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THE NEWS OF THE Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc.

ABN 14 396 912 508

April 2018

VALE FELIX HARDING 7/12/1923 – 4/3/2018

Felix Furstenberg was born in Stettin, Germany (now in Poland) and moved to Berlin in 1925. His father was Jewish but changed to become a Mennonite, his wife's religion. In 1927, Hitler's 'Final Solution' caught up with Felix and his mother. They were warned by the mother of a boy that Felix had taken under his wing that their names were on an S.S. list so they packed their things and left for Finland. Felix's father had already come to Australia. Felix and his mother travelled to various European countries and Felix learned many languages.

Finally in 1940 aged 17 Felix was interned in France. However he was able to escape from the camp and re-united with his mother. They had visas for Spain and Australia but no visa to leave France. However they received information about a pass in the Pyrenees where they were able to cross into Spain and eventually were re-united with his father in Australia at the end of 1940. Felix later changed his name to Harding.

Felix joined with a group of walkers who formed Melbourne Bushwalkers. He was a very good walker and navigator. At this time he enrolled at Swinburne Tech and completed his secondary education. He was apprenticed to become a scientific instrument maker and worked for the Australian Optical Company. Now earning money he did further studies to matriculate and went on to study science at Melbourne University. He later changed over and became a primary teacher with a passion for mathematics.

Felix met his wife Cath in MBW and they were married in 1964. They had two daughters. Felix continued to be an active member of the Club for many years. He was well known to believe in travelling light. His home-made pack had been described as 'a bag attached to lover's knot made of cane'. Others commented that he carried very little in the pack. I only remember him carrying a pullover as his warm clothing. His rain gear was a plastic sheet held around him with clothes pegs and a 'sou'wester' rain hat. Felix would try to live off the land to augment his rations. On a Barmah Forest walk he caught a snake (not done now of course!) which he ate with freshly harvested stinging nettles. Another story was that he would collect leeches and boil them up with rice. Ex-army prismatic compasses were popular for navigating even though they were very heavy. Felix had a tiny compass (I always thought he got it from a Christmas cracker) which he wore around his neck and he could navigate better than most of us.

Many people have their Felix stories and he will always be remembered. Probably the main memory was Felix playing his piccolo early in the morning, the sound drifting through the campfire smoke as we cooked our breakfasts. Farewell to an amazing man.

Doug Pocock

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

MEMBER OF



Members of the Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc meet on Wednesday evenings between 7:00 and 9:00 pm in the club rooms at:

**Royal Historical Society of Victoria
362 William Street
(Cnr William and A'Beckett Streets)
Melbourne
Vic 3001**

Visitors are always welcome!

General correspondence should be directed to:

The Secretary
Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc
PO Box 1751
MELBOURNE VIC 3001
www.melbournebushwalkers.org.au

The News of the Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc (The News) is published monthly, and is the official newsletter of Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc.

Editor: 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 7 May 2018

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the following new members:

Marion Siseman, Kay O'Sullivan, Yvonne Keown,
Dianne Stirling, Elizabeth Tachjian, Michelle Griffin,
Lisa Imai, Christopher Thompson,
Helen Thompson

YOUR NEW COMMITTEE FOR 2018

President	Ian Mair
Vice-Presidents	Susan McInnes Peter Taylor
Secretary	* Chris Collett
Membership Secretary	Gill Wainwright
Treasurer	Poppy Sicari
Social Secretary	* Jane McRae
General Walks Secretary	Stuart Hanham
Sunday Walks Secretary	Halina Sarbinowski
General Committee	Nigel Holmes John Terrell * Susanne Etti * Brett Daniel

* NEW to Committee

CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING

BOGONG HIGH PLAINS

DATE	11-18 August, 2018
STANDARDS	Various, but a 12+ km ski with packs from and to Falls Creek on the first and last days
LEADER	Doug Pocock
TRANSPORT	Private to Mt Beauty, then bus to Falls Creek. There is a charge to leave your car in the bus depot car park.

Imagine waking up in a comfortable hut about 12 km from the hustle and bustle of Falls Creek. Out onto the slopes with any amount of choices of trips, Mt. Cope, Mt. Jim, Ropers Lookout, Fitzgerald's hut, wherever we feel like visiting!

Of course if perchance the weather is inclement we may find some sheltered slopes to play around on and have telemark lessons from one of the experts. (Definitely not from me, I'm a plodder!)

We stay as guests of the Rover Scouts at their comfortable chalet. Sleeping is dormitory style in the loft, mattresses provided. Most of the food is stored in the large pantry and we only carry in fresh meat and vegetables provided by the Rovers. All chores such as cooking, cleaning, dishwashing and wood chopping are done by a voluntary roster. The Chalet has 240v power, a full industrial kitchen, unisex toilets and showers. There is a washing machine and a drying room. What more could you want???

If you are interested give me a ring or if I'm not around ring Merilyn Whimpey.

MEMBERSHIP FEES ARE DUE!

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL 2018-19

Membership subscriptions are due 1st April 2018. You are not required to sign an Acknowledgement of Risk form on renewal; however you are advised that payment of fees implies acceptance of the risks involved in any activity you may undertake as a member of Melbourne Bushwalkers. Members are asked to read the following wording regarding your insurance cover through Bushwalking Australia.

'In voluntarily participating in activities of Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc., which are described to me by the activity leaders, I am aware that my participation in the activities may expose me to hazards and risks that could lead to injury, illness or death or to loss of or damage to my property. I also acknowledge that I may encounter weather conditions that could lead to heat stroke, hypothermia or being in locations where evacuation for medical treatment may take hours or days. In particular when participating in abseiling or above the snowline activities I am aware that these activities could expose me to additional hazards and risks.

To minimize risks I will endeavour to ensure that:

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

I have read and understood these requirements. I will consider the risks before joining any activity of the Club.

I acknowledge that I will take responsibility for my own actions and that payment of my subscriptions will be deemed as full acceptance and understanding of the above conditions.'

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

Note: Members can modify address details and items displayed to other members through the Members' Area of the Club's website.

RENEWAL SLIP

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

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

Fees:	Single member: \$45*	Concession: \$34* (Proof required**)
<i>(Please circle your membership category)</i>	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.)

Fill in Address, Telephone number(s) and email address only if changed since last renewal:

Street Address:

Suburb & Postcode:

Tel: [H] [W] Mobile

Email:

Emergency Contact:Tel: [H][M][W]

NO	<i>Indicate left if you agree details can be displayed to other members in the Members' Area (Default shown)</i>
YES	
YES	
YES	
YES	

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN – APRIL 2018



March is the time for our Annual General Meeting. This year's meeting passed without controversy or contention. Our Club officers stepped forth to provide a summary of achievements to a supportive group of attendees. Their formal written reports spelled out a Club still full of vigour, ready to meet the challenges of change and member expectations. Thanks were passed to the retiring Committee and the new Committee installed with clockwork precision. The Club moves on to a new year with purpose.

The role of the Committee and the office bearers who willingly give their time is well appreciated. They are visible and known to most members, well, maybe known to some members! They meet our legal obligations and represent our interests within the broader bushwalking community. They coordinate our views and focus our diverse interests. But they are not the Club, nor are they unique in the level of their contributions.

At every opportunity we give thanks to the many leaders and co-leaders who organise, lead and report on the broad range of activities we enjoy together during each year. Their skill and welcoming spirit ensures that we can participate in activities comfortable that our enjoyment and safety have been considered. Organising and leading a walk starts months ahead and is not complete until the final reporting is done so that future leaders can benefit from the most recent available information on the area just visited. I know I speak for all Club members when I again say thanks to every member who puts up their hand to organise an activity on our Club program. Our leaders are at the core of our Club, but they are not unique in the level of their contributions.

Faceless to many members, sometimes virtually invisible, or simply noted in passing without fully appreciating their contribution, is a small army of member volunteers who add the flesh to the bones of the Club. With tasks as mundane as ensuring our forms and files are available and ordered, through to the high profile roles of our 'Meet and Greet' team who welcome every new visitor with a smile, there are more than 40 members (often acting as leaders or co-leaders too) who help to keep the Club running smoothly. Stop for a moment to consider the newsletter you are reading, a vital organ of communication and information, and reflect on the time taken in its production each month. Consider too the articles and stories within from members just like yourself who have written of their experiences on a Club trip so that you can share in their pleasure and consider when you might follow the same path. Photos added to the photogallery, weekends spent on track maintenance and conservation activities, questions responded to online, or monitoring our emergency contact telephone number, all make the Club what it is. Every member who volunteers to help, no matter how small a task, makes a valuable contribution.

Being part of a Club is being part of a community where giving is as rewarding as receiving. Most of us join a Club because it provides activities in which we want to engage, like bushwalking, then find that our enjoyment is that much greater when we become more involved. Elsewhere in this newsletter you will find a listing of the names of the members who fill non-Committee roles for the coming year. Some activities require teams of members to share the effort and more are always welcome. We owe them all a debt of gratitude for the contributions they make.

I started this column with a reference to the AGM. No AGM is complete without some reference to where we want to head in the coming years. Our activities program is strong and soundly run. Our priorities lie with keeping it that way. Doing so requires that we have effective communications and trained leaders. This immediately points to two important areas of focus for 2018–19:

- (a) Build on the new leader training program launched last year to develop the skills we need. We begin our program in April with a full day training session. All members are welcome to participate, whether they become leaders or not, as the more people with relevant expertise and knowledge the more rewarding and safer are our activities.
- (b) Re-build and extend our online communications and Club management platforms to meet the changing expectations of mobile device users. The future of our Club is now intimately linked with the way we adapt to online capabilities. A call for expressions of interest in being part of the development team is to be found elsewhere in this newsletter.

I know that 2018–19 is going to be full of challenges and I look forward to walking and working with you all.

Ian Mair

Social Event in the Clubrooms

Wednesday 23 May, 8 pm

TREKKING IN SWITZERLAND AND FRANCE – Agajan Akbari



Haute Route: Chamonix to Zermatt (Mont Blanc to the Matterhorn) is a gourmet extravaganza of scenic wonders from first day till the last. I witnessed white peaks, spectacular valleys and delightful villages; wandered through flower meadows and clambered beside glaciers; saw marmots and ibex among the boulders and on the heights. At the end walking down Zermatt Main Street felt like returning into a different world.



In contrast with the Haute Route, the **GR20** provided very tough and difficult walking conditions. The trail follows rugged alpine terrain along breath-taking mountains of Corsica with awe-inspiring scenery. Walking across steep bare slab rock, sheer cliffs, feeling the roughness of the rocks with your fingers under a blazing Mediterranean sun, These are the minimum to be expected while trekking the GR20.

I pack carried both walks (late July to early September 2017), camped at unforgettable locations with great views. I also visited some fascinating and historical places such as Calvi, Bonifacio, Porto Vecchio, etc. It was a stunning journey I experienced which I would like to share with you.



HELP PLAN AND BUILD OUR ONLINE FUTURE

The Club's focus and dependence on online access to a growing range of resources and services, from communications to booking for activities, is dependent on mobile-friendly, robust and more easily maintainable systems. To prepare for future developments a team is to be assembled to review and rebuild our current capabilities and prepare for further extensions to make it easier for members to be active with the Club.

A preliminary meeting of anyone interested in being part of the team, or simply sharing views on what would be good to have from a member perspective, is to be held on Saturday 21 April from 2 pm in East Malvern. Whether you are professionally trained, or an enthusiastic amateur keen to learn and get involved, you are welcome to attend. Those familiar with graphic presentation, web design, database design, ecommerce solutions, email protocols and more, all have a valuable input to make.

Specific technologies and frameworks expected to be adopted include HTML-5, CSS-3 (including CSS Grid), PHP-7, JQuery and MySQL.

For further information or to register your interest please contact Ian Mair.

MELBOURNE BUSHWALKERS INCORPORATED TREASURER'S REPORT FOR YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2017

It is my pleasure to present this report and highlight the financial results of the Melbourne Bushwalkers Club for 2017.

The year ended with a surplus in both the Administration and Walks Accounts. The Administration Account surplus stands at \$4275 and the Sunday Walks Account at \$5685.

This resulted in a total surplus of \$9960 – a significant improvement from last year's surplus of \$3175.

During 2017 MBW had sound financial performances achieved from the combined business activities of the Club. The significant increases to the Club finances can be attributed to:

- Club membership numbers increased in 2017 which resulted in an increase in membership fees by \$2900.
- The Club hosted the Federation Weekend in Warburton last October. Financially the weekend was a success and after all the bills had been paid we ended up with a surplus of \$5578. Half of this went to Bushwalking Victoria and the other half remains in the Club's Administration account.
- Our Landlord, RHSV once again granted us a rent free month in January 2017, a saving of \$500. On behalf of the Club I'd like to thank the RHSV for their generosity.
- Our expenses were held in check with several small, but expected increases during 2017:
- Public liability insurance paid to BWV increased in 2017 by \$833.
- Training venue charges \$200.
- Preview and work party reimbursements were also up by \$345.

As a result of the above mentioned surplus and that we currently have several months of reserves in the Administration Account, the Committee recommends that there be no increase in Membership fees for 2018–2019.

Once again a minor increase to the bus hire charge will result in a projected increase in costs of approx. \$430 this year. Even though it is difficult to forecast the Sunday walks account financial result for 2018, the Committee has determined that there will be no increase in Sunday bus fares this year.

In addition to healthy Administration and Sunday Walks Accounts reserves, the Special and Wilkinson Lodge Accounts remain unchanged. It is prudent to maintain this level of reserves as a buffer against any future contingencies while retaining the ability to fund initiatives to improve facilities or services to members.

An annual stock-take of all of the Club's equipment was conducted by the Equipment Officer, John Fritze. I would like to thank him for his diligence in this area.

A special thanks to my fellow Committee members for their support, their friendship and their guidance during my fourth year as Treasurer.

I would also like to take this opportunity to say a special thank you to Alan Case for casting his eagle eye over the financial reports before they were submitted to the Club's financial reviewers to ensure I had not missed anything.

Finally, but not least I would like to especially thank the Club's Financial Reviewers, John Boyd and Richard Hanson for reviewing the accounts. John has been the Club's financial reviewer for the past 13 years and on behalf of all Club members, I would like to thank him for this great contribution.

The Club continues to maintain a strong balance sheet and is financially well positioned to meet its ongoing commitments in 2018.

Based on the Club's financial state I recommend the report be accepted.

Poppy Sicari, Treasurer

AN AGM CELEBRATION 36 YEARS ON!

Chris and Helen Thompson first met on a Club outing in 1979 and were married on the Queen's Birthday Weekend in 1982. On the following Monday they moved to Canberra to live for five years. Now, 36 years on, and living in Melbourne they have re-joined the Club. True to its customs and traditions, the Club honoured them at the AGM with its highly sought after Silver Spoon in recognition of that day to remember.



Annual Reports

ENVIRONMENT REPORT 2017

Members of the Melbourne Bushwalkers took part in a range of environmental activities during 2017.

Conservation activities included Mt Buffalo Peatland regeneration (a new BTAC/Parks Vic activity replacing the willow weeding previously held on the Bogong High Plains), Regent Honeyeater Project tree planting weekends and Friends of Bogong planting. As well as the regular Grampians track clearing weekend with VMTC, members attended BTAC track clearing activities on the Australian Alps Walking Track near Omeo, at East Tyers, at Errinundra NP and Wilsons Prom. At the Prom, Parks Vic filmed the group in action, resulting in several brief promotional videos featuring MBW member Omar.

Although overall attendance numbers are similar to recent years, it is pleasing to see a number of members attending their first conservation and track maintenance activities. Some of these have been new (or temporary) members, all have expressed their enjoyment at the activities and the congenial company, and several have signed up for return visits.

The committee has shown strong support for member participation in conservation and track maintenance activities by offering a transport rebate in 2017. Although few members have so far taken this up, this reduces the barrier for members to participate in these activities which are vital for preserving and maintaining the environment in which we walk. I encourage all members to attend a conservation or track maintenance activity if possible.

John Terrell, Environment Officer

SOCIAL SECRETARY'S REPORT 2018

The Social Nights, which are held on the fourth Wednesday of the month, have once again been a popular event with an average of 40–50 members (with one evening exceeding 70).

The aim is to have a diverse range of interesting speakers. These evenings are a great opportunity for members and visitors to mingle, chat and have a relaxed glass of wine and a nibble. This year's programme was as follows:

February

Hiking in Peru by Agajan Akbari

March

The AGM with election of the new committee.

April

The Beauty of Northern Vietnam Adventure Tour by Ian Mair and Halina Sarbinowski

May

Nepal – Trekking in the Tsum Valley and around Manaslu by John Terrell

June

Great Forest National Park – by Tria Manley of The Wilderness Society

July

Mapping for Emergency Services – by Geoff Williams

August

Hiking in the North Island New Zealand by Ian Mair (a last minute inclusion due to Anne McLeod who, was talking about her book 'The summit Of Her Ambition' cancelling due to illness)

September

Ikimasho Walking the Kumano Kodo by Deb Shand, Deb Brewis and Angela Vetsicas.

October

The 88 Temples Pilgrimage by Mick Noonan

November

Ciudad Perdida – one of Colombia's most exciting and breathtaking hikes – by Susan Maughan

December

In December, the Christmas Party was a great way to wind up the year. Once again a popular event, with lots of food, fun and wine.

A big thank you to all those who have assisted during the year and helped make the evenings a success.

Susanna Mason, Social Secretary

WEBMASTER'S REPORT TO AGM 2018

The past year has been one of consolidation and incremental progress in expanding the Club's online activities and services. Commitments to assisting with the preparations for the very successful Federation Weekend 2017 and adjustments to the current website code base necessitated by changes to the operating systems of our Internet Service Provider left little time to progress new developments. In hindsight the delay has been beneficial. Notable developments during the year and plans for 2018-19:

- (a) A decision in 2016 to rebuild the current public website with emphasis on being mobile-friendly was put on hold while we waited for the developers of the planned software framework, Bootstrap 4, to release a stable version. Late in 2017 an upgrade to browser specifications with the introduction of CSS Grid presented a more immediate and preferable alternative. Initial templates using the new standards have demonstrated their viability for our requirements, with an easier learning path.
- (b) The Club's communication with the membership is increasingly through online presentation and email distribution. Intermittent issues with email delivery led to consideration of a change in our approach. We have now registered for G Suite, a Google product providing online document sharing and other capabilities, with all email delivery now routed through the Google servers. It is expected that the more robust spam filtering and stricter email standards will improve email delivery rates. The other features of G Suite will be introduced as appropriate.
- (c) A development team is being assembled to review the current scope of the Club's online resources with the aim of ensuring they are robust, more easily maintainable and ready for future extension. A roadmap will be developed to add additional capabilities and resources. Rebuilding of the current public website will be part of that development, to commence this year.

Ian Mair

NON-COMMITTEE ROLES, 2018-19

Each year the Club has a large number of volunteers filling roles as activity leaders and in non-Committee functions. For 2018-19, 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
Training Officer Angela VETSICAS
Pack Carry Coordinator Jopie BODEGRAVEN
Base Camp/Lodge Coordinator Jill ALLEN
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 Marilyn 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, Wen QI
MeetUp Officer Nigel HOLMES
Mail Pick-up Mark HEATH

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,
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 Gina HOPKINS, Bill METZENTHEN,
David LAING, Mick NOONAN, Roger WYETT,
Maciek DZIK, Nigel HOLMES, Keith LONGRIDGE
Meet and Greet Officer
Wednesday Duty Roster Helpers Margaret CURRY,
Fay DUNN, Susan HAVILAND, Susan RALSTON,
Margaret Njeri CORNES, Mary DALEY, Roger
WYETT, Frances MOLONEY, Margaret CAMPION,
Jill ALLEN, Cecily HUNTER, Jopie BODEGRAVEN,
Denise CHARMAN, Mick NOONAN, Christopher
GREEN, Jenny ANDREWES

Ian Mair, President

JILLYS DEAL ISLAND GROUP, 15–20 FEBRUARY 2018

Having discovered the magic of the remote and wild Kent Group of islands with a great bunch of adventurous people in 2017 I was determined to return. The Bass Strait tries its best to deter me but has not won yet! As soon as we land on Erith Island a squeal of 'we made it' and the wild sea is forgotten, similar to the pain of child birth dissipating once you see your baby. When asked how rough the sea was on a scale out of 10, Carol (skipper) advised about 3, but the other groups had millponds and we had the roughest. Then there was a discussion about a 9 and what this would look like!

Our group was led by Jilly Allen who was a natural host ensuring everyone had help to bring camping gear up to the camp sites and helped people find campsites. She was the last to find a campsite herself



and still managed to set up her tent, set up the camp kitchen and chat to everyone before I got my tent up!! Why? Because I was busy floating on my back on the most tantalising aquamarine ocean water under the late afternoon sun on a deserted beach!

The next day was a full day exploring Deal Island – the lighthouse, Squally Cove, Garden Cove – but my favourite was the 'Old Squally Track' as I had advised everyone 'it must be all down hill from here' but it was straight up and rocky and windy. Moral of the story is don't believe a word I say, but the views were unexpected and well worth it!

Day 2 on Deal Island exploring again. We went to Little Squally Cove, Winters Cove and then, my favourite, Barn Hill and to the unknown lookout above

Dragons Tail which we found last year by bush-bashing. I could spend a whole day at Barn Hill exploring and pondering the meaning of life over the spectacular views.

Our last day of walking on Erith Island was bush-bashing to the Swashway between Erith and Dover Islands. This is the adventurous off-track stuff that puts a big grin on my face. People finding different routes like explorers yelling out 'I found a way, I think?', 'nah don't come this way' or 'Ooh la la, I'm not going down there'. We got over the Swashway and stepped foot on Dover Island, like an expedition to South Pole, drove a spade we found into ground and then high-tailed it back over to Erith Island before the tide came in.

Watching the dolphins follow and play around the boats was another highlight. Inviting three kayakers to join us for dinner and hearing their tales of paddling across from Bass Strait and having a Great White shark swimming around them, then laughing about it, was another. My most enjoyable moments were talking to my fellow bushwalkers about their adventures, inspiring me to be more adventurous. Deal Island trips are a real privilege and I hope I have the privilege again. Thank you to Wynne and Carol from the Nooramunga for getting us safely there and back.

Kellie Aston



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.



PACK CARRY

BEGINNERS' MT FEATHERTOP ALONG RAZORBACK

DATE	13-15 April 2018
RETURN TIME	Sunday evening 15 April
STANDARD	Easy
DISTANCE	Approximately 26 km over two days
ELEVATION	Varying from 1700 m to 1922 m
LEADER	Helen Geddes
TRANSPORT	Private car pooling
TRANSPORT COST	(per person) \$60.00 approx. dependent on pick up and drop off
AREA	Alpine National Park
MAP REFERENCE	Bogong Alpine Area 1:50,000
FIRE BAN DISTRICT	North East (Mt Hotham Alpine Resort)
TEMPERATURE REFERENCE SITE	Northern Country Mt Hotham

Mt Feathertop along the Razorback is one of the more spectacular walks in the Victorian Alps and a great place for a Beginners Pack Carry.

The plan is to depart Melbourne on Friday afternoon as early as possible with a stop scheduled at Euroa (The Jumping Jumbuck Café) for an evening meal. We will then drive on via Bright to the Freeburgh Cabin and Caravan Park (15 Websters Lane, Freeburgh, 3741) where we will have campsites booked. (Approx \$20.00 / Person)

Saturday Morning an 8 am departure to drive via Harrietville up via the Great Alpine Road till we find our destination, the Diamantina Hut. We will leave our vehicles here on the road alongside the track.

The walk out along the Razorback is a combination of ridge walking and sidling up, down and around as the terrain demands. We will be above the tree-line so it is important to be prepared for sun, wind, rain and even quite severe cold, perhaps. Alpine conditions can change at any time so important to be well prepared as well as flexible. Please check with Leader if uncertain.

The plan will be to establish a campsite either on the Diamantina Spur or close to the Federation Hut by setting up our tents then heading off to climb Mt Feathertop 1922m, (a 200 metre climb) then collect water for the evening as well as the following day's needs. I prefer to collect water from the spring underneath Mt Feathertop, however, the tank at Federation Hut may have a supply? The camp site location will be dependent on how the group is travelling as well as pressure of other groups there at the time.

Sunday Morning an 8 am departure to return to our vehicles, drive up to Dinner Plain for a coffee before returning to Melbourne via Lilydale.

WHOLE DAY -

MBW LEADER TRAINING UNITS 1-5

Are you an aspiring leader who has been meaning to attend our training days or are you a member who needs to catch up individual units?

Then you may attend all day or select the units which will allow you to complete module 1 of MBW training.

SAT 28 APRIL 2018, 10:00 am – 3:30 pm

Please note new venue!!!

MALVERN LIBRARY 1255 HIGH ST MALVERN

10:00-10:45 Unit 1 – ‘So You Want to Become a Leader?’

- The concept of leadership
- Different styles of leadership

10:45-11:45 Unit 2 – ‘Research, Planning and Previewing’

- Why, Who, Where, When and How to organise a walk from the stages of research and planning.
- Conducting a preview, what to do before, during and after a preview.
- Resources to access when selecting a walk, especially our extensive data base.

11:45-12:00 Morning Tea

12:00-12:45 Unit 3 – ‘Paper Work’

- Walk description and grading, walker registration
- Map and walk notes, transport plans, emergency details, incident reports

12:45-1:45 Unit 4 – ‘Risk Management and Safety’

- Understand that Risk management (RM) is involved in most decisions we make;
- Identify actual and potential risks;
- Evaluate the risks;
- Use strategies to manage risk;
- Be aware of legal responsibilities.

1:45-2:15 Lunch

2:15-3:15 Unit 5 – ‘Conducting the Walk’

- Tasks which need to be completed in the week prior to the walk;
- Perform on the day of your walk prior to arriving at the actual start of the walk;
- Tasks you are advised to perform after you arrive at the actual start point for the walk but before you start walking;
- How to conduct your walk in a safe manner so that all participants enjoy the walk;
- Tasks you are advised to perform at the completion of the walk;

To book contact Angela vetsiang8@gmail.com



SUNDAY CAR POOL

BRISBANE RANGES NATIONAL PARK

DATE	Sunday 29 April 2018
STANDARD	Medium
DISTANCE	17 km
ELEVATION	Fluctuating, with 250 m height changes repeated
LEADER	Roger Wyatt
TRANSPORT	Carpool – leaving Southbank Blvd at 8:45 am
TRANSPORT COSTS	Approx. \$15 per person
AREA	Brisbane Ranges
MAP REFERENCE	Boars Gully Vic Park Notes
FIRE BAN DISTRICT	Central
TEMPERATURE REFERENCE SITE	Geelong

This walk is a mixture of off-track (open scrub), traversing rocky spurs with a steep descent into Spring Creek which is followed upstream for 2 km, and then a steep ascent to the plateau bordering farmland, with a re-crossing of Spring Creek (not steep) near its origin. Then numerous tracks through low open forest and grass trees back to the cars. Challenging but fun.



TOFS WALK

ANDREWS HILL, KINGLAKE

DATE	Thursday 3 May 2018
STANDARD	Easy
DISTANCE	11 km
LEADER	Doug Pocock
TRANSPORT	Private
MAP REFERENCE	Kinglake NP Outdoor Leisure Series

The walk will start from 'The Gums' camping area at 10:30 am. GR R6. To reach the start drive along Melba Highway for 7.3 km from the Kinglake Road crossroad. Turn left on Left Bridge Road signposted to 'Kinglake Homestead' then turn left onto Eucalyptus Road. Drive 4 km from the Melba Highway and look for the entrance to 'The Gums' on the right. Toilets here. Park in the day parking area.

The walk is along a delightful bird-loud track to a picnic area for morning tea. Toilets here. Crossing the road we pick up a series of management tracks for a steady climb to Andrews Hill, the highest point in Kinglake NP. From here we return to the cars down a rough, sometimes steep track (which may make the grading E/M). A walking stick would be useful down here. We should finish at 3:00 pm and should be able to have a coffee at Yarra Glen, thus bringing to a close another memorable day out with the 'Bushies'.



PACK CARRY

DATE	4-6 May 2018
RETURN TIME	7-9 pm Sunday
STANDARD	Easy/Medium
DISTANCE	Up to 40 km
TOTAL ASCENT	Flat terrain
LEADER	Ian Mair
TRANSPORT	Private
AREA	Barmah National Park
MAP REFERENCE	Park Notes – Barmah National Park

Barmah National Park (28,521ha), together with the adjoining Murray Valley Regional and National Parks in New South

Wales, forms the largest River Red Gum forest in the world. The complex ecology of the forest is closely linked to the Murray River and its flooding regime, creating a diverse natural habitat for a variety of wildlife, particularly waterbirds. Barmah is a little over three hours drive north of Melbourne (225 km).

Starting from our Friday night camping spot near Barmah Lake, just north of Barmah, we will walk north, at times along the bank of the Murray River, and also follow vehicle tracks and off-track as appropriate and suitable. The area is likely to be dry with the lower, at times swampy, areas easy to negotiate. We will aim for a Saturday camp site opposite Picnic Point (NSW) on the banks of the Murray River. On Sunday we will head upstream along the bank of the Murray River before heading off-track and along lesser-used vehicle tracks to our starting point at Barmah Lake.

I hope you can join me on this interesting trip. River Red Gums line the Murray River for most of its length. These iconic trees can reach 45 metres and live for more than 500 years. The forest provides important habitat, particularly for waterbirds, with over 200 species of birds recorded. It is one of Victoria's largest waterbird breeding areas. Brolgas, Night Herons, Spoonbills, Sea Eagles and Azure Kingfishers can all be seen in the park.

The exploratory nature of the walk limits the trip to experienced walkers only.



TRACK MAINTENANCE

THE GRAMPIANS

DATE	Friday 4 to Sunday 6 May 2018
VENUE	Halls Gap, Grampians National Park
STANDARD	Easy/Medium
ORGANISER	Mark Heath
TRANSPORT	Private
TRANSPORT COST	\$60 per person
MAP REFERENCE	Melway map 425 C11

Join VMTC, Parks Victoria and Friends of the Grampians to improve walking tracks in the Eastern Grampians.

Track maintenance involves a range of activities and skills suitable for all fitness levels – lopping, using small hand saws, removing material from tracks etc.

This activity is eligible for a \$25 travel cost subsidy.

Complimentary camping for both Friday and Saturday nights will be available in the area.

Ian and Deb's photos give a great sense of previous activities

http://mbw.org.au/zenphoto/2013/conservation/2013050401_Grampians_Track_Maintenance/

Contact Mark Heath to register your interest in participation.



SUNDAY BUS

SWITZERLAND RANGE

DATE	Sunday 6 May 2018
STANDARDS	Easy and Medium
DISTANCES	14 km and 17 km
ELEVATIONS	Easy mostly downhill; Medium 450 m ascent
LEADERS	Phil Geschke and Jan Colquhoun
TRANSPORT	Bus – leaving Southbank Blvd at 8:45 am
AREA	North of Yea
MAP REFERENCE	Dropmore, Yea and Molesworth 1:25,000

The Switzerland Range Flora Reserve, located north of Yea, is a small reserve nestled among farmland that is an oasis for native birds and animals of the area.

The Easy walk is on track and mostly downhill, with good views if the day is clear. It starts east of Highlands to finish near Molesworth, passing through native forest in the Switzerland Ranges Flora Reserve and open farmland.

The Medium walk starts with a 450 m off-track climb to the summit of Mt Broughton before joining the route through the Flora Reserve to finish with the Easy group near Molesworth and the Goulburn River.

The highlight of both walks is the views down to the Goulburn River which snakes its way below the tracks we are following. The views, the ambience and the curiosity of the local farm animals encountered on previous walks (see photogallery 31 Mar 2013; 18 April 2010) has ensured that these walks have become favourites of many walkers.



WEDNESDAY WALK

BIRDSLAND RESERVE

DATE Wednesday 9 May 2018
START TIME 10:15 am
RETURN TIME Return to start location by 3:00 pm
STANDARD Easy/Medium
DISTANCE 11 km
TOTAL ASCENT One steep and several moderate hills
LEADER Carol Elfverson
TRANSPORT Private
AREA Belgrave Heights
MAP REFERENCE Melway map 84 B2

This very pleasant circuit walk has well defined undulating tracks through bushland opening to broad views of Melbourne's skyline. Granite outcrops and two picturesque lakes where ducks, water hens and cormorants add to the beauty of this walk.

Walking poles could be helpful with the steep hill.

We will meet at 10:15 am for a 10:30 am start at the Birdsland Reserve Reserve car park. The entrance is off McNicol Road just where it meets Mt Morton Road.

For inquiries and bookings please ring Carol.



LODGE

WILSONS PROM TIDAL RIVER BASE CAMP – LODGE

DATE Friday 11 to Sunday 13 May 2018
STANDARD Easy
DISTANCE 25 km
ELEVATION 300 m
LEADER Jill Allen
TRANSPORT Private
AREA Wilsons Promontory National Park

Day one – An easy day walk combining all the great tracks around Tidal River. About 15 km of walking including beach walking and to the top of Mt Bishop.

Day Two – Mt Oberon and Darby Saddle to Darby River.



SUNDAY CAR POOL

KALORAMA – DOONGALLA

(ALTERNATIVE DEPARTURE POINT)

DATE Sunday 13 May 2018
START TIME Depart from Cnr. Abeckett Street and William Street at 8:45 am

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.

Meet 8.45 am Sunday outside clubrooms.

Flagstaff station is open on weekends.
 Sunday car parking around Flagstaff Gardens:-
 Dudley St & King St – all day on both sides,
 La Trobe St – all day on north side,
 William St – 2 hour limit (OK for pool cars).

RETURN TIME Return to Cnr. Abeckett Street and William Street at 6:30 pm
STANDARD Medium
DISTANCE 15 km
ELEVATION 800 m approximately
LEADER Brett Daniel
TRANSPORT Carpool – leaving Cnr. Abeckett Street and William Street at 8:45 am
TRANSPORT COST \$12.00 per person
AREA Dandenong Ranges National Park

Please note that this trip will depart from the Alternate Departure Point outside the clubrooms at 8:45 am.

This walk, in the Dandenong Ranges, will start at the TV towers.

After heading along tracks among stringybark and long-leaved box eucalyptus trees we will be going downhill until we reach the fireline track, which is undulating, to our lunch site at Doongalla estate (toilets and tables). After lunch we will begin our climb up to the cars (one steep climb) along some tree-fern lined tracks.

We will have some fantastic views of Melbourne and beyond, before getting to the cars.



CYCLING

LANCEFIELD CIRCUIT

DATE Saturday 19 May 2018
START TIME Depart from location in notes below at 9:30 am
STANDARD Medium

DISTANCE 65 km
ELEVATION 540 m rise
LEADER Philip Brown
TRANSPORT Private
AREA Lancefield
MAP REFERENCE Ride with GPS

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

Meeting place is at Lancefield Bakery at 9:30 am.
 To book in or for more info contact Phil Brown.



SATURDAY WALK

UPPER FERNTREE GULLY TO BELGRAVE

PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DATE FROM 26/5 TO 19/5.

DATE Saturday 19 May 2018
RETURN TIME 3 pm
STANDARD Easy/Medium
DISTANCE 13 km
ELEVATION Undulating
LEADER Maureen Hurley
TRANSPORT Private cars or public transport
MAP REFERENCE Melway maps 74 F5 and 75 E4

We will meet in the Car park of Upper Ferntree Gully Railway station at 10:30 am. If you are coming by train there is a Belgrave train that leaves Flinders Street at 9:09 am and arrives at Upper Ferntree Gully at 10:22.

We will walk along Railway Ave, School Road, Bellview Track and Ramu Track to One Tree Hill. From the start of Bellview Track to One Tree Hill it is 3.3 km, a reasonably steep climb, a good heart starter!

Then Exploring the Sherbrooke area and making our way along Lloyds Track, and Hill Climb Track to Belgrave. This is mostly downhill. Afternoon tea will probably be in Belgrave, before we travel back by train to Upper Ferntree Gully.

A pretty and interesting walk.



SUNDAY BUS

MT BRIDE – GROOM HILL – LA LA FALLS (WARBURTON)

DATE Sunday 20 May 2018
RETURN TIME 6:00 pm to Southbank Boulevard
STANDARDS Easy/Medium and Medium
DISTANCES 13 and 15 km
ELEVATIONS 400 m rise (Easy/Medium and Medium)
LEADERS Chris Collett and Jenny Andrewes
TRANSPORT Bus – leaving Southbank Blvd at 8:45 am
AREA Warburton
MAP REFERENCE Vicmap Neerim 8022-S 1:50,000

This trip is in an area of forest to the south of Warburton, a scenic town on the upper reaches of the Yarra River.

The walks commence with a gradual ascent along well-formed tracks through Mountain Ash forest to Mt Tugwell. After reaching the summit of Mt Tugwell we follow a series of back roads past Mt Bride towards Groom Hill, before we retrace our route for a short distance to head towards La La Falls, which are situated on the picturesque Four Mile Creek. To reach the falls there is a prolonged steep descent through the forest, initially on a disused firebreak, and then directly through the forest to reach the creek, slightly downstream of the falls. After visiting the falls, we follow a walking track through attractive ferny glades to the end of the walk.

A walking pole would be handy for the descent to Four Mile Creek and the La La Falls.



MOFS WALK

WOORI-YALLOCK – O'SHANNASSY AQUEDUCT – DEE ROAD

DATE Monday 21 May 2018
RETURN TIME 3:00 pm
STANDARD Easy
DISTANCE 11 km
ELEVATION 140 m
LEADER Graham Hodgson
TRANSPORT Private
AREA Warburton
MAP REFERENCE Melway 286–289

This is a new walk for MOFs and traverses the western end of the O'Shannassy Aqueduct. The walk is similar to the more familiar Dee Rd to Yuonga Rd section but it is always interesting trying a different route. The start of the walk is a bit cruel inasmuch as there is an immediate climb of some 130 m at the beginning of the walk; however most of the remaining trip is flat apart from a section near Don Road. The scenery is particularly spectacular with grand views down into the valley below and the ever-present tree ferns and mountain ash. The walk ends with a 1.5 km gradual descent to the Yarra River and the cars.

The walk does entail a car shuffle so please meet at Dee Road just where it crosses over the Yarra at Melway 289 B3 by 10:00 am

For bookings and enquiries ring Graham.



SOCIAL

TREKKING IN SWITZERLAND AND FRANCE

DATE Wednesday, 28 February, 2018
VENUE Clubrooms
SPEAKER Agajan Akbari
START TIME 8:00 pm
FINISH TIME 9:00 pm
ACTIVITY AREA Clubrooms, Cnr. Abeckett Street and William Street, (Melway Reference: 2F, B2)

Agajan will talk about his experiences on the Haute Route: Chamonix to Zermatt (Mont Blanc to the Matterhorn), a gourmet extravaganza of scenic wonders.



SOCIAL WALK

DANDENONG CREEK, BAYSWATER – HEATHMONT

DATE Thursday 24 May 2018
STANDARD Easy
LEADER Alister Rowe
TRANSPORT Private

For details of this walk please contact the leader.



PACK CARRY

BLACKWOOD – LERDERBERG GORGE

DATE 26–27 May 2018
STANDARD Easy/Medium
DISTANCE 27 km
LEADER Agajan Akbari

TRANSPORT AREA Private
MAP REFERENCE Lerderderg Gorge State Park
 Lerderderg & Werribee Gorge Meridian
 Production 2001, 1:35,000

Rugged, beautiful and scenic, this is one of the easier good walks close to Melbourne that Lerderderg Gorge provides.

We travel on Saturday morning and meet at Blackwood (details later).

After doing a car shuffle, we will begin the walk on Whisky Track (intersection of Whisky Track with O'Briens Road), later on walking on to Vodka Track. After approximately 12 km walking we will camp at Lerderderg Gorge campsite with the opportunity to have a campfire.

On Sunday we will be walking along the Lerderderg River and Byres Back track for a total of 15 km (we may have some off-track and river walking if the river water level permits).

It is expected to be cold at this time of the year and participants are required to be equipped with all types of weather gear and carry their own personal first aid kit.

If you are interested in the walk or would like more information please contact me via email.



SUNDAY CAR POOL

BUNGAL STATE FOREST – MOORABOOL RIVER

DATE Sunday 27 May 2018
STANDARD Medium
LEADER Nik Dow
TRANSPORT Carpool – leaving Southbank Blvd at 8:45 am

Nik is away at the moment, and has promised a preview for next month's News. It will probably be on the Club's website before News is published.



WEDNESDAY WALK

WARRANTDYTE KINGLAKE CONSERVATION RESERVE

DATE Wednesday 30 May 2018
STANDARD Easy/Medium
DISTANCE 10 or 12 km
ELEVATION 370 m
LEADER Theo Mertzaniadis
TRANSPORT AREA Private
MAP REFERENCE Warrandyte
 Melway map 265

The walk starts with a gradual two kilometre climb to the summit of One Tree Hill which at an elevation of some 370 m offers great views over towards Mt Macedon and also to the east towards the Yarra Ranges.

The lunch spot is absolutely idyllic with a flat grassy area complete with a pond and wonderful views.

The walk is entirely on wide bush tracks but there is one track that is quite steep with loose gravel so footwear with a good grip is recommended. Depending on the group's fitness and willingness there is an option to add on an extra 1.5 km which means we will not have to retrace some of the walk but it will make the standard easy/medium.

Meet at 10:30 am at the small carpark at Melway map 265 C12 (marked P) which is off the Eltham–Yarra Glen Road.

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: **Single member:** \$45* **Concession:** \$34* (Proof required**) (Please circle your membership category) **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:	NO	<i>Indicate left if you agree details can be displayed to other members in the Members' Area (Default shown)</i>	
Suburb & Postcode:	YES		
Tel: [H] [W] Mobile	YES		
Email:	YES		
Emergency Contact:Tel: [H][M][W]	YES		

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!

May 2018				
Thu 3	TOF: Andrews Hill, Kinglake	Pvt	Easy	Doug Pocock
4-6	PC : Barmah National Park	Pvt	E/M	Ian Mair
4-6	MNT: The Grampians	Pvt	E/M	Mark Heath
Sun 6	DAY: Switzerland Range	Bus	E&M	Phil Geschke & Jan Colquhoun
Wed 9	DAY: Birdsland Reserve	Pvt	E/M	Carol Elfverson
11-13	LOD: Tidal River Lodge, Wilsons Prom NP	Pvt	Easy	Jill Allen
Sun 13	DAY: Kalorama – Doongalla (ALT DEPARTURE POINT)	Car	Med	Brett Daniel
Sat 19	CYC: Lancefield Circuit	Pvt	Med	Philip Brown
Sat 19	DAY: Upper Ferntree Gully to Belgrave	Pvt	E/M	Maureen Hurley
Sun 20	DAY: Mt Bride – Grooms Hill – La La Falls	Bus	E/M&M	Chris Collett & Jenny Andrewes
Mon 21	MOF: Woori Yallock – O'Shannassy Aqueduct – Dee Road	Pvt	Easy	Graham Hodgson
Wed 23	SOC: Trekking in Switzerland and France			Agajan Akbari
Thu 24	SOC: Dandenong Creek, Bayswater – Heathmont	Pvt	Easy	Alister Rowe
26-27	PC : Blackwood – Lerderderg Gorge	Pvt	E/M	Agajan Akbari
Sun 27	DAY: Bungal State Forest – Moorabool River	Car	Med	Nik Dow
Wed 30	DAY: Warrandyte Kinglake Conservation Reserve	Pvt	E/M	Theo Mertzandis