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THE NEWS OF THE Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc.

ABN 14 396 912 508

June 2017

MEMBERSHIP FEES ARE DUE!

See inside back page.



EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST DEAL ISLAND 16 to 20 February 2018

The Kent Group consists of three spectacular islands, Deal, Erith and Dover which are situated in the middle of Bass Strait.

The Club is offering another opportunity to visit these remote islands. This will be our sixth visit in 4 years. No punches are pulled in letting you know what to expect but the numbers who have already made the trip, some more than once, speak for themselves.

Please read the following information and then if you are still interested in coming along please contact Jill Allen. If we don't have sufficient Expressions of Interest by end-June the trip may not proceed.

- Costs (approx. at this stage) – \$460 pp for the boat trip, \$30 for a Tasmania Parks Pass and \$50 pre-departure accommodation in Port Albert and transport costs to get there.
- We will have three days of walking and exploring on the islands and two days of sailing.

- The trip departs Port Albert, which is 3 hours from Melbourne and the boat takes 9 hours to get to the islands. It can be rough and even hardened sailors can or will get sick if the weather is rough (but these islands are worth it!).
- The trip back takes 9 hours but feels like 19 hours!!
- There are NO facilities on the island, it is a base camp and there are NO showers or toilets. You have to take all of your own camping gear and supplies.
- You have to allow an extra day just in case the trip is delayed or extended due to bad weather, so if you are limited in leave, this is a consideration.
- A deposit of \$200 is required to book on the trip and final payment will be required in December and the amount paid is NOT REFUNDABLE unless we can find someone else to take your place.



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

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 June 2017

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the following new members:

Nazarin Anthony, Michael Tung, John Bradshaw, Rhonda Wood, Mandy Beattie, Judy O'Brien, Kris Reichl, Miyako Katami, Alison Freeman, Glenn Swane

GEAR TIPS – WATERPROOF GEAR

You might think that an expensive tent will be made from waterproof fabrics. Unfortunately this is not always the case. So before you use your new tent place a section of the fly and floor over a bowl and pour in a little water. If the fabric wets through or leaks the tent is defective and should be replaced.

You might also think that waterproof fabrics can withstand a little dampness. Unfortunately this is definitely not the case. Polyurethane coatings on fabrics found in tents, packs and clothing will be destroyed if the item is put away before completely dry (a slight stickiness indicates that this has happened). So to avoid ruining your expensive gear (or ours) open it up to dry as soon as possible after use, don't pack it away until you are sure that no moisture remains then keep it in a dry place out of the direct sun. Where practical it is best to store items loose with all pockets and compartments open.

John Fritze



ADVANCE NOTICE CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING

ROVER CHALET – BOGONG HIGH PLAINS

DATE	12 – 19 August
STANDARD	12 km ski in with pack then various
LEADER	Doug Pocock
TRANSPORT	Private to Mt Beauty then bus
CONTACT	Doug Pocock or Merilyn Whimpey at xcski@mbw.org.au

Once again we have our annual week X-C skiing on the beautiful Bogong High Plains. We stay in the Rover Chalet 12 km from Falls Creek. Food is included in the cost. Most food will be stored in the chalet but we carry in fresh meat and vegetables. The chalet has 240 V power, drying room, laundry, showers and toilets and fully equipped kitchen. We sleep in the loft, mattresses and pillows provided. Daily chores (cooking, cleaning, wood chopping, bread making etc.) are done on a voluntary roster and we generally go out for a full day's skiing every day, weather permitting.

You will need to carry a reasonably heavy overnight pack on skis for the 12 km from Falls Creek to the Chalet, so experience in pack carrying on skis is recommended. Join us for a wonderful experience.

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN – JUNE 2017



One of the biggest challenges in running a large bushwalking club is to satisfactorily meet the walking expectations of the diverse membership. We each have our own preferences around which we would like to see as many choices as possible so that we can decide on which activities, and when, we want to participate. Our individual differences, however, impose a daunting spectrum of preferences that can only be partially met. The fact that we retain the continued support year-after-year of most Club members is a testament to the effort and invaluable experience of those who assemble and lead our activities program every quarter, as much as it is to the willingness of each of us to make compromises. If you are like me then the compromises made on balance are not significant in terms of the greater personal benefit derived from being a member of an active, friendly, experienced, and capably run Club, provided each walking experience is enjoyable.

Maintaining a good balance and enjoyable outcome in our activities relies on feedback from members on their expectations, a willingness by those who are able to, to take a lead themselves if an activity they would like to see does not appear on our program, and a good dose of consideration for the other members of the Club.

Perhaps the most recurrent topic of discussion in relation to our activities program is the frequency, or lack, of walks of a desired grading. Our activities programs are assembled with a selection of walks that we hope reflect the interests of our active members. The Club's grading approach has evolved over generations of walkers and best conveys the degree of difficulty, or level of challenge, that may be expected. It is a fundamental part of our Membership Application process that those seeking to join the Club undertake sufficient walks to appreciate the demands of walks of a given grading. The leaders of our activities give serious consideration to the track conditions to be encountered in setting a grading. The leaders too strive to ensure that those who are accepted onto an activity have the capability to complete the walk with safety and have an enjoyable experience. This is easier to ensure with smaller groups, such as on overnight trips, than it is for our popular Sunday day walks onto which members may book online without interaction with the leader.

Commensurate with the grading system is an expectation that members will take note of the grading allocated and their own capabilities to complete a walk. Member awareness and self-evaluation underpin the viability of our bookings approach, particularly on a Sunday. Booking onto a walk because it sounds interesting without giving adequate consideration to the grading can place unreasonable pressure on our volunteer leaders and impact adversely on the enjoyment of others in the group if the walk is beyond our capabilities to complete at the expected pace. A number of factors can impact on our capability to undertake a walk, especially those graded higher than Easy. Short term illness, recovering from injury or extended absence from walking are just a few reasons why we may be better advised to undertake a walk of a lower grading than we would normally undertake. If the walk grading options on a given day do not have provision for an easier walk then choosing not to walk may be the sensible choice. One of the strengths of the Club is the breadth of our walks program with options at different levels on different days. If in doubt, a brief message to the leader noting your situation or, for Sunday walks, dropping into the clubrooms on a Wednesday evening and seeking further information on the walk will help reach a sound decision.

On other matters, several developments of significance to our Club that received attention during the past month were:

- (a) In the April newsletter I noted that I had forwarded a letter from the Club to the Minister for Sport, The Hon John Eren MP, expressing our concern about the potential impact of draft Australian Adventure Activity Standards (AAAS). The Minister in his reply stressed the importance of the proposed Australian AAS to the safety of dependent participants and assistance to groups that include these dependent participants. The proposed Australian AAS are intended to be voluntary with each organisation to determine the extent to which it applies to their operations. Contact has been made with other clubs and Bushwalking Victoria on the Minister's response.
- (b) Concurrently, the latest version of the AAAS draft Bushwalking and Camping Activity Standards has been released for public comment by 29th May. Comment will be made by the submission date.
- (c) Bushwalking Victoria has released its draft Strategic Plan for the period 2017–2020. The Club has complemented BWV on the extent to which the plan highlights the importance of bushwalking clubs in its strategic outcomes.

Ian Mair

2017 Social Calendar

Wine and Cheese Night
WEDNESDAY 26 JULY, 8-9 PM
MAPPING FOR EMERGENCY SERVICES



Map appreciation and map reading competence are crucial aspects of bushwalking skills development. But not all maps are created equal. Cartography and the preparation of maps is a highly sophisticated skill that develops products tailored to the end use requirements. However, whether the end use requirements are for bushwalking or some other application, many of the key content requirements and map preparation approaches are common. It is not uncommon for bushwalkers to utilise maps prepared for other purposes, such as those developed for the Country Fire Authority (CFA).

Geoff Williams, Leader, Spatial Analytics & Mapping Services for Spatial Vision, will present a highly informative talk on the development of the Spatial Visions Emergency Services Mapping Products, with a focus on key stakeholders, data sources, collection, validation and the unique end user requirements.

Visitors welcome. If you plan to attend as a visitor please drop us a note to social@mbw.org.au so that we can be sure to cater for your attendance



single tents for single travellers • catering for all diets • for active seniors

Where to next?

Gawler Ranges & Eyre Peninsula

Only one thing to do...
book now!

Call 08 8369 1779
www.bushwalkingtours.com.au

Watch this space...
2018 program released soon!

Gawler Ranges 17-27 October 2017
\$2805 per person ex Adelaide
10% DISCOUNT ON MENTIONING THIS ADVERT

EXPLORANGES with our expertise you're safe to explore

NON-COMMITTEE ROLES, 2017-18

Each year the Club has a large number of volunteers filling roles as activity leaders and in non-Committee functions. For 2017-18, in accordance with the By-Laws, the Committee approved the following non-Committee positions along with their incumbent members for the current year. The appreciation of all members for the many who contribute to helping make the Club run smoothly is noted.

Environment Officer	John TERRELL
External Relations Officer	Stephen INGROUILLE
Training Officer	Angela VETSICAS
Federation Weekend 2017 Organiser	Margaret CURRY (and unnamed helpers)
Pack Carry Coordinator	Jopie BODEGRAVEN
Base Camp/Lodge Coordinator	Wendy FORTINGTON
Wednesday Walks Coordinator	Ed NEFF
Saturday Walks Coordinator	Maureen HURLEY
Cycling Coordinator	Philip G BROWN
MOFs/TOFs Coordinators	Graham HODGSON, Janet HODGSON
Social Walks Coordinator	Jean GIESE
Asst. Sunday Walks Secretary	Delwyn C FRANKS
Asst. Social Secretaries	Susan MAUGHAN, Jenny ANDREWES
Equipment Officer	John FRITZE
Newsletter Editor	Merilyn WHIMPEY
Webmaster	Ian MAIR
Assistant Webmaster	Mark A HEATH
Database Administrator	Ian MAIR
Non-walker Visitor Database	Gillian WAINWRIGHT
Social Media Officer	Ian MAIR
Social Media Editors	Mark HEATH, Christina HUGHES
MeetUp Officer	Nigel HOLMES
Mail Pick-up	Mark HEATH, Deborah BISHOP, Susanna MASON
Finance Reviewers	John BOYD, Richard HANSON
Librarian	Margaret CAMPION
Archives Officer	Ken MACMAHON
Maps Officer	Mark HEATH
First Aid Kits Officer	Jenny ANDREWES
Clubroom Forms Officer	Gillian WAINWRIGHT
Club Emergency Contacts	Jenny ANDREWES, Jim MARSDEN, Delwyn C FRANKS, Mick NOONAN, Jopie BODEGRAVEN, Stuart HANHAM, Derrick BROWN, Ian MAIR, David LAING, Susan McINNES, Margaret CURRY, Cecily HUNTER
BSAR Coordinator	David LAING
BSAR Members	Derrick BROWN, Gina HOPKINS, Bill METZENTHEN, David LAING, Mick NOONAN, Roger WYETT, Nigel HOLMES, Keith LONGRIDGE
Meet and Greet Officer	Jenny ANDREWES
Wednesday Duty Roster Helpers	Margaret CURRY, Fay DUNN, Susan HAVILAND, Carol SISSON, Susan RALSTON, Wendy FORTINGTON, Carol WARD, Margaret Njeri CORNES, Mary DALEY, Roger WYETT, Sue SHAW, Frances MOLONEY, Christina HUGHES, Margaret CAMPION, Jill ALLEN, Cecily HUNTER

Ian Mair, President

GREAT SOUTH WEST WALK 8–17 APRIL 2017

Arriving in Portland in the afternoon, a car shuffle was arranged and we headed to Nelson. Soon after our arrival a severe storm hit the coast causing some concern as to what weather conditions we would encounter on the walk. The next morning the wind had abated a little and Ian arranged a tour of the Princess Margaret Rose Caves which were spectacular. Our guide explained how the various formations were formed. Following the tour we embarked on the nature tour around the caves. Leaving the caves we headed to Mt. Gambier for lunch and walked around the famous Blue Lake and the sinkhole in the middle of the CBD.

Monday 10 April

The wind had abated slightly and the sky was overcast as we walked along the Glenelg River through Nelson until the coast was reached. Our destination for the day was Lake Monibeong which involved walking along the beach for approximately 12 km. The beach walk was on fairly hard packed sand but the driving headwind made walking challenging. Also we needed to keep an eye open for recalcitrant waves which threatened to swamp us. I think we were all very glad when the turnoff to head inland to the lake was reached. The track was well maintained as we headed through low scrub. Glimpses of the lake were very welcome after a long day – 24 km in total; however the campsite was still some 2 km away. On arriving at the camp we were surprised to find flush toilets, a very rare occurrence. The campsite itself had a shelter and table.

Tuesday 11 April

We broke camp at 8:30 and headed through the dunes to the beach. Ian advised today was going to be tough – approximately 8 km walking through soft sand – and he wasn't wrong. The sky was still overcast, making conditions more pleasant. However, the soft sand soon tired our legs and those who did not keep a close watch on rogue waves got wet boots. On reaching the turnoff to Swan Lake camp we were confronted with vast areas of sand dunes reminiscent of desert landscapes. This area was also home to dune buggies; although none were encountered their tracks were very evident. After some clever navigating we reached Swan Lake camp. After setting up tents etc, most of us explored Swan Lake. Today's walk was around 17 km.

Wednesday 12 April

Departing at 8:30, we headed towards Tarragal camp – another rather long day of 20 km. There was no beach walking today as we headed inland to Mount Richmond. Initially walking along a formed road through pine plantations up and down some very steep sand dunes until the track veered to the right through private land. Our first snake was sighted on the track passing through the farmland. The landscape changed as we entered Mount Richmond National Park, walking along the manicured track through dense vegetation including extensive areas of large grass trees. Another snake was sighted under a boardwalk as we started the ascent of Mount Richmond where lunch was taken. After lunch we commenced the 7 km descent into Tarragal Camp again through magnificent strands of trees. The camp was sited amongst tall eucalypts under-planted with grass trees and shrubs. It wasn't long before we heard the growling sounds of koalas who obviously didn't like the intrusion of visitors. One of these irritated koalas took its revenge during the night by peeing on Helen's tent, much to the delight of the rest of us.

Thursday 13 April

Another 8:30 start and at last a short day – 12 km to The Springs camp. We headed back towards the beach through private land until we reached the Tarragal Caves, deeply eroded limestone cliffs overlooking the Bridgewater Lakes and Descartes Bay. After morning tea we continued towards the cliff tops, affording great views of Discovery and Descartes Bays following the cliff top walk passing Whites Beach. The Springs Camp is located metres from the imposing cliffs. A nicely grassed campsite with the now familiar shelter and fireplace. The lookout proved to a great spot to see the sun setting over the horizon. That night we



Seen from near The Springs camp, the red glow of sunset turns the pink cliffs a burning red.

(continued over the page)

Along the Track

GREAT SOUTH WEST WALK *(continued from page 6)*

had our first fire. It provided a catalyst for some idling. The leader even hung around till after 8 pm (he is usually in bed at this time)

Friday 14 April

It was the usual 8:30 start for our walk to Trawalla Camp, a distance of 15 km along the cliff top. A short walk to the Cape Bridgewater car park saw the departure of Bridget and Richard who were returning to Melbourne by courtesy of the Friends of GSWW who were driving them back to Portland. We continued on, stopping to admire the Blowholes but due to the slight seas there was very little blowing. A short distance away was the Petrified Forest which are not petrified trees, but in fact limestone columns. We continued around Cape Bridgewater to the colonies of Australian and New Zealand fur seals. Continuing on up two steep inclines then descending into Bridgewater Bay, we reach our goal, the kiosk, where coffee was promised. After looking at the menu it was decided what was on offer was far better than dry biscuits and lunch was ordered – a variety of fish and chips, hamburgers and wraps, coffee, and the odd wine or two which I was told not to mention in the report but when 3 bottles (small) of champagne were purchased I felt it was my duty to out some decadent members of the Club. After lunch it was back to the sand, but this time the hard packed sand of Bridgewater Bay was pleasant to walk on. A little further on we traversed Shelly Beach, before clambering up a couple of very steep sand dunes to Trawalla Camp.

Saturday 15 April

Leaving Trawalla Camp we followed the cliff tops, passing banks of wind turbines which are ever present along the coast. As on previous days the track was in perfect condition making for pleasant walking. We stopped many times taking snapshots of the many inlets along Bridgewater Bay before passing Muriel's Beach. On reaching Cape Nelson State Park the Cape Nelson lighthouse came into view. We were delighted to see that the Isabella's cafe was open and lunch was taken. Some members ordered off the specials board which resulted in the salmon tart being cleaned out. It also included such mouth watering tempters as beef and Guinness pies as well as deserts. It is rare that we come across such luxury on a bushwalk and we took full advantage. After lunch it was a short distance to Mallee Camp, a newly constructed camp that replaced the old camp some 2 km away and was dismantled due to noise from the wind turbines. Today's walk was 15 km.

Sunday 16 April

We started at 8 due to longer distance of the day's walk (24 km). The track took us past the site of the old Mallee Camp before reaching the cliff tops once more. On the way to Cape Sir William Grant we walked through the Enchanted Forest, a densely treed area with ferns and trailing plants giving it a magical effect. Further along the track we passed Yellow Rock, a popular surfing spot, before rounding the Cape and onwards to Point Danger with Lawrence Rocks a short distance off shore. The Alcoa aluminium smelter was the most prominent landmark as we continued our march towards Portland. After negotiating a number of steep steps along the cliffs we reached the Portland Botanic Gardens and was surprised to see a koala cross the main road then walk between us before disappearing into the Gardens. Upon arrival at the caravan park the drivers headed back to Nelson to retrieve the cars. That evening we celebrated the end of the walk at the Royal Hotel.

Monday 17 April

We departed the Park early in the morning to head back to Melbourne. Many thanks to our leader Ian Mair, ably assisted by Halina, for a great well-planned walk and thanks to my fellow walkers Agajan, Anita, Bridget, Dianne, Gayle, Helen and Ian Geddes, Jeanette and Richard for their good humour and friendship on a very enjoyable walk.



Arriving in Portland it is easy to be struck by the friendliness of the locals. Even the Koalas come out to greet walkers on the GSWW!

Ray Spooner

BASE CAMP: GUNBOWER NATIONAL PARK, FRIDAY 5 MAY TO SUNDAY 7 MAY



From our camp at Master's Landing our first place to visit was the old Master's homestead nearby.

After the 3.5 hour drive through green, wet Victoria we arrived at the Gunbower Hotel, the meeting place for many of the group. The instructions to get to the campsite were clear, but the lure of a great country pub meal to finish the working week was better. Some of the group travelled earlier and had selected our preferred camping spot ready for us to arrive. There was no hurry so we made the best of the welcoming fire, a cold beer and the promise of a good meal and we were not disappointed. After sampling the best the pub had to offer we made our way to the campsite, erected our tents and then lingered on for a while to take in what we could see of the Milky Way, the bright moon concealing many of the distant stars.

Early the next morning we awoke to the country alarm, the chorus of many kookaburras calling to each other on either side of the Murray River. The day was clear and crisp, ideal walking weather. The weekend walks had been loosely planned. Our leader's confession to having never visited the Gunbower National Park, and tempting us to fun and surprises of an exploratory Base Camp, were found to be tenuous when we met our local guide Jenny Turner from the EchUCA Bushwalking Club. The morning was spent mainly off track tracing the course of the Murray River upstream to the Torrumbarry Weir where we stopped for lunch. The weir, a few kilometres north of the township, was rebuilt with a new design that was completed during 1996 after extensive damage in 1992. We had time to visit the interpretive centre to take in the extensive information available that outlined the importance and history of the weir and surrounding wetlands. Following this educational break we headed away from the river to complete our 14 km circuit. The mainly flat walk was completed in good time; we arrived back at camp mid-afternoon.

Many of the group chose to enjoy an afternoon nap to prepare themselves for the night's activities. Whilst the Birders availed themselves of the opportunity to explore further with Jenny, that afternoon we travelled to Safes and Gum Lagoon and across to the massive inland sea of Kow Swamp returning home to the camp in time to prepare ourselves for dinner. Ever resourceful we made the best of the local facilities – we again travelled back the short distance to the Gunbower Pub. After our appetites were sated, we returned to the camp, gathering around Naaz's campfire, the perfect finish of a very rewarding day.

On Sunday we woke to another crisp still morning, the forecasted rain had bypassed the area. We broke camp and headed in convoy to the Koondrook area. We headed off on a dirt road but soon found ourselves off track walking through now dry billabongs and swamps. The cracked earth and the new river gum saplings were evidence that this extensive area had been inundated recently. Mobs of kangaroos could be seen in the distance, our cheerful group's chatter alerting them to our presence, and they moved on quickly. We made our way through the river gum forest to the banks of the Murray River, where a sunny pleasant lunch spot was selected. After lunch we walked along the River track before commencing our off-track ramble. Again due to the mainly flat walk we made good time and completed the 15 km circuit mid-afternoon.

The weekend ended at Cohuna, where we stopped for refreshments, before undertaking the drive back to Melbourne

A big THANK YOU to Ian Mair for organising the weekend and to Jenny Turner for her local knowledge and obvious passion for the area and the people.

Participants: Ian, Halina, Michelle, Michael, Stuart, Nadia, Naaz, Debbie, Ken, Susanna, Keith, Meredith, Cecily and Jenny.

*Meredith Quick
Photos by Ian Mair*



The Torrumbarry Weir appeared as we rounded one of the many bends in the river.

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

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

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

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



SUNDAY BUS

RYE (BACK BEACH) – SORRENTO

DATE Sunday 2 July 2017
RETURN TIME Southbank at 6:30 pm
STANDARDS Easy and Easy/Medium
DISTANCES 12 km and 16 km
LEADERS Andrew Francis and Halina Sarbinowski
TRANSPORT Bus – leaving Southbank Blvd at 8:45 am
AREA Mornington Peninsula
MAP REFERENCE Melway maps 156, 157, 166, 167, 168, 251

The stretch of coast between Rye Ocean Beach and Sorrento must be one of Victoria's most picturesque, offering stunning views, beautiful beaches and fascinating rock formations. The easy/medium walk starts at Rye Ocean Beach and the easy at No 16, with both groups finishing at Sorrento

The first part of the easy/medium walk is a short walk along the beach before having to ascend to the cliff tops to pass Orr Point, and then back down to the beach to Number Sixteen Beach, start of the easy walk. We will follow the track mainly along the cliff-tops to Sorrento. This track passes through a number of delightful but little-known beaches, such as Bay of Islands, Diamond Bay and St Pauls Beach with its lookout built in the early 1900s to ensure that Australia was not attacked by the Russians. After exploring Coppins Lookout we might, if time permits, enjoy a coffee or ice-cream before boarding the bus to travel back home.



walk exploring the area from the beach to the river, followed by coffee. That evening we have our Xmas dinner. Details are available on booking. For this year's Santa Sack, please purchase something from the op shop that fits this description: classy, cute or cool!

Wednesday 5 July we will organise a car shuffle and then commence the 16.5 km walk from Drysdale to Queenscliff. That evening we will have a pub dinner.

Thursday 6th – After vacating the Cottage there will be a 7 km walk on offer: Bluff Circuit Walk, Barwon Heads
 All enquiries and bookings please call Susan Maughan.



BASE CAMP

XMAS IN JULY (MID WEEK) AT BARWON HEADS PLUS BELLARINE PENINSULA RAIL TRAIL

DATE Tuesday 4 to Thursday 6 July 2017
STANDARD Medium
DISTANCE 16.5 km
LEADER Susan Maughan
TRANSPORT Private/car pool
AREA Bellarine Peninsula
MAP REFERENCE Rail Trails of Victoria and South Australia

<https://www.stayz.com.au/accommodation/vic/great-ocean-road/barwon-heads/>

This year's "Xmas in July" will be at Moonah Cottage, Barwon Heads. (BYO towels and bed linen.) You are invited to arrive any time after noon. Mid afternoon there is a short 3 km



PACK CARRY

LARAPINTA TRAIL GROUPS 1 AND 2

**THESE TRIPS ARE FULLY BOOKED.
 WAIT LIST ONLY AVAILABLE**

DATE Tuesday 4 to Sunday 23 July 2017
STANDARD Medium
DISTANCE 233 km
LEADERS Ian Mair (Group 1) and Ken MacMahon (Group 2)
TRANSPORT Private
TRANSPORT COST See arrangements below. To be advised by Leader if carpool proposed
AREA MacDonnell Ranges, Northern Territory

The Larapinta Trail stands out as one of Australia's top long distance walking tracks. Running 223 km along the MacDonnell Ranges in the Northern Territory, with Alice Springs at its eastern end, it is also one of Australia's most spectacular bushwalking experiences.

Two groups will be walking the trail one day apart. More details are on the Club's web site: mbw.org.au/mbw_activities/MBW_activities_program.php.



TOFS WALK

DAREBIN CREEK AREA

DATE	Thursday 6 July 2017
RETURN TIME	3 pm
STANDARD	Easy
DISTANCE	11 km
ELEVATION	Minimal
LEADER	Jerry Grandage
TRANSPORT	Private
AREA	Preston/Reservoir/Bundoora
MAP REFERENCE	Melway maps 19 and 31

This walk is in a surprisingly picturesque part of Melbourne's northern suburbs and will give you a variety of landscapes including Darebin Creek itself, original red gum woodland, a lake system with plentiful bird life, Latrobe Uni. campus and its Wildlife Sanctuary.

Please phone me to book in. We will meet at 10:30 am at the large car park at the east end of Blake Street, Reservoir, Melway map 19 D10.



SUNDAY CAR POOL

WILLIMIGONGON CREEK (MT MACEDON)

DATE	Sunday 9 July 2017
RETURN TIME	5:30 pm to Southbank Boulevard
STANDARD	Easy/Medium
DISTANCE	12 km
ELEVATION	About 580 metres of ascent
LEADER	Christopher Collett
TRANSPORT	Carpool – leaving Southbank Blvd at 8:45 am
AREA	Mt Macedon
MAP REFERENCE	Rooftop's Macedon Ranges Forest Activities Map

This is a delightful winter walk in the vicinity of Mt Macedon, and includes the heavily forested Willimigongon Creek and the picturesque Sanatorium Lake.

The walk starts in the Mt Macedon township, and from the village we will walk uphill along the Willimigongon Creek till we reach the Willimigongon Reservoir. Along the way we will see some of the private gardens which are associated with this area.

Shortly after leaving the reservoir we shall follow a little-used walking track through the forest and damp gullies before joining a horse track which leads to Days Picnic Ground, a large grassy area with tables and seats for our lunch stop.

After lunch we shall continue on to Sanatorium Lake, which is famous for its intense reflections. There should be time to complete a circuit of the lake before proceeding to the nearby picnic grounds and their imported vegetation.

From here we shall proceed to the summit of Mt Towrong, and descend back towards our starting point. The descent is steep in some sections and provides excellent views over the Willimigongon Creek valley and the Mt Macedon township, with the Memorial Cross on the skyline.

Following the completion of the walk there should be opportunity for a cuppa and refreshments at the Mt Macedon Trading Post.

A walking pole would come in handy for some sections of the walk.



WEDNESDAY WALK

POINT NEPEAN NATIONAL PARK



Cheviot Hill

DATE	Wednesday 12 July 2017
RETURN TIME	Approximately 5 pm
STANDARD	Easy
DISTANCE	12 km
LEADERS	Mike and Barb Quinn
TRANSPORT	Private
AREA	Point Nepean
MAP REFERENCE	Melway map 156 C2

Meeting point is the Information Centre Carpark at 10:15 for a 10:30 start. (Note: No coffee at the visitors centre)

The walk will go to Fort Nepean via the beach and Coles Track and return via the Harold Holt Memorial, Cheviot Hill, the rifle range (disused, so no need for bullet proof vests) and Gunners Cottage. The area is of historical interest with plaques to read and areas to explore.

Phone Barb or Mike.



CYCLING

LANCEFIELD CIRCUIT

DATE	Saturday 15 July 2017
STANDARD	Medium
DISTANCE	65 km
LEADER	Philip Brown
TRANSPORT	Private
MAP REFERENCE	Ride with GPS

This one is for the road riders, all on sealed roads. We will ride past remnant bush farmland with some rocky outcrops. There are some up and downs and views over the valleys and wineries. In all there is 540 m of ups.

The meeting place is at Lancefield bakery at 9:30 am so to book in or for more info contact me.



SUNDAY BUS

DANDENONG RANGES WESTERN TRAIL

DATE	Sunday 16 July 2017
RETURN TIME	About 6 pm
STANDARDS	Easy/medium and medium
DISTANCES	Easy/medium 14 km, medium 16 km
ELEVATION	Easy/medium 400 m, medium 600 m
LEADERS	Brett Daniel and Jenny Andrewes
TRANSPORT	Bus – leaving Southbank Blvd at 8:45 am
COST	\$25
AREA	Dandenong Ranges
MAP REFERENCE	Melway map 74 H4

I believe that this is one of the prettiest walks in the Dandenong Ranges and gives the walkers of the medium group a nice challenge.

The medium walk will start at the base of the thousand steps (in fact there are only 732 steps) which is also known as the Kokoda trail.

The easy/medium group will start at top of the steps, at One Tree Hill.

Both walks will then be walking through a few friendly hills (not too hard, just a good workout) which provides some great views of the city and surrounding areas.

Please be prepared for cold weather (bring wet weather clothing) This is a great walk; looking forward to seeing you all there.



MOFS WALK

KURTH KILN – BUNYIP STATE FOREST

DATE	Monday 17 July 2017
RETURN TIME	2:30 pm
STANDARD	Easy
DISTANCE	11 km
ELEVATION	50 m
LEADER	Janet Hodgson
TRANSPORT	Private
AREA	Gembrook
MAP REFERENCE	Gembrook South 1:2,500

This walk includes historical interest and natural beauty. The walk will start at Kurth Kiln, a facility set up during the 1940s to produce gas from charcoal. A few buildings still exist and we will have time to explore them.

The walk will be entirely on tracks through fern gullies, towering eucalypt forest with banksias and a dense copse of hazel pomaderris in the darker fern section of Tomahawk Creek. Hopefully we should hear some lyrebirds.

We will meet at 10:30am at the Kurth Kiln picnic ground which is located on Beenak Road approximately 4.7 km north from its intersection with Gembrook–Launching Place Road, Melway 299 B5.

For bookings and further information contact Janet.



SATURDAY WALK

SUGARLOAF RESERVOIR CIRCUIT

DATE	Saturday 22 July 2017
FINISH TIME	3 pm
STANDARD	Easy/Medium

DISTANCE	14 km
ELEVATION	Flat
LEADER	Maureen Hurley
TRANSPORT	Private
AREA	Sugarloaf Reservoir
MAP REFERENCE	Melway map 273

We will meet at the Ridge Picnic area, Melway map 273 B2.5 (enter via Simpson Road) and do a car shuffle to the Saddle Dam Picnic Ground. We will circuit the Reservoir via the Chris Phillips walking track. This is a pretty walk with loads of kangaroos and some lovely views. Let's hope for good weather and you are welcome to join the group for a cup of coffee afterwards.



SUNDAY CAR POOL

JOHN HILL CIRCUIT (DANDENONGS)

DATE	Sunday 23 July 2017
STANDARD	Easy/Medium
LEADER	Theo Mertzandis
TRANSPORT	Carpool – leaving Southbank Blvd at 8:45 am

For details of this walk please contact the leader, or check the Club's web site (http://mbw.org.au/mbw_activities/MBW_activities_program.php) or next month's News.



SOCIAL

MAPPING FOR EMERGENCY SERVICES

DATE	Wednesday 26 July 2017
VENUE	Clubrooms
START TIME	8:00 pm
FINISH TIME	9:00 pm
BOOK WITH	social@mbw.org.au
ACTIVITY AREA	Clubrooms
SPEAKER	Geoff Williams, Spatial Vision

See page 4 for more details.



SOCIAL WALK

PRINCES AND ROYAL PARKS

DATE	Thursday 27 July 2017
STANDARD	Easy
DISTANCE	5 km
ELEVATION	Small hills
LEADER	Merilyn Whimpey
TRANSPORT	Public
AREA	Parkville
MAP REFERENCE	Melway map 29

Starting at the Northern end of Princes Park, we will make our way into Royal Park and follow tracks that lead us to the wetlands in its north west corner. Our return will be via the highest point in the park for good view all around. We then head NE and SE to the Monash Campus on Royal Parade for lunch in the Café.

Meet in Princes Park at 10:15, near the corner of Royal Parade and Park Street (Melway map 29 10G). Book with leader.

Travelling by tram in Royal Pde is recommended or the Jewell railway station is only half a kilometre from the starting point.

Previews of walks and activities



SUNDAY BUS

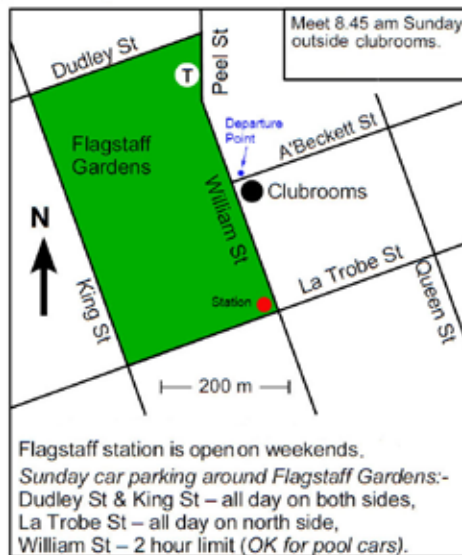
MT ROBERTSON STATE PARK (ALT DEPT)

DATE Sunday 30 July 2017
STANDARDS Easy and Easy/Medium
DISTANCES 13 km & 17 km
ELEVATIONS 208 m to 480 m
LEADERS Roger Wyatt and Sue Haviland
TRANSPORT Bus – leaving CLUBROOMS at 8:45 am
AREA Near Kinglake
ESTIMATED DURATION 4.5 to 5 hours

Initially flat and tending downhill for both walks and then a short cross country section before heading down steeply to Boggy Creek Road. The majority of the walk is on 2WD and 4WD dirt tracks with some challenging ups and downs, particularly if wet as the soil is clay and slippery. Both groups ascend the 120 m climb out of Break O Day Creek, with the medium group having another down and up prior to meeting with the bus.

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.



MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL SLIP

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

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

Please ensure your full name and 'SUBS' appear on the transfer.

Fees:
(Please circle your membership category)

Single member: \$45*	Concession: \$34* (Proof required**)
Couple/Family: \$72*	Concession: \$50* (Proof required**)
Printed News Only Subscribers: \$35.00	

Notes:

- * Members who currently receive their copies of 'NEWS' via postal mail should add \$25.00 to continue. No new hard copy subscriptions will be accepted.
- ** Concession membership applies to those who hold an Australian Government concession card, not a Seniors Card only.

Name:		Year of birth (optional)	
Name:		Year of birth (optional)	
(Note: Year of birth is used only for statistical purposes and not published in any lists.)			
<i>Fill in Address, Telephone number(s) and email address only if changed since last renewal:</i>			
Street Address:		YES / NO	<i>Indicate left if you agree details can be displayed to other members in the Members' Secure Login Area (Default in Bold)</i>
Suburb & Postcode:		YES / NO	
Tel: [H] [W] Mobile		YES / NO	
Email:		YES / NO	
Emergency Contact: Tel: [H][M][W]		YES / NO	

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!

July 2017				
Sun 2	DAY: Rye (Back Beach) – Sorrento	Bus	E&E/M	Andrew Francis & Halina Sarbinowski
4-6	BC : Christmas In July (mid week) – Barwon Heads	Pvt	Med	Susan Maughan
4-23	PC : Larapinta Trail Group 2	Pvt	Med	Ken MacMahon
5-23	PC : Larapinta Trail: Group 1	Pvt	Med	Ian Mair
Thu 6	TOF: Darebin Creek area	Pvt	Easy	Jerry Grandage
Sun 9	DAY: Willimigongon Creek (Mt Macedon)	Car	E/M	Chris Collett
Wed 12	DAY: Point Nepean National Park	Pvt	Easy	Michael Quinn
Sat 15	CYC: Lancefield circuit	Pvt	Med	Philip Brown
Sun 16	DAY: Dandenong Ranges Western Trail	Bus	E/M&M	Brett Daniel & Jenny Andrewes
Mon 17	MOF: Kurth Kiln	Pvt	Easy	Janet Hodgson
Sat 22	DAY: Sugarloaf Reservoir Circuit	Pvt	E/M	Maureen Hurley
Sun 23	DAY: John Hill Circuit (Dandenongs)	Car	E/M	Theo Mertzandis
Wed 26	SOC: Mapping for Emergency Services			Geoff Williams (Spatial Vision)
Thu 27	SOC: Princes and Royal Parks	Pvt	Easy	Jean Giese
Sun 30	DAY: Mt Robertson State Forest (Alt Dept)	Bus	E&E/M	Roger Wyatt & Sue Haviland

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