



A000133X

# THE NEWS OF THE Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc.

ABN 14 396 912 508

October 2019

## NEW YEAR'S DAY BBQ AT 12:30

Come along and celebrate the beginning of 2020 (gulp!) with the Bushies BBQ at Yarra Bend Park, Yarra Boulevard, Kew. Melway maps 44 I4 / 45 A4.

Please bring a small contribution to the table, your own cutlery and a plate. Plus a mug and tea or coffee. A chair might be handy, too.

No need to book.

## APOLOGY

Sorry this edition of News is a bit late. I've spent two weeks in the snow at Charlotte Pass, covering the time I'd usually be working on the newsletter.

Sorry also for the missing walk previews – as I was away I wasn't able to nag the leaders.

By the way, I've been producing this newsletter for about 9 years now, and am wondering if somebody else would like a go. I can help with the first couple of months.

*Merilyn Whimpey*  
News Editor

## Calls for Early Expressions of Interest GREAT BARRIER ISLAND, NEW ZEALAND 15 to 25 March 2020

Easy/Medium (mostly day walks/base camping, one overnight hike to cabin).

4.5 hour ferry ride from Auckland and small plane ride back to Auckland.

Walks through forests to panoramic views, beach walks, natural hot springs, swimming, sea kayaking

If interested please contact Kellie Aston.

## Expressions of Interest

### SNAKE ISLAND, PORT WELSHPOOL Tuesday 4 to Thursday 6 Feb 2020



This is a mid-week base camp offering either camping or shared dorms. We are allowed to use the Cattlemen's Association huts for free for the two nights.

A charter boat takes us from Port Welshpool to a beach close to the huts, then we have about a 300 m scramble up through the sand dunes to reach them. This is Victoria's largest sand island so the walking is flat, frequently shaded and with wide tracks. Expect Wednesday to be a full day of walking.

Meet at Port Welshpool for 10 am (TBC) and the cost for the boat is \$110. Minimum of 15 required.

**Due date for contributions (including December previews)  
to November News ([news@mbw.org.au](mailto:news@mbw.org.au)):**

**21 October**

## MEMBER OF



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

**Mission to Seafarers Victoria**  
**717 Flinders Street**  
**Docklands**  
**(Melway map 2E 8J)**

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](http://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](mailto: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](mailto:news@mbw.org.au).

Please note:  
Next committee meeting will take place on  
**Monday 7 October 2019**

## NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the following new members:  
Annette Knopf  
Dina Theodoropoulos  
Sarah Kermaniyan  
Helene Malavieille

## Expressions of Interest BASE CAMP LORD HOWE ISLAND

|                 |                                  |
|-----------------|----------------------------------|
| DATE            | Sat 1 May 2020                   |
| RETURN TIME     | Sat 8 May 2020                   |
| STANDARD LEADER | Whatever you like                |
| LEADER          | John Terrell                     |
| TRANSPORT       | Air to LHI via Sydney and return |



World Heritage-listed Lord Howe Island, a tiny and spectacular treasure emerging from the great empty southern Pacific, has a unique ecosystem in which tropical, subtropical and temperate species coexist alongside the southernmost coral reefs in the world.

The island is just 11 by 2 kilometres – but you'll find plenty to do. There's a great range of walking tracks from the chilled (a 300-metre stroll along a timber boardwalk to the rocky cove of Old Gulch) to the challenging (an 875-metre climb up Mount Gower). Boat trips are planned to the Admiralty Islands and Balls Pyramid. As well as organised activities, there'll be time for snorkeling, bike riding, bird watching, exploring the island's history or just lazing round on the beach.

Cost is \$2319 per person which includes return flights and transfers from Melbourne, 7 nights accommodation at Ocean View Apartments (twin share/double), free use of bikes, kayaks, paddleboards and snorkel gear, and more. Some activities, e.g. Mt Gower guided trek and boat trips, are extra expenses, as are meals.

Early inquiries to leader are encouraged as we need to make a firm booking by late October. Contact John Terrell – include words Lord Howe in subject line.

## PRESIDENT'S COLUMN OCTOBER 2019

Across the globe millions of people went on the streets to join the climate strike. I was one of them and am fortunate to work for a responsible firm that signed the pledge **Not Business as Usual** and gave staff the time off so employees could voice their support for immediate climate action.

The strike was a call to governments and businesses to set strong climate agendas that quickly transition us from the old fossil fuel economy to 100% renewables. This is a call for a biodiverse future.

Reflecting on the strike and what I can do as a citizen on this planet – it is about taking meaningful and well thought out action(s). We all have a role to play in the fight against climate change. Your actions, however small, can have a profound impact when combined with thousands of others wanting to make a difference.

By being conscious of the choices we make and their effect on the environment, we not only reduce our own carbon footprint but also build demand for forward thinking policies, practices and products around the world for a sustainable future. After all, there is no Planet B!

Relating to us who are passionate about the environment and being out in nature we can think about making sure we car-share and offer driving to make sure we maximise car usage. It is also about shopping for hiking gear from sustainable corporations and to ensure we recycle + re-use wherever possible, consume less and buy fewer but better things and identify eco-friendly goods (Fairtrade mark, **B Corp organisation**).

Wishing you a healthy and safe hiking month whether you start to enjoy spring here in Victoria or venture far to explore some memorable hikes overseas. We love to hear about your walks and see your photos. Please contact us if you are interested to do a talk for the monthly club meeting.

*Susanne Etti*



## Social Event

**Wednesday 27 November, 8:00–9:00 pm**

**WALKING THE SLOVENIAN HILLS**

**Presenters: Catherine Cardinet and Neil Churches**



Catherine and Neil will share their experiences of the 285 km walk they did in 2018 over 11 days. Walking through spectacular rolling hills and historic villages; taking in the cuisine, wines and history of provincial Slovenia.

Starting in medieval Maribor and finishing near the Croatian border. Retracing the steps of over a hundred prisoners of war eluding Nazi search parties. In 1944 Australian Ralph Churches and Englishman Les Laws led the most successful break-out of Allied POWs in the history of WW2.





### SKIING AT THE BOGONG ROVER CHALET by Bill Metzenthen

Since 2004, the Rover section of the Scouts have invited the Melbourne Bushwalkers to use their chalet on the Bogong High Plains for a week of skiing, usually around the second week of August. So it was again this year, but unlike previous years this time we shared the chalet with a similar sized group which brought the total to 23 (the chalet can accommodate more than 30).

Our trip began with the usual overnight stay in Tawonga on the Friday night, then early on Saturday morning we drove the short distance to Mt Beauty to catch the bus to Falls Creek. Then it was skis on and skiing the 10 km to the chalet, carrying an overnight pack unencumbered with the tent, cooking gear, or most of the food needed for a multi-day trip. The route to the chalet is virtually flat and skiable by almost anyone, although some prior experience in carrying a pack on skis is strongly recommended.

Gradually, the further you get from Falls Creek, the fewer other people you will see. After a while there is just you and your companions and the snow and the snowgums. This is the introduction to the beauty and serenity of the alpine environment in winter. It is worth savouring.

After we settled into the chalet and having finished lunch, many of the party went back out to enjoy the snow. This year there was a better than average cover of snow so there was plenty of the stuff to enjoy.

There are no staff at the chalet so everyone is expected to volunteer to do the cooking, cleaning, chopping wood and generally running the chalet.

Each day, there will usually be at least one all day trip organised. One of the favourites when the snow cover is good is to ski to McNamara's hut. The hut is at a lower altitude than the chalet and in poor years the skiable snow cover does not extend down as far as the hut. So it was that on Monday morning eleven of us set off on the 20 km round trip to the hut.

Navigation to and from the hut is in principle easy: we just needed to follow roads or tracks for most of the way. Fortunately, the snow drifts which can obscure the road were largely absent and there was no difficulty this time in following the route.

After a glide down the gentle creek valley which takes us the final kilometre to the hut, we arrived just in time to have our lunch break. As usual, there was equipment in the hut and some tents around it. These are used to provide a winter outdoor experience for young people. There was nobody at the site during our short visit.

For variation, our return route included about 4 km of skiing along one of the high plains aqueducts. Enormous snow drifts covering short parts of the aqueduct added an interesting variation for this part of our trip.

Our party was back at the chalet in time to have a cup of tea and then a hot shower before settling in before dinner (or preparing dinner, etc. for those who had volunteered for one of those tasks on that day).

After dinner, when most tasks are completed, there is the opportunity to relax and discuss the events of the day, or plan activities for the next day, or read a book, or just chill-out and watch the flames flickering in the efficient wood-fired heater which heats the chalet. Eventually, at about 10 pm, the generator was shut down and most people retired upstairs to sleep.

Most days followed a similar pattern and all too soon the week was over. Trips on Friday were shorter so that the party could clean the chalet and prepare to leave on Saturday. On Saturday we rose early in order to ski out to Falls Creek and catch our bus to Mt Beauty. Our Melbourne Bushwalkers group assembled one last time at Myrtleford to enjoy our final lunch together and to farewell old and new friends and look forward to spending time together at the chalet again next year.



Our skiers at the ruins of Wilkinson Lodge



Sharing dinner at the Rover Chalet

### MT KOOYOORA SUMMIT CAMP AND BALD HILLS, 6-8 SEPTEMBER

I was the last to arrive at the Friday night camp at the Melville Caves camping area to see the rest of the group huddling around the fire to get maximum benefit from the glowing embers. The temperature gauge on the car was reading 6 degrees and that did not reflect the chill from the gusty wind that was blowing through the camp. As the embers died people sought the refuge of their tents, the last stragglers retiring by 10 pm.

The following morning the cool gusty conditions prevailed and we were ready to start walking well before the designated time of 9 am.

There were several short walks scheduled for the weekend. Our first was a short drive from the picnic ground to Pordy's Road for the start of the walk. The walk to the Bald Hills summit was a gentle gradient up fire trails. The evidence of the goldrush years, scattered mining excavations, scarred the land along the walk. The first of the wildflowers were blooming and we soon identified the blue fairy (*Pheladenia deformis*), donkey (*Diuris corymbosa*), green hooded (*Pterostylis*) and lady finger (*Caladenia catenate*) orchids on the way up the slope. At the top of the ridge we were rewarded with excellent views of Inglewood and Bridgewater, with the surrounding farm and bushland. We completed our 5 km loop ahead of the anticipated schedule. We then moved on to the Melville Caves Picnic Ground. After a break we walked up, around, over and through the Melville Caves. Some of the group explored more adventurous routes, that involved rock scrambles and crawls through the more confined spaces. It was easy to imagine Captain Melville (the notorious bushranger) observing the landscape waiting for his next victim.

We then drove to within 2 km of the summit of Mt Kooyoora, the start of our overnight pack-carry. After quick equipment checks we set off for the 150 m climb through the wattle, red gum, yellow and grey box and ironbark scrub. Jopie made the ascent interesting as we wandered over granite out-crops, through grassy areas and back into the scrub. We arrived at the summit of Mt Kooyoora with plenty of daylight time remaining. We selected the best sheltered spots for our tents and set about collecting firewood. The team collected enough wood to fuel 10 fires, we were not going to be cold tonight! With the chores out of the way, we took the opportunity to explore. A massive granite boulder provided the best 360 degree views of the area, whilst a nearby carved rock pool showed evidence of the Jaara Jaara Aboriginal people occupation of the area.

As night fell the stars came out, the gusty wind continued to chill us, we gathered around our fire to enjoy and endure what nature had to offer. By 9 pm, (after a few had been driven to their tents by the cold wind) the wind dropped and night felt a lot warmer. We enjoyed our fire (and convivial conversation) until the large log was broken into glowing embers, and it was time to turn in.

We awoke surrounded in cloud on Sunday morning. By 8 am the swirling mist was starting to lift. We set off to traverse along the rocky Kooyoora ridgetop before returning to the cars. The rock scrambling was great fun and we were rewarded with some spectacular views with astonishing rock formations. All too soon we were back at the cars, we had completed the 7 kms and it was now time for lunch.

As we pulled up into the picnic area the forecasted rain started. Fortunately, there was a large shelter. A quick check of the BOM radar showed it was a passing shower. We boiled our billies and made tea or soup and waited for the rain to ease.

After an hour, the rain had still not eased and strangely the BOM radar did not show any sign of rain in the area. Jopie called off the last walk of the weekend to the summit of Mt Korong. There was no point in summiting in rain. Instead we adjourned to the Inglewood bakery to savour their fare before the 2-hour-plus drive back to Melbourne.

Thank you, Jopie, for organising a fun weekend. Thank you also Jenny, Ros, Maciek, Kevin, Adam, Kate, Therese, Marion, Gayle, Peter, AnneMarie and David for your companionship throughout the weekend.



*Meredith Quick*

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](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](mailto: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.

**DEPARTURE POINT  
 FOR SUNDAY WALKS**

The current departure point for Sunday walks noted on the walks program and in previews is at the bus stop on the northern corner of A'Beckett Street and William Street opposite the Royal Historical Society building.



**ACTIVITY AREA:** Keilor/Keilor East  
**MAP REFERENCE** Melway map 14 J9

Brimbank Park sits approximately 50 metres below the surrounding plains of the north-western suburbs of Keilor etc. The park is home to many species of birds including blue wrens, honeyeaters, parrots, galahs, flame robins etc. and the sound of birdsong is very evident throughout the park.

We'll meet outside the cafe at 9:50 am. (This is easiest to reach by parking in carpark A and walking through the children's playground to the café.) At 10:00 am we will commence walking along the Main regional trail. This track follows the beautiful Maribyrnong River, meandering downstream and is lined by many river red gums and other native vegetation. Retracing our steps gives a different perspective and views of the river. Crossing the ford along the nature trail takes us into the wetlands before climbing a short steepish hill up onto the escarpment, where we will have sweeping views of Brimbank Park and its surrounds. We will return to the café for afternoon tea again following the Maribyrnong River.

No need to book. Just turn up. Any questions, please call Barbara.



**SUNDAY BUS**

TALLAROOK STATE FOREST – WARRAGUL ROCK

**DATE** Sunday 3 November 2019  
**STANDARDS** Easy/Medium and Medium  
**LEADERS** Brett Daniel and Theo Mertzandis  
**TRANSPORT** Bus – leaving cnr A'Beckett and William Streets (opposite old clubrooms) at 8:45 am

**FIRE BAN DISTRICT** North Central  
**TEMPERATURE REFERENCE SITE** Seymour

For details of this walk please contact the leaders.



**TOFS WALK**

GLEN EIRA PARKS

**DATE** Thursday 7 November 2019  
**START TIME** 10:30 am, Ormond Railway Station  
**RETURN TIME** 3:00 pm to Ormond Railway Station  
**STANDARD** Easy



**SATURDAY WALK**

BRIMBANK PARK

**DATE** Saturday 26 October 2019  
**STANDARD** Easy  
**DISTANCE** 12.5 km  
**TOTAL ASCENT** Flat walk with one short hill. Ascent about 50 metres  
**LEADERS** Maureen Hurley and Barbara Horwood  
**START TIME** 10:00 am  
**RETURN TIME** By 3:00 pm



**DISTANCE** Approximately 10 km  
**TOTAL ASCENT** Almost flat  
**LEADER** Bill Metzthen  
**TRANSPORT** Train  
**ACTIVITY AREA** City of Glen Eira  
**MAP REFERENCE** Melway maps 67, 68  
**FIRE BAN DISTRICT** Central  
**TEMPERATURE REFERENCE SITE** Melbourne

Glen Eira is not known for having a lot of green space. On this walk we will explore some of the green areas that it does have.

We will visit mostly different parks from the ones explored on a walk of the same name in 2016.



## BASE CAMP

### WILSONS PROMONTORY LIGHTHOUSE

**DATE** 8–10 November 2019  
**RETURN TIME** Late on Sunday 10th  
**STANDARD** Medium  
**DISTANCE** 48 km  
**TOTAL ASCENT** 600 m  
**LEADER** Jill Allen  
**TRANSPORT** Private  
**FIRE BAN DISTRICT** West Gippsland  
**TEMPERATURE REFERENCE SITE** Wonthaggi

Friday 8th – Arrive at Tidal River. Group will stay in 3 x 4 Bed Huts overnight. Depending on arrival time, there might be a chance to do short walks around Tidal River.

Saturday 9th – Depart 8 am from Tidal River via Oberon Bay. Distance is 22 km. We will stay in a beautiful and historic house at the lighthouse. There are several large hills to climb today.

Sunday 10th – Depart lighthouse at 8:30 am to walk back to Tidal River via Waterloo Bay and Oberon Bay. Distance 26 kms



## SUNDAY CAR POOL

### BEARS HEAD RANGE – OLD RIVER (LERDERDERG)

**DATE** Sunday 10 November 2019  
**RETURN TIME** 6:30 pm to City  
**STANDARD** Medium/Hard  
**DISTANCE** 19.5 km  
**TOTAL ASCENT** 900 m  
**LEADER** Ian Mair  
**TRANSPORT** Carpool – leaving cnr A'Beckett and William Streets (opposite old clubrooms) at 8:45 am  
**ACTIVITY AREA** Lerderderg State Park  
**MAP REFERENCE** VicMap Diggers Gully 1:30,000  
**FIRE BAN DISTRICT** Central  
**TEMPERATURE REFERENCE SITE** Ballarat

The Lerderderg State Park offers some of the best challenging walks within an easy two-hour drive or less from Melbourne, making it one of the more interesting day walk destinations. Dropping down into the Lerderderg River from the surrounding western plains takes you into a different world of rugged rocky spurs, narrow gorges and dense bushland.

The Bears Head Range and Old River Circuit allows walkers to experience the diversity of the area. Starting out from Lohs Lane at an easy pace to help loosen up, the route follows several management tracks to skirt around the Ah Koh Gully Reference Area to the top of the Bears Head Range Track. The track then follows the top of the range, dropping

sharply down into the Lerderderg River, at one point traversing a narrow rocky crest near the junction with Old River. A quick paddle to cool the feet and we are ready to pick our way up the Old River between the boulders until we reach the base of the Old River Waterfall for lunch.

From the base of the falls it is a scramble up the steep slopes shared by goats to reach a more gentle scrub. We test our navigation skills as we work our way between the trees until we pick up the Hogan Track which leads us back down to the Lerderderg River. A steep climb back up from the river gets us back onto easier ground to complete the circuit after a solid walk that may also leave you with tired arms from the sections of scrambling.



## WEDNESDAY WALK

### WARRANTYTE TO WONGA PARK

**DATE** Wednesday 13 November 2019  
**STANDARD** Easy/Medium  
**LEADER** Denise Charman  
**TRANSPORT** Private  
**FIRE BAN DISTRICT** Central  
**TEMPERATURE REFERENCE SITE** Yarra Glen

For details of this walk please contact the leader.



## PACK CARRY

### MT FEATHERTOP VIA NORTH-WEST AND BUNGALOW SPURS

**DATE** 15–17 November 2019  
**STANDARD** Medium  
**DISTANCE** 25 km (approx.)  
**TOTAL ASCENT** 1400 m (approx.)  
**TOTAL DESCENT** 1400 m (approx.)  
**LEADER** Agajan Akbari  
**TRANSPORT** Private  
**ACTIVITY AREA** Alpine (Feathertop – Bungalow Spur)  
**MAP REFERENCE** Bogong Alpine Area Outdoor Leisure Map 1:50,000 and Rooftop's Mt Feathertop – Hotham Forest Map 1:30,000  
**FIRE BAN DISTRICT** North Eastern  
**TEMPERATURE REFERENCE SITE** Mt Hotham

Climbing Mount Feathertop via North West Spur (steepest route to the summit) may provide some challenge but it is a great rewarding walk in Victorian Alps.

We will be walking through the different levels of mixed forest, alpine ash and snow gum. At least 5 to 6 km of the climb is steep; the rest of the climb is gentle.

The view from the top of Mt Feathertop is spectacular and extends for 360 degrees. What makes it special is that views are different in every direction.

Walk also includes: some exposure, steep clambering/descending, walking over fallen trees, etc. Participants are required to be prepared for hot and cold weather conditions, well equipped with all types of hiking gear, carrying own personal first aid kit and have valid Ambulance Victoria (or similar) membership.

Suggested Friday night campsite later. This is one of the good classic walks in Victoria and therefore is recommended (need some fitness). If you are interested in the walk or would like more information, contact me via email from mid-October onwards.



**CYCLING**

**BASS COAST TRAIL, SOUTH-WEST GIPPSLAND**

**DATE** Saturday 16 November 2019  
**START TIME** 9:30 am  
**RETURN TIME** 4:00 pm  
**STANDARD** Medium  
**DISTANCE** 58 km  
**TOTAL ASCENT** 550 m  
**LEADER** Philip Brown  
**TRANSPORT** Private  
**ACTIVITY AREA** South West Gippsland  
**MAP REFERENCE** Ridewithgps search Glen Forbes  
**FIRE BAN DISTRICT** Central  
**TEMPERATURE REFERENCE SITE** Wonthaggi

The starting point is the Glen Forbes Recreation Reserve. In the first 11 km there is a elevation gain of 250 m so a car shuffle is a possibility for those who don't like climbing hills, but it is worth the effort. Either way the views at the top of the climb of Strzelecki Ranges are magnificent rolling hills and to the coast line in the south. Then it's down hill to the Bass Coast Rail Trail at Dalyston. Follow the trail to Woolamai then back on the roads to the finish. There are no shops before Lunch so BYO. Coffee stop in the afternoon or the morning before the ride or both. See what the consensus is. If you need more info contact the leader.



**SUNDAY BUS**

**SURF COAST – TORQUAY TO ANGLESEA**

**DATE** Sunday 17 November 2019  
**STANDARDS** Easy and Easy/Medium  
**LEADERS** Bettina Brill and Richard Long  
**TRANSPORT** Bus – leaving cnr A'Beckett and William Streets (opposite old clubrooms) at 8:45 am  
**FIRE BAN DISTRICT** Central  
**TEMPERATURE REFERENCE SITE** Geelong

For details of this walk please contact the leaders.



**MOFS WALK**

**SEAFORD WETLANDS – PATTERSON RIVER**

**DATE** Monday 18 November 2019  
**STANDARD** Easy  
**DISTANCE** 10 km  
**TOTAL ASCENT** Flat  
**LEADER** Eileen Ayre  
**TRANSPORT** Public (or private, catching a bus back from Carrum to car)  
**ACTIVITY AREA** Seaford-Carrum  
**MAP REFERENCE** Melway maps 95 and 97  
**FIRE BAN DISTRICT** Central  
**TEMPERATURE REFERENCE SITE** Melbourne

Most of the walk will be on bicycle tracks, with a little being on footpaths. If it suits the group, and the current Wetland Management allow it, we may be able to do a small amount through the grasslands, but this is not certain or necessary.

For the most part, all we see in the Wetlands are tall grasses and occasional muddy puddles, but there are a couple of areas where we see the lakes so vital in migratory birds' flight paths.

After the Wetlands, we'll walk briefly along Eel Race Drain, then through suburban looking Patterson Lakes. I'll take you to some quite different types of lake-side housing there. Bring your myki, as seeing one may entail a three-stop bus-trip if energy flags.

Then we'll walk beside Patterson River down to Carrum.

We'll meet at Seaford Station at 10:15 for a 10:30 start. Meet at the north end of the outbound platform. There is parking beside the station. The pace will be quite leisurely, but I hope to finish by 2:30 or 3, with plenty of time for coffee in Carrum. Level Crossing Removals do affect trains on the Frankston line, but a train should take us to Seaford. Coming back, we'll need to take a bus from Carrum for one station, either way, as Carrum station has temporarily disappeared. It is all very do-able by public transport.

Please book with Eileen.



**WEDNESDAY WALK**

**BURCHELL TRAIL LOOP, NORTH OF STEIGLITZ**

**DATE** Wednesday 20 November 2019  
**RETURN TIME** 3:00 pm to cars  
**STANDARD** Easy/Medium  
**DISTANCE** 15.5 km  
**TOTAL ASCENT** 400 m  
**LEADER** Ed Neff  
**TRANSPORT** Private  
**ACTIVITY AREA** Brisbane Ranges  
**MAP REFERENCE** Brisbane Ranges National Park, Meridian Maps  
**FIRE BAN DISTRICT** Central  
**TEMPERATURE REFERENCE SITE** Ballarat

This is a circuit walk which takes in one leg of the Burchell Trail. The full Burchell Trail is normally tackled as a 3-day 35-km hike. This is a good opportunity to experience the Southern Brisbane Ranges with not too much climbing. The area was rich in mining.

We will start the walk at 10:00 am from the Crossing Picnic Area. From the Steiglitz Court House continue north-west for 1.9 km along the Meredith-Steiglitz Road to Hut Road on your right. Take care to locate Hut Road, 1.9 km from Court House and it looks more like a walking track but is OK to drive along. The Crossing Picnic Area is 0.8 km along Hut Road.

You can telephone Ed to book or for further information,



**PACK CARRY**

**BARMAH NATIONAL PARK**

**DATE** 22-24 November 2019  
**RETURN TIME** 7-9 pm Sunday  
**STANDARD** Easy/Medium  
**DISTANCE** Up to 40 km  
**TOTAL ASCENT** Flat terrain  
**LEADER** Ian Mair  
**TRANSPORT** Private  
**ACTIVITY AREA** Barmah National Park  
**MAP REFERENCE** Park Notes – Barmah National Park  
**FIRE BAN DISTRICT** North Country  
**TEMPERATURE REFERENCE SITE** Echuca

Barmah National Park (28,521 ha), 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).

On this walk I want to explore some of the parts of the park that I have not walked across previously. It will be a mixture of track and off-track walking stretching from where we camp on Friday night through to the Murray River where we will camp on Saturday. The walk back will be just as convoluted!

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.



**SATURDAY WALK**

**HANGING ROCK**

**DATE** Saturday 23 November 2019  
**STANDARD** Easy/Medium  
**LEADER** Helen Graesser  
**TRANSPORT** Private  
**FIRE BAN DISTRICT** Central  
**TEMPERATURE REFERENCE SITE** Melbourne

For details of this walk please contact the leader.



**SUNSET WALK**

**WILLIAMSTOWN, FOLLOWED BY A PUB DINNER**

**DATE** Saturday 23 November 2019  
**STANDARD** Easy  
**DISTANCE** 5 km  
**ELEVATION** At sea level  
**LEADER** Susan Maughan  
**TRANSPORT** Train or private car  
**ACTIVITY AREA** Williamstown Beach  
**MAP REFERENCE** Melway map 56 B9  
**FIRE BAN DISTRICT** Central  
**TEMPERATURE REFERENCE SITE** Melbourne

IT'S BACK! The popular Sunset Walk and Quiz.

This time we will explore Williamstown Beach and the Botanic Gardens and then on to Williamstown, finishing at the Morning Star Hotel in Electra Street.

Meet at Williamstown Beach railway station and the walk commences at 6:30. (The train departs Flinders Street at 5:47, arriving at Williamstown Beach at 6:14.)

The walk will take approximately 90 minutes and the tables are booked for 8 pm.



**SUNDAY CAR POOL**

**MT EVERARD CIRCUIT**

**DATE** Sunday 24 November 2019  
**RETURN TIME** Return to Cnr. A'Beckett Street and William Street at 6:00 pm  
**STANDARD** Medium  
**DISTANCE** 17.9 km  
**TOTAL ASCENT** 350 m rise  
**LEADER** Chris Collett

**TRANSPORT**

Carpool – leaving cnr A'Beckett and William Streets (opposite old clubrooms) at 8:45 am

**ACTIVITY AREA**  
**MAP REFERENCE**

Kinglake National Park  
 Vicmap Outdoor Leisure Map – Kinglake National Park

**FIRE BAN DISTRICT**

Central

**TEMPERATURE REFERENCE SITE**

Yarra Glen

The forest-covered hills of Kinglake National Park loom large over the north-eastern suburbs of Melbourne. The open forest and fern-filled gullies are delightful to walk through. The Kinglake National Park was established in 1928 and has been enlarged several times since.

This walk follows a circuit based on three of the park's higher forested peaks. While only minimal distant views are seen, the forest shade and shelter provide pleasant walking conditions. The walk starts at the Jehosaphat Gully picnic area, crosses over Cookson Hill, and then descends towards Steels Creek. The walk is completed by walking uphill around the flank of Mt Jerusalem, and then back to the starting point.

This is an opportunity to appreciate the Kinglake National Park environment away from commonly used walking routes.



**SOCIAL**

**WALKING THE SLOVENIAN HILLS**

**DATE** Wednesday 27 November 2019, 8:00–9:00 pm

**VENUE**

Clubrooms, The Mission to Seafarers Victoria, 717 Flinders Street, Docklands

**PRESENTERS**

Catherine Cardinet and Neil Churches



Catherine and Neil will share their experiences of the 285 km walk they did in 2018 over 11 days, walking through spectacular rolling hills and historic villages; taking in the cuisine, wines and history of provincial Slovenia.

Starting in medieval Maribor and finishing near the Croatian border. Retracing the steps of over a hundred prisoners of war eluding Nazi search parties. In 1944 Australian Ralph Churches and Englishman Les Laws led the most successful break-out of Allied POWs in the history of WW2.



**SOCIAL WALK**

**WARRINGAL PARKLANDS – HEIDELBERG**

**DATE** Thursday 28 November 2019  
**START TIME** 10:30 am  
**STANDARD** Easy  
**DISTANCE** 5 km  
**TOTAL ASCENT** Flat

**LEADER** Alister Rowe  
**TRANSPORT** Private  
**ACTIVITY AREA** Warringal Parklands  
**MAP REFERENCE** Melway map 32  
**FIRE BAN DISTRICT** Central  
**TEMPERATURE REFERENCE SITE** Melbourne

Meet at 10:15 am in the carpark near Old Shire Office, Melway 32 D3.

We will walk south towards Banksia Street and around Sills Bend and return. There are some good views of the river, wetlands, etc.

Lunch will be at the Old England Hotel off Lower Heidelberg Road. Note that the Old Shire Office carpark can be accessed from Beverley Road.



**PACK CARRY**

**SPION KOPJE – TIMMS LOOKOUT – MT BOGONG**

(Joint with VMTC)

**DATE** 29 November to 1 December 2019  
**RETURN TIME** Mid-afternoon back at the cars  
**STANDARD** Medium/hard, but all climbs are up south faces, away from the sun!  
**DISTANCE** 24–26 km, depending on the descent route we take  
 12 km on tracks (or more if we go down The Staircase)  
**TOTAL ASCENT** Day 1: 1200 m – 1100 – 1800 – 1100 (or alternative at 1600)  
 Day 2: 1600 m – 1980 – 580  
**LEADER** Ray Thomas  
**TRANSPORT** Private cars  
**ACTIVITY AREA** Howman’s Gap and Mt Bogong  
**MAP REFERENCE** Bogong Alpine Area 1:50,000 or others  
**FIRE BAN DISTRICT** North Eastern  
**TEMPERATURE REFERENCE SITE** Falls Creek

The idea is to explore several untracked ridges and peaks in the Mt Bogong area, to enjoy the spectacular views and wildflowers. I’ve seen many times that steep areas have largely escaped cattle grazing, so the wildflowers are even better than usual!

We’ll be starting from Howman’s Gap, down across the Kiewa River, then heading up the fire trail towards Spion Kopje. At the top of the climb, we’ll cut across the open snow grass plains to the waterfalls on White Rock Creek, and then on to Timm’s Lookout.

From here, we drop down a spur to Cairn Creek Hut on Big River, which is our first possible camp for the night. An alternative camp site is part way up Bogong via Granny Spur, to the start of Horse Ridge. This spot will have fantastic sunset views, and the nearby creek will save us carrying water such a long way on the Sunday.

Next morning we complete the climb up Granny Spur and Horse Ridge. It’s a lovely broad spur with a mixture of snow gum woodland, open grassy areas, rocky outcrops, and great views back to the high plains. After reaching the main ridge, we turn left along the well-made foot track toward Mt Bogong itself.

From here, there are several possible descent routes back to the cars:

1. Straight down The Staircase walking track
2. Via Hooker Plateau, then drop down a steep spur to the north-west
3. Via Stirling Gap, and drop down a different steep spur to the north-west

4. Via Bogong West Peak, Little Bogong, then down the obvious spur to Mountain Creek  
 These routes used to be good walking, but I’m still checking them out to see how open they are after the fires some time ago.



**BASE CAMP**

**CHRISTMAS AT CAMP EUREKA**

**DATE** 24–28 December 2019  
**STANDARDS** Medium, Medium/hard  
**DISTANCE** Various  
**LEADER** Susan Maughan  
**TRANSPORT** Private  
**ACTIVITY AREA** Yarra Junction  
**FIRE BAN DISTRICT** Central  
**TEMPERATURE REFERENCE SITE** Yarra Glen

The Club’s annual base camp at Camp Eureka, Yarra Junction is always popular, not least because the location and facilities are ideal. The walks, the good company, the relaxed atmosphere and the festivities all add up to a great way to enjoy Christmas..

Stay any number of nights or come along only for a day walk. The accommodation includes private cabins, large dorms or shaded camping spots. NOTE – we have exclusive use of the property.

Purchase something from the op-shop in RED OR GREEN to leave under the tree. Let your imagination run wild.

Bring a plate to share for evening dinner on Christmas Day and be sure to wear something of the 60s. Our theme is “Woodstock”. Note – no nudity, please!

Dinner on Boxing Day is a BBQ, and our final night (27th) is a pub night.

Approximately \$16 per person per night.



Bus transport meets at cnr A'Beckett and William Streets, Melbourne, before 8:45 am. Leader or deputy will be there rain, hail or shine!

| November 2019 |   |            |                  |              |   |
|---------------|---|------------|------------------|--------------|---|
| <b>Sun 3</b>  | <b>DAY: Tallarook State Forest – Warragul Rock</b>        | <b>Bus</b> | <b>E/M&amp;M</b> | <b>NC:se</b> | <b>Brett Daniel &amp; Theo Mertzandis</b> |
| Thu 7         | TOF: Glen Eira Parklands                                  | Pvt        | Easy             | CN:me        | Bill Metzenthon                           |
| 8–10          | BC : Wilsons Promontary Lighthouse                        | Pvt        | Med              | WG:wn        | Jill Allen                                |
| Sun 10        | DAY: Bears Head Range Circuit                             | Car        | M/H              | CN:ba        | Ian Mair                                  |
| Wed 13        | DAY: Warrandyte to Wonga Park                             | Pvt        | E/M              | CN:yg        | Denise Charman                            |
| 15–17         | PC : Mt Feathertop via N-W & Bungalow spurs               | Pvt        | Med              | NE:mh        | Agajan Akbari                             |
| Sat 16        | CYC: Bass Coast Trail, South-West Gippsland               | Pvt        | Med              | CN:wn        | Philip Brown                              |
| <b>Sun 17</b> | <b>DAY: Surf Coast – Torquay to Anglesea</b>              | <b>Bus</b> | <b>E&amp;E/M</b> | <b>CN:ge</b> | <b>Bettina Brill &amp; Richard Long</b>   |
| Mon 18        | MOF: Seaford Wetlands – Patterson River                   | Pvt        | Easy             | CN:me        | Eileen Ayre                               |
| Wed 20        | DAY: Burchell Track Loop north of Steiglitz               | Pvt        | E/M              | CN:ge        | Ed Neff                                   |
| 22–24         | PC : Barmah State Forest                                  | Pvt        | E/M              | NY:ec        | Ian Mair                                  |
| Sat 23        | DAY: Hanging Rock   | Pvt        | E/M              | CN:me        | Helen Graesser                            |
| Sat 23        | SOC: Sunset Walk, Williamstown, followed by pub dinner    | Pvt        | Easy             |              | Susan Maughan                             |
| Sun 24        | DAY: Mt Everard Circuit                                   | Car        | Med              | CN:yg        | Chris Collett                             |
| Wed 27        | SOC: Walking the Slovenian Hills                          |            |                  |              | Catherine Cardinet and Neil Churches      |
| Thu 28        | SOC: Warrigal Parklands, Heidelberg Gardens               | Pvt        | Easy             | CN:me        | Alister Rowe                              |
| 29–1          | PC : Spion Kopje – Timms Lookout – Mt Bogong (joint VMTC) | Pvt        | M/H              | NE:fc        | Ray Thomas                                |