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THE NEWS OF THE Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc.

September 2012

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Our **Leaders Training Night** will be on November 19th. It's for people thinking about leading, new leaders and those who have done it all before and either want to learn new tricks and/or pass on their experiences. Leading can be great fun, help you gain skills and confidence, and get the satisfaction of helping others enjoy the outdoors.

At the **August Committee Meeting** we reviewed our Newsletter with our Editor Marilyn Whimpey. The News is going very well, and Marilyn continues to make improvements. Did you know that we publish 3 copies? The printed version (black and white, 14 pages postage limit), an email version in full colour with extra walk reviews and a Web colour version with all contact details removed. We decided on a Facebook presence for the Club and how we would protect people's privacy. We also discussed an Initial trial for 'short notice walks', reviewed a recent Incident Report, and spent time discussing the Leaders Night.

We had 48 people at Ian Mair's presentation on Wainwrights Coast to Coast walk in the UK – **another great social turn out!** Also thanks to Gill Wainwright for organising the August First Aid Training with 14 people attending.

Details of the **October 14th Federation Day** have been emailed to members and are included in this copy of the News. Come along and have a great time, meet people from other Clubs, and support the Marysville community. These multi-club activities are complex to organise so you will need to book your walks before the September 14th cut-off date!!!!

Our Spring Program has some great extended weekend activities: 5 great Pack Carry's, 3 Base Camps, Alpine National Park Track Work, and Regent Honeyeater Tree Planting. If you have not done one of these before why not give them a try!!! It's a great way to challenge yourself, have a fantastic time in the outdoors and make new friends. If you have been putting it off because you don't have the right equipment, we have lots of great gear to hire out at very low prices and its provided the track work and tree planting.....

PS Remember to **always carry your Green Health Cards** in your packs! You can pick one up in the Clubrooms.

Mick Noonan

**Due date for contributions
to October News:**

**Wednesday
19th September**

NEXT LEADERS TRAINING NIGHT For Current and Future Walk Leaders!

Learn about leading, share your experience ... be there!!!

November 19th, in the Clubrooms at 7 pm

Food and drinks provided!!!

Keep this night free.

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 *October News*, the closing date is 19 September.

Advertisements should relate to bushwalking (e.g. gear, maps, trips, tours, health and fitness etc.). These may be published subject to space availability and Editor's discretion. For current advertising rates contact the Editor at news@mbw.org.au.

Please note:
Next committee meeting will take place on
MONDAY 1 October 2012

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the following new members to the Club:

RON BOREHAM
SALLY FISHER
RACHEL GLEESON
ANDREW KLOESTER
AARON YIK PIN LOH
NATALIE LUKE
GEORGE NAGUIB
MELANIE WILLIAMS



Club members took advantage of the recent snowfalls.

Above: Snowshoe walk on Mt Baw Baw. Photo by Ian Mair.

Below: Wallace's Hut – Photo by John Terrell.



SOCIAL CALENDAR

Slide nights and presentations

September 26:

WINE AND CHEESE AND SPRING IN YOUR STEP FASHION SHOW

October 2: Wine and Cheese and (Presentation to be Confirmed)

November 14: Presentation Himalayan Overview

November 28: Wine and Cheese and (Presentation to be Confirmed)

Other events

LUNCHESES: Susan will continue to play social host for lunches. Throughout the year keep an eye on the MBW Newsletter and the website for details of upcoming events.

RESTAURANTS: The club will be organising some outings to restaurants, so keep an eye on this space for advertisements on venues and dates.

NEW YEAR'S DAY BBQ: Susan will continue her tradition of hosting a New Year's Day BBQ.

Kerry McKeand
SOCIAL SECRETARY

REGENT HONEYEATER PROJECT THREATENED SPECIES PLANTING 2012

August 11–12, August 25–26, September 8–9,
September 22–23

Greetings from the Regent Honeyeater team.

Our 2012 planting season at Lurg is already underway, and you're invited to join us as we restore another 25 habitat sites for our threatened species.

So gather a group of friends and come up to the beautiful Lurg Hills for a great weekend. I think you'll enjoy the experience of working with other enthusiastic people.

To help generate interest, I'm happy to give pictorial presentations to groups to show the ecological issues we are tackling, and the amazing results from the past 17 years.

- Free: Accommodation, Community dinner, BBQ, Bush dance.
- Further details: Where to meet, timings, what to bring etc; see page 10.
- Booking in: Please let us know you are coming so we can arrange the catering.
Looking forward to hearing from you.



Ray Thomas
(03) 57 611 515
ray@regenthoneyeater.org.au

FEDERATION DAY 2012 – OCTOBER 14TH MARYSVILLE AREA

Well club members that time of the year is fast approaching – Federation Day. The 2012 Federation Walks are being coordinated by Maroondah Bushwalking Club with significant support from Bushwalking Victoria.

It goes without saying amongst many of us who have walked the Marysville region that the communities in the area have done it very tough since the disastrous fires a few years ago. From my observation a few months ago doing a fantastic walk along the escarpment above Marysville it will be a very long time before the region is back to 'normal' if that is possible. Many of us as bushwalkers and visitors to the snow fields over many years have gained great enjoyment in the area's beauty. Now it is time to give something back.

A variety of walks will be available with gradings from easy to medium/hard, including those interested in Geocache and Photography. All up there are 22 walks, a number which have reopened since the bushfires. All registrants will receive a walk booklet giving maps and detailed walk descriptions – a very useful reference for the future.

Registrations close on 14 September 2012. The registration fee for the event is \$22. For those staying at Marysville a BBQ will be provided on the Saturday evening at an additional cost of \$10 per person (pay on the day).

When selecting walks look through the list of walks available and number 1 to 4 in order of preference.

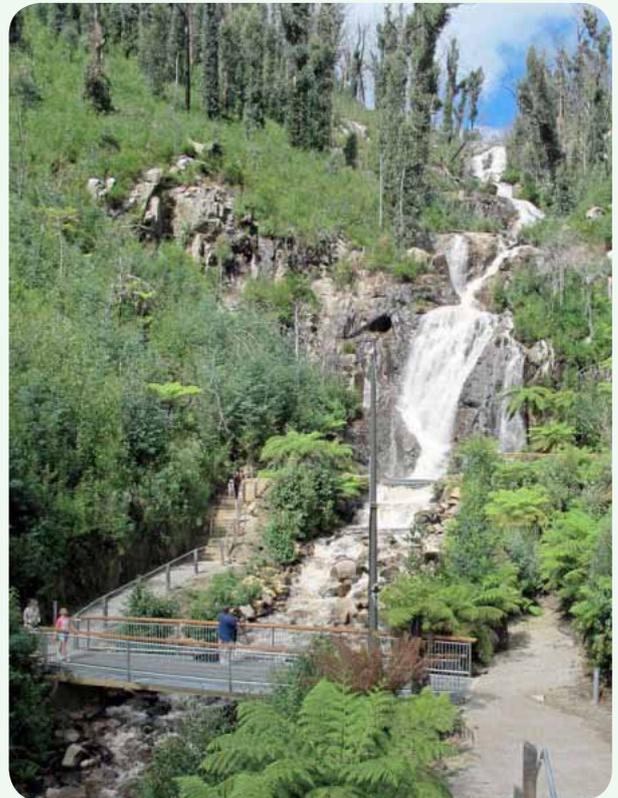
I strongly suggest that you register well before the close off date. This event is taking the place of the Sunday Bus so booking one week before the event will bring grief!

All the information regarding Federation Day including the accommodation options and the walks you need to select from can be found on www.mbwc.org.au (Maroondah's website) or Bushwalking Victoria's site www.bushwalkingvictoria.org.au

There will be no centrally organized transport to Marysville as some people will be going up on Saturday and the Sunday walks have start times ranging from 8 am to around 10 am – we will make information available so people can share transport if they wish. You should get confirmation of your walk at the start of October.

To register:

- 1 Transfer the \$22 to the Melbourne Bushwalkers ANZ BSB: 013006 Account 0058 46013 as per Sunday bus bookings
- 2 Email busbookings@mbw.org.au with your name, include 'Federation Walk' in the subject, details of the money transfer, your prioritized list of 4 walks, and whether you intend to go up on the Saturday or Sunday (you can change this later if you want to)
- 3 Alternatively you can also drop the money into the clubrooms on a Wednesday Night prior to September 14th and email the other details to busbookings@mbw.org.au



Looking back up at Steavensons Falls from the bottom.
Photo by Ian Mair

Michael Murray

Noticeboard

IT'S ON AGAIN!!!

**MT HOTHAM
AUSTRALIA DAY WEEKEND
AT AUSTEN SKI LODGE**

This small, intimate, well appointed lodge is again available for Melbourne Bushies use over the Australia Day weekend. We have booked the lodge for the nights of the 24th to 27th January 2013. Accommodation cost is \$136 for the long weekend (4 nights at \$34 per night) per person. Numbers are limited and to secure your place at Austen Lodge a 25% deposit (\$34 – 1 night's accommodation) will need to be received by Wednesday 26th September, with final payment due late December.

We'll again do the iconic Razorback to Mt Feathertop and the Cobungra Ditch Walks, however, other walks will be finalized closer to the weekend.

For those who want a laid-back holiday the ambience of the lodge is lovely with superb views of the surrounding mountains from the balconies. Photos from the Australia Day weekend 2012 in the MBW photogallery will give you an idea of how lovely this venue and the walks in the area are.



Willis's Walkabouts

Wet, Wild & Wonderful

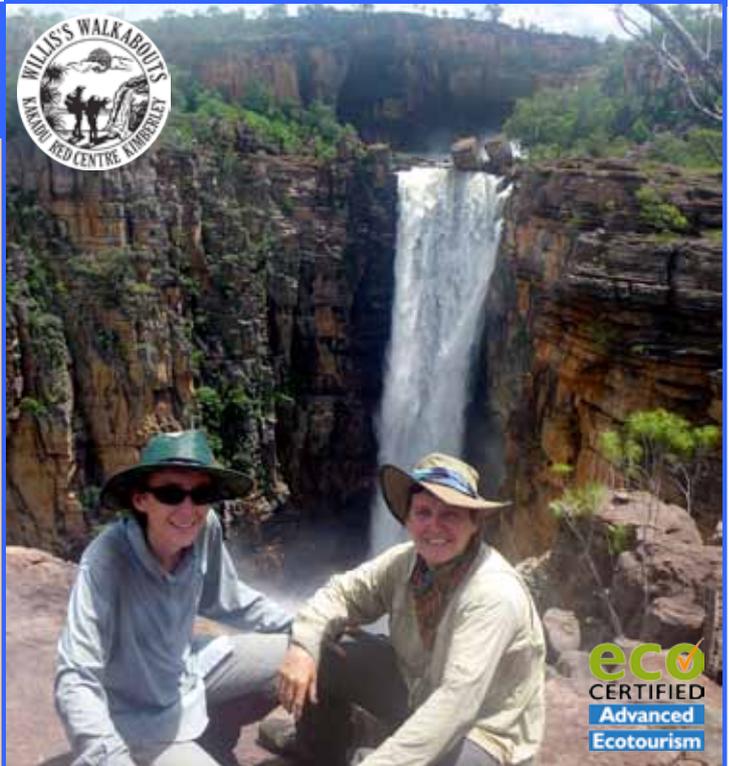
Have you ever **enjoyed** being rained on while on a bushwalk? Tropical rain is a **pleasure** to walk in, something that has to be experienced to be believed.

The pleasure of walking in warm rain is a small part of the story. If you want to enjoy Kakadu and the Kimberley at their lush, green, magnificent best, to see spectacular waterfalls like those in the tourist brochures, you need to come during the period from late December through March.

Easy, hard and everything in between, we offer trips to suit every bushwalker who wants to experience the tropical summer. Check our website for special new trip and a special offer.

Join me and see why this season is so special?

Russell Willis



www.bushwalkingholidays.com.au rwillis@internode.on.net Ph: 08 8985 2134

STATISTICS – JANUARY TO JUNE

YEAR	2011			2012		
ACTIVITIES	Trips	Average	Ave Vis	Trips	Average	Ave Vis
DAY WALKS						
MOFS	6	13.0	1.5	6	16.3	1.8
TOFS	6	11.5	0.7	6	8.5	0.3
Sat/Dand Expl	2	9.0	–	3	7	1.0
Sunday bus	13	39.5	9.6	13	45.5	10.6
Sunday carpool	11	15.4	4.1	11	14.3	2.9
Wednesday	6	11.3	0.5	6	11.7	1.0
OTHER ACTIVITIES						
Conservation	2	3.5	–	4	5.5	–
Nav Training	1	8.0	–	–	–	–
Skiing	–	–	–	–	–	–
Base Camp	3	9.0	1.5	4	14.0	1.2
Lodge	–	–	–	1	17.0	4.0
Pack Carry	12	9.9	0.8	10	11.1	0.1
Cycling	6	7.8	–	6	9.4	–

Trip numbers are based on total trips.

Average numbers based on information provided from leaders

(i.e. excludes trips where numbers have not been provided)

Sunday figures complete as taken directly from bookings database.

CLUB ACTIVITY STATISTICS: JANUARY–JUNE 2012 COMPARED TO 2011

The Sunday walks continue to be strong performers attracting lots of members and visitors. The mix of bus and carpool walks is working well appealing to a wider range of walkers and allowing carpool walks that we would not be able to run as bus walks e.g. Medium/Hard Grade Walks,

Is good to see an increase in basecamps/lodges, we had steady pack carry attendance but disappointing conservation and track maintenance attendances. MOFS/TOFS, Wednesday Walks, Dandenong Explorers and Bike Rides are going well.

Ian Mair pointed out at the August Committee Meeting that back in 1999 there were far more extended walks with 17 basecamps and 27 pack carries over the full year! The numbers attending each activity are about the same, and the club back then had about 480 members compared to about 440 now. Times change, there are more options and pressures these days, but it would be great to grow our extended activities and the numbers of people attending.

Mick Noonan

CONSERVATION MATTERS

Report from Bushwalking Victoria Environment Committee

BAW BAWs – The AAWT is closed between Walhalla and the Thomson Valley Road in Baw Baw National Park due to landslides from the June rain event. Parks Victoria hasn't got a re-opening date for this section of track as yet but they hopefully will be able to reopen the track by December 2012.

MORNINGTON PENINSULA NP – Ongoing issue however of weed infestation, no doubt aggravated by the rain. Incidentally the kangaroos are also very plentiful in Greens Bush/Cape Schanck area and this remains a bit contentious in the area. The state Environment Minister has announced that grants had been allocated to provide new facilities at Devil Bend Reserve. They include car park, picnic tables and toilets, walking tracks and fishing and viewing platforms. Parks Victoria will supervise the project which is hoped to be completed before the end of the year.

WILSONS PROM NP – The work on repairing the road from Tidal River to Telegraph Saddle is now scheduled to be completed about October so the walkers still have to go in and out via the coastal track. The track to Sealers Cove will not be reopened for quite a while but is progressing. The Lighthouse accommodation is only being used at weekends as there are few bookings and they do not want managers there with no guests.

TRACKS

BUNYIP STATE PARK – BV recently inspected the Bench Rest Track which links Bunyip State Park to Kurth Kiln Regional Park and apart from finding the start and the first 100 metres it is a great result of a partnership between Bushwalking Victoria and Parks Victoria. The bottom section of Freemans is completed up to Tea Tree Road.

GRAND STRZELECKI TRACK – There has been considerable damage caused by heavy rain to sections of the GST Track south of Billys Creek. A working party to do repairs has been organised for Saturday August 25th and Sunday August 26th, starting at 9:00 am from the Billy's Creek section of Morwell National Park. Contact Michael Haynes of Friends of GST liaison at hahaynes@bigpond.com

AUSTRALIAN ALPS WALKING TRACK – Heyfield DSE staff have recently cleared and opened up more than 25 kilometres of the Australian Alps Walking Track from Champion Spur Track through to Mount Skene and from Mount Skene through to Mount McDonald in the Alpine National Park. 'It's very exciting that we have been able to locate and re-define this section of the Australian Alps Walking Track,' Ms Taylor (DSE) said. 'Maintaining remote walking tracks is an expensive and challenging task, especially with the regrowth following the bushfires. It's great to be working with other land management agencies across South Eastern Australia to ensure this iconic track is open all the way through to the ACT.'

If you would like information about walking the Australian Alps Walking Track please check the Australian Alps National Parks homepage at www.australialps.environment.gov.au If you would like information regarding the section of track from Champion Spur Track through to Mount McDonald please contact DSE Heyfield on 5139 7777.

Rod Novak



Conservation activities:

Left: Bogong High Plains work party, January 2012. Photo by Chris Schirlinger

Right: Lurg Hills nest box survey, April 2012. Photo by Ian Mair.



MT ST GWINEAR SNOW SHOE TRIP: 11TH AUGUST 2012

We like to think of this as an inaugural snow shoe trip for the club; well at least in modern history (this century!). Unlike previous advertised trips we were actually blessed with ample snow and ideal weather for walking. We set out from Melbourne very early on Saturday morning, meeting at Erica to hire out shoes and chains. We then drove up to St Gwinear car park to the start of the walk only to bump into Jopie and Trish who were out for a day of skiing!

With Ralph's assistance and much fumbling and fitting of our snow shoes we followed a walking track to Jeep Flat. What a haphazard bunch of snow shoe pioneers we proved to be! Initially we were plagued with equipment malfunctions and snow shoes that wouldn't stay on, especially those of us with small feet. It certainly took a bit of getting used to. With thanks to Ralph's endless patience and a bit of ingenuity from him and Ian we managed to get them working. We followed the walking track below Mt St Gwinear then traversed the hill, arriving at a snowy plain for lunch. Ralph then went well beyond the call of duty that could be expected of any leader from the club, as he produced a snow shovel from his pack and sculpted a bench in the snow for us to sit on.

By lunch time all us novices had managed to master our snow shoes and were eager by afternoon to take on the rest of the mountain. Kerry led the way to discover more picturesque spots. Passing rock shelter junction, we began our climb to Mt St Phillack. This proved to be the highlight of our day as Kerry led us into an isolated area on the side of the mountain, undisturbed the fine branches were encrusted with snow, gum leaves were frozen into slivers of ice and beaded icicles were suspended in mid-air between them. We marvelled at the sheer beauty of the ice formations glistening in the sunlight. We were so privileged to be there. We continued off track into a meadow of pure soft snow. It was flanked by snow gums with vivid orange and yellow bark peeling away against the white of the snow. As we continued down the mountain we followed the path of a creek below us, walking on top of it over the thick undergrowth. The advantage of snow shoeing is that it enables you to go to off track places that wouldn't normally be accessible. As we headed downhill a leg or a pole would suddenly sink into the snow unexpectedly (sometimes right up to the thighs) and we would flop over into the soft snow laughing. It was great fun! We spent much time digging ourselves and each other out. Kerry and Ralph made a great team with Kerry navigating the mountain that she was so familiar with and Ralph further back helping to dig everyone out of the sometimes deep snow. We then linked up with the ski run (easy walking) and followed it back down to the car park. On our return to Melbourne we enjoyed a hearty counter meal at the Criterion Hotel in Trafalgar.

This was one of those special trips that the club runs where success is not measured in the distance travelled but in gross enjoyment. We all had a brilliant time and I would strongly recommend giving snow shoeing a try, especially if Kerry Press and Ralph Blake are kind enough to lead another trip. All participants; Halina, Ian, Caroline, Parry and myself appreciate the effort that they made to organize this wonderful trip.

Jan Colquhoun



Photos by Ian Mair

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.mbw.org.au/mbw_activities/MBW_activities_program.php

**CUT OFF TIME FOR SUNDAY BUS ONLINE BOOKINGS
 4:00 PM THURSDAY PRIOR TO THE WALK.**

Bookings notified to busbookings@mbw.org.au after the cut off time will not be processed and a credit will be issued.

Payment to the leader of the full bus fee and late fee of \$5.00 will have to be made on the day if your booking has not been confirmed prior to the walk.



SUNDAY CAR POOL

NEW:

MOUNT BLUE – TOOLANGI POTATO FARM

DATE	Sunday, 2 September 2012
STANDARD	Easy/Medium
DISTANCE	14.5 km
ELEVATION	450 m
LEADER(S)	Michael Murray
TRANSPORT	Carpool from Southbank Boulevard at 8:45 am
AREA	Toolangi Forest
MAP REF	Mt Blue 1:30,000 (self created) & Rooftop: Toolangi-Macedon
TRANSPORT COSTS (PER PERSON)	\$13.00

Toolangi Forest, north of Healesville, offers walkers a huge variety of walks. The tracks in the area wind through tall eucalypts, ancient ferns, banksias, wattles and grass trees. This walk, a new one for the club, was walk 9 of the Federation walks held in October 2007 when the federation walks were based from Healesville.

Our walk starts along Weasel Creek Road, a 4WD track that makes its way to the top of Mount Blue at an easy ascent. We'll take about an hour to climb the 300 metres (3 kilometres) from the start of the walk to its peak, making this a great walk for those who are in training or just want to get a little fitter. At Mt Blue's peak we will be able to view the potato farm that gives the walk its name. Although we will have a steep descent later in the walk, much of the walk follows the contours of the range, offering views over valleys and to the neighbouring farms.

The second half of the walk follows country lanes. Unfortunately to cross to this section of the walk we will follow a main road for about 1 km, however there is a wide shoulder beside the road and it is quickly traversed. From here we will pass isolated homesteads, farms and a Wesley College Camp. A set of gates, more suited for Toorak, which seem to lead nowhere will intrigue. We will cross creeks, one of which near the end may cause a few wet feet, and finally wind our way back to our cars.



TOFS WALK

O'SHANNASSY AQUEDUCT, WARBURTON

(This walk replaces the walk advertised on the activities program.)

DATE	Thursday, 4 October 2012
STANDARD	Easy
DISTANCE	10 km
ELEVATION	Mainly flat and some downhill
LEADER	Janet Hodgson
TRANSPORT	Private
AREA	Warburton
MAP REF	Melway 289, 290

This walk follows the O'Shannassy Aqueduct through beautiful temperate rainforest with picturesque views overlooking Warburton. We will inspect an interesting old trestle bridge before leaving the aqueduct trail and walking into Warburton township. We will follow the Yarra downstream back to the Warburton Golf Club.

Meet at the carpark to the Warburton Golf Club (Melway 289 J4) at 10:15 am for a car shuffle.



PACK CARRY

VAUGHAN SPRINGS-HEPBURN SPRINGS

DATE	5-7 October 2012
STANDARD	Easy/Medium
LEADER	Ian Langford
TRANSPORT	Private

For details of this walk, please contact the leader.



BASE CAMP

LAKE EILDON NATIONAL PARK

DATE	5-7 October 2012
STANDARD	Easy Medium/Medium
DISTANCE	15 km and 8 km (19 km if a willing leader!)
ELEVATION	250 m
LEADER	Margaret Curry
TRANSPORT	Private
AREA	Alexandra/Lake Eildon
MAP REF	VicMap 1:25,000 Collier Bay and Parks Victoria



The sparkling waters of Lake Eildon provide wonderful views from the walking tracks. The lake is tucked amongst rolling green hills and steep wooded spurs which offer views to the surrounding mountains and the opportunity to walk in some of the most scenic forest in Victoria.

The park is home to a diversity of animals and is well known for its eastern grey kangaroos and birdlife. Orchids and wildflowers are prolific in season. The hills are covered in stringybark, peppermint, red box and candlebark.

Generally the walking is along defined tracks, but there are some steep and rocky sections both uphill and downhill. Footwear with a good grip is essential and walking poles useful. We will camp at Candlebark part of the Fraser Camping area for the two nights, where toilets, hot showers, gas BBQ, picnic table and shelter are available. Cost is \$18.50 per site per night and each site should accommodate two tents and two cars. You will need all your camping gear and food.



SUNDAY BUS

BIG PATS CREEK – STARLINGS GAP

DATE	Sunday 7 October 2012
STANDARDS	Easy, Easy/Medium
DISTANCES	14 km, 18 km
ELEVATIONS	150 m
LEADERS	Chris Schirlinger, Steven Venturin
TRANSPORT	Bus – Leaving Southbank Blvd at 8:45am
AREA	Warburton State Forest
MAP REF	Vic Topo T8022-2-4-4

This should be an interesting walk through the Warburton/Ada State Forest. Lush and green this time of year, we should be able to see plenty of signs this area was once a major logging site, including an old abandoned steam winch once used to pull the logs up the steep hills.

We will be passing several of the old Ezard Mill sites (as well as others) where the mountain ash was once sawn for weather boards and flooring. Though little remains today, these mills were in use up to the 1940s when Jack Ezard strove to log the entire area after some terrible bush fires in 1939 dropped tens of thousands of trees. This quickly turned his failing logging business into a salvage one, and briefly rekindled the then defunct Warburton sawmilling industry.



WEDNESDAY WALK

MERRICKS BEACH TO COOLART AND RETURN

DATE	Wednesday 10 October 2012
STANDARD	Easy
DISTANCE	14 km
LEADER	Mary Daley
TRANSPORT	Private
AREA	Mornington Peninsula/Westernport
MAP REF	Melway 192J11

Coolart comprises wetlands and bird sanctuaries and a late Victorian mansion built by the Grimwade family, as well as some examples of earlier buildings (e.g. an 1860s buttery). The property is managed by Parks Victoria

10:30 am. Depart from Mary's and Ed's beach-house at Palmers Hill Road, Merricks Beach. Walk along the beach to Coolart (4 km of beach walking. On the day of the preview, the sand was soft.) Enter Coolart. Visit the homestead, the gardens, the visitors' centre, and several bird hides. Australian white ibis nest at Coolart, but you will also see many other bird species. Remember to pack your binoculars. Picnic lunch at Coolart. Explore Coolart's walking trails.

Return to Merricks Beach. A sumptuous afternoon tea will be provided at Mary and Ed's house.

**Mary and Ed are planning to travel to Merricks Beach on Tuesday. They can accommodate three or four people in bunk beds, and there is plenty of space for tents. Facilities are simple.



SUNDAY FEDERATION WALK

DATE	Sunday 14 October 2012
STANDARDS	Various
CO-ORDINATOR	Michael Murray
TRANSPORT	Private

Details of this day are given on page 4.





MOFS WALK

HOCHKIN RIDGE RESERVE/YARRUNGA RESERVE

DATE	Monday 15 October 2012
STANDARD	Easy
DISTANCE	10 km
ELEVATION	Some hills
LEADER	Jean Giese
TRANSPORT	Private
AREA	Croydon North
MAP REF	Melway 36

Many new wetlands have been established in Greater Melbourne to purify the stormwater before it goes into our creeks and on into the river and bay. One such is in Croydon North. This we will explore after first walking through Hochkins Ridge Flora Park, the largest and most botanically diverse flora reserve in the City of Maroondah. The two areas can be linked by green corridors, but there will be a 1.75 km car shuffle.

Meet in Mangathan Way near the corner of Alford Rise, Melway 36J7 to start walking at 10:30.



PACK CARRY

MOUNT STAPYLTON-GOLTON GORGE-POTTERS CREEK

DATE	19-21 October 2012
STANDARD	Easy/Medium
DISTANCE	26 km
ELEVATION	250 m-450 m
LEADER	Bob Oxlade
TRANSPORT	Private
AREA	Northern Grampians, Western Victoria
MAP REF	Vicmap 1:25,000 Mount Stapylton

This scenic walk is in the most northern part of the Grampians and amongst the most rugged of any terrain in the park.

A good display of wild flowers could be expected.

Beginning from Mount Zero Picnic Ground, a short side trip to the summit will give excellent views of the area. Then, with packs, we cross the slope of Flat Rock to go through a large amphitheatre surrounded by cliffs. We take a side trip to the rugged Mount Stapylton summit, or as far as you prefer to go, before descending to a nice camp at the head of Golton Gorge.

On Sunday morning we may do a circuit of the Gorge with day packs. After this we will short cut to Potters Creek and Stapylton Campground and return via a lower track to the amphitheatre and along to our cars. We could have the option of a side trip to Hollow Mountain. This is a good time of year for this interesting walk.

If interested in coming along please see me in the clubrooms. Bob Oxlade.



CYCLING

CHILDERS – COALVILLE (NORTH STRZELECKI)

DATE	Saturday 20 October 2012
STANDARD	Easy/Medium
DISTANCE	60 km
LEADER	Ross Berner
TRANSPORT	Car
RETURN TIME	About 4:30 pm
AREA	Latrobe Valley – Strzelecki Ranges
MAP REFERENCE	Vicroads maps 97, 703 & 701

The meeting place for ride is the corner of Rollo Road and Princes Highway Yarragon (this is east of Railway Station) at 10:00 am. Here we will arrange a car shuffle to the start of the ride in Allambee.

The aim of this ride is to follow a ridge in the Northern Strzelecki Ranges. We are around 400 metres above Yarragon and we get excellent views of the Latrobe Valley and Baw Baw Ranges (better than Mount Worth).

From Allambee we go through the towns Childers & Thorpedale, undulating, but mostly downhill. There are a few kilometres of gravel. A mountain bike or hybrid is recommended.

We then head for Moe via Narracan and Coalville. These towns are in a very scenic valley. The roads are mostly downhill and are very quiet.

Lunch will be in Moe, probably in Botanic Gardens. After lunch follow Waterloo Rd back to Yarragon. This section is very flat and very easy.

Please let me know if you are driving, or getting a lift.

PS: There is the possibility of a limited number of participants to travel by train. (Take 8:07 train to Traralgon at Southern Cross station.) You will need to confirm that there is space for you in car shuffle.



SUNDAY BUS

TALLAROOK STATE FOREST – WARRAGUL ROCKS

DATE	Sunday 21 October 2012
STANDARDS	Easy and Easy/Medium
DISTANCES	15 km and 18 km
ELEVATIONS	200 m
LEADERS	Deb Shand and Fay Dunn
TRANSPORT	Bus – Leaving Southbank Blvd at 8:45am
AREA	Tallarook
MAP REF	Rooftop's Tallarook Forest Activities map

This walk will take us on undulating forest tracks and 4WD roads through the tall timbers of Tallarook State Forest. Along the way both groups will visit Warragul Rocks that offer a spectacular view of the lush farming country along the Goulburn River far below.

We will also visit the scenic and peaceful Falls Creek Reservoir that was built in 1895 to supply water to Seymour, but is now an attraction for picnickers and campers.

This will be a good opportunity to stretch your spring legs and enjoy some fresh bushland. Both walks cover a good distance, with the bonus of more hills for the E/M walkers.



SOCIAL WALK

NEWPORT LAKES PARK

DATE Thursday 25 October 2012
STANDARD Easy
DISTANCE 5 km
ELEVATION Little hills
LEADER Jean Giese
TRANSPORT Train
AREA Newport
MAP REF Melway 55

We will explore another lovely park which has been created out of a former bluestone quarry and rubbish tip. It is quite delightful with its lakes and indigenous trees and plants. There have been over a 160 different bird species spotted in the park and some flowers should be in bloom.

Catch the 10:01 Werribee train from Flinders Street or meet on the East side of Newport Station at 10:30. Lunch in a pub near the station.



BASE CAMP

FRENCH ISLAND



DATE 26–28 October 2012
STANDARD Easy/Medium
LEADER Derek Whitehead
TRANSPORT Private

In November 2011 we led a base camp to McLeod Eco Farm on French Island, and we plan to do something similar on 26–28 October. Last year we caught the ferry from Stony Point to French Island and stayed two nights at the Eco Farm, on the eastern side of the island. The first walk took us from the farm cross-country to the east coast, then back around the coast. The second walk took us inland across pasture and light forest, and then back to the coast and along the beach to the Eco Farm. This year, weather, ground conditions and tides permitting, we intend to do something similar. More news to come.



SATURDAY WALK

MOUNT MACEDON

DATE Saturday, 27 October 2012
GRADE Easy/Medium (lots of uphill)
DISTANCE 12 km (approximately)
ELEVATION 500 m
LEADER Ian Hoad
TRANSPORT Private

Meet at 9:45 am for a 10:00 am start, at the 'Trading Post' (coffee shop) in the main street of Mt Macedon (657 K4 in the 2013 Melway). We may then drive to a starting point.

The walk route will be determined closer to the day, and be influenced by the weather. Firm walking shoes are recommended as parts of the track are rocky. Remember that Mt Macedon is exposed, and vulnerable to extremes of weather. There may or may not be rain or snow, but there will probably be lots of wind. Dress accordingly.



SUNDAY BUS

MORNINGTON PENINSULA WINERY WALK.

DATE Sunday 28 October 2012
STANDARDS Easy and Easy Medium
DISTANCE 12 km (Flexible)
LEADERS John McCall and Richard Hanson
TRANSPORT Bus leaving Southbank Blvd at 8.45 a.m.
AREA Mornington Peninsula
MAP REFERENCE www.visitmorningtonpeninsula.org/walks

Those of you who have previously done the Red Hill Winery walk will remember it as a pleasant ramble along roads to a number of wineries in the Red Hill area.

Unfortunately, things seem to have become more busy in winery world and most places I visited were reluctant to accommodate large groups for tastings on a Sunday afternoon.

So... I decided to try something different.

T.Gallant wineries are happy to run a tasting for \$3.00 per head at 11.00 a.m. (bring change so the leaders can collect a lump sum for the winery).

We can rotate from the cellar door to the café for a relaxed tasting, coffee, cake or whatever before commencing the walk.

A most civilized way to start the day.

We then take a short bus trip to the Greens Bush section of the Two Bays Walking Track.

This walk will feature creek crossings, fern gullies, eucalypt forest, grasstrees and open grasslands.

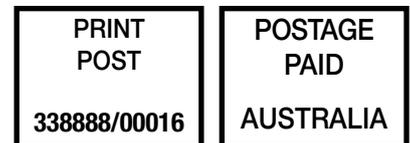
Parrots, honeyeaters and birds of prey along with the odd kangaroo are common to the area.

Depending on the time we have left we might also squeeze in a short walk from the Fingal picnic area on Cape Schank Rd to Fingal Beach and back to complete the day.

Bus transport meets at Southbank Boulevard, south side of the Arts Centre, before 8:45 am. Leader or deputy will be there rain, hail or shine!

October 2012				
Thu 4	O'Shannassy Aqueduct, Warburton	Pvt	Easy	Janet Hodgson
5-7	PC: Vaughan Springs-Hepburn Springs	Pvt	E/M	Ian Langford
5-7	BC: Lake Eildon National Park	Pvt	E/M	Margaret Curry
Sun 7	Big Pats Creek – Starling Gap	Bus	E & E/M	Chris Schirlinger & Steven Venturin
Wed 10	Merricks Beach & Coolart	Pvt	E/M	Mary Daley
Sun 14	FEDERATION WALKS – Marysville Area	Car	Easy	Co-ordinator – Michael Murray
Mon 15	Hochkin Ridge Flora Res/Yarrunga Res	Pvt	Easy	Jean Giese
19-21	PC: Mt Stapyllton-Golton Gorge-Potters Ck	Pvt	E/M	Bob Oxlade
Sat 20	Cycling: North Strzelecki	Pvt	E/M	Ross Berner
Sun 21	Tallarook State Forest-Warragul Rocks	Bus	E & M	Deb Shand & Fay Dunn
Thu 25	SOC: Newport Lakes Park	Car	Easy	Jean Giese
26-28	BC: French Island	Pvt	E/M	Derek Whitehead
Sat 27	Mt Macedon Area	Pvt	E/M	Ian Hoad
Sun 28	Red Winery Walk	Bus	E & E/M	John McCall & Richard Hanson

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- Cash or cheque on club night (cheques payable to Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc.)
 - Cheque and Renewal Slip posted to Treasurer, Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc, P.O. Box 1751, Melbourne 3001
 - EFT to the club account. (Account Name: Melbourne Bushwalkers, A/c No. 0058-46013, BSB: 013-006).
- Please ensure your full name and 'SUBS' appear on the transfer.

Fees: **Single member:** \$45 or \$55* Concession: \$34 or \$44** (Proof required)
 (Please circle your **Couple/Family:** \$72 or \$82* Concession: \$50 or \$60** (Proof required)
 membership category) **News Subscribers:** \$20

Notes: * Additional \$10 charged to members who receive their copies of 'NEWS' via postal mail
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Indicate below if
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YES/NO
 YES/NO
 YES/NO