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THE NEWS OF THE Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc.

ABN 14 396 912 508

July 2015

PRESIDENT'S CORNER – JULY 2015

It has been a breathtaking transition. One day enjoying the simple life of trail walking and, seemingly, the next immersed in the pleasures and politics of life at the sharp end of bushwalking administration. Nothing stands still (pun intended) with several busloads of volunteers actively organising and leading walks and snow trips, both local and international; planning training activities; meeting our responsibilities as part of the broader bushwalking community; and attending to our more social needs as we plan for our next big adventure. This newsletter, the club's website and Facebook Page, and email notices aim to keep you informed. We always appreciate feedback on what does and doesn't interest you. Drop me a note to president@mbw.org.au at any time.

Interstate and international trips figure strongly over the next 6–8 months with the two trips to Deal Island and the trip to Flinders Island limited to waiting list applications, the New Year trip to Cambodia full, and already with this issue of the News, a call for Expressions of Interest for The Overland Track next February.

(continued on page 3)

Nepal Earthquake Appeal



We urgently need funds to provide emergency supplies to Bhadratar village - situated 60kms from Kathmandu and badly affected by the recent earthquakes. Housing has been destroyed, the local school has suffered and the monsoon rains are coming.

Long term aid is also needed for our childrens homes in Kathmandu. Please help us continue to support our 47 children and our humanitarian work in Nepal



Contact Pauline Gleeson (president) on:
0428 742 477 or Mel Meeks: 0400 348492

www.ashafoundation.org.au

Every cent goes straight to Nepal - no admin costs - even our website hosting is donated!

Due date for contributions (including September previews) to August News: 21 July

MEMBER OF



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 6 July 2015

TRIBUTE TO SUE CLARKE

I have always felt privileged to be a member of Melbourne Bushwalking club, not just for the walking, but for the opportunity to meet positive and genuine individuals. Sue Clarke was one of those. I can't say I knew her well, but her ability to connect with you made you feel you had known her a long time.

Recently, I walked with her on some Wednesday walks, including December 2014. She represented the 'Bushie Spirit', with a down to earth and friendly manner. Being generous and open, she invited Ross and me to visit herself and Derek at their beach house at Venus Bay January 2015.

Besides being passionate about travel, she enjoyed a challenge, having completed several Great Victorian Bike rides.

Ross and I send our deepest condolences to Derek and his family

Debra Berner

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the following new members to the Club:

Annie Tunstead
Maciej Dzik
Margaret Cameron
Warren Cameron



Bill Metzenthén took this photo on the Brimbank Park walk which he led on 4 June. Don't let the sunshine fool you – the wind was bitterly cold, and it rained later. But, as you can see from the smiles, we enjoyed it anyway.

L to R: Jan Case, Alan Case (almost obscured), Bill Dowd, Pam Rosso, Marilyn Whimpey.

Noticeboard

PRESIDENT'S CORNER *(continued from page 1)*

All these before the Summer Program is even in the planning stage! Not to mention the many private trips by some of our members. We are a mobile group of individuals not bound by our local geography. We would like to see more similar club trips. I would be pleased to hear from any member who would be interested in exploring options.

Closer to home we are now well into our Winter Program and that uniquely winter activity of skiing. The initiative of Doug Pocock to build a list of members, beginners and experienced, who may be interested in short-notice cross-country skiing trips is gaining momentum. If you want to be alerted to trips that are coming up, or are an experienced skier looking for some skiing companions at short notice, then drop Doug a note to register your interest and place your skis by the door at the ready. Whilst you are at it talk to Doug about the week at Rovers Chalet (Bogong High Plains) in August. Or for a different type of snow experience keep an eye on Ralph and Kerry's preparations for the snow-shoe trip to Baw Baw NP also in August.

As one of the oldest and largest Victorian clubs we aim to take our part in the big picture seriously. We have a proud history of involvement with other clubs to enhance the amenity and safety of bushwalking. The Bushwalking Victoria Leadership Forum in June provided an opportunity to exchange views and explore areas of collaboration. A major campaign is planned during the coming year to promote the benefits of bushwalking. This will have a positive benefit for us. A strong and active bushwalking population will ensure the places we like to walk will remain accessible and our membership strong.

So too an informative exchange of experiences on the ways social media are opening up different ways for clubs to organise and conduct themselves helps ensure we remain relevant. Our Future Directions planning put in place by Past President Mick Noonan highlighted some of our options which are now under evaluation. Opportunities for organisational structures created by online giants like Facebook and Meetup challenge our traditional ways of doing things, whilst our established ways have much to offer in return.

Reminders for the month:

- Bookings are now open for the Federation Walks weekend from 24–25 October. Get in early to ensure you are placed on your preferred walks (<http://www.fedwalks.org.au>) and please let Mark Heath know if you have booked to participate.
- Book a friend onto a Sunday walk. The recently introduced 'vouching' system enables visitors to participate on Sunday Bus and carpool trips without the need to visit the clubrooms provided an experience member who will also be on the walk vouches for their fitness and suitability.
- Our next Navigation Training session is on Saturday, 11th July. Places are limited to ensure personal attention. Contact Roger Wyatt to book or add your name to the list for the next one.
- The Membership Renewal period closed on the 31st June. If you missed the deadline you can still join club trips but will be required to pay the visitor fee until such time as you renew your subscription.

Ian Mair



REGENT HONEYEATER PROJECT 2015 SPRING PLANTING WEEKENDS

1st and 2nd August

15th and 16th August

29th and 30th August

See under Walk Previews, page 12 of this News

12th and 13th September

26th and 27th September

For info check the Regent Honeyeater Project site:
<http://regenthoneyeater.org.au/planting.php>

2015 Social Calendar

Wednesday 22 July 2015, 8:00 pm

SLIDE NIGHT: PINOT, PIZZA AND PINNACLES – WALKING ADVENTURES IN THE ALPS OF AUSTRIA AND NORTHERN ITALY

Ian Williams and his wife Helen Mariampolski have been independent travelers for many years, having started as 'backpackers' before there were backpackers. In recent years their care-free itineraries have embraced far more walking/hiking/trekking usually as part of far longer journeys lasting 3–6 months. Their preference is to base themselves in an area, research at a local level and then strike out. Their last journey was from St Petersburg south to Northern Italy. Ian will give a talk on the spectacular alpine walking in the Innsbruck area (Austria) and the magical jagged summits of the Dolomites in the postcard perfect part of Northern Italy.

Ian is a keen photographer and a storyteller so please come along and enjoy an evening of 'armchair adventures' and good practical advice.



Wine and cheese also available.



Wednesday 23 September in the clubrooms, starting at 8 pm

SLIDE NIGHT: IN A LAND OF SMUGGLERS AND PIRATES

Presenter: Ian Mair

You've read the book, now see the movie! Well, not quite. But expect to be entertained as Ian takes us along his journey on the South West Coast Path in England, a journey of 46 days. The South West Coast Path (SWCP) is a long distance walker's delight. At 1014 km it is the longest National Trail in the UK. Villages and working harbours occupy almost every cove and inlet. History pervades every facet of the coastline, ranging from former prominent fishing villages to the once rich mining industry along the northern coast of Cornwall. In a matter of days the walk rounds Lands End, the most westerly point of England, and Lizard Point, the most southerly point. The cliffs change their character with a change in geology and the character of the walk seems to change in concert, where there is much to experience along the World Heritage Listed Jurassic Coast stretching along East Devon and Dorset. Large coastal estates and heritage sites under National Trust control span a substantial part of the walk, preserving the sense of remoteness as well as providing an historical perspective.



Wine and cheese also available.



THE 2015 FEDERATION WALKS

This year's walks take place over the weekend of 24–25 October around picturesque Daylesford.

You can come for the weekend or just a day.

Accommodation is DIY if you wish to stay up there but it may be possible to camp on a private property near Daylesford.

Local caterer Spade-to-Blade is supplying the dinner on Saturday night (\$35) and there is a talk by historian David Bannear, goldfields archaeologist with Heritage Victoria to follow.

There is a registration fee for the walks: \$20 for one day and \$30 for two days. Walk bookings start on 15th June and finish 30th September – first in best dressed!

Check out the website www.fedwalks.org.au for more details about walks and please contact Mark Heath if you are interested.

GUEST SPEAKER, JUNE 24TH REGENT HONEYEATER PROJECT SUCCESS STORIES



An absorbed audience of members and visitors from other clubs fidgeted as our Guest Speaker, Ray Thomas, outlined some of the success stories emerging from the Regent Honeyeater Project in the Lurg Hills near Benalla. Questions could hardly be contained as Ray flipped through his presentation, popping out an impressive array of facts, figures and anecdotes as he went. In the last 21 years, 23 000 students and 10 000 community volunteers have worked tirelessly to protect and restore significant remnants of box and ironbark habitat.

Volunteers have propagated and planted a stunning total of 586 000 seedlings, covering more than 1500 hectares, at over 530 sites providing a more secure habitat for species such as the critically endangered regent honeyeater, the grey-crowned babbler, the squirrel glider and the brush-tailed phascogale. Meticulous attention to the genetic pool of plant seeds will ensure longevity of the habitat, including that of some of the rare plants being planted. The new vegetation corridors being created strengthen the genetic diversity of the small animals that were previously land-locked in isolated enclaves.

Over 400 nest boxes have been built and placed, with the small army of volunteers conducting regular checks on their use. Virtually 100% of the boxes have nesting materials, but on any one checking day, we usually find 20% of boxes occupied by Squirrel Gliders and another 10% occupied by Sugar Gliders. It seems the mobile populations need to move around to suit food availability, and the project's wildlife corridors help them to do just that. Charts and diagrams map the growing populations; still small but definitely on the increase.

Thanks to Ray and his team, backed by impressive community support, the fruits of a labour of love and passion are returning rewards. Nature takes its time and many more years will be required, but there is plenty of time for you to be part of the army and share in the camaraderie of getting your hands dirty planting trees or peering into the home of a family of squirrel gliders.

Check out the Regent Honeyeater website for dates and details: <http://regenthoneyeater.org.au> or join with other Melbourne Bushwalkers for the planting weekend on 29–30 August. Details on our web site.

Ian Mair



TREAD SOFTLY (2ND EDITION, 2015)

Bushwalking Victoria has released an updated edition of its guideline document for bushwalkers to help conserve the natural environment. Copies will be available in our clubrooms or can be downloaded from the Bushwalking Victoria website at <http://www.bushwalkingvictoria.org.au/brochures.html>.

'The new edition of *Tread Softly* (May, 2015) is a code of practice to conserve the natural environment in protected areas. It's not about the comfort of and enjoyment by bushwalkers. Nor is it about the structures and artefacts in the areas we walk in, respecting land managers or treating other users with consideration, all of which are very important, but belong in a broader code of bushwalking etiquette. *Tread Softly* is now all about BUSHLAND.

Its purpose is to:

- Make a highly visible public statement about how we as bushwalkers can act in ways to protect natural environments in which we walk, and to educate others who travel to the bush but do not regard themselves as bushwalkers
- Inform Bushwalking Victoria's members and affiliated clubs of the code of conduct
- Provide a resource for clubs, so they can educate their members.
- To make its purpose unambiguous, we decided that we should prominently include the words "Bushwalking Victoria's code of practice for bushwalking in protected areas", to emphasis what it all is about.'

Bushwalking Victoria, July newsletter

Willis's Walkabouts

Kakadu

Six Days for \$300!

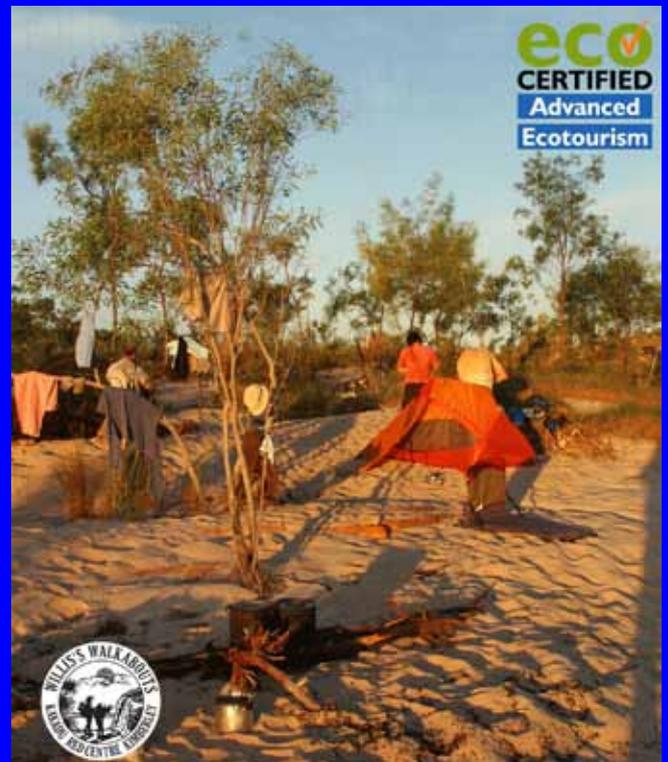
Two light-pack, low-cost specials, never to be repeated. If these trips work the way we think they will, they will be on the 2016 program at a much higher price.

Day Walker's Special, 11-16 August. A series of day walks, camping or accommodation at night.

Short but Sweet, 1-6 September. Carry a pack 3 to 5 km to a two or three-night camp, day walks from camps.

Details of the above trips went out in our June newsletter. For more information, see the availability page on our website.

<http://www.bushwalkingholidays.com.au/avail.shtml>



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

MT ECCLES – MT NAPIER PARKS – BYADUK CAVES

The Queens Birthday weekend saw seven Melbourne Bushies exploring some unusual volcanic features near Hamilton under the well-researched guidance of Bob Oxlade.

Our first destination was Wannon Falls, where lava flowing back up an existing valley 1–2 million years ago left a cap of hard rock which was progressively undermined as the softer rock at the back was eroded. Recent rains had brought the falls to life.

Our next stop was upstream at the Nigretta Falls, where the Wannon flows through older volcanic rock.

South of Hamilton we explored the uncommon Byaduk lava caves. These were formed when lava from Mt Napier flowed down an existing valley. A solid crust formed on the top of the lava but the lava kept flowing underneath, eventually leaving a series of caves. Later roof collapses revealed this fascinating network and makes a basic exploration possible. Not for the last time we marvelled at the amount of work that had gone into the dry stone wall fences that stopped sheep from falling into these caves.

To the west of Byaduk we visited rare volcanic features called tumuli. These are formed by pressure waves or gas bubbles popping up through the crust that forms on the top of the flowing lava. The tumuli look like heaps of stones collected by giants clearing the surrounding fields.

The next two nights we camped at Mt Eccles, with enjoyable hot showers, entrée feasts and camp fires. Here we explored the lava canals that carried the lava down to Lake Condah, and were able to have a look inside one of the caves and a lava blister, and walk under one of the lava bridges. Mt Eccles is a scoria cone and has the well named Lake Surprise nestled inside it – this time it was double surprise as recent rains had turned it into a chocolate lake.

Monday morning we climbed Mt Napier, another scoria cone. It is Victoria's most recent volcano and last erupted 6–8000 years ago. Memory of the eruption still exists in the oral traditions of the local Aboriginals.

My good companions on this enjoyable exploration were Bob, Deb, Gill, Rosemary, Stuart and Wendy.

Mark Heath



BRISBANGE RANGES BURCHELL TRAIL PACK CARRY, 6–8 JUNE 2015



The before shot

The Burchell Trail is a 40 km path running across the Brisbane Ranges National Park. We went in a cosy group of 6 with our spirited leader Claire Luxford who lugged firewood from home for all 3 camp sites in bright yellow chicken pellet sacks we found very hard to camouflage in the bush.

Most of us started off camping at The Boar Gully Camp site on the northern end with great luxury – wine, beer and home baked fruitcake (courtesy of our generous leader) and a lovely campfire. A fearless possum carried away the end bits of Ian's large drumstick dinner by the box up its tree. I slept very well that night.

We met the last member of the group, Richard, at 8:30 the next morning and did our car shuffle and started the walk from the Courthouse carpark at Steiglitz. This is a relatively abandoned but quaint little town that must have been glitzy a long time ago. A group of very young scouts

and their scoutmasters started off on the same trail at the same time. It was a beautiful day and we rushed

to get ahead of the young group and quickly did the first half in no time and had our morning tea at the Crossing Picnic Ground, where we came across the Bushrangers Women's Walking Club. We proceeded to reach the Old Mill Campsite by 3 pm with plenty of daylight left. The excited and happy scouts reached later with their dog mascot but went on to camp further on as our site was fully booked (this was met with some relief I reckon). We spent much of the evening and night at a fire lan made for us, cooking, eating, chatting and waiting for it to be late enough to sleep (can't be sleeping at 7 pm though some of our bodies were telling us to!).

We were all ready to go again at 5 minutes past 8:30 the next morning, upon Richard's special request – we were that good with timing. We left our packs close to the Stony Creek Picnic Area after 6 km to do a 6 km return side trip to Anakie Gorge, renowned for its rich birdlife. We had morning tea at the lovely picnic site and lamented that a coffee kiosk would make it perfect. We climbed most of the 6 km to Little River Camping area



again way before dusk. It was a very pretty walk with diverse terrain all along the way. We were joined soon by the happy Bushranger women who camped with us that night. We never heard nor saw the scout group again but thought they were well replaced by the Bushrangers. We had a lovely chat with some of them by the fire and stayed up late, i.e. past 9 pm!

The last day flew past as we flew down the last 10 km of the Burchell trail with much lighter loads with food gone, at a speed of 3.6 kph as determined by Ian's GPS watch. Even with a side trip early in the morning to explore a creek, we reached Boar Gully at noon and had a lovely lunch there and gratefully finished off the fruit cake before saying our thank you's, good byes and heading home!



The last leg up on the ridge

Rosalind Leong

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

CAMPBELLS CROFT, DANDENONG CREEK

DATE	Thursday 2 July 2015
RETURN TIME	3 pm
STANDARD	Easy
DISTANCE	10 km approximately
ELEVATION	Mostly flat, with two or three short climbs and descents
LEADER	Merilyn Whimpey (standing in for Alister Rowe)
TRANSPORT AREA	Private cars Vermont South
MAP REF	Melway 63

Campbells Croft was originally owned by the Campbell family, early settlers of the Vermont area, and was eventually sold to the then City of Nunawading to be used as open space.

Meet in the small car park off Boronia Road, Melway 63 B4. If you're travelling from the direction of the city, turn onto Boronia Road from Canterbury Road and drive about a kilometre. On the left, just past Holyrood Drive, you'll see a service lane. Get into that service lane and it will give you access to the Campbell's Croft car parking area. This is where we start and end the walk.

We take the track around Campbells Croft then follow the creek upstream to cross a footbridge. Then we follow the tracks downstream to the lookout at Melway 62 K9. The walk back to the cars sometimes involves retracing our steps and sometimes we can take different paths.

Please note: there are no toilets on this walk, but there are sheltered, bushy sections, and we could make a half-km diversion to public loos at Bunnings near the half-way point.



CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING

REGISTRATION OF INTEREST

DATE	Between 1 and 31 July
STANDARD	Easy/Medium
DISTANCE	Various
ELEVATION	Various
COORDINATOR	Doug Pocock
TRANSPORT	Private

One of the joys of winter is to rug up warm, put on cross-country skis and explore the alpine country. Jan and I are proof that you don't have to be an expert to enjoy the experience.

For some years now the Club has not programmed ski trips because of the uncertainty of snow conditions. This is a pity because it has also meant that we have not run introductory trips to enable people to get some basic skills. In the past, Jan and I have used the opportunity of an unexpected snow fall to nick up and have a very pleasant time.

I propose a system whereby members can register an interest so that a list can be drawn up and, if someone wants to organise a trip (with very little notice) then contact be made and a trip organised.

These would be Club trips and members would be covered by Club insurance.

Information required would be;

- Name • e-mail address • Address (for car sharing)
- Do you have a car? (4wd? Chains?)
- Are you available all week or only weekends?
- Are you a beginner interested in an introduction to skiing?
- Are you experienced and would like to organise a trip?



SUNDAY BUS

MT BECKWORTH



DATE	Sunday 2 August 2015
RETURN TIME	6:00–6:30 pm to City
STANDARDS	Easy/Medium and Medium

DISTANCES 12.5 km and 15.0 km
ELEVATIONS 450 m rise and 550 m rise
LEADERS Christina Hughes and Deb Shand
TRANSPORT Bus – Leaving Southbank Blvd at 8:45 am
AREA North of Ballarat
MAP REF Parks Victoria: Mt Beckworth Scenic Reserve

Nestled between Ballarat and Clunes is the Mt Beckworth Scenic Reserve. A lone pine tree, aptly named The Lollipop Tree, stands as a sentinel crowning this picturesque granite outcrop, a sanctuary for native plants and animals. Magnificent views and a rich variety of spring wildflowers are two of the reserve's features.

Both walks will take full advantage of the trails within the park that follow its ridgelines. The walks have been upgraded to Easy/Medium and Medium due to the undulations that will need to be undertaken by both groups. Breathtaking views of the surrounding countryside will reward walkers as we visit the summit, not once but twice. The reserve is home to 250 plant species, including 30 orchids. It has also become a haven for birds with over 100 species recorded, 60 breeding locally. Surrounded by large tracks of farmland, the reserve is an important refuge for wildlife. As it is rarely visited, the local kangaroos and wallabies, although often sighted on the preview, were quite timid and would bound away at first sighting.

Both groups basically follow the same routes with the Medium group having an additional circuit, mostly along a fairly flat track, visiting The Dam. This group will also have an extra climb and a short off track section.

If you enjoy walking among granite outcrops, or enjoy wildflowers in springtime, or enjoy 360° views as a reward to a climb then you will enjoy the walks in Mt Beckworth Scenic Reserve.



TOFS WALK

YARRA BEND/FAIRFIELD

DATE Thursday 6 August 2015
STANDARD Easy
DISTANCE 11 km
ELEVATION Mostly fairly flat with some slight slopes
LEADER Rosemary Cotter
TRANSPORT Private
AREA Yarra Bend/Fairfield
MAP REF Melway maps 44H4 or 2D F8

I haven't finalised the route yet (about to go away) but the walk will take in Kanes Bridge, Dights Falls and the recently constructed fishway, the Merri Creek, Fairfield Park/ amphitheatre and the pipe bridge. There is an interesting YouTube available showing the construction of the fishway between 2010 and 2012. Please contact the leader closer to the date for further details.



CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING

BOGONG HIGH PLAINS (ROVER CHALET)

DATE 8-15 August 2015
STANDARDS Various
DISTANCE Various; 12 km with a pack at the beginning and end of the week
LEADER Doug Pocock
TRANSPORT Private
AREA Bogong High Plains

Announcing our annual X-C skiing trip to the untracked expanses of the High Plains. We stay in the comfortable Rovers Chalet 12 km from Falls Creek and tend to have the snow to ourselves. Two or three trips are organised each day catering to everyone's inclinations or abilities. A voluntary roster is drawn up to ensure all jobs are done and the week runs smoothly, giving maximum time for skiing.

Always a great week. Past skiers are welcome to return and newcomers are encouraged to discuss requirements for joining us.

Contact Doug Pocock or Marilyn Whimpey if you are interested.



SUNDAY CAR POOL

MORTIMER RESERVE – FOUR BROTHERS ROCKS

DATE Sunday 9 August 2015
STANDARD Medium
LEADER Theo Mertzaniadis
TRANSPORT Carpool – Leaving Southbank Blvd at 8:45 am
AREA Brisbane Ranges

For details of this walk please contact the leader.



WEDNESDAY WALK

DANDENONGS , WEST FACE

DATE Wednesday 12 August 2015
STANDARD Easy-medium
DISTANCE 14 km
LEADER Jerry Grandage
TRANSPORT Private
AREA Dandenongs
MAP REF Melways 66

We will start and finish at Doongalla car park. You will see wet forests and gullies with mountain ash and tree fern, also stringybarks and peppermints etc. – the wattles should be looking magnificent. As you would expect from the Dandenongs, there will be some hills, both up and down. Phone me to book in.



BASE CAMP

CAMPERDOWN VOLCANIC HILLS

DATE 14-15 July 2015
STANDARD Easy/Medium
LEADER Jan Colquhoun

The Camperdown Base Camp originally advertised for mid-August has been re-scheduled for the weekend of 11-13 September due to illness.

Accommodation will be at Camperdown Lakes and Craters Holiday Park. Cabins or campsites available.

There will be a preview in the next newsletter.



PACK CARRY

BAW BAW NATIONAL PARK SNOW SHOE AND CAMPOUT

DATE 15-16 August 2015
STANDARD Easy/Medium
LEADERS Ralph Blake and Kerry Press
TRANSPORT Private

For details of this trip, please contact the leaders.



SUNDAY BUS

LAL LAL STATE FOREST

DATE	Sunday 16 August 2015
STANDARD	Easy/Medium
DISTANCE	13 and 17 km approx
ELEVATION	120 m fluctuation
LEADERS	Sue Haviland and Roger Wyett
TRANSPORT	Bus – Leaving Southbank Blvd at 8:45 am
AREA	Lal Lal – South of Ballarat
MAP REF	Lal Lal 1:25,000
TIME OF RETURN	Approx 6.30 pm

This area of State Forest backs onto the Lal Lal Reservoir and the Moorabool River, and is an old pig iron mining area. Thus we will pass old mine sites, including the remains of a blast furnace. The walks will mainly be on dirt roads and 4WD tracks with the Medium group undertaking some off-track navigation following the river.

This walk will give you a chance to stretch out the legs on moderate terrain, and shake off the winter blues, but come prepared in case of rain.



MOFS WALK

WERRIBEE PARK RETURN

DATE	Monday 17 August 2015
STANDARD	Easy
DISTANCE	Approx. 10 km
ELEVATION	Generally flat walking
LEADER	Keith White
TRANSPORT	Train
AREA	West of city
MAP REF	Melway 205, 244, 201
TRANSPORT COSTS	Return suburban train trip

We will meet in the main concourse of Werribee Station at 10:30 am. I will be able to provide train times at the time of booking. We return to Werribee Station at the end of the walk.

The first section of the walk follows the Werribee River, south, to pass under the Maltby Bypass.

We cross open grassland to meet the river again at a bridge providing access to the western entrance of Werribee Park ‘Historic Precinct’ for lunch among the preserved stone buildings including the old homestead and vegie beds. We return by the same route but seeing the country from the opposite viewpoint.



DANDENONGS EXPLORER

KALORAMA TO DOONGALLA RETURN

DATE	Saturday 22 August 2015
STANDARD	Easy/Medium
DISTANCE	13 km
LEADER	Fiona Gallery
TRANSPORT	Private
AREA	Dandenong Ranges
MAP REF	Melways 52 and 66

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



CYCLING

LARA – GEELONG

DATE	Saturday 22 August 2015
STANDARD	Easy/Medium
DISTANCE	45–55 km
LEADER	Del Franks
TRANSPORT	Private
AREA	Greater Geelong
MAP REF	Greater Geelong



Due to the timing of trains Leaving Southern Cross to Geelong, we will be starting this ride earlier than usual, meeting in the Lara Train Station Carpark at 9 am. You can drive down which takes about 45–50 mins from Melbourne or take the 8:55 Geelong Train from Southern Cross. If you intend to take the train then arrive early as it is a sprinter train which has limited space for bikes.

The Ride into Geelong from Lara is along the scenic Hovel Creek Bike Track and then the Foreshore to Eastern Park. From Eastern Park we will bike up to the Barwon River and enjoy some of the bike tracks along the river, then back into Geelong and Lara.

There are a couple of places that people can pull out and catch the train if they wish to; however trains only operate hourly (if that)

This will be a very scenic ride, so if you wish to see some of the best that Geelong can offer, please give me a call to book on the ride.

 **SUNDAY CAR POOL**

LYSTERFIELD AND CHURCHILL PARKS

DATE Sunday 23 August
STANDARD Easy/Medium
LEADER To be advised
TRANSPORT Carpool – Leaving Southbank Blvd at 8:45 am

Jamie Brawn, who was to lead this walk, is injured and so far nobody has volunteered as a leader. See the web site or next month's News for details of this walk.

 **SOCIAL WALK**

STRADBROKE PARK, HAYS PADDOCK

DATE Thursday 27 August
STANDARD Easy
DISTANCE 5 km + 1 km
ELEVATION Flat
LEADER Jean Giese
TRANSPORT Private
AREA East Kew
MAP REF Melway 45

Commencing in Stradbroke Park, we will make our way along a green corridor to Hays Paddock, which is always a delight to visit. Returning by a slightly different route, we will find ourselves on a section of the Outer Circle Railway Reserve and end up at the Fat Penguin for lunch. There will be a 1 km walk back to the cars after lunch.

Meet to start walking at 10.30 in the carpark on Burke Road nearer to Harp Road (Mel 45 K4). Book with leader.

 **CONSERVATION**

TREE PLANTING FOR REGENT HONEYEATER

DATE 29–30 August 2015
RETURN TIME 6:00 pm
STANDARD Easy
LEADERS Deb Shand/Ray Thomas
TRANSPORT car pool
AREA Benalla
TRANSPORT COSTS (PER PERSON) \$42.00 approx.

Spring is coming and it's tree planting time again. Following Ray's June talk in the clubrooms it would be great to have a group from Melbourne Bushies coming along to help as well as enjoying good country air, food and fun. Accommodation provided in the Scout Hall or bring your tent or try out a local motel. Dinner provided on Saturday night and BBQ lunch on Sunday. Bush dance for the energetic ones on Saturday night also.

More details about the weekend and what to bring on the Regent Honeyeater Project site: <http://regenthoneyeater.org.au/planting.php>

To register your interest and arrange carpooling contact Deb.

 **SUNDAY BUS**

YANKEE CREEK – LERDERBERG

DATE Sunday 30 August
STANDARDS Easy and Easy/Medium
DISTANCES 15 km and 18 km
LEADERS Michael Murray and Nik Dow
TRANSPORT Bus – Leaving Southbank Blvd at 8:45 am
AREA Blackwood

This walk in the Goldfields is usually very popular. Despite promises from past leaders, however, no gold nuggets have been found. We will encounter forests, 4WD tracks, aqueducts, some open clearings and an occasional farmhouse. Abandoned mines, aqueducts and furrows, a mess of mounds and a broken bridge can be seen amongst the wounded forests. There are plenty of trees to get over and rough ground, so you will need your agile legs on, as well as your hill climbing legs. Total walking time is about 4½ hours and the walk is guaranteed to get you warm on even the coldest winter day.

**EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST
 PACK CARRY – OVERLAND TRACK,
 TASMANIA – 11–21 FEBRUARY 2016**

The Overland Track is frequently listed as one of the world's top 10 walks and is one that all bushwalkers should aspire to do at least once. I plan to lead a walk through the National Park departing on the morning of Friday 11 February and returning on Sunday 21 February. The classic 93 km walk through a wonderland of forests, lakes and mountain peaks will also have time (for those interested) to take in the peaks of Cradle Mountain, Barn Bluff, Mt Ossa and The Acropolis (weather permitting!).

This trip will use the Group campsites and require the carrying of tents. Party size is limited to thirteen. Whilst it is still a long way off early booking is required to secure a place and allow participants time to arrange any annual leave.

To join the group or for further information please contact Ian Mair if you are interested.



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!

August 2015				
1-31	SKI: X-C Skiing: – Registration of interest	Pvt	E/M	Doug Pocock
1-2	CON: Tree planting for Regent Honeyeater	Pvt	var	Ray Thomas
Sun 2	DAY: Mt Beckworth	Bus	E/M & M	Christina Hughes and Deb Shand
Thu 6	TOF: Yarra Bend/Fairfield	Pvt	Easy	Rosemary Cotter
8-15	SKI: X-C Skiing: Bogong High Plains (Rover Chalet)	Pvt	var	Doug Pocock
Sun 9	DAY: Mortimer Reserve – Four Brothers Rocks	Car	Med	Theo Mertzandis
Wed 12	DAY: Dandenongs	Pvt	E/M	Jerry Grandage
14-16	BC : Camperdown Volcanic Hills	Pvt	E/M	Jan Colquhoun
15-16	PC : Baw Baw Nat Park Snow Shoe and Campout	Pvt	E/M	Ralph Blake and Kerry Press
15-16	CON: Tree planting for Regent Honeyeater	Pvt	var	Ray Thomas
Sun 16	DAY: Lal Lal Forest – Mt Doran	Bus	E & E/M	Roger Wyatt and Sue Haviland
Mon 17	MOF: Werribee River/Werribee Park	Pvt	Easy	Keith White
Sat 22	DAY: Dandenongs Explorer: Kalorama to Doongalla	Pvt	E/M	Fiona Gallery
Sat 22	CYC: Lara – Geelong	Pvt	Med	Del Franks
Sun 23	DAY: Lysterfield and Churchill Parks	Car	E/M	Jamie Brawn
Thu 27	SOC: Stradbroke Park, Hays Paddock	Pvt	Easy	Jean Giese
29-30	CON: Tree planting for Regent Honeyeater	Pvt	var	Ray Thomas
Sun 30	DAY: Yankee Creek – Lerderderg	Bus	E & E/M	Michael Murray and Nik Dow

The News of the Melbourne Bushwalkers
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