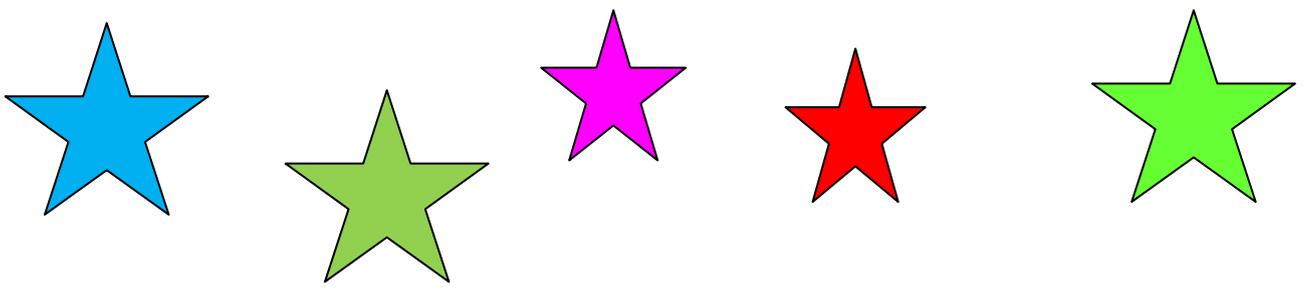


***Footprints 40th
Anniversary Edition
April 2018***



FROM THE PRESIDENT'S STUMP

Wow! What a month it has been for the club.

Our New Member's Night on March 6th must have seen one of the biggest turn outs in some time to a Club Night event. As I watched the strangers wandering in through the doors of the Seniors Citizen's Club I began to think that perhaps another event had been booked for the same night as ours, but no, all these people had come along to hear what the Border Bushwalking Club has to offer and while I was busy putting out more chairs to accommodate the unexpected tidal wave of people, Ralph was setting up our data projector in readiness for our speakers.

Bernadette, Liz and Chris are to be congratulated and commended for their respective presentations that covered such things as what to expect when booking in to a walk, what to expect from leaders, what to carry for a day walk and essentials for an extended hike. All three provided an engrossed audience with lots of sound advice that was well received and appreciated.

To finish off a successful evening Ira provided a magnificent spread that kept visitors and members alike chatting and socialising long after the formalities had concluded.

As if our Club Night wasn't enough to show off the commitment and organisational skills of the committee, our 40th Anniversary Celebrations were even better! During our initial planning stages we anticipated a modest roll up of twenty or so and were blown away by the 60 plus who came along to celebrate the event in a number of ways including the 'Happy Hour', the dinner at a local hotel, the gourmet barbecue, the storytelling session, and the walks and bike ride.

Highlights of the weekend included the look on Eileen's face when she realised she was about to be awarded Life Membership; the sharing of stories about some quite remarkable hikes and feats; and the way in which everyone was enjoying themselves to the max.

Congratulations to Eileen on such a well deserved award and to our hard working committee. Ian

BORDER BUSHWALKING CLUB

LIFE MEMBERSHIP AWARD



awarded to

Eileen Clark

March 17th 2018

This award recognises the dedicated and outstanding contribution Eileen has made to the Border Bushwalking Club over many years.

During her time as an active member of this club, Eileen has served meritoriously on the Committee, including terms as President, Secretary, Treasurer and 'Footprints' editor.

As well as serving on the Committee, Eileen has been an enthusiastic Walks Leader and has been instrumental in introducing people from all walks of life to the benefits and joys of bushwalking.

Ian Trevaskis, President

Suzanne Simpfendorfer, Secretary

The Beginnings of the Border Bushwalking Club.

"On June 7, 1978 more than 100 people attended a public meeting in Albury and elected a sub-committee to draw up a constitution and prepare groundwork for the establishment of a club."

Second meeting was held July 11th to accept constitution and inaugurate the club.

First official club walk was held Sunday 18th June 1978 at Mount Tabletop and led by Bob Fisher.

"A party of approximately 120 departed at 8:45am from Coles carpark in Lavington for the property of Mr M Schultz at the base of Tabletop. Details of the proposed walk were outlined by Mr R Fisher who along with many others appeared slightly bewildered at the large number participating, especially when considering the misty weather of the morning." (from trip report)

And these folk were on that walk.



Left to right: Margaret Hough, Stan Duffield, Bernice Duffield, Ray Henderson, Chris Sobey, Warwick McLaughlin.

Here are our Life Members, including our newbie.



Left to right: Eileen Clark (2018), Jan Andrews (2003), Bruce Key (2011), Chris Sobey (1997), Les Sobey (1997) Warwick McLaughlin (1994), Pauline McLaughlin (2009), Ray Henderson (1994).









Our weekend was an amazing success with 63 past and present members attending the various social events over the weekend, be it the Happy Hours, dinner at Nicholas Hotel or the Saturday BBQ, presentation and reminiscences. This included members from 40 years ago to several who joined in the past 4 weeks.

A big thank you goes to Lake Sambal Caravan Park management who obligingly accommodated our much larger than expected numbers, providing the ideal venue for the event.

Thanks also goes to Beechworth butchery for the excellent quality of their meat and in assisting us with afterhours service.

And of course to our attendees.....those salads and desserts were absolutely fantastic, so much so there were suggestions that we should publish a BBC recipe book including ideas for home and camp cooking. Thanks to those who brought eskies, tables, fridges and to our cooks who slaved over the BBQ on a hot night to feed the masses. Ira.

And may I (as editor) express our gratitude to Ira who did an **amazing** job of organising all the food for the weekend. It was a mammoth task which required a great deal of work. Not only did Ira sort all that out, she also cleverly decorated the fantastic cake which was more photographed than the Royal Family. Thank you Ira.

And now for a well earned rest.





FOOTPRINTS

April 2018

Newsletter of the Border Bushwalking Club Inc.
affiliated with Bushwalking Victoria



COMMITTEE

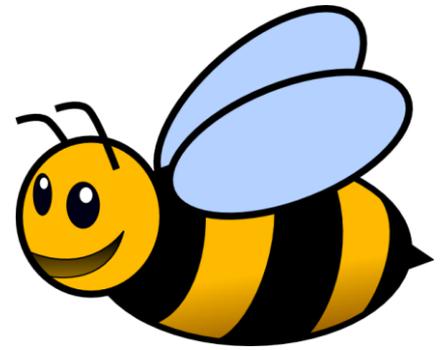
President
Vice President
Treasurer & Website
Secretary

Ian Trevaskis 0425 782 983
Ralph
David
Sue S

president@borderbushwalkingclub.com.au
vicepres@borderbushwalkingclub.com.au
treasurer@borderbushwalkingclub.com.au
secretary@borderbushwalkingclub.com.au

General Committee: Bernadette: **Activities Coordinator**, Sandy: **Committee Support**, Liz: **Newsletter Editor**, Ira: **Meeting Suppers & Social Convener**, Chris: **Equipment Officer**, Marie: **Membership & Data Base Manager**

CLUB NIGHT
7:30 TUESDAY APRIL 3rd
ALL ABOUT BEES



When most of us think about bees, we think of honey bees. However, there are over 2000 native Australian bees, some of which are hovering about our gardens right now doing amazing things for our veggies and flowers. And some don't even look like bees!
Come and listen to dynamic local native bee tragic and passionate environmentalist Karen Retra as she unfolds the amazing secrets of our bees. There is much to learn!

Where : Senior Citizens, Meeting Room, Civic Centre Complex, Hovell Street, Wodonga. **Visitors** are always welcome at meetings and supper is served afterwards. **Club Nights** are regularly held on the **first Tuesday** of the month (except December and January) at 7:30pm. The room is opened half an hour before the start so that members may socialise.

www.borderbushwalkingclub.com.au

WELCOME

We extend a warm welcome to the following new members:

Cher and Michael Hague

Janet Gillespie

Ken Tooley

Jill Croome

Evelyn Durham

We trust that you will enjoy all that the Club and its members have to offer.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO FOOTPRINTS.

Your contributions are keenly sought. If you have been on a club trip please send a short, or indeed long, reports to the editor. **Photos** of outings are also greatly appreciated. **Please try to send photos as small files.**

Send to: newsletter@borderbushwalkingclub.com.au

Deadline for next Footprints is 24/4/18

TRIP REPORTS

Bon Accord Crossover

Seven BBC members met at Harrietville on Saturday morning, for the crossover walk. Cars were swapped over and four of us drove to the bottom of Bon Accord, to start our long climb up from Harrietville along the spur to Diamantina Hut while the other 3 drove up to Diamantina Hut to start their walk down. It was a warm day in the sun but a good walk that some of us hadn't done before. Mick.



Cobungra Loop

Peter took a group of 5 on this great walk. As we sat at Wheeler's Hut we all reflected on what we had learnt over the three days:

We all learnt that groups of 14 and 15 year old school students can actually be considerate, pleasant and easy to share campsites with. This was great to learn as we completed the exact same circuit as 12 students and their teachers over the same days.

Leigh learnt that if you haven't worn your boots for ages its best not to break them in the day before the walk. Getting blisters on a walk isn't fun, getting them before you even start is another story.

Pam learnt that those little toothbrushes actually fit into the container to make a handle. She had thought they were like the airline ones. Pam also learnt that the airline ones do the same thing!!!

Vanessa learnt how to do her first ever river crossing and that those old film canisters serve a multitude of purposes on a hike.

Peter learnt that it's best not to put your thermal bottoms on with a wasp in them and that Jatbula is a must do walk.

And I learnt that the bottoms of zip off pants can be tucked into socks and used as lightweight gaiters instead of putting in the effort to take them off altogether. I also learnt that you can rave on about nearly anything and call it a trip report.

Thanks for another fantastic walk, Pete. Bernadette.



Mt Cope and Ryders Yards

El Presidente Ian Trevaskis was supposed to lead this walk but he injured his fetlock early in the week (good job he's not a horse) so the walkers were stuck with me instead. Ian sent a full page of instructions about cars and petrol, then made a late phone call to add the person he'd forgotten about. Eventually nine walkers met up in Mt Beauty on a warm clear morning and headed for Falls Creek, with four of us honoured to be travelling in the driver's new car, which was even younger than his new grandchild!

We parked at Cope Hut along with many others, with it being a long weekend in Victoria and there being a major cycle race in Falls Creek on the Sunday. First stop was a quick inspection of Cope Hut before heading off along the Alpine Walking Track towards Cope Saddle. The plan was to climb Mt Cope at some point, but the (should have been) leader's instructions were non-existent about where to do this from. After considerable discussion we left the track at the ancient signpost ('Mt Cope 1½ miles') and started to pick our way through the scrub, always looking for the clearest route. We went from snow grass to bushes to bog and back again, dodged around or under the skeletons of snowgums burned in the 2003 fires, and kept trying to go up, but eventually the scrub got too thick and the slope too steep. Although we could see the sticky-up thing on top (I'm told this is the proper name for the trig point) we could work out no way to reach it safely. We stopped for morning tea in the shade of a large snowgum, admired the view across the plain to Mt McKay and the Jaithmathangs and generally recovered after our climb.

We found an easier route back down to the track and made good progress to Cope Saddle, where we met a couple of Parks Victoria's Volunteer Rangers, who are used over busy periods to keep an eye on travellers. From Cope Saddle it was but a short walk to Ryders Yards for lunch. This is a delightful spot with several huts, big shady trees and views across to Mt Cope. The Club's 'Birdman' also spotted several interesting feathered friends among the trees. After lunch we headed back the way we had come, without the detour to Mt Cope. At one point we stopped to watch a huge eagle sizing us up from a perch high in a snowgum, but he decided to leave us alone. We were fortunate to have real Goldilocks weather all day (not too cold, not too hot) and it was a good taste of autumn walking. Eileen

40th anniversary weekend activities.

Celebrating was the aim of the weekend but how do bushwalking clubs celebrate? By being active, amongst other things.

Our Beechworth weekend included 3 walks and a bike ride and it was great to see some members who are no longer as active on a regular basis out there with brand new members and the usual suspects.

All activities started very late by BBC standards allowing time for recovery from the previous night and time to pack up at accommodation.

Woolshed Falls

Eleven people had a very pleasant day walking to Woolshed Falls. As it was very warm and we feared missing pre dinner drinks we modified the walk to make it just 10kms. While the water at the creeks, cascades and falls was not flowing at a great rate Pam managed to don her bikini at a few choice spots while the rest of us plodded along. It was very pleasant day in great company.





Beechworth to Milawa by bike.

Five cyclists set off from the caravan park and took a fast and exhilarating downhill ride to the Everton Pub where three others were waiting to join us. Our esteemed leader decided to stretch the ride out a little and took us on the 'scenic route' to the Milawa Cheese Factory where we enjoyed a splendid hour long lunch fuelling ourselves up for the big ride back.

At the Everton Pub Pauline, Steve and Meredith wisely called it a day while five of us rode on towards the rail trail proper where Marijke was picked up by Meredith. The four remaining cyclists, Vanessa, Marie, Warwick and Ian tackled the uphill slog to Beechworth in hot conditions, arriving back at the caravan park just after 4:00pm and ready for some cold refreshments.



Beechworth Gorge walk

Nine of us including a walker who participated in the first ever club bushwalk headed along the Gorge walk. What a great little walk it is. The many cascades and rock pools make great viewing and I reckon Olga will be back there with her paints and easel. After our walk we headed to a cafe in Beechworth for a yummy lunch and a bit more chatting.

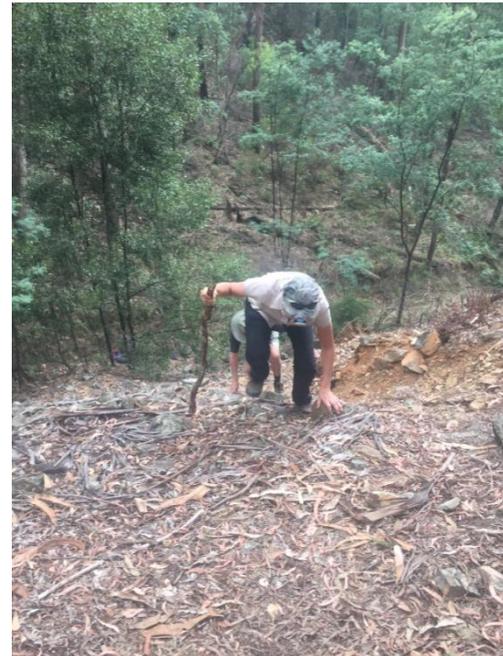


Wallaby Mine.

The Wallaby mine walk on the Sunday morning attracted 10 participants and a lot of people were heard saying they wished they could fit in.

We started at Lake Kerferd and walked to Fletchers Dam past the Hurdle Flat Picnic area. From there we walked along Rawes Road to the intersection with Wallaby Mine Track. About 200 meters along we turned off onto a walking track down to the mine. Relics at the mine are in good condition with the stamper, used to crush quartz to extract the gold, having been partially restored. After lunch we visited a large open cut mine and a mine shaft leading into the side of the hill. Ten people returned to the caravan park at 2.30 pm. Comments after the walk: "It was a great week end but this was the icing on the cake", "It was a great walk and the mine into the hill was the best part", "Thanks for putting on this walk and the history comments along the way".

Apart from the formal activities runners, paddlers and shoppers were spotted partaking in the activities that give them joy throughout the weekend. And we did need to keep active to burn off the fantastic food that Ira had organized for us.





NOTICES

Our next AGM will be held at the May club night (Tuesday May 1st). If you are interested in nominating for a position on the committee please fill out the form below.

**NOMINATION FORM for the 2018 ELECTION of OFFICE BEARERS of the
BORDER BUSHWALKING CLUB INC.**

NAME of NOMINEE : _____

POSITION (Please CIRCLE) : President Vice President Secretary Treasurer
General Committee

PROPOSED BY : _____

SIGNATURE OF NOMINEE : _____ DATE : _____

Return to the Secretary, Border Bushwalking Club Inc. suesimpfendorfer@me.com post to [452 Crisp St. Albury NSW](#) or hand deliver to the Secretary before the commencement of the Annual General Meeting on

MAY 1st, 2018.

17 – 19 AUGUST 2018 HOWMAN'S GAP SKI WEEKEND

Leader: Sue Cardwell 02 6056 0501 or sumacard@outlook.com

As easy or as hard as you please

Calling all snow bunnies/hares & wannabes. 11 club members have already paid their deposits & 4 others have indicated interest. I have a tentative booking for 25 people but need to confirm final numbers with Howmans next month.

\$50 deposit per person needed to secure your booking.

The cost will be \$175 for 2 nights accommodation in bunk rooms & 6 meals. Even cheaper than last year!

Come & have a great 3 day weekend – skiing (downhill or cross country – skating or classic), snow shoeing, or walking in the snow.

Staying at YMCA Howman's Gap Alpine Centre just near the entry gate to Falls Creek. The cross country ski trails will be groomed for the Hoppet the following weekend.

Accommodation – 6-7 bunk bedrooms, single & communal bathrooms & disabled facilities. All meals included from Friday night dinner to Sunday packed lunch. I'll be making gluhwein of an evening.

Choice of travel departures Friday morning or Friday evening depending on drivers.

BYO bed linen/sleeping bag, towel, wine & nibbles for pre dinner.

Blankets & pillows supplied. Large drying rooms & guest fridges available.

4 Wheel drive track classifications (source 4WD Vic)

These gradings are to allow participants of activities involving 4 wheel driving ascertain the degree of difficulty and experience required for the 4WD driving component.

To the best knowledge of the leader this track is rated EASY. Drivers undertake this drive at own risk.

Description:

All wheel drive and High Range 4WD

Novice Drivers.

Mostly unsealed roads with no obstacles and minor gradients.

Can be low clearance with single range and road tyres.

May be difficult in wet conditions.

To the best knowledge of the leader this track is rated MEDIUM. Drivers undertake this drive at own risk.

Description:

Mainly High Range 4WD but low range required.

Recommended that drivers have experience or 4WD training.
Recommended to be done in groups of vehicles.
Tracks with some steep and/or rocky/slippery/sandy sections. Possible water crossings.
Will be more difficult in wet conditions.

To the best knowledge of the leader this track is rated DIFFICULT. Drivers undertake this drive at own risk.

Description:

Significant Low Range 4WD with standard 4WD ground clearance. Suitable for medium to high clearance vehicles with dual range and all terrain tyres.

Recommended for drivers with reasonable experience or 4WD training.

To be done in group of vehicles.

Tracks with frequent steep and/or rocky/slippery/sandy sections. Possible water crossings.

Recovery equipment required.

Will be more difficult in wet conditions.

To the best knowledge of the leader this track is rated VERY DIFFICULT. Drivers undertake this drive at own risk.

Description:

Low Range 4WD with high ground clearance. Suitable for high clearance vehicles with dual range and tyres suitable for the terrain. (mud terrain tyres)

Drivers with extensive experience and advanced training should only attempt as there are several difficult challenges.

Recommended to be done in groups of 4 or more vehicles.

Tracks with frequent very steep and/or rocky/slippery/sandy sections. May have difficult river crossings.

Winch/ recovery equipment required. Will be more difficult in wet conditions.

The following correspondence was forwarded to a BBC committee member by Charlie Ablitt, (Bushwalking Tracks and Conservation Projects Coordinator). Please note it is a letter written by Tony Burke Labor MP. It is put in this newsletter so those interested can take action to help protect our environment and no way reflects a political party preference of the BBC.

Charles ,
I wish I didn't have to send this email. A few minutes ago, Josh Frydenberg released the management plans for Australia's marine reserve and it's worse than we ever imagined.

Australia's network of marine parks has been gutted. The more pristine the area, the more savage the changes are. The Coral Sea has gone from being the Jewel in the Crown of the Commonwealth Marine Reserves protecting the eastern side of the Great Barrier Reef to now being a haven for longlining and trawling.

They have even massively extended an area of trawling immediately adjacent to the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park.

This decision removes more area from conservation than any decision from any government in any country **ever**. That's right, there has never been a step backwards in environmental protection as large as this from any country on Earth. I'll write to you again tomorrow with more action, but right now we need to get the word out.

We need to fight this. We need to protect our oceans. We need to win.

Please pass this email on to as many people as possible and encourage them to add their name to this campaign by [clicking here](#).

REGENT HONEYEATER PROJECT PLANTINGS

We have an emergency "Regent Honeyeater Project" needs your help. Our normal Planting Season must change to fit funding requirements. The present round of funding finishes at the end of the financial year so we need to plant before that to satisfy the guidelines, Can you please join us...

Dates are: 12/13, 26/27 May, 9/10, 23/24 June 2018.



Some other dates when we will also plant: 4/5, 18/19 August, 8/9 September 2018

Come and do something for the environment, help a successful planting project, get a feeling of really doing something positive.

Enjoy friendly company, a Saturday night meal and Sunday lunch BBQ after the days planting. Free accommodation in the Halls, tent site or find your own accommodation to suit.

Discount Breakfast at Hides Bakery Benalla.

This is your opportunity to put something positive back into the environment to help nature, animals and birds.

Please show your interest by Email to : andie@regenthoneyeater.org.au

Come for a day or weekend, bring some friends, some of your family or colleges let us know which w/e or day you will be able to help.

Don't leave it to someone, be the someone who helps make the difference

We look forward to seeing you.

Making connections @borderbushwalkingclub

Did you know the BBC now has an instagram account? Instagram is a photo-sharing application (google it, ask a teenager or David for a demo). We're hoping that by posting some photos of our activities, and tagging them with place-names/locations, we might be able to make some connections with other people who also walk where we do. So if you participate on a club activity and have a great photo, send it to the

treasurer@borderbushwalkingclub.com.au

Photo credits this issue:

Mick
Ian
Ron
Brad

Pauline Mc
Paul
Bernadette
Liz



EVER WONDER WHERE TO GO WALKING?

Bushwalking Victoria has this fabulous walk directory with detailed information on about 200 walks in Victoria.

Check it out by clicking on the link below.

<http://www.bushwalkingvictoria.org.au/walks-directory>



ACTIVITIES PROGRAM

LEADERS reserve the right to change the activity route on the day depending on prevailing conditions and altered circumstances. A walk leader can refuse permission for any person to take part in his/her activity. A list of trip participants must be prepared and the non-member fee (currently \$5) should be collected before the start of the trip. This is a requirement of our insurance policy. Without this list participants may not be covered by insurance.

EMERGENCY CONTACT PERSONS (ECPS): Leaders must leave trip details, including a list of participants and their contact numbers with a family member, or if none available, with an ECP. In the event of a delay, the ECP will contact families and decide on the next course of action.

PARTICIPANTS (members and visitors) must check with the leader that their fitness and experience suit the walk. Follow the leader's instructions at all times. Pay own ambulance costs – insurance is recommended (but accidents are rare).

BOOKINGS: If you intend participating in any of the activities listed below **you are required to personally speak** to the Leader **no later** than the **Wednesday** prior to a **day** activity or **7 days** prior to an **overnight** activity or unless otherwise indicated. SMS bookings are not appropriate. **Please be aware that leaders have the right to decide the size of the group they will accept for their activities. Activities may become fully subscribed before the general cut-off date. By contacting the leader early you may avoid missing out.**

FIRST AID KITS: are to be taken by leaders on each walk.

BIVY BAGS: The club has bivy bags available for activities where extreme cold may be an issue.

GRADING

Grade 1

(Easy) Opportunity for large number of participants, including those with reduced ability to walk/cycle on well-marked and even formed tracks. **Formed tracks** may have a few steps. Should not be steep. Suitable for beginners. Distance should not exceed about 10km.

Grade 2

(Easy-Medium) Easy activity, mostly on tracks of low gradient. Opportunity to walk/cycle easily in natural environments on well-marked tracks. Tracks should not be steep. Distance should not exceed about 15km.

Grade 3

(Medium) Medium activity with some hilly sections and/or rougher terrain. Opportunity to walk/cycle on defined and distinct tracks with some steep sections requiring a moderate level of fitness. Suitable for fit beginners. Distance should not exceed about 20km.

Grade 4

(Medium-Hard) Steeper, rougher terrain and may have off-track sections (no more than one quarter of the walk) or a longer distance track walk. Opportunity to explore and discover relatively undisturbed natural environments mostly along defined and distinct tracks. Tracks can be steep. There may be short sections of rock scrambling involved. Leaders should have map reading abilities and/or ability to use a compass. Distance depending on circumstances. Not suitable for most beginners.

Grade 5

(Hard) Off-track or difficult terrain. Opportunity for walkers with advanced outdoor knowledge and skills to find their own way along often indistinct tracks or off track in remote locations. May include steep sections of unmodified surfaces. There may be rock scrambling, creek walking and crossing involved. Distance should not exceed 30km, but may be short and difficult. Not suitable for beginners.

Grade 6

(Very Hard) Strenuous off-track walk or very long distance. Opportunity for highly experienced walkers to exploratory remote and challenging natural areas without reliance on managed tracks. Terrain may be steep, uneven and no track. There may be rock scrambling, creek walking and crossing involved. Distance covered is unlimited, but may be short and difficult. Only for experienced walkers and not suitable for beginners.

Exploratory Is unknown to leader and while every effort has been made to grade the activity appropriately,

there may be some unexpected aspects which may increase the difficulty of the walk.

ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

After work paddling

Leader: Sasho

Phone: 0448228924

The after work canoeing starts from 5:30 and finishes at 7-730 . The cost \$12 and everything is supplied: life jackets, transport and canoes. Cindy will be organising the first 3 sessions and then Sasho will take over.

**Every Wednesday through
daylight saving**

Ungraded

Mt. Speculation, The Cross Cut Saw, Mt. Howitt Bushwalking and Overnight Camping

Leaders: Mick Sheedy

Phone: 0437101009

Deb: 0410047884 before 8pm

Bookings by: Monday, March 19th

This two night trip consists of camping at Lake Cobbler on Friday night. On Saturday morning we will drive up to the base of Mt Speculation where we will start our walk up to the summit of Mt Speculation. We'll then walk across the Cross Cut Saw to Vallejo Gantner Hut. We will return the same way but with a detour up to Mt Howitt before heading back across Mt Buggery along the Cross Cut Saw to Mt Speculation and the car/s and back to Lake Cobbler for our second night. On Sunday morning the plan is to do a short 8k return walk up to Mt Cobbler before heading home. It's approximately 20 kms return walk up to Mt Speculation across to Vallejo Gantner Hut/Mt Howitt when returning to the cars. A 4WD is required to get to the base of Mt Speculation so numbers for the walk will depend on how many 4wds are available. I will have spare seats in mine.

**Friday, March 23rd - Sunday,
March 25th 2018**

Grade 4

Mollisons Galleries Mt. Buffalo

Bushwalking

Leader: Ian

Phone: 0425782983

Bookings by: Wednesday, March 21st

The Mollison Galleries Rocky Creek Circuit traverses both Five Acre and Mollison Plains in the heart of the Buffalo Plateau. The circuit is clearly sign posted as it winds its way through snow gums, alpine ash forests, rocky outcrops and grassy plains. On the way we will take in a few side trips to Og Gog Magog and Eagle Point. Both offer rewarding views of nearby peaks and the Buffalo Plateau.

Saturday, March 24th

**Grade 3
18kms**

Overnight at Johnston Hut

Bushwalking, Camping

Leader: Louise Evans

Phone: 02 60 215 048

Bookings by: Sunday, March 18th

This walk involves a 4 km walk to Johnston Hut, near Falls Creek. From here there will be walks with a day pack to Kelly's Hut, Mt Nelse or other areas of interest to the group. Beginners are welcome.

**Saturday, March 24th -
Sunday, March 25th**

Grade 3

Introduction to the Bogong High Plains

Bushwalking

Leader: Eileen

Phone: 0412042195

Bookings by: Thursday, March 8th

This is a walk for everyone, newcomers, beginners and old friends. It consists of three short walks designed to show off the best of the country around Falls Creek. We'll start by climbing Mt Cope for a panoramic view of the area, then visit a couple of the heritage huts nearby, including the iconic Wallace's Hut. Later in the day we'll visit Fainter Falls. We'll walk about 10 km in all, at a gentle pace. I'd appreciate the services of a co-leader or wrangler

Sunday, March 25th

**Grade 2
Approx. 10kms**

at Wodonga to organise transport on the day.

Youngs Hut on Wednesday.

Wednesday, March 28th

Grade 2

Bushwalking

Leader: Bernadette

Phone: 0419241687

Bookings by: Sunday, March 25th

We will walk from Pretty Valley to Youngs Hut (The hut we in BBC maintain) for a pleasant lunch and the return.

Simple! Depending on weather we will head cross country for part of the walk or walk a little further via track if visibility isn't good.

A little more than a Wednesday wander but on a Wednesday, nevertheless.

AAWT Kiandra - Tharwa (Canberra)

Friday, March 30th -

Grade 4

Bushwalking & Overnight camping

Wednesday, April 4th

Leader: John

Phone: Bernadette 0419241687

Bookings by: Friday, February 2nd (but ASAP)

Some of us have been inching our way up the Australian Alps Walking Track over the past two years and in 2018 we'll do the final section from Kiandra to Tharwa near Canberra. This section has rather less of the UP-UP-UP and DOWN-DOWN-DOWN that we are used to from previous sections but it is still a fairly substantial undertaking. It takes six days (so carrying five days food) and typical distances of 20km per day. It is the one bit of the AAWT that I've not done before but it looks very interesting with beautiful alpine plains and historic huts. We will be Hiring a mini bus to get us to the start of the walk at Kiandra and we will arrange transport to get you from Tharwa to central Canberra but you'll have to arrange to get yourself home. The trip is being run over the period of an ancient pagan spring festival called Easter so followers of Ishtar, Horus, Mithras or Cybele are also welcome along although they will have to cope with the fact that it will actually be autumn in this part of the world.

Bookings through Bernadette please. They will need to be early so we can arrange logistics over this busy weekend.

Falls Creek to Roper's Hut

Saturday, March 31st

Grade 3

Bushwalking

Leader: Eileen

Phone: 0412042195

Bookings by: Thursday, March 29th

Roper's Hut was rebuilt a few years ago after the original one was destroyed in the 2003 fires. It is set in woodland in the shadow of Mt Bogong. The walk starts at Watchbed Creek and follows the Australian Alps Walking Track past Mt Nelse and Warby Corner. Most of the walk is above the tree line and there are spectacular views but it is exposed. Return by the same route. All on track, about 10 km in each direction with some ups and downs.

Lockhart's Gap Cross Over and Afternoon tea

Saturday, April 7th

Grade 3

Bushwalking

20kms

Leader: Ian

Phone: 0425782983

Leader: Bernadette

Phone: 0419241687

Bookings by: Monday, April 2nd

One group led by Bernadette will start from Lockhart's Gap while the other group led by Ian will start from Tallangatta Lookout. After meeting somewhere on the track, keys and pleasantries will be exchanged before walking on. Following the walk members and guests are invited to enjoy a sumptuous afternoon tea at Cafe Trevaski.

Please note there are some very steep sections in this walk. The walk is approx 20kms provided hikers don't manage to miss THAT turn!

**Up and Down by Bike
Bike Riding**

Sunday, April 8th

Grade 3

Leader: Ian

Phone: 0425782983

Bookings by: Friday, April 6th

I love this ride because you get to fly down from Beechworth at a screaming pace! It's all **UP**hill from the former Everton Railway Station where we will meet after a sleep in, but the bonus is that after lunch in Beechworth it's all **DOWN** hill back to the station! Cyclists must have bikes with brakes that work, a spare tube and puncture repair kit.

Opportunity to extend the day with a ride through the gorge if participants so desire.

**Wednesday Wander: Albury Bungambrawartha
track**

Wednesday, April 11th

Grade 1

Bushwalking

Leader: Eileen

Phone: 0412042195

Bookings by: Tuesday, April 10th

This walk is along the bike path between Lavington and Albury, which follows the Bungambrawartha Creek and winds through parkland and a few streets. We'll start at Pearsall Street in Lavington and head south for a picnic lunch in the Botanic Gardens, before returning the way we came. It's 6.3 km one way, good surface and very gentle gradients. If you can organise your own transport, you can join for one way only, or for part of the walk.

**The Fainters
Overnight Camping**

**Friday, April 13th - Sunday,
April 15th 2018**

Grade 3

Leader: Pauline

Phone: 02 60271834

Bookings by: Sunday, April 8th

Although this is an overnight walk, we only have to carry our heavy packs approximately 5 kms from Pretty Valley to the Tawonga Huts on the Friday, and back again on the Sunday.

We will be leaving Wodonga early Friday afternoon, giving us ample time to walk to the huts and set up camp. Saturday we head to both North and South Fainter, where we will have lunch with magnificent views before heading back to camp. Sunday we pack up and plan to be in Mt Beauty for lunch before heading home.

Mt. Tabletop - Dinner Plain

Saturday, April 14th

Grade 3

Bushwalking

Leader: Deb

Phone: 0410047884 before 8pm

Bookings by: Wednesday, April 11th

At 1593 metres above sea level, Mt. Tabletop is a distinctive flat plateau linked to the Great Dividing Range by a low ridge. In this untracked area at the headwaters of the Dargo River there is a distinct feeling of isolation. From JB Plain, about 1.5 km west of Dinner Plain village, walk south (following an old fence line) across the plains for 0.5 km. From here the route is marked by orange triangular markers. After crossing snow grass plains and Snow Gum woodland the route drops down to Tabletop Creek and then follows a long ridge up to the plateau. The track is 14kms and marked to a rocky outcrop just below the summit. Return via the same route.

The Big Walk

Saturday, April 21st

Grade 3

Bushwalking

22km or 14km

Leader: Deb

Phone: 0410047884 before 8pm

Bookings by: Wednesday, April 18th

This is one of my favourite walks in our area. Mt Buffalo dominates the Ovens Valley skyline and the Big Walk gives access to views from a variety of angles. The walk starts at the carpark near the Rangers station and climbs steadily to the Gorge, is approx. 22km return and all on well formed walking tracks. If there is enough interest those of you who would prefer a shorter option may be able to do The Not So Big Walk (approx 14km return), which will start

just up the road from Rollasons Falls carpark.

Falls Creek Westons Hut

Saturday, April 28th

Grade 3

Bushwalking

Leader: Eileen

Phone: 0412042195

Bookings by: Wednesday, April 25th

This walk starts at Pretty Valley and follows tracks towards Westons Hut, rebuilt after the 2003 fires. It is sited among snow gums in a sheltered valley. On the way back, we might call in on the 'gourmets' at Tawonga huts. The walk is about 15 km long, on tracks but with quite a bit of up and down.

Tawonga Hut Gourmet Weekend

Saturday, April 28th -

Grade 3

Bushwalking

Sunday, April 29th

Leader: Ian

Phone: 0425782983

Leader: Bernadette

Phone: 0419241687

Bookings by: Saturday, April 21st

It's on again!

This is an overnighter with a difference. We will walk less than 5km to Tawonga Huts (Falls Creek area) with full packs but they will be full of gourmet goodies as well as tents and other essential gear. Once we have set up camp and off loaded the goodies some may like to walk on to Mt Jaithmathang to work up an appetite for our special shared dinner accompanied by a few laughs and tall stories. The next day our packs will be much lighter as we head back, probably via Weston's Hut.

This walk is very suitable for those who have never done an overnighter before and your leaders will guide you regarding equipment needed and what we have for hire.

It's also a great walk for some more experienced walkers who would enjoy a more relaxed, social weekend.

Last year's theme was 'Mad Hatters'. This year's theme will be divulged when you book in! Ring Bernadette to book. The first to book get first choice of food to bring.

Razorback Crossover

Saturday, May 5th

Grade 3

Bushwalking

Leader: Deb

Phone: 0410047884 before 8pm

Bookings by: Wednesday, May 2nd

Take a walk on the one of the regions most recognisable features – The Razorback. This ultimate sky trail walk will have one group walking from Diamantina Hut, to the intersection with the Mt Feathertop track, where you can decide to summit or laze in the grass, before descending via Bungalow Spur to Harrierville. The other group will reverse the direction ascending Bungalow Spur first before tackling Mt Feathertop and the Razorback.

Pub to Pub by Bike

Sunday, May 6th

Grade 3

Bike Riding

65 kms

Leader: Ian

Phone: 0425782983

Bookings by: Friday, December 1st

Meeting at the Happy Hotel, carpark, Ovens at 9.45 for a 10:00 start. The ride is all on the sealed Murray to the Mountains Rail Trail over generally flat terrain via Eurobin, Porepunkah and Bright to Wandiligong. We will lunch at the Wandiligong Pub before heading back to Happy Valley Pub. <http://www.happyvalleyhotel.com.au/> (A condition of this ride is that participants MUST partake of refreshments at both the pubs) Cyclists need to have a roadworthy bike, spare tube and puncture repair kit.

Wild Horse Creek **Saturday, May 12th** **Grade 3**

Bushwalking

Leader: Deb

Phone: 0410047884 before 8pm

Bookings by: Wednesday, May 9th

Wild Horse Creek is a beautiful spot on Track 107 about 10kms from the carpark at Watchbed Creek, where this walk begins. We will initially follow a 4WD track before veering off and following the pole line and Kelly Track to Fitzgeralds and Kelly Hut. This part of the walk is fairly flat and has great views. At Kelly Hut we join Track 107 and descend to Wild Horse Creek, where we will have lunch. After the climb back up to Kelly Hut I would like to make return trip back to the cars via the Aquaduct Track but this will depend on a number of factors including the weather and finding the track. All up about 23km.

Falls Creek, Young's Hut Day Walk **Saturday, May 19th** **Grade 3**
Bushwalking **Approx. 20kms**

Leader: Eileen

Phone: 0412042195

Bookings by: Wednesday, May 16th

We'll join with Ian's overnights for a day trip to Young's Hut starting from near Cope Hut and following the Alpine Walking Track for much of the way. The route is exposed so good wet weather gear is a must, and a head torch would be handy given that the days are quite short in May. About 20 km in total.

Young's Hut Overnighter **Saturday, May 19th - Sunday** **Grade 3**
Bushwalking **May 20th** **Approx. 20kms**

Leader: Ian

Phone: 0425782983

Bookings by: Saturday, May 12th

This walk to Young's Hut is suitable for those who have not previously completed an overnight walk or for those who just want to visit an old friend! Those who are interested in doing a beginner's overnight walk, but are unsure, should contact the leaders for further information. Young's Hut is a rustic former SEC survey hut that our club maintains in conjunction with Parks Victoria. The walk starts at Cope Hut and follows the Alpine Walking Track to Cope Saddle, past the aqueduct and up a slight climb to Pole 333 where we turn left, pass Mt Jim and follow the track leading down to the hut. Return journey is via the same route. We should have great views and possibly see some brumbies. Walk is all on track, with nothing too steep, but is very exposed.

Back Wall/Dicksons Falls **Saturday, May 26th** **Grade 3**
Bushwalking **15kms**

Leader: Ralph Simpendorfer

Phone: 0418 318 804

Bookings by: Wednesday, May 23rd

The Back Wall of Mt Buffalo National Park heads off from the same point as the Dicksons Falls walk with the paths diverting after 500 metres.

The main walk can roughly be divided into three sections. First the pretty Cresta plain with interesting rock formation leading to the Devils Marbles Next you enter a treed area with a dense sub alpine growth where gaiters are recommended. The final third opens up to the smooth boulders with numerous cairns to guide the way, This area will be difficult if the weather closes in. The view is most rewarding over the Buffalo River valley and on to the main divide in all directions.

On return to the main path we take an easy side trip to Dickson's Falls and nature walk, this time with a different view back to Mount Feathertop.

Banff Mountain film festival **Wednesday, May 30th** **ungraded**
Social

Leader: David

Phone: 0432632142 23rd

Not a club event, but for members interest [buy your own tickets – link below]:

The world's most prestigious mountain film festival is coming back to the Albury Entertainment Centre. The 2018

Banff Mountain Film Festival World Tour showcases over 2 1/2 hours of the most enthralling mountain adventure films that will have you planning your next adventure before the credits roll.

Presented by World Expeditions, the Banff Mountain Film Festival World Tour will be screening in Albury for ONE NIGHT ONLY.

When: Wednesday 30 May, 7.00pm

Where: Albury Entertainment Centre, 525 Swift Street, Albury

Price: \$34 Adult, \$24 Child under 16, \$29.95 Group 10+ – Child under 2 free on knee

Tickets available from; <http://alburyentertainmentcentre.com.au/whats-on/banff-mountain-film-festival-2018>

**Two Days on the Hume and Hovell Track
Bushwalking Overnight camping**

**Saturday, June 2nd - Sunday
June 3rd Grade 3**

Leader: Deb

Phone: 0410047884 before 8pm

Bookings by: Wednesday, May 30th

Spend two days walking The Hume and Hovell Track from Henry Angel Trackhead, which is just out of Tumbarumba.

We will drive up Saturday morning, set up camp and then walk south from HAT along Burra Creek Gorge to the swing bridge over Tumbarumba Creek (approx 12km return). Followed by a quick trip to Paddy's River Falls (2km return walk 10km drive). Dinner in Tumbarumba Saturday night.

Sunday we will walk north from HAT to Junction Camp Ground – Junction of Burra and East Burra Creeks. (13km return).

All walking is with day packs on track.

Nail Can Hill (out/or return)

Saturday, June 9th

Grade 2

Bushwalking

Leader: Bernadette

Phone: 0419241687

Bookings by: Wednesday, June 6th

Choose your own adventure!

We will start in the morning at Jindera Gap and walk to the Botanic Gardens for lunch. For some it will be the end of the walk, for others the start and others still the middle.

Confused? You can walk 15 kms one way or go both ways. You can chose which way you go but we will all meet at the Botanic Gardens at lunch time.

The grading is based on walking one way. Walking both ways increases the grading to 4, based on distance.

As the logistics of getting transport organized for all options can get complicated early booking would be appreciated.

Howman's Gap Ski Weekend

**Friday, August 17th - Sunday,
August 19th Ungraded**

Leader: Sue Cardwell

Phone: 02 6056 0501

Bookings by: Tuesday, May 1st.

3 day weekend of skiing – downhill or cross country (classical or skating), snow shoeing or walking in the snow. As easy or as hard as you please.

Staying at YMCA Howman's Gap Alpine Centre just near the entry gate to Falls Creek. Cost \$175 for 2 nights accommodation in bunk rooms & 6 meals.

\$50 deposit to secure booking. (11 members already booked)

BYO bed linen/sleeping bag, towel, wine & nibbles for pre-dinner.

Choice of travel departures Friday morning or evening depending on drivers.

YHA Melbourne & BBC Intra Club Walk -Dinner

Friday, September 28th

Ungraded

Leader: Deb

Phone: 0410047884 before 8pm

Bookings by: Friday, September 21st

Join us for dinner on Friday night. Not sure where yet, but it will be a great way to end a good days walking and talk about the walks coming up for Saturday and Sunday or the AFL Grand final.

May be difficult in wet conditions.

Disclaimer *All statements and opinions expressed in articles published in 'Footprints' are those of the respective authors and do not necessarily represent the views of the Editor, the Committee or members of the Border Bushwalking Club.*

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