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THE NEWS OF THE Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc.

60 cents

MAY 2011

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

I hope everyone had a very happy and safe Easter.

Thank you to all those who attended the recent Leaders' Night. We had a good attendance, many issues were raised and some lively discussion took place. Unfortunately time ran out to cover all topics, especially in detail. Feedback to members will be provided in June *NEWS* following our May committee meeting.

A welcome to Wendy Fortington who has agreed to take on the role of Base Camp Co-ordinator. Wendy replaces Michael Mann who was in the role for approximately 3 years. A big thank you to Michael for his organization of activities over that time.

Jenny and Jeff Kenafacke, who are one of our Club contacts for delays or emergencies on any Club

activities, have asked to stand down from this role.

They have performed this function for many years, and I would like to pass on the Club's thanks to them for their time and efforts over this period of time. Graham and Sue Errey and Jim and Libby Marsden remain as Club contacts in case of any emergency. All three couples have a wonderful knowledge of our club and its operations and on behalf of the committee we thank all of you for your input.

Autumn is a great time for walking so peruse the activities on offer and enjoy the sunny days while they last.

Happy Walking!

MARGARET CURRY



Mt Macedon circuit walk, Sunday 6 February. Photo: Ian Mair

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: Marilyn 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 June News, the closing date is 18 May.

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.

Please note:
Next committee meeting will take place on
MONDAY 6 JUNE

SOCIAL COLUMN

MAY

WEDNESDAY 25TH MAY – WINE AND CHEESE NIGHT

This month's wine and cheese night will again be hosted by Graham.

JUNE

FRIDAY 17TH JUNE – A DINNER DATE

Dinner at the Tower Hotel, 686 Burwood Road, Hawthorn East.

WED 22 JUNE – A TALK ON COMMUNITY PROJECT TRAVEL

Scott Pinnegar of World Expeditions has been invited to give a Talk on Community Project Travel.

A number of Bushies have been involved with these trips, in which they have an opportunity to work with local communities to build schools, medical facilities and bridges. Combined with a remote adventure travel experience, this adds up to a rare opportunity to contribute in a meaningful way.

Destinations include Nepal, Tanzania, Argentina, Laos and Kenya.

Note: 8 o'clock start.

JULY

WEDNESDAY 27TH JULY – SLIDE SHOW OF SOUTH WEST TASSIE

Club member Ian Langford will present a slide show of: Beaches and Fiords of South-West Tasmania.

Some lovely slides of a party of seven on the Club Christmas trip: a moving base camp at Cox's Bight and Bathurst Narrows.

Note: 8 o'clock start.

PICKIES PLEASE!

If you have any photos or graphics to go with your articles, or even a photo without an article, please send it. The News looks much more interesting with pictures.

*Marilyn
Editor*

Noticeboard

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations go to Carol Corrigan and Mick Noonan who were married in a small private ceremony on 2nd April. Best Wishes to both of them for many more happy years together.

EGON DONATH



This plaque is displayed on a bench in the Botanical Gardens. Egon Donath was a co-founder of Melbourne Bushwalkers. Many of our older members will remember Egon and may like to check out the plaque when next walking in the gardens.

TRACK MAINTENANCE

Two members from Melbourne Bushies and 5 members from Maroondah recently assisted Bushwalking Victoria on a track clearing event to clear regrowth that has

occurred since the 2009 fires on Condon's walking track in the Yarra Ranges National Park. The group led by Steve Robertson was successful in clearing the entire length of the track. A comment was made by one member that the track is in the best condition seen for 20 years.

FLOODING

The impact of recent floods on national and state parks in Victoria has made it more important than ever for people to check local conditions in parks and forests before walking. Widespread damage resulting from heavy rain, strong winds and flash flooding has closed many parks and forests across Victoria. It will be some time before Parks Victoria and DSE will be able to fully assess the damage and ensure the public areas are safe to open again. Some sections of some parks may be closed for up to two years. For the latest information, go to <http://www.parkweb.vic.gov.au> or ring 13 19 63. Alternatively go to Bureau of Meteorology website www.bom.gov.au then select Weather, Climate or Water information.

PLANNED BURNS

Parks Victoria are currently working on new fuel breaks through Melbourne's interface parklands, particularly in the Dandenong Ranges, around Warrandyte and along the Mornington Peninsula. Works will include the removal of small trees, shrubs and some limbs and, in some cases, larger trees.

For information on planned burns go to www.dse.vic.gov.au/fires or planned burns or call 136 186.

TRACK MAINTENANCE GROUP

Bushwalkers are encouraged to assist with the following project.

As provided by MBW member, Mark Heath.

2011 Activity Dates	Leader contact details
16 October – Big Tree/Cora Lynn	Steve Robertson srob7859@bigpond.net.au 9762 5367

MEMBERSHIP

Please welcome the following new members to the Club:

Robert Morris	Annie O'Loan
Ray Mitchell	Lea-Ann Wright
Sylvia McLean	Karen Tanfield
Pamela Dean	Ian Williams



Conservation matters

Cattle grazing in the Alpine National Park

Over 550 people attended the public meeting at the Box Hill Town Hall on Wednesday 6th April organised by the Victorian National Parks Association. Key speakers (with fantastic pictures and DVD footage) were from the VNPA, Wilderness Society, National Trust and University of Melbourne alpine ecologist/scientist with the Federal Minister for the Environment the Hon. Tony Burke. The Federal Minister made an interesting observation when he compared his previous portfolio (Agriculture), with farmers very proud of their progress with sustainable farming practices, to the current alpine grazing where this was clearly damaging and not sustainable. He had observed a lot of trampling and damage by the cattle in the moss beds and streams on his site visit to the Dargo High Plains. The Federal Minister stated if his current legislative powers could not stop the state government policy allowing grazing in the Alpine National Park then he would seek amendments to stop it. Many thanks to the many Melbourne Bushies who attended the meeting showing the Federal Minister the importance of this issue to us bushwalkers.

Recent storm and flood damage

There are a number of Parks closed due to storm damage; all leaders and/or bushwalkers please check the Parks Victoria website before visiting.

Grampians National Park

Large areas of the Grampians National Park remain inaccessible to traffic and walkers owing to immense damage caused by the recent floods.

Goldfields Central Victoria

Slaty Creek No. 1 Campground in the Creswick Regional Park has been reopened and is available for campers. Tipperary Track has been reopened.

The eastern side of the Tipperary walkers-only track to Bryces Flat is part of the Dry Diggings section of the Goldfields Track and is located close to Daylesford.

The Lerderderg Track is covered with flood debris approximately 50 metres north of the bridge over the Lerderderg River on North Blackwood Road.

Wilson's Prom National Park

With the recent flooding, check the PV website for road access and track closures.

Brisbane Ranges National Park

Current closures: Anakie Gorge Walk (picnic ground open), Stony Creek Picnic Ground, Switch Road, Little River Picnic Ground, McLeans Highway (closed between Marshalls Rd and Thompsons Rd), Lease Road (closed between Yankee Gully Rd and Banksia Track), Saw Pit Gully Road, Little River Camp Ground, Lower Stony Creek Reservoir, Burchell Trail (closed between Old Mill camp ground and Boar Gully Camp Ground). All public roads have suffered damage, with some still closed due to public safety concerns.

You Yangs Regional Park also remains closed. Parks Victoria expects to re-open some areas in time for the Easter holiday period.

State Forest Walking Track Project

The "Walk into History" proposed 3 day/2 nights walk from Warburton to Powelltown is at the planning stage. Also, a proposal to develop a new track from the Ada Tree to New Ada Mill; this will depend on funding being available.

*Rod Novak
Club delegate to*

Bushwalking Victoria Environment Committee



THE WILDERNESS SHOP MEGA BUYING NIGHT

WHEN: Tuesday 10th May 6.00pm - 9.00pm

WHERE: The Wilderness Shop, 969 Whitehorse Rd, Box Hill.

WHAT: 20% OFF ALL OUTDOOR EQUIPMENT

including bushwalking, rockclimbing & XC skis, 5% OFF SALE ITEMS

DOOR PRIZE: Just be there for a chance to win a door prize.

OTHER GOODIES: Snacks, Pizza, Beer & Softdrink

MELBOURNE BUSHWALKERS INVOLVEMENT IN SEARCH AND RESCUE (VOLUNTEERS WANTED!)

Bush Search and Rescue (BSAR) is a dedicated group of bushwalkers and cross country skiers, rogainers and mountaineers who assist the Victoria Police in searching for lost people. Bush Search and Rescue is a specialist division of Bushwalking Victoria and was formed in 1949. BSAR volunteers can be asked to participate at short notice, in adverse weather conditions and in rough and extreme terrain. In particular, it has the ability to send out small, self-sufficient search groups, which can navigate accurately without landmarks and stay out overnight. This is what sets BSAR apart from most other volunteer search and rescue organisations. Searchers are drawn from members of Bushwalking Victoria or one of its affiliated clubs (e.g. MBW – that's us!).

Most searches are done on a day basis then back to a base overnight. The base location is usually a bush setting so camping is required. On some occasions you would be required to pack carry and camp out overnight to continue the search in the morning. The expectation is to be prepared and equipped for 3 days searching before returning to a base location. Often there is the Police or Red Cross food van located at the search base that can provide hot meals.

It is imperative that prior agreement is arranged with your employer that short notice and an absence of up to 3 days is acceptable. Searchers are not expected to be available for more than 3 days. Remember that your participation on each search is voluntary, according to your commitments or responsibilities at that time.

It is often the case that the callout for a search is given in the afternoon or early evening to be ready for a departure early morning (typically between 1:00 am and 7:00 am). Transport is by your own means to a metropolitan meeting point, and then by Police provided transport to the search location.

BSAR provides training sessions (it is required that at least one training session is completed before doing a search) at various times during the year. They can be day or weekend sessions and can cover use of GPS/ radios, search techniques, ski skills, communications and navigation. Any MBW member can attend a BSAR training session before being an approved BSAR member. The following training sessions are planned later this year:

- 9–10 July 2011
Steep snow and ice training, Mt Stirling (specialist skills required)
- November 19–20
Training weekend for all current and prospective BSAR members. Format will be a GPS Rogaine and skills workshops over two days.

This is an excellent way to assist the community as well as learn some useful skills, but basic navigational skills are a prerequisite. From my experience, being part of a successful search is very rewarding. Currently there are only 6 MBW members on the BSAR list and considering a MBW membership of about 500 represents only 1.2%!!

Anyone interested in becoming a BSAR member can get more information from: <http://www.bsar.org/joining>.

NOTE: An application must be approved and recommended by the MBW committee before being submitted to BSAR.

David Laing
MBW Delegate to BSAR.



Rik Head briefing BSAR members, Davies Plain
from *Behind the Log*, BSAR Newsletter, June 2010



from *Behind the Log*, November 2010

Trip report

BASE CAMP: WORK PARTY AT BOGONG HIGH PLAINS 26–27 MARCH 2011

The *Melbourne Bushies* joined in with the *Friends of Bogong, Inc.* work party on the Bogong High Plains. Fifteen volunteers joined Ranger Iris and Ranger Rudi on track work. On the Saturday we worked on the *Australian Alps Walking Track* from the bridge over the aqueduct (near Wallace's Gap) for 1.5 km up towards Marm Point. We replaced the old damaged track markers with the new AAWT yellow markers, made repairs to boggy sections, re-aligned the track to minimise 'braids' (where walkers make several tracks trying to keep the boots dry with boggy sections), re-positioned the confirmation signpost and provided assistance with fallen logs, brushcutting and weed control (sallow willow). On the Sunday we tackled the first 2 kms of the Heathy Spur walking track with brushcutting, clearing fallen timber, new track markers and weed control. We enjoyed perfect autumnal weather – warm sunny days and a crisp and clear night. Ranger Iris camped with us on the Saturday night and gave a campfire update on park management issues (brumbies, foxes, weeds, deer, and tourism impacts, e.g. the new 'Wild Walks'). We also had the president of the *Victorian National Parks Association* attending and he gave an update on alpine grazing and encouraged us to attend the protest meeting at the Box Hill Town Hall on Wednesday 6th April at 7 pm.

If you enjoy bushwalking and would like to give something back, then volunteer for the next tree planting, track maintenance and/or national park work party. All good fun and good karma.

Rod Novak

Billy Buttons on the Bogong High Plains
Photo: Ken McMahon



EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

MT HOTHAM LODGE LONG WEEKEND –
JANUARY 25-29, 2012

Austen Ski Lodge at Mt Hotham is a small intimate lodge with 8 bedrooms. I fell in love with this lodge after spending a four day weekend there recently and would love to share the experience with other keen bushwalkers. We have the opportunity to have use of this lodge at a cost of \$34/\$16 per adult/child per night over summer. If we have 16 people booked we will have exclusive use of the lodge. I hope to book the lodge over the Australia Day Long Weekend (4 nights).

Walks may include the Razorback to Mt Feathertop, Dibbins–Mt Loch Circuit and the recently opened Cobungra Ditch Walk. Although each of these walks is quite strenuous there are a number of shorter walks in the area. For those who want a lay-back holiday, the ambience of the lodge is lovely, with superb views of the surrounding mountains from the balconies. We have the option of self-catering using the well-appointed kitchen, or enjoying the nearby mountain restaurants.

For further information please contact me, Halina Sarbinowski. If you are interested please advise me by the end of June, with final numbers (limited to 16) and deposits required by the end of September.



Book Review

MANAGING RISKS IN OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES. Cathy Haddock. 1993. Wellington: NZ Mountain Safety Council.

It was January and the sun was beating down. Bob parked his ute and we set off to cross the Tasman River. I was eighteen with two years experience, as innocent as the day is long. Bob, 54, had just taken up climbing. Little did I know, but in the course of that memorable day I would have a brutal introduction to rivers and hypothermia. The river bed was a kilometre wide, with braided channels, ice cold, just below the glacier. We linked arms and entered the first channel. Suddenly Bob was gone and hit a shallow just above a rapid and exited. I was left alone, thigh deep, unable to move for half an hour, then I was swept away and hit the shallow. I staggered ashore with no feeling in my legs from groin to toe. Later Bob was swept away again, but this time he floated a long way, hit shallows and stumbled out. When I reached him his speech was incoherent and he was staggering like a drunk. I stripped his clothes off and put him in a sleeping bag on the hot stones of the river bed. After a long time he came round. He had come within an ace of dying of hypothermia. Later, Bob told Dad that I had saved his life.

There is no teacher like trauma. Ever since that day I have been frightened of rivers and hypothermia. Nowadays there are books that tell you how to manage risks when you meet lethal dangers like the Tasman River. This book is one such, a scholarly work based on research findings. 'Risk' is defined as 'the potential to lose something of value. The loss may be physical, mental, social or financial'. For example, 'There is a high risk of death by hypothermia.' Risks have causes called 'dangers' which are 'perils' or 'hazards'. A peril is the source of the loss, such as lightning, and a hazard is the top of a mountain where lightning hits first. There

are three kinds of danger: people, equipment and environment. Grant Davidson has worked out how to manage risk on paper. Imagine a Bushies Sunday bus walk, Wombat Forest, July, snowing hard, 5:30 pm, nightfall is 6 pm. A party of 15 is off route. There are 8 torches and no matches. Those with torches carry on out. The other seven cannot move and have to bivouac. They do not survive the night.

Do people know that a late start is a possible hazard? That movement at night in rough country is normally impossible without a torch? Yes, people do not bring torches. I checked a party and found four people without them. The other leader didn't have one either and didn't think it was important. He should try night bushwalking without a torch! A fire can save lives and has done for millennia. And matches can start a fire. Our 'Tips for New Bushwalkers' say: '**Matches** in a waterproof container and a **torch**, especially in winter'. Note that the yellow card has left off matches. Can someone please add '**Matches** in a waterproof container'? I use a match safe.

A study of 16 years of fatal accidents found that 92% were avoidable (p 7), i.e. human error. There are three well documented social and psychological causes of risk: (1) 'risk shift' is the most common danger. This happens when the going gets tough and some people are not sure if they can manage, but the party carries on. Groups make riskier decisions than their members. (2) 'Get-home-itis'. For example, a party comes to a flooded river and their car is on the other side. They try to cross when they should camp and wait. (3) 'Familiarisation with the risk'. Chris Bonnington gives an icefall as an example. Going through one is like Russian roulette, but after a while people stop worrying about the risk.

Risk Analysis and Management System

Name: She'll B. Right. **Date:** 24 July 2011. **Activity/Situation:** Wombat Forest Walk

Analysis	Description		
Risks: Accident, injury or other loss	Death by hypothermia		
Causal factors: hazards, perils, dangers	People	Equipment	Environment
	Late start. Inexperienced leader. Inexperienced party. Party too big. Party too slow. Members failed to observe Club 'torch and matches' rule. Leader failed to check equipment & failed to disclose the risk.	No torches. No matches.	Winter snow, forest, rough terrain, altitude
Risk Management Strategies: Normal operations	Early start. Shorter trip. Leader training. Smaller parties. Check fitness. Check mandatory equipment. Disclose the risk.	Torches. Matches.	
Risk Mangmt Strategies: Emergencies	Whole party bivouacs. Light fires to warm party. Keep party awake.		

Form at: http://www.mountainsafety.org.nz/Resources/Resource_List.asp?t=1&cat=9

Book Review *(continued)*

In the Club's risk management plan the dangers are all environmental perils. There are no examples of people hazards or equipment hazards. The plan says 'extreme cold', which is odd, because extreme cold alone doesn't often cause hypothermia. It is the unholy trinity: cold, wet and wind. I had a presentation on safety at the Leaders' Night but it fell off the agenda in favour of 'how to say no'. One leader told of a party of 20 with 19 visitors! Another bus party had 29!! This is dangerous and should be stopped immediately. Of course it won't be. People have got used to it. 'As the years passed by, they accepted more and more problems, becoming blinded to the possible harmful results of their actions.' Diane Vaughan. *The Challenger Launch Decision: Risky Technology, Culture and Deviance at NASA*. The New Zealand Mountain Safety Council advises up to 12 in easier country, and not more than 20, and then 1 experienced person for every 4 inexperienced persons ('Safety in the Bush'). The *Challenger* disaster confirmed diffusion of responsibility and loss of individuality in large groups.

One other point I raised at the Leaders' Night was log books. People looked at me in puzzlement. 'Safety in the Bush' says: 'The leader should keep a daily log of times of travel, route information and campsites. In the event of an emergency, a retreat along the same route can then be made as simply as possible'. The log is also a reflective journal. I write in things I will take next time or leave behind. If I have to give evidence I can look at it in the witness box. Mine go back to 1967. If you are a student of human folly, they are a 'must read'. Still not convinced? Bill Metzenthien keeps one. I rest my case.

Finally, what did we do wrong in the Tasman River? Simple. We should never have tried to cross. No one dares. We had made history and survived.

Note that this review contains my opinions and does not reflect Club policy.

Ian Langford



WILLIS'S WALKABOUTS

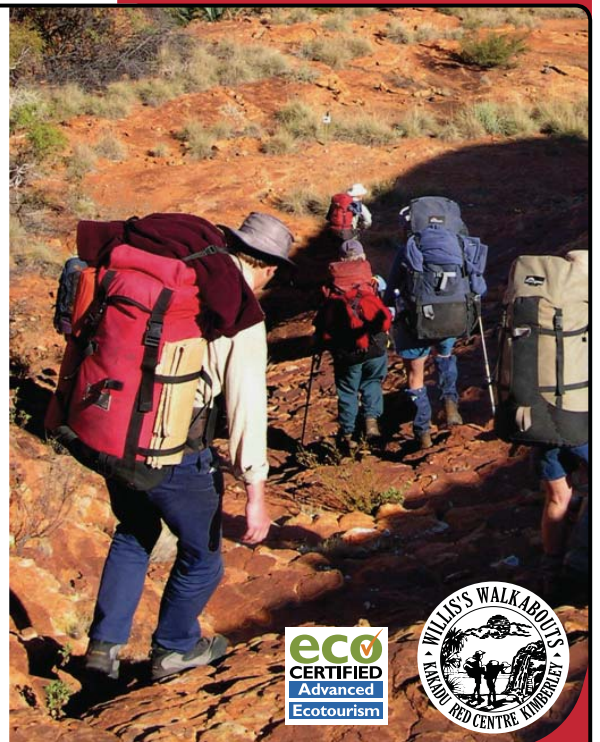
True Wilderness Trekking There is No one Else

Kakadu, Kimberley, Red Centre and more. For 25 years we have been taking people on treks unlike anything else on the market.

- **Forget trails.** Our treks are off-trail, deep into the wilderness.
- **Vehicle back up? No way!** We go where vehicles never will.
- **Too hard? Not if you are reasonably fit.** Our clients have ranged in age from 10 to 80. With today's gear and our climate, you can trek for a week or more while carrying a pack lighter than most bushwalkers would believe.

Stop and think. Would you like a holiday where

- you swim in clear tropical pools, pure enough to drink.
- you enjoy pristine camp sites you share with no one else.
- you walk for days or weeks without seeing anyone but those on your trek.
- you visit amazing Aboriginal art sites which will remain forever unknown to non-walkers.
- you relax by a campfire while your guide prepares you a three course meal.



12 Carrington St Millner NT 0810 rrwillis@internode.on.net

Phone 08 8985 2134 Fax 08 8985 2355

www.bushwalkingholidays.com.au

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



TOFS WALK

MAROONDAH DAM/DONNELLY'S WEIR

DATE	Thursday 2 June
STANDARD	Easy
DISTANCE	10–11 km
LEADER	Rosemary Cotter
TRANSPORT	Private
AREA	Healesville
MAP REF	Melway 270 K10

Meet in the grounds of the Maroondah Reservoir Park in the vicinity of the kiosk. We will start out across the dam wall and inspect the water level before following tracks to a hill top for lunch. There are a couple of steeper hills which we will take at a steady pace to suit everyone.

This hopefully will be 3rd time lucky! The first time scheduled it was cancelled because of the February bushfires in 2009, the second time on account of flooding and extremely heavy rain in December 2010.

Meet at 10:20 am adjacent to the cars, ready for a 10:30 am start. Return should be by 3–3:30 pm. Bookings can be made by contacting the leader.



DANDENONGS EXPLORER

KALORAMA TO DOONGALLA RETURN

DATE	Saturday 4th June 2011
NOTE: Date (11th) on Winter Program was incorrect.	
STANDARD	Easy-Medium
DISTANCE	13 km
LEADER(S)	Fiona Gallery
TRANSPORT	Private
AREA	Dandenongs
MAP REF	Melways 52, 66

The walk begins at 10:00 am at Five Ways in Kalorama, Melways 52J9. This is on the Mt Dandenong Tourist Road overlooking the Silvan Dam, where Ridge, Barbers and The Old Coach Roads intersect. We will walk to the Doongalla Homestead Site picnic area for lunch along fairly good tracks in front of Mt Dandenong. This is a walk that has a lot of steep ups and downs and may be slippery in places if wet. I expect to be back at the cars about 4:00. We will be having a morning tea break at the Mt Dandenong Lookout where there is a cafe for those wishing to purchase a coffee – well deserved as it is a bit of a climb to the top.



SUNDAY BUS

NEW: WERRIBEE GORGE – ISLAND LOOKOUT

DATE	Sunday 5 June
STANDARD	Easy-Medium and Medium
LEADERS	Chris Schirlinger and Liz Harris
TRANSPORT	Bus
DISTANCE	12 & 15 KM
LEADERS	Chris Schirlinger & Liz Harris
TRANSPORT	Bus
AREA	Werribee Gorge

This is a new walk which hasn't been done by the club in this form before. The route takes us to Werribee gorge along the standard gorge/aqueduct circuit through one of the most interesting geological areas in Victoria, with several fantastic rock formations some 500 million years old.

With several opportunities to stop and admire the views, we will also divert out of the gorge up to "The Island" after approximately 150 metres of steep climbing from the creek line to the flat ridge overlooking the entire gorge system.



WEDNESDAY WALK

STEIGLITZ GOLDFIELDS

DATE	Wednesday 8 June
STANDARD	Easy/Medium
DISTANCE	12 km
LEADER	Ed Neff
TRANSPORT	Private
AREA	Brisbane Ranges South
MAP REF	Melways 911 D4, Parks Victoria: Steiglitz

A pleasant circuit walk starting and finishing in Steiglitz, a once booming gold mining town. The walk commences by following Sutherland Creek and includes approximately 500 m of rock hopping before the track leaves the creek and heads through bush and open forest. There are many signs of the gold mining past including the sites and mullock heaps of several old mines. The walk finishes by walking up Regent Street which was once Steiglitz's main street. Mary will enlighten us with some tales of the Steiglitz Coffee Palace.

Meet at 10:15 am for a 10:30 start in the car park at the Steiglitz Courthouse.



BASE CAMP/CABIN TRIP

BEECHWORTH

DATE 10–13 June
STANDARD Easy and Easy-Medium
DISTANCE 10–16 km
LEADER Margaret Curry
TRANSPORT Private
AREA North East Victoria (Historic Beechworth)

Cabin accommodation for this weekend is fully booked. Camping option only now available (unpowered site for 2 people \$28 per night).

Leader will be in clubrooms Wednesday 25th May at 8:00p m (Wine & Cheese Night) for meeting with all those booked to explain walks, arrangements on weekend and organise car pooling, if possible, for travelling to Beechworth. Whether or not you are able to attend on that night I will email all participants prior to the weekend with final instructions and arrangements.

Thanks everyone for a great response!!



PACK CARRY

MT HEDRICK – AVON RIVER

DATE 11-13 June
STANDARD Easy-Medium
DISTANCE 33 km
LEADER Bob Oxlade
TRANSPORT Private
AREA Gippsland N W of Maffra
MAP REF Vicmaps 1:25,000 Ben Cruachan & Valencia Creek
 Also Rooftop's Walhalla – Woods Point – Adventure map.

The 5,700 ha Avon – Mt Hedrick Scenic Reserve is in the foothills of the Victorian Alps and includes rocky escarpments and peaks. The Avon River winds through the reserve creating beautiful gorges with a highlight being the narrow passage of The Channel.

Although on a long weekend, this is just a normal weekend 2 day walk. The preference will be to drive down at our convenience on Saturday and meet at a designated spot to camp over night at the start of the walk.

On Sunday we will begin walking at 8:00 am from about 360 m and the track passes over Mt Hedrick at 460 m and continues to a crossing of the Avon River at 90 m. We then have a gentle climb of about 240 m before descending on and off track (could be a bit rough) to a river campsite about 8 km downstream from our crossing. About 18 km today.

On Monday we follow the Avon River walking track upstream, viewing The Channel on the way, and expect to leave the river about 1.5 km prior to yesterday's crossing to return to the cars. It could be about 15 km today.

I am not aware of the club having done a pack carry in this area before which I think will be an interesting experience. If interested to come along see me in the Clubroom.



SUNDAY WALK

NEW: LAKE WENDOUREE/MT BUNINYONG

DATE Sunday 12 June
STANDARD Easy
DISTANCE 14 km
LEADER Halina Sarbinowski
TRANSPORT Carpool from Southbank Boulevard
AREA Ballarat & Surrounds
MAP REF 1:25,000 Yendon
CARPOOL COST \$20.00

After visiting the Ballarat area several times during the drought it was a pleasure to see how Lake Wendouree has blossomed from a desolate dust bowl to a thriving wetland after recent rains. We'll start the 6 km circuit of the lake near the kiosk opposite the botanical gardens. The lake circuit is an easy, enjoyable walk that will not take too long, so after doing the circuit I hope to explore the botanical gardens then enjoy a picnic lunch close to the cars before heading off to Buninyong for the 2nd half of this walk.

Mt Buninyong is an extinct volcano complete with craters. Our walk will follow country lanes and walking tracks, passing a number of craters till we reach its peak, a great spot for afternoon tea with its high lookout tower which gives excellent panoramic views of the surrounding area. Hopefully after descending back to the cars we will have time to visit Buninyong, settled in the 1840s and the first inland settlement in Victoria. Buninyong has a number of substantial buildings and fine gardens to attest to its past.



CYCLING



WESTGATE BICYCLE PUNT AND MARIBYRNONG RIVER

DATE Sat 18 June
STANDARD Easy-Medium
DISTANCE 45 km
LEADER Mark Heath
AREA Melbourne
MAP REF Melway

An above average ride that passes through iconic Moonee Ponds, visits a little known Walter Burley Griffin design, lunches in charming Williamstown and returns via the bicycle punt.

We meet on the concourse at the north end of Southern Cross Station at 10 am before riding through Docklands to the Moonee Ponds trail. We head up this trail then ride west to through Moonee Ponds to pick up the trail that runs along the Maribyrnong River. We follow the river to Williamstown for lunch before returning to Spotswood, where the the Bicycle Punt (\$3) will take us to Fishermans Bend before heading back to Southern Cross via Port Melbourne.



SUNDAY BUS

TRENTHAM–BLACKWOOD (VIA BLUE MOUNTAIN)

DATE	19 June 2011
STANDARD	Easy and Easy medium
DISTANCE	15 km and 18 km
LEADERS	Fay Dunn and Ian Mair
TRANSPORT	Sunday bus
AREA	Trentham
MAP REF	Vicmap Trentham

The easy walk leaves Trentham on the Blue Mountain Road and heads up towards Blue Mountain but skirts around the lower levels, whilst the E/M walk crosses over Blue Mountain. The area is a former gold mining area with disused mines and the ground can be uneven. Both walks contain some hills but the steepest are reserved for the E/M walk. The walk has not been fully reviewed at the time of going to press and more information will be available from the leaders in the clubrooms prior to the walk.



MOFS WALK

COLIBAN AQUEDUCT/FRYERS CREEK FOREST

DATE	Monday 20 June
STANDARD	Easy
DISTANCE	10 km
LEADER	Alister Rowe
TRANSPORT	Private
AREA	Taradale
MAP REF	Melway X909

Turn left off the Calder Freeway to Malmsbury then continue 6 km north to Taradale. Meet there by 10:30 am in the picnic reserve on the right in the centre of town.

We will walk along the aqueduct and return through the forest. It's an easy walk with very good scenic values.

Left: Atop the Cathedral Range. Photo: Chris Schirlinger
Right: Power Magazine, Mclvor Range. Photo: Ian Mair



SOCIAL WALK

ALPHINGTON PARK/YARRA BEND PARK

DATE	Thursday 23 June
STANDARD	Easy
DISTANCE	5 km
LEADER	Jean Giese
TRANSPORT	Private
AREA	Fairfield, Yarra Bend
MAP REF	Melway 30 & 31

Our walk will be on a foot track following the Yarra River upstream and around the Alphington wetlands before returning on the south side of the river. We'll cross the pipeline bridge and lunch at the Boat House Café. There will be a 1 km walk back to the cars after lunch.

The track is eroded in places so bring your sticks.

Meet at 10:30 am at the river end of Alphington Street (Melway 31 A12).



SUNDAY WALK

SUGARLOAF AND ANTIMONY MINE SITE (PYRETE RANGE)

DATE	26 June 2011
STANDARD	Easy/Medium
DISTANCE	12 km
LEADER	Roy Rossebo
TRANSPORT	Carpool from Southbank Boulevard
AREA	Pyrete Range
MAP REF	1:25,000 Toolern Vale and Bullengarook
CARPOOL COST	\$10.50

Although we have walked the Pyrete Range in the past this is a new route for Melbourne Bushies and we have to thank the Waverley Bushwalking Club for publishing this route in its 20th Anniversary Booklet (WBC20).

The walk is in the southern part of the Pyrete Range section of Lerderderg State Park. The track leads to Mt Sugarloaf with great views and interesting vegetation. During a return trip, a side track is taken to view and explore relics of a historic antimony mine site which dates from 1872 to 1947.

Although close to Melbourne the appeal of the area is its relatively unspoilt character, the feeling of 'getting away from it all' with the few tracks, interesting terrain, a historical site and great views at the higher elevations.



Bus transport meets at Southbank Boulevard, south side of the Arts Centre, before 8:30 am. Leader or deputy will be there rain, hail or shine!

JUNE 2011				
Thu 2	TOFS: Maroondah Dam/Donnelly's Weir	Private	Easy	Rosemary Cotter
Sat 4	Kalorama to Doongalla Return NOTE: 4th June, not 11th as in Winter Program	Private	E/M	Fiona Gallery
Sun 5	NEW: Werribee Gorge – Island Lookout	Bus	E/M & M	Chris Schirlinger and Liz Harris
Wed 8	Steiglitz Goldfields	Private	E/M	Ed Neff
10–13	Base Camp: Beechworth Base Camp/Cabin Trip	Private	E/M	Margaret Curry
11–13	Pack Carry: Mt Hedrick – Avon River	Private	E/M	Bob Oxlade
Sun 12	NEW: Lake Wendouree/Mt Buninyong	Car	Easy	Halina Sarbinowski
Sat 18	Cycling: Moonee Ponds and Maribyrnong River Trails	Private	E/M	Mark Heath
Sun 19	Trentham–Blackwood (via Blue Mountain)	Bus	E/M & E	Fay Dunn & Ian Mair
Mon 20	MOFS: Coliban Aqueduct/Fryers Creek Forest	Private	Easy	Alister Rowe
Thu 23	Alphington Park/Yarra Bend Park (Social Walk)	Private	Easy	Jean Giese
Sun 26	Sugarloaf and Antimony Mine Site (Pyrete Range)	Car	E/M	Roy Rossebo

The News of the Melbourne Bushwalkers
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	Mobile:		Work:
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2011 SUBSCRIPTION INFORMATION			
Ordinary:	Single \$45/\$55* Couple/family \$72/\$82*	Tick if address details are NOT to be published in the membership listing issued to Members only	
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