



THE NEWS OF THE Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc.

60 cents

SEPTEMBER 2011

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

We are now into our Spring Program with numerous activities on offer to entice members to participate, whether it be walking or a social occasion. A highlight social activity this month is our 'Fashion Parade' run in conjunction with the Cancer Shop. Our own members will be the models so come along and see some 'sun smart' fashions.

Members are encouraged to submit photos taken on walks or other club activities. Guidelines for submission are on the website under 'Downloads' and are very easy to follow. This facility is a great asset for our club and you are invited to peruse past trips under the 'Photogallery' tab on the website.

We had 21 people attend the First Aid Training Day on 6th August and it is encouraging to see our members update their skills in this area. Our own club as well as Bushwalking Victoria subsidise this activity and a course is scheduled on an annual basis.

Federation Day on Sunday 23 October is getting closer. Walks will be held on the Mornington Peninsula. Full details in the Newsletter, page 4. Registrations open 1 August and close on 23 September. Don't miss out!!

A reminder regarding 'Green Walks in the Park' project. 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 newsletter 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.

Happy walking!

MARGARET CURRY

REMINDERS!!!

Personal Health Details Card

A green 'Personal Health Details Card' was distributed to members some time ago and is provided to visitors when making contact with the club. All members should complete the details on this card and carry it with them at all times when participating in Club activities as it will assist greatly in any emergency situation.

If you have mislaid or require a new card to complete, please contact any committee member in the clubrooms.

Compulsory for a Leader to carry a first aid kit

A reminder that it is compulsory for all leaders to carry a first aid kit when leading a walk with Melbourne Bushwalkers.

Whistles

Members, and particularly leaders and whips, should always carry a whistle with them on club walks. The code when using a whistle is (1 blast – acknowledge, 2 blasts – stop and regroup, 3 blasts – EMERGENCY).

As you all know, bushwalking is an adventure activity, members need to be prepared and be aware of the risks. Ensure your health and fitness is suitable for the activity and inform your leader of any condition or disability that may affect your ability to safely participate.

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 October News, the closing date is 21 September.

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 3 OCTOBER

VICWALK TRACK MAINTENANCE PROGRAM

Sun 14 August – Yarra Ranges NP

We will work on the Goldfields walking track at McMahons Creek (near Warburton), which has been closed since early 2009. The walk provides superb scenery close to Melbourne with a huge amount of historic content. We want the track re-opened. Please give some of your time to assist so that the track can be re-opened. Tasks will vary from the very easy to a moderate workout, but will be enjoyed by all. Bring your lunch, water and your friends. For all activities, contact Steve Robertson for details and if you want to attend – srob7859@bigpond.net.au.

Sun 16 October – Big Tree/Cora Lyn

19–20 November (tentative) –
Wilson's Promontory

Date to be determined –
Freemans Mill and East Alps

From *Bushwalking News Victoria*, August 2011

FROM THE EDITOR

Thanks to all those who provided feedback on the font used for News. Most people preferred the sans serif font, so that's what I'm going with.

David Laing also said that it's hard to read 2-column format on the computer, so I've changed that where possible. Only this page and the walks previews pages are still in two columns.

Merilyn Whimpey



MEMBERSHIP

We welcome the following new members to the Club:

| | |
|-------------------|------------------|
| Alwin Loubser | Emma Strachan |
| Frauke Ruether | Jeremy Halstead |
| Anthony Appleyard | Denise Lewis |
| Michelle James | Eunran Kim |
| Leslie Stranger | Christina Hughes |

SOCIAL COLUMN

SEPTEMBER

WEDNESDAY, 7 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 at 8 pm.

Members will be modelling this summers season' new tops, sunnies and accessories. You can be both a sun smart and 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 for a \$4 donation.

WEDNESDAY, 28 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 26 OCTOBER

Dr Bill Birch from Museum Victoria has been invited to give a presentation on Victoria's volcanoes. Bill is the Senior Curator of Geosciences at the museum.

We have climbed them, camped by them and even lived on top of them. Now we can have it all explained to us. Commences at 8 pm with time for questions at the end.

This is a wine and cheese night, too.

NOVEMBER

During the month of November MBW will be on display at the East Malvern Library. We have been invited to use their display case at the Rob Roy Road location. Do drop in.

WEDNESDAY, 16 NOVEMBER

An exclusive conducted tour (commencing at midday) has been organised at Maranoa Gardens, Balwyn, to be followed by a picnic.

Started in 1901 as a private garden, it was unusual in its day as it was devoted entirely to Australasian plants. Located at Kireep Road, the adjoining Beckett Park is the site of our picnic.

Book with Susan Maughan.

WEDNESDAY, 23 NOVEMBER

Another invited speaker, this time on the subject of bushrangers! This promises to be very informative and entertaining, as our guest is quite the Thespian. Also wine and cheese night.

FRIDAY, 25 NOVEMBER

A social walk through our wonderful gardens followed by dinner in Prahan.

Meet on the steps at Flinders Street Station at 6:30 pm. We will meander through the Botanic Gardens, visit Guilfoyle's volcano, and cross Fawkner Park.

Involves a quiz! When booking, let me know if you are just doing the walk, dining, or both.

NOTE: You'll need to catch a tram back to Flinders Street.

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, 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 (info@catholicwalkingclub.vic.org.au) 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.

If you have any questions, either email me on michaeljmurray1@optusnet.com.au

Michael Murray
Federation Day Club Coordinator

WILLIS'S WALKABOUTS

Build Up

Bushwalking

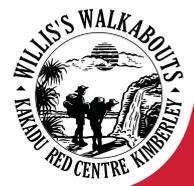
The most **dramatic** season of all!

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

CONSERVATION MATTERS

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* (my emphasis) 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 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 listing 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.

Grampians

Many walking tracks are still closed from the earlier storm damage. Check Parks Victoria for the latest updates.

Wilson's Prom

A Trails Strategy and Park Re-opening Plan is currently being drafted based on engineering reports on the storm damage. Some tracks will be able to be open relatively quickly in readiness for peak season re-opening. However some tracks have sustained significant damage and are likely to be closed for an extended period. Friends of the Prom have scheduled volunteer working bees for September to November. For more information contact Deborah Henry (Hon. Sec. FOTP) at info@friendsoftheprom.org.au.

Alpine National Park

The Victorian, ACT and NSW governments have all supported the nomination of the Alps for World Heritage status.

Rod Novak
club delegate to BV Environment Committee

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 mycurry@bigpond.com or Erica Gurner, Project Officer with Bushwalking Victoria on gw@bushwalkingvictoria.org.au. Further information is available on request.

SUNDAY STATISTICS QUARTER 2 – 2010 AND 2011

| Week | SUNDAY WALKS | | | | | |
|---|--------------|------------------------------------|-------------|------------------------------------|--------------|-------------|
| | 2010 | | 2011 | | | |
| | Total | Visitors (temporary members) | Total | Visitors (temporary members) | | |
| 1 | * | 16 | 5 | 50 | 15 | |
| 2 | | 45 | 9 | * | 15 | 3 |
| 3 | | 43 | 5 | | 28 | 5 |
| 4 | * | 22 | 4 | * | 10 | 3 |
| 5 | | 43 | 4 | | 39 | 10 |
| 6 | * | 20 | 4 | * | 18 | 7 |
| 7 | | 55 | 14 | | 42 | 9 |
| 8 | * | 29 | 11 | * | 8 | 0 |
| 9 | | 42 | 5 | | 52 | 20 |
| 10 | | 39 | 15 | | 36 | 7 |
| 11 | * | 11 | 0 | * | 20 | 4 |
| 12 | | 43 | 7 | | 41 | 10 |
| 13 | * | 33 | 8 | * | 22 | 7 |
| Total | | 441 | 91 | | 381 | 100 |
| Bus | | 310 | 59 | | 288 | 76 |
| Car Pool | * | 131 | 32 | * | 93 | 24 |
| Average | | 36.75 | 7.58 | | 34.64 | 9.09 |
| Visitors (temporary members) % | | | 21% | | | 26% |

* indicate car pool walks.

N.B. Bus/Car Pool Walks are not run on alternate weeks. It is important to check the walks program.

WANTED (Actually needed) ASSISTANT SUNDAY WALKS SECRETARY

Firstly I would like to thank Del Franks, my right hand since I commenced my position as Sunday Walks Secretary, for her constant and invaluable support.

Thank you so very much, Del.

This is a role that you can make as big or as small as you like. The minimum is sending a monthly reminder to Sunday leaders of deadlines for the newsletter ... something that I am highly remiss in doing.

The role can also allow you to choose the walks on our programs, to encourage new leaders, to participate in bookings, etc. etc. etc.

If you are interested in supporting the Sunday Walks Program please contact me to discuss over a latte.

Halina Sarbinowski – Sunday Walks Secretary.

PACK CARRY EMAIL LIST: ARE YOU ON IT?



Photo taken by
Deborah Shand
or
Bob Oxlade

Spring has arrived, days are getting longer and warmer and our favourite pack carry areas will once again start to appear on the program. As we get into later spring the beautiful alpine areas with their wildflowers come on stream. We are coming into pack carry season. If you are already a pack carry walker, interested in possibly going on a pack carry trip or just interested to hear what's going on, you are invited to join the pack carry email list. Currently there are 54 on the list.

The purpose of the list is to enable easy communication from me as pack carry co-ordinator to you about anything to do with the club's pack carry program. This includes planning the next quarterly program, advising of any changes to the existing program, circulating previews that may not have made it into the *News*, etc. Any leader who wants to get a message out about his or her trip can email it to me and I will forward it on to the list.

If you currently receive occasional emails from me re pack carrying, then you are already on the list. If you would like to be added to the list, simply send me an email at jopiebodegraven@iprimus.com.au asking to be put on. If you are on the list but would prefer not to be, then tell me that by email and I will remove you from it.

Jopie Bodegraven (pack carry co-ordinator)

PURCHASE A PAIR OF GABEL WALKING POLES FOR \$49.95



Bushwalking Victoria has access to a limited stock of genuine Gabel walking poles to offer for sale at a bargain price of \$49.95 per pair.

The benefits of high quality walking poles is well known. They offer walkers support, reduce fatigue and provide more points of contact with the ground. Gabel walking poles are made in Italy from the same high quality aluminium as aircraft. Gabel poles are world renowned for their lightweight yet sturdy construction. All Gabel poles offered are telescopic so that they can be adjusted not only to your optimum height, but also to suit the walking terrain.

The poles available for sale are:

Gabel X Lander – Weight 223 grams – Length 63–143 cm

Gabel Explorer – Weight 241 grams – Length 66–141 cm

Gabel New Art – Weight 240 grams – Length 63–143 cm (prominent butterfly or alpine design)

Gabel Mont Blanc – Weight 260 grams – Length 66–145 cm

Proceeds from this special fund raising will go to supporting the activities of Bushwalking Victoria. Orders can only be made using the order form available from the Bushwalking Victoria website at www.bushwalkingvictoria.org.au/forms/gabelpoles.doc. Poles must be collected from Bushwalking Victoria. Additional charges will apply where orders cannot be collected. All poles are sold on a strictly first come first served basis. As stocks are limited of some pole varieties, indicate your second or third preference or state that you wish to have your order cancelled.

Extract from Bushwalking News Victoria – August 2011

LEADERS REQUIRED – TRACKS AND CONSERVATION TRIPS

1. Falls Creek/Bogong High Plains – a Bushwalking Victoria arranged event for January 2012 helping the Rangers with alpine ecology projects. A leader needed to promote and assist with car pooling. Bunkhouse accommodation and some meals provided for the participants.
2. Grampians NP – assisting the 'Grampians Walking Tracks Support Group' and Rangers with track maintenance. The Grampians has been severely affected by the recent storms and flood damage. A base camp activity. Our club has been very active for the past 10+ years but now needs a new leader.
3. Wilson's Prom NP – assisting the 'Friends of the Prom' and Rangers with track work and ecology projects. A base camp activity. The Prom has been severely affected by storm and flood damage.
4. BV Track Maintenance Group – have regular activities but are often arranged after our quarterly program goes to press (due to Ranger availability). Mark Heath has a regular notice on page 2 of *The News* for these events (many thanks Mark). Organised by BV but needs a Melb Bushie to help promote and organise car pooling.

For further information please contact Rod Novak at rodnovak@gmail.com.

As the official bushwalking representative on the Kakadu Tourism Consultative Committee, I felt I needed to contact as many clubs as possible as what happens in Kakadu may flow on to other parks around Australia.

KAKADU BUSHWALKING REVIEW

This has been coming for years. Now it is finally underway.

Have your say.

This is the most important item which I have ever sent out.

Kakadu is Australia's largest national park. It was the first park to be owned and jointly managed by the Aboriginal traditional owners. More and more parks around the country are going to joint management. What happens in Kakadu will set a precedent for all jointly managed parks throughout Australia. If you have ever been to Kakadu, think you might ever go to Kakadu, or think your children or grandchildren might ever want to visit Kakadu, it is important to have your say. The review applies to everything from short walks of an hour or less to three week expeditions.

Bushwalking in Kakadu is currently restricted to a few specific routes. While some of the traditional owners would like to see it opened up a bit, others would like to see it restricted even more. There are even some who would like to see overnight bushwalks banned entirely. For those who are interested, I have prepared a short paper about the history of bushwalking in Kakadu. See www.bushwalkingholidays.com.au/pdf/buwwalk_history_2011.pdf.

Please encourage your members to go to the Kakadu Bushwalking Survey at www.surveymonkey.com/s/NCKRRN3 and fill it in. Most people will be able to finish it in ten minutes or less. A few who have had particular experiences might take half an hour.

If few people take the time to fill in the questionnaire, it will be assumed that most people don't care. Please help! Your response will help ensure that bushwalking in Kakadu has a real future.

There are a few interesting questions which were unable to be included in the main questionnaire. If you ever had a problem obtaining a permit to do a walk in Kakadu, please send an email to walkabout@bushwalkingholidays.com.au. If I can collect enough information about permit problems, it might help improve things in the future.

Finally, I put out a free email newsletter on an irregular basis. You can see the current one at www.bushwalkingholidays.com.au/newsletter55.htm. It contains short articles on things like the future of national parks in Australia, photography, our changing weather and much more. There are already 2000 people who subscribe. I'd welcome anyone else who might be interested. If you sign up, you can opt out at any time.

I hope that you and/or some of your club members will be able to help.

Regards,

Russell Willis

Willis's Walkabouts Bushwalking Tours

Founding member & past president, Darwin Bushwalking Club

MELBOURNE WALKING CLUB PIONEERS OF BUSHWALKING

**An exhibition at the Royal Historical Society of Victoria
From 12 October to 9 December 2011**

The first real bushwalking club in Australia started in 1894 as the Melbourne Amateur Walking and Touring Club that later became the Melbourne Walking Club. The club still exists and a few years ago it donated some of its archives to the Royal Historical Society of Victoria. This exhibition draws on that material to show the history of the Melbourne Walking Club and some of the remarkable achievements of its members. Although not a comprehensive history of bushwalking, it also shows the development of bushwalking in Victoria.

Over its history the club has included many bushwalking enthusiasts and the exhibition demonstrates this enthusiasm.

They walked in the Victorian Alps when there were no maps for walkers – so they made their own hand drawn maps. These show long gone places such as McVeigh's Hotel on Walsh's Creek and the sawmills near Warburton.

For over 60 years they published *The Melbourne Walker* each year. It is a fascinating collection of articles about long forgotten places, bush personalities and the history of bushwalking.

Other publications include a booklet on map making, notes on equipment and food to take on walks and a booklet on walks near Melbourne.

The archives include a fascinating set of photo albums and lantern slides showing people and places going back to the early 20th century. These will illustrate the various themes of the exhibition.

Many of their extended Christmas and Easter trips were done with packhorses and were guided by local cattlemen. One trip went from Mansfield to Bright via Mt Buller, Mt Howitt, Dargo High Plains and Mt Hotham.

Club members helped found the Victorian Federation of Walking Clubs (now Bushwalking Victoria), were active in search and rescue efforts for lost walkers and were advocates for conservation issues.

The exhibition is highly recommended for bushwalkers of all levels of experience.



POSSUM TRACKS AND FISH TRAPS

I have become involved with an Aboriginal community in Western Victoria who invite non indigenous people to their community to learn of their history and way of life. Possum Clarke-Ugle and others of the Waark Community lead walks and talks in the Framlingham area (25 km from Warrnambool) and welcome visitors with traditional song and dance. The Framlingham area is rich in archaeological history, such as the fish traps of Lake Condor, and Possum is an engaging and enthusiastic leader. The Waark community have been offering cultural events to schools for several years and are now extending these to the wider community. The aim of the events is to promote understanding and trust between indigenous and non indigenous people.

A weekend is planned for mid October when the weather should be good and the wild flowers at their best. If you are interested please contact me at faydunn@iprimus.com.au for more information. There is a small cost for the weekend and use of facilities.

Fay Dunn

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



SATURDAY WALK

DANDENONGS EXPLORER

| | |
|-------------------|-----------------------------------|
| DATE | Saturday 24 September 2011 |
| STANDARD | Easy |
| DISTANCE | 11 km |
| ELEVATIONS | Minimal |
| LEADER | Maureen Hurley |
| TRANSPORT | Private |
| AREA | Dandenong Ranges |

We will meet at the Falls Road Car Park (opposite the Rhododendron Gardens), Melways 66 J5. This is a pleasant walk which skirts the Rhododendron Gardens and Olinda Golf Course. The rhododendrons should be in bloom. We will enjoy a coffee afterwards.



SUNDAY BUS

WONTHAGGI COAL MINES AND HEATHLANDS

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| DATE | Sunday 25 September 2011 |
| STANDARD | Easy & Easy/Medium |
| DISTANCE | 11 km & 14 km |
| ELEVATIONS | Minimal |
| LEADERS | Halina Sarbinowski and Ian Mair |
| TRANSPORT | Bus – Leaving Southbank Blvd at 8:45 am |
| AREA | Wonthaggi |

Tours of the Wonthaggi State Coal Mine are run by volunteers. The above ground tour costs a gold coin donation and the below ground tour costs \$10. The first part of these walks is to participate in one of these tours. On the preview we did the above ground tour which only whetted our appetite to go underground. The volunteers of Wonthaggi State Coal Mine have offered to run extra tours to accommodate our walkers so that after the tours we have time to explore the Wonthaggi State Coal Mine Historic Reserve and the Wonthaggi Heathlands. (If you don't want to participate in a tour of the Coal Mine bring a book as tours last about 1 hour 15 minutes each.)

After the Wonthaggi State Coal Mine tours we will return to Wonthaggi and explore the Coal Mine Historic Reserve. The E/M group will walk through the Baxter Wetlands and pass the Wonthaggi Wind Farm to Baxter Beach. We will follow a short stretch of beach before heading inland to walk through the Wonthaggi Heathlands then drop down to Harmers Haven. From Harmers Haven another short stretch of this dramatic coast line will be followed along Wreck Beach before we again head inland to meet the bus at Coal Creek.

The Easy group will also explore the Coal Mine Historic Reserve but will take an inland route via the Baxter Wetlands to the Wonthaggi Heathlands. This group will also go to Harmers Haven and Wreck Beach to meet the bus at Coal Creek.

Neither walk is difficult but what makes these walks special is the tours at the Coal Mine. Many of the benefits we enjoy today were won by the miners in this area ... the reason why will amaze you.



PACK CARRY

LEANGANOOK TRACK

| | |
|------------------|---|
| DATE | 30 September–2 October 2011 |
| STANDARD | Easy |
| DISTANCE | 33 km |
| LEADER | Bob Oxlade |
| TRANSPORT | Private |
| AREA | Castlemaine–Bendigo |
| MAP REF | The Great Dividing Trail–Leanganook Track Brochure |
| | Vicmap Barker 7724-2-3 1:25,000 |

THESE ARE THE CORRECT DATES FOR THE WALK.

The Leanganook Track, completed in 2003, is one of the four Great Dividing Trail Tracks which link Bacchus Marsh and Ballarat through Daylesford to Bendigo. In recent years we have had several pack carries along the Trail, including one through to Mount Alexander, and this one will complete the track to Bendigo.

We will begin from Mount Alexander with nice views and descend to follow the Coliban Water Channel through to Bendigo. This channel, completed in 1877, diverted water from the Coliban River, south of Malmsbury, to serve Bendigo. There are over 20 reservoirs and more than 500 km of channel in the system which is registered under the Victorian Heritage Act and has several interesting engineering features that we will pass by. Our walk will finish through the Bendigo Regional Park at Diamond Hill historic gold mining area. Although not spectacular alpine scenery, this should be an interesting walk and an easy pack carry, although it could be offset a little by maybe having to carry some extra water. This will not bother those with light packs.

If interested please see me in the clubrooms

– Bob Oxlade.



SUNDAY WALK

BARWON RIVER – BUCKLEY FALLS

| | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| DATE | Sunday 2 October 2011 |
| STANDARD | Easy |
| DISTANCE | 16 km |
| LEADER | Stuart Hanham |
| TRANSPORT | Car – Southbank Boulevard, 8:45 am |
| AREA | Geelong |
| MAP REF | Melway map 450, 451 |
| TRANSPORT COSTS (per person) | \$12 |

Starting at Fyansford Common on the western fringe of Geelong, this semi-urban walk heads upstream along the Barwon River, to two lookouts overlooking the beautiful river valley. We will follow a long water race designed to power a waterwheel at the 1877 Buckley Falls Paper Mill. Heading downstream, we'll climb to a spectacular viewpoint above Queen's Park, before entering a gorge overlooked by impressive mansions. A stop at the peaceful Balyang Sanctuary should reveal plenty of birdlife. The highlight of the walk is the dramatic view of Buckley Falls and the historic mill, with its own waterfall. We may even see canoeists practising in the rapids in this area.



TOFS WALK

SUGARLOAF RESERVE

| | |
|------------------|-------------------------|
| DATE | Thursday 6 October 2011 |
| STANDARD | Easy |
| DISTANCE | 11 km |
| LEADER | Alister Rowe |
| TRANSPORT | Private |
| AREA | Christmas Hills |
| MAP REF | Melway 273 B2 |

Meet at 10.30 AM in the Ridge Picnic Area near the entrance to the Park (Melway 273 B2).

We'll walk clockwise around the reservoir to finish at the Saddle Dam Picnic Area then do a car shuffle to eliminate the long walk back to the Ridge Picnic Area. On a nice day this is one of the most scenic walks close to Melbourne. We could have afternoon tea at the Watsons Creek Antiques Café (Melway 272 C5).



CYCLING

KORUMBURRA BASE CAMP

| | |
|------------------|------------------|
| DATE | 8–9 October 2011 |
| STANDARD | Medium (hilly) |
| LEADER | Jopie Bodegraven |
| TRANSPORT | Private |
| AREA | South Gippsland |

This will be a weekend of cycling in the beautiful rolling green hills of South Gippsland with high ridges and views a-plenty. It's God's own country and hopefully she will also give us beautiful weather to complement it.

It will be an easy Saturday morning start at Loch, camping or on-site cabins at the Korumburra Tourist Park Saturday night and Saturday night dinner at the Austral Hotel.

Saturday will be a 58 km all sealed circuit, starting with a 2 km car shuffle to reduce the climbing by 100 m to only 750 m for the day. Some of the toughies may opt to ride this segment too. Both morning tea and a late lunch will be at Poowong with coffees etc. available. We could have lunch earlier by the roadside if we konk out. Sunday is 64 km of which a 10 km section is OK gravel suitable for normal road bikes plus 760 m of ups. There will be a 4 km car shuffle but the toughies can ignore this and do this 4 km plus the extra 260 vertical metres that the shuffle would eliminate. There are no shops for morning tea but lunch, probably lateish again, will be in Korumburra where we could probably find a coffee.

Our meeting point will be at the main intersection in Loch Village at 9:30 am. There are a bakery and coffee shop for the early arrivers. There will be ample camping space at the Tourist Park but if you wish to stay in a cabin you will need to book that yourself on 5655 2326. Let me know if you would like to share a cabin (and if you snore) so I can rationalise it a bit.

So join me for a beaut 2 days of blissful (but a bit hilly) pedal pushing.



SUNDAY BUS

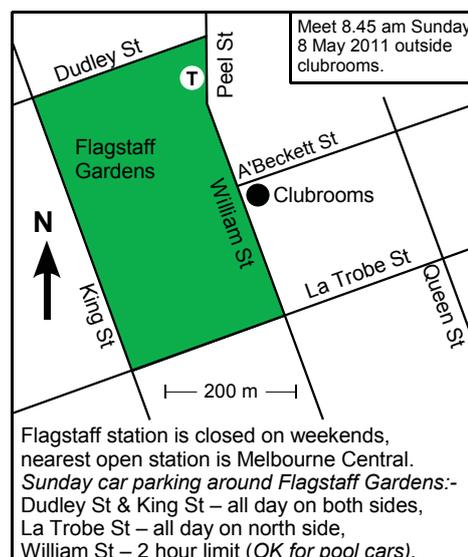
YEA SPUR (ALTERNATIVE DEPARTURE POINT)

| | |
|------------------|---|
| DATE | Sunday 9 October 2011 |
| STANDARD | Easy and Easy/Medium |
| LEADERS | Sue Haviland and Kerry McKeand |
| TRANSPORT | Alternative departure point – clubrooms (William St) at 8:45 am |
| AREA | Southwest of Yea |
| MAP REF | Homewood 1:25,00, Flowerdale 1:25,000 |

The walk along the Yea Spur south west of Yea has great views of the Goulburn River valley and nearby ranges, especially at the lunch spot at Junction Ridge. Previous walkers have reported seeing wildlife such as eagles, echidnas and koalas. There is a climb of about 300 m up to the spur for the easy medium walk. Some of the walk is on private land. The ridge is exposed, so walkers need to be prepared for the (unlikely) possibility of bad weather. Both walks end on the Yea–Whittlesea Rd.

ALTERNATIVE DEPARTURE POINT FOR SUNDAY WALKS OPPOSITE CLUBROOM

When advised, the alternative departure point for Sunday walks noted on the walks program and in previews will be at the bus stop on the northern corner of A'Beckett Street and William Street, opposite the clubrooms at the Royal Historical Society building.





WEDNESDAY WALK

MAROONDAH DAM/DONNELLY'S WEIR

| | |
|------------------|---|
| DATE | Wednesday 12 October 2011 |
| STANDARD | Easy |
| DISTANCE | 13 km |
| ELEVATION | Minimal |
| LEADER | Margaret Curry |
| TRANSPORT | Private |
| AREA | Healesville |
| MAP REF | Melways 270:K10, Vicmap Juliet South |

A pleasant walk taking in part of Maroondah Reservoir and gardens, then walking past the Mount Monda Track to pick up the disused Maroondah Aqueduct, following it into Donnelly's Weir where there is a picnic shelter and toilets. We walk briefly on the Bicentennial National Trail before returning to the weir for lunch. Hobby farms are sighted as we walk through open forest and climb Henderson Hill to reach the park area at the foot of the Reservoir. One creek crossing where we may get wet feet and two steep hills to get the heart beats going. We will meet in the main carpark at Maroondah Reservoir below the Ranger's Office at 10:15 am for a 10:30 am start.



BASE CAMP

GREATER BENDIGO NP

| | |
|------------------|----------------------------|
| DATE | 14–16 October 2011 |
| STANDARD | E/M |
| DISTANCE | Variable |
| LEADER(S) | Rosemary Cotter |
| TRANSPORT | Private car |
| AREA | Mandurang/One Tree Hill NP |
| MAP REF | TBA |

It is some years since we had a walk with members of the Bendigo Bushwalking–Outdoor Club (BBOC) and full details for this weekend have yet to be finalised. We plan to explore Mandurang/One Tree Hill on the Saturday, and Crusoe and No 7 Reservoir Park, together with historical relics of engineering for water supply to the fledgling gold town of Sandhurst on the Sunday. The walks will not be long as there will be emphasis on flowers and bird spotting.

There is also the opportunity to attend a Bush Dance on the Saturday night (with the Emu Creek Bush Band), so come along for a fun relaxing weekend.



Lerderderg Gorge
Photo by Bob Oxlade



PACK CARRY

TAMBORITHA SADDLE – THE CRINOLINE

| | |
|------------------|--|
| DATE | 14–16 October 2011 |
| STANDARD | Medium |
| DISTANCE | Approx 24 km |
| LEADER(S) | Roger Wyett |
| TRANSPORT | Carpool |
| AREA | North of Licola |
| MAP REF | Buller–Howitt Alpine Area 1:50,000 1st Ed Outdoor Rec Guide |

At this stage I have not been able to preview this walk, and walkers will have to be prepared for some 'navigational latitude' as we head off from Tamboritha Saddle for approximately 14 km to a camp site below The Crinoline. The Sunday will be the final ascent then a steep descent to Breakfast Creek, and a car shuffle before heading back.

Only experienced walkers, equipped for alpine conditions.



SUNDAY BUS

LERDERDERG RIVER – BLACKWOOD

| | |
|------------------|---|
| DATE | Sunday 16 October 2011 |
| STANDARD | Easy/Medium and Medium |
| DISTANCE | 15 km and 18 km |
| LEADERS | Chris Schirlinger and Michael Murray |
| TRANSPORT | Bus – Leaving Southbank Blvd at 8:45 am |
| AREA | Lerderderg State Park |
| MAP REF | Map 26 – Lerderderg (Meridian Wombat State Forest Touring Guide) |

A pleasant walk around the north west area of the Lerderderg State park, starting near Shaws Lake and down towards the old river diversion tunnel near O'Briens crossing.

There are some steep ascents and interesting paths along the (now) full rivers and a few off track sections for the harder group. The Medium group's planned route will hopefully take a more challenging off-track path along the river beyond the point where the Easy/Medium group turns back.

There should even be time to dip a toe or two in the river if the feeling takes you!



Colourful fungi – maybe *Cortinarius archeri*
Photo by Max Casley



MOFS WALK

MT DONNA BUANG, MT VICTORIA RANGE

| | |
|------------------|--------------------------------------|
| DATE | Monday 17 October 2011 |
| STANDARD | Easy |
| DISTANCE | 10 km |
| LEADER | Jean Giese |
| TRANSPORT | Private |
| AREA | Yarra Ranges National park |
| MAP REF | Juliet South 1:25,000 and Melway 612 |

This walk through majestic Mountain Ash and Myrtle Beech forest will include the elevated 'Rainforest Walk' over Cement Creek, the track from Mt Donna Buang towards Mt Boobyalla and the Mt Victoria walking track. A walking stick will be a help as there are strips of bark and rocks on parts of the track.

Meet at 10:30 am at the Rainforest Walk carpark, Cement Creek Reserve at the junction of the Acheron Way and Mt Donna Buang Road, about 7 km north of Warburton (Melway 512 T2). Booking is essential as a short car shuffle is required.



SATURDAY WALK

DANDENONGS EXPLORER

| | |
|------------------|--------------------------|
| DATE | Saturday 22 October 2011 |
| STANDARD | Easy/Medium |
| DISTANCE | 15 km |
| LEADER | Jerry Grandage |
| TRANSPORT | Private |
| AREA | Dandenong Ranges |
| MAP | Melways 66 & 75 |

This walk will give you some of the delights of the Dandenong Ranges in spring – Sherbrooke Forest, Sassafra Creek, and by way of contrast the beautiful exotic vegetation of the Aspro Nicholas Garden, which should be at its best at this time.



FEDERATION WALKS

MORNINGTON PENINSULA

| | |
|---------------------|------------------------|
| DATE | Sunday 23 October 2011 |
| STANDARD | Various |
| CO-ORDINATOR | Michael Murray |

Details of this walk are on page 4 of this newsletter.



A regular head count.
Photo by Sarah White



THURSDAY SOCIAL WALK

MARANOA GARDENS AND SURREY HILLS

| | |
|------------------|--------------------------|
| DATE | Thursday 27 October 2011 |
| STANDARD | Easy |
| DISTANCE | 5 km |
| ELEVATION | A bit! |
| LEADER | Jean Giese |
| TRANSPORT | Private |
| AREA | Balwyn/Surrey Hills |
| MAP REF | Melway 46 |

Have you ever explored the delights of the native garden of Maranoa? The wildflowers should be great in spring. We'll start in Beckett Park and link up some linear parks, arriving in Surrey Hills for lunch.

Meet at 10:30 am in Banool Road – Melway 46 G7.



CANOE TRIP (4 DAY, CUP DAY WEEKEND)

GLENELG RIVER

| | |
|------------------|---|
| DATE | 28 October – 1 November 2011 |
| STANDARD | Easy/Medium |
| DISTANCE | 60 km |
| LEADER(S) | Ken MacMahon & Janette Kodiah |
| TRANSPORT | Private |
| AREA | South-Western Victoria |
| MAP REF | Great South West Walk Map and Park Notes (from Parks Vic) |

The Lower Glenelg River is unlike any other river in Victoria. It is deep, wide and usually tranquil. Scenic limestone cliffs define its course for many kilometres, making it ideal for pleasant flat-water canoeing. What's more, there are choice camping places set up especially for canoeists.

For this trip, we will be using the services of a local canoe hire operator who will provide canoes, associated equipment and transport to and from our start and finish points, which are 54 km apart. This saves time and hassles.

We will begin Day 1 from Pines Landing, paddling 18 km to Skipworth Springs camp, then 16 km to Pattersons camp on Day 2, 15 km to Lasletts camp on Day 3, before paddling 12 km into Nelson, arriving around noon on Day 4. Lasletts Camp is close enough to Princess Margaret Rose Caves for us to take a break from paddling and walk there for a look underground.

Generally, canadian canoes are the most practical for this sort of trip, but kayaks are available too.

There are limited places available for this trip, so if you are keen, please book early. I will require up-front payment of about \$135 each. This includes use of a bunk house on Friday night. Please contact Ken or the co-leader, Janette Kodiah, to get your name on the list. Participants should have some canoeing experience or pair up with someone who has a few skills.

If river conditions are suitable I intend to arrive a day early to do an extra stretch of river starting at Dartmoor. The river is quite a bit smaller here because it has emerged from its drowned valley and there is likely to be a few woody obstacles to negotiate. Should be fun if you want to join me!



BASE CAMP

FRENCH ISLAND – MCLEOD ECO LODGE

DATE 28 October – 1 November 2011
STANDARD Easy/Medium
LEADER Derek Whitehead

For details of this walk please contact the leader, or see next month's *News*.



PACK CARRY (4 DAY)

THE BLUFF – MT CLEAR – THE NOBS

DATE 28 October – 1 November 2011
STANDARD Easy/Medium
DISTANCE 44 km
ELEVATION Up to 1726 metre (alpine)
LEADER Max Casley
TRANSPORT Car
AREA South-east of Mansfield
MAP REF King, Howqua & Jamieson Rivers, VMTC 1:50,000

TRANSPORT COSTS (per person) \$55 suggested

This 4-day walk is around the headwaters of the Jamieson River in the high country on the Dividing range and just to its north-west. Starting beside the Jamieson River, the first day is a short distance but there is a climb up to our camp site near The Nobs. There should be plenty of time to explore along The Nobs without main packs. The second day we go over High Cone, Square Top (maybe the magnificent old snowgums will still be there) and visit the spring at Mt Clear. We pitch tents near Chester's Yard at Rat Camp from which there are good views to the north-west. On the third day we go over King Billy Nos. 1 & 2, admire a magnificent old snowgum and walk past Lovick's Hut and Bluff Hut. The campsite is near The Blowhole.



PACK CARRY

PINE VALLEY (TASMANIA)

DATE 28 October – 1 November 2011
STANDARD Medium
LEADER Agajan Akbari

For details of this walk please contact the leader, or see next month's *News*.



SUNDAY BUS

MURRINDINDI CASCADES – WILHELMINA FALLS

DATE Sunday 25 September 2011
STANDARD Easy & Easy/Medium
LEADERS Allan Martin & Phil Geschke
TRANSPORT Bus – Leaving Southbank Blvd at 8:45 am

For details of this walk please contact the leaders, or see next month's *News*.

BOOKINGS

**MT HOTHAM LODGE LONG WEEKEND – JANUARY 25–29, 2012
 YES ... ENOUGH INTEREST – THE WEEKEND IS ON!!!!!!**

To ensure your place at Austen Ski Lodge at Mt Hotham for the Australia Day weekend a 25% deposit (\$34 – 1 night's accommodation) will need to be received by 30 October, 2011.

Accommodation cost is \$136 for the weekend (4 nights at \$34 per night) per person. Final payment will need to be paid by mid December. Please contact me or see me in the clubrooms on most Wednesday nights to answer any queries or to make payments.

Walks planned are:

- 26 January – Cobungra Ditch Walk
- 27 January – The Razorback to Mt Feathertop
- 28 January – Dibbins Hut – Mt Loch Circuit
- 29 January – Mt Tabletop.

All walks are strenuous but can be shortened for those who do not want a challenging long weekend.

Other plans regarding communal dinners, watching sunsets from the deck or just enjoying this delightful area will be made closer to the weekend.

Halina Sarbinowski

