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THE NEWS OF THE Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc.

ABN 14 396 912 508

May 2015

PRESIDENT'S CORNER – MAY

The main items at the April Committee Meeting were: welcoming the new committee members and allocating roles; finishing planning for the Thank You Dinner; reviewing 5 incident reports (including 2 broken legs); deciding to part-pay the deposits for the trips to Deal Island to secure the sailing dates with the money refunded from trip payments; and reviewing the updates to our Risk Management Plan.

In the last 16 months we have had 6 leg breaks on walks. This is a strong reminder of the inherent risks in bushwalking and the need to be careful. While each Incident Report is individually assessed and we reviewed the 4 leg breaks in 2014 as part of reviewing all 2014 Incident Reports we will now look at what else we can do to help members safely enjoy the great outdoors.

Pack Carry numbers have been increasing and we have had a number of 'introductory' walks which were well attended. The next Beginners' Pack Carry is on 16–17 May and it's close to Melbourne at Lerderderg Gorge. So if you have been thinking of trying your first pack carry or want to gain some more experience in a learning environment join Jopie for a great weekend.

In this News we have printed the list of volunteers for our non-committee roles. This is a reminder both of all the things that need to be done to operate a modern bushwalking club and the generosity of the volunteers who perform these roles.

2015 will be remembered for its Island trips: Snake Island led by Susan Maughan; two Deal Island trips led by Susan Maughan and Jamie Brawn; and a planned Flinders Island Trip to be led by Doug Pocock. These trips are proving extremely popular, often filling within a few weeks of advertising. I was lucky enough to go on Jamie's Deal Island trip. It was probably the best club adventure I have been on and luckily I did not get sea sick.

The Deal Island trips were Susan's idea and given their popularity she has organised two more for 2016 – both of which have sold out in two weeks. These trips were advertised very early to secure sailing dates in what will be a very narrow window in 2016. There is clearly a great demand for these adventurous trips.

Reminders and information for this month:

Membership fees are now due and while members have three months to the end of June to renew and stay financial we encourage you to renew early. Updated renewal forms will be in the News from April to June that remind you of the risks involved in bushwalking. By renewing you are acknowledging your acceptance of the risk involved. Please read the form carefully!

Check those walking shoes and boots for plenty of tread. Don't rush on sections of slippery tracks and consider using walking poles.

It is in leaders' interests to email ecs@mbw.org.au when they are doing a preview to ensure they are covered by insurance if anything happens. It is as easy as sending a short email and telling a responsible person where you are going. From the numbers of emails we get there are a number of people who forget to advise us.

I now have 6 weeks to go as President before Ian gets back from his epic South West Coast Track walk in the UK. So far he is enjoying it and has even managed to get some 'reasonable' weather.

Mick Noonan

Due date for contributions (including July previews) to June News: 21 May

MEMBER OF



Bushwalking Victoria

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 4 May 2015

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the following new members to the Club:

Nick Scanlon, Marc Dollow, Deborah Van Urk, James Oakes, Mason Asadi, Mirjana Andres, Yin Ching Wan, Hansley Perrine, Liz Spring, Babak Dadvand, Amanda Fielding, Jane Frisken, John Chadderton, Angela Collie

FEDERATION WALKS WEEKEND 2015 – NOTICE 1

Federation Walks Weekend 2015 will be held in the Victorian Goldfields and Spa Country around Daylesford and Hepburn Springs on the weekend of 24–25 October 2015. The event will be hosted by the Bayside Bushwalking Club and the Great Dividing Trail Association.

The venue for registration, afternoon tea and Saturday evening meal will be the Hepburn Primary School, 156 Main Road, Hepburn (corner of Fourteenth Street).

Due to the wide range of accommodation available in the area and the fact that it is close enough to Melbourne to permit day trips, the hosting clubs will not be organising accommodation. Instead they will provide information about suitable group and budget accommodation.

The Daylesford area is very popular and accommodation can book out quickly, sometimes a year in advance, so if you would like to participate in some of the great walks we are planning while staying overnight in the area, it might be a good idea to book your accommodation soon.

Keep up to date about the Federation Walks weekend at <http://fedwalks.org.au/>.



Wombat Reservoir

VALE – PETER BULLARD

11/05/1950 – 03/04/2015

Peter was born in Great Yarmouth England. At 4 years of age, he migrated to Australia in 1954, when his Mum Daisy, Dad Stan and older sister Jill came out by ship for the princely sum of 10 pounds, along with hundreds of other families, hoping to make a better life in a new land.

Peter spent most of his early life with the family in Melbourne, attending South Yarra Primary and then Prahran Tech School.

He joined the Melbourne Bushwalkers in 1970 and participated in many walks, and led quite a few.

Pete was an explorer and spent the mid 1970's backpacking to various destinations all around the world. In his travels he visited Africa. He not only loved the land but also the music.

I worked with Anne in the Commonwealth Employment Service at Camberwell in the early 1980s. She expressed interest in the Melbourne Bushwalkers and I invited her to attend a meeting.

Peter met his beloved Anne on a bushwalking trip to Mt. Feathertop in September 1982. According to Anne it was love at first sight.

They were married on June 25th 1983 at Anne's mum's home in Union Road Surrey Hills. Anne always wanted to be a June bride. (I attended both their engagement party and their wedding.)

He and Anne produced the *Bushies News* between 1983 and 1992, using a Gestetner machine and collating the *News* with the help of volunteers.

Peter also edited the Club's annual magazine, *WALK*, while I was President.

In 2000 Peter and Anne moved to the small town of Clunes, a close knit rural community in western Victoria. In Clunes they become involved in the local community, conducting a woodworking and furniture restoration business, as well volunteering with the CFA.

The Scouts were a very important part of Pete's life. He was presented the 'Gilwell Group Scarf' indicating a level 5 training, which is the highest level a Scout Leader can attain.

Peter and Anne joined the Ballarat District 4WD Club in 2002, giving quite a few people the pleasure of getting to know them. They participated in and ran lots of trips, making many friends over the past years.

Peter was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer in early 2015. As it was already well advanced, Peter declined to undergo invasive treatment, and they moved into Ballarat for paliative care.

Peter passed away on Good Friday 3 April 2015 after a short illness.

The funeral was held on 9th April in Ballarat and I attended as a friend and on behalf of the Club.

Few current members would remember Peter, or know of the part he played in making our Club great.

Bob Steel

NON COMMITTEE ROLES 2015

Assistant Social Secretary	Susan Maughan, Liz Telford
Assistant Sunday Walks Secretary	Del Franks
Bushwalking Search and Rescue Coordinator	David Laing
Club Email Contact	Mark Heath
Database Administrator	Chris Schirlinger
Environment Officer	Deb Shand
Equipment Officer	John Fritze
Finance Reviews	John Boyd, Richard Hanson
Librarian	Cecily Hunter
Maps Officer	Mark Heath
Newsletter Editor	Merilyn Whimpey
Training Officer	Roger Wyett
Website and Facebook Manager	Ian Mair
Facebook Editors	Mark Heath, Christina Hughes

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Noticeboard

NON-COMMITTEE ROLES 2015 (continued from page 3)

Activity Co-ordinators

Base Camp/Lodge	Wendy Fortington	Pack Carry	Jopie Bodegraven
Cycling	Ross Berner	TOFs/MOFs/Social	Jean Giese and Alister Rowe
Dandenongs Explorer	Maureen Hurley	Wednesday	Ed Neff

Bush Search and Rescue (BSAR, new members welcome, see David Laing)

David Laing, Derrick Brown, Gina Hopkins, Bill Metzenthien, Roger Wyatt, Diane Woodcroft, Mick Noonan, Andy Elam

Wednesday Committee Duty Roster Helpers (being expanded)

Margaret Curry, Wendy Fortington, Jopie Bodegraven, Fay Dunn, Sue Haviland, Graham Hodgson, Roger Wyatt, Carol Sisson, Kerry McKeand, Sue Ralston, Cassie Pace, Maureen Hurley, Mary Daley, Carol Ward, Margaret Njeri Cornes, Mick Noonan, Jamie Brawn

Club Emergency Contacts (being expanded)

Jim Marsden, Del Franks, Richard Long, Mick Noonan, Ed Neff, Jopie Bodegaven, Stuart Hanham, Derrick Brown, Ian Mair, David Laing, Susan McInnes, Margaret Curry, Richard Hanson

Leaders and Whips

There are many Leaders and Whips who make an invaluable contribution – too many to list.

Willis's Walkabouts

Madagascar

Four weeks: September 2015

No one else offers a tour like this. Transport will be primarily by chartered minivan, but will also include pirogue canoes, and of course, your own feet while carrying a day or overnight pack.

We can't even begin to describe everything you will do and see in a short ad like this, suffice to say that the clients on our first Madagascar trip in 2014 all loved it. The things we learned on that trip should make this one even better.

The best way to get an idea of what it is like is to read the trip notes.

www.bushwalkingholidays.com.au/pdf/madagascar.pdf

PS. We also offer trips to South Africa.



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

2015 Social Calendar

THE WEIRD AND WONDERFUL WORLD OF FUNGUS – a presentation by Geoff Lay

Have you ever wondered about those brightly coloured mushrooms you saw on bushwalks? Fungus forms associations with over 90% of plants worldwide. What do they do? How are they named?

Been scared to ask, but had no one to ask anyway? Never fear, the fungi man Geoff Lay is here.

Fungi are little understood but they are everywhere. Geoff Lay will show us the different types of fungus and describe the major role they perform in the environment. The emphasis is on lots of photos and few words.

Find out about rings and veils, earthstars, stinkhorns and caterpillar murderers.

Geoff has been a keen bushwalker with a camera for over 40 years.

Here are a couple of photos to whet your appetite. One is a weed brought in to help the dreaded pine trees grow better; the other smells worse than rotting meat. Come along and find out which is which.



Amanita muscaria



Aseroe rubra

Geoff will also have some books on sale for \$30 and \$50 if you want to learn more.

Visitors welcome.

When: 8 pm, Wednesday 27 May 2015

Where: In the clubrooms, 362 William Street, Melbourne (enter from William Street near the corner with A'Beckett Street)



Wine and cheese available.



NOTICE TO MEMBERS WHO RECEIVE HARD COPY NEWSLETTERS.*

If you currently receive a hard copy newsletter but also have access to email, would you consider receiving the quarterly walk programs and the twice yearly membership lists by email only. This could save the club up to \$260 over the year.

Any members that would be happy to do this, please contact me or let the bookings person know when you're at the club rooms.

Also if any more members would consider dropping their hard copy when they renew, this would also be helpful.

Gillian Wainwright (Membership secretary)

* Some members historically receive hard copy newsletters. This is not available to new members.

MARLO BASE CAMP – EASTER 2015

The predicted weather a week out from our base camp at Marlo (near Orbost in East Gippsland) was for rain and gale force winds but every day was perfect for our group of around 16 with eight staying in two cabins and the rest camping.

Easter Friday included a moderate walk followed by an early evening shared feast, then most of us (after a glass of wine or two) abandoned our prepared meal plans and opted for fish and chips at the local angling club.

Saturday started with a trip to the local fête – where many plants and much chutney were purchased – followed by the main walk of the weekend. This was along the coastal bush, around a fresh water lake (where we encountered a snake – re-identified as an Eastern Brown) and then a walk back along the beach beside the pounding surf, finally returning to our starting point via a fern glade. We gathered for a shared feast in one of the cabins and then that evening after dinner watched the total eclipse of the moon as it moved into the Earth's shadow and turned a rusty red. The cloud disappeared at the right moment also revealing a wonderful starlit sky.

Sunday's first walk was planned to be much easier and most returned by the same route back to our camping ground in time for lunch. A smaller group headed along the beach and after three days of walking near rough surf finally spotted a safe place for a swim just as the Sun came out and the wind dropped. The



water was clear and clean but not cold – note the colours in the accompanying photo. As a bonus we had a nice secluded beach and some funny incidents with some stray chunks of seaweed. The swimmers then took a shortcut back to the camping ground for lunch. The final walk was around Marlo itself, ending appropriately at the local pub for a tonic (with gin) to revive us after much walking. We returned to the pub for dinner and for those so inclined, a dance.

We travelled back to Melbourne on Easter Monday – one car bristling with plants from the fête. Altogether a great Easter with excellent weather and company. Thanks go to Margaret Curry for organising the whole weekend for us to enjoy.

Stephen Ingrouille



WALKIE TALKIES NOW AVAILABLE FOR HIRE

Six walkie talkies and two charging stations have been very generously donated to the club by member, Kay Mar and are now available to borrow.

Walkie talkies are great when you need to communicate over distances within a couple of kilometers. They are suitable for walks between leader and whip, a front runner and leader, bike rides where distances can easily expand, pack carries, base camps, car shuffles and previews of all activities.

There is no charge to borrow walkie talkies for club activities. If you feel that you will have more confidence in communicating with others on your activity please borrow them.

Thank you again, Kay. Your generous gift is greatly appreciated.

LETTER FROM ENGLAND MINEHEAD TO ST IVES ON THE SOUTH WEST COAST PATH

As you endure the colder autumn months I am enjoying exceptionally warm weather walking in the South West of England. Now, with just over one third of my walk complete, I can share some of the experiences for others who may be interested.

The South West Coast Path (SWCP) in England is a long distance walker's delight. At 1014 km it is the longest National Trail in the UK. Unlike the ever-popular classical pilgrim route of the Camino de Santiago de Compostela (St. James's Way), the SWCP draws on less saintly origins. Long sections of the path knit together walking trails trodden by vigilant coastguards from the early 1800's on the lookout for a flourishing surge in smuggling to avoid highly unpopular import tariffs. Hugging the coastline, the path takes walkers perilously close to precipitous cliffs amongst the highest along the UK coastline. Predictions of buffeting winds or the legendary Cornish mist can be a walker's bane. In good conditions walkers are treated to stunning coastal views interspersed with easy strolls across rolling farmland and knee-crunching dips into deep ravines feeding streams to the coast. Far from being repetitive and tiresome, the biggest danger is in pausing too long to take photographs.

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. Tourism too has provided its legacy over the centuries. Together they have left a diversity of accommodation options ranging from isolated YHA Hostels housed in former coastguard houses to the splendid Camelot Hotel at Tintagel, noted for its use as a setting for several films about the mythical King Arthur. And you can also spend a night in Port Isaac (better known as Port Wenn by Doc Martin TV series fans)!

Some practicalities. Sore feet, weary legs and the odd blister testify that the walk should not be regarded as easy. Unless you have no time constraints and a flush budget you can expect some long and hard days covering as much as 25–30 km, with a cumulative elevation of up to 1800 m. As it was off-season, I chose not to book accommodation in advance to give flexibility in scheduling, but you have to be prepared to spend time looking or move on to the next village, even in the off-season. The SWCP is generally well marked and all you do is follow the National Trail acorn markers. In some of the larger towns it can get confusing but staying close to the coast and trusting that you will eventually be back on track has worked so far. 'Walking the coast' is a popular activity and there is always someone who can point you in the right direction if you are really confused.

Now in St Ives (21st April) I am enjoying my first rest day amongst the narrow streets and lanes in this iconic seaside resort as I prepare for what my guide notes describe as the most strenuous and challenging day, 22 km of sometimes narrow and vague path along isolated and wild cliff tops with seemingly uninterrupted ups and downs. More in my next letter.

Ian Mair

PS: My girth is expanding in proportion to my developing taste for the local ales.



Monument at start of walk in Minehead



Meandering cliff-top paths

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.



SOCIAL WALK

BEACON COVE, WHITE RESERVE

DATE Thursday 28 May 2015
STANDARD Easy
DISTANCE 5 km
ELEVATION Flat
LEADER Marilyn Whippey
(Jean Giese is unable to lead this walk, so note change of leader.)
TRANSPORT Public Transport
AREA Port Melbourne
MAP REFERENCE Melway 56

The plan is to travel to the start of this walk by tram. The 109 Port Melbourne tram leaves Box Hill at 9:14. Its route is Whitehorse Rd, Kew Junction, High St, Victoria St, McArthur St, Collins St, Spencer St (becomes Clarendon St) before turning SW into the old train reserve, arriving at old Port Melbourne Railway Station at 10:30. If train is easier, you could pick up our tram opposite Southern Cross Station (cnr. Collins St and Spencer St) at about 10:10, or meet at the Port Railway Station Melway 2JA6.

Our walk will take us around Beacon Cove and Sandridge Beach to White Reserve and on beside the Bay at the back of Webb Dock East, where we may disturb a hopeful angler or two. Lunch to follow before boarding the tram which departs every 8 minutes.

Book with leader.



SUNDAY BUS

MT ALEXANDER REGIONAL PARK

DATE Sunday 31 May 2015
RETURN TIME 6 pm to City
STANDARDS Easy/Medium, Medium
DISTANCES Approx. 11 km and 16 km
ELEVATIONS 300 m
LEADERS Michael Murray and Judith Shaw
TRANSPORT Bus - Leaving Southbank Blvd at 8:45am
AREA Harcourt, Calder Highway, NW of Melbourne
MAP REF Mt. Alexander Regional Park, Visitor Guide, Melway 509 E6

This walk explores the Mt Alexander Regional Park. Mt Alexander (350 m) lies on a large granite intrusion with steep slopes, tall trees and is crowned by rocky outcrops. Fantastic open woodland walking country. Mt Alexander has an important history as granite from the area was used for buildings and monuments in Melbourne, including the base of the Burke and Wills Memorial. More recently it was used in the new Parliament House in Canberra.

The walk has been totally reconstructed from the previous walk led by Max Casley in 2012. This time we are moving north to south. The medium walk commences at North Harcourt Road/Coliban Aqueduct and follows the aqueduct for approx 4 km to Coopers Road where the Easy/Medium group commence their walk to Mt Alexander and follow the Great Divide Track to McQuillans Rd.

This is classic open woodlands walking through manna gum, messmate, long leaved box and yellow box. There are plenty of kangaroos and other wildlife to observe if you keep quiet. Please note that there is climbing involved to the top of Mt Alexander. It is recommended that reasonably experienced walkers should consider this walk - not first timers.



TOFS WALK

BRIMBANK PARK

DATE Thursday 4 June 2015
RETURN TIME About 3 pm
STANDARD Easy
DISTANCE About 10 km
LEADER Bill Metzenthien
TRANSPORT Private
MAP REF Melway 14 H8

For private transport, the entrance to Brimbank Park is off Keilor Park Drive. Enter via Brimbank Rd at Melway 15 B10. Drive down Brimbank Rd to the car park at the Visitor Centre at Melway 14 H8.

We will do a circuit walk commencing at the Visitor Centre at 10:30am. Expect to see lots of the brim of the bank of the Maribyrnong River.

The Visitor Centre has a café as well as information on the park.



BASE CAMP

MT ECCLES AND MT NAPIER PARKS AND BYADUK CAVES.

DATE 5-8 June 2015
RETURN TIME 7 pm Melbourne
STANDARD Easy and Easy/Medium options
DISTANCE Various
ELEVATION 150-440 metres
LEADER Bob Oxlade
TRANSPORT Private
AREA Western Victoria
MAP REF Vicmaps 7222-S-7322-S-7721-N-1:30,000
TRANSPORT COSTS (PER PERSON) 750 km

This is not a serious caving expedition; however there is an opportunity to safely enter some caves. We will be in the Western Plains volcanic region which is exceeded in size by only by Snake Valley in the US and the Deccan Plateau in India. Some lava flows extend to the sea between Port Fairy and Portland. Byaduk Caves are the most extensive and accessible set of lava caves in Australia. Mount Napier is an extinct volcano which erupted in two stages. With the more violent second eruption the lava flowed over an existing shield and a hollow tube was formed. The collapsed roof sections of some parts of the lava tube form the caves and sink holes. We will also see some excellent examples of dry stone walls built in the 1870's and 80's by European settlers.

Friday night's camp will be at Wannan Falls near Hamilton. Early departers could spend time in Hamilton on the way to camp. Saturday morning we will view the falls and the nearby Nigretta Falls, then lunch in Hamilton en route to Byaduk Caves for various walks, including one off track to search for more caves. We may also view some Tumuli (lava blisters) at one of only three world sites of these on the way to Mt Eccles camp for two nights. We have the group site with excellent facilities nearby including gas BBQ's and a limited number of hot showers.



On Sunday the several walk options include a lava canal with some caves, a short climb of Mt Eccles and along the shore line and also the rim of Lake Surprise which is a spring fed Crater Lake.

On Monday we can do a short climb to Mt Napier summit, then lunch in Peshurst on our way home.

This is an opportunity to visit a most interesting area. I will be away from 19 April until 16 May. If you would like to come along, see me in the clubroom.

Bob Oxlade



PACK CARRY

BRISBANE RANGES: BURCHELL TRAIL (3 DAYS)

DATE Saturday 6 to Monday 8 June 2015
STANDARD Easy/Medium
DISTANCE 40 km
LEADER Claire Luxford
TRANSPORT Private
RETURN TIME Return to Melbourne by 5:00 pm
AREA Brisbane Ranges National Park
MAP REF Brisbane Ranges National Park 1:50,000 bush

The Burchell Trail – 40km – 3 days,
 side trip to Anakie Gorge 6 km return
 Limit– 6 persons only
 Cost of campsites– \$68.00 in total, shared between group

Little more than an hour's drive from Melbourne takes you to the state's richest wildflower habitat. Set in a low range of mountains dissected by rocky gullies, the unusual geology of Brisbane Ranges National Park has preserved plants that have long since vanished from the region, together with a correspondingly diverse bird population and the greatest density of koalas in Victoria.

The Burchell Trail is a great way to see the Brisbane Ranges National Park as it traverses the length of the Park.

On Saturday morning we will meet at Boar Gully Camping Ground and do a car shuffle. The walk will commence from Steiglitz Courthouse. We will walk approx. 12 km to camp at Old Mill camp ground. The walk follows orange track markers and uses existing walks, management tracks and public roads. Sunday our destination is the picturesque Little River Camp site located at the junction of the Little River and Rileys Creek, 16 km with an optional side trip to Anakie Gorge. The walk will finish at Boar Gully Camping Ground, 10 km from Little River.



SUNDAY BUS

WONGA PARK – WARRANDYTE

DATE Sunday 7 June 2015
STANDARDS Easy Medium and Medium
DISTANCES 16 km and 18 km
ELEVATION Minimal
LEADERS Phil Geschke and Nik Dow
TRANSPORT Bus – Leaving Southbank Blvd at 8:45am
AREA Between Wonga Park and Warrandyte
MAP REF Melway maps 23, 24 and 279

This is a delightful walk along the Yarra River, traversing the Warrandyte State Park. The walk commences at Mount Lofty with excellent views of the river and nearby ranges. We follow the river past a series of rapids and sharp bends, notably the Bend of Isles and Blue Tongue Bend, and we pass the remote outposts of Stane Brae and Yarra Brae. Kangaroos are plentiful in the park. Due to the close proximity to Melbourne, we should have plenty of time for a relaxing coffee at the end of the day.

Please be aware there is no formed track for part of the walk, and we have to make our way through light bush. Also we need to carry water for the entire day.



WEDNESDAY WALK

BUNYIP STATE PARK – SOUTH OF MORTIMER

DATE	Wednesday 10 June 2015
RETURN TIME	3:30 pm
STANDARD	Easy/Medium
DISTANCE	16 km
ELEVATION	500 m total ascent
LEADER	Ed Neff
TRANSPORT	Private
AREA	Gembrook
MAP REF	Melway p.14, Rooftop's Yarra Valley – West Gippsland Adventure Map

We will meet at Mortimer Picnic Ground at 10:00 am.
 If coming from Melbourne a good route is to exit the M1 Monash Freeway at C101 towards Officer and Pakenham. At Pakenham take C411, Pakenham Road left towards Gembrook and later on to C424, Gembrook Road to Gembrook. As you enter Gembrook turn right into Beenak East Road which leads you to Tonimbuk Road and Mortimer Picnic Ground.

This is a very pleasant walk along wide well formed tracks, passing through quite a variety of forest and vegetation. Some of the walk is along part of the Heritage Horse Trail. There are some hills, with a total ascent of approximately 500 m.

Please ring me or email to book for this walk.



SUNDAY CAR POOL

SILVAN WEIR – OLINDA FALLS

(Please note: the date of this walk has been changed from 28 June)

DATE	Sunday 14 June 2015
RETURN TIME	6 pm to City
STANDARD	Easy/Medium
DISTANCE	16 km
ELEVATION	500 m
LEADER	Mark Heath
TRANSPORT	Carpool – Leaving Southbank Blvd at 8:45am
TRANSPORT COSTS	\$10 (per person)
AREA	Dandenongs
MAP REF	Melway p120, 122

This area boasts a variety of forest landscapes from clusters of mountain grey gum trees and cool ferny gullies to dry bushland. A lot of the forest area remains relatively isolated and contains much undisturbed native habitat. This a pleasant walks with waterfalls, lyrebirds, good views and the Hamer Arboretum to enjoy.

The walk is on steepish, wide tracks that are sometimes muddy and slippery.



MOFS WALK

MOUNT DANDENONG ARBORETUM/OLINDA FALLS

DATE	Monday 15 June 2015
STANDARD	Easy
DISTANCE	10 km
ELEVATION	150 metres elevation
LEADER	Janet Hodgson
TRANSPORT	Private
AREA	Mt. Dandenong
MAP REF	Melway Maps 52, 66, 120

Meet at Kalorama Native Reserve (Melway Map 120 B9) at 10:15 am ready for a car shuffle.

The walk will start at the Mt. Dandenong Arboretum. We will walk through the arboretum where there is a great variety of wonderful exotic trees. We will follow Olinda Creek to its falls. We will then continue downhill on a foot track beside the creek and enjoy some flat walking before ascending through the forest to Kalorama Reserve.

Contact me for booking or information.



PACK CARRY

WILSONS PROM – REFUGE/SEALERS COVE CIRCUIT

DATE	19–21 June 2015
RETURN TIME	Sunday evening
STANDARD	Easy Medium
DISTANCE	27 km
ELEVATION	Sea Level to 300m
LEADER	Roger Wyatt
TRANSPORT	Car Pool
AREA	Wilson's Prom
MAP REF	Wilson's Prom 1:50,000
TRANSPORT COSTS (PER PERSON)	Est \$30 + Camp permit \$12.50 + accommodation

This is an ideal walk for members getting into pack carries, as well as for those that know the beauty of the Prom (even in winter).

I have pre booked a 6 bunk hut for Friday night, as well as the camp site at Refuge Cove, thus \$220 will be shared between the walkers, but at least we will be guaranteed a dry night's sleep (no snorers please) free from the ever present wombats at Tidal River. Additional walkers are welcome but you will need to do your own booking.

I am overseas until 15 May, but will respond to email bookings after then, so get in early to get a bunk!

After a short car shuffle to Mt Oberon car park we will head down the 4WD track to turn off to Waterloo Bay, then up the east coast through Little Waterloo to Refuge Cove for the night.

On the Sunday we will walk on to Sealers Cove, were we will cross the creek a few hours after low tide (should only be knee deep). Then through the forest to Telegraph Saddle.



ROGAINE/NAVIGATION PRACTICE

FRYERSTOWN 6 HOUR

DATE	Saturday 20 June 2015
STANDARD	Medium
DISTANCE	20 km
LEADER	Mark Heath
TRANSPORT	Private
AREA	Taradale
MAP REF	Map Supplied
TRANSPORT COSTS (PER PERSON)	\$30

Rogaining involves selecting and finding checkpoints scattered over bush and farming country. The checkpoints have different values, roughly correlated with their inaccessibility and isolation, and can be visited in any order. There is a large loss of points for going over time (6 hours for this event). We will be focussing on navigation practice rather than points.

Much of the walking will be off track through broken country in an old mining area, so participants will need to be fit, careful and well shod.

Participants must have a whistle (which can be bought at the event) and a compass (which can be hired). The event fee is \$30. The event starts at 10 am, with check in time 9:30 am.

The cutoff date for booking with me is Wednesday 10th June – after that late fees are incurred.

Check out the VRA site for background information: vra.rogaine.asn.au and http://vra.rogaine.asn.au/events-72/icalrepeat.detail/2015/06/20/107/92%5C|93%5C|94%5C|95/saturday-of-2-x-6-hr-bush-rogaine.html?filter_reset=1

CYCLING

KYNETON TO MALMSBURY

DATE	Sunday 21 June 2015
STANDARD	Medium
DISTANCE	55 km
LEADER	Howard Friend
AREA	Kyneton and Environs
MAP REF	Vic Roads, Map 59

I haven't had the opportunity to preview this ride. We will leave from Kyneton and cycle a loop passing through Metcalfe, Taradale and Malmsbury. Please contact me nearer the time to ascertain the meeting place and departure time.

SUNDAY BUS

LONG FOREST RESERVE

DATE	Sunday 21 June 2015
STANDARDS	Easy and Easy/Medium
DISTANCES	11 km and 14.5 km
ELEVATIONS	280 m rise and 340 m rise
LEADERS	Halina Sarbinowski and Ian Mair
TRANSPORT	Bus – Leaving Southbank Blvd at 8:45am
AREA	Between Melton and Bacchus Marsh
MAP REF	Long Forest Conservation Reserve: Parks Vic notes

Long Forest Flora Reserve, located close to Melbourne, is an oasis of natural forest nestled between Melton and Bacchus Marsh. This small reserve provides the walker a variety of terrains that can match many of our larger parks and reserves. Our walks take us to the northernmost section of the reserve, a section that is only explored off track, to the most southern section which includes views of Djerriwarrh Creek.

Both walks start at a forest corridor in 'suburbia' but only a few minutes later this is left behind and the tracks we follow make us feel as though we are far from civilisation. Our first track, Steep Track, is well named and if you have a walking pole this will be the first of several times that you will need to use it. There are undulations with some steep sections. Our off track sections are generally through Bull Mallee (the only remnant Bull Mallee forest south of the Dividing Range) which is open forest and a pleasure to trek through. Much of the walk follows the Coimadai Creek which winds its way through the rocky and sometimes steep terrain.

We have kept the gradings of Easy and Easy/Medium as being so close to Melbourne there will be no pressure to rush the walk. However, we still expect to be back at the Art Gallery reasonably early so you may wish to join the leaders at Southbank Food Court to enjoy a coffee or glass of wine before heading home.

SOCIAL WALK

BOLIN BOLIN BILLABONG, YARRA RIVER

DATE	Thursday 25 June 2015
STANDARD	Easy
DISTANCE	5 km
ELEVATION	Flat
LEADER	Jean Giese
TRANSPORT	Private
AREA	Bulleen
MAP REF	Melway 32

Starting at the Veneto Club, we will walk around Bulleen Park and then upstream beside the Yarra to Bolin Bolin Billabong, a meeting place of significance of our First People. There are plaques telling some of their history, and ancient River Red Gums which have born silent witness to events for hundreds of years.

Meet in the carpark of the Veneto Club nearest to the entrance gates to commence walking by 10:30, Melway 32 D9. Book with leader.

SATURDAY EXPLORER

DATE	Saturday 27 June 2015
STANDARD	Easy
DISTANCE	About 13 km
LEADER	Margaret Campion
TRANSPORT	Private
AREA	Bayside

This month we dare to leave the Dandenongs behind and it's off to the seaside for our traditional Middle Park to Sandringham walk.

Bucket and spade are optional as we meet, 10 am at Middle Park light rail station car park, cnr Canterbury Rd and Armstrong St Middle Park – Melway 2K F11. We'll stroll down Armstrong across Beaconsfield Pde and along the beach through lively St Kilda and trendy Brighton, all the way to Sandy. Might be a tasty stop along the way then lunch at the end of North Rd. Too many cappuccinos are never enough, including the last one in Sandy. Bring your Myki for the fun bus trip back to St Kilda then the light rail back to Middle Park. No booking needed, just turn up.

SUNDAY CAR POOL

CRANBOURNE GARDENS AND BAYLES FLORA AND FAUNA PARK

N.B. This walk has been changed from 14 June on the printed program to 28 June.

DATE	Sunday 28 June 2015
RETURN TIME	6:30 pm to City
STANDARD	Easy
DISTANCE	13 kms
ELEVATION	100 metres
LEADER	Halina Sarbinowski
TRANSPORT	Carpool – Leaving Southbank Blvd at 8:45am
AREA	Cranbourne and Bayles
MAP REF	Melway Maps 133, 137 and Page 18
COST	\$12.50 to the driver

The first thing you notice when you enter the Cranbourne Botanical Gardens is the smell. The eucalyptus fragrance hits you as soon as you enter the park. The next thing that you notice is the signs... Take care – Bandicoots... Take care – Snakes... Take care – Koalas. It is so hard to believe that within seconds of leaving suburbia you enter an oasis of natural forest that makes you believe that you are kilometres away from the suburbs.

We will commence our walk from Stringybark Picnic Area making our way along the northern tracks, visiting Trigg Point Lookout to the Australian Garden. From the lookout we have fantastic 360 degree views and the Australian Garden looks quite unassuming from the lookout; however, once we reach the Australian Garden the WOW factor comes into play. We will take a guided Flora Australis tour which highlights the evolution of Australian plants. The cost of the tour is \$5.70 each. After the tour we will enjoy lunch in the Garden. The ambience of the River Walk is exceptional and with a kiosk within a short walk allows for a lovely leisurely lunch.

After lunch we will explore the southern tracks of the park, visiting the dam and wetlands making our way back to the cars. From here we will drive about 30 minutes to the second feature of our walk, Bayles Fauna and Flora Park. This is a private park and entry is a gold coin donation. It is small but the animals are familiar with people. The first time I visited the park I was joined by an emu who thought that it was part of the group and walked the entire park with me often joining in with the conversation with the 'boing boing' sound that an emu makes.

This is perfect walk for winter in Melbourne ... close but exciting. I hope that you join me.



**ADVANCE NOTICE
CROSS COUNTRY SKIING,
BOGONG HIGH PLAINS
AUGUST 8-15 2015**





Announcing our annual X-C skiing trip to the untracked expanses of the High Plains. We stay in the comfortable Rovers Chalet, a 12 km ski 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. Past skiers are welcome to return and newcomers are encouraged to discuss requirements for joining us.

*Doug Pocock
or Meryllyn Whimpey*

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

Calling for expressions of interest to walk the Australian Alps Walking Track commencing in October 2015.

The AAWT is a long distance walking track approximately 660 km, extending from Walhalla in Victoria to the outskirts of Canberra walking the high peaks and plateaus of the Australian Alps.

At the moment I'm interested to see if anyone else is interested in this walk. It may be that you would like to do a section/s, a weekend, a couple of weeks or the entire length. Or you might like to assist with logistical support such as food drops or transport. etc.

Anyone interested please contact me –

Claire Luxford

CROSS COUNTRY SKIING

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 • email 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?

Doug Pocock

MEMBERSHIP FEES ARE DUE!
MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL 2015

Membership subscriptions are due 1st April 2015. You are not required to sign an Acknowledgement of Risk form on renewal, however you are advised that payment of fees implies acceptance of the risks involved in any activity you may undertake as a member of Melbourne Bushwalkers.

'In voluntarily participating in activities of Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc., which are described to me by the activity leaders, I am aware that my participation in the activities may expose me to hazards and risks that could lead to injury, illness or death or to loss of or damage to my property.

In particular when participating in abseiling or above the snowline activities I am aware that these activities could expose me to additional hazards and risks. To minimize risks I will endeavour to ensure that:

- Each activity is within my capabilities
• I will carry food, water and equipment appropriate for the activity
• I will advise the activity leader if I am taking medication or have any physical or other limitation that might affect my participation in the activity
• I will make every effort to remain with the rest of the party during the activity
• I will advise the leader of any concerns I am having and
• I will comply with all reasonable instructions of club officers and the activity leader

I have read and understood these requirements. I will consider the risks before joining any activity of the Club. I acknowledge that I will take responsibility for my own actions and that payment of my subscriptions will be deemed as full acceptance and understanding of the above conditions'.

Please refer to the Renewal Slip below for methods of paying your subscription. If paying by cheque please return the renewal slip to assist the Treasurer and Membership Secretary to identify you. If any of your personal details have changed, complete the relevant information and forward to the Membership Secretary. The Renewal Slip also appears on the back page of the newsletter.

RENEWAL SLIP

Payment to the Treasurer, together with completed form by one of the following methods:

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

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

(Notes: * Members who currently receive their copies of 'NEWS' via postal mail should add \$10 to continue. No new hard copy subscriptions will be accepted.
** Does not refer to holders of a Seniors Card)

Name:Year of Birth (optional)..... Indicate below if you agree details can go on Club Membership List (Default in Bold)
Name:Year of Birth (optional).....
Fill in Address, Telephone number(s) and Email address only if changed since last renewal:
Street Address: YES / NO
Suburb / Postcode YES / NO
Tel: H) W) Mobile: YES / NO
Email: YES / NO

Where did you first hear about the club? Website [] Facebook [] MeetUp [] Friends [] Other []

(Notes: 1. Members can modify address details and items displayed to other members through the Members' Secure Login area of the club's website.
2. Year of Birth is used only for statistical purposes and not published in any lists.)

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!

June 2015				
1-30	X-C Skiing:- Registration of interest	Pvt	E/M	Doug Pocock:
Thu 4	Brimbank Park	Pvt	Easy	Bill Metzenthén
5-8	BC: Mt Eccles & Mt Napier Parks & Byaduk Caves	Pvt	var	Bob Oxlade
6-8	PC: Brisbane Ranges: Burchell Trail (3 days)	Pvt	E/M	Claire Luxford
Sun 7	Wonga Park – Warrandyte	Bus	E/M & M	Phil Geschke & Nik Dow
Wed 10	Bunyip State Park	Pvt	E/M	Ed Neff
Sun 14	Silvan Weir – Olinda Falls	Car	E/M	Mark Heath
Mon 15	Mt Dandenong Arboretum – Olinda Falls	Pvt	Easy	Janet Hodgson
19-21	PC: Wilsons Prom: Waterloo – Refuge Circuit	Pvt	E/M	Roger Wyett
Sat 20	Rogaining: Fryerstown (6 hours)	Pvt	Med	Mark Heath
Sun 21	Cycling: Kyneton to Malmesbury	Pvt	Med	Howard Friend
Sun 21	Long Forest Reserve	Bus	E & E/M	Halina Sarbinowski & Ian Mair
Thu 25	Bolin Bolin Billabong, Yarra River	Car	Easy	Jean Giese
Sat 27	Saturday Explorer: Elwood to Sandringham	Pvt	Easy	Margaret Champion
Sun 28	Cranbourne Gardens & Bayles F&F Park	Car	Easy	Halina Sarbinowski

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