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THE NEWS OF THE Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc.

ABN 14 396 912 508

July 2018

30TH ANNIVERSARY OF WEDNESDAY WALKS

A group of walkers celebrated the 30th Anniversary of walking on a Wednesday on 30th May at Warrandyte Kinglake Nature Conservation Reserve. The walk was followed by an afternoon tea at Sugarloaf Reservoir.

Doug Wilhoft, who was on the very first Wednesday walk, and is still a regular walker, cut the celebratory cake.

The first Wednesday walk was in the Cathedral Ranges on 13 April 1988 and led by Jean Giese who subsequently became a Co-ordinator of these walks. Co-ordinators in the following years have been Sandra Mutimer and Margaret Curry and is currently Ed Neff.



Sunset from near Cleve Cole Hut, Mt Bogong, March 2018
Photo by Mark Simpson



Cape Barren Geese on Phillip Island, April 2018
Photo by Robert Ian Mair

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

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 2 July 2018

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the following new members:
Christopher Valcanov
Dinitrios Chronopoulos
Bruce Simons
Alison Corbet
Sachin Worlikar

ULTRALIGHT GOSSIP (Base weight under 10 lbs/4.5 kg excluding consumables)

Golite closed and now ultralight packs are made by 'cottage businesses' run by ultra long distance thru-hikers, veterans of multi-month trips. These people really know what works and what doesn't. Palante Packs is a cottage business run from a small workshop by two hikers who outsource production runs within USA. Their 2018 Palante V2 pack (450 g/40 L/US\$225.00-\$235.00) has a roll top, two side pockets, back net pocket and a bottom pocket. Yes, a bottom pocket! This pocket is very accessible, just where your hands hang. A day's food goes in there. There's a sternum strap and optional hip belt for heavy loads. The main fabric is dyneema composite (formerly cuben fibre), 5 oz sq yd/170 gms sq m. Heavy but very strong. The pack tapers from top to bottom so that when the side pockets are full you can swing your arms. With hip belt stowed it's comfortable with loads under 12 kg. The Palante V2 pack is a 'go-to' pack for 2018 thru-hikers. I have one. It's comfortable and functions well. Two other 'go-tos' are Zpacks Nero 38 L/US\$199 and Mountain Laurel Designs Burn 38 L/370 g/US\$255.00. If you must have a frame, the 'go to' is ZPacks Arc Blast 595 g/55 L/US\$325 but that's getting out of ultralight.

Ian Langford



Mt Buffalo Waterfalls walk, February 2018
Photo by Jopie Bodegraven, John Fritze or Ray Spooner

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN – JULY 2018



Let me start this column with the bottom line. A network of strong Bushwalking Clubs is a key to building an active and vibrant bushwalking community. So, why do I have this view?

June is an important month. Not only is it the start of the Melbourne Bushwalkers' Winter Quarterly Activities Program and the start of the skiing season, it is the month of the Bushwalking Victoria (BWV) Annual General Meeting. Know it or not, BWV plays a significant part in the regular bushwalking activities of all members. As well as being the channel through which we supplement the insurance cover available to all members, it is the home of Bush Search and Rescue, Victoria, (BSAR) and the Bush Track and Conservation Committee (BTAC). Each of these groups plays a vital role in ensuring our safety and bushwalking experience are as enjoyable as they can be. Additionally, BWV is a highly regarded and vital link in representing the interests of ALL bushwalkers to Government. Bushwalking Victoria includes an affiliated membership of 63 bushwalking clubs representing around 8000 members.

On their own, bushwalking clubs are only a segment of the bushwalking community. An often quoted figure from census data of 250,000 bushwalkers in Victoria highlights the point. Many, if not most, are casual bushwalkers with no formal affiliations. Some fulfil their interests through commercial organisers, whilst others look to less formal structures, like Meetup groups not affiliated with Bushwalking Victoria, to link up with fellow walkers. Indeed it is not uncommon for bushwalkers to participate in their preferred pastime through several of these alternative channels, or even through membership of multiple clubs. Unlike supporters of, say, football clubs, it is not (nor should be) seen as a mark of disloyalty for bushwalkers to access multiple clubs or channels. Bushwalking is not a competitive pastime and few participate to demonstrate their superior prowess.

With perhaps the exception of commercially driven providers of bushwalking excursions, the very existence and continued vitality of all organised bushwalking groups (Bushwalking Clubs, Meetup Groups, Facebook Groups, Social Clubs and more) relies on the passion and motivation of volunteer leaders to step forward and conduct an activity. Most bushwalkers prefer to follow rather than lead, contributing to their chosen interest group in other ways. It is a very normal and understandable characteristic. That said, more leaders with the proper skills and training means more activities and more bushwalkers with the flow on health and fitness benefits that result.

Commendably, the incidence of accidents and other avoidable events impacting on the safety of bushwalkers in Bushwalking Clubs Affiliated with Bushwalking Victoria is comparatively low. Insurance statistical records support this conclusion. It is not simply by coincidence that this has come about. The practices and culture of Bushwalking Clubs support the gaining of experience and training that equip future leaders for taking on the role. Seen by some as 'old world', inflexible, burdened by rules and with a need to commit to joining, bushwalking clubs are often just the opposite. Where they are inflexible is in the attention to safety and respect for the efforts and commitment of volunteer leaders. Both require commitment in return.

Melbourne Bushwalkers places a priority on developing new leaders and enhancing the skills of current leaders. It underpins the retention of active members. A focus on attracting new members and more people into bushwalking through social media and other avenues is important but it is not the main challenge. If the figure of 250,000 is anywhere close to the mark there are already many enjoying the outdoors. The challenge is to ensure they enjoy doing so with safety and the richness of experience that attracts like-minded individuals faced with a plethora of alternatives. That applies to casual walkers as much as organised groups. Leaders with inadequate skills are a potential danger to themselves as much as to those that follow them. A network of strong Bushwalking Clubs with support for passionate and committed leaders builds an active bushwalking community that helps meet the challenge.

Ian Mair

Social Events in the Clubrooms

Wednesday 25 July, 8 pm

ANAPURNA CIRCUIT AND FORBIDDEN TOWN OF LO MANTANG – Tim Byrne



Tim Byrne will be speaking about and illustrating with slides his trekking in Nepal, which started back in 2009 and has continued up to the present. His favourite region is the mid-western area which boasts one of the more spectacular three week treks, the Annapurna circuit. Branching off the main Annapurna circuit are a number of other highly rated treks, Manasalu, Nar-Phoo, Ghandruk, Dhaulagiri and the Upper Mustang trek to the forbidden town of Lo Mantang.



Tim has walked the Circuit four times and stayed in Kagbeni (2800 m) several times to do some volunteer English teaching at the local monastery. He has stories to tell about surviving the Throng La pass (5416 m) and the changes brought by road building. He has some tips to pass on about managing isolation, money, illness, language, backpack weight and meeting people.

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Wednesday 22 August, 8 pm

A QUEST FOR WATERFALLS IN VICTORIA – Travis Easton



Since 2007 I have been on a quest to visit every waterfall I could find within 100 km of Melbourne and document all my findings in a trilogy of books.

When I started I figured this would take a few months and there would be maybe 50 waterfalls to document. After a few years to my amazement I had visited over 100 and yet the end was nowhere in sight. I started by visiting all the waterfalls marked on current maps, then started noticing other waterfalls on vintage maps I'd found which had fallen off later ones. I then started finding references to other waterfalls in old tourist brochures, history books and photos I'd found in the state library archives and Trove and started searching for these. As I continued I started finding other completely undocumented waterfalls on my travels, and after finding a 75 m high undocumented waterfall in Kinglake National park decided to expand my search to systematically explore every watercourse with conducive geology and topography in my search area. To my utter astonishment I ended up finding 314 waterfalls within 100 km of Melbourne and have found over a dozen more since I published my book in 2015. My definition of a waterfall is any drop of 10 feet/3 metres or more on a mapped watercourse over rock.

The results are all documented in my trilogy: *'Melbourne's Waterfalls – 314 Waterfalls within 100 km of Melbourne'*. I believe this book is quite ground breaking in its content as only 11% of the waterfalls covered in it have officially registered names and only 29% of them are marked on modern maps. To the best of my knowledge 39% of them have never been documented before at all. Because of this I believe this trilogy is a unique and a valuable addition to our geographic knowledge of this area. It is also jam packed full of beautiful waterfall photography (I have received numerous awards in national photography competitions), access directions, historical information and anecdotes about the discovery of those drops that have until now been virtually unknown.

More information can be found on me and my books at www.telp.com.au and www.redbubble.com/people/traviseaston.

SAVE THE DATE

THE MUCH-ANTICIPATED MBW AUCTION RETURNS!

26TH SEPT 26TH SEPT 26TH SEPT 26TH SEPT 26TH SEPT 26TH SEPT 26TH SEPT 26TH SEPT

BUY!!

Time to upgrade to Nordic poles?



You, too, can be the owner of a trendy daypack



SELL!

One lucky Bushie might be the new owner of your old boots



Here is your chance to sell your old tent



By popular demand, your auctioneer for the night is

GRAHAM HODGSON

CHANGE TO BY-LAW 8.4

To maintain consistency between the club's Rules and By-Laws the Committee has approved a change to By-Law 8.4 which now reads:

'8.4 New members joining after the 1st September shall pay 50% of the standard subscription.'

Ian Mair, President

MANAGE YOUR CLUB EMAIL NOTIFICATIONS

We all feel overwhelmed from time to time by the inflow of email messages we receive. Dispatching them to the deleted folder is a solution often adopted, even when the messages come from Melbourne Bushwalkers! To help manage the flow and ensure that you only receive the club messages you want we have enhanced our email procedures to classify messages by their primary purpose. You can now manage your club email list subscriptions by visiting your profile in the Members' Area of the website and selecting (or de-selecting) those of interest.

Alternatively, you can unsubscribe from a particular category of messages by selecting the 'unsubscribe' link at the bottom of every email we send, except Administration messages which we are obliged to distribute under the provisions of our Rules of Incorporation, such as notices of General Meetings.

Ian Mair
webmaster@mbw.org.au

PACK CARRY: MIRIMBAH – MT BULLER – MT STIRLING 23–25 FEBRUARY 2018 WITH AGAJAN AKBARI



Next to Mount Sterling looking towards The Bluff

Most of us met at the campground just north of Sawmill settlement on the Friday night for an early start next morning from Mirimbah picnic area. A group of ten (Agajan as the group leader, Meredith Quick, Roy Rossebo, Jaime Pilco Vargas, Ray Spooner, Sue Ralston, Ian Mair, David Cash, Di McKinley and myself) started the 1500 m ascent along Klingsporn track. We continued along the McLaughlin Shoulder which involved a little bit of rock scrambling to the summit of Mt Buller. The weather was not favourable with howling winds and a white-out, but we decided to have lunch up there anyway. We didn't quite get down to Buller village in time before the heavens opened up and we got a good drenching. Refuge in a coffee shop at this stage was very welcome. With showers easing we headed off towards our final destination of

the day, down to Howqua gap and the other side of Mount Stirling, with a few detours, consultation of maps and GPS tutorial from Ian. Having walked up to Mt Buller already my mind wasn't quite set for the fair amount of climbing that was still in store for us. I was probably the happiest person to see the Bluff Spur Hut camp site at the end of the day. Once everyone set up their tents we retreated to the very pleasant hut to cook our delicious dinners. The conversation started to take a bit of a turn after some red wine/whiskey consumption ('who should get eaten first should we find ourselves stuck on a mountain with food running out – the youngest or oldest in the group?') which got some other young (tasty looking) campers a bit worried. But we all survived the night rather well and woke up to a very moist and misty morning. The cloud lifted just in time for us to climb Mt Sterling and be treated with spectacular views. From here the descent back to Mirimbah picnic ground was going to be a breeze – until we took the 'short cut'. We found the track quite overgrown with black berries and had to scramble along the river for a bit with several (someone counted seven) river crossings and wet feet. Eventually we found the Delatite river walking track which led us back to the car park. We finished off with the obligatory coffee stop, this time at the Mansfield Produce store where the owner let us in on the secret of the best walk in the area (which she often leads). Maybe a thought for another time...

In summary it was another great weekend away, well planned and organised. Thanks, Agajan, for leading a fabulous walk and everyone who came along for your good company.

Bettina Brill



Lunch on top of Mt Buller



Bluff Spur Hut

A TESTING TIME ON THE PYRENEES ENDURANCE TRAIL 15-17 JUNE



The Friday night campsite at Glenlofty had a few light showers later in the evening and Saturday morning was quite cool, but there was no rain and all looked promising for the morning walk. After a lengthy car shuffle, 14 intrepid walkers arrived at the Waterfalls Camping area at the foot of Mt Avoca in the Pyrenees near Avoca. Temperatures had dropped so wet weather gear was donned for warmth and up we went. Conditions were slippery with a lot of branches and bark covering the track so extra care was taken. The area had not had much rain for quite some time prior to the last few weeks and it was refreshing to see all the new growth appearing. After the very steep climb we arrived at Mt Avoca. Then more ascents with not many descents to reach our campsite mid- afternoon.

Not long after all tents were pitched, the heavens opened and the showers began. A big thankyou to the chief Firestarter whose skills were to be admired. It wasn't long before a nice fire warmed up the chilled group. Brief interludes allowed time to get clothing and food organised. An early night for most as the temperatures dropped and the heavens opened. The wind picked up and a wet and windy night was experienced. A couple of intrepid walkers experienced minor water problems but a good night's sleep was had by most. The showers persisted, somewhat lighter and the group were keen to get moving to stay warm.

Setting off with a long descent before more ascents had everyone removing gear as they warmed up. Rain came and went as a few stops along this leg for gear changes occurred. This side of the range had more fungi and undergrowth and a couple of deer were spotted belting up a distant hill track. A few black wallabies were startled by our appearance. Once on top of the last ridge on a 4WD track, the biting wind and rain picked up as temperatures dropped and the cold was then felt by most. Relief as we descended back onto the walking track avoiding that wind.

Reaching the cars early afternoon meant there was time for a well-earned lunch at the Elmhurst hotel. The quirky hotel had a welcoming open fireplace with huge meals which were enjoyed by all. Physical demonstration of how the car shuffle would work, outside the pub taught all on how to organise a successful shuffle. A car shuffle back to the Waterfalls camping area and then regrouping at Avoca mid-afternoon.

A huge thankyou to Ian, Halina, David, David, Maciek, Elsa, Di, Jeanette, Ros, Mark, Wen, Sylvia and Meredith. What a great happy group and an enjoyable weekend.

Gayle Cameron



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

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

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

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



SUNDAY CAR POOL

JUMPING CREEK TO HINTERLANDS

DATE Sunday 22 July 2018
RETURN TIME 6:30 pm to city
STANDARD Easy
DISTANCE 14 km
TOTAL ASCENT 500 m
LEADER Theo Mertzandis
TRANSPORT Carpool – leaving Southbank Blvd at 8:45 am
TRANSPORT COST \$10
AREA Warrandyte
MAP REFERENCE Warrandyte State Park and Warrandyte State Park Gold Heritage walk

This walk is mostly an easy one with some little hills but in all, a pleasant stroll thru bushland. We start the walk on a track along the Yarra River, then veer away from it, heading towards the old mining sites. We then walk up Fourth Hill.

The Fourth Hill area has old mine workings. This is where gold was officially first found in Victoria. We shall also go about 30 metres into an old mining tunnel that is open to the general public. I will bring a flash light .

We then walk back to our cars via mostly a walking track along the Yarra river.

The walk is definitely not a flat walk with total ascent and descent of 500 m each .

There may be time for afternoon tea in Warrandyte.

Please be prepared for all types of conditions, so have a change of footwear!! And plenty of water is a must.

Any questions – call me.



SOCIAL

ANAPURNA CIRCUIT AND FORBIDDEN TOWN OF LO MANTANG

DATE Wednesday 25 July 2018
VENUE Clubrooms
ORGANISER Tim Byrne
TRANSPORT Private
START TIME 8:00pm
FINISH TIME 9:00pm

Tim Byrne will be speaking about and illustrating with slides his trekking in Nepal, which started back in 2009 and has continued up to the present. His favourite region is the mid-western area which boasts one of the more spectacular three week treks, the Annapurna circuit. Branching off the main

Annapurna circuit are a number of other highly rated treks, Manasalu, Nar-Phoo, Ghandruk, Dhaulagiri and the Upper Mustang trek to the forbidden town of Lo Mantang.

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Join us while Tim outlines his experiences, logistics and challenges on walking and living in Nepal.



SOCIAL WALK

SOUTH SURREY HILLS AND LYNDEN PARKS

DATE Thursday 26 July 2018
STANDARD Easy
DISTANCE 5.0 km
TOTAL ASCENT Mainly flat
LEADER Alister Rowe
TRANSPORT Private
START TIME Depart from location in notes below at 10:15 am
MAP REFERENCE Melway 60 K3

Meet at 10:15 am in the carpark near the chapel in Wattle Park, Melway 60 K3.

We will walk down Warrigal Road to Cooper Reserve and through to Lynden Park, and up to South Surrey Park and return. This is a very pleasant and quite scenic walk. I have yet to find a lunch venue.

Book with the leader.



TOFS WALK

DAREBIN CREEK – YARRA RIVER

DATE Thursday 2 August 2018
RETURN TIME Before 3:30 pm to cars
STANDARD Easy
DISTANCE 12 km
ELEVATION Minimal – no hills
LEADER Jerry Grandage
TRANSPORT Private
MAP REFERENCE Melway map 31 (mostly) and 45

Start at 10:30 am at the Darebin Parklands car park at the east end of Separation Street (Melway map 31 C9). We will walk the recently opened section of the Darebin Creek Trail southwards connecting with the Yarra near the Willsmere Billabong, as well as Darebin Parklands and Darebin Creek northwards through Thornbury and Preston. You will see birds, red gums, and geology. Phone me to book in or enquire.



CONSERVATION

REGENT HONEYEATER TREE PLANTING WEEKEND

DATE 3–5 August 2018
STANDARD Easy
CONTACT John Terrell
TRANSPORT Private
AREA Benalla
MAP REFERENCE Melway 420 B8

Join the Regent Honeyeater Project and volunteers in restoring remnant box-ironbark habitat for a wide range of endangered birds, marsupials and other native species in the area around Benalla. Tasks include digging holes for planting, placing seedlings and watering.

Accommodation for Friday and Saturday nights is provided at Benalla Scout and Guide Halls. Mattresses supplied and small kitchen facilities available. BYO sleeping bag and pillow. The project provides an excellent three-course meal on Saturday night, a barbeque lunch on Sunday, plus hot drinks for morning and afternoon teas.

Bring:

- A picnic lunch for Saturday, be prepared to organise your own Sunday breakfast. (Or slip down to the bakery: great coffee and eats.)
- Gardening gloves and sensible clothing (hat, sunscreen, wet weather gear just in case). A change of clothes can save you driving home in muddy gear. Tools are provided but you can bring your own if you prefer.

Further tree planting weekends in 2018 will be 18–19 August, 8–9 September.

Contact John Terrell (environment@mbw.org.au) if you are interested or want to know more. Also see the article in May News and visit <http://www.regenthoneyeater.org.au>



SUNDAY CAR POOL

MT EVELYN TO SILVAN RESERVOIR CIRCUIT

DATE Sunday 5 August 2018
RETURN TIME 5:00 pm to city
STANDARD Easy/Medium
DISTANCE 14 km
TOTAL ASCENT Only one decent hill
LEADER Richard Hanson

TRANSPORT AREA Carpool – leaving Southbank Blvd at 8:45 am Mt Evelyn
MAP REFERENCE Melway map 120



Nice diverse walking one hour's drive from Southbank. A circuit walk predominantly on walking tracks and unsealed management vehicle roads. We cross three small bridges over Olinda Creek, pass thru fern tree gullies and walk part of the Mt Evelyn aqueduct trail. We will have lunch at Silvan Reservoir which has shelter and toilets. The walk is fairly flat but I do remember one decent hill. Please bring all your wet weather gear as you might need it.



WEDNESDAY WALK

BUNYIP STATE FOREST

DATE Wednesday 8 August 2018
STANDARD Easy/medium
DISTANCE 15 km
TOTAL ASCENT 500 m approximately
LEADER Theo Mertzianidis
TRANSPORT Private
AREA Melway redtab page 14, grid ref R12

We will meet at Mortimer Picnic Ground at 10:00 am.

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

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

Please ring me to book for this walk.



TRACK MAINTENANCE

TRACK 96 MAINTENANCE ACTIVITY – BRIAGOLONG STATE FOREST

DATE 10–12 August 2018
STANDARD Reasonable level of fitness required
WALK LENGTH Up to 8 km in a day

MEETING PLACE Lloyd Knob Camping Area on Freestone Creek Road, approximately 22 km north of Briagolong
MEETING TIME Friday afternoon/evening, or by 9 am Saturday morning
CONTACT John Terrell
TRANSPORT Private

Walk Summary: We will be working as volunteers to DELWP to do maintenance work on the northern part of Track 96 in the vicinity of Budgee Track.

Track 96 existed during the late 1800s and early 1900s to service the needs of goldminers, connecting Briagolong and Gladstone Creek to the goldfields at Lees Creek and Granite Creek. It was retraced and cleared as a walking track during the 1990s.

Friday will be getting there and setting up camp. We will commence maintenance work at 9 am on Saturday. On Sunday we will finish by 3 pm.

Work will involve brush cutting, chainsaw operation, erecting markers and the use of hand tools for vegetation trimming and clean up. No previous track maintenance experience is required.

We will car camp at the Lloyd Knob camping area on the Freestone Road, 22 km north of Briagolong. The camping area is adjacent to a 2WD gravel road, thus readily accessible by any vehicle. A BBQ meal will be provided on Saturday evening. Participants will need to be self-sufficient for camping and all other meals. They will need to carry lunch, water and snacks on the maintenance days. BTAC and DELWP will provide all tools and PPE for the maintenance works.

Please contact David Miller on 0417 565 919 or e-mail on projects@bushwalkingvictoria.org.au for more details.



LODGE

CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING – BOGONG HIGH PLAINS

DATE 11–18 August 2018
RETURN TIME Afternoon, Saturday 18 August
STANDARD Easy/Medium
DISTANCE 12 km ski in with pack then various
LEADER Doug Pocock
TRANSPORT Private to Mt Beauty then bus
AREA Bogong High Plains
MAP REFERENCE Bogong Alpine Area Outdoor Leisure Map



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.

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???

Join us for a wonderful experience.

For further information or to express interest contact Doug Pocock or Marilyn Whimpey by email to xcski@mbw.org.au



SUNDAY BUS

RED HILL WINERY WALK

DATE Sunday 12 August 2018
RETURN TIME 6:30 pm to city
STANDARDS Easy and Easy/medium
DISTANCES 13 km and 18 km (approx.)
ELEVATIONS 400 m?
LEADERS Jan Colquhoun and Michael Murray
TRANSPORT Bus – leaving Southbank Blvd at 8:45 am
AREA Mornington Peninsula
MAP REFERENCE Melway map: Mornington Peninsula Topographical: Dromana, Balcombe and Flinders 1:25,000



This walk has two things in abundance: delightful views and wine. It has been some time since the club has run this previously popular walk as due to the increased popularity of the Peninsula wineries they have become reluctant to offer tasting sessions to large groups. In order to secure a tasting at the popular Red Hill Winery I was required to make an advance booking and the payment of \$5 per person for the wine tasting (ie. \$30 instead of usual \$25). Therefore we are asking that this walk be restricted to those who are interested in wine tasting and the \$5 fee be paid in advance at the time of booking the bus (I know this is tough!). There are additional, optional, winery visits on each of the walks for which there is also a \$5 tasting fee. It isn’t necessary to pay these in advance but I would appreciate it if you could let us know when booking as all the wineries have requested courtesy calls in advance, as it affects their staffing.

The E/M walk starts at the Nepean Highway and follows the Two Bays walking track on a steady climb up to Arthurs Seat. We enjoy stunning views from William Ricketts’ sculpture garden, before continuing to T’Gallants for our first tasting. The easy group commences their walk on the Arthurs Seat

Road, avoiding the climb. Both groups continue to the Red Hill Winery where you can enjoy views across Western Port Bay and some of the nicest wine on the Peninsula. We then weave around county lanes with views of wineries and farmlands, joining the Red Hill Rail Trail and ending at Merricks Reserve where there is the option of another wine tasting at Merricks Winery or perhaps a coffee at the Merricks General Store. Note that at all of the wineries our bus will have access so if you choose to purchase some wine you won't have to carry it on the walk. Very civilised.



CONSERVATION

REGENT HONEYEATER TREE PLANTING WEEKEND

DATE 17-19 August 2018
STANDARD Easy
CONTACT John Terrell
TRANSPORT Private
TRANSPORT COST \$40
AREA Benalla
MAP REFERENCE Melway 420 B8

See the preview for the 3-5 August weekend.



CYCLING

EAST MALVERN - DAREBIN BRIDGE - FAIRFIELD - DOCKLANDS - PORT MELBOURNE

DATE Saturday 18 August 2018
STANDARD Easy/Medium
DISTANCE 60 km
TOTAL ASCENTS Relatively flat ride
LEADER Ed Neff
TRANSPORT Private
START TIME Depart from location in notes below at 9:30 am

ACTIVITY AREA Melbourne and surrounds

The meeting point is East Malvern Station, at 9:30 am. Meet in car park area entered via Sylvester Cr. (Melway map 69 F1).

Our route is Anniversary Trail to Kew then cross the Yarra on the new Darebin Bridge, then Fairfield (M/T), Flemington Bridge, Docklands and on to Port Melbourne (L). We return via Elsternwick and Murrumbeena. Approx 60 km and a relatively flat ride.

Bring your lunch, a repair kit with spare tube and a water bottle.

Ring Ed Neff or email, to register for this ride, or for any questions.



SUNDAY CAR POOL

MT DONNA BUANG RETURN

DATE Sunday 19 August 2018
RETURN TIME 6:30 pm to city
STANDARD Medium
DISTANCE 17 km
TOTAL ASCENT 1170 m
LEADER Wen Qi
TRANSPORT Carpool - leaving Southbank Blvd at 8:45 am
TRANSPORT COST \$14.00
AREA Warburton

This is a classic training walk to get your legs warm and ready for spring/summer bushwalking season!

The walk starts at the corner of Martyr and Wellington Roads and follows the foot track which reaches Mt Donna Buang summit via Mt Victoria. There is a tall observation tower on the summit with views over the surrounding forest on a clear day and a good spot for lunch. We will take the same track to return to our cars.

The climb is steep and can be very muddy and slippery if it has been raining. Please wear sturdy footwear with good grip and bring hiking poles.



MOFS WALK

LYREBIRD CREEK - SILVAN RESERVOIR - DANDENONG RANGES

DATE Monday 20 August 2018
RETURN TIME 2:30 pm
STANDARD Easy
DISTANCE 10 km
ELEVATION 100 m
LEADER Graham Hodgson
TRANSPORT Private
AREA Dandenong Ranges (Olinda area)
MAP REFERENCE Melway map 122

This walk is a typical Dandenongs stroll through towering mountain ash, ferny glades and babbling streams including occasional leeches, croaking frogs and abundant bird life.

The walk starts at the Eagles Nest Picnic Ground and then initially follows Lyrebird Creek until we cross it and then follow Rifle Range Creek. The track then meanders through delightful fern gullies with a musical accompaniment from the resident lyrebirds. We will even get a fleeting glimpse of Silvan Reservoir.

The walk is entirely on bush tracks and fire access trails and includes some climbing up relatively easy hills. However, there is one fairly steep hill about two thirds into the walk but it can be avoided and the walk shortened by those who do not want to tackle it.

Meet at 10:30 am at Eagles Nest Picnic Ground (Melway map 122 D2).

Contact Graham for booking.



SOCIAL

A QUEST FOR WATERFALLS IN VICTORIA

DATE Wednesday 22 August 2018
VENUE Clubrooms, Cnr. Abeckett Street and William Street, (Melway Reference: 2F, B2)
TRANSPORT Private
START TIME 8:00 pm
FINISH TIME 9:00 pm
ORGANISER Travis Easton

Since 2007 Travis has been on a quest to visit every waterfall he could find within 100 km of Melbourne and document all his findings in a trilogy of books. To his utter astonishment he ended up finding 314 waterfalls within 100 km of Melbourne and has found over a dozen more since he published his book in 2015. His definition of a waterfall is any drop of 10 feet/3 metres or more on a mapped watercourse over rock.

The results are all documented in his trilogy: 'Melbourne's Waterfalls – 314 Waterfalls within 100 km of Melbourne'. More information can be found at www.telp.com.au and www.redbubble.com/people/traviseaston.



SOCIAL WALK

BLACKBURN LAKE SANCTUARY

DATE Thursday 26 August 2018
STANDARD Easy
DISTANCE About 5 km
LEADER Alison Blaker
TRANSPORT Car or Bus or Train – Blackburn Station approximately 0.5 km north west of Sanctuary Blackburn
AREA Blackburn
MAP REFERENCE Melway map 48 B11 – C12

Meet in car park, Blackburn Lake Sanctuary, Melway map 48 B11 C12, 93 Central Road Blackburn, ready to start the walk at 10:30 am.

Place of protection of all plant and animal species. Toilets, extensive walking trails. In 1888 Gardiners Creek was dammed to form the Blackburn Lake. Many changes, including revegetation of the bushland areas and wetland area. A pleasant and relaxing stroll on paths in the Sanctuary.

Walk to The Food Republic 28 Blackburn Road Blackburn for lunch, coffee or light snacks. Please let leader know in advance regarding booking.



PACK CARRY

BEERIPMO TRACK

DATE 24–26 August 2018
START TIME 9:30 am
RETURN TIME Return to city by 6:00 pm
STANDARD Easy/Medium
DISTANCE 21 km
LEADER Mark Simpson
TRANSPORT Private
AREA Western Victoria
MAP REFERENCE Parks Victoria – Mt Buangor and Mt Cole State Forest

UPDATE: Change of date and leader. Saturday morning start.

Located an hour's drive west of Ballarat, just off the western highway, Mt Cole State Forest marks the gateway to the Pyrenees wine district and the Grampians. The Beeripmo Walk winds its way through Mt Cole State Forest as well as Mt Buangor State Park and has been designed as a two-day walk. Walkers will be exposed to a very rewarding forest bushwalking experience.

The Beeripmo is described as a good easy/medium overnight walk with a lot of variety of scenery.

At this stage the plan is to start the walk around 9:30 am, meeting at Raglan first at 9 am. This allows us to drive up early Saturday morning approximately 2 hours from Melbourne. Return to Melbourne Sunday by 6 pm

The walk will pass through tall tree-filled valleys with lush ferns and waterfalls. As we climb higher over alpine-like plateaus there are excellent views across the plains to Langhi Ghiran and the Grampians.

If you would like to join me on this walk please telephone or email.



SATURDAY WALK

KALORAMA TO DOONGALLA RETURN

DATE Saturday 25 August 2018
START TIME Depart from location in notes below at 10:00 am
RETURN TIME Return to start location by 4:00 pm
STANDARD Easy/Medium
DISTANCE 13 km
TOTAL ASCENTS A lot of steep ups and downs
LEADER Fiona Gallery
TRANSPORT Private
AREA Dandenong Ranges
MAP REFERENCE Melway maps 52 and 66

The walk begins at 10:00 am at Five Ways in Kalorama, Melway map 52 J9. This is on the Mt Dandenong Tourist Road overlooking the Silvan Dam, where Ridge, Barbers and The Old Coach Roads intersect.

We will walk to the Doongalla Homestead Site picnic area for lunch along fairly good tracks in front of Mt Dandenong. This is a walk that has a lot of steep ups and downs and may be slippery in places if wet. We will be having a morning tea break at the Mt Dandenong Lookout where there is a café for those wishing to purchase a coffee – well deserved as it is a bit of a climb to the top.

I expect to be back at the cars about 4:00 pm.



SUNDAY BUS

YANKEE CREEK – BLACKWOOD

DATE Sunday 26 August 2018
RETURN TIME Return to Southbank Blvd at 6:30 pm
STANDARDS Easy and Easy/medium
DISTANCES 8.5 km and 11.2 km
TOTAL ASCENTS 160 m rise and 180 m rise
LEADERS Nik Dow and Denise Charman
TRANSPORT Bus – leaving Southbank Blvd at 8:45 am
AREA Blackwood
TRANSPORT COST Standard Sunday Bus charge of \$25
MAP REFERENCE Melbourne's Western Gorges by Glen Tempest, Pocket Earth App

This walk explores an area uprooted then abandoned by fortune seeking gold miners over 150 years ago.

It starts at the quaint little town of Blackwood, makes its way to Shaws Lake via the Lerderderg River and an untracked spur, then heads up Yankee Creek on the remains of an old hand-dug aqueduct. This aqueduct was part of a large network of water courses that once skirted both sides of the valley at various levels but have now been largely reclaimed by nature. Along the way we will encounter numerous wash-aways, fallen trees and scrub. After a few kilometres the valley sides become steep and we leave the aqueduct and descend to the creek bed on an old vehicle track. From here the easier group climbs a short steep hill to an aqueduct on the other side and follows it downstream before dropping back to the valley floor off track. The route then continues along the stony creek bed through the most worked-over part of the diggings with its mullock heaps, pits and long stone walls, before returning to the town centre on paths and local roads. Meanwhile the harder group ventures further upstream along a delightful but seldom visited section of the creek. The route is through a deep narrow rock-lined valley overhung by tall trees and ferns. We will need to make our way around pools on slippery rocks and through jumbles of large moss-covered logs. After about a kilometre we climb up a spur to an extension of the aqueduct the easier group followed back to town and return the same way.

If time permits it could be possible for one or both groups to round off the day with a drink or snack at the pub or general store.



BASE CAMP

GRAMPIANS (GARIWERD) IN SPRING

DATE Fri 31 August to Sun 2 Sept 2018
RETURN TIME Return to city by 6:00 pm
STANDARDS Various
DISTANCE 19–12 km each day
LEADER Meredith Quick
TRANSPORT Private
AREA Western Victoria Grampians (Gariwerd)

Rising abruptly from the surrounding Western Plains, the Grampians (Gariwerd) is a series of rugged sandstone mountain ranges and forests rich in wildlife and in spring there is abundant wildflowers. We will explore cascading waterfalls, brilliant spring wildflower displays, and panoramic views from lookouts. The planned walk for Saturday is the Wonderland–Pinnacles track, with side trips and on the Sunday we will head to the Southern Grampians for the morning summit of Mt Abrupt (Mud-Dadjug). Generally the walking is along defined tracks but there will also be some steep hills and rock hopping. A full day walk is planned for the Saturday, approximately 10–12 km and Sunday a half day walk, Mt Abrupt (Mud-Dadjug) 6.3 km with an option to climb Mt Sturgeon (Wurgarri) 6.4 km for those that feel up to the additional effort.



We will be staying at the YHA EcoHostel. The accommodation cost is upward from \$66 per person for the two nights, depending on the selection of room type. This is a stylish, comfortable, eco-friendly hostel with all modern facilities.

You are to book your accommodation individually, and the obliging and friendly managers will be able to provide, double, twin, family and dorm rooms to cater to all our needs. A double or twin room is \$90 per night (\$45 per person) a night in a 4-bed dormitory is \$33 per night. Please book your own accommodation for the nights of Friday 31 August and Saturday 1 September by either contacting the Halls Gap EcoLodge (phone 5356 4544) or your room can be booked on the website <https://www.yha.com.au/hostels/vic/regional-victoria/grampians-halls-gap/>

Contact the leader to book.



PACK CARRY

ROSE RIVER AND WABONGA PLATEAU

DATE Fri 31 August to Sun 2 September 2018
START TIME 8:30 am
RETURN TIME Sunday night
STANDARD Medium
DISTANCE 23 km
LEADER Ian Langford
TRANSPORT Private
TRANSPORT COST \$50 (570 km)
AREA Wangaratta
MAP REFERENCE Bush Maps Victoria Range: Alpine National Park, Wabonga Plateau Section

A walk in a pretty alpine setting south of Whitfield and near Mt Cobbler. A circuit walk from Bennie’s campsite following the Rose River then ascending to Wabonga Plateau and descending to Bennies. Mostly on walking tracks and 4WD tracks. Graded medium because on Saturday afternoon there will be a 500 m climb with water for Saturday night and Sunday.

Rendezvous: Bennie’s Campsite Grid Reference 588088 at 0830 hours Saturday. Follow the Hume Highway to Glenrowan then follow Glenrowan–Moyhu Road through Greta West and Greta to Moyhu. Go south on Wangaratta–Whitfield Road to Whitfield. Then King Valley Road to Cheshunt then Rose River Road then Upper Rose River Road. Cross the Rose River Bridge and Bennie’s campsite is a short distance on the right. Turn right at toilet and go down to sites near the river.

Itinerary: Saturday: From Bennie’s Campsite follow a walking track southward and parallel with the Rose River. Then ascend 200 metres to a ridge top and drop down again to the Rose River. Cross the Rose River, follow the track to the point ‘Good Campsite’. Cross the Rose River and follow the track parallel to the river on the true right of the river. Cross and recross the river and follow the true right of the river to ‘Ruin’. Then walk 200 metres to the junction of the walking track and Wild Horse Gap Track. Fill water containers for Saturday camp and Sunday walk. Follow Wild Horse Gap Track in a southerly direction, a 500-metre ascent, to the junction of Wild Horse Gap Track and Burnt Top Track. Follow Burnt Top Track then drop packs and climb Burnt Top. Continue to follow Burnt Top Track west then north to Razorback. Climb Razorback. Find a campsite in the vicinity of Razorback.

Sunday: Follow Burnt Top Track to ‘Cherry Tree’ then descend the track ‘Management Vehicles Only’ to Bennie’s Campsite.

Special requirements: Windproof parka, hood, gloves and over trousers; winter clothing, winter sleeping bag, water containers for 5 litres. Recommendations: Map, compass, emergency beacon.

Registration: When registering, state name and phone number, car registration, car availability for car pooling, departure location, railway station for pick-up if applicable, departure time, name of emergency contact and phone number of emergency contact.

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!

August/September 2018				
Thu 2	TOF: Darebin Creek – Yarra River	Pvt	Easy	Jerry Grandage
3–5	CON: Regent Honeyeater tree planting	Pvt	Easy	John Terrell (contact)
Sun 5	DAY: Mt Evelyn to Silvan Reservoir circuit	Car	E/M	Richard Hanson
Wed 8	DAY: Bunyip State Forest	Pvt	E/M	Theo Mertzandis
10–12	MNT: Briagolong State Forest track maintenance	Pvt	E/M	John Terrell (contact)
11–18	LOD: Cross-Country Skiing – Bogong High Plains	Pvt	var	Doug Pocock
Sun 12	DAY: Red Hill Winery Walk	Bus	E&E/M	Jan Colquhoun & Michael Murray
17–19	CON: Regent Honeyeater tree planting	Pvt	Easy	John Terrell (contact)
Sat 18	CYC: East Malvern–Darebin Bridge–Fairfield–Docklands–Port Melb.	Pvt	E/M	Ed Neff
Sun 19	DAY: Mt Donna Buang Return	Car	Med	Wen Qi
Mon 20	MOF: Lyrebird Creek – Silvan Reservoir	Pvt	Easy	Graham Hodgson
Wed 22	SOC: A Quest for Waterfalls in Victoria			Travis Easton
Thu 23	SOC: Blackburn Lake Sanctuary	Pvt	Easy	Alison Blaker
24–26	PC : Beeripmo Track	Pvt	E/M	Mark Simpson
Sat 25	DAY: Kalorama to Doongalla return	Pvt	E/M	Fiona Gallery
Sun 26	DAY: Yankee Creek – Blackwood	Bus	E&E/M	Nik Dow & Denise Charman
31–2	BC : Grampians (Gariwerd) in Spring	Pvt	var	Meredith Quick
31–2	PC : Rose River – Wabonga Plateau	Pvt	Med	Ian Langford