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THE NEWS OF THE Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc.

ABN 14 396 912 508

January 2014

2014 COMMITTEE VACANCIES!!!

Support your Club, consider volunteering...

Vice President(s), General Walks Secretary, Social Secretary, General Committee.
Contact Mick Noonan for more information – Please use email as I am away in January.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

The **main items at the December Committee Meeting** were: a decision not to increase membership fees in 2014 and to run a small operating loss which will reduce our reserves slightly; a review of two Incident Reports; looking at how we can improve attendances at Wednesday Social Nights and increase our visitor numbers in 2014; a change to the Emergency Contact System that mainly impacts Leaders; the status of the Committee for 2014; and how to encourage people to take a whistle when walking.

There will be no Committee meeting in January and the Annual General Meeting will be on Wednesday March 26th.

We had a **fantastic turn out for the Xmas Party** with around 90 people catching up with friends and having a great time. Each year we draw three prizes of a \$50 voucher for lucky Leaders. This year the winners were Ralph Blake, Deb Shand and Jopie Bodegraven.

I sometimes hear that there is a lot of focus on rules, processes and procedures and not enough on enjoying just walking. One of the roles of the Committee is to ensure you as leaders and walkers or cyclists can enjoy activities knowing the Committee is doing its best so you are safe and protected when you venture out. The News and emails to Leaders are our main methods for communicating any changes we need to make. So look out for important changes in the News.

Reminders for this month:

- 1 Why not **borrow a book from the Library**? You can search by title or author on the Club Website and then drop in and borrow one – our latest addition is '250 Victorian Waterfalls' which is reviewed in this News.
- 2 **The simple whistle can be one of the most valuable items you take on a walk** either to attract attention if you get lost, loose sight of fellow walkers, or to help find others who may get separated from the group – see the News item on page 3 on Whistle Codes and keep an eye out next year for an opportunity to buy a good whistle directly from the Club.
- 3 **Bushwalking Victoria Membership Cards** that get you a 10% discount in many shops are available in the Clubrooms.

It's the start of another year full of great opportunities for walking and cycling so when the summer weather eases get out and explore our fantastic natural environment.

It's also a good time to reflect on the fantastic work members do to make our club operate, giving their time as Leaders, Whips, Committee, presenters on Social Nights, helpers on Wednesday Club Nights, non-Committee roles, etc .

I look forward to seeing many of you at the Wednesday Socials each month starting in February and on the Sunday Bus and other activities during the New Year.

Mick Noonan

Due date for contributions to February News: 21 January

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 February 2014

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the following new members to the Club:

SARAH LANE
ELINOR BESTER

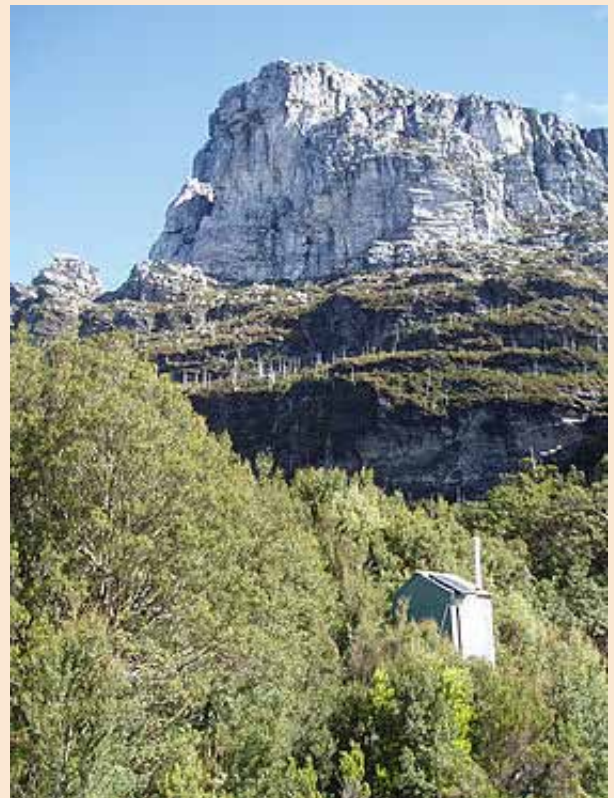
EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST FRENCHMANS CAP (TAS)

7–11 March 2014

Medium/Hard Pack Carry – 46 km

This walk over 3.5 days (the other 1.5 days are travel time) is a medium hard pack carry with the aim of summitting the 1446 m Frenchmans Cap (weather permitting). Only experienced pack carry walkers, with early commitment required to ensure transport booking. Maximum group size is 6.

Contact Roger Wyett.



EMERGENCY CONTACT SYSTEM – MEMBERS AND VISITORS BASICS

Take your own mobile.

- So you can ring family and friends if you will be late.
- Preferably a mobile with good remote area reception.
- Turn off the mobile in remote areas to conserve the battery until it's needed.
- If you must leave it on, put it on vibrate so as not to disturb the enjoyment of others.

Club Emergency Mobile 0447 489 661

Recording includes: Information on any significant delays, and the Club Emergency Contact names and numbers.

The Club Emergency Mobile is left turned off, so a call goes directly to the recording ... don't expect anyone to answer!

All Club Programed Activities:

Before you go tell anyone who may become concerned the expected Return Time and the Club Emergency Mobile Number.

If there will be a significant delay the Leader will attempt to get information on the delay included in the Club Emergency Mobile recording.

Delays of 1–2 hours for a day activity and 3–4 hours for a multi-day activity should not cause alarm.

If you are on a trip that is late try to directly ring anyone who may become concerned.

Pack Carry/Walk-In Base Camp Activities:

If after checking the Club Emergency Mobile people are still concerned, they should ring a Club Emergency Contact. It should not be necessary to ring a Club Emergency Contact for other types of activities

Mick Noonan

KNOW YOUR WHISTLE CODES!

For use in an emergency or just when the group gets too spread out in the bush ...

1 blast = 'Acknowledge the other Whistle Codes' or 'Where are you?'

2 blasts = 'Regroup' or 'Come to me'

3 blasts = 'Emergency' or 'I need help!'

Three of anything

(whistle blasts, fires, rifle shots, piles of rocks, flashes of light, etc.)

is universally recognized as a distress signal

Each blast should last about three seconds and should be repeated at regular intervals.

... everyone should take a whistle.

2014 Social Calendar

**Presentation by Mick Noonan in the Clubrooms
Wednesday 26 February 2014, at 8:00 pm
THE CAMINO TRAIL**

During 2013, Mick Noonan and Carol Corrigan walked 860 km across France from the ancient Roman city of Arles, over the Pyrenees and into Spain to the famous bridge at Puente la Reina, tracing the steps of ancient pilgrims and modern adventurers.

Why do people walk the Caminos? Which one is right for you? Can you walk a Camino on your own?

Come along, enjoy the photos, and find out all about it.



**Slide presentation by Ian Mair in the Clubrooms – Wednesday 23 April 2014, at 8:00 pm
BIBBULMUN END-TO-END – DID I REALLY DO IT?**

A rush of blood to the head? A cunning plot to get out of Victoria to avoid a 70th Birthday Party? The lure of walking on one of Australia's best long-distance tracks? A belief that you can't call yourself a 'real bushwalker' until you have walked further than the distance to the nearest pub? It could be one or all of the above. Either way, Ian Mair, with help and encouragement, made this epic journey of almost 1000 km (plus a few extra for getting lost!) in the south-west of Western Australia during the peak of the wildflower season. Join with Ian as he teases us with eye-catching slides and see why he, and other club members, rate the trip as one of their walking highlights.

**Slide presentation by Ian Mair in the Clubrooms – Wednesday 25 June 2014, at 8:00 pm
WALKING IN NEW ZEALAND'S SOUTH ISLAND WONDERLAND**

New Zealand is famous amongst bushwalkers for its diversity of inspiring and challenging walks. Ian Mair will provide an overview of some of the classics of the South Island such as the Routeburn, Milford, Rees-Dart, Travers-Sabine, Heaphy and others as he highlights why he keeps going back. These are all within the capability of the average club member with an interest in overnight walks. Come along and see how accessible they are and be inspired by the breathtaking beauty of the country.

ENVIRONMENTAL EVENTS

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Australia Day weekend 25–27 January 2014

Falls Creek sallow willow eradication: Working on the High Plains to hunt out and poison young willows. Accommodation provided in Falls Creek village. Leader Charlie Ablitt.



Looking over a tangle of felled willow branches to Rocky Valley Dam – Photo by Deb Shand

Australian Alps Walking Track: Clearing Buenba Creek to Mt Hope Road. Leader David Miller

Both of the above events are coordinated by Bushwalking Victoria and Parks Victoria. More details or register your interest at conservation@bushwalkingvictoria.org.au

I am planning to attend the Falls Creek willow weeding weekend and will help organise car pooling but will be away in January, returning the week before this event.

1–23 March 2014

Alpine NP Track maintenance/Work party: Working with the very friendly Friends of Bogong and Mt Beauty Park Rangers. Leader Rod Novak

Deb Shand

Along the Track

A VARIED SUBURBAN RIDE

Date – 19 October 2013

Route – Caulfield – Mordialloc – Braeside State Park – Westall – Caulfield

Distance – 65 km

Weather – 27°C, sunny, gale force north wind

Twelve cyclists, three women and nine men, met at Caulfield railway station and at 9:30 am Ed had us on our way. The first part of the trip was along quiet, beautiful, tree-lined streets then on to the Rosstown Rail Trail. There is only a short section of the original line which makes up the rail trail. Continuing west, we joined the Bayside Cycle Trail, which we followed to Mordialloc, stopping off at Sandringham for morning tea. Sue had to leave us here to attend to urgent matters at home. The rest of the ride around the bay to Mordialloc was done at speed, with the gale force wind pushing us along.

Mary and Mark left us at Mordialloc and the rest of us rode on south for about 2 km and then north to bring us to a new housing estate. Across the main road from here was Braeside State Park where we enjoyed our lunch in a bush setting.

After lunch we headed north into the teeth of the gale to Westall Railway Station where Lars, Rod and Fran left us. Rod and Fran rode on a tandem cycle – the first time a tandem has been ridden on a club ride. The rest of us continued along a cycle path alongside the rail line for most of the way back to Caulfield. After riding for about 35 to 40 kms into a gale I was glad to sit down without pedalling.

Thank you, Ed, from all of us for taking us on a varied and interesting ride. The Bushies who participated were Ed Neff (leader), Mary Neff, Sue Ralston, Barbara, Rod and Fran (tandem), Ross Berner, Mark Heath, Phil Brown, Lars Lindahl, Max Casley and myself ...

Art Terry

DISCOVER PLACES FEW HAVE EVER SEEN

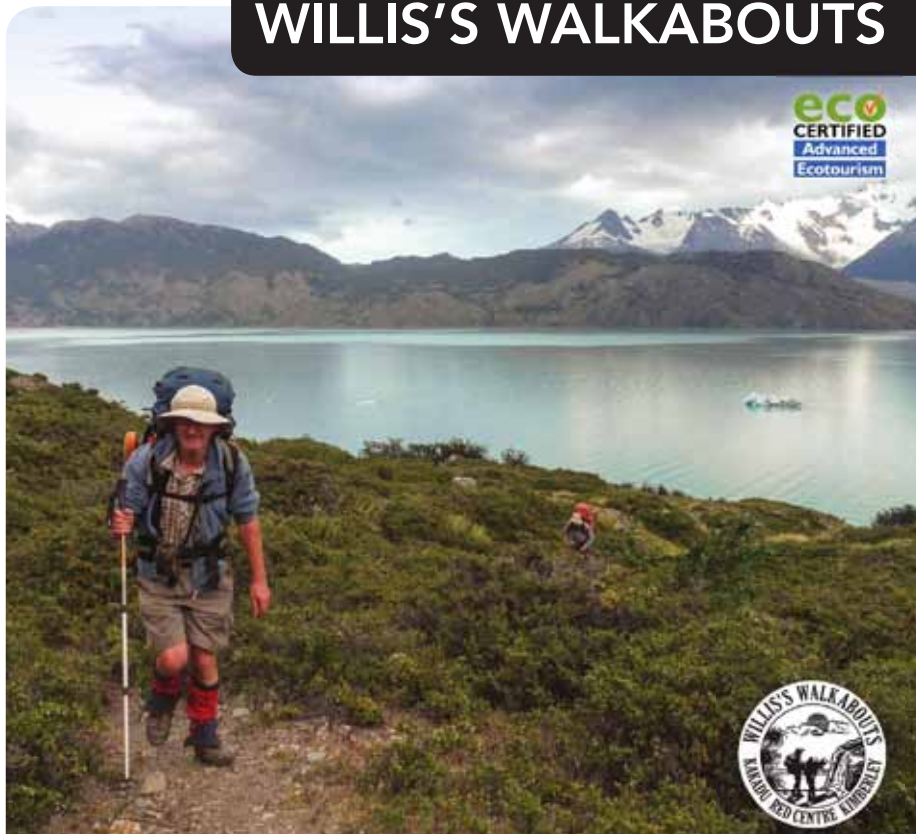
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PACK CARRY: COBUNGRA AND WEST KIEWA RIVERS CIRCUITS MT HOTHAM AREA 29 OCTOBER TO 1 NOVEMBER 2013



Friday night we all camped in the bush between Bright and Harrietville along the Snowy Creek/ River. We all met Saturday morning at Harrietville information and public toilet block area. We spent some time over there and visited the coffee shop to boost our caffeine levels. After walk briefing we drove to Mt Loch car park and started walking towards Derrick hut. Along the way we met many marathon runners, running Harrietville–Mt Hotham circuit. We also met a group from Albury/Wodonga bushwalking club walking from Falls Creek to Mt Hotham. We spend some times at Dibbin’s hut and along Cobungra River while having our lunch.

We arrived at Blair hut 3:30 pm. After setting up our tents we all (except Claire) walked to the nearby Diamantina horse yards and along the Diamantina and West Kiewa Rivers to the start of the Diamantina Spur. Back at the camp site, despite my previous notification ‘no camp fire’ we had a good controlled fire that we all enjoyed during the evening and night. Sunday, we enjoyed our breakfast around the camp fire, and then broke camp at 8:00am to walk back to Red Robin Battery and along the Machinery Spur. We noticed the presence of many cyclists who were riding from Bright to Mt Hotham. We finished the walk around 1:30 pm. We all gathered once again at Harrietville information picnic area and had our lunch.

Highlights of the walk:

- Viewing of the great Victorian Alps and surroundings in two very clear days.
- Meeting many walkers and runners along the walking route.
- Great evening and morning around the camp fire.
- Deb, Claire and Phil have renamed some of the land marks in the Victorian Alps. We managed to deal with the new renaming, and issues were solved to every one’s satisfaction and as per current Victorian Alpine map.

I thank my fellow walkers for their friendly company on this walk: Fang Fang, Claire Luxford, Jenna Burgi, Deb Shand, Philip Brown and Mark Simpson.



Agajan Akbari

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 BUS

MT DONNA BUANG – DOM DOM SADDLE

DATE Sunday 2 February 2014
RETURN TIME about 7pm to city
STANDARDS Easy/Medium and Medium
DISTANCES 16 km and 24 km
ELEVATIONS 660 m and about 1000 m
LEADERS Del Franks and Mick Noonan
TRANSPORT Bus – Leaving Southbank Blvd at 8:45am
AREA Yarra Ranges
MAP REF South Juliet and North Juliet
FIRE BAN DISTRICT Central/North Central
TEMPERATURE REFERENCE SITE Yarra Glen

If you are looking for a challenge for the New Year then this is the walk for you. Set in the beautiful Yarra Ranges between Warburton and the Black Spur, the Medium walk will be starting at the top of Mt Donna Buang and finishing at Dom Dom Saddle. Donna Buang is 1260 m above sea level and Dom Dom Saddle is 510 m, so it is downhill on average; however the track is undulating with a few serious climbs and descents. The peaks to be covered in the walk are Mt Boobyalla (1224 m), The Knobs (1113 m) and Mt Vinegar (1020 m).

The route for the Easy/Medium walk cuts out two of the hills, Mt Boobyalla and The Knobs, as it starts at the base of Mt Vinegar. The first 5 km is a steady climb of about 540 m to the top of Mt Vinegar. However it rewards you with some beautiful views of the surrounding area and then finishes at Dom Dom Saddle.

Some of the key attractions of the area are towering mountain ash, fern gullies, 130 native bird species, 31 native mammals, 21 reptiles and nine amphibian species recorded. The superb lyrebird is the park's most famous inhabitant. Sulphur-crested cockatoos, crimson rosellas, laughing kookaburras, eastern yellow robins, yellow-faced honeyeaters and pied currawongs are some of the native birds to be seen. Who knows, we just might be lucky and see some of them. Also there should be good views of distant mountains if we are blessed with a fine day.

Mick and I look forward to seeing you on the day.



TOFS WALK

10-YEAR ANNIVERSARY YARRA RIVER WALK

DATE Thursday 6 February 2014
STANDARD Easy
DISTANCE 10 km
ELEVATION Flat
LEADERS Jean Giese/Alister Rowe
TRANSPORT Private
AREA Kew, Fairfield
MAP REF Melway 44
FIRE BAN DISTRICT Central
TEMPERATURE REFERENCE SITE Melbourne

It is ten years since we commenced these Thursday Old Fogies (TOFs) walks so we will celebrate by doing the same walk along the Yarra that we started with, only in reverse. Alister will lead the walk (because I can't do 10 ks anymore!) and I will provide a cup of tea and cake at the end of the walk.

Meet at 10:15 in the first carpark on the left as you enter Studley Park (Melway 44H4). Book with me as early as you can so I know how many for afternoon tea.



PACK CARRY

MIRIMBAH – MT BULLER – MT STIRLING

DATE Friday 7 to Sunday 9 February 2014
STANDARD Saturday: Day one – Medium /Hard (approx. 21 km, 1550 m ascent, 450 m descent)
 Sunday: Day two – Medium (approx. 13 km, 900 m descent)
TOTAL DISTANCE Approx. 34 km
LEADER Agajan Akbari
TRANSPORT Private
AREA Mt Buller – Mt Stirling
MAP REF Buller–Stirling Outdoor Leisure Map 1:25,000
FIRE BAN DISTRICT North East
TEMPERATURE REFERENCE SITE Mt Buller

We meet at Mirimbah picnic area (base of Mt Buller road) at 8 am to get an early start on Saturday. We walk via Klingsporn Track (good track), and the McLaughlin Shoulder (a bit rocky) to the summit of Mt Buller. At the summit of Mt Buller we will be rewarded with one of the magnificent Alpine views in a

good clear day. From the summit we will continue walking towards the Mt Buller village (explore the village) and then down to the Howqua Gap and up the other side to Mt Stirling. We'll camp around Bluff Spur Hut which has a rain water tank. If time permits we may pay a visit to the summit of Mt Stirling for another great Alpine view. On Sunday we break camp at 8 am, walking towards Mirimbah via the River Spur trail and the Delatite River walking/bike track which has good bridges over the river. This is a good classic and scenic walk. Walkers are required to be equipped with all seasons' camping equipment, weather gear and carrying own personal first aid kit, have some hiking experience and fitness. If interested contact me via email or phone.

Suggested Friday night's camp site is just north of Sawmill Settlement which is situated before the winter check point to Mt Buller/Mt Stirling. After Sawmill Settlement turn left at Carters Road; the camping area is about 100 m past the picnic area on right hand side.



SUNDAY CAR POOL

GUNNAMATTA – CAPE SCHANCK – GUNNAMATTA

DATE Sunday 9 February 2014
STANDARD Easy/Medium
DISTANCE 13 km
ELEVATION Approx 100 m ascent
LEADER Halina Sarbinowski
TRANSPORT Carpool from Southbank Blvd at 8:45am
RETURN TIME Return to Southbank Blvd at 6:30pm
AREA Mornington Peninsula
MAP REF Melways map 258 (plus insert)
FIRE BAN DISTRICT Central
TEMPERATURE REFERENCE SITE Frankston
TRANSPORT COSTS (PER PERSON) \$15.00

With wild surf beaches, rock pools and cliff top walking, the back beaches of the Mornington Peninsula are one of my favourite areas to visit. Initially this walk was placed on the program as commencing at Cape Schanck; however, I changed the start to Gunnamatta to allow for a swim at the end of the walk if time and weather allow.

With low tide just after noon, we will take the low route to Cape Schanck, allowing for lots of time to explore the rock pools at Fingal Beach and the geographical formation of Selwyns Fault, the fault that pushed up the cliffs that we will ascend. 439 steps (feels more like a thousand) will take us up to an upper track, the track that leads to Cape Schanck.

With lunch scheduled at Cape Schanck, we will have plenty of opportunity to follow the boardwalk down to Pebble Beach with its views of Pulpit Rock. An added treat is the availability of an icecream at the Cape Schanck kiosk.

After lunch we will retrace our steps for a short distance where we will take the high route back to Gunnamatta. This route passes through native coastal bush with several points where we can enjoy views of the Mornington Peninsula, the Wild Coast and Cape Schanck before it drops back down onto the beach and our return to our cars. A swim (if possible) will be a perfect end to a great day's walk. I hope that you will join me to explore this lovely area.



WEDNESDAY WALK

MACEDON CIRCUIT

DATE Wednesday 12 February 2014
STANDARD Easy/Medium
DISTANCE 14.5 km
ELEVATION Around 500 m climbing in total
LEADER Fay Dunn
TRANSPORT Private
AREA Mt Macedon
MAP REF Melways X909 G12
FIRE BAN DISTRICT North Central
TEMPERATURE REFERENCE SITE Ballarat

We will meet in Mt Macedon village and start with a short car shuffle. This cuts several kilometres of road walking on what may be a hot day. The walk starts with a short, steep uphill climb to Mt Towrong then flattens out as we continue on via Sanitarium Lake, The Camel's Hump and the other sights of and from Mt Macedon. There are a few ups and downs but much of the track is sheltered by trees which should provide relief if the weather is hot. We end with a steepish downhill walk from below the Memorial Cross to where our cars will be waiting. Estimated time of return to cars – 3:30 pm.



BASE CAMP

ULUPNA ISLAND ON THE MURRAY RIVER

DATE 14–16 February 2014
STANDARD Easy
DISTANCE 10–15 km
LEADER Bob Steel
TRANSPORT Private
AREA Murray River near Tocumwal
MAP REF Melway map X921 J5 (northern Victoria) or VicRoads Country Directory Map 22 J7
FIRE BAN DISTRICT North Central
TEMPERATURE REFERENCE SITE Shepparton

Ulupna Island is on the Murray north of Strathmerton where there is a great bakery!

We will camp on the Murray River on or close to Carters Beach on Ulupna Island, where I have camped before. There are drop toilets at Carters Beach. Hopefully there won't be too many other people about! Walks along the river banks, watch the koalas and birds. Swim if it is warm enough, plenty of time to relax. Should be able to have a camp fire.

We will be camping by the cars so bring all your little luxuries. Bring your own drinking water.

We will be there from Thursday 13 February. I will have notes and directions available closer to the time.



CYCLING

HIGHLANDS TO DOCKLANDS

DATE Saturday 15 February 2014
STANDARD Easy/Medium
DISTANCE 43-47 km
LEADER Ross Berner
TRANSPORT Train to Craigieburn
RETURN TIME About 4:00 pm (Southern Cross Station)
AREA Craigieburn – Moonee Ponds Creek
MAP REFERENCE Melway maps 387, 386, 366, 179, 6, 16, 28, 29, 2A and 2E
FIRE BAN DISTRICT Central
TEMPERATURE REFERENCE SITE Melbourne

The meeting place for ride is the west side of Craigieburn Station (Hothlyn Drive). (Melway 387 C10) at 10:00 am.

If you are travelling by train, you will need to take the Craigieburn Line train departing from Flinders Street at 9:12 am. PS: check timetable closer to the date.

The ride is mainly on bike trails, with a few quiet side streets. The ride is suitable for beginners and is mainly downhill, starting at around 200 m above sea level and finishing close to sea level.

The finish point for the ride is Southern Cross Station.

From Craigieburn Station we will cycle to Malcolm Creek Linear Park, with many very old river red gums. From here we head through side streets to the Shankland Trail, which leads into the Yuroke Creek Trail and then Moonee Ponds Trail. The descent on the Shankland Trail through the Broadmeadows Valley is quite spectacular.

Near the end of the ride we will follow a 'little known' section of the Moonee Ponds Trail into the Docklands to the confluence of the Moonee Ponds Creek and the Yarra River.

If the weather forecast is over 30°C, the ride may be shortened as appropriate.



SUNDAY BUS

CUMBERLAND RIVER

DATE Sunday 16 February 2014
STANDARDS Easy/Medium and Medium
DISTANCES 15 km and 19 km
ELEVATIONS 300 m
LEADERS Ian Mair and Deb Shand
TRANSPORT Bus – Leaving Southbank Blvd at 8:45am
AREA Angahook Lorne State Park
MAP REF Lorne 7620-1-1 (1:25,000); Spatial Vision Walk Guide, Walks of Lorne and Aireys Inlet
FIRE BAN DISTRICT Central
TEMPERATURE REFERENCE SITE Geelong

Tucked away behind the seaside resort of Lorne are a myriad of cascades and waterfalls that form part of the rugged beauty of the Angahook Lorne State Park. Such is the potential ferocity of the water flows after a storm that parts of the park have, until recently, been closed to walkers due to storm damage. Now re-opened, it is an opportunity too good to miss to re-visit the area and examine some of these cascades. Both

walks will cover the same loop starting from the Cumberland River Reserve and finishing at the Sheoak Falls car park. Along the way visits will be made to a combination of Cumberland Falls, Kalimna Falls, Henderson Falls, Won Wondah Falls and Sheoak Falls according to the grade of the walk and our progress on the day, taking in some of the most beautiful river valleys of the Otways.

Accessing the waterfalls involves numerous river crossings and some scrambling over rock, more so for the Medium walk, and walkers need to have suitable footwear and be prepared. However, a number of the waterfalls involve side trips from the main loop and those who feel unable to continue can rest amongst beautiful surroundings until the rest of the group returns.



MOFS WALK

MORDIALLOC – SANDRINGHAM COASTAL TRACK

DATE Monday 17 February 2014
STANDARD Easy
DISTANCE 10 km
LEADER Pam Rosso
TRANSPORT Metro Train
AREA Bayside – SE of Melbourne
MAP REF Melway Maps 86 and 87
FIRE BAN DISTRICT Central
TEMPERATURE REFERENCE SITE Melbourne

This walk follows beach paths and coastal tracks. There is no need to walk on sand but if it is very warm, there are plenty of places where we can go down for a paddle or swim

I will be catching the 9:36 am train from Platform 4 at Richmond Station. This train goes through Flinders Street station at 9:33 am from platforms 6/7. This train arrives at Mordialloc at 10:15 am for a 10:30 start of the walk. Don't forget your MYKI card!

Return should be about 3:30 pm from Sandringham Station.



PACK CARRY

MT HOWITT AND CROSSCUT SAW

DATE 21–23 February 2014
STANDARD Medium
DISTANCE 28 km
ELEVATION 1040 m
LEADER Di McKinley (Ian Mair backup)
TRANSPORT Private
AREA Howitt
MAP REF New Series Selwyn 1:50 000
 SV: Buller–Howitt Alpine Area 1:50 000
FIRE BAN DISTRICT North East
TEMPERATURE REFERENCE SITE Mt Buller
TRANSPORT COSTS (PER PERSON) 8 cents/km

The group will camp Friday night on the Upper Howqua Camp, which is on mostly unsealed roads approx 1.5 hrs from Mansfield via Mirimbah and Telephone Box Junction. The walk is all on tracks and will start at 9 am on Saturday and go via Mt Howitt to camp at Macalister Springs. This 12 km day has about 1000 m climbing. On Sunday we will return via Stanley Name Spur and Queens Spur Rd, with side trips out to Crosscut Saw, returning to the cars at the Upper Howqua. This day is more downhill with about 15.5 km, including 2 km of side trips and about 100 m of climbing.



SUNDAY CAR POOL

BAXTER'S BEACH AND WETLANDS CIRCUIT

DATE Sunday 23 February 2014
STANDARD Easy/Medium
DISTANCE 14 km
ELEVATION Gentle undulations
LEADER Maddy Lock
TRANSPORT Car pool – Leaving Southbank Blvd at 8:45am
AREA Central Coast
MAP REF Wonthaggi Heathland and Coastal Reserve
 Track Notes
FIRE BAN DISTRICT Central
TEMPERATURE REFERENCE SITE Wonthaggi

This is a lovely walk in a special part of the central coast of Victoria. I have walked and led walks several times in this area. This walk offers contrast and variety with its natural beauty. You have marine park where we can check out the rock pools and remaining signs of ship wrecks. Then you have the wetlands and heathland nature reserve with the filtered sun coming through the banksias and coastal tea tree and wattles. There is a boardwalk over the wetlands but you may also have soft sand on the coast and this can vary. So there will be both shade and exposed beaches so come prepared with your two litres of water and sun protection max.

There may be an option for a swim if the weather suits.



SOCIAL WALK

ARTISTS' TRAIL, GARDINERS CREEK

DATE Thursday 27 February 2014
STANDARD Easy
DISTANCE 5 km
ELEVATION Flat
LEADER Jean Giese
TRANSPORT Private
AREA Box Hill South, Burwood
MAP REF Melway 61
FIRE BAN DISTRICT Central
TEMPERATURE REFERENCE SITE Melbourne

We will see where the artists (who later became known as the Heidelberg School) first began painting in the open air while camping beside Gardiners Creek. There are some reproductions of their work along the way. Lunch in a nearby café.

Meet at 10:30 in Thomas Street near the car park for the Box Hill Family Centre (Mel 61C3). Book with leader in good time so a booking can be made for lunch.



BASE CAMP

AROUND THE PROM IN A DAY

DATE 28 February to 2 March 2014
STANDARD Medium/Hard
DISTANCE 45.4 km on Saturday, 10 km on Sunday
LEADER Judith Shaw
TRANSPORT Private
RENDEZVOUS Tidal River shop, Saturday March 1, 7 am
MAP REFERENCE Wilsons Promontory National Park 2000, VicMap, 1:50,000
AREA Wilsons Promontory
FIRE BAN DISTRICT East Gippsland
TEMPERATURE REFERENCE SITE Bairnsdale

After a three-year hiatus following the storm of 2011, the tracks at the southern end of the Prom have reopened allowing the resumption of this annual fixture. We start at Tidal River and go clockwise around the traditional southern circuit via Telegraph Saddle, Sealers Cove, Refuge Cove, Waterloo Bay and Oberon Bay. The only difference is we do it in one day instead of three! With plenty of stops for swimming it takes about 12 hours. On Sunday we will do an easy half-day walk finishing around lunchtime before heading home. For fit experienced walkers only, no visitors please. Contact leader for further information.

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!

February 2014

Sun 2	Mt Donna Buang – Dom Dom Saddle	Bus	E & E/M	Del Franks & Mick Noonan
Thu 6	TOFS: Anniversary Yarra River Walk	Pvt	Easy	Alister Rowe
7–9	Pack Carry: Mirimbah Spur–Mt Buller–Mt Stirling	Pvt	M/H	Agajan Akbari
Sun 9	Cape Schanck–Gunnamatta–Cape Schanck	Car	E/M	Halina Sarbinowski
Wed 12	Mt Macedon	Pvt	E/M	Fay Dunn
14–16	Base Camp: Murray River Ulupna Island	Pvt	Easy	Bob Steel
Sat 15	Cycling: Highlands to Docklands	Pvt	E/M	Ross Berner
Sun 16	Cumberland River	Bus	E/M & M	Ian Mair & Deb Shand
Mon 17	MOFS: Mordialloc – Sandringham	Pvt	Easy	Pam Rosso
21–23	Pack Carry: Mt Howitt–Crosscut Saw	Pvt	Med	Dianne McKinley & Ian Mair (support)
Sun 23	Baxter’s Beach & Wetlands Circuit	Car	Easy	Maddy Lock
Thu 27	Social: Artists’ Trail, Gardiners Creek	Car	Easy	Jean Giese
28–2 Mar	Base Camp: Around the Prom in a Day	Pvt	M/H	Judith Shaw

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