

YHA BUSHWALKING

GPO BOX 25A, MELBOURNE, VICTORIA, 3001



8th Edition
- Aug & Sep 1994

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE.

All weekend walkers please ensure your booking form is completed properly. There have been increasing incidences of not completing transport details. It is very important to ensure the car details are filled out, ie whether you are taking your car and how many passengers you can take. This is essential information and if missing, makes the leaders job unnecessarily difficult.

Details of the Christmas Dinner are being finalised. We will be having it in conjunction with the Canoeing group at the East Malvern Golf Club. The venue includes a dance floor with a sound system and K. Lientschnig will put together a set of tapes for the night. The meal will be a buffet style cost at around \$30.00 (plenty of choice) and drinks at bar prices. We can look forward to a "rip-roarin' time!"

Tickets are now available for the bush dance on the 30th Sept. and will be available at clubnight and on the walks. If you want to be assured of a ticket, then get in early as it is sure to be a sell-out this year. The dance is being run in conjunction with the Sailing & Portables group. A group from YHA tennis have already booked a table.

A new master sheet and booking procedure is being introduced for day walks. Some leaders have already been using the new system which is aimed at reducing the paper work. Rather than fill out a booking form, you will write all the details directly onto the master sheet as you arrive and sign it to say you have read the conditions of booking which are printed on the reverse. The same master sheet will be used for weekend trips, however booking forms will still need to be completed.

We are still in need of a Conservation Officer. We have decided to be more supportive of the various conservation groups and are taking out membership of the Wilderness Society & the Victorian National Parks Association. It is in our interest to be actively involved in Conservation issues as it directly affects the quality of our activity. Please call me (555 1914) for more details on what this involves.

May you walk in the steps of the YETI

Anthony Brackhuys - Chairman

DAY WALKS

AUG 7: MACEDON RANGES TRAIL

This walk follows the recently established Macedon Ranges walking trail from the Mount Macedon township into the high ranges surrounding the town, also walking trails only known to the locals of the area, a bonus! MAP REFERENCE: Macedon Ranges Walking Trail map DCNR
LEADER: Dianne Baxter ph. 317 8305
GRADE: E&M

AUG 14: MYSTERY WALK

Please note this walk has been changed, ring leader John Heyworth week prior to walk for meeting point and walk information.
LEADER: John Heyworth ph. 836 3979
GRADE: E&M

AUG 21: TOOBORAC STATE FOREST

This area is situated between Kilmore and Heathcote on the Northern Highway. The area provides good walking amongst spring wildflowers and open Ironbark forest.
MAP REFERENCE: Tooborac 1:25000
LEADER: Antony Braakhuis ph. 555 1914
GRADE: E&M

AUG 28: DANDENONG RANGES

The Dandenong Ranges National Park is one of Victoria's most beautiful national parks and an area we should take more advantage of so close to Melbourne. Walk through Mountain Ash forest, tree fern gullies and by tranquil streams.
MAP REFERENCE: Melways map 66 & 75
LEADER: Stan Mackowiak ph. 808 6960
GRADE: E&M

SEP 4: MARYSVILLE TRAM TRACK

Walk along old timber tramways through fine stands of Mountain Ash in the Marysville area. These tramways once transported timber to the saw mills through the forest.
MAP REFERENCE: Lake Mountain/Marysville Leisure
LEADER: Stuart Hanham ph. 317 8623
GRADE: E&M

SEP 11: MT RIDDELL

An easy walk situated east of Macedon and Gisborne, northwest of Melbourne. Followed by afternoon Devonshire tea, this event was held last year with great success!
MAP REFERENCE: Riddells Creek
LEADER: Jean Buchanan ph. 428 4611
GRADE: Social

SEP 18: CATHEDRAL RANGE

This area is near Buxton and around 10kms from Marysville. Good for wildlife and vegetation from lush gullies to open forest. Some rocky areas wear footwear with a good grip!
MAP REFERENCE: Cathedral Range Leisure
LEADER: Greame Shaw ph. 578 9481
GRADE: E&M



SEP 25: BOTANICAL GARDENS/ LUNCH & FILM

Come and visit one of the world's best gardens at its peak with its spring display, have a relaxing lunch and see a film afterwards.
NOTE: Bring picnic hamper for lunch, start TIME 10.00am!!
LEADER: Peter Alexander ph. 812 2819
GRADE: Social

OCT 2: INVERLOCH BEACH WALK

A good walk along ocean beaches west of Melbourne, let the wind blow the cobwebs away!
LEADER: Carol Harding ph. 553 1210
GRADE: E&M

WEEKEND WALKS

AUG 13-14: WILSONS PROM

The Prom is always a favourite among walkers. Its beaches, granite outcrops and range of vegetation, fern gullies, tall eucalypt forest, rainforest, swamps to heathland.
MAP REFERENCE: Wilsons Prom Leisure
LEADER: John Braakhuis ph. 555 1914
GRADE: E&M

AUG 20-21: MT BULLER/ROUND HILL SNOW WALK

For the experienced and gunho walkers a challenging climb up the West Ridge Spur via Round Hill to the summit of Mt Buller.
MAP REFERENCE: Buller Stirling Leisure
LEADER: Bruce Meincke ph. 306 2428
GRADE: M-H

AUG 27-28: MELVILLE CAVES - BASE CAMP

Situated near Inglwood on the Calder Hwy in Kooyoor State Park, the park contains granite tors, panoramic vistas, variety of vegetation and rich history. The area inhabited by aborigines and it is thought that the local tribe may have sheltered in fissures formed by the splitting of weathered granite. These shelters, loosely called caves are also reputed to have been used as a hideout by 'Captain Melville' a bushranger active during the gold rush days.
MAP REFERENCE: Rheola nth 1:25000
LEADER: John Deininger ph. 347 7269
GRADE: E&M

SEP 10-11: GRAMPAINS - VICTORIA RANGE - THE DOUBLE ARCH

This walk visits the far western side of the Grampians on the Victorian Range. The Grampians are famous for their wildflowers in spring, so it's the perfect time to visit this popular rugged range.
MAP REFERENCE: Grampians nth & sth Leisure map
LEADER: Colin Cody ph. 386 2471
GRADE: M-H

PTO for MORE WALKS



SEP 24-25: BENDIGO HOSTEL

YOU MUST BOOK EARLY! limit of 15 walkers, confirmation on full fee payment only as this is an associate hostel we must pay in advance. So ring Pam to book your place for this fun weekend to Historic Bendigo and surrounding forest walks.

LEADER: Pam Norton ph. 569 8591
GRADE: E

SEP 24-25: MAJOR MITCHELL TRAIL

Named after Major Thomas Mitchell who was the first European to discover the Grampians in 1836. This walk near Mt William the highest point in western Victoria, visits a special feature area, a plateau with wonderful views and an alpine environment.

MAP REFERENCE: South Grampians Leisure
LEADER: Jose Garcia ph. 486 3053
GRADE: M-H

SKI TOURING - SNOW PERMITTING!

AUG 6-7: FALLS CREEK - MT NELSE

Ski the Bogong High Plains snow camping in the Mt Nelse area a few hours skiing from Falls Creek.

MAP REFERENCE: Bogong Plains Leisure
LEADER: John & Jacki Warrick
GRADE: ESM

AUG 13-14: MT BUFFALO

Mt Buffalo National Park is ideal for ski touring. The undulating plateau, scenic environment and the convenience of marked ski trails are great for beginners to ski touring. Camping below the mountain at Eurobin with access to kitchen and bathroom facilities.

MAP REFERENCE: Eurobin 1:25000
LEADER: Mark Beyer ph. 482 2628
GRADE: ESM

AUG 21: LAKE MOUNTAIN

Day trip MUST BOOK, easy skiing exploring the trails of Lake Mountain near Marysville. Keep your fingers crossed for good conditions!

MAP REFERENCE: Lake Mountain Leisure map or Algonia Ski Trails.
LEADER: Andrew Brown ph. 763 7094
GRADE: ESM

SEP 3-4: PRETTY VALLEY

Snow camping in the Pretty Valley area southwest of Falls Creek.

MAP REFERENCE: Bogong Plains Leisure
LEADER: Paul Davidson ph. 568 0281
GRADE: M

SEP 17-18: MT HOTHAM (SNOW SHOE OPTION)

Ski or hire snow shoes for a great weekend on the southern Bogong High Plains around Mt Loch. Also 3 day option.

MAP REFERENCE: Bogong Plains Leisure
LEADER: Paul Davidson ph. 568 0281
GRADE: M-H



SEP 18-24: MAIN RANGE

What a great trip skiing on spring snow for one week on the Main Range in Kosciusko National Park in New South Wales a must for the enthusiast!

LEADER: Mark Beyer ph. 482 2628
GRADE: M



EVENING WALKS

AUG 19: ST KILDA FORESHORE

Meet at Luna Park front entrance at 6.00pm for a pleasant stroll along the foreshore, followed by a meal at a local Pub. Contact Carol Harding on 553 1219 for more details.

SEP 30: ROYAL PARK

Meet at Zoo entrance at 6.30pm to walk through the parklands north of the city, followed by a cheap meal afterwards. Contact Jeff Martin on 376 4824 for more details.

SOCIAL REPORT

SEP 16: 'BERTIES'- Pancake Restaurant - licensed

Cnr Nepean Hwy & North Rd, Gardenvale
Dinning time 7.30pm, come and enjoy delicious savoury and sweet pancakes or crepes, or if this does not interest you grills are also on the menu. Ring Keryn for more details on 578 1117.

SEP 30: BUSH DANCE!

South Melbourne Town Hall, 8.30pm. Tickets are available at clubnight
NOW SO GET IN QUICK! Organise a group for a table OR join in on a table of friendly bushwalkers BUT don't miss out on a great night!!
Cost \$10.00 per person, BYO drinks and supper, tea and coffee free.



WHAT'S ON AT CLUBNIGHT?

To make Clubnight more interesting we have regular talks on a variety of subjects followed by supper.

SEP 12: YOU ASK THE QUESTIONS

All you wanted to know about bushwalking BUT were afraid to ask!! You ask the questions and they will be answered by a panel of VERY experienced leaders of the club.



TRIP REPORTS

BRYCES GORGE - ANZAC Weekend, Hard option

It is now several weeks after the walk. The physical scars such as scratched legs, inflated blisters have reduced to a dull memory. The photographs I hold bring it all back with full impact!

The first photo shows a group of 38 people on the Moroka Road turnoff, (blocking the road rather well I thought), everybody listening to the various leaders proposals before individuals decided their level of pain tolerance and group configuration.

Our group consisted of six walkers, John a new member, Ivan, James, Lynette, Colin our enthusiastic ambitious leader and myself.

The next photo shows a view of rock escarpments reaching to Snowy Bluff - hiding a bashful waterfall, boasting we were told a wonderful campsite.

This campsite above the escarpment was reached early afternoon on the first day and gave us a great view of the Moroka River Valley and the eastern face of Neilsons Crag (The Watchtower).

The campsite was impregnable to tentpegs and as nobody could produce a jackhammer, most opted for the steeper grassy slopes nearby where pegs met less resistance. These people I admired for their tenacity (and pitied for their obvious long night ahead).

Walkers from Melbourne Walking Club were already camped here and we talked and some knew others etc...what a small world this is! The evening sky turned from gold to black as the night sky revealed a billion stars, much brighter and more numerous than we would ever see in Melbourne.

DAY 2 - We arose to a fine pleasant day and the chilly morning temperature kept us well clothed until the sun was two hours into the cloudless sky. We walked down the 350 metre descent back to the Moroka River, then walked along its banks northwards for 5km criss-crossing the river occasionally before commencing the 1000 metre ascent of 'The Watchtower' - The first of the strenuous days ahead of us.

The climb up was steep and consisted of leafy scree slope interspersed with boulders and loosely anchored shrubs. Half way up the mountain I became quite distracted from the views around me due to blisters that had developed on each heel, by now big enough to have personalities all of their own!

It was at this point I thought how wonderful it is how we survive out here. For most of our life we are pampered by soft furnishings, good food and clean clothing. When we are tired of all this we opt for the other extreme of long days of hard walking, wet and blistered feet cut and scratched limbs, flies, dehydrated food rations and broken sleep - its not long into the second day I realise what I left behind was wonderful by comparison and wont it be nice to be back home again!

From the top our view of the Carey River Valley with the backdrop of Carey Spur (our climb the next day), Mt Darling and Dimmicks Lookout far off on the horizon. It was now 2.30pm and as the evening was not too far off we descended the other side of the mountain to Carey Creek below us, another unstable scree slope.

Several falls and a few sore backsides later we arrived at our campsite fairly tired and eager to pitch tents and more importantly...eat!

DAY 3 - Ahead of us was another 1000 metre climb up Carey Spur leading to Snowy Plains Airfield and a Road Bash to Dimmicks Lookout - our most challenging day.

We crossed the Carey Creek, weather fine and mild. Our trackless route was steep and leafy scree slope as before. With every forward step the rear foot slipped 6" in retreat - which made for a slow and strenuous climb. As we ascended our view of The Watchtower behind us was getting better all the time.

By 11.00am we had ascended to 1100 metres A.S.L. to a place we all will never forget! We had come to the foot of a 70 degree rock escarpment, endless on both sides of us. Set out from the face of this wall was a wedge projection with random horizontal crevices. This was the only way up.

With an extended reach and plenty of concentration we all made it up, leaves and dirt covered upper slopes above this rock face, interspersed with loosely growing shrubs no one would trust their life to this gave an equally challenging time for us all.

Eventually after what seemed like hours we reached the top of the 'The Stopper' (for want of a better name) and had morning tea and admired the views for beyond and below us.

By 12.30pm we were walking across the airfield and had a lunch break before our final very relaxing walk to Dimmicks Lookout and our transport.

We all enjoyed the challenge the views and the company.
Thanks Colin for a great walk.

JOHN FOTTAGE

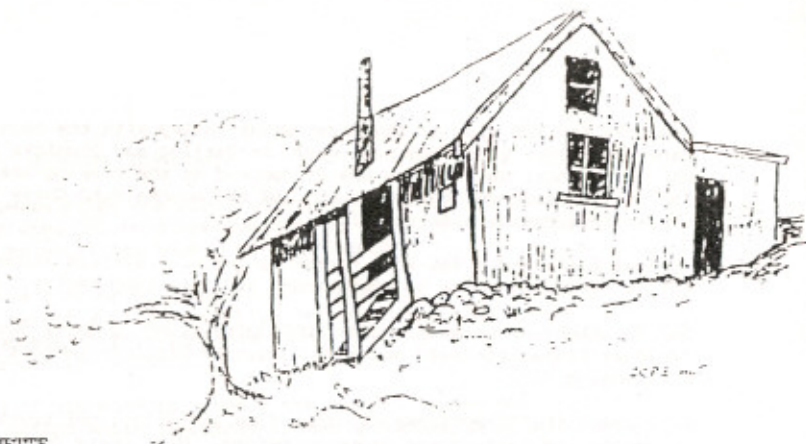
ATTENTION LEADERS

So we can report on your walk in the "YETI YODELER" please write a few lines on the back of the Master Sheet under Trip Notes. This also helps the Walks Committee in planning walks in the future. THANKYOU!

ATTENTION!

This is your newsletter please feel free to issue articles on stories, walks, hints - such as camp cooking, what to take on camp and how. The next editions deadline is 26 September. Please bring your articles into clubnight or post to GPO Box 25A Melbourne 3001 or ring Christine McKinnon ph. 836 3224.





HUT ETIQUETTE

The use of huts is a privilege, not a right. Most huts are designed as emergency refuges and you should not rely on them for regular accommodation. All bushwalkers should be equipped to camp out at all times and in all conditions. Use of huts is generally on a first-in basis and should be shared. Welcome others and let them near the fire so they can warm up too. Walkers should be prepared to vacate the hut at any time in emergencies. Some ski huts and cattleman's huts may be locked. Check with the responsible authority if you are not sure.

HUT DAMAGE - please report to the Federation of Victorian Walking Clubs.

LOG BOOKS - use it responsibly, as a record of the party's visit, before leaving, log the date with information on the country traversed, names of members and party's intentions. If the log book is full notify FVWC.

GUARD AGAINST ALL RISK OF FIRE - observe all fire regulations.

COOK WITH CARE.

REPLENISH THE WOOD SUPPLY - dead wood only! if firewood is scarce use your stove.

PROTECT WILDLIFE, WILD PLANTS AND TREES - don't destroy what you came to enjoy.

SAFEGUARD WATER SUPPLIES - don't pollute water or wash dishes directly in any creek, don't waste tank water.

LEAVE NO FOOD - burn all food scraps, it encourages rats and possums.

LEAVE NO LITTER - leave the hut and campsite as tidy and clean as you would like to have found it yourself, clean up other people's litter if necessary.

USE TOILETS - where toilets are available use them.

RESPECT THE COMFORT AND RIGHTS OF OTHERS - avoid being a hut hog, don't dry your socks over someone else's soup. Behave as you would expect visitors to behave in your home.

(from "HUT ETIQUETTE" Federation of Victorian Walking Clubs)

