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THE NEWS OF THE Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc.

ABN 14 396 912 508

June 2013

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

One of the great things I enjoy about being part of an active club like Melbourne Bushwalkers is the diversity and frequency of the activities that are offered. Whether you are looking for something to challenge you physically or just out for a relaxing outing in the company of like-minded friends you don't have to wait long for an attractive event to come along. Indeed, we are often spoiled and have to face up to making a choice! But the regular program is only part of the experience. Many members complement their club walking with private 'expeditions' and are only too happy to share the experience and the knowledge they have gleaned with other members considering a similar location. Don't know who to ask? Just start telling others of your plans and it won't be long before you hear of another member who may be able to offer some insights. It's a great way to get to know other members too as we all have walking in our blood and enjoy talking about our experiences.

Talking of 'expeditions', you will have noted that our President, Mick Noonan, is away with Carol Corrigan on one of their own, walking an ancient Camino (pilgrim) trail running west from Arles in southern France then across the Pyrenees to Puente la Reina in Spain, a journey of around 960 km taking 5–6 weeks. At last report from Toulouse (about half way) the walking is going well, challenging at times especially on long days, with great scenery, lovely French villages and all sorts of weather. I am sure we will be treated to an absorbing slide night after they return at the end of June.

It is with sadness that I report that Mick had to interrupt his walk for a short return to Adelaide following the death of his father. On behalf of the club I passed on condolences from us all.

At the May Committee Meeting there was enthusiastic discussion on a range of future events and celebrations, with dates to mark in your diary, as well as progressing work underway on our Future Directions. Preparations are now in hand for the Leaders' Training Weekend to be held on 23–24 November and in this copy of *The News* you will find details of the First Aid Training Course on 5th August. Both events are recommended to all members looking to build competence and confidence in their bushwalking skills. On the lighter side, for those with a kick in their step, we will be holding the next club Bush Dance on 7th September. The ever popular Bushwahzee band has already been booked! It will also provide an opportunity to help our oldest member, Art Terry, celebrate his 90th birthday later this year.

Reminders for this month:

- 1 If you haven't paid your membership renewal you are now 'unfinancial' and will not be eligible for member privileges until payment is received. You will be missed.
- 2 Get in early for the Navigation Training day on the 6th July as places are limited.
- 3 The Spring Activities Program is now being developed. If there is a walk or an activity you would like to see on the program and are willing to help with the organisation then now is the time to speak up. Any member of the Committee or the Activity Coordinators would be delighted to hear from you.

Late news:

The winners of the Bushies Bakeoff were: Susan Maughan for taking out first place for the category 'Guaranteed for Survival in the Wild', for her date slice; Tony Appleyard for securing first place for the category 'Looks too Good To Eat', for his entry 'Pickle Lilly'; Deb Shand as the overall winner, securing first place for the categories 'Best Base Camp Tucker' and 'Would Even Bake this at Home', for her granola garnished with fresh strawberries. Watch for the July copy of *The News* to get your hands on the prize-winning recipes.

Ian Mair, Acting President

Due date for contributions to July News: 21 June

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 21st of the month.

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 3 June 2013

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the following new members to the Club:

David Arnold (past member renewing)
Ian Hamilton
Rebecca Neil
Helen Dobbyn
Johnathan Backhouse

A CASE OF ARSON?: INVESTIGATING THE FIRE AT THE STEIGLITZ COFFEE PALACE IN SEPTEMBER 1895

Mary Daley had a little story published in the digital magazine of the Public Records Office of Victoria. It relates to a fire in the township of Steiglitz in 1895. It might be of interest to members.

<http://prov.vic.gov.au/publications/provenance/a-case-of-arson>

See also: <http://prov.vic.gov.au/publications/provenance>

WILKINSON LODGE

Recently a group of us did some work on the woodshed. We repaired the holes in the roof, stacked the firewood outside and cleaned out a lot of general junk. For anyone considering a base camp in the area the woodshed offers shelter for cooking etc in inclement weather. Not very big but at least you can stand up in it! If you want to store anything it needs to be in rat proof containers.

For a key contact Doug Pocock, Bill Metzenthén or David Laing.



FIRST AID COURSE Saturday 3 August 2013, 8:30 am to 4:40 pm

Once again the club is running a First Aid Course. It is on Saturday 3rd August 2013, 8:30 am to 4:40 pm (CPR update only 8:30 am to 11:30 am) at Suite 6, 476 Canterbury Road Forest Hills (near Brentford Square shopping centre)

Cost to club members after MBW subsidy is \$40 each (CPR update only \$20).

Bookings are essential.

This is a great opportunity to gain first aid training at little cost, and MBW encourages members and particularly leaders to participate.

Course includes CPR, asthma, bleeding shock, bites and stings and snake bandage.

To remain current, first aid needs updating every 3 years and CPR yearly.

Come along, it is good fun and easy!

Gill Wainwright

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2013 Social Calendar

Wine and Cheese Evenings, Presentations

June 26: Wine & Cheese and Presentation by John Fritz on Equipment

Back by popular demand, John will share his extraordinary knowledge of hiking gear. So whether you are new to the club or a seasoned hiker come equipped with lots of questions.

July 24: Wine & Cheese – Presentation *250 Victorian Waterfalls* by Ray Barber & Ian Wacey

Ray and Ian have devoted many years to the research of this book which has involved visiting many of these waterfalls, often in locations that can only be accessed by foot.

Restaurants and Other Activities

Susan's Social Corner

Lunches – Susan will continue to play social host for lunches throughout the year. Keep an eye on the *News* and the website for details of upcoming events.

Other Fun Events

Join us for the occasional casual evening stroll to visit restaurants. Details will be posted here in the newsletter and on our website.

Bushies' Christmas Party

The Bushies' Christmas Party will be held on 10 December 2013. Further details of the party will be provided later in the year.

BUSHIES BAKE OFF

This was a fun evening where everyone was a winner.

Congratulations to Susan Maughan for taking out first place for the category - 'Guaranteed for Survival in the Wild', for her date slice, and to Tony Appleyard for securing first place for the category - 'Looks too Good To Eat', for his entry - 'Pickle Lilly'.

Deb Shand is also to be congratulated as the overall winner securing first place for the categories - 'Best Base Camp Tucker' and 'Would Even Bake this at Home', for her granola garnished with fresh strawberries.

MBW would like to extend a big thank you to our judges for the evening, Vincent Sicari and Mark Heath, who applied their expertise, good judgement and sense of humour to select worthy winners in a tough competition. Photographs of the evening will be available on the club's website.

GRASSHOPPER FRICASSA

The bushbake reminded me of an old bush recipe that I had found and tucked away somewhere. I found it again after much searching. It uses natural ingredients easily found and so should be popular with our lightweight brigade.

First you need to catch your grasshoppers, a good number, around 80 should suffice (there's plenty of them on the High Plains). Heat some butter and oil in a pan and add the grasshoppers, a few at a time. You'll need a lid on the pan as they tend to keep jumping out. Add some chopped onion and garlic and stir. Then add half a kilo of thinly sliced fillet steak, fry for only two minutes and serve with the pasta of your choice. Nutritious and delicious!

The bush master chef

Regent Honeyeater Planting 2013

Aug 10/11

Aug 24/25

Sept 7/8

Sept 21/22

Oct 5/6



Meeting Places: 9.00 am Benalla Ceramic Mural (beside the bridge over Lake Benalla)
OR 9.00 am in the township of Winton (large car park near the CFA shed)

9.15 am Welcome for all our volunteers at Winton.
9:30 am Travel in convoy to the planting site.
9:45 am Registration at the planting site and start planting.

Accommodation: Sleeping quarters at Benalla Scout and Guide Halls.
Mattresses supplied and small kitchen facilities available.
BYO sleeping bag and pillow.
Hot showers at Benalla Leisure Caravan Park, \$3.

What to Bring: Sun-screen, hat, boots or sturdy shoes, long trousers, gloves, rain jacket, hand-trowel.

Meals: BYO lunch for Saturday, as we will be out in the field all day.
Hot cuppa supplied for morning and afternoon tea.
Sumptuous meal supplied on Saturday evening.
BYO breakfast for Sunday, or sample the delights of the local bakeries.
Free BBQ lunch in the bush on Sunday after planting.

Activities: Bush dance on Saturday night for the energetic.
Wildflower and ecology walk on Sunday afternoon, in some of our best bush remnants.
See the fantastic growth in some of our older sites, a decade or more after planting.

Numbers Expected: Please let us know in advance the number of people coming, so we can cater appropriately.

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

NESTBOX MONITORING IN KELLY COUNTRY

In spite of our comprehensive safety briefing, the ladder looked precarious as it stretched upwards to rest against the side of the tree way above. Dale, our group leader, gave me the nod and up I went, rung by trembling rung. At the top of the ladder was my goal: a small green wooden nestbox. I fumbled with the latch, trying not to lean too far over and overbalance, and also trying not to make any noise in case I disturbed the resident. Gently I raised the lid, and there, looking up at me with bright round eyes, was the furry grey face of a Squirrel Glider. What a beautiful little animal - I was hooked.

About 80 people had assembled on a sunny Saturday morning outside the Benalla DSE offices to take part in Ray Thomas' Nestbox Monitoring for Threatened Species weekend. Many were university students keen to get involved in environmental projects, others were bushwalkers or local people wanting to help preserve our native fauna and flora. Some were newcomers to the experience like myself, others were old hands.



It could be a family of squirrel gliders resting in an open nest.



It could be a sugar glider with an enclosed nest.

With the help of models and photos, Ray introduced us to the different animals we might find in the nestboxes. Then we were divided into many small groups with ladders and vehicles to share, and sent out to seek nestboxes in designated areas and record our findings. We were lucky to have a perfect autumn weekend to enjoy this countryside once frequented by Ned Kelly and friends.

In the evening, after our tiring but rewarding day of ladder carrying and climbing, we shared a barbeque together and swapped true and tall stories. Gathering around the fire under a starry sky with a glass of wine seemed to magnify our memories - one eminent

leader even claimed he had found a very rare blue whale in one of the boxes!

Most people bedded down in the Benalla Scout hall or in tents outside, then on Sunday morning we set out to do it all again. It often wasn't easy to distinguish whether the nestbox residents were threatened squirrel gliders or the more widespread sugar gliders, particularly when all we could see in the nestbox were mounds of sleepy fur. Frequently the creatures weren't at home, and we could only surmise who might have been living there by the shape or building materials of the nest. Nevertheless, by the time we finished on Sunday afternoon we all had a good appreciation of the success of the project in providing safe nesting habitats for these unique little bushland dwellers.

*Deb Shand
Photos by Ian Mair*



Halina signals that one of the boxes is occupied.

REPORT FROM BASE CAMP – BLACK RANGE STATE PARK; 19–21 APRIL 2013.

[Written by Mary Daley and Ed Neff]

Black Range Base Camp at Mountain Dam Camping Ground was reached with Ian Mair's excellent instructions, supported by Max Casley's carefully hand-drawn maps made in 1999. Ten intrepid Melbourne Bushies enjoyed an idyllic camping setting with water views from the tents, very few other campers, temperate weather during the daylight hours and a welcoming camp-fire and warm sleeping bags to manage the chillier nights.

On Saturday, leader Ian Mair had proposed a circuit walk after visiting a significant Aboriginal cultural site at Mudadgadjiin Shelter where some Aboriginal rock art could be seen.

Our group viewed the modest artwork and set forth to reach and traverse the Black Range escarpment, before continuing to walk at lower ground level back to a car left earlier in the car shuffle. The Ranger had advised Ian that the track was not in a good state; nevertheless the group was surprised by the density of the growth. We were also a little puzzled by the absence of track markers. At certain times doubts and hesitation prevailed, so Ian, Max and Ed undertook some forward scouting forays.

Discussions were held, and decisions were taken; the group voted unanimously to press onward. We found a beautiful cave with richly varied colour on the stone, extraordinary variety of texture in the rock and thoughts of 'cathedral' and 'sacred space' were prompted in some of us.

As we continued to work our way toward a higher point on the Black Range, the views of the Grampians National Park added to the enjoyment and satisfaction of being where we were. For our lunch spot, our leader suggested a superb position with views toward the Grampians Ranges in the distance, and the spectacular weathered escarpment of the Black Range peaks immediately before us. Almost immediately after our lunch we found some track markers! As one walker noted, 'We have managed to walk the whole walk under the escarpment off track!' Further discussion and decisions saw us later taking the return track with markers back to the cars at our start point. After laughter, discussion and end-of-the-day review of the tracks, we agreed that our Club may have contributed a new Circuit Walk from the Mudadgadjiin Picnic Area. Our new path under the escarpment is beautiful and safe; although in need of some bush clearance.

We spent some time exploring the lookouts and remarkable rock formations at the peak. On several occasions during the day, we noted an eagle soaring near us. In the Aboriginal Dreamtime, the legendary hero and leader, the Bunjil, was transformed into an eagle.

On Sunday, the group took an early morning stroll along the shore-line of Rocklands Reservoir.

We then packed up and drove our cars to a car parking area on Muirfoot Track, in order to visit the Wild Man Caves. The group walked approximately three kilometres and then climbed a steep track to find a first cave, with the outside bricked wall still standing sturdily. David Ross, the 'Wild Man', a seasonal shearer, lived in caves in the area from the 1860s to the 1880s.

The group explored the area, then lured by Max Casley who remembered another cave, found a second cave-residence set within a spectacular rock overhang.

During the week-end Base Camp, our group enjoyed a completely satisfying program of bushwalking, learning history, and convivial company. We thank Ian Mair for his excellent leadership and for finding a new walk in the Black Range!

Deborah, Del, Ed, Gill, Halina, Margaret, Mark, Mary, Max, and Ian.



NORTHERN GRAMPIANS BASE CAMP, ANZAC WEEKEND

We camped at Trooper's Creek campsite on Wednesday night and lit a campfire despite the mild temperature. We had no sooner settled when we were joined by a curious wallaby that was very tame and obviously used to campers. The following morning as breakfast was being prepared the wallaby appeared again and approached Robert's unguarded tent and helped itself to a large piece of cheese. After breakfast we commenced our walk up Mt. Difficult there was a warning sign at the bottom advising of the strenuous walk ahead. As we approached the summit after some serious rock scrambling we were disappointed at the heavy mist which prevented any view of the surrounding countryside. After lunch at Mt. Difficult campsite we headed towards Briggs Bluff. By this time the mist had lifted and we were rewarded with great views. We retraced our steps back to the main track to Beehive Falls – a very steep descent. There was very little water at the falls and the beehives were not to be seen – possibly destroyed by bushfires a couple of years ago. Back at the camp we were joined by Bert, Joycelyn and Alana who had arrived during the day.

The following morning we packed our tents and headed to Hollow Mountain to start our Friday walk. It was intended to walk over or through Hollow Mountain to explore Mt. Stapylton. However, on locating the track and crawling through a narrow opening to the cave, it was decided that climbing over Hollow Mountain was going to be beyond us. Back to the cars we drove around to commence the Mt. Stapylton walk. As we left the carpark we were confronted with a long and fairly steep climb up the mountain, stopping on the way to watch climbers inching their way up the rock face. Prior to lunch we climbed to Mt. Stapylton summit which had the adrenalin pumping as we inched our way along a narrow ledge which led to the summit. After lunch we retraced our steps down the mountain to the cars and headed to Halls Gap to our next campsite at Borough Huts, stopping for coffee in the village.

On Saturday morning after visiting the coffee shop again, we headed off to Mt. Rosea. The track led us through spectacular rocky outcrops and, squeezing through some narrow crevices, we reached the lookout at the summit. The lookout provided great views of Lake Bellfield and the surrounding rocky outcrops. We had lunch overlooking a very scenic gorge before continuing on to Sundial Peak, again providing great views of Lake Bellfield. Roger was not going let us rest on our laurels and the way back to the cars headed off down the Lakeview track for more views of Lake Bellfield. On the way back a last minute decision was made to visit Silverband Falls. The devastation of last year's floods was very evident, the river was strewn with the remains of large trees and the ferns previously lining the gully completely washed away. Back at camp we decided not to light a campfire because of the warm and windy conditions.

On Sunday morning we bade farewell to Bert and Joycelyn (who had decided to do their own thing), another stop was made for coffee at the now familiar coffee shop before heading off towards Wonderland. Roger planned to do the Pinnacle–Halls Gap circuit. At this point the weather had changed and we set off facing a cold breeze. By the time we reached Silent Street, the narrow steep chasm leading to the Pinnacles Lookout, the wind became very strong accompanied by light rain. Needless to say after looking at views from the lookout we commenced our decent to Halls Gap. The track at this point had many varied surfaces from gentle descending paths to steep iron grid steps but all providing great views of the countryside. On reaching Halls Gap it was time for lunch before commencing our journey home.

Many thanks to Roger for planning a terrific 4 days walking, providing firewood and his great nose for sniffing out the best coffee shops. Thanks also to my fellow walkers Alana, Bert, Joycelyn, Rebecca and Robert for their conversation and companionship.

Ray Spooner



Where it got too challenging.



Bird Rock, Mt Stapylton



Sundial Peak, looking towards Halls Gap.

Photos: Alannah Matheson

GRAMPIANS TRACK MAINTENANCE WEEKEND 4-5 MAY 2013

Four Melbourne Bushies and two VMTC members met with David Witham, convenor of the Grampians Track Maintenance Support Group on a crisp but sunny Saturday morning at Smiths Mill campground. David briefed us on our assignment, which was to clear a track between Wallaby Rocks and the Asses Ears.

Armed with tools by David, we drove and walked in to this scenic area and started work. David took the lead with the chainsaw, Jim expertly wielded the brushcutter, Phil, Agajan and Deb pruned and tossed aside foliage, and Ian and Mark cleared the ground with rakes. What a team we made! As the sun got higher and warmer we worked our way down to the saddle until it was time to stop for lunch.

After lunch at Wallaby Rocks we went back to work, but the scrub got thicker and progress was slower. Finally the chainsaw ran out of fuel and we had to concede that we wouldn't complete the track today, but we walked up over the rocks towards the Asses Ears to admire the view.

We were rewarded for our hard work with a clear night in the campground and a blazing fire (thanks to the chainsaw!), although it wasn't long before we retired to the comfort of our tents. The next morning we stretched our legs exploring McKenzie Falls, then had the opportunity to visit the Grape Escape Wine and Food festival in Halls Gap before returning home.



At the start of the track along Wallaby Road we collected our tools and posed for the camera.



Stone by stone the way was cleared.



Back at camp it was time to get the fire going and relax after a productive day.

Photos by Deb Shand

What a great way this was to see how a walking track is formed, as well as getting to know a new area of bushland. Thanks to Mark for organising the weekend, and to the other cheerful workers for their company and conversation.

Deb Shand

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.



TOFS WALK

BRAESIDE PARK – WATERWAYS

DATE	Thursday 4 July 2013
STANDARD	Easy
DISTANCE	10 km
ELEVATION	Flat
LEADER	Michael Porter
TRANSPORT	Private
AREA	Mordialloc/Keysborough
MAP REF	Melways 93 F2, 88 D8.

This walk was cancelled in March due to hot weather.
 Meet 10:30 am at Red Gum Picnic Area of Braeside Park. Enter from Governor Road and drive 500 metres. This picnic area will be our start, lunch and finish point. The walk is a figure 8 loop.

Though only separated by Governor Road, Waterways and Braeside Park are an interesting contrast. Waterways is a suburb/estate developed around many lakes, resulting in 40% residential, 40% water and 20% parkland. Begun in 2000, the parkland is attractively landscaped but is as yet too immature to offer substantial weather protection. Open views across the water present good bird watching prospects. Braeside Park has three distinct environments: red gum woodlands, heathlands, and wetlands. This bush area has been revitalised over recent decades with native plant restoration. It is now a healthy and beautiful park providing habitat for native animals and birds.



NAVIGATION TRAINING

WERRIBEE GORGE

DATE	Saturday 6 July 2013
STANDARD	Easy/Medium
DISTANCE	5–6 km
ELEVATION	80 m fluctuation
LEADER	Roger Wyett
TRANSPORT	Car Pool
AREA	Werribee Gorge
MAP REF	Melways Key Map 7 B5
TRANSPORT COSTS (PER PERSON)	Approx \$20

We will car pool from Club Rooms, departing at 0830 and meeting in the top car park at the entrance to Werribee Gorge at approx 0945. After a short 1.5 km walk we will undertake the theory aspects in a shed (in case of rain) and then a number of group navigation tasks across country to gain experience navigating on a bearing. As well as a few tips and tricks to make navigation easy.

The group will be limited to 12 participants who will all receive a copy of the Geoscience Australia Map Reading Guide and a map template. All participants will be required to bring a compass (borrow one from another club member). Standard day pack, as we will be away from the cars all day, but likely to be an early finish, as long as no one gets lost!



SUNDAY CAR POOL

GARDEN OF ST ERTH – EAST AND WEST

DATE	Sunday 7 July 2013
STANDARD	Easy/Medium
DISTANCE	14 km
ELEVATION	Some hills
LEADER	Marilia Cipolloni (Halina Sarbinowski)
TRANSPORT	Car pool leaving Southbank Blvd at 8:45 am
AREA	Lerderderg
MAP REF	Lerderderg and Werribee Gorges
TRANSPORT COSTS (PER PERSON)	\$15.50

This is a figure 8 walk with the Garden of St Erth at its centre. The first section will follow the Lerderderg Heritage Walk. The Lerderderg was classified as a Heritage River in 1992 due to geological and geomorphological formations of state and international significance. Evidence of gold mining activities with many tailing heaps, man-made water courses and mine shafts are clearly visible throughout the forest. Leaving the track requires great caution as a missed step could be greater than expected. In this north-western part of the Lerderderg Heritage River corridor, the vegetation consists mainly of tall messmate-peppermint gum forests. There are over 320 species of native flora to be found in the Lerderderg Heritage River corridor.

After returning to our cars we will do the second section of this walk. The Whipstick Loop walk traverses part of the Great Dividing Trail, then loops down around Whipstick Creek through some beautiful open eucalypt forest. Along the walk is more evidence of the various types of mining in the area with both vertical and horizontal shafts, water courses, tramway and bridge constructions. As we walk we will become more

and more in awe of the miners who over 100 years ago changed the landscape in the area by hand in their quest for gold.

While walking we will have the arduous decision of whether to enjoy a coffee at the Garden of St Erth Café either during or after the walk ... or perhaps even both.



WEDNESDAY WALK

BALNARRING–SHOREHAM–FLINDERS

DATE	Wednesday 10 July 2013
STANDARD	Easy/Medium
DISTANCE	About 16 km
ELEVATION	Negligible
LEADER	Graham Hodgson
TRANSPORT	Private
AREA	Western Port Bay
MAP REF	Melway Maps 193, 257, 256, 262

This is a classic walk along some of Western Port Bay's usually deserted beaches with the added thrill of possibly bracing winds and wild surf. On the preview we saw a pod of dolphins about 10 m off the shoreline which followed us along the beach for some distance.

We will start the walk at Balnarring beach and follow a track weaving its way through some coastal scrubland until we reach the beach which will be followed down to Merricks where we will climb a small cliff onto the foreshore reserve.

The reserve is very pretty with some interesting vegetation to observe, along with a couple of humpies (fairly recent unfortunately)

We rejoin the beach at the southern end of Merricks and continue entirely along the beach to Flinders where a coffee shop may be of some interest.

The beach sand is usually quite hard so walking is comfortable with minimal trudging on the soft variety. Overall a scenic walk which is not usually attempted in winter. Be prepared for what mother nature may dish up!

Meet at the Flinders jetty carpark Melway Map 262 B9 at 10:00 am for a car shuffle.



SUNDAY BUS

MASON FALLS – MT SUGARLOAF

DATE	Sunday 14 July 2013
STANDARDS	Easy and Easy/Medium
DISTANCES	14 km and 17 km
LEADERS	Roy Rossebo and Steven Venturin
TRANSPORT	Bus – Leaving Southbank Blvd at 8:45 am
AREA	Kinglake National Park
MAP REF	Parks Victoria – Kinglake National Park 'Walking Tracks in the Masons Falls Area'

This walk is one of the Club's favourites. Kinglake NP is the largest national park close to Melbourne, with about 22 000 hectares of tall forests, fern gullies, rolling hills, an extensive network of walking tracks and vantage points offering scenic views. Our walks are planned to capture elements of all of these.

Both groups will do the same main track, with the Easy/Medium group getting just a little more distance and cardiovascular exercise. Whatever the weather, track conditions should be favourable. The immediate area around Mason's Falls should be a delight.



MOFS WALK

MT EVELYN FOREST WALK

DATE	Monday 15 July 2013
STANDARD	Easy
DISTANCE	10 km
LEADER	Jenny Monaghan
TRANSPORT	Private
AREA	Dandenong Ranges National Park
MAP	Melway 120 G6/7

This is part of the Mt Evelyn Forest, a relatively recent addition to the Dandenong Ranges National Park.

Meet at the intersection of the Lilydale–Monbulk Road and Hunter Road. There is a wide verge on the main road suitable for parking, but parking is also possible on Hunter Road if you prefer to park off the main road.

We will walk to join the Olinda Creek Track/Track 10, which runs more or less parallel to the Pipeline Track, which replaced the original aqueduct that carried water from the Silvan Reservoir to Melbourne. We eventually join up with the Mt Evelyn Aqueduct Trail back to Hunter Road.

We may forego morning tea, have an early lunch at the Mt Evelyn Reserve and then a short drive at the end of the walk to the Silvan Dam Reserve for afternoon tea instead!



PACK CARRY

WARBY–OVENS NATIONAL PARK

DATE	19–21 July 2013
STANDARD	Easy/Medium
DISTANCE	34 km (includes 10 km with day packs)
ELEVATION	514 metres maximum
LEADER	Bob Oxlade
TRANSPORT	Private
AREA	North East Victoria near Wangaratta
MAP REF	Vicmap 1:50,000 Wangaratta 8125-S
TRANSPORT COSTS (PER PERSON)	Approx 500 km total

Please note change of walk location. This walk is at lower elevation than the Mt Samaria State Park which can be done at another time. Winter and spring is said to be the best time to visit so it will be an ideal time of the year for us to explore it.

The Warby Range is a mixture of granitic hills and woodlands. There are spectacular views of the Victorian Alps, waterfalls and gorges. Unusually tall Austral grass trees can be seen in the southern section.

We will begin with a 10 km return walk to Mount Glenrowan which at 514 m is the highest point on the range. After a short drive to a car park we begin with packs to a waterfall walk continuing on to other view points and depending on time taken to a choice of campsites.

On Sunday we have more features to visit on the return to our cars. We will be endeavouring to see as much as possible without having to spend our time driving.

Bob Oxlade.



CYCLING

PENINSULA LINK TRAIL

DATE	Saturday 20 July 2013
STANDARD	Easy/Medium
DISTANCE	45-50 km
LEADER	Ross Berner
TRANSPORT	Train to Carrum Station
RETURN TIME	About 4:00 pm (Frankston Station)
AREA	Peninsula
MAP REFERENCE	Melway maps 97, 99, 100, 103, 107, 106 & 102

The meeting place for ride is the east side of Carrum Station (Station St). (Melway 97 D7) at 10:00 AM. This is on the Frankston Line.

The aim of this ride is to follow the recently constructed Peninsula Link Trail from where it starts at the Dandenong Creek Trail to finish at Mount Eliza Regional Park.

If you are travelling by train, you will need to take Frankston Line Train departing from Flinders St at 8:58 am. PS: check timetable closer to the date.

From Carrum we follow the Dandenong Creek Trail, then Peninsula Link Trail. At the Pines reserve we have to detour around, re-joining the Trail at Skye Rd. We will have coffee at Baxter, and lunch at Mount Eliza Regional Park.

The return trip follows Peninsula Link Trail initially and then Frankston-Baxter Trail to Frankston station.

The route is predominantly on off road trails, and few quiet back streets.

The finish point for the ride is Frankston Station.

For those who would like to shorten the ride, the option of stopping at Baxter Railway Station is available.



SUNDAY CAR POOL

POINT ADDIS TO BELLS BEACH CRT (ALTERNATIVE DEPARTURE POINT?)

DATE	Sunday 21 July 2013
STANDARD	Easy/Medium
DISTANCE	16 km
ELEVATION	Undulations
LEADER	Kerry McKeand
TRANSPORT	Car Pool from Southbank Boulevard 8:45 am
AREA	Anglesea
MAP REF	(Google Map Ref) -38.36905, 144.281516

This is an enjoyable circuit walk that starts at the Bells Beach car park and follows a well-defined track to Point Addis Beach. Depending on tides, a part of the return walk may be along the beach. Walkers will be treated to beautiful views of the sea and the red cliff tops and of the ironbark forests when we walk inland. A highlight of the walk is the Pt Addis Koorie Cultural Walk.

Walkers should bring wet weather gear and warm clothes and some cash for coffee or hot chocolate on the way home.

N.B. PLEASE CHECK THE DEPARTURE POINT WITH THE LEADER.



SOCIAL WALK

MARIBYRNONG RIVER – ANGLERS REST

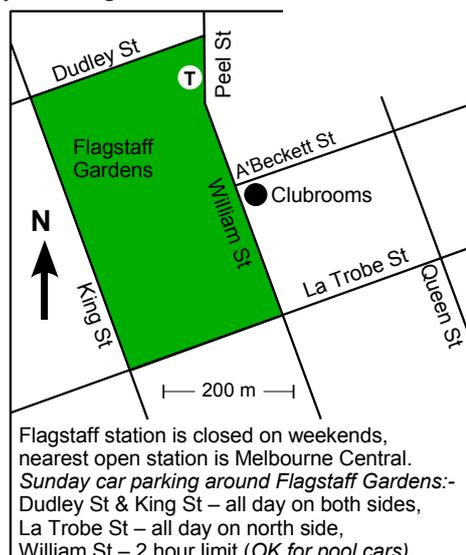
DATE	Thursday 25 July 2013
STANDARD	Easy
DISTANCE	5 km
ELEVATION	Flat
LEADER	Jean Giese
TRANSPORT	Private
AREA	Maribyrnong
MAP REF	Melway 28 and 42

We'll walk downstream beside the river to enjoy the lakes, wetlands and Pipemakers Park, then return to lunch at the Anglers Rest Tavern. There'll be a 1 km walk back to the cars after lunch.

Meet at 10.30 am in the Fairbairn Park carpark (Mel 28D9).

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.





BASE CAMP

TARRA BULGA – GRAND STRZELECKI TRACK

DATE	26–28 July 2013
STANDARD	Easy/Medium
DISTANCE	16 km Day 1 and 12 km Day 2
ELEVATION	Gain less than 300 m
LEADER	Mick Noonan
TRANSPORT	Private
AREA	South Gippsland
MAP REF	Carrajung 8221-3-S, 1:25,000

Secluded 200 km east of Melbourne away in Gippsland is Tarra-Bulga National Park. The nearest 'town' is Balook, close to the eastern end of the Grand Ridge Road. This park is one of the best temperate rain forests in Victoria with giant mountain ash (one over 60 m), messmate, ancient myrtle beech, some over a thousand years old, blackwood, huge lush ferns and fern trees, the famous Corrigan's suspension bridge, Cyathea Falls, the historic town of Balook with its a tea rooms, etc. There are also lyrebirds, wombats (dangerous for night at driving!), possums, owls, and wallabies.

Since the Club was there last the Grand Strzelecki Track has opened so we will have a mix of old favourites and new tracks.

There is no camping in the National Park so we are staying at the Tarra Valley Caravan Park. There is a choice of camping or cabins (up to 6 in a shared cabin), a sheltered eating area with gas fired BBQ's and cookers, wood for a big open fire, toilets, electricity, lots of water and a fridges we can share! ... camping luxury relatively immune from the winter weather! Bring something to share for the Saturday night.

If you want a cabin to yourself then just ring Vicki or David at the Caravan Park (03 5186 1283). I have booked 2 cabins to share and there is lots of camping space along the banks of the Tarra River.

I am away walking until the end of June so email me prior to then or give me a ring in July. You can either drive down on Saturday morning (via Traralgon and Balook, about 3 hours) or go down on the Friday night (via Gippsland Highway and Yarram if arriving after daylight to avoid the roos and wombats!). See the Website for Preview Photos.

Some say a cold misty winter's day is the best way to see the rain forest, especially when you can retire to a roaring fire and a cabin! So if you're new to base camping or have not been to Tarra-Bulga recently, or maybe you don't want to hibernate this winter, or you just want to see the best of Gippsland **mark this trip in your calendar!**



DANDENONGS EXPLORER

DATE	Saturday 27 July 2013
STANDARD	Easy/Medium
DISTANCE	Approximately 12 km
LEADER	Jerry Grandage
TRANSPORT	Private cars
AREA	Kalorama etc.
MAP	Melways 120

Starting near Sylvan Reservoir, we will pass through the (nameless) area north of Olinda Creek Road, followed by Bartlett's Track and Eagles Nest Road etc. in Olinda State Forest. Please note that a short distance of this walk will involve scrub-bashing along an old jeep-track which appears

to have been unused and unmaintained for many years. This will enable you to see a part of the Dandenongs that you haven't seen before. (There has to be a reason why these walks are called 'Dandenongs Explorer'!!)



SUNDAY BUS

LOST CHILDREN'S TRACK

DATE	Sunday 28 July 2013
STANDARDS	Easy and Easy/Medium
DISTANCES	
LEADERS	Nik Dow and Arron Laki
TRANSPORT	Bus – Leaving Southbank Blvd at 8:45 am
AREA	
MAP REF	

Details of this walk should be in next month's News.



CROSS COUNTRY SKIING BOGONG HIGH PLAINS



August 10–17 2013

Don't forget our week at the Bogong Rover Chalet. We ski in the 12 or so kilometres carrying in personal gear and fresh food. The rest of the food is stored in the chalet by the Rovers. Chores such as cooking, cleaning, woodchopping etc. are done by a voluntary roster. The Chalet has 240V power, hot showers, a washing machine, mattresses in the loft where we sleep.

Weather permitting, ski trips are organised each day. Usually there are two choices, one being easier, the same as Sunday day walks.

If you are interested give me a ring to discuss it. If I am unavailable speak to Merilyn Whimpey.

Doug Pocock



There was almost too much snow in 2012.
Photo by John Terrell.

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!

July 2013				
Thu 4	TOFS: Braeside Park – Waterways	Pvt	Easy	Michael Porter
Sat 6	Navigation Training	Pvt	Easy	Roger Wyett
Sun 7	Garden of St Erth – East and West	Car	E/M	Marilia Cipolloni (Halina Sarbinowski)
Wed 10	Balnarring – Flinders	Pvt	E/M	Graham Hodgson
Sun 14	Mason Falls – Mt Sugarloaf	Bus	E & E/M	Roy Rossebo & Steven Venturin
Mon 15	MOFS: Mt Evelyn Forest Walk	Pvt	Easy	Jenny Monaghan
19–21	PACK CARRY: Warby–Ovens National Park	Pvt	Easy	Bob Oxlade
Sat 20	CYCLING: Peninsula Link (Carrum to Mt Eliza)	Pvt	Medium	Ross Berner
Sun 21	Point Addis to Bells Beach Crt (Alt Departure Point)	Car	E/M	Kerry McKeand
Thu 25	SOCIAL: Maribyrnong River – Anglers Rest	Car	Easy	Jean Giese
26–28	BASE CAMP: Tarra Bulga – Grand Strzelecki Track	Pvt	E/M	Mick Noonan
Sat 27	Dandenongs Explorer	Pvt	E/M	Jerry Grandage
Sun 28	Lost Children’s Track	Bus	E & E/M	Nik Dow and Arron Laki

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