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THE NEWS OF THE Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc.

ABN 14 396 912 508

March 2016

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of the Melbourne Bushwalkers (Incorporated)
will be held on Wednesday, 23 March, 2016 at 8:00 pm
at The Clubrooms, Royal Historical Society of Victoria, Corner of A'Beckett Street and
William Street, Melbourne

Members are invited to attend.
Non-members are welcome but are not eligible to vote.

Business:

Apologies
Confirmation of Minutes from the 2015 Annual General Meeting
President's Report
Treasurer's Report
Walks Secretaries' Reports
Membership Secretary's Report
Other Reports
Proposed Changes to the Rules of Association
Determination of the Annual Subscriptions for 2016
Determination of number of General Committee Members for 2016
Election of Office Bearers and General Committee Members for 2016
Appointment of Reviewers of Financial Statements
Conferral of Life Memberships
Conferral of Honorary Memberships
Award of Club Spoons
General Business

*Any member unable to attend in person may appoint a proxy to be received by the Secretary
before or at the commencement of the meeting.*

*Proxy and Committee Nomination Forms are available in the Clubrooms
or may be downloaded from the Club's website (http://mbw.org.au/MBW_docs.php).*

Complimentary Wine and Cheese



Due date for contributions (including May previews) to April News: 21 March

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: Merilyn 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 April 2016

Melbourne Bushies is organising Federation Weekend 2017

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Melbourne Bushies is running Federation Weekend in 2017. Each year a different bushwalking club is asked to organize the event on behalf of Bushwalking Victoria. Members from any bushwalking club in Victoria can attend and there are usually around 300 participants who stay in the area overnight on Friday/Saturday. The event in 2017 will be held at Warburton over the weekend of 28-29 October, 2017 and will consist of 2 days of day walks with a social event on the Saturday night. There will be about 20 separate walks, each done on each of the 2 days, so we need many leaders and whips. Additional volunteers will be called for closer to the actual date to assist with the weekend.

The overall coordinator is Margaret Curry who is supported by an organizing committee. The priority at present is to get volunteer walk leaders and whips to adopt a walk, do an initial preview and be prepared to lead the walk for two days on that weekend. A list of walks has been assembled for you to choose from and you would then need to preview the walk and make suggestions for improvements and alterations.

How to Volunteer?

Simply email fedwalks17@mbw.org.au or contact Halina Sarbinowski or Ken MacMahon. A list of suggested walks will then be made available from which you can make your selection. If you would like to organize your own co-leader or whip that will make it easier but this is not essential. Once a walk has been allocated you will be sent further guidelines and information.

So go to it team – start volunteering and let's make this a fantastic event.

*Jopie Bodegraven
Federation Weekend Walks Coordinator*





PRESIDENT'S COLUMN – MARCH 2016

Later this month we will be getting together for the Annual General Meeting. Reports from our Office Bearers have appeared in the February and this newsletter. My President's Report focuses on how well we have done against the Future Directions plan adopted at the start of 2015. In this column I want to touch on some aspects of our activities that we will be progressing in the coming year.

It is well understood that a plan is not an inviolate course of action that binds the authors to a rigid direction, any more than setting a route binds a good walk leader to a set pathway. Sometimes the more interesting and rewarding outcomes arise from deviations along the way. Importantly, though, both a plan and a route define the end points that are desirable and the process of setting the end points helps focus our efforts on their attainment.

Foremost in our mind has to be the provision of interesting and challenging activities to suit the diverse interests of all members. Some catch-words that will shape our attention in the coming year are Beginners PC's; Cross-Country Skiing; Iconic Walks; Overseas Trips. Our Quarterly Activities Programs will seek to reflect these aspects of the Future Directions plan.

I have noted before our changing gender balance, now over 57% female and growing, with new members over the past two years close to 71% female. Undoubtedly it is the attraction of the Sunday Bus with its, largely, singular following that influences the trend. We need to better understand the expectations and ambitions of our changing demographic and the extent to which interests extend further afield. So too it is from that same cohort that we need to be looking for many of our future activity leaders. We need to ensure that our training and mentoring activities over the next year and beyond are appropriately framed and delivered. A review of options for our future Leadership Training program, being undertaken by Past-President Mick Noonan, is alert to these questions and will shape what we do in the coming year.

Most of us recall our first face-to-face contact with the club. Our website and other promotional channels do their job in encouraging potential members to take a next step. The 'Meet and Greet' experience is one of our most important recruitment stages, whether it is in the clubrooms or out in the field, ensuring that Melbourne Bushwalkers becomes the club of choice. Printed guidelines provide a convenient checklist of what to cover but are only part of the experience. The manner and confidence of the greeting count in a large measure; however, demands on our personal time make it impractical to think that we can have 'professionals' for the role. We are fortunate to have a pool of willing members sharing the task. **We need more.** Renewed attention to mentoring and co-ordination of new 'Meet and Greet' volunteers is needed to develop comfort and confidence in the role and ensure that all first-time visitors continue to have an equally rewarding introduction. It is important to our vitality as a club, and the growth target we have set, by impacting on the retention rate of new visitors, currently at 26%.

External engagement, as a club, has always been a feature of our history. The Future Directions plan sees greater involvement with Bushwalking Victoria as a specific case to be addressed. Our commitment in the past year to organise **Federation Weekend 2017** with Past-President Margaret Curry as co-ordinator, is a significant contribution to the bushwalking community and our standing in it. It will involve many of our members in the planning, previewing of walks and running of the event. **An early indication of your readiness to assist** will ensure we run the type of weekend this club is capable of providing.

There is another direction of engagement that could be fundamental to the way we develop as a club. Population growth in the central Melbourne area potentially brings a changed meaning to being a CBD-based club. Delivering enhanced lifestyle options through bushwalking activities has the scope to enrich the attractiveness of city living for residents of the City of Melbourne, as well as a future source of new club members. The coming year will see us explore this avenue with the Melbourne City Council to a point of deciding if it is of mutual interest to take it further.

Over the past year we have undertaken a close evaluation of the MeetUp model of bushwalking group activity, under the pragmatic eye of Vice-President Nigel Holmes. There are attractive aspects that need to be weighed against the conflicts with our current way of organising activities. In the coming year we will decide whether to adopt this approach as a complement to our current way of organising bushwalking activities and implement the decision as appropriate.

I look forward to sharing with all members of the club as we embrace the opportunities for many great bushwalks and adapt the club to suit.

Ian Mair

PRESIDENT'S REPORT TO 2016 AGM

The year 2015–16 for the Melbourne Bushwalkers club has been one with which we can all be pleased. The various reports on our activities, membership and finances presented in the February and March newsletter are reflective of a year of positive outcomes and I commend them to you to read at your leisure. This is due in no small part to the considerable effort put in by Past-President Mick Noonan and previous Committees, aided by broad member consultation, in our Future Directions planning process. In this report I will comment on some of the achievements and initiatives of the past year. In my March President's Column I have looked to the future and some of the things we need to do to maintain the momentum.

The Future Directions plan (*The News*, Issue 766, January 2015) focuses on five important aspects of our operations: Outdoor Activities, People, Membership, External Involvement and Assets.

(a) Outdoor Activities:

Most would agree that this is the main reason we exist as a club and why they have joined. Our program of activities across a year is impressive. The General Walks Secretary's Report and Sunday Walks Secretary's Report highlight the performance over the past year. '...the overall number of events has increased by a very impressive 24 (15%).' Participant numbers too have increased by 8.5% over 2014 from around 2400 to around 2600. A number of initiatives have contributed to this outcome. A sharper focus on the Sunday Bus Walks on our Website and Facebook Page have provided timely reminders to Members and Visitors; a 'vouching system' for visitors introduced by Members as part of a simplified Sunday Bus booking process; greater attention to the development of an attractive and increasingly popular Base Camp program; a more frequent and diverse program of Wednesday walks and Overseas/Interstate trips; renewed focus on attracting more Members to the very important role we can play in conservation and Track Maintenance; and a renewed emphasis on Beginner Pack Carries. We have also conducted a thorough assessment of how alternative modes of operation, specifically MeetUp, can complement our current activities. A special thanks is due to the Activity Coordinators and many Activity Leaders for making this possible.

(b) People:

Melbourne Bushwalkers prides itself on being an extended family rather than a service organisation. We are here to share experiences, support each other, have fun, contribute to the communities of which we are part and enrich our lives. We build on an impressive heritage over 75 years of making everybody welcome irrespective of background. New members are embraced for their shared passion for bushwalking and preparedness to shoulder the load to help each other. During 2015 we saw record attendances at social slide nights; celebrated milestones for Jean Giese and Bob Oxlade, senior Members who have given much to the club; and initiated a major review of our Leadership Training Program to give Members the confidence and skills to make their own contribution through our regular activities.

(c) Membership:

Our members are our body and soul. All that we do is by our members for our members, or more correctly, for what our members collectively see as important. Having an active membership provides the club with vitality. The Future Directions plan set a target for our membership of around 500, to be achieved over time. This provides scope for a succession of leadership within the club as well as helping to ensure the Bus remains economically viable without the need to raise fees to cover cost escalations. The past year was a good start to achieving the target. We started 2016 with the highest membership level for over 6 years (433 Members) and the number of new members joining since has been very encouraging.

(d) External Involvement:

Active interactions outside of our own club framework serve to fulfil a responsibility we share for the overall health of bushwalking in Victoria and at the same time bring new ideas into the club. These interactions take many forms, including joint activities with other clubs, raising the profile of our club in the community and being an active participant in the affairs of Bushwalking Victoria. During 2015–16 we have seen the club's profile raised through our online Website and Facebook Pages with the presentation of helpful information to the broader bushwalking community; undertaken to run Federation Weekend 2017 on behalf of Bushwalking Victoria after a gap of 13 years since we were last involved; opened our training courses and selected social events to other clubs' participation; and taken a lead through Bushwalking Victoria in fostering a regular meeting of club Presidents to facilitate networking and idea sharing.

(e) Assets:

As noted in the Treasurer's Report for the year ended 31 December 2015 we continue to operate within our income and maintain a healthy reserve. This has enabled us to update our well-used equipment for hire and allowed newer Members to broaden their bushwalking experience without an up-front cost deterrent. Prudent cost management also means that we can look to another year with no increase in Membership Fees or Sunday Bus Fees. The Annual Ordinary Membership Fee has remained at or below \$45 since 2003 and the Sunday Bus Fee at \$25 since 2008.

The next few years are going to be busy and potentially rewarding. Growth, diversity and engagement encapsulate the thrust of the Future Directions plan to better our bushwalking experiences. The end points shape our focus. A strong team of activity leaders supported by an experienced Committee will ensure we continue to enjoy all that bushwalking has to offer.

Ian Mair

EQUIPMENT REPORT FOR YEAR ENDED 31/12/15

The club provides equipment for use by members and visitors at nominal hire rates and for use by leaders and the club generally at no charge. Items are selected to improve club facilities, contribute to safety, encourage beginners and assist members in the acquisition of appropriate gear. All purchases are justified on a cost benefit basis with income-producing items meeting the additional requirement of being self-funding.

During the year we hired out 18 tents, 13 packs, 16 sleeping bags, 10 sleeping mats and 6 stoves. Members also made good use of the projector, first aid kits and radios, the usage of which was not recorded, and borrowed 5 GPS's and 8 PLB's. All up this was a significant improvement on last year's hire rates. We collected \$484 in hire fees which, after the deduction of depreciation and equipment write offs, resulted in a small net profit.

The pack that was missing this time last year turned up but unfortunately three silk sleeping bag liners, a large stuff bag for one of the sleeping bags and a GPS are now missing. If you can help with their return it would be greatly appreciated.

During the year we acquired a women's Exped Lightning 60 pack for \$261, a Naturehike two person hiking tent (light enough for solo use) for \$162 and a Long March Road sleeping bag for \$185. A government grant also enabled us to acquire two extremely light Safety Alert PLBs. The pack was the most suitable we could find for club trips. It is made from a similar material to our previously recommended Golite packs (which are no longer available) and, although significantly heavier, has a substantial hip belt and well designed frame that enable heavier loads to be carried more comfortably. The tent and sleeping bag were chosen on the basis of value for money and would suit those looking for functional hiking gear at the lowest possible price.

As usual members and visitors are encouraged to try our gear before buying. Items can be hired for club trips or, when not in use, taken home for a closer look at no charge. Needless to say we are always happy to discuss equipment with anybody who feels the need.

John Fritze

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S REPORT FOR 2015

During the past year we have seen a pleasing increase in membership recorded at the end of February. Indeed, we started calendar year 2016 with a higher membership than we have seen for over 6 years. We will need to see if the trend continues, but it is a promising start to meeting the target of 480 members set in the Future Directions plan circulated at the start of last year.

Our numbers always drop off at the end of June when not everyone renews. However the new members that join during the rest of the year bring the total back up. After the final date for renewal we do a follow up on those that have not renewed. When we contact them, we ask them if they have just forgotten or if they wouldn't mind giving us the reason for non renewal. The main reasons given last year were: moved away, new family responsibilities and illness. Some are uncontactable and this usually reflects those from overseas that joined while here temporarily. Fortunately I have never had anyone say it was because they didn't like the club.

Our age profile is still the same as one year ago, despite our efforts to attract younger members. The average age for men is 60.6 years and for women 58.7 years. This is not a complete record as year of birth is optional data and we only have figures for 52% of members.

One statistic that has slightly increased over the year is the number of visitors (that is, Temporary Members) that convert to membership. At the moment it is 26%, which is an encouraging outcome. The age at conversion remains at 50+/- 0.9 years for men and women. At present we have 176 temporary members registered as active walkers. They remain on the list for 13 months or until they convert.

We now no longer publish the Membership List for everyone except the Activity Co-ordinators. This is because we now have the online Members' Only Area which is always up to date. It includes new members as they are added and any changes in membership details. I hope you have all registered for this and checked your own details are correct, particularly your contact and emergency contact details. You can change them if necessary or elect to have some details not visible to other members. To register just go to the Home Page of the website and from the top left Member Login box click on 'Not Registered?' and follow the prompts.

continued over page

Annual Reports

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S REPORT

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One other membership statistic we have been collecting is how people found out about the club. Most find us via the web site, next is through friends and some now via social media activities such as *MeetUp* groups and Facebook.

Month ending	Active	Honorary+Life	Total	Temporary(<13 months)
Feb 2015	405	20	425	172
Feb 2016	419	20	439	176

Gillian Wainwright

SOCIAL SECRETARY'S REPORT 2015

It's been a busy social year at the Club.

The Social Nights, which are held every fourth Wednesday of the month, have been a popular event. We have had a variety of interesting presentations from a diverse range of speakers. These evenings are a great opportunity for members to mix with others interested in walking and allied interests. A variety of red and white wines, cheeses, tea/coffee are available for a donation of \$5.00. The attendees have increased this year.

Here is a review of the year.

April Mick Noonan and Carol Corrigan regaled stories from their Paris to Istanbul, a four thousand kilometre cycling adventure across Europe.

May The Weird and Wonderful World of Fungus presented by Geoff Lay. We found out about rings, veils, earthstars, stinkhorns and caterpillar murderers.

June The Regent Honeyeater Project by Ray Thomas. This has established itself as one of the most active volunteer conservation projects in the nation. It was a wonderful opportunity to hear first-hand the growing list of good news from years of dedicated effort.

July Walking Adventures in the Alps of Austria and Northern Italy. Ian Williams spoke about spectacular alpine walking in the Innsbruck area and the magical jagged summits of the Dolomites.

August Bush Search and Rescue by Peter Campbell.

September A Land of Smugglers and Pirates with Ian Mair . Exploring the South West Coast Path in England, a 46-day trek.

October Dancing over the Himalayas with Deb Shand .Trekking in Ladakh.

November Brought us to Lightweight Gear and Packing, with John Fritze, always a popular topic

December The Christmas Party at the City Bowls Club, a highly anticipated evening, 70-80 members celebrated the festive season with some very delicious food (supplied by everyone).

The 2016 New Year's Day BBQ at the Birdsland Reserve, Belgrave was attended by 25 during a very hot spell of weather. A pleasant afternoon was spent under the shade of the trees with a 2 km walk for the energetic.

As well as these, there were film nights, a few social walks and lunches.

A big thank you to all those who assist on the evenings and to the speakers a special thanks.

Susanna Mason

BUSHWALK AUSTRALIA MAGAZINE

Melbourne Bushwalkers is featured in a profile article in the February issue of Bushwalk Australia Magazine. This excellent online publication is free and goes to about 30,000 entities. The February issue focuses on walks and activities in Victoria.

A copy of the article can be downloaded from:

http://mbw.org.au/downloads/emailnews/BWA_2-16_MBW.pdf

The full February issue of the magazine can be downloaded from:

<http://emag.bushwalk.com/BWA201602.pdf>

WEBMASTERS REPORT TO AGM 2016

Nothing much stays constant for long online. Mobile devices are rapidly becoming the access tool of choice. Major players like Google are driving a change in how websites should be designed to perform efficiently and responsively to match the expanding array of hardware platforms. Melbourne Bushwalkers is not immune to this turmoil of change. Work has commenced on a re-design of the website that we hope will show results in the coming year.

Meanwhile, our two online portals through the website and Facebook Page (which is 'mobile-friendly') continue to provide members and visitors with up-to-date and relevant content. Our regular presentation of activity previews and post-trip photographs are the most frequently visited, as would be expected. We now have over 15,500 photographs hosted on the website!

As referred to in the Sunday Walks Secretary's report, a redesign of the website Home Page, coupled with active promotion on our Facebook Page, appears to have paid dividends in increased attendances on the Sunday Bus trips. Our Facebook Page now has in excess of 1600 regular followers, mostly from Melbourne.

During the year a new 'Members' Area' was added requiring a secure login. Whilst the scope and content are still evolving the new feature provides:

- (a) Access to member registration details and an option for self-management of changes and confidentiality settings;
- (b) Access to Membership statistics so that members can be better informed about their club; and
- (c) A download page that compliments the public download page and provides access to selected club documents, including the latest Member's version of the newsletter and quarterly activities program.

Behind the scenes there have been some important additions to the Leaders' Database, a resource for club officers and walks leaders. Firstly, a new module has been added to provide greater detail on activity program participation statistics, feeding into our performance measures built into the club's Future Directions plan approved last year. Secondly, a new online walker registration form has been developed to make it easier for private transport walk leaders to record registrants and extract contact details and emergency contact information from the Membership Database.

Members will have noted throughout the year that the email management system is now a principal channel for forwarding links to the newsletter, timely reminders of important club activities and advance notice of club trips that require early expressions of interest in order to secure bookings. A link to our newsletter and other items is now distributed to over 850 addresses each month, covering current members, past members and potential members. As well as being a key means of communication with members, the email channel is now an important avenue for promotion of the club. Any recipient not wishing to receive our communications can readily unsubscribe.

Ian Mair – Webmaster

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the following new members:
Helen Graesser, Matthew Henderson,
Garry Melik, Caroline Browne,
Mohammad Usman Gohar

APOLOGY?

My computer carked it last weekend. I had to re-format March News on an older computer with an older program and couldn't use the stuff I'd already done. I'm sorry if I've forgotten to include some contributions.

Merilyn Whimpey, News Editor

Put in your diary

Wednesday 4 May THE MOUNTAINS IN WINTER (AND HOW TO GET AROUND)

Winter brings a completely different look to the bush. Many of our walking areas are covered with snow which brings a beauty and difficulty of access. This evening Bill Metzenthien will show slides of areas of Victoria under snow conditions and Doug Pocock will talk about cross-country skiing and will show equipment to get you out into the snow.

2016 Social Calendar

Wednesday 23 March
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING



Come along, chat with friends, find out how your Club is going! The wine and cheese are free.

Wednesday 27 April
PAUL BOLSTAD'S WIDERNESS TRIPS



Paul Bolstad is a professor at the University of Minnesota, spending this year at the University of Melbourne working on the Melbourne water supply. He developed a love of the outdoors at a young age, and he's hiked in 30 countries on five continents. Paul has the good fortune of living near the southern edge of the boreal forest, and near one of the highest concentration of natural lakes in the world. Northern Minnesota and southern Ontario contain the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness (BWCA) and adjoining Quetico Provincial Park. Together they cover an area about the size of the Franklin–Gordon and Southwest National Parks in Tasmania, and offer weeks-long trips in roadless wilderness. More than 1800 lakes draw visitors the world over for canoeing, kayaking, and hiking in the wilderness.



Paul will describe trips to the BWCA/Quetico, sharing experiences gleaned from trips over 20 years. He'll include geography, flora, fauna, equipment, hazards, and information for those interested in planning their own trip.

Wednesday 25 May
WALKS AND HISTORY ON ITALY'S AMALFI COAST



Amalfi is the focal town of the coast on which it is located. An independent republic from the 7th century until 1075, it was once an important maritime power. Sheer coastal cliffs punctuated with steep-sided gullies provided natural havens from neighbouring invaders. In the 1920s and 1930s, Amalfi was a popular holiday destination for the British upper class and aristocracy. Near the better known Sorrento and Island of Capri, Amalfi today it is still a popular destination for holiday makers who seek sunshine and a less crowded coastal retreat. Not so often visited are the many walking paths into the steep hills behind, which offer fascinating excursions into small villages and rugged landscapes for anyone looking for challenging day walks. Amalfi is an ideal starting point for anyone setting out along the coast on foot, stopping at the

neighbouring coastal towns to taste the culinary delights after an invigorating day of walking.

Ian Mair will entice you with tales and slides from a trip he and Halina did in 2014.

CAMBODIA REPORT PART 2

After the trek in the south Cardamom Mountains, there was a moment of anticlimax. What could top that? An elephant safari and elephant bathing! We travelled to the east of Cambodia, the province of Mondolkiri, specifically to Sen Monorom, close to the border with Vietnam. The photo will show the cheekiness of the elephants.

On the way, the minibus broke down and some of us took the opportunity to visit the local primary school, meet staff and students and teach English songs to the children. The 'Who stole the cookie from the cookie jar' was a great success with the support crew on the Cardamom trek but the children seemed to prefer the 'What can you do Ponchinello little fellow?' where children each had a turn to add an action which the others copied.

From Mondolkiri, we travelled to central Cambodia to go freshwater dolphin spotting in the Mekong, and then cycled around Koh Trong Island. Watching the sunset over the Mekong with a floating village in the foreground, it was not hard to mistake where we were and what a great opportunity we had in being there. That night, we slept at a homestay residence where the food was the best we had had since our arrival (if you don't count the banana and Nutella pancakes on our Elephant trek).

We drove to Siem Reap and had four days guided by the special Ra who briefed us on Angkor Tom and Angkor Wat, as well as other historical sites on the outskirts of the city. While in Siem Reap, we had a great night at Chamkar Vegetarian Restaurant celebrating Deb Shand's special birthday. Peter, Deb's son was able to join us and made the night that extra bit special. The cake was the epitome of the French influence in Cambodia's cuisine. But we also had the pleasure of learning to cook Khmer, especially the fish amok and the green mango salad, with the Thai influence.

A great highlight for this writer was the boat trip across the northern part of the expansive Tonle Sap Lake, the biggest freshwater lake in South East Asia. The area is home to many ethnic Vietnamese and numerous Cham communities, living in floating villages around the lake. Approximately 1.2 million people living in the greater Tonle sap make their living by fishing on the local waters. Our boat reached the river system that took us into Battambang. Ra told us that Battambang was a wealthy city compared to Siem Reap, which had pockets of high wealth. Ra took us to two home businesses where rice paper was made and also banana drying for local and international consumption. He also recommended the 'circus', a little like Cirque de Soleil except on a much smaller scale, no animals but great dance and gymnastic performances created around a storyline.

It is a truism that the best things happen that are not planned. We conversed with the locals about their experiences of life, especially during and since the time of the Khmer Rouge. Ra told us about his life growing up, and walking across rice paddies that had landmines in order to get to school. He talked about the improvements in daily life and the opportunities that came with the influx of the United Nations in the early 1990s.

Visiting Cambodia was a rich cultural experience and informative and poignant. It brought home the recent political and social history and how it lives on in people's current experiences and the current political situation. The natural environment is a mixture with much to see and do, and yet the remaining forest and natural attractions are at risk and some of it degraded. We met committed people to whom nature was important and that it be protected and preserved. Cambodians generally were reserved as you would expect, but warm and welcoming. A trip well worth it!

Denise Charman



MBW AND VMTC – MOROKA GORGE ADVENTURE 22–26 JANUARY 2016

Jopie Bodegraven, Gina Hopkins, Derrick Brown, John Fritze, Diane Woodcroft, Patricia Elmore, Geoff Kelly, Marianne Watt, Jacqueline and Darrell Paynter, Phillip Brown, Gary Gray, Helen Geddes, Sandra Bucovaz, Jeanette Burnett

As a bushwalker one is familiar with challenging terrain to varying degrees. Entering Moroka Gorge via The Long Spur hurled us into the medium/hard end of the spectrum. The Long Spur reached via Tamboritha and Moroka Roads (in that order) lies in a remote corner of the Alpine National Park known as the Wonnangatta Moroka Unit. Our party, comprised of Melbourne Bushies and VMTC'ers spent a very wet Friday evening encamped on Bennison Plain with an early rise for the car shuttle to leave all but two vehicles at Horseyard Flat. The Long Spur lies north of the Wellington Track junction and is a well formed, finely chiselled spur, climbing discreetly 3–4 km to a knife edge 1,250 m knoll, then plunges spectacularly and wildly over the next 2 km to the river 700 m below. On reaching the river, immediately after a lunch perched atop a delicious vantage point, all partook of the waters. The forest had been a complete surprise. The regrowth mellowed and mature as days before fires.

After a re-group we were off to find our proposed camp site some +2 km upstream. The river was of a good level, even accounting for the heavy rainfall of the previous couple of days. Progress into the succeeding gorges proved a time consuming process. Much rock hopping, bouldering and constant changes from north to south bank as the terrain demanded. Great rivalry fostered as participants strained to retain dry feet. Late afternoon we were rewarded with an unexpected mountain meadow campsite with, alas, no close swimming hole. We made do...



Sunday morning a sleep-in and departure around 9am into a +8 km day of highly technical route finding, cliff detouring, more bouldering, rock hopping and swimming. The gorges were a succession of glorious cathedrals formed from rock hewn from the action of millennia floods, bedecked in fern and columned with stately alpine ash. The whole alive with a cacophony of rushing water and bird song. Late afternoon an accidental split of the party found the 'greyhounds' +150 m above the river whilst the remainder quietly rested, waiting for their return at the junction of spur and river. Those whistles were of value.

Many swims later the pressure of finding a suitable camp site further upstream bore down as the day drew to a close. The proposed site was located and the party forced to divide as they were consumed into a dense

forest with some strewn along the river shore. Still a very lovely and privileged encampment, all the same.

Monday an 8:30am departure. This day a rise of 200 m in the river's altitude with gargantuan waterfalls and precipitous cliffs. Slow, belly crawling, rapid traversing, slippery rock procuring progress. Swimming even in the colder water, a high priority. The group split at the main waterfall with the 'greyhounds' leaping on to the remaining falls, whilst the remainder swam, lunched, rested and took in the grandeur of such a privileged achievement. Then it was time to return to the previous night's camp and dinner around a river hugging camp fire.

A +600 m climb out Tuesday morning called for a 7:30 am departure to beat the heat of the day. The forest still easy to traverse despite the steep grade and we made good progress until our next descent took us into a dead, fire ravaged Alpine Ash stand. This finally leading to our ascent onto the barely discernible Cromwell Track. Eventually, through a slight miscalculation we were spat out onto a sodden river flat where no boot was left dry. We believe this to be the leveller for Mr. F, who until now had not once dampened his extraordinary prowess. The vehicles were reached mid-afternoon and the long journey home commenced following a dip at Bennison water hole.

Thank you all for your humour and your caring and cooperative company. Thank you Jopie for your great skill and management of such a skilled and competent bunch.

Helen Geddes

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.



SATURDAY WALK

WARBURTON, BACKSTAIRS TRACK, LALA FALLS

DATE Saturday 26 March (Easter Saturday)
STANDARD Easy/Medium
DISTANCE 12 km
LEADER Maureen Hurley
TRANSPORT Private
AREA Warburton
MELWAY REF 289 K4
FIRE BAN DISTRICT Central
TEMPERATURE REFERENCE SITE Dandenong

We will meet at the Patchwork Café at 10 am (Melway 289 K4). This is the first café on your left as you drive into Warburton on the Warburton Highway. Parking is at the back of the café.

This is an 'oldie but goodie', up the Backstairs Track (a good heart starter) to Warburton Highway and around to LaLa Falls, then continuing back into Warburton and along the river to our starting point. Cofwfee afterwards, look forward to seeing you.



SUNDAY BUS

GEORGE BASS COASTAL AND RAIL TRAIL



DATE Sunday April 4th
STANDARDS Easy and Easy/Medium

DISTANCES 12 km Easy / 15 km Medium group
ASCENT Minimal
LEADERS Christina Hughes and Angela Vetsicas
TRANSPORT Bus – leaving Southbank Blvd at 8:45 am
RETURN Return to Southbank Boulevard at 6:30 pm
AREA Bass Coast / San Remo
MAP REFERENCE Parks Victoria Notes, George Bass Coastal Trail
FIRE BAN DISTRICT Central
TEMPERATURE REFERENCE SITE Wonthaggi

Approximately 1.5 hours from Melbourne this coastline rivals that of the Great Ocean Road. The popular George Bass Coastal Walk stretches along the clifftops from the outskirts of San Remo to Kilcunda. It offers spectacular views of the coastline and follows the route of the explorer George Bass' epic voyage of discovery along the southern edge of the Anderson Peninsula over 200 years ago.

The George Bass Coastal walk has grassy cliff tops, sheltered creek gullies, crashing surf and abundant bird life, with never ending panoramic ocean views. There is little shade so take a hat, sunscreen and plenty of drinking water. Mostly flat but some uphill, downhill and sand walking.

To extend and add interest to the walk, we will also explore part of the beach near Kilcunda as well as a section of the Bass Coast Rail Trail. The Rail Trail passes the remnants of the Mitchell Mine Historic Reserve.

Come and join us for this scenic walk that offers abundant fresh ocean air and memorable views of rugged cliffs and pounding surf.



TOFS WALK

WILSON BOTANIC PARK – BERWICK PARKLANDS

DATE Thursday 7 April 2016
STANDARD Easy
DISTANCE Approximately 10 km
ELEVATION Mostly fairly flat with some slight slopes
LEADER Rosemary Cotter
TRANSPORT Private
AREA Berwick
MAP REFERENCE Melway map 111
FIRE BAN DISTRICT Central
TEMPERATURE REFERENCE SITE Melbourne

This walk is in a new area and has yet to be previewed so talk with the leader later in March.

It is intended to take in the Botanic Park and to visit other parks in the area. The Park was opened in March 1992 in memory of early pioneers and has two fossil seams. The nearest train station is 2 km from the park.



PACK CARRY

BEGINNERS' MT FEATHERTOP

DATE 8–10 April 2016
RETURN TIME Late on 10 April
STANDARD Easy
DISTANCE 22 km
ELEVATION 300 m
LEADER John Fritze
TRANSPORT Private
AREA North East Victoria
MAP REFERENCE Bogong Alpine Area – Outdoor Recreation Guide 1:50,000
FIRE BAN DISTRICT North Eastern
TEMPERATURE REFERENCE SITE Falls Creek

Mount Feathertop is one of the most magnificent peaks in the Victorian Alps and an icon of Victorian bushwalking. We will approach it from Mount Hotham by following the Razorback and Bungalow Spur to a grassy campsite near Federation Hut then do a side trip to the summit. On Sunday we will return to our cars. The Razorback is a narrow ridge mostly above the treeline and the easiest and most scenic way of bagging the mountain.

It is in an exposed alpine area and participants will need to be prepared for all weather conditions. To make things a little easier for first timers we have equipment for hire, will be conducting an equipment demonstration before the trip and have an Equipment Officer (me) always happy to handle any queries you may have.



LODGE

MT BULLER LODGE (WITH BAYSIDE BWC)

DATE Friday 8 to Wednesday 13 April 2016
STANDARD Easy/Medium
DISTANCE 15 km
TOTAL ASCENT 400 m rise
LEADER Ian Marchment (Bayside) and Ian Mair
TRANSPORT Private
AREA Mt Buller
MAP REFERENCE Buller/Mt Stirling Ref 81231n/81231s
FIRE BAN DISTRICT North Eastern
TEMPERATURE REFERENCE SITE Mount Buller

Walk to Craigs Hut via Mt Stirling. Fantastic views of the Alpine region, plus four challenging half day walks to Corn Hill, Little Mount Buller, Delatite River Walk and McLaughlins Shoulder. If you enjoy a glass of wine, pre dinner drink wine tastings are a planned. Deposit \$50 – see below
Surfaces: Walking/Horse Tracks/4 Wheel drive. McLaughlins Spur has rough overgrown track with some scrambling. Some snow may be on the track. Boots essential plus all wet weather gear.
Climbing: Yes, 400 metres up and down
Accommodation: Ski lodge accomodation. Bunks, some double beds Cost \$225 for 5 nights. (Cost based on 20 participants; \$52.50 per night if not reached.) Advise special dietary requirements. Contact Ian Mair for booking and payment details.



SUNDAY CAR POOL

CURRAWONG FALLS – IRONBARK GORGE

DATE Sunday 10 April 2016
STANDARD Easy/Medium
LEADER Richard Long
TRANSPORT Carpool – leaving Southbank Blvd at 8:45 am
FIRE BAN DISTRICT Central
TEMPERATURE REFERENCE SITE Geelong

For details of this walk please contact the leader.



WEDNESDAY WALK

O'SHANNASSY AQUEDUCT, DIVERSION WEIR TO CEMENT CREEK

DATE Wednesday 13 April 2016
RETURN TIME 3:30 pm
STANDARD Easy/Medium
DISTANCE 14.5 km
ELEVATION 150 m
LEADER Ken MacMahon
TRANSPORT Private
AREA Warburton
MAP REFERENCE Parks Vic, O'Shannassy Aqueduct Trail Brochure
FIRE BAN DISTRICT Central
TEMPERATURE REFERENCE SITE Mt Dandenong

The O'Shannassy River has been a jewel in the crown of Melbourne's jealously protected water supply catchments since the 1920's. The aqueduct bringing water to the city outlived its usefulness and was decommissioned by Melbourne Water in 1995. In 2005, land management was transferred to Parks Vic and included in Yarra Ranges National Park. The track beside the aqueduct has become a delightful walking trail flanked by towering mountain ash and tree ferns.

We will meet at Cement Creek Road turnoff at 10:30 am (Melway 291 F4). After a short car shuffle, we walk 5 km, climbing gently, to the old diversion weir where we will have lunch. Thereafter, we follow the aqueduct (which of course means virtually no hills) as it winds around the mountainside for 8 km to Cement Creek Rd. We will then walk down the road to the highway, exploring a beautiful redwood glade along the way. Be prepared for a few leeches along the grassy tracks.



SUNDAY BUS

TALLAROOK STATE FOREST AND WARRAGUL ROCKS

DATE Sunday 17 April 2016
RETURN TIME Approx. 6 pm
STANDARDS Easy/Medium and Medium
DISTANCES Medium approx. 15 km and Easy/Medium approx 13 km
ELEVATIONS Fluctuations up to 150 m
LEADERS Sue Haviland and Roger Wyett
TRANSPORT Bus – leaving Southbank Blvd at 8:45 am
AREA Cathedral Range
MAP REFERENCE Tallarook 1:25,000
FIRE BAN DISTRICT North Central
TEMPERATURE REFERENCE SITE Seymour

The Tallarook Sate Forest is an open stringybark forest with some short but steep hills and green gullies. This walk will mostly be on 2WD and 4WD tracks, with the Medium group having the additional leg that includes the Trawool Reservoir. Both groups will have access to the views from Warragul Rocks (private property), with the chance of some echidna and wallabies being seen in the area as well as rosellas and lorikeets.



CYCLING

HURSTBRIDGE-ARTHURS CREEK CIRCUIT

DATE Sunday 17 April 2016
RETURN TIME 5 pm
STANDARD Medium
DISTANCE 43 or 49 km options
LEADER Jopie Bodegraven
TRANSPORT Train
AREA NE suburban Melbourne
MAP REFERENCE Melway
FIRE BAN DISTRICT Central
TEMPERATURE REFERENCE SITE Melbourne

This will be a lovely mostly rural ride in the lovely rolling hills near Hurstbridge plus some bits in the outlying suburbs of Laurimar with its lakes and Diamond Creek for those who do the extra bit. It is a bit hilly in parts with one nasty steep 8 minute walkup hill although the toughies will ride it. The reward is fabulous views and some wonderful downhill runs. The shorter option is 43 km and is from Hurstbridge station back to Hurstbridge. The longer option with extra ups but a

lovely downhill cruise is 5.5 km more at 49 km and finishes at Diamond Creek station. Morning tea will be at a coffee shop in Laurimar and lunch will be sitting on the roadside somewhere probably with a nice view.

We will meet at Hurstbridge station (entry/exit is only on the east side) at 9:56 am which is when the 8:38 train from Flinders Street is due in. Alternatively you may of course choose to drive.

So join me for a lovely Sunday ride in the countryside. The weather is bound to be fine. Drop me an email or ring me so I will know to not ride off without you. .



MOFS WALK

LYSTERFIELD LAKE

DATE Monday 18 April 2016
RETURN TIME 3.15pm, Beach car park, Lysterfield Lake Park
STANDARD Easy/ Moderate
DISTANCE 10 km
ELEVATION 150 m
LEADER Michael Porter
TRANSPORT Private
AREA Lysterfield
MAP REFERENCE Melway 82, 83, 108
FIRE BAN DISTRICT Central
TEMPERATURE REFERENCE SITE Dandenong

Enter Lysterfield Lake Park by Horswood Drive off Belgrave-Hallam Rd. Entering the picnic parking areas, turn left/south and drive to the furthest parking area near the dam wall called Beach car park.

Meeting time will be 10:30 am.

Starting out along the eastern shore of the lake, we will walk through acacia scrub and eucalypt woodland before climbing steadily up to the Trig Point lookout. We will lunch here. We return via the Tramline Track through red gum and spotted gum plantations to the western side of the dam wall, which we will cross to our starting point.

Parks Victoria has good notes and map online for *Lysterfield Park and Churchill National Park*
 Book with leader.



WEDNESDAY WALK

TOMMY'S BEND, PARADISE PLAINS, STEAVENSON FALLS

DATE Wednesday 20 April 2016
STANDARD Easy
LEADER Doug Pocock
TRANSPORT Private
AREA Marysville
MAP REFERENCE Outdoor Leisure Map Marysville-Lake Mountain
FIRE BAN DISTRICT Central
TEMPERATURE REFERENCE SITE Yarra Glen

We will have a car shuffle then the walk starts on Tommy's Bend Road which we soon leave for a short sharp climb to a fire break which takes us over Mount Grant and Mount Stinton before rejoining Tommy's Bend Road. We follow this to Paradise Plains which, due to Black Saturday fires, aren't quite the open grassy plains that I remember from an earlier trip. After lunch we continue on logging roads back to the car park. Drivers will return to collect cars while the other walkers

will visit Steavensons Falls. This walk is mainly down hill with a drop of about 500 m.

Meet at Yellow Dog car park at 10:15 to do a car shuffle. Turn right off the main road in Marysville and take the road to Steavensons Falls. Look for Yellow Dog Road on the left after 1.8 km. Follow this for 1.1 km to the car park. (Note; there are no toilets here so use the ones in Marysville near the turnoff.)

This walk will be almost 55 years to the day since my first walk with the club. Come along and help me celebrate!!!!



PACK CARRY

WILSON'S PROMONTORY NORTHERN CIRCUIT

NOTE: THIS WALK IS FULLY BOOKED

DATE	22-25 April 2016
RETURN TIME	April 25 evening
STANDARD	Medium
DISTANCE	58 km
ELEVATION	150 m
LEADER	Judith Shaw
TRANSPORT	Private
AREA	Wilson's Promontory
MAP REFERENCE	VicMap Wilson's Prom National Park
	1:50,000
TRANSPORT COSTS	\$32 per person
FIRE BAN DISTRICT	West Gippsland
TEMPERATURE REFERENCE SITE	Wonthaggi

The northern Prom is a rarely visited wilderness area, quite different from the more heavily trafficked southern circuit. This fascinating walk explores its remote beaches, coastal forests and wetlands. We camp in Yanakie Friday night and

start walking on Saturday morning, going anti-clockwise from the Five Mile Road carpark and camping at Five Mile Beach and Tin Mine Cove. The third day involves an interesting off-track section through Chinaman Swamp. The swamp was completely dry when I was there last October, but can be thigh-deep in parts if there has been rain.



DANDENONGS EXPLORER

THE BASIN TO MT DANDENONG

DATE	Saturday 23 April 2016
TIME	10:30 am to 3:30 pm
STANDARD	Medium
DISTANCE	16 km
ELEVATION	300 m
LEADER	Susan Maughan
TRANSPORT	Private
AREA	Mt Dandenong
MAP REFERENCE	Feathertop Dandenong Ranges
FIRE BAN DISTRICT	Central
TEMPERATURE REFERENCE SITE	Mt Dandenong

10:10-10:30. Meet at the very end of the Old Coach Road, The Basin, Melway 66 B8. After a car shuffle we should commence our walk by 10:45. The track takes us along the Old Coach Road and on to School, Range and Caterpillar tracks to The Basin-Olinda Road. We cross this and join Mt Dandenong Creek track to our lunch spot by the creek. Fuel up, because the next stage concludes with a 20 minute grunt as we take the Fireline track onto Old Mt Dandenong Road, eventually coming out at the back of Five Ways, Kalorama. 3.5 hours of walking.



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This walk traverses the face of Mt Dandenong and frequently affords us views across to the city. Needless to say there are ups, and downs, and then even more ups and downs, so bring plenty of puff. This is my inaugural Saturday Dandenongs Explorer – I'd love you to join me, especially as it'll be lonely by myself. Did I mention there is coffee and cake at the end?



PACK CARRY

CHINA FLAT, LOUISVILLE, BROCKETT
(Joint with VMTC)

DATE Saturday 23 to Monday 25 April
STANDARD Hard
LEADER Ian Langford
TRANSPORT Private
AREA Mt Hotham
MAP REFERENCE Vicmaps 1:50,000 Cobungra
FIRE BAN DISTRICT North East
TEMPERATURE REFERENCE SITE Mt Hotham

Remote area walking in the seldom visited headwaters of the Dargo River. The route begins at J.B. Plain and follows an easy track to Mt Tabletop where the track ends. Then descend 700 metres elevation to the Dargo River by a south-westerly spur to China Flat at the foot of the spur.

Here pitch a base camp. China Flat is a former gold mining settlement where there are remains of mine shafts and a diversion creek to be explored.

Sunday, walk upriver to former mining settlements Louisville and Brockett and return downriver to China Flat. Monday return to J.B. Plain via the outbound route.

Hard standard: a long descent and climb; off-track except for Mt Tabletop track; expected thick scrub and fallen logs. Alpine: subject to severe changes in weather without warning; must be prepared for snow conditions.

Rendezvous J B. Plain 9:00 am 23 April.

A joint walk with the Victorian Mountain Tramping Club



SUNDAY CAR POOL

ST GEORGES LAKE CRESWICK

DATE Sunday 24 April 2016
RETURN TIME 6:30 pm to City
STANDARD Easy/medium
DISTANCE 15 km
ELEVATION approx. 300 m
LEADER Brett Daniel
TRANSPORT Car – Leaving Southbank Blvd at 8:45 am
FIRE BAN DISTRICT Central
TEMPERATURE REFERENCE SITE Ballarat

This walk is in the Creswick regional park and adjoining state forest. Although some walking occurs on little used 4WD tracks, there are also long sections of historical water races providing level walking amongst the many interlocking spurs and gullies. Evidence of surface mining is present almost everywhere throughout these hills. We will be starting and finishing at St George Lake before heading down to the abandoned koala park, built in 1942 as a breeding ground.



HISTORICAL WALK

BRIDGES OF KANANOOK CREEK

DATE Monday 25 April, start at 9:45 am at Carrum Railway Station
RETURN TIME Finish at Frankston RS at about 2:30 pm
STANDARD Easy
DISTANCE 12 km
ELEVATION Flat
LEADER Nigel Holmes
TRANSPORT Public transport is recommended; limited car parking is available at Carrum RS
AREA Carrum–Seaford–Frankston
MAP REFERENCE Melway 97, 99 and 102
FIRE BAN DISTRICT Central
TEMPERATURE REFERENCE SITE Melbourne
TRANSPORT COSTS Bring a MYKI with credit for the return trip to Carrum if you drove in.

Kananook Creek rises in the Carrum Swamp and flows 12 km parallel to the Bay, only a few hundred metres inland. The Boonerwung people knew it as a reliable source of water and fish. In the 1940s a local identity built timber footbridges across Kananook Creek. None of the original structures remains now, but they have been faithfully re-built since I led this walk in 2002. The terrain is coastal sand dune with tea-tree, coast banksias, sheoaks, swamp gums, sedges and rushes. A break-out point is available at Seaford RS, at the 5 km mark, for those preferring a shorter walk, although this would mean missing the most interesting pedestrian bridges. Other features of interest include the building that housed a rotary converter that was installed c.1915 as part of the electrification of Melbourne's suburban railway, and pumping stations that regulate the water flows through the adjoining wetlands.

I will arrive at Carrum at 9:32 am on the Frankston train (departing Flinders Street RS at 8:38 am). I plan to depart from Carrum RS at 9:45 am sharp. Track works may disturb the train schedule so if I'm not at the station by 9:40 then wait or call me for updates.



SOCIAL WALK

ELTHAM, GRIFFITH PARK, SWEENEYS FLAT

DATE Thursday 28 April 2016
STANDARD Easy
DISTANCE 5 km
ELEVATION Mostly flat
LEADER Jean Giese
TRANSPORT Private
AREA Eltham
MAP REFERENCE Melway 21 and 22
FIRE BAN DISTRICT Central
TEMPERATURE REFERENCE SITE Melbourne

We will need to do a bit of car shuffling to reduce this walk to 5 ks but will end up enjoying some nice bushland and walking beside the Yarra for a good part of the way. Lunch afterwards at 'Lillies' in Eltham.

Meet at the end of Reynolds Road (Melway 22 E9) to start walking by 10:30. Book with leader by Tuesday 26 April so she knows for how many to book a table for lunch.

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!

April 2016

Sun 3	DAY: George Bass Coastal Trail	Bus	E&E/M	CN:wn	Christina Hughes & Angela Vetsicas
Thu 7	TOF: Wilson Botanic Park – Berwick Parklands	Pvt	Easy	CN:me	Rosemary Cotter
8–10	PC : Beginners' Mt Feathertop	Pvt	Easy	NE:fc	John Fritze
8–13	LOD: Mt Buller Lodge (with Bayside BWC)	Pvt	E/M	NE:mb	Ian Marchment (B'side) & Ian Mair
Sun 10	DAY: Currawong Falls – Ironbark Gorge	Car	E/M	CN:ge	Richard Long
Wed 13	DAY: O'Shannassy Aqueduct, Cement Crk–O'Shan. Weir	Pvt	E/M	CN:yg	Ken MacMahon
Sun 17	DAY: Tallarook State Forest – Warragul Rocks	Bus	E&E/M	NC:se	Sue Haviland & Roger Wyett
Sun 17	CYC: Hurstbridge–Arthurs Creek circuit (Sunday ride)	Pvt	Med	CN:yg	Jopie Bodegraven
Mon 18	MOF: Lysterfield Lake	Pvt	Easy	CN:me	Michael Porter
Wed 20	DAY: Tommy's Bend, Paradise Plains, Steavenson Falls	Pvt	E/M	CN:yg	Doug Pocock
22–25	PC : Wilsons Prom Northern Circuit	Pvt	Med	WG:wn	Judith Shaw
Sat 23	DAY: From The Basin to Mt Dandenong	Pvt	Med	CN:md	Susan Maughan
23–25	PC : China Flat, Louisville, Brockett (joint with VMTC)	Pvt	Hard	NE:mh	Ian Langford
Sun 24	DAY: Creswick – St Georges Lake	Car	E/M	CN:ba	Brett Daniel
Mon 25	DAY: HISTORICAL: Bridges of Kananook Creek	Pvt	Easy	CN:me	Nigel Holmes
Thu 28	SOC: Eltham, Griffith Park, Sweeneys Flat	Pvt	Easy	CN:me	Jean Giese

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