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THE NEWS OF THE Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc.

60 cents

AUGUST 2011

PRESIDENT'S CORNER



What great weather for getting out and about walking in the bush. The Winter and Spring Programs offer a wide variety of activities to participate in. Our Social Secretary has also been busy organizing many functions for members to attend and this is a good way of getting to know other members in a

social environment. Peruse the website under 'Other Events' – Social for full details.

While mentioning the website, members are encouraged to view our 'new look' as it is very easy to navigate your way around, the Photogallery displays some great photos and there is a wealth of information to browse through.

A reminder regarding Federation Day on Sunday 23rd October with walks being held on the Mornington Peninsula. This is a great way to meet up with bushwalkers from many other bushwalking clubs in Victoria and you are encouraged to participate on the day. Full details on page 9. Registrations open 1st August.

In this month's *News* (page 5) is an article regarding 'Green Walks in the Park'. Bushwalking Victoria are seeking volunteers from all bushwalking clubs to help as Leaders or Assistant leaders on short walks of around 4 km to encourage others in the community to become involved in bushwalking. Please review the article and if you are interested and would like to get more involved as a volunteer in your community, further information is available on request.

Enjoy your walking!

Margaret Curry

FIRST AID TRAINING/ CPR UPDATE TRAINING

Members are reminded that if they wish to attend the First Aid Training or CPR Update training course on Saturday 6th August, applications close this Friday 29th July. Payment to be made either to the computer desk this Wednesday (when Ian Langford is presenting his slide show on South-West Tasmania in conjunction with the monthly Cheese and Wine Night), by cheque to Club Treasurer or EFT transfer to club account.

For full details check out page 7 in July *News*.



MEMBER OF
**Bushwalking
Victoria**

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
362 William Street
(Cnr William and A'Beckett Streets)
Melbourne Vic 3001**

Visitors are always welcome!

General correspondence should be directed to:

The Secretary
Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc
PO Box 1751
MELBOURNE VIC 3001
www.melbournebushwalkers.org.au

The News of the Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc (The News) is published monthly, and is the official newsletter of Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc.

Editor: Merilyn Whimpey

Walk previews, walk reviews, articles, poems, news items, photographs of club events, reports of new gear, book/movie reviews, letters to the editor, advertisements, et cetera 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 the 2nd last Wednesday of the month. So for August News, the closing date is 24 August.

Only advertisements that directly relate to bushwalking (e.g. gear, maps, trips, tours etc.) can be accepted. For current advertising rates please contact the editor at news@mbw.org.au.

Please note:

Next committee meeting will take place on
MONDAY 1 AUGUST

FROM THE NEWS EDITOR

I've used a serif font this time (Times). I'd appreciate feedback from members as to whether it's clearer and easier to read than the usual one (Helvetica).

Merilyn Whimpey – news@mbw.org.au

FAREWELL KERRIE KNOTT



It is with great sadness that I advise that our club member Kerrie Knott passed away on 8th July. She participated in many walks and other activities with our club and was always active and cheerful despite her ill health. A large gathering of family and friends attended her funeral service at St Dominic's Church, East Camberwell on 14th July and there was a burial service at Bairnsdale Cemetery the following day. Rest in Peace. You are well remembered by all who knew you at Melbourne Bushwalkers.

Margaret Curry

PACK CARRYING FOR BEGINNERS INFORMATION EVENING 14 September at 8:00 pm in the clubroom

Pack carrying takes you as close as you can get to the beauty of nature. It is the perfect antidote to the excesses of everyday life and, with the benefit of the latest technology, can be enjoyed by just about anybody. Come along and find out more.



SOCIAL COLUMN

AUGUST

Wednesday, 24th August

A presentation by Roger Wyett of a recent club trip to New Zealand.

Slides of the Grand Traverse, and more!

See the magnificent mountains and flowing rivers of the The Rees & Dart Valleys.

Plus – The Dart Glacier, Cascade Saddle, The Routeburn & Greenstone Valleys.

Starting at 8 pm. This is also the wine and cheese night.

SEPTEMBER

Friday, 2nd September

Dinner at the Punjabi Curry Cafe, 87 Johnston Street, Collingwood.

Licensed and BYO wine only. Reserved for 7 pm.

Book with Susan Maughan.

Wednesday, 7th September

OUR NIGHT OF NIGHTS!!! THE INAUGURAL FASHION PARADE!!!

MBW, in conjunction with the Cancer Shop Victoria, will present a Fashion Parade in the club room commencing at 8 pm.

Members will be modelling this summer season's new tops, sunnies and accessories. You can be both a sun smart and a stylish walker.

No-one has ever approached the Cancer Shop to put on a fashion parade so they are delighted to partner us.

Come along and support the evening and receive a special offer on the night!!!

Mulled wine will be served in the kitchen.

Wednesday, 28th September

A presentation by the Sherbrooke Lyrebird Survey Group.

The group was formed to protect and observe the Superb Lyrebirds in Sherbrooke Forest. Nests are monitored and 2 weeks before the chick leaves the nest, its leg is banded and its movements observed for the rest of its life. In the 1980s the Group became very concerned at the number of lyrebirds killed by foxes and cats. In response, the Shire of Sherbrooke introduced a cat curfew in 1988, which is still enforced. The Lyrebird numbers have been steadily increasing since. This is a very impressive and professional presentation. Pop the date in your diary now.

This also wine and cheese night.

OCTOBER

Wednesday, 19th October

John Creaser, Vice President of Bushwalking Victoria will make a presentation on our umbrella organisation, discussing its present role and future direction.



Lake McKenzie hut, on the Routeburn, South Island, New Zealand.

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CONSERVATION MATTERS

News from the Bushwalking Victoria Environment Committee

Proposed works program for walking tracks

For the Central Area: Walk into History (main track), track improvements, stream crossings new signage, Erica–Thomson Rail Trail, La La Falls , Eastern Tyers Walk, Noojee Trestle Bridge, Toorong Falls Walk, South Cascades and Tanjil Bren Tramway Walks, Mountain Monarch Walk.

The Goldfields Track was officially opened by the Minister Assisting on Tourism, Senator Nick Sherry. The launch was held at the Fryerstown old school, a new entry point for the upgraded Goldfields Track. About 50 people attended the ceremony, which included a Smoking Ceremony led by an Aboriginal Elder.

Wilson's Promontory National Park

Southern section and overnight hiking tracks remain closed.

The Wilson's Promontory road remains closed at the wildlife viewing area, which is located about 13 km from the park entrance.

Access to the Tidal River campsite area around mid July, subject to the completion of all VicRoads road repairs. Mt Oberon, several walking tracks and all overnight hiking tracks will remain closed until further notice.

Northern section: the Millers Landing and Vereker Outlook tracks are open for visitor use following flood damage repairs. Beyond these tracks, Five Mile Road remains closed. The Tongue Point walking track is due to open by mid July after boardwalk extensions and slashing and drainage works are completed.

Beach Access Tracks: All beach access tracks remain closed.

Tidal River Precinct: Repair works to the South Norman/Biddy's track are nearly complete and the

track will be accessible when the Tidal River area is reopened.

Southern Walks: Mount Oberon Road, Telegraph Track and the Sealers Cove, Oberon Bay and Waterloo Bay to Telegraph Track overnight hiking tracks have sustained significant damage. Major repair works and possible realignments will be required before these roads and tracks reopen to visitors.

South East Track, South Point Track and the track from Sealers Cove to Waterloo Bay via Refuge Cove sustained minimal damage. However further assessments are required before these tracks are reopened.

New Walking Track near Mt Hotham

The Cobungra Ditch Walk (formerly know as the Aqueduct Trail) is a new 12.5 km track that traverses through Mt Hotham's spectacular alpine scenery whilst taking you on a journey through Mt Hotham's rich mining and cultural history, weaving your way past 125-year-old dry stone walls, stunning waterfalls, gullies and alpine flora and fauna. The walk can be done as 12.5 km in and 12.5 km out or as an 18 km circuit leaving from the Great Alpine Road 1 km from the resort entry to Dinner Plain. Walk notes and maps are available online.

Mountain Huts

Wallace's Hut: Parks Victoria will install braces to walls and temporary external propping of the chimney. These measures will ensure that the integrity of the structure remains until major restoration can be done

Weston's Hut has been rebuilt, as well as the **King River Hut**.

Rod Novak – Bushwalking Victoria Environment Committee Club delegate



Shane Steinkamp

Hiking naked

Imagine stripping off and stepping out in the sunshine for a stroll. For many of us it's a terrifying thought, but for others it's the only way to connect with the environment.

Shane Steinkamp, pictured left, has been hiking in his birthday suit for more than 20 years and tells host Marnie Chesterton it's the only way he can experience the wilderness. Because being naked means he can connect with the natural world (more photos at foot of page).

Link - [Shane Steinkamp's Hiking Journal](#)

[Complaints can be made to Susan Maughan]

VOLUNTEERS – GREEN WALKS IN THE PARK

This is a new project developed between Bushwalking Victoria and the Heart Foundation. It is designed to get more people walking, build community connections and provide physical and mental health benefits to participants. It is also hoped to encourage more people to walk in and take an interest in the natural environment, with the hope that they will then join clubs.

Green Walks are not bushwalks, being only a distance of approximately 4 km. Volunteers from bushwalking clubs across Victoria are being sought as Green Walks Leaders and Assistant Leaders. Walks are planned to be held both midweek and on a weekend, once or twice a month. Volunteers will be required to attend a familiarization day to brief them with all the required information. Participants for the walks are being sought through community groups, libraries, etc.

This is an opportunity to get involved as a volunteer within the community.

Interested members should contact either Margaret Curry, President on or Erica Gurner, Project Officer with Bushwalking Victoria. Further information is available on request.

Margaret Curry

ALPINE GRAZING PLEASE HELP

The front page of *The Age* on Wednesday 20/7/11 carried the headline ‘New Plan for Alpine Grazing’ with ‘The Ballieu government has launched a covert plan to reintroduce cattle grazing to Victoria’s Alpine National Park in an attempt to bypass federal laws ...’

Apparently, the Ballieu government is trying to locate areas in the alpine national park for cattle grazing where there are no endangered species to circumvent the federal government intervention under Commonwealth environment protection law!!! This is of major concern to us bushwalkers and I would encourage all to write to their local State member of Parliament to express concern with this damaging practice – cows belong on farms, not in our national parks.

The very next day in *The Age* (Thursday 21/7/11) the page 3 headline ‘Federal Ploy to Block Ballieu on Alpine Grazing’ explained that the federal Environment Minister – Mr Tony Burke – is considering to list state controlled national parks under federal environment protection law to protect them from inappropriate cattle grazing, logging and mining. Stay tuned, as it appears the cattle are going back into the alpine national park next summer.

Rod Novak

REGENT HONEYEATER PLANTING 2011

For the past ten years Melbourne Bushwalkers have assisted this very worthwhile project and the results are absolutely stunning for those who have participated. Over 750,000 trees and understorey species have been planted in the Lurg Hills 15 km from Benalla.

This year the Bushies will be officially supporting two planting weekends which are August 20/21 and September 17/18. However, there are other tree planting weekends on August 6/7 and September 3/4 which members are welcome to attend.

Meeting place is at the Benalla Ceramic Mural (beside the bridge over Lake Benalla at 9 am. There is free accommodation at the Benalla Scout and Guide Halls, mattresses are supplied and small kitchen facilities available. BYO sleeping bag and pillow. It is advised to bring sunscreen, hat, boots, long trousers, gardening gloves, rain jacket and hand trowel. BYO lunch for Saturday, morning and afternoon tea is provided, and a fantastic evening meal is included.

Come along on what is a great weekend and also help the environment in a practical way.

Michael Murray
Coordinator



Notices

MELBOURNE BUSHWALKERS ACTIVITY STATISTICS APRIL – JUNE 2011

Activity	Month	Number	Participants & Visitors	Km Covered	Reports Submitted
Pack Carry	April	3	31 (3)	140	3
	May	1	10 (-)	30	1
	June	1	9 (-)	33	1
	Total	5	50 (3)	203	5
Base Camp	April				
	May				
	June	1	31 (2)	32	1
	Total	1	31 (2)	32	1
TOF	April	1	7 (2)	10	1
	May	1	10 (2)	11	1
	June	1	13 (-)	10	1
	Total	3	30 (4)	31	3
MOF	April	1	16 (6)	11	1
	May	1	10 (-)	10	1
	June	1	8 (-)	11	1
	Total	3	34 (7)	32	3
Cycling	April	1	10 (-)	83	1
	May	1	7 (-)	56	1
	June	1	11 (-)	45	1
	Total	3	28 (-)	184	3
Wednesday	April	1	6 (-)	12	1
	May	1	8 (-)	12	1
	June	1	6 (-)	14	1
	Total	3	20 (-)	38	3
Social	April	1	11 (-)	11	1
	May	1	12 (2)	6	1
	June	1	9 (2)	5	1
	Total	3	32 (4)	22	3
Training	April	1	8	4	
Other	April	1	30		
Total for activities		23	213 (17)	343	16

MT HEDRICK – AVON RIVER 11–13 JUNE

Leader: Bob Oxlade



The Queens Birthday weekend is typically the time for a three day walk. However, this year, Bob's idea was for a two and a half day trip, starting Saturday afternoon. We met for our overnight camp at the Huggett's Road picnic area, not far north of Maffra.

Just a 'beside the road' camping spot, but at night, the absolute quietness of the bush here was astounding.

On Sunday, we climbed the 100 m to Mt Heddrick, then descended to Huggett's Crossing on the Avon River, an area being well used by trail bikes and four-wheel drives. We followed the gorge of the Avon River (going easterly), especially admiring the pink rocks of The Channel. We made camp in time near Dermody's Camp just before the rain set in. (How many theories of camp fire lighting can there be?)

The return route on Monday saw us retracing our path along the gorge, which was actually quite welcome. The views of the distant mountains, the river and of the gorge could now be appreciated from the other direction. Everywhere the wattle trees could be seen about to burst in flower. Lyrebirds teased us from both sides. We returned to the cars via Huggett's Lookout, and as they say, 'were home in time for tea.'

Thanks Bob, for this pleasant walk.

Stuart Mattingley

WILLIS'S WALKABOUTS

Build Up

Bushwalking

The most **dramatic** season of all!

Our **Build Up** trips are the most laid back and relaxed that we offer – early starts, early finishes and long lunch breaks sitting by tranquil pools. On Kakadu Highlights 11 & 12, you finish the trip with a night on a houseboat. **Dramatic?** Storms come and go – warm rain needs to be experienced to be believed. Frogs call and birds sing. The land turns green, almost as you watch. All nature rejoices in the change.

I enjoy the Build Up walks so much that I'll run either Kakadu Highlights 11 or 12 for as few as 2 people at no extra charge.

Join me and see why I think this is such a special time of year.

Russell Willis



12 Carrington St Millner NT 0810

www.bushwalkingholidays.com.au Phone 08 8985 2134 Fax 08 8985 2355

A TRIBUTE TO KERRIE MAREE KNOTT Deceased 2011

I first met Kerrie at least 20 years ago on a Sunday walk. Here was an attractive fun woman, with a radiant smile – who had the unique ability to listen and engage with people.

Through the years Kerrie's passion for walking and travel continued. Because of her farming background you were always welcome at her house for a cup of tea and chat.

Behind that sweet disposition was a steely strength and determination. Kerrie fought her illness with a relentless positive attitude. When in remission, she took on bush walks with a gutsy will to complete them. Every occasion was a special one with Kerrie. Besides being a wonderful mother and daughter, she was a genuine and loyal friend who I will miss greatly.

Debra Berner

A VARIED REVIEW

It began on a Jean Giese social walk at Braeside in May when I was informed that as a pack carrier I had missed some rungs on the ladder.

So, since then the TOFs of course at Maroondah Dam, an interesting P/C near Heyfield, a Saturday cycle along the Maribryngong River trail, a get fit Sunday walk at Strath Creek Falls, tree planting and walking base camp at Wedderburn, a Wednesday walk at Kinglake, another Saturday cycle, this time in the Werribee area, then the MOFs walk smoothly relocated from Lysterfield Park to the Dandenong Creek Trail. There is still the Dandenongs Explorer on the program and Midweek Getaways amongst other items.

All the activities had a mix of casual and experienced participants. Thanks to all involved for contributing to the Melbourne Bushwalkers.

To the workers, there is a lot to look forward to; and for the retirees, I sometimes wonder how we had time to go to work.

Bob Oxlade

ANOTHER SUPERB EXHIBITION – THIS TIME NATIVE PLANTS



Yesterday I went on a guided tour of the exhibition listed below. The botanical artists were selected from all over Australia and so represent all the different States except NT. There is also historical material dating back to Linnaeus. Decided to spruik on behalf of the gardens – and native flora addicts. Please pass on info to others who may be interested!

The Eternal Order in Nature: the science of botanical illustration.

18 July to 7 August 2011

10 am to 5 pm daily/8 pm Wednesdays

Domain House, Dallas Brooks Drive

<http://www.theeternalorderinnature.com/>

Rosemary Cotter



Advance notices of coming events

FEDERATION DAY WALK 2011 MORNINGTON PENINSULA – SUNDAY 23 OCTOBER

This year Federation Day is being hosted by the Peninsula Bushwalking Club and the Catholic Walking Club of Victoria on Sunday 23rd October

The clubs have organised 22 walks throughout the Mornington Peninsula, with a wide variety of coastal and bushland tracks with gradings ranging from easy to medium/hard. Please ask Halina or myself about the walk gradings as clubs do vary in ascertaining the walk. All registrants will receive a Walks Booklet as a reminder of their walk and as a reference guide for future trips in the area. The hosts have been kind enough to provide afternoon tea after walkers return. Please take your own mug for afternoon tea and also some spare cash to pay the driver.

The registration fee is \$20 per participant and monies are to be paid to the Club Coordinator, which is Michael Murray. If paying by cheque please make it out to the Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc. Participants are invited to check the Catholic Bushwalking Club website (<http://www.catholicwalkingclub.vic.org>).

[au/FedDayWalk.htm](http://www.catholicwalkingclub.vic.org/au/FedDayWalk.htm)) under Federation Day to see the list of walks available. The usual practice is that participants make their selections 1, 2, 3 and 4, with the first being the most preferred. This is a case of first in best dressed.

Those club members who are interested please take note of the following dates

1st August: Registration opens

23rd September: Close of Registration

In regard to transport, there will be no bus. This day will be a car pool, or those people interested can drive directly to Rosebud Memorial Hall and the Village Green (Melways 158 C12). Parking is available on Village Green next to the Memorial Hall.

Michael Murray
Federation Day Club Coordinator

CANOE TRIP – ADVANCE NOTICE

A 4 day canoe trip along the lovely lower Glenelg River is being planned for Cup Day weekend 2011.

To maximise the enjoyment and minimise the hassles we will be using the services of a local canoe hire service. They provide a bunkhouse for the first night, all gear, and transport us back to our cars at the end. The cost is around \$135 per person. Camping places along the river will also be reserved for us and they are free.

This is flat water canoeing, but the distances are up to 18 km on a couple of the days so it is graded easy-medium. Participation will be limited to twenty people and we need to firm up our canoe booking with money some months ahead. If you are interested in coming along please contact the leaders, Ken MacMahon or Janette Kodaih.



Lars and Mary gliding along on the upper Murray, December 2006.
Photo by Sam Weaner

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 SNOWSHOE WALK

BAW BAW NATIONAL PARK DAY SNOWSHOE WALK

DATE Sat 27 August 2011
STANDARD Easy/Medium
LEADERS Ralph Blake and Kerry Press
DISTANCE 15 km (approx)
TRANSPORT Private
AREA Baw Baw National Park
MAP Baw Baw Plateau 1:25,000

For this day walk participants will require snowshoes, which can be readily hired from any good bushwalking equipment shop. Please arrange for your hire before the trip. We will set off early from St Gwinear car park to Mt St Gwinear and then on to Mustering flat. We will also visit Mt St Phillack, Freemans Flat, Tullicoutty Glen. A pleasant spot will be found for lunch. We will be returning to St Gwinear Car Park by 5 pm. Participants will need to be fit and well prepared for snow conditions, from blizzard to fine and sunny. No previous snow shoe experience is required. Group size limit is 12. A magical and exhilarating day in a snowy wonderland is guaranteed!



SUNDAY BUS

NEW: MORNINGTON TO THE BRIARS

DATE Sunday 28 August
STANDARD Easy and Easy/Medium
DISTANCES 14 kms & 17 km
ELEVATIONS minimal
LEADERS Halina Sarbinowski and Ian Mair
TRANSPORT Bus – Leaving Southbank Blvd at 8:45 am
AREA Mornington Peninsula

The Mornington Peninsula is one of the areas that we love to explore. The dramatic coastlines have always drawn walkers. However, the bay walks have unfortunately been overlooked by our club. This walk, a new walk for MBW, will explore the best of the walking tracks between Mornington and The Briars in Mt Martha.

The E/M group will start their walk at Schnapper Point, Mornington, following the cliff top and esplanade to the Balcombe Estuary Boardwalk. This walk incorporates the Discoverers Walk. The easy group will follow the same walking trail, commencing about 3–4 km after the E/M walk.

The Balcombe Estuary Boardwalk weaves its way through the bushland on the south bank of Balcombe Creek. At the Nepean Highway, the boardwalk passes under the highway and accesses the Briars. Once reaching the Briars (no entry charge) we can explore the ‘Wetlands and Bird Hide walk’, ‘Woodland walk’ and the ‘Ker-bur-rer walk’, covering an additional 4 kms.

Sometimes serendipity plays its hand. This walk coincides with Frankston and South Eastern Wine Show and Tasting. For

those who want to participate there is an additional charge of \$10 which covers all wine tasting and a monogrammed glass. All wines are locally produced made from fruit, vegetables, flowers and herbs (9:00 am to 3:00 pm). Nice to enjoy before exploring the Bird Hide or Woodland Walk.



TOFS WALK

OLINDA CREEK – MT EVELYN

DATE Thursday 1 September
STANDARD Easy
DISTANCE 9 km
ELEVATION Approx 150 m of climbing (optional)
LEADER Graham Hodgson
TRANSPORT Private
AREA Mt Evelyn
MAP REF Melway Map 120

This is a pleasant walk through forests and tree fern gullies at the back of Mt Evelyn.

The walk will be entirely on tracks with a few moderate hill climbs and one very steep climb which will be compensated for with some beautiful views out towards Donna Buang (the very steep climb can be avoided by those not wishing to attempt it).

Parts of the walk could be muddy and slippery, so bring stout footwear.

Meet at the corner of Hunter Road and Monbulk Road, Mt Evelyn (Melway 120 G6) at 10:30 am.

Parking is available about 50 m past the intersection on the left hand side if you are coming from Mt Evelyn.



SUNDAY WALK

ARTHUR'S SEAT – KINGS FALLS

DATE Sunday 4 September
STANDARD Easy/Medium
DISTANCE 12 km
LEADER Richard Hanson
TRANSPORT Car
AREA Mornington Peninsula
MAP REF Day walks around Melbourne – Glenn Tempest

A nice circuit walk close to Melbourne. Following the Two Bays Walking Track for the first 5 kms and then to the Kings Falls circuit. Coming back via T C McKeller circuit walk and the Seawinds gardens. Near the end we will stop for a drink at Arthurs Seat and then down the hill via the Chairlift track.



SUNDAY BUS

LA FRANCHI HUT

DATE 11 September 2011
STANDARDS Easy & Easy/Medium
DISTANCES 13 km & 16 km
ELEVATIONS A few short steep climbs, otherwise undulating
LEADERS Max Casley & Jan Colquhoun
TRANSPORT Bus – Leaving Southbank Blvd at 8:45 am
AREA Near Daylesford.
MAP REF Eganstown 1:25,000; Wombat State Forest Touring Guide 1:50,000

With any luck the daffodils and jonquils which surround La Franchi Hut will be in bloom for this walk. Perhaps homesick miners planted these as well as the bluebells and deciduous trees which surround the hut. This is where we will have lunch. Most of the rest of the walk will be in the Wombat State Forest, beside pine plantations and old mine workings. Some creeks will be followed and crossed but (in contrast to last year) they are all small and wet feet are an unlikely result. Charlesford Diggings has several relics of the Gold Rush that drew people from all over the world in the 1860s. There are some off track sections for both walks. The longer walk will visit an old tin mine and Henderson’s Spring. Come along with us for a pleasant walk in native forest and pine plantations just to the west of Daylesford.

Near the finish of the walk is some farm produce (e.g. pumpkins) with an honesty-tin. This fresh food may be of interest to some in our group.



WEDNESDAY WALK

ANTIMONY MINE – PYRITES CREEK – SUGARLOAF

DATE Wednesday 14 September
STANDARD Easy/Medium
DISTANCE 14 km
LEADER Jopie Bodegraven
TRANSPORT Private
AREA West of Melbourne
MAP REF Toolern Vale & Bullengarook 1:25,000

This will be a pleasant walk almost all on tracks through dry forest, along a lovely (probably dry) creek and to a lookout atop the Sugarloaf. There will be a bit of mining history as well. There are some ups but mostly gentle with total ups of only about 260 m. It is relatively close to Melbourne, but surprisingly little used for such a pleasant area.

We will meet at 10:00 am in the carpark at the end of Antimony Mine Road, 3.6 km north of the Diggers Rest–Coimadai Road. The start of Antimony Mine Road is at Melway 329 F1. To get there, travel approx 7 km west of Toolern Vale along the Diggers Rest–Coimadai Road, or alternatively take the Long Forest Road north from the Western Highway at the top of Anthony’s Cutting (Melway 335 D8, go 6 km, turn right into Diggers Rest–Coimadai Rd and go 2½ km.



TREE PLANTING

REGENT HONEYEATER PLANTING – LURG HILLS (BENALLA)

DATE 17–19 September
COORDINATOR Michael Murray
GRADE Easy
LOCATION North east Victoria
EXPECTED RETURN TIME SUNDAY EVENING 8 PM

For the past ten years Melbourne Bushwalkers have assisted this very worthwhile project and the results are absolutely stunning for those who have participated. Over 750,000 trees and understorey species have been planted in the Lurg Hills 15 km from Benalla.

Meeting place is at the Benalla Ceramic Mural (beside the bridge over Lake Benalla) at 9 am. There is free accommodation at the Benalla Scout and Guide Halls, mattresses are supplied and small kitchen facilities available. BYO sleeping bag and pillow. It is advised to bring sunscreen, hat, boots, long trousers, gardening gloves, rain jacket and hand trowel. BYO lunch for Saturday, morning and afternoon tea is provided and a fantastic evening meal is included.

Come along on what is a great weekend and also help the environment in a practical way.



PACK CARRY

THE FARMYARD – CATHEDRAL RANGE

DATE 17–18 September
STANDARD Easy/Medium
DISTANCE 5.5 km
LEADER Susan Maughan
TRANSPORT Private
AREA Cathedral Range State Park
MAP Cathedral Range

This is an ideal walk for those who are new to pack carries, or have often had a day walk in the Cathedral Range but not had time to linger.

The walk commences from Neds Gully campground at 11 am. Allow one hour’s drive from Healesville to Buxton. Or, drive up the night before and join your leader there. The easy part of the walk is along Little River to Cooks Mill (2.7 km). We then start a gentle ascent up the 1.8 km. Saint Bernards Track, which leads to MacLennans Gully. The ‘medium’ part of the walk now starts, as we climb up the Jawbone Creek track. It’s a steady 1 km, or 500 m to reach the camp. We’ll have a late lunch, set up camp, and head off with day pack along the ridgeline to the North Jawbone. This part is slow and arduous, so talk to the leader first if you are not an experienced walker.

Day 2 will be more exploring with daypacks, before retracing our steps back to the car (for 3 pm). You will need to carry water. I recommend downloading ‘An introduction to overnight walking’ from our website for further information.

The views are terrific, you’ll get a great sense of satisfaction from ticking this one off, and the area is one of my favourites.



SUNDAY WALK

HEPBURN SPRINGS

DATE Sunday 18 September
STANDARD Easy/Medium
DISTANCE 16 km
ELEVATION 170 m ascent and descent twice
LEADER(S) Roger Wyatt
TRANSPORT Carpool
AREA Hepburn Springs
MAP REF Hepburn Regional Park, Park Notes, Parks Vic
TRANSPORT COSTS (PER PERSON) \$20.00

This walk is a combination of well known features, in a well walked region, plus an extra loop to the Hepburn Reservoir. We will start the walk with a short car shuffle at The Blowhole on Sailors Creek, which is quite spectacular if there is a good flow, then 5.3 km to Golden Spring via Breakneck Gorge. Then it is an ascent to Jacksons Lookout with good views of the region from the lookout tower, then on to the Hepburn Mineral Springs area.

After short a detour past old gold diggings, that tunnel below the town, and subject to the progress of the group, we will have a late lunch in the township and then stroll up the main street for some 2 km to Hill Top Road. Then a little cross country, to pick up the track to the Hepburn Reservoir (the local water supply), and then via hill tops back to the Hepburn Mineral Springs area.



MOFS WALK

LONG FOREST RESERVE

DATE 19 September
STANDARD Easy
DISTANCE 10 km
LEADER Alister Rowe
TRANSPORT Private
AREA Long Forest
MAP REF Melway 335 and 329

Meet at 10:30 am in the parking area on the eastern side of Long Forest Road at approximately Melway 335 E5. We will do the Djerriwarrh and Bermagui tracks before morning tea and later walk along Pyrites Creek to Canopus Court on Melway 329. We'll do a car shuffle to eliminate the long walk back.

There are some sharp hills on this walk, plus a short distance along the creek which will need some care.



THURSDAY SOCIAL WALK

PRINCES AND ROYAL PARKS

DATE 22 September
STANDARD Easy
DISTANCE 6 km
LEADER Jean Giese
TRANSPORT Private
AREA Parkville
MAP REF Melway 29

I'm sure the social walkers can manage 6 km to enable us to explore this neck of the woods.

We'll begin in Princes Park and make our way into Royal Park, passing around the Royal Park Golf Course and visiting the comparatively recently engineered wetlands which purify waste water for use in the park. A climb up a small hill will reward with views to the north and west. Lunch at John Palermo's in Barkly Street, Carlton.

Meet by 10:30 am in the driveway into the Bowling Club off Bowen Crescent (Melway 29 G11) where parking is available, or catch a tram running along Royal Parade.



CYCLING

O'SHANNASSY AQUEDUCT – WARBURTON RAIL TRAIL

DATE 24 September 2011
STANDARD Easy
DISTANCE 40 km approximately
ELEVATION Steep climb at start, otherwise fairly level
LEADER Max Casley
TRANSPORT Car (sharing if practicable)
AREA Yarra valley
MAP REF Parks Victoria Notes, Melways Directory

We will meet at Launching Place about 100 metres east of where Don Road meets the Warburton Highway in the public car park on the south side of the Warburton Highway at 10 am. (Melways map 287 H6). This is the start and finish of the ride and is on the east side of the Home Hotel. Private transport is needed to reach the start point unless you want to ride 25 km from Lilydale railway station. Contact me (9527 3111) if you need help with transport and I will try to arrange transport sharing – some people have carriers which have capacity for 2 or 3 bikes.

The ride begins by going along the Don Road which starts off level as it crosses the Yarra flats but it soon starts to climb. Approaching O'Shannassy aqueduct you may want to walk beside the bike – I certainly will. The advantage of having the steep section early is that you will be fresh and by the end of the day you will have almost forgotten about it. After that it is level riding along the unsealed aqueduct road where we will ride slowly dodging around fallen branches. On a previous ride lyrebirds were in full voice imitating other birds. Near the Dee River Bridge there is a very short steep section and a picnic spot with magnificent views.

We continue on to Warburton – the descent to the river is steep so make sure your bike brakes are working. We will do a short scenic ride along the Yarra River and then have lunch in

Warburton beside the river (or in one of the many shops). The return trip will be along the Warburton Rail Trail which passes through beautiful areas of the Yarra valley including a field which has emus and an ostrich.



SATURDAY WALK

DANDENONGS EXPLORER

DATE Saturday 24 September
STANDARD Easy/Medium
LEADER Wendy Fortington
TRANSPORT Private

For details of this walk please contact the leader.



SUNDAY BUS

INVERLOCH

DATE Sunday 25 September
STANDARD Easy and Easy/Medium
LEADERS Halina Sarbinowski and Arron Laki

For details of this walk please contact the leaders.



Jean and Bernadette on the Geelong foreshore. TOFS walk, 7 July. Photo by Rosemary Cotter.



**ADVANCE NOTICE
 INVERLOCH BASE CAMP**

DATE 11th to 13th November 2011
STANDARD Easy & Easy/Medium
DISTANCE various from 5 km to 19 km
LEADER Maddy Lock
TRANSPORT Private
AREA Powlett River to Cape Patterson
MAP REF Melways 612 S12

There will be Easy and Easy/Medium walks offered each day. So we will need more leaders on the day.

Navigation will be straightforward. The longer walk will take place on the Saturday. The terrain will be mainly along the coast and exposed so make sure you carry sufficient water and sunburn protection. There will be plenty of opportunities to swim if the water is not too cold.

The 2 day base camp is a repeat of a successful and most enjoyable base camp with the Wednesday walkers 2 years ago.

We will be staying at the Big 4 Caravan Park at Inverloch. You can stay in shared cabins. (I will need to know the numbers for these by October 12th.) The shared cabins are the only accommodation that I will be booking. The cost of this accommodation if 4 people are sharing will be between \$43 and \$53 per night, depending on the standard of the cabin. I have booked 5 cabins, 3 deluxe and 2 Holiday Units. You will need to pay for one night by 30th September. You can email me re method of payment. You can also do your own thing and book your cabin or camp site (Phone 03 5674 1447). All accommodation can be viewed at www.Inverloch-holiday-park.vic.big4.com.au.

