



A000133X

THE NEWS OF THE Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc.

ABN 14 396 912 508

September 2016

TRAINING NIGHT So YOU want to become a LEADER?

Congratulations to all ten participants Wen, Omar, Mark, Folker, Lance, Keith, Rosalind, Christopher, Dana and Stuart who attended and undertook the training for the first unit in our program on Wednesday, 17 August in the clubrooms. They began the process for our club to formalise and further skill up our enthusiastic and committed walk leaders. The session was based on the guidelines developed by Bushwalking Victoria. The attendees ranged from new, potential as well as experienced leaders who all contributed to a fruitful evening, discussing and sharing their experiences which identify skills and attributes of good leaders.

This first session was delivered with two objectives in mind:

1. The concept of leadership
2. Different styles of leadership

We concluded that we all prefer a certain style of leadership and each of us predominantly demonstrates a preferred style of leading. Of course we all recognised that during any given walk many different styles may need to be employed.

With theory and knowledge of leadership style, all walk leaders acquire skills and understanding to improve and strengthen our leadership potential. Some of you have already completed the navigation training with Roger and others will be undertaking the First Aid Training, now fully booked in October. You will agree training opportunities are well catered for. Our club is determined to offer as much support as possible to ensure our walking program is enjoyable and successful.

Unit 1 provided a base to allow us to continue with additional units which cover the nuts and bolts of leading a walk. If you feel you have missed out on this starting unit, we will be covering the units again next year. This year though we continue with:

Unit 2 – Walk Planning, Research and Preview – Wed OCT 12th 2016 at 7:30 pm CLUBROOMS

Unit 3 – Paperwork – Wed NOV 30th 2016 at 7:30 pm CLUBROOMS

If you are interested in attending these evenings contact vetsiang8@gmail.com

Angela Vetsica – Training Officer



Please note: For those wanting to go on the Wedderburn weekend base camp, Doug Pocock and Jan Llewelyn won't be available between 1 and 11 September – no phone or email.

**Due date for contributions (including November previews) to October News:
21 September**

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 5 September 2016

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the following new members:

Kathleen Lawless, Jana Perera, Alyssa Brooks,
Omar Sharief, Peter Taylor

Hello Members.

Your Bushwalking Victoria Member Cards for 2016–2017 are now available. Please pick up your card when you are next in the clubrooms.

If it is not possible to call in to the clubrooms and you would like one, please send a stamped, self addressed envelope to the club, in order to save postage costs, and we will send one out.

Club address:

Membership
Melbourne Bushwalkers
GPO Box 1751,
Melbourne, 3001.

Members who currently pay extra to receive the hard copy newsletters will receive their BWV card with their next newsletter.

These cards will enable you to obtain a discount when buying equipment from outdoor shops. You can find the current list of BWV Membership Card Benefits available at: http://mbw.org.au/mbw_activities/BWV_affiliate_card.php

*Gill Wainwright
Membership Secretary*



Skiing group – see article on page 9. Photo by Bill Metzenthén.

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN – SEPTEMBER 2016



The confidentiality of personal information is a matter that is of concern to us all. And so it should be. Whether our concern is founded on a personal preference for a measure of privacy or is rooted in a deeper anxiety around identity theft, the use and potential abuse of personal information is a matter that deserves our attention. If it has done nothing else, the furore surrounding the current Commonwealth Census has again brought into focus some of the challenges related to the collection, sharing and secure retention of personal information in the information age. The question has as much relevance at the club level as it has on a broader scale.

A flippant reaction may simply note that if no information is collected or retained then there wouldn't be an issue. However, I am sure we all appreciate that the effective operation of the club relies on the retention of some information related to each of us.

Names, contact details, emergency contact details, the current financial status of our membership, to name some of the details on record. Not only are these important for efficient communication, they may also have a bearing on your well-being in the event of an accident or other unplanned event. Indeed, as an incorporated club we are legally obliged to communicate with all members on some matters, for example, the business of the Annual General Meeting. That said, a guiding principle of 'less rather than more' in the recording of personal information benefits us all.

As might be expected, Privacy Law in Australia takes a pragmatic approach to information about individuals and draws a distinction between sensitive information and health information within the wider scope of personal information.

Under the Privacy Laws, information will generally be considered 'sensitive information' where it is personal information more specifically about a person's: racial or ethnic origin; political opinions; membership of a political association; religious beliefs or affiliations; philosophical beliefs; membership of a professional or trade association; membership of a trade union; sexual preferences or practices, or criminal records. The operation of Melbourne Bushwalkers has no need for any of these details and none are requested or recorded. Members are embraced for their shared passion for bushwalking and preparedness to shoulder the load to help each other, and not for any other consideration.

'Health information' is a type of personal and sensitive information that is defined broadly to include information or opinion about matters such as: mental health; disability; health preferences (including future provision of health services); use of health services; bodily donations (e.g. blood, organs), and genetics. Again, we do not record any such information. We do request that all members fill in, and carry in a secure place when on walks, our green Health Card in the event of an injury, and that all walkers, whether members or visitors, advise the leaders of any health matters that may affect their capacity to do a walk or impact on the enjoyment or safety of other walkers. The ephemeral nature of our noting of any health information provided to a leader is respected.

It might be noted that in the comments on Privacy Law there has been no mention of financial account details. Whilst some members would prefer that we had more payment options for transactions with the club, it is said for completeness that we do not hold any account details of members.

Some will recall the time when it was standard practice in the club to distribute with the newsletter the full names, addresses and other contact details of all members. Only occasionally would a member request that a particular detail was not included. Access to the list was regarded as necessary to be in touch with each other, even a sign of belonging. Conditions have changed. The all-too-easy ability to forward lists in electronic form demands that we use greater discretion in the type and manner of information made available. Our online membership database is the primary source of personal information, recorded from the Membership Application Form. All members can access through the Members' Area of the website their personal details held by the club, make changes to the information and specify whether the details should be withheld from other general members.

The club and its officers continue to be vigilant in respecting the way we treat personal information. Notwithstanding, we are ready to hear and discuss any concerns you may have so that we can all enjoy everything the club has to offer without distraction.

Ian Mair

2016 Social Calendar

Wednesday 28 September

THE BUSHWALKER'S IDEAL CAMERA; AND SOME ADVENTURES IN TASMANIA'S HIGH ALPINE COUNTRY – BY LES SOUTHWELL



Thinking of upgrading your point-and-shoot camera? There have been some new developments in upmarket digital cameras recently, very useful for bushwalkers. They include the use of the panorama for capturing very wide-angle views, and 'HDR' to tame scenes of extreme contrast, all executed in-camera – no fiddling around with Photoshop required. Les will explain them briefly, with examples.

Also, Tasmania has some of the finest Alpine country on the planet. And he will be showing slides of two recent adventures in the World Heritage area:

First, most bushwalkers taking the Overland track in the Cradle Mountain – Lake St. Clair Reserve usually walk straight through, venturing no further off-track than a day walk to Pine Valley or to adjacent peaks. However, some of the best country is to be found further off-track to the west, in the high Ducanes Range complex.

Second, an ascent of the King Williams – another remote, high alpine plateau, rarely visited, just south of the Lyell Highway. It was reached via a tough, hazardous climb over Slatter's Peak, described in the Abels Guide to Tasmania's high alpine peaks as 'not for the faint hearted'.



Looking north over the King William II Plateau.

Wednesday 26 October

RESTORING AUSTRALIA'S LOST AND DECLINING BIODIVERSITY – BY ZAC LEWIS



Zac is passionate about science and conservation. This passion led him to the Australian Wildlife Conservancy (AWC), where he works as a Development Executive based in Melbourne.

Zac has previously worked across environmental science, management and policy.

Back from the brink: restoring Australia's lost and declining biodiversity

Across the continent, many of Australia's precious natural assets are in steep decline: 25 native terrestrial mammals have gone extinct since European settlement, giving Australia the worst rate of recent mammal extinctions in the world. A further 1700 surviving animals and plants are threatened with extinction and every year more species are being added to this tragic list. Even our most heavily protected natural areas have not escaped: Kakadu National

Park for example has experienced a 75% decline in species richness in the last 15 years.

This highlights an urgent need for a new approach to conservation in Australia.

Australian Wildlife Conservancy (AWC) is an independent, non-profit organisation that is transforming conservation on the ground. AWC is dedicated to saving Australia's threatened wildlife and habitats. During this presentation you will learn the key factors that are driving the decline of Australia's natural assets and about some major new initiatives that are stopping and reversing the decline of Australia's biodiversity. Come along and be inspired!

THE MBW HALF-YEAR SCOREBOARD

Activity Statistics – January to June Comparison

	2015			2016		
	Trips	Average Nos	Average Visitors	Trips	Average Nos	Average Visitors
DAY WALKS						
MOFs	6	11.3	0.8	5	11.8	1.6
TOFs	6	9.7	0.5	6	9.7	0
Sat/Dandee Explorer	3	11.7	1.0	4	12.3	1.5
Sunday bus	14	39.7	9.9	13	44.8	12.7
Sunday carpool	10	14.2	2.1	13	15.0	3.8
Wednesday	8	10.3	1.3	11	11.9	0.9
Social walks **	6	9.5	1.3	6	12.1	2.3
OTHER ACTIVITIES						
Conservation	5	4.0	0	2	N.A.	N.A.
Navigation training	1	5.0	2.0	1	7.0	3.0
Track maintenance	1	5.0	2.0	1	2.0	0
Base camp	7	11.5	0.2	4	14.5	2.0
Lodge	2	10.5	0.5	2	10.5	1.0
Pack carry	13	10.1	1.7	12	7.8	1.9
Cycling	4	8.7	0	4	7.5	0.5

♦ Average attendance and visitor numbers exclude trips where figures not provided.

♦ Cancellations in 2016: High temp. – MOFs × 1; bad weather – PC × 1; low numbers – PC × 2 and CYC × 1

** 2016 results increased by joint activity with MOFS on 15/2/16

Highest Attendances – January to June 2016

MOFs: Feb 15 **Footscray parks and river cruise (with Social walks)** 30 (7 visitors)

TOFs: Jan 7 **Merricks–Somers** 12 (0) and Mar 3 **Williamstown–Lower Yarra River** 12 (0)

Saturday/Dandenongs Explorer: Mar 26 **Warburton–Backstairs Track–La La Falls** 20 (5)

Sunday bus: Feb 7 **Mt Donna Buang** 56 (19) and Apr 3 **Bass Coastal Trail** 56 (27) # #

Sunday carpool: Jan 31 **Werribee Gorge** 21 (5) and Jun 12 **Big Pats Creek** 21 (6)

Wednesday: Feb 10 **Powelltown, Reids Mill** 24 (1)

Social walks: Jun 23 **Gardiners Creek, Glen Iris** 11 (3)

Navigation training: Jul 2 **Werribee Gorge** 7 (3)

Base camp: Mar 11 **Mt Buffalo at Lake Catani** 16 (1)

Lodge: Jun 3 **Tidal River, Wilsons Promontory** 15 (0)

Pack carry: Apr 8 **Mt Feathertop (beginners' PC)** 15 (8)

Cycling: Jan 16 **Darebin Trail** 13 (2)

Special Mentions

Overseas Pack Carry Jan 6 **Cambodia Tour – Stage 2** 7 (0)

Interstate Pack Carries Feb 11 **Tasmania: Overland Track (trip 1)** 10 (1)

Feb 18 **Tasmania: Overland Track (trip 2)** 10 (6)

Off-Shore Base Camps Feb 5 **Tasmania: Deal Island, Kent Group (trip 1)** figures not supplied

Mar 4 **Tasmania: Deal Island, Kent Group (trip 2)** 13 (3)

Training Presentation Mar 30 **Lightweight gear and packing** 18 (2)

We can see a noticeable increase in Sunday bus and base camp attendances and also an increase in the number of Sunday carpool and Wednesday trips. Of course, there are many other activities through the weeks, so thanks must go to all of the leaders and coordinators who made these events possible.

Stuart Hanham
(General Walks Secretary)

SAFETY ON PREVIEWS

Leaders conduct many previews, on behalf of the Club. Some are done on week days, some are 'off the beaten track' and may involve just one person. MBW has a procedure to increase safety and ensure that preview participants are covered by Club insurance, should a mishap occur.

Steps to Take

1. The leader chooses their own preview contact person, who may be a family member, reliable friend or MBW member.
2. From our Leaders' Database, the leader obtains and completes a Trip Intentions Form and sends it, along with any other relevant information, such as a route map, to their preview contact. If an assistant is involved, their details and those of their contact person should also be included. A key piece of information is the expected return time to the leader's car, so that when the preview is completed, the leader can phone or text their contact, near the anticipated time, to advise, 'Safely back at car – preview completed.'
3. The leader sends an email to the Club's Emergency Contact account ecs@mbw.org.au to advise when the preview will happen, the names of those involved and the details of their preview contacts.

By following this procedure, the preview contact person will have the appropriate information to take follow-up action, should a significant delay in communication occur.

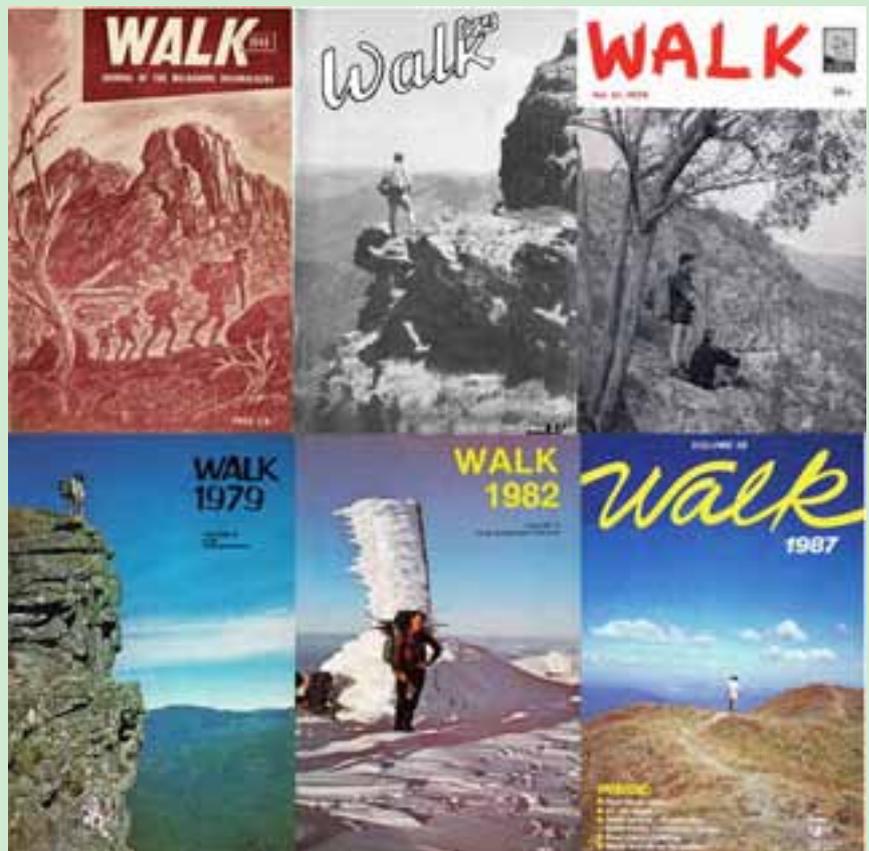
Stuart Hanham
(General Walks Secretary)

'WALK' MAGAZINE

Between 1949 and 1987 'Walk' magazine was a signature publication of Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc. Published annually with articles from club members, it was topical and informative, a publication befitting the esteem with which the club was regarded. Conceived primarily as a club journal to record matters of interest to members, every effort was made to avoid any air of parochialism. It was confidently expected that those members of the general public who were interested in bushwalking, or the geography of Australia, would also find much to interest them within its covers. The rise of commercial competitive magazines, however, brought the publication to a close. Today, the pages of the magazine, with their detailed walk descriptions and topics of interest to bushwalkers, stand as an invaluable historic record.

A joint effort from club members Ian Mair and Mark Heath has again made the 38 Volumes available to all interested walkers. PDF files of each volume may be downloaded free of charge from http://mbw.org.au/MBW_walk_magazine.php

Further information: http://mbw.org.au/history/MBW_history_162.php



A PLACE IN HISTORY – 239 A'BECKETT STREET, MELBOURNE

Many members may wonder about the history of the rooms we occupy for our regular clubroom meetings. The rich wood panelling hints of a grander purpose. Now the premises of the Royal Historical Society of Victoria (RHSV), the building on the corner of William and A'Beckett Streets was initially built as the headquarters of the Australian Army Medical Corps. Here are some extracted details from a fuller account, with acknowledgements to the RHSV.

The SITE and its HISTORY

The site was continuously occupied by the Army from 1866 to 1988. The Australian Army Medical Corps headquarters was built at the southern corner of William and A'Beckett Streets between 1938 and 1939 at a budgeted cost of £25,947.

Post-war use to 1988 included Medical Corps Reserve training, premises for the 3rd Psychology Unit, army publicity (with printing equipment), intermittent drill training (including rehearsals for Legacy shows) and garaging of vehicles. By 1990 it had been added to the Historic Building Register as being of state-wide architectural and historical significance. The western end of the building became the premises of the Royal Historical Society of Victoria Inc. (RHSV) in August 1999.

The BUILDING and its Original PURPOSES

This functional and utilitarian building has two large drill halls with offices along their northern side. The drill halls are separated by a public entrance foyer which leads off A'Beckett Street. The principal entrance is in A'Beckett Street, and it is here that 'Army Medical Corps' and the badge of the Corp are pressed into the cement cornice. Of the numerous additional entrances to the east and west, one on William Street leads to the Officers' Mess.



A lighter moment in the Officer's Mess

The Army Medical Corps' new building was purposely designed to provide a centrally located building for the administration, organisation and implementation of training, research and advice in medical, hygiene and hospital procedures, the provision of services, and the issuing of stores and payroll. Prior to mobilisation for World War II the army only had three permanent medical officers. The Australian Army Medical Corps numbered 35 in 1938–1939 and by 1943–1944 the total number was around 32,000. Women were not admitted to the Australian Army Medical Corps until September 1940.

On entering what are now the RHSV's rooms the most observable and important elements are the drill hall and the mezzanine. The drill hall served a number of functions: as an indoor parade ground for marching and equipment drill; as a gymnasium and for physical training; as a social centre offering activities such as dances, film nights etc. and for displays. The mezzanine (actually the ceiling of a row of offices) allows for observation of activities on the floor.

The BUILDING and its Current PURPOSES

The building interior has been modified to provide a serviceable site for the activities of the RHSV. The original offices became the administrative unit of the Society and the hall itself was divided to provide a reception area, exhibition space and library. The mezzanine has become the Information Technology and Training work area. The Officers' Mess, its entrance from William Street, is used for meetings, lectures and seminars. It also serves as the clubrooms for Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc.

It is in this environment that the RHSV maintains its commitment to the collection, research and sharing of an understanding of the history of Victoria. One of the RHSV's greatest assets is its unique ability to offer personal advice and assistance to individual researchers. Members and members of affiliated societies have free use of the collections; non-members pay a daily research fee.



RHSV entrance on A'Beckett Street

Regent Honeyeater Plantings 2016

July 30/31 Aug 13/14 Aug 27/28 Sept 10/11 Sept 24/25



Photo: Jody McCormack

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

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

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

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

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

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

Numbers Expected: **Please let us know in advance the no of people coming, so we can cater appropriately.**

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

THE HIGH PLAINS IN WINTER BOGONG ROVER CHALET AUGUST 6-13

The Falls Creek bus dropped us off at Windy Corner, a few adjustments to our gear and we were off. Only a small group of 10 this year, MBW seems to be losing interest in X-C skiing. The snow was good and we were soon across the dam wall. A bite of morning tea at Watchbed Creek, then on to pick our way carefully through melting snow at Langfords Gap before following the aqueduct to the Rover Chalet for lunch. We settled in, got fires going, bedding arranged and rosters sorted out. Some went out to check out the slopes behind Cope Hut while at least one was seen to be having a kip.

As the snow was melting, especially on the road, it was decided to head north through Langfords Gap and head across to Ropers Lookout for next day's trip. We were avoiding the marked and groomed trails to enjoy the feeling of exploring. Watchbed Creek presented a small obstacle as there were no snow bridges to cross. Following the creek upstream we finally found a bridge that supported us. Unfortunately we had been

diverted more easterly than we wanted. Come lunchtime, we were still a fair way from Ropers Lookout so, when we found a rocky knoll with excellent views, we named it Ropers Lookout Two and were satisfied we had reached our destination. After lunch it was back home via an exhilarating ski down a long valley. Hot showers and an excellent dinner set the pattern for the rest of the week. Bread was baked for our next day's lunch.

The weather was still fine the next day so Mt Jim was selected for the trip. Instead of following the snowpole line we headed west towards the causeway crossing Cope Creek. Looking towards Mt Jim the valley looked like some vast Grombolian Plain and we tootled along, crossing the meandering creek on snow bridges. Gradually climbing we breasted the ridge and there was Mt Jim a short ski away. It was windy on the summit so we dropped over the edge to a sheltered spot for lunch. Mt Feathertop was obscured by cloud so we decided not to head any further west but return home. A two km downhill run was excellent fun and then we followed the roller-coaster trip along the snowdrifts on Mt Bundara to the Cope Saddle hut for afternoon tea. Back to the Chalet with a diversion to the snowy slopes behind Cope Hut.

Next day was windy with cloud, a trip was planned to Mt Cope via 'Willkie's Plaque'. After morning tea at the plaque we headed off into worsening visibility. The leader, who shall remain nameless, found the ridge but not the right saddle. Passing through the ill-defined saddle, without any landmarks the aforementioned leader led the group into almost a circle. In the whiteout conditions a compass was called for and a course was taken to get out of the cloud and back to some landmarks. Eventually we wound up at Cope Hut where we had lunch and chatted with the inhabitants, a couple from Geelong Bushwalkers. After a play around on the nearby slopes we headed back home.

As the weather was very windy next day we decided on a morning skiing on the slopes around Wallace's Hut. Lessons in Telemark turning techniques were given. Di and David were going very well but some of us are probably lost causes. We had morning tea in the shelter of the hut but on emerging we found the weather had glugged up even worse so we stayed on the more sheltered slopes before returning home the sheltered way.

On Thursday the planned trip was to Ryders Huts and Mt Cope. Once again we ignored the snowpole line and headed through the trees to a snow slope we had found a few years before. The snow was in good condition but it was soon cut up with lots of telemark turns, though some of the turns were not quite up to standard. There was still enough snow to ski all the way for lunch at Ryders Hut and then to ski along Cope East aqueduct around the back of Mt Cope. We climbed up to the shoulder on Cope for more snow play before making our way home. Along the way the strong wind was blowing drift snow making us wonder whether we were in the Antarctic!

Our last day was a short one playing on Cope Hut slopes and the Rocky Knobs as we had to prepare to leave the next day. Various chores were done though, as there was a group following, it made everything a lot easier than has sometimes been. Next morning, after a quick breakfast, the main group left with the final cleaner-uppers following shortly. Back to Falls Creek with time for a coffee before getting the bus down the mountain, thus bringing to an end a very pleasant week's skiing.

The group were Doug, Bill, Marilyn, John, Di, David, Marianne, Mike and Strzelecki Bushwalkers Ron and Tim.

Doug Pocock



David doing his telemark exercises. *Photo by Bill Metzenth.*

PACK CARRY – LANGI GHIRAN 13–14TH AUGUST.

Mark decided to brush the dust off Bob Oxlade's notes and lead a weekend pack carry to Mt. Langi Ghiran. How fortunate for our group of nine.

This was a mostly off track, BYO water, winter hike through up and down forested boulder country.

There was a section of 4wd track at the start of the walk that took us to the much more entertaining 'off track'. We were able to explore and weave our way around, through and over rocky and tall timbered hills. The moss and damp made progress across the rocks slow and we soon picked up the ability to identify and avoid the 'nasty' prickly Moses. The need to carry 3–4 litres of water made for heavier weekend packs.

Our off track wanderings had an appropriate amount of lost-ness. Being 'sort of geographically challenged' was interesting. The problem solving and contingency planning kept the maps, compasses and minds useful and active. Not always a bad thing.

The odds are that on an August winter pack carry you will get wet and/or be cold. It was cold.

Our destination for the night was the Hidden Lagoon. On arrival a fire was soon lit but it was difficult to gain much warmth. We were constantly rotating around the campfire in a Saturday night dance with the smoke. Despite warnings of cold air sinking into hollows, some of the group decided to camp on the sand base of the lagoon (no water despite being winter) If they were cold that night they weren't saying. Those others quietly praying for a massive deluge weren't saying either.

Boulder country implies rock scrambling and spectacular views. We were not disappointed. There were huge lumps of granite piled up or spewed down a mountain side. There were great sheets of rock many metres high wrapped around the mountains. It was fun navigating the best way to summit. From the top, we could see great expanses of flat farmland that met the horizon. We were well above the wind turbines strategically placed along small ridge lines below us.

The walk out to the cars picked up a 4wd track for the last hour and we were soon changing gear and heading for the famous pie shop in Beaufort. Mark had been dreaming about their pies the whole weekend and managed to get the last one as they were closing their doors. Well deserved. He led a very fun and challenging trip.



Jeanette

A reminder that to view all available previews and any notifications of changes to walks, just log on to the walks program and previews pages on the MBW website:
http://www.mbw.org.au/mbw_activities/MBW_activities_program.php

**CUT OFF TIME FOR SUNDAY BUS ONLINE BOOKINGS
 4:00 PM THURSDAY PRIOR TO THE WALK.**

Bookings notified to busbookings@mbw.org.au after the cut off time will not be processed and a credit will be issued.

Payment to the leader of the full bus fee and late fee of \$5.00 will have to be made on the day if your booking has not been confirmed prior to the walk.



SUNDAY CAR POOL

THE BEST OF THE YOU YANGS – (CHANGED FROM HEALESVILLE SANCTUARY–BADGERYS WEIR)

DATE Sunday 4 September 2016
RETURN TIME 6:00 pm to City
STANDARD Easy
DISTANCE 12–14 km
ELEVATION About 300 m
LEADER Del Franks
TRANSPORT Carpool – leaving Southbank Blvd at 8:45 am
AREA You Yang Regional Park
MAP REFERENCE You Yang Regional Park – Park Notes

This Walk replaces the Healesville–Badgerys Weir walk as the preview showed that 9 kms of the walk was all on road.

The You Yangs Regional Park is an area relatively close to Melbourne, about 55 km, near the small settlement of Lara on the way to Geelong. As such it is often overlooked as a walk destination, yet it offers some wonderful views over the surrounding countryside as well as walks of differing standards. As the You Yangs are in my back yard, so to speak, I have frequently walked the tracks and I have put together a group of tracks that will highlight the best of the You Yangs.

The walk will start at the Park Office and walk to the top of Flinders Peak, spending some time to take in the views from the Big Rock and then continue on to the Peak. There are about 450 steps and some sections with steep gradients. After the Peak we will return to the car park and then onto the Branding Yard Trail.

The walk will also take in a view of the Bunjil which is best viewed from Flinders Peak Track. It can also be viewed from the East Walk. Access to Bunjil is from Branding Yard Walk.

I look forward to you joining me on what should be a wonderful walk and celebrate the first Sunday in Spring.



ACTIVITY AREA Mt Disappointment SF and Flowerdale
MAP REFERENCE Reedy Creek 1:25,000; Flowerdale 1:25,000

Do you feel like a challenging spring ramble to get those muscles buzzing? Well this is the one for you!

The walk takes us through the edge of the Mt Disappointment State Forest and on to the Three Sisters. Both groups will cover similar terrain involving steep mountain slopes, ridges populated with vigorous regrowth after previous fires, the rocky creek bed of Diggers Gully, and the green rolling pastures around the Three Sisters with great panoramic views down to the valleys around Flowerdale.

Please note that these walks are graded harder than the usual Sunday Bus trips. A good level of fitness is required and they would not be suitable for beginners. Speak to the leaders if you would like more information.

Please note if booking in clubroom: There is an activity in the clubrooms on Wednesday, 28 September. Please complete any bookings for this walk before 8 pm on that date to minimise disturbances or wait until after the activity is completed (usually around 9 pm). Thank you.



SUNDAY BUS

DIGGERS GULLY–THREE SISTERS–FLOWERDALE

DATE Sunday 2 October 2016
RETURN TIME Return to Southbank Boulevard at 6:30 pm
STANDARDS Easy/Medium and Medium
DISTANCES 15 km and 18 km
TOTAL ASCENTS 550 m rise and 600 m rise
LEADERS Deb Shand and Fotina Lennon
TRANSPORT Bus – leaving Southbank Blvd at 8:45 am



EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

GRAMPIANS BASE CAMP

DATE 4–7 October
COORDINATOR David Laing
TRANSPORT Private
AREA Mt Stapylton

We have been invited by Peregrines Bushwalking Club to join them for a Base Camp in the days preceding the Federation Weekend 2016. The current schedule is:

- * Tuesday 4th: Travel, staying at Stapylton campground.
- * Wednesday 5th: Mt Stapylton loop walk (~12k)
- * Thursday 6th: Hollow Mountain (~3k) and Mt Zero (~3k)
- * Friday 7th: rest/explore/register for Federation weekend.

Any Melbourne Bushies that would like to join should contact David Laing. Names and contact details (email) are needed to set up a meeting place if not all staying in the same location. And our access to Stapylton is not assured at this stage.



TOFS WALK

GLEN EIRA PARKS

DATE Thursday 6 October 2016
START TIME 10:30 am, Glen Huntly Railway Station
RETURN TIME 3:00 pm to Glen Huntly Railway Station
STANDARD Easy
DISTANCE Approx. 10 km
ELEVATION Almost flat
LEADER Merilyn Whimpey
TRANSPORT Train
AREA City of Glen Eira
MAP REFERENCE Melway maps 68, 59, 67

Glen Eira council is converting an old water storage reservoir into a new park. It's supposed to open by the end of September, though last time I drove through it looked a fair way from completion. Anyway, we'll have a look at it, then go on to the Caulfield Racecourse interior, where there's a rotunda and lake.

From the racecourse we follow suburban streets to Caulfield Park, then south to Princes Park and follow the Rosstown Rail Trail back to Glen Huntly Station.

We meet at Glen Huntly Railway Station at 10:30 am. Take the 10:04 Frankston train from Flinders Street Station platform 8, which is due to arrive at Glen Huntly at 10:23 am. The Frankston line trains go every 10 minutes.

I haven't properly previewed this walk yet, and there may be alterations, so please let me know if you're coming.



BASE CAMP

FEDERATION WEEKEND – WESTERN GRAMPIANS

DATE 7–9 October 2016
STANDARD Various
CO-ORDINATOR Mark Heath
TRANSPORT Private

Walk bookings finish on 31 August, so if you haven't already booked, be quick!

This year's walks take place over the weekend of 7–9 October in the Western Grampians. The base for the walks is Cameron Oval Reserve at Laharum.

You can come for the weekend or just a day.

Accommodation is DIY in nearby towns or camping in the Grampians.

The dinner on Saturday night is \$24 and is followed by a talk by Grampians Chief Ranger Dave Roberts on the Grampians Peak Trail. Catering is by the Laharum Sports Ground Catering Group. There is no BYO – beer, wine and softdrinks will be sold at the venue.

There is a registration fee for the walks: \$15 for one day and \$20 for two days.

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



SUNDAY CAR POOL

WILKS CREEK AND GILBERTS GULLY – MARYSVILLE (ALTERNATIVE DEPARTURE POINT)

DATE Sunday 9 October 2016
RETURN TIME 6:30 pm, Clubrooms
STANDARD Easy/Medium
DISTANCE 14 km
LEADER Stuart Hanham
TRANSPORT Carpool – leaving Clubrooms at 8:45 am
AREA Marysville
MAP REFERENCE Marysville Trails brochure (DSE/Parks Vic) and Marysville – Lake Mountain Outdoor Leisure Map

TRANSPORT COSTS \$16 per person

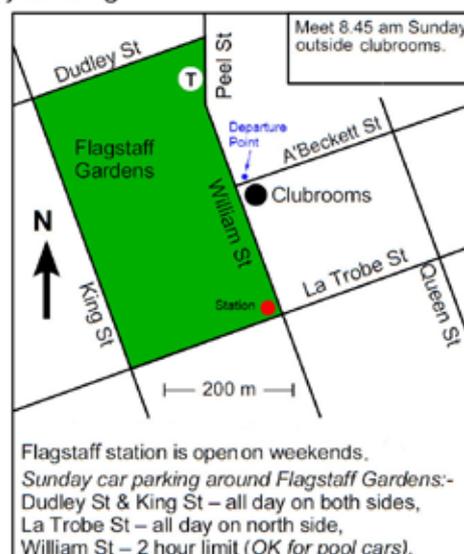
From Marysville, the walk will do a loop around the Beauty Spot Trail, then head past the remains of properties not rebuilt after the 2009 fire, before climbing steadily through blackened forest. The track then dips into a lush regrowth area and eventually leads to a beautiful white forest of very tall, straight tree trunks. This was a major logging area and we will visit the attractive Anderson Mill Campground and Horseyards.

The return journey will take us past picturesque green fields, surrounded by hills, then do a loop of the Gilberts Gully Trail, which crosses the fast flowing Wilks Creek and features a wetland boardwalk. Back on the main trail, we will pass tall tree ferns and take in inspirational views over Marysville and along the Steavenson River Valley to the Cathedrals.

The walk is undulating, with some slippery sections. At the end, the group will adjourn to a cafe in the town.

ALTERNATIVE DEPARTURE POINT FOR SUNDAY WALKS OPPOSITE CLUBROOM

When advised, the alternative departure point for Sunday walks noted on the walks program and in previews will be at the bus stop on the northern corner of A'Beckett Street and William Street, opposite the clubrooms at the Royal Historical Society building.





WEDNESDAY WALK

O'BRIENS CROSSING TO BLACKWOOD VIA THE TUNNEL AND BYRES BACK TRACK

DATE	Wednesday 12 October 2016
RETURN TIME	Return to cars about 3:30 pm
STANDARD	Easy/Medium
DISTANCE	12 km approx.
ELEVATION	Mostly flat, with a few steep sections
LEADER	John Terrell
TRANSPORT	Private
AREA	Lerderderg Gorge
MAP REFERENCE	Meridian Lerderderg and Werribee Gorges

One of the easier walks in Lerderderg Gorge, walking from O'Briens Crossing along the river to The Tunnel, which was cut in the mid 19th century to divert the river and facilitate alluvial mining. There is a steep ascent up Gribble Track to join Byres Back Track which follows an old water race toward Blackwood. Some spectacular views down into the gorge and there should be plenty of wildflowers. At the Golden Point car park drivers will go off to collect the cars while the rest of the party follows the river into Blackwood.



Meet at 10 am at the intersection of O'Brien Rd with the main Greenvale to Blackwood road (VicRoads 77 F2). There is a big sign saying 'Welcome to Lerderderg State Park'. We'll drop one car at the Golden Point car park and drive to O'Briens Crossing (6 km of unsealed road, quite potholed).

NB Route (or meeting place) may change subject to a further preview and river levels. Please contact the leader a few days before the walk.



TRAINING

LEADERS: UNIT 2 – WALK PLANNING, RESEARCH AND PREVIEWS

DATE	Wednesday 12 October 2016
TIME	7:30 pm
LOCATION	Clubrooms
COORDINATOR	Angela Vetsica



TRAINING

FIRST AID TRAINING – HLTaid003 CERTIFICATE

DATE	Saturday 15 October 2016
TIME	7:30 pm
LOCATION	Premium Health, 115–117 Gardenvale Road, Gardenvale
COORDINATOR	Nigel Holmes

Fully booked.



PACK CARRY

OFF TRACK IN THE WILD STRATHBOGIES

DATE	15–16 October 2016
RETURN TIME	Back at the cars mid-afternoon Sunday
STANDARD	Medium
DISTANCE	18 km
ELEVATION	270 m – 1030 m – 500 m
LEADER	Ray Thomas
TRANSPORT	Private
AREA	Eastern Strathbogie Ranges
MAP REFERENCE	Moonee Creek and Mount Strathbogie 1:25,000

This walk traverses a great variety of landforms and vegetation types, from river red gums on the plains, right up to snow gums on Mount Strathbogie. We pass through low foothills of beautiful open grassy forest, secluded creeks packed with tree ferns and moss over everything, towering manna gums and blue gums, ancient messmates up to 4 m thick, beautiful white trunked mountain gums on the higher slopes, and finally the sub alpine woodland that is a relic of the last Ice Age. There is beauty, tranquillity, rugged grandeur, expansive views, spectacular cliffs, huge granite tors, crystal clear water in the creeks, waterfalls, wildflowers.....

Little wonder this is the last remaining habitat for lyrebirds and bandicoots in these ranges! It is a delight to experience parts of the Strathbogie Ranges as they were centuries ago, and spring is a great time of year for it!

Meet on Friday evening for camping near the picnic ground at the north end of Lake Nillahcootie, about 10km south of Swanpool. Drive in the main entrance and follow the tracks leftwards to a suitable flat spot amongst the trees near the dam wall.

Rendezvous Saturday morning for the whole party by 7:30 am ready for a car shuffle to place some cars at the finish point and then heading off to the start of the walk. We'll try to begin the walking by 8:30 am.

Contact: Ray Thomas
Email: raydavidthomas@hotmail.com



SUNDAY BUS

ANGAHOOK SPRING WILDFLOWERS WALK (ALTERNATIVE DEPARTURE POINT)

DATE	Sunday 16 October 2016
RETURN TIME	Return to cnr. Abeckett Street and William Street at 6:30 pm
STANDARDS	Easy/Medium and Medium
DISTANCES	16 km and 20 km
ELEVATIONS	Gradual ascents and descents
LEADERS	Andrew Francis and Ian Mair
TRANSPORT	Bus – Leaving cnr. Abeckett Street and William Street at 8:45 am
AREA	Great Otway National Park – Aireys Inlet
MAP REFERENCE	Vicmap Anglesea South 7721-3-S (1:25,000)

One of the best walks on the calendar, with views of the ocean during the day, walking through ironbark, peppermint and gum forests accommodating many birds, grass trees and wattles in bloom. Both walks will commence at Distillery Creek Picnic Ground at the rear of Aireys Inlet. A mixture of walking tracks and dirt roads, moderate climbing and a fairly long distance to cover for the medium group. The climbs are not too taxing; they are long and steady rather than short and sharp. A visit

to Moggs Creek picnic ground and Painkalac Dam will be included. Both walks finish on the Great Ocean Road after viewing the surf coast from the lookout.



MOFS WALK

MAROONDAH DAM – DONNELLYS WEIR

DATE Monday 17 October 2016
STANDARD Easy/Medium
DISTANCE 10–11 km
ELEVATION Small hills, 100 metres
LEADERS Alan and Jan Case
TRANSPORT Private
AREA Maroondah Reservoir Park and Yarra Ranges National Park
MAP REFERENCE Melway Map 270

The walk will start from the main car park, up the Rose Stairway and across the dam wall to the dam lookout. We will then pass the Sawpit weir and echo tunnel, and along the aqueduct track to Donnellys Weir. The lunch stop is further along on a hill top on the Bicentennial National Trail.

We will return via Donnellys Weir, the Henderson’s Hill Track and Henderson’s picnic area back to the cars.

We have rated the walk as marginally medium due to two steeper hills and the associated descents. There are alternatives available to bypass and avoid these steeper hills on the day should some participants so desire.

There are a number of cafes in Healesville for a coffee afterwards.

Meet in the Maroondah Reservoir Park Main Car Park before 10:30 am. Return should be by 3–3:30 pm.

Book with Alan and Jan.



WEDNESDAY WALK

DANDENONGS GARDENS IN SPRING

DATE 19 October 2016
START TIME 10:15 am for 10:30 start
RETURN TIME 3:30 pm
STANDARD Easy/Medium
DISTANCE 13 km
ELEVATION 230 m
LEADER Fay Dunn
TRANSPORT Private
AREA Dandenong Ranges
MAP REFERENCE Melway map 66 J6

Note change of leader. We will meet at the corner of Falls Road and Mathias Road and commence our walk from there. The walk will include a few short steep hills and some great views. There will be typical native Dandenongs flora and we will also visit two local gardens: the Arboretum and the Rhododendron Garden. The Arboretum will be bursting into new leaf and the Rhododendron Garden should be at its peak flowering time.

Whilst there are hills, the walk is all on clear tracks. Coffee should be available afterwards at the Rhododendron Garden.

Please let me know if you are intending to come.



PACK CARRY

BEGINNERS:

LEANGANOOK TRACK–MT ALEXANDER STATE PARK

DATE Friday 21 to Sunday 23 October 2016
STANDARD Easy to Easy/Medium
DISTANCE 18 km plus side trips
ELEVATION 880 m
LEADER Ian Mair
TRANSPORT Private
AREA Mt Alexander State Park
MAP REFERENCE CCM Mt Alexander Walking Tracks Map

Note: Option to camp Friday night or arrive Saturday morning.

Are you looking to try overnight hiking and camping, or are you a bit more experienced looking for a chance to improve your skills and prepare for something bigger? With summer nearly here it is the time to start preparing for the warmer weather and the chance to get out walking and camping in the bush. The emphasis on this trip will be on enjoying the surroundings



while sharing tips and advice on equipment selection, what to eat and how to prepare for longer trips, and at the same time experiencing a night in your own portable castle. There will be enough challenges to

make it interesting as well as enjoyable. The club’s selection of equipment for hire is an ideal way to test out some of the alternatives before making an expensive purchase.

Rising 350 metres above the surrounding area, Mount Alexander Regional Park is a prominent landmark offering magnificent views and a natural forest setting for picnics and bushwalking. It also provides important habitat for several rare or threatened species. Experience panoramic views of the surrounding area from Dog Rocks and Shepherd’s Flat. The West Ridge walking track (4 km in length) links all the major lookouts and points of interest in the park.

After an early drive to the start of our walk on Saturday morning we will follow the Leanganook Track north through the park, taking in South Lookout, Dog Rocks and Scorpion Rocks before arriving at the TV towers near the top of Mt Alexander. Following a stop at the top we will drop down the eastern side of Mt Alexander and find our way to a camping spot near the Main Channel which forms part of the regional water supply system. Time permitting we will explore the Main Channel and its entry to the Coliban Aqueduct.

On Sunday we will partly retrace our path to pick up the Ballantinia Track that will lead us again up and over the ridge of the park at Dogs Rock Saddle and then on to Leanganook Picnic Ground and the site of a former Koala Sanctuary. If we are lucky we may even see a koala. We should arrive back at the cars in plenty of time to have a relaxed trip home and perhaps even a stop on the way for a refreshment.

Numbers are limited and early booking is recommended to secure a place and/or reserve any hire equipment you may need. Telephone or email the leader if you are looking to attend.



SATURDAY WALK

SUGARLOAF RESERVOIR

DATE Saturday 22 October 2016
START TIME Depart from location in notes below at 10:00 am
RETURN TIME 5:00 pm
STANDARD Easy – 14 km
ASCENT Minimal
LEADER Maureen Hurley
TRANSPORT Private
AREA Christmas Hills
MAP REFERENCE Melway map 273

We will meet at the Ridge Road Picnic Area, Melway 273 B2.5.

We will traverse Sugarloaf Reservoir on walking tracks which are well marked.

This is a pretty walk in spring with lots of kangaroos to be seen.

We will follow the walk with coffee. Any visitors please ring me (Maureen).



SUNDAY PUBLIC TRANSPORT

MORDIALLOC–FRANKSTON (TRAIN WALK)

DATE Sunday 23 October 2016
STANDARD Easy
LEADER Denise Charman
TRANSPORT Train

Denise is currently in Greenland. Check the Club's website http://mbw.org.au/mbw_activities/MBW_activities_program.php closer to the walk date, or wait for the next News.

CLUB NIGHT

RESTORING AUSTRALIA'S LOST AND DECLINING BIODIVERSITY

DATE Evening, Wednesday 26 October 2016
VENUE Clubrooms
SPEAKER Zac Lewis

See the Social Page (page 4).



SOCIAL WALK

NEWPORT LAKES PARK

DATE Thursday 27 October 2016
STANDARD Easy
DISTANCE 5 km
ELEVATION Small hills
LEADER Jean Giese
TRANSPORT Train
AREA Newport
MAP REFERENCE Melway map 55

This is another walk, accessible by train, to a former bluestone quarry and rubbish tip which has been transformed into a

delightful park of indigenous trees and shrubs plus lakes. There have been over 160 different species of birds spotted and the spring flowers should be in bloom, so there is something for everybody. Lunch will follow at a pub close to the station.

Catch the Werribee train from Flinders Street, platform 10 at 10:01 (Southern Cross, platform 14 at 10:04) or meet on the East side of Newport Station at 10:30.

Book with leader.



PACK CARRY

BIG RIVER – MT WILLS CIRCUIT

DATE Friday 28 October to Tuesday 1 November
STANDARD Medium
DISTANCE 55 km
LEADER Agajan Akbari
TRANSPORT Private
AREA Victorian Alps
MAP REFERENCE Bogong Alpine Area Outdoor Leisure Map 1:50,000

The main features of this pleasant walk are admiring Mt Bogong, visiting some of the alpine huts, camping at Big River and Wild Horse Creek area and a side trip to Mt Wills. It is planned to do this walk in 4 days (Friday 28th Oct not included). Friday night campsite in Falls Creek area (details later).

Day 1 – we meet Saturday morning 8:30 am at intersection of Bogong High Plains Road and Big River Fire Track. After walk briefing we walk via Kelly's track, visiting Fitzgerald and Kelly huts on the way. Then we descend via 107 Track to the Big River and camp Saturday and Sunday nights at Big River area.

Day 2 – side trip to Mt Wills which includes crossing the Big River twice and some river walking.

Day 3 – we break camp at 8 am and walk via 107 Track and Mittagundi education centre. Today walk is off track, medium hard and includes bush bashing, walking over fallen logs and through thick scrub. We camp Monday night at Wild Horse Creek area with the possibility of having a camp fire (weather permitting).

Day 4 – we set off at 8:30 am. Today's walk is relatively easy as we retrace our Saturday footsteps to the cars.

Participants are required to be experienced and have some fitness, well equipped with gear for all types of weather and carry their own personal first aid kit. This walk is one of the classic walks that the Victorian Alps can offer. If you're interested or have any questions contact me via email.



SUNDAY BUS

THE TRAMPOLINE WALK

DATE Sunday 30 October 2016
STANDARDS Easy/Medium and Medium
LEADERS Halina Sarbinowski and Richard Hanson
TRANSPORT Bus – leaving Southbank Blvd at 8:45 am

No preview received as yet. Check the Club's website http://mbw.org.au/mbw_activities/MBW_activities_program.php closer to the walk date, or wait for the next News.

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!

October 2016

Sun 2	DAY: Diggers Gully–Three Sisters–Flowerdale	Bus	E/M&M	Deb Shand and Fotina Lennon
Thu 6	TOF: Glen Eira Parks	Pvt	Easy	Meryllyn Whimpey
7–9	BC: Federation Weekend – Western Grampians	Pvt	var	Mark Heath (co-ord)
Sun 9	DAY: Wilks Creek and Gilberts Gully – Marysville (ALT DEP)	Car	E/M	Stuart Hanham
Wed 12	DAY: Lerderderg Gorge: O’Brien’s Crossing–Blackwood	Pvt	E/M	John Terrell
Wed 12	TRG: Leaders: Unit 2 – Walk Planning, Research and Previews			Angela Vetsica (Coordinator)
14–16	PC: Off track in the Wild Strathbogies	Pvt	Med	Ray Thomas
Sat 15	TRG: First Aid Training – HLTAID003 Certificate			Nigel Holmes (co-ord)
Sun 16	DAY: Angahook Spring Wildflowers (ALT DEPT)	Bus	E/M&M	Andrew Francis and Ian Mair
Mon 17	MOF: Maroondah Dam – Donnellys Weir	Pvt	Easy	Alan Case and Jan Case
Wed 19	DAY: Dandenongs gardens in spring	Pvt	E/M	Fay Dunn
21–23	PC: Beginners: Leanganook Track–Mt Alexander Park	Pvt	Easy	Ian Mair
Sat 22	DAY: Saturday Explorer: Sugarloaf Reservoir	Pvt	Easy	Maureen Hurley
Sun 23	DAY: Mordialloc–Frankston (Train Walk)	Car	Easy	Denise Charman
Wed 26	SOC: Restoring Australia’s lost and declining biodiversity			Zac Lewis
Thu 27	SOC: Newport Lakes Park (train based)	Pvt	Easy	Jean Giese
28–1	PC: Big River – Mt Wills Circuit	Pvt	Med	Agajan Akbari
Sun 30	DAY: The Trampoline Walk	Bus	E/M&M	Halina Sarbinowski & Richard Hanson

The News of the Melbourne Bushwalkers
 If undelivered please return to:
 MELBOURNE BUSHWALKERS INC
 GPO BOX 1751, MELBOURNE 3001

PRINT
 POST
 338888/00016

POSTAGE
 PAID
 AUSTRALIA