is a tent to consider

first, especially if you find pack carrying a challenge or would like to gain a little extra speed, comfort or safety. Unfortunately you won't find it on display in Melbourne (although it is stocked by Backpacking Light) so it's a good idea to have a good look when you see one in use or to contact us for a demonstration (and some tips on its use). It retails on line for US \$350 but can often found for about US \$280 (plus about US \$50 postage) (use Google's excellent new product search service <http://www.google.com/products> to find the best deal on this or any other item). If you would like something even lighter you could consider its sister tent, the Photon, which is probably the lightest double skin tent you can buy.

**John Fritze**

## ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FEES

The annual membership fees were set by the AGM held on 22 Feb to be:

Single Member	\$45.00
Couple/Family	\$72.00
Concession (proof required)	\$34.00
Concession - Couple/Family (proof required for both)	\$50.00
The News subscribers	\$20.00

This is based upon members receiving the monthly newsletter and quarterly activities program by e mail.

Should members elect to receive "hard copy" via Australia Post, a \$10 levy will be added to the above membership rates (excl News only subscribers).

Annual membership fees are now due and payable by no later than 31 May 10, by:

- cheque payable to "Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc" P.O. Box 1751, Melbourne, 3001
- cash payment to the Membership Secretary (generally in the clubrooms the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of each month
- EFT to the club account, please ensure your full name & "SUBS" appear on the transfer

Members should check their details in the current membership listing and advise any changes. Any member wishing to NOT have their address published in the annual member listing (issued in July) should reconfirm this requirement when paying their annual fees. Members electing to advise their e mail details should do this via e mail to: [membership@mbw.org.au](mailto:membership@mbw.org.au)

# Noticeboard

## SOCIAL CALENDAR

### LIFE IN THE TALL EUCALYPT FORESTS

Renowned nature photographer Esther Beaton was invited by Melbourne Water to make a photographic essay of the water catchment area of the Upper Yarra, a place usually off-limits to everyone else. With ecologist David Lindenmayer she had a privileged access to this hidden locale.

By accessing the web address below, you, too, can enjoy this exclusive view of the tall eucalypt forests.

[http://www.melbournewater.com.au/content/water\\_storages/water\\_supply/water\\_catchment\\_images.asp](http://www.melbournewater.com.au/content/water_storages/water_supply/water_catchment_images.asp)

Esther will be conducting a workshop at Cape Otway in November should you want to learn tricks and tips from her. See her website for details.

### Wednesday 23 June

Another wine and cheese night with a guest speaker. Ed McNabb is a wildlife ecologist with a special interest in nocturnal fauna. He began recording wildlife vocalisations in the 1970s during his long-term study of the Powerful Owl in the Dandenong Ranges. Whilst in the bush for long hours at night, the many mystery night calls intrigued him and he found that the best way to memorise the calls was to record them.

By the end of the evening we should be able to recognise, among others, the "falling bomb" call of the Sooty Owl, the garrulous gurgling of the Yellow-bellied glider, and the "screaming woman" call of the Barking Owl. Ed will be bringing along his recordings and will make them available for purchase at a reduced rate. More information can be found on his website: <http://www.ninoxpursuits.com.au>

### COMING UP.....

By special request, we will be organising an auction night in the Clubroom. This is a chance to offload your excess, pre-loved bush gear. Watch this space for further details!!

### Friday 25 June

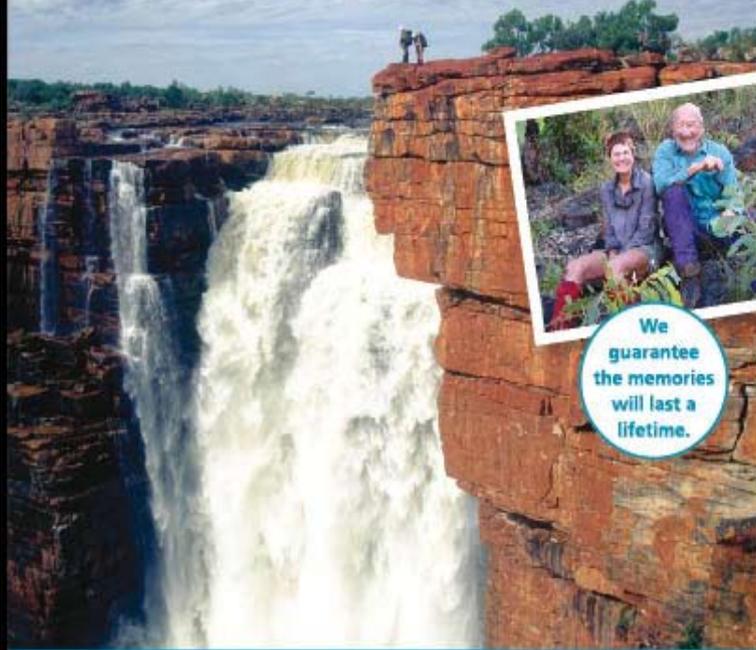
The "Sing-along SOUND OF MUSIC" at Hamer Hall

Let's start at the very beginning: if you wish you were 16 going on 17 so that you could climb every mountain and follow every rainbow and your heart wants to sing ev'ry song it hears then have I got the night of nights for you..... SO ALL YOU LONELY GOATHERDS ,CLOSET NUNS, LEDERHOSEN WEARERS, AND PINK LEMONADE DRINKING BARONESSES.... It's time to frock up!

Please book with Susan Maughan on receipt of this News...do not delay.(This notice will not be repeated.)

## WILLIS'S WALKABOUTS

# Great Walks in Northern Australia



We guarantee the memories will last a lifetime.

## Your trip of a lifetime is our labour of love.

Our clients love it too. 75% of them are either repeat customers or people who have come based on tales from friends. In the words of one of them,

*"A totally unique experience, a completely different walk to any I have done. To spend three weeks in a tent with no fly and not wear a rain coat, swimming every day, cooking on a camp fire, the starry nights. Just magic."*

Donald Finlayson, NZ, Kakadu Circle 1 – May 2006

These are true wilderness trips—from 3 days up to 6 weeks—we know there's one to suit you!

If you are seeking something **unforgettable** in a holiday, visit our new website at:



[bushwalkingholidays.com.au](http://bushwalkingholidays.com.au)

12 Carrington St Millner NT 0810

[rrwillis@internode.on.net](mailto:rrwillis@internode.on.net)

Phone 08 8985 2134

Fax 08 8985 2355

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# Noticeboard

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## A COMMENT ON DISCUSSION OF WALKING BOOTS

John Fritze has given his valuable time on a regular basis to guide us regards choice of equipment for bush walking. I have really appreciated John's useful hints.

I do however need to comment on choice of walking boots.

Walkers who have unstable ankles and a history of repetitive sprains will need to keep to a high walking boot when walking in the bush.

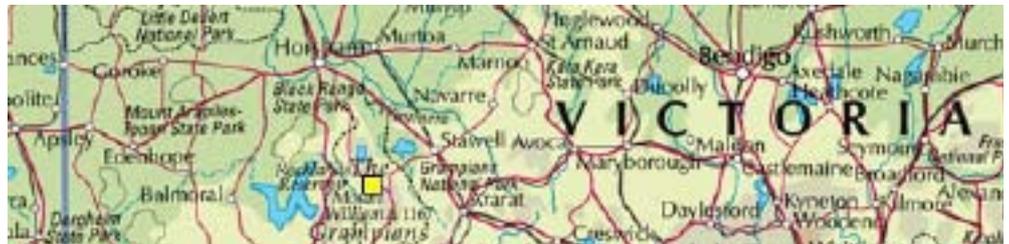
Standing on one leg as an exercise for strengthening the ankles for bushwalking is not sufficient. This is because most ankles give way when the ankle joint is in an open position and the toe hits the ground first.

Walkers needing specific ankle exercises are best advised to see a sports physiotherapist for a progressive ankle stability training programme. This may take 6 weeks to get stronger and you

may need to see the physio 2 or 3 times. This will ensure that you do not re-sprain you ankle in normal activities. A good fitting walking boot supporting the ankle for bush walking where you have unpredictable surfaces and uneven ground is the best prevention strategy for ankle injuries.

Susan Maughan (A Top Personal Trainer) and Maddy Lock ( Sports physio and posture educator ) will be holding Get Fit for Bushwalking nights where exercises will be discussed and practised. These will be on a Wednesday nights at the club rooms starting July 2010. Please come and support your fellow walkers and we can all have some fun and learn some useful hints .There will be no charge for this except we hope you listen and follow the advice we give you to make bush walking safer and more enjoyable for everyone.

**Maddy Lock**



## MAP NEWS

The 1:25,000 VicMaps we currently use have been largely superseded by Internet sourced

1:30,000 maps supplied as PDF's. These 1:30,000 maps will be updated annually while the 1:50,000 maps will be updated in a 3-5 year cycle.

A small number of unspecified 1:25,000 maps will continue to be updated.

The 1:30,000 maps are available at [services.land.vic.gov.au/maps/imf/search/Topo30Front.jsp](http://services.land.vic.gov.au/maps/imf/search/Topo30Front.jsp)

There is a sample A4 map that you can download for free.

The maps are available in A3 & A4 size with either landscape or portrait orientation.

A single 1:25,000 map becomes 2 x A3 maps or 4 x A4 maps, which is a disadvantage of this series.

An A3 map covers 12 x 7.5 km and an A4 map 6 x 7.5 km.

A compensating feature is the ability to select your own area to be mapped as A3 or A4 with either landscape or portrait orientation. This is useful for walks located on the edges of several current

maps.

If you select an area greater than the specified size then extra maps will appear but you can de-select these with a panel that appears on the lefthand side.

The costs for A3 are \$4 standard & \$5 custom, and for A4, \$2 standard and \$2.50 custom. There is a \$1.10

service charge per order and payment is by VISA or Mastercard.

Officeworks print A3 colour on high quality paper for \$2.16. The PDF can be supplied

on CD, DVD or USB memory stick. I've also printed an A3 map on A4 paper and it's usable.

Our existing 1:25,000 maps will continue their quiet life in the filing cabinets with occasional outings for work experience.

If you think one of these maps may be useful for your next walk then please contact me.

**Mark Heath - Maps Officer**

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# Noticeboard

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## CONSERVATION MATTERS

### Report from the Bushwalking Victoria Environment Committee

**WILSONS PROMONTORY** - The three bridges on the Lilly Pilly Circuit are now replaced after the 2009 fire.

The Tongue Point walking track is being repaired and should be complete by June 2010. Re-alignment of the Picnic -Whisky walking track should be completed by October 2010. It is necessary to relocate the Johnny Souey campsite and realign the track across Three Mile Point. The current proposal is to make a new campsite at Lighthouse Point (about four and a half kilometres further north). PV seeking feedback as to the acceptability of this change. There is some water available at the alternative site but it would be less reliable than the Johnny Souey or Tin Mine Cove sites. Lighthouse Point would be midway between Five Mile beach and Tin Mine Cove campsites.

**DANDENONG RANGES** -A report has been received from the Friends of the Hamer arboretum re. a proposed development of a Tree Based Eco Adventure facility in the Arboretum. This proposal appears to meeting with considerable opposition from locals.

**ALPINE NP** -the bridge over the Moroka River has been replaced with a very sturdy new bridge and the track is well marked to the First Falls. After that there are no markings and there is no sign of the old track.

The Bogong High Plains Road (managed by Alpine Shire) has opened following completion of roadworks.

Access to Tali Karng is now available both from McFarlane Saddle across the Wellington Plains and down Gillios Track or from Tamboritha Road via Wellington River Walking Track, Riggalls Spur Track and Echo Point Track. Note that the Clive Lanigan Walking Track through the Valley of Destruction remains closed in the interests of public safety as does the top section of Riggalls Spur Track above Echo Point

**GRAND STRZELECKI TRACK** - The proposal is for a walking track linking Morwell National Park to Tarra Bulga National Park. This is a merged concept of two tracks the Eastern Strzelecki & the Grand Strzelecki, this will form an 80 k walking track.

**GREAT DIVIDING TRAIL** -This circuit walk at Ararat has been developed by the GDTA with assistance from the Rural City of Ararat & the Ararat Landcare group. The walk commences & finishes at the Railway Station & is approx 14 k in length.

**Mount Buangor State Park** is closed until further notice, including over the school holidays and Easter holiday period. This closure is due to fire and will remain in place until the area has been declared safe. Visitors to the region should also avoid the adjacent Mount Cole State Forest.

### WALKING TRACKS NOW OPEN

**Wilson's Promontory National Park** – The complete Lilly Pilly Circuit including boardwalk and access to Mt Bishop

**Kinglake National Park** – Mount Sugarloaf Road, Mount Sugarloaf Ridge track and picnic areas

**Yarra Ranges National Park** – in the Marysville area, Lady Talbot Drive, Phantom Falls Walk and Keppels Falls Walk. In the Camberville Area, the southern section of the Cumberland Walk that includes Cora Lynn Falls, Sovereign View and Cumberland Falls Lookout.

**Stanley State Forest:** Murmungee Lookout and Clark Corner Picnic Area.

**Yarra State Forest:** Richard's Tramline Walking Track.

**All tracks in Toolangi Forest Area – except Murrindindi Scenic Reserve.**

**Rod Novak - Conservation delegate**



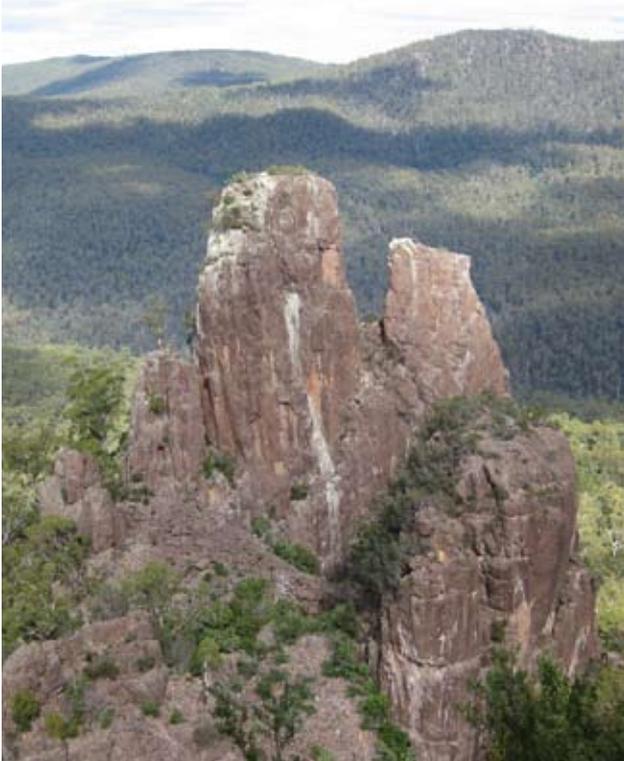
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## THE WILDERNESS SHOP

### MELBOURNE BUSHWALKERS MEGA BUYING NIGHT, 1 NIGHT ONLY!!!

- WHERE: THE WILDERNESS SHOP, 969 WHITEHORSE RD BOX HILL
  - WHEN: TUESDAY 11TH MAY 6.00PM - 9.00PM
  - DETAILS: **20% OFF ALL OUTDOOR EQUIPMENT**, INCLUDING
  - BUSHWALKING, XC SKIS AND ROCKCLIMBING
  - OTHER GOODIES: **FREE NIBBLES, PIZZA, DRINKS**
  - **DOOR PRIZE:** DOOR PRIZE DRAWN ON THE NIGHT. BE THERE TO WIN!!!
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## DOUGLAS APSLEY NATIONAL PARK – EASTER 2010



After being delivered to the northern end of the park by charter bus from Hobart, 13 Melbourne Bushwalkers commenced the walk along the Leeaberra Track in light drizzle. We were welcomed to the track by a leech waving enthusiastically from a rock, and soon many of the friendly creatures were attaching themselves to us. In spite of numerous brief stops along the forest track for “leech checks”, and the spraying of insect repellent in an effort to deter their advances, some members of the party were decorated with blood splashes by day’s end, suggesting they had been marching through a war zone.

By mid afternoon we had erected our tents beside the Douglas River, and set out on a side trip to Heritage Falls. This involved scrambling through scrub on the riverbank and then rock-hopping over extremely slippery damp rocks to the top of the falls – an effective way to work up an appetite for our dehydrated dinners. As we changed into our thermal night attire back at the campground, shrieks emanated from Rosemary’s tent when she discovered the colony of 13 leeches that had taken up residence under her gaiters!

Saturday morning dawned fine and cool, and as we climbed steadily towards Lookout Hill sun filtered through the foliage. At the top of the hill we were rewarded with a view of the coastline and blue sea. We continued along the ridge to Nichols Cap track junction where we left our packs and completed the side trip to view Nichols Needles, an impressive rock formation, with the town of Bicheno beckoning in the distance.

That evening we camped in a pretty tree-shaded campsite on another part of the Douglas River. In the afternoon some of us rock-hopped up the river to view the Tevelein Falls, while other members of the party washed or relaxed by the clear waters. Those who ventured into the river for a dip found the temperature breathtaking but refreshing after a sweaty day on the track. After dinner Pat exercised our minds with quiz questions so that we could retire to our tents knowing that we had had a full workout for both body and brain.

With the end of daylight saving on Sunday morning we were able to sleep a bit later, and woke to another fine day and a visit from an Easter bunny. The day’s track started with a stiff climb out of the river valley, then it led us over the Denison Rivulet and through the Denison Marshes (fortunately not too wet, but a few leeches were still lurking). We climbed over the Mount Andrew Saddle before descending through eucalypts, grass trees, banksias and casuarinas to the Apsley Waterhole where we would spend our last night. On emerging from the forest we got our first glimpse of other people for three days – holidaymakers were splashing in the river. We had no trouble crossing the river on rocks and keeping our feet dry, even though Bob had told us that when he’d done the preview the river had been in flood and impassable.

On Monday morning we had time to walk up and view the dolerite columns of the Apsley Gorge before galloping back to the waterhole for a wash and change of clothes. We met our bus in good time and were able to have a quick tour of Bicheno’s attractions as well as sampling its food and alcohol sources before our journey to the airport and home.

Many thanks to Bob for meticulously organizing another great Tasmanian walk for us, including fine weather and good company. The Douglas Apsley National Park is an overlooked Tasmanian bushwalking destination on the East coast that is well worth the visit for its tranquil forest, coastal views, rocky riverbeds and waterfalls. Fellow participants were Agajan, David, Roger, Brian, Pat, Rosemary, Wendy, Eleonora, Fang Fang, Carolyn and Jan.

**Deb Shand**



# Previews of weekend walks / activities

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](http://www.melbournebushwalkers.org.au/activities/Walks/MBW_walks_program.htm)



## SUNDAY BUS



## SUNDAY BUS

### MT KOALA – MOLLISONS CREEK

**DATE** Sunday 30 May  
**STANDARD** Easy and Easy/Medium  
**DISTANCE** 13 km & 17 km  
**LEADERS** Jan Colquhoun & Keith McKenry  
**TRANSPORT** Bus from Southbank Blvd at 8:45 am  
**AREA** Tooborac and the Great Dividing range  
**MAP REF** Goldie North & Tooborac 1:25,000 or Pyalong 1:50,000

This is a delightful walk through picturesque farmland in the Great Dividing Range. The entire walk is off-track following ridges, creeks and the occasional animal trail over five private properties. We begin by ascending Hawkes Hill to gain panoramic views in all directions. This area is known for its clusters of granite boulders in all shapes and forms as they present like a natural art gallery against the blue skies (forever hopeful!). We mingle among the boulders and curious flocks of sheep before descending through fields to Sandy Creek and crossing at the remains of an old bridge. We then follow Deep Creek which, in contrast to the dry grassy fields, is reminiscent of an English brook. Along its banks, lush and green, have been planted a series of old poplar and willow trees, making the perfect spot for afternoon tea. We then join gum tree lined Mollisons Creek following it south towards Hillcrest. On completion of this walk you shall be rewarded in the knowledge that you will certainly be a better fence crosser than when you started. Bring some spare shoes to change into on the bus and perhaps your camera. If walking across farmland and you have to tread in something just hope that it was done by a rabbit and not a cow!

### RYE BACK BEACH - SORRENTO

**DATE** Sunday 6 June  
**STANDARD** Easy & Easy/Medium  
**DISTANCE** 12 km & 16 km  
**LEADERS** Andrew Francis & Michael  
**TRANSPORT** Murray  
**AREA** Bus from Southbank Blvd  
Mornington Peninsula Ocean  
**MAP REF** Melway Map Refs pages 156, 157, 166, 167, 168 and 251

The stretch of coast between Rye Ocean Beach and Sorrento must be one of Victoria's most picturesque, offering stunning views, beautiful beaches and fascinating rock formations. The easy/medium walk starts at Rye Ocean Beach and the easy at No 16, with both groups finishing at Sorrento

The first part of the easy/medium walk is a short walk along the beach before having to ascend to the cliff tops to pass Orr Point, and then back down to the beach again to Number Sixteen Beach, start of easy walk, we will follow the track mainly along the cliff-tops to Sorrento. This track passes through a number of delightful but little known beaches, such as, Bay of Islands, Diamond Bay and St Pauls Beach with its lookout built in the early 1900s to ensure that Australia was not attacked by the Russians. After exploring Coppins Lookout we might, if time permits, enjoy a coffee or ice-cream before boarding the bus to travel back home.



## TOFS

### BIRDS LAND RESERVE

**DATE** Thursday 3 June  
**STANDARD** Easy  
**DISTANCE** 11 km  
**LEADER** Bernadette O'Connell  
**TRANSPORT** Private  
**AREA** Belgrave  
**MAP REF** Melway 83, 84

A very pleasant walk in a scenic Reserve. The walk is undulating, on well-defined tracks, with two moderate hills. Views, granite boulders (to admire, not climb), ponds, and possibly a rare platypus. Meet at the carpark Melway 84 B2 to start walking at 10.30 am. Please book with leader on Mobile (Home phone unknown)



## PACK CARRY

### HATTAH LAKES

**DATE** 11-14 June - Queen's Birthday Weekend  
**STANDARD** Easy/Medium  
**DISTANCE** 40 km  
**LEADER** Alex Stirkul  
**TRANSPORT** Private  
**RETURN TIME** Approx. 8 pm  
**AREA** Mildura

This walk will be the traditional Hattah walk. We will stay at the Hattah Lakes camping ground on the Friday night (bring water). On Saturday we will head cross country through mainly Mallee bush and camp beside the Murray just north of Messengers.

## Previews of weekend walks / activities

(continued from page 10) River water is the only available, and is quite safe if boiled or treated. On Sunday the river will be followed northwards to a point west of Retail Cutting where we will set up camp, again beside the river. There will be an optional side trip after lunch. Monday will find us leaving reasonably early and walking back across Mallee and dune country to the cars at Hattah. A very pleasant walk all round and a change from the usual alpine ups and downs.



### SUNDAY CAR POOL

#### LYSTERFIELD PARK

DATE	Sunday 13 June
STANDARD	Easy Medium
DISTANCE	17kms
LEADER	Sue Haviland
TRANSPORT	Car Pool from Southbank Boulevard
AREA	Lysterfield
MAP REF	Melways 82, 83 & 102
TRANSPORT COSTS (per person)	\$8.00

Please note change of leader.

Lysterfield Lake Park and adjoining Churchill National Park are oases of natural bushland close to Melbourne making walks in the area perfect for the shorter winter days. A wander through these parks is rewarded by many sighting of kangaroos and wallabies and often an echidna is spied as it rambles along the many trails in the park. The walker is also rewarded with sighting of the many birds in the area.

As this walk is scheduled on a long weekend, and being so close to Melbourne there will be time and reason to celebrate the "Queen's Birthday" before we head back to Melbourne. Please bring a plate which can be shared as we enjoy the view of Lysterfield Lake from its 'beach like' shore.

Please note the change of leaders. You can call me and I will also be available to be contacted via the bus booking email address.

There are photos of our last visit to this area (24 August 2008) on our website.



### ROGAINE/NAVIGATION PRACTICE

#### FRYERSTOWN – 6 HOURS

DATE	Saturday 19 June
STANDARD	Medium
DISTANCE	20 km
LEADER	Mark Heath
TRANSPORT	Private
AREA	Malmsbury
MAP REF	map supplied
TRANSPORT COSTS (per person)	\$25

Rogaining involves selecting and finding checkpoints scattered over bush and farming country. The checkpoints have different values, roughly correlated with their inaccessibility and isolation and can be visited in any order. There is a large loss of points for going over time (6 hours for this event). We will be focussing on navigation practice rather than points.

Much of the walking will be off track through broken country in an old mining area, so participants will need to be fit, careful and well shod.

Participants must have a whistle (which can be bought at the event) and a compass (which can be hired). The event fee is \$22 and participants need to join the Victorian Rogaining Association (\$11 for 6 months membership). The event starts at 10am, with check in time 9.30am.

The cut-off date for booking with me is Wednesday 9th June.

Check out the VRA site for background information - [vra.rogaine.asn.au](http://vra.rogaine.asn.au)



### CYCLING

#### MERRI & DAREBIN CREEK TRAILS - LOOP

DATE	Saturday 19 June
STANDARD	Easy / Medium
DISTANCE	50 km
LEADER	Philip Brown
TRANSPORT	Train or car
AREA	Inner and northern suburbs
MAP REF	Melway Maps : D2 30 18 8 9 19 31

Meeting place if coming by train will be the Victoria Park station or by car the a car park near Dights Falls. The start time will be 9.45 am. We will head north on the Merri Creek trail then east on to the Ring Road trail then south on the Darebin Creek trail and back to the start. Things to look out for will be Dights Falls, Ceres Park, Brunswick Velodrome and Pipeworks market maybe we can see who wants to do a bungy jump. BYO everything. For more information or book in call me or contact me by email

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# Previews

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## SUNDAY BUS

### MT BLACKWOOD – BLACKWOOD RANGES TRACK

DATE	Sunday 20 June
STANDARD	Easy/Medium & Medium
DISTANCE	14 km & 16 km
LEADERS	Allan Martin & Jan Colquhoun
TRANSPORT	Bus
AREA	Bacchus Marsh
MAP REF	Meridian Lerderderg 1.35000

The Blackwood track follows a ridge line from the Lerderderg River to Mt Blackwood. – The Longer walk begins on the riverbed and follows a lovely path along the river until the first of two quite steep climbs for the day, which will appeal to walkers who enjoy a good aerobic workout. The views at the top of each are truly breathtaking and well worth the effort involved. The shorter walk avoids the two larger hills but still has some inclines with rest stops at the top of each to recover. A degree of fitness is recommended for both walks as the Blackwood trail is undulating and both groups do encounter some hill climbs, but as this walk is relatively close to Melb, both walks will have plenty of time to cover the distances involved at a comfortable pace. An enjoyable day out is anticipated – The Blackwood trail is well maintained, the birds were active and the views when we get to Mt Blackwood are exceptional. All we now need is your company to make it a great day out in the bush, so do come along!



## MOFS

### BRIMBANK PARK

DATE	Monday 21 June
STANDARD	Easy
DISTANCE	10 km
LEADER	Alister Rowe
TRANSPORT	Private
AREA	Keilor East

Meet at 10.30 am in Car Park A near the Visitor Centre (Melway 14 J9). Enter from Keilor Park Drive (Melway 15 B10) and drive along Brimbank Road.

The walk will be similar to what we have done in the past and should be very pleasant, given good weather conditions. Book with me on the landline or else call me on the day.



## DANDENONG EXPLORER

### BELGRAVE CIRCUIT

DATE	Saturday 26 June
STANDARD	Easy/Medium
DISTANCE	13 KM
LEADER	Maria Hurley
TRANSPORT	Private
AREA	Dandenongs
MAP REFERENCE	Map 75, F10

We will meet at 10am at the lower Carpark of the Belgrave Station. The walk is a circuit route on tracks in the Dandenong Ranges National Park. It is undulating but not that long. Previously lyrebirds have been seen on some sections of the walk. For those of us who have been to the previous night's entertainment (don't forget to book now!) we can do a little soft shoe shuffle in the hills! Then join all the other Marias and Fredericks in the local Tavern!!



## SUNDAY CAR POOL

### WARRAMATTE HILLS

DATE	Sunday 27 June
STANDARD	Easy/Medium
DISTANCE	13 kms
LEADER	Carol Corrigan
TRANSPORT	Private
AREA	Yarra Ranges/Gruyere
MAP REF	Melway 283/285 or VicMap
TRANSPORT COSTS (per person occupants), \$12 (2-3 occupants)	\$10 (4 or more occupants)

The Warramate Nature Conservation Reserve is located within the Yarra Ranges, just north of the Warburton Rail Trail near Seville. This delightful walk starts with a gentle stroll beside Woori Yallock Creek to the sound of bell birds. Morning tea will be enjoyed at the confluence of Woori Yallock Creek and the Yarra River. This will be followed by an energetic uphill walk to our lunch spot, Steel Hill, a climb of approx. 250 m. The climb is tempered by magnificent views back over the vineyards of the Yarra Valley to Mt Toolebewong, Mt St. Leonard and others in the Yarra Ranges. The track may be slippery in places if wet, so bring sturdy walking shoes.

After the walk, we will be stopping at the Killara Estate Winery for well earned refreshments. Great views can be enjoyed from the deck, as well as great wine or coffee. The leader has done the research and can vouch for the pino grigio and orange & almond cake!

