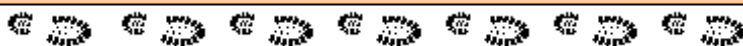




FOOTPRINTS

June 2018

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



COMMITTEE

President
Vice President
Treasurer
Secretary

Ian Trevaskis 0425 782 983
Ralph
Rick
Sue S

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

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

CLUB NIGHT 7:30 TUESDAY JUNE 5th

TRAVERSING THE GREAT HIMALAYA TRAIL

1700kms in 152 days.

Come and listen to our guest speaker Ray Mustey talk about his fascinating epic trek starting from the Nepal/Pakistan border and finishing at the Nepal/Tibet border. Described as "One trail to rule them all", it includes 26 high passes (the highest being 6200m).



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:

Claire Briggs	Kathryn Haley
Linda Carey	Tanya Eade-Smith
Peter Enright	Maureen Klinberg
Darryl and Maree Ward	

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 24/6/18

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S STUMP

Our Annual General Meeting has been and gone and we have a full complement of enthusiastic committee members ready to steer the Club for another twelve months, as well as three ex-officio members looking after publicity, the website and archives.

It was pleasing to note that most of our previous committee members opted to continue with their commitment of ensuring the Border Bushwalking Club maintains its successful forty year heritage of providing opportunities for locals to get out and enjoy the great outdoors either on foot, on water, on snow and on two wheels. It was also heartening to see three new committee members elected - Cindy and Rick returning to the committee after a few year's absence, and Vanessa joining as a complete novice, having been a Club member for only a year.

The fact that there wasn't an excess of nominations necessitating elections indicates that members are more than satisfied with the way the Club is being managed and administered. The comprehensive and diverse activities program is undoubtedly one reason for this satisfaction and it is a credit to Bernadette and our Leaders.

The new committee has met since the AGM and has already flagged some important initiatives. These include personally contacting visitors after they have completed an activity to welcome them and to encourage them to consider becoming members.

We have decided to open the opportunity for more than one walk of the same grading to take place on the same day. This will provide even more options for members.

We are also reviewing the function and format of Club Nights following concerns about the low attendance at some of our monthly get-togethers. It was felt that such evenings serve an important role for many of our members and we didn't want to abandon them altogether. Instead we are looking to inject a purely social element into some Club Nights; hence the July Club Night will be an opportunity for members and friends to share some home-made soup and bread while indulging in a "show and tell" about the bowls they take on walks.

Our former Treasurer and now Website Manager, David Graf has been very busy using his IT skills and you will soon be receiving a message to indicate that our new website has gone "live". As you admire the new site, remember it is the result of a lot of hard work on David's part.

Happily, our membership continues to grow and at the recent committee meeting we approved and welcomed no less than eight new members to the Club. (Our current membership stands at 151.)

Cognisant of the increase in fuel prices the Committee has decided to increase the current rate per kilometre from 30 cents to 35 cents.

And finally, the Committee has invited an executive board member from Bushwalking Victoria to address our July meeting to explain why we should not consider dropping our affiliation with them and affiliating with the NSW counterpart which would offer the Club a considerable saving. Watch this space! Ian

COMMITTEE POSITIONS 2018-19

PRESIDENT	Ian Trevaskis
VICE PRESIDENT	Ralph Simpfendorfer
SECRETARY	Sue Simpfendorfer
TREASURER	Rick Pickering
EQUIPMENT OFFICER	Chris Gay
ACTIVITIES COORDINATOR	Bernadette Cromarty
NEWSLETTER EDITOR	Liz Nilbett
MEMBERSHIP MANAGER	Marie Maguire
SUPPERS/SOCIAL CONVENOR	Ira Robinson
GENERAL COMMITTEE	Sandy Kaitler
	Cindy Pickering
	Vanessa Crosby
EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS	Pauline McLaughlin (Publicity)
	David Graf (Website Manager)
	Eileen Clark (Archives)

TRIP REPORTS

Gourmet weekend trip report

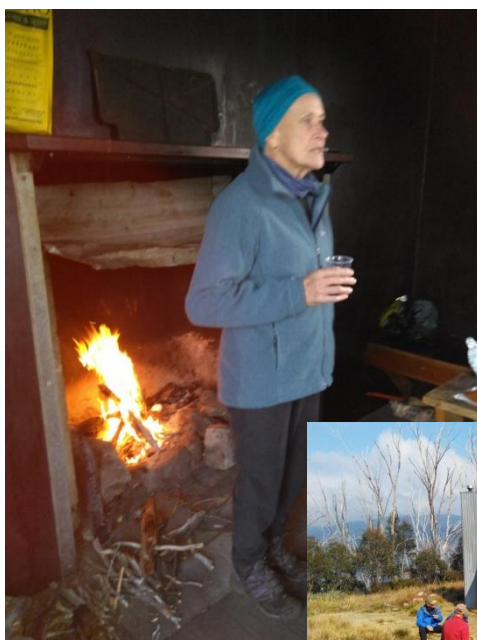
They say that 'half the fun is in the planning' which is why within 1 km of the start of the walk for this year's nine gourmands a plan was hatched for next year's event. The theme was declared to be 'Italian' but of course it did not stop there. Ideas went from sublime (Liz – bushtucker) to ridiculous (Ian – Aussie junkfood)! And that set the scene for the weekend. I think we revisited the 'next year's theme' topic pretty much every hour!

We had perfect weather and soon set up camp at Tawonga huts. Then up Mt Jaimathong for some spectacular smoky views, before collecting firewood and back to camp. Happy hour ensued with introduction of furry friends and more hilarity. The gourmet feast lived up to expectations, with an accidental Indian theme. The hut was cosy with the fire, and then we retired to our already frosted tents. Sunday morning after packing up we detoured to Westons' hut in the fog but the sun obliged for our early lunch. It was then back cross country to the cars, where we scientifically proved that driving the usual route through falls creek is quicker than road 24 to Mt McKay, by 4 minutes (and no, Bernadette was not speeding).

Funniest moment – Bernadette picking up her baked potato to put in the fire and saying it didn't feel like a potato – Ron then pipes up 'I thought it was Ian's' – he'd put the rock in the wrong one! (It was possibly made more hilarious by the wine that had been consumed).

Best moment – getting up in the frosty morning to find our esteemed leader had already lit the fire in the hut – thanks Ian, much appreciated.

Worst moments – having to wait another year until the Italian gourmet weekend – and not having a chance to sample Ian's espresso coffee – but won't that fit well in an Italian theme! Vanessa.



Bungalow Spur

Bushwalking is one of those great activities that allows us to change and adapt to weather conditions and the needs of the group. Our recent planned Razorback Crossover walk was a great example of this. Weather conditions meant the drive to Diamantina Hut would be stressful and the low cloud on the Razorback would rob walkers of views. But there were enough members who still wanted to get out and see what it was like up at Federation Hut. So The Razorback part of the walk was ditched and the group of 5 (Gordon, Leigh, Pam, Ant and myself) were more than happy and willing to put our warm and dry hiking gear to the test and walk to and from Federation Hut via Bungalow Spur. We weren't the only people with the idea either. The track head carpark was full of people gearing up. Some even crazier than us, were going to spend the night up high. Through a variety of weather types we walked, talked and ate our way to the top. At Federation Hut there was a total whiteout. Even though this robbed us of the views across to the Razorback, everyone at the hut commented that seeing the area in those conditions gave you a different perspective and respect. The 1150m descent saw us walk out of the clouds and at times, into warm sunshine. By the time we got back to the cars everyone had warmed up and were happy that they had been up high for the day. Deb



Is there such a thing as Premonitions or was this just a case of serendipity?

A new member on her first walk happens to have experience with Police Search and Rescue and an email from Bernadette last week, prior to this walk suggesting, and I quote: "While I was reviewing policy I noticed that we are meant to publish the incident report form in Footprints every now and then. Fortunately it is rarely used so maybe it could be included next month with mention of how safe we are as club".

Well I think the following is an excellent example of how safe we are as a club. A very capable and experienced leader requested at the time of booking in for the walk that participants bring extra layers of warm clothes and a head torch, "Just in case". Well done Eileen.

Young's Hut Day Walk 19 May 2018

"Seven started the walk; six finished it."

The walk to Young's Hut turned out to be one of those you hope never to have. The day started so well, with seven day walkers accompanying four others going in for the weekend, and for a change we were walking in along the Alpine Walking Track from Cope Hut instead of Pretty Valley, a distance of 12.5 km each way.

It was foggy in Mt Beauty but we drove up through the fog and into brilliant sunshine by the time we reached the car park at Cope Hut. All around we could see snow patches, the result of last weekend's early season blizzard. We made good time to Cope Saddle, downhill on a well made track, but from there on the track got rougher, lots of small rocks, bushes, holes, rivulets and, increasingly, snow cover that sometimes gave way when trodden on, plunging our feet into icy puddles. We made slow progress, especially the overnighers with their huge packs, and when we stopped for morning tea in a sheltered spot near Pole 333 we noticed the breeze was blowing the fog up from the valley, hiding the views we hoped to see.

We decided the day walkers would go ahead at their faster pace and it was about 1.15 pm when we turned the corner and walked into Young's Hut, bathed in sunshine with a carpet (or at least a rug) of snow in front. We needed a quick turnaround if we were to get back to the cars before dark and we were just finishing lunch when the others arrived.

With a quick hello/goodbye we started back at 1.45 pm, up the steady but not steep climb out of the trees onto the open plain. By now it was apparent that one of our number, Charles, was not at all well, and with chest pain, faintness and a racing pulse we didn't need Dr Google to tell us what the problem might be. At 2.30 pm we stopped at Pole 280 (or thereabouts) and activated an emergency plan.

I rang 000 and remembered something Cindy had told us once: in a remote area emergency of any sort, always ask for 'Police Search and Rescue' and let them decide who to call out. I did this and after assessing the situation they transferred us to ambulance dispatchers, and here our problems started. We gave them our GPS co-ordinates and got the response 'So you're near Seymour?' 'No', we replied, 'We're near Mt Hotham'. It took several efforts before they entered the co-ordinates correctly and identified where we were. They said they would send an ambulance to the trailhead at Cope Hut if we could walk out to meet them. We explained this was not possible, it was 10 km away and there was no vehicle access to us from the trailhead. They transferred us to Mt Beauty ambulance station who immediately said: 'You'll need a helicopter' and activated the call out. They also suggested we send someone to the trailhead as a Plan B, so two of the group who had a car there were dispatched.

Meanwhile the temperature was dropping (it had never been higher than about 3⁰) and the fog was rolling in. We had one person in the group with Police Search & Rescue experience and they became the contact person with the rescue services. We had one health professional who kept a careful watch on the patient. Our chief priority was to keep the patient warm, but potentially with a long night ahead of us it was important that the rest of us did not get chilled, because once we stopped walking we all felt the cold. Everyone was very well equipped and we were able to wrap the patient in a couple of spare coats, an extra hat and a scarf and then an emergency blanket, reflective foil on one side and orange plastic on the other. We all had wet feet and this was troubling the patient, so we pulled off their boots and socks, wrapped their feet in a spare thermal top, and thrust them in a backpack. Two people had JetBoils so we made the patient a hot drink and makeshift hot water bottle then huddled together around the patient to keep them warm. The people at Young's Hut had no phone signal but I sent them a text to inform them and asked everyone to notify someone at home that we would be very late out. The patient was concerned about their fur child waiting at home for dinner, so we contacted a neighbour to arrange care.

The sun was starting to sink towards the horizon and the fog was swirling around when we heard the welcome sound of a helicopter approaching from the south. It flew over us at quite high level then veered away to the east. "Come back" we shouted! They could talk to our contact person on the phone, who was trying to guide them in through the banks of fog. Suddenly we saw them nearby at quite low level. We grabbed the emergency blanket off the patient and started waving the orange plastic frantically. They saw us and had barely touched down before the paramedic leapt out, shouting at us that the weather was closing in and they had to get out FAST. We pulled all the spare clothing off the patient, thrust their bare feet into wet boots, and half ran, half carried them to the chopper. The paramedic checked that we could walk out and the chopper was gone, having been on the ground less than five minutes. It was about 4.30 pm, two hours after we had called 000. If we hadn't called when we did the helicopter would not have been able to get in.

At this point, we realised we had no idea where they were taking the patient, who had no wallet, phone or contact details with them, but that wasn't now our problem. We packed up our gear and the patient's pack, donned our head torches and set out into the rapidly gathering darkness for the 10 km walk back to the cars. We soon warmed up once we were moving, and with mini breaks to eat chocolate or snacks we made good progress. Amazingly, once night fell the fog disappeared and the stars were brilliant. We had been walking about an hour when we had a phone call from the paramedics telling us the patient was in the Latrobe Regional Hospital in Traralgon. The patient had told them we were from the Border Bushwalking Club so they googled to find a phone number and even let us have a few words with the patient.

We were almost back at the cars when the hospital rang, confirming the patient had had a heart attack and would be transferred to Monash Medical Centre in Melbourne for further treatment. We reached the cars about 7.30 pm, where the couple who had gone ahead were waiting for us. Our trouser legs and bootlaces were frozen solid so putting on dry shoes was a bit of a challenge but soon we were on the way home.

I have deliberately avoided naming the patient or any of the group to maintain privacy. (I have spoken with those concerned, and Charles is happy to be identified as the patient, "Our little orange kebab" as seen in the photo. Ed.) Doctors operated on the patient to insert stents on Sunday, with probable discharge on Monday, and the patient is in good spirits.

This could so easily have been a disaster, but I had a brilliant team who were all well equipped for a cold weather walk. Thanks so much to you and to the paramedics who were prepared to fly in marginal conditions, and to whoever invented mobile phones. Eileen.

Message from Charles:
Charles would like to thank all those involved on the day. He was very impressed with the care he received and the way the group worked as a team. He is also very grateful for all the messages of support he is receiving.
All of us at BBC wish Charles a speedy recovery.



YOUNGS HUT OVERNIGHTER

Four of us set off from the Cope Hut car park for the 13km trek to Youngs Hut via the Australian Alps Walking Track in pleasant hiking conditions, despite quite a deal of snow on the track and a cold breeze. We were looking forward to spending a cosy night in the hut. Ahead of us the day walkers set a cracking pace. The hut was reached after about four hours of steady walking and as we set up our tents the day walkers finished their lunch and bid us farewell. They had very kindly collected a stack of firewood for us and Ron soon had the stove lit and the hut warmed up. As we sipped hot cuppas and ate a late lunch we discussed all manner of topics and debated when we should begin preparing dinner. When the unmistakable sound of a helicopter broke the silence we stepped outside to watch it pass overhead, little realising the drama that was unfolding just a few kilometres away and as darkness approached with it came a sudden drop in temperature.

A cosy evening was spent close to the fire, sustained by hot drinks and plenty of chocolate before we reluctantly adjourned to our tents ready for a sound night's sleep. The skies were clear and the heavens were ablaze with stars. As expected, morning's light revealed the ground and tents brushed with a blanket of ice, but with the fire going and Ron's bacon and eggs making us salivate we were soon ready for the return trek.

It wasn't until we left the tree line and switched on our phones that we learned of the day walker's troubles and hasty calls were made to spouses and partners to assure them we were okay. We arrived back at Cope Hut late in the afternoon and made a beeline for the bakery for a coffee and snack.

New members, Eve and Andrew, both agreed it was a worthwhile trip and were impressed with "our" little hut hidden away in the valley. We are looking forward to a return visit sometime after winter, possibly for an extended stay.

Ian



THANK YOU

A BIG Thank You to whoever made a trip out to Young's Hut recently and fitted and painted two brand new windows! We don't know who you are but we have our suspicions. They look absolutely brilliant.

And a Blast from the Past.

As part of our 40th anniversary celebrations, each month a report from the past will be featured. This month's article dates back to 1984 and was written by Joan Causer (deceased) who made a habit of writing reports in the form of a poem.

BETHANGA HILLS FROM LOOKOUT. 3/4/84 THE INTREPID DAY WALKERS.

Morning meeting.....weather fine
Gender - female.....number - nine
Bethanga Gap.....First in waits
Somehow cars travelled from different states!!
Leader Joan.....Not the BEST
Trouble telling.....east from west
Decision:..... take the Flagstaff Track
Goes around.....SHOULD come back!
At first a sign post.....here and there
THEN NONE.....paths all darting everywhere!
Up and down.....and round about
SLIGHTLY LOST.....without a doubt!!
BIG DECISION.....left or right?
Should we.....keep the weir in sight?
IMAGINE MAP! CLOSE EYES! STICK PIN IN TRACK!!!
WISE DECISION!!.....gets us back!!
Happy day.....for all concerned-
Nine went OUT.....and nine RETURNED!!!
Joan Causer.



Pauline, circa 1995.

And while we're having a blast from the past, why can't people dress properly for skiing anymore?

NOTICES

The Border Bushwalking Club Fees are now DUE.

Club membership is valid to May 31st.

Refer to the BBC Website: www.borderbushwalkingclub.com.au/registration or pay by EFT.

Please note the new fee schedule:

Single member: \$45 or \$35 concession

Family: \$80 or \$65 concession

Each additional family member: \$10

Newsletter mailed in post: \$23 (emailed is free).

Direct Bank Deposit Account Holder – **Hume Building Society Account**

Name – Border Bushwalking Club Inc.

BSB 640 000

Account No 111104448

Description: your full name, or first 3 letters of first and last names, e.g. John Brown becomes johbro

*Concession refers to a Centrelink card. Seniors cards do not qualify for concession.

SAVE THE DATE TUESDAY, JULY 3RD

SOUP NIGHT

For our July Club Meeting we have decided to help brave the cold by having a soup night. Bring your favourite hiking mug/bowl and share soup provided by the Club. Informal conversations regarding the things and places your bowl has seen and been will make for a fun night. Soup and bread provided. If you don't have an oldie, no worries, there's lots of cups at the hall.



An overview of the cost of transport . Due to the increased price of petrol the calculation has moved from 30 cents per km to 35 cents per km.

The calculation will be 35 cents per kilometre per vehicle for total kilometres to and from the activity. This amount will be multiplied by the number of vehicles and divided by the number of people transported by the vehicles. A higher fee may need to be charged when it is necessary that 4WD access is required. If a person or persons choose to travel privately and not share transport with the group, then they will not be included in the calculation of transport costs. The fundamental principles are:

- ☑ Each person should pay the same amount, and
- ☑ The different costs incurred by each type of vehicle should be covered Some examples
- ☑ Bunnings Wodonga to Mt Hotham, estimated kms is 146 km x 2 = 292kms return x .35 cents = \$102.00, per car divided by the number of persons in the car.
- ☑ Bunnings Wodonga to Pretty Valley Dam, Falls Creek, estimated kms 128 kms x 2 = 256 kms return x .35 = \$89.60, per car divided by the number of persons in the car.
- ☑ Bunnings Wodonga to Mt Buffalo, estimated kms is 117 kms x 2 = 234 kms return x .35 = \$81.90, per car divided by the number of persons in the car.

Calculation will vary based on the kms travelled. The committee thanks all participants who offer their cars as transport. We trust these calculations cover the high cost of transport.

Decommissioned club back packs give away.

At our next club night we will be giving away club packs no longer required for hiring purposes. get yourself a bargain!

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:

webadmin@borderbushwalkingclub.com.au

WANT TO GO ON A WALK BUT NEED SOME GEAR?

We hire:

- Tents
- Sleeping bags
- Back-packs
- Hiking poles
- Waterproof jackets
- We even have a dehydrator if you want to prepare your own meals (or dry your excess Summer produce)
- And lots more...



WANT TO LEAD A WALK BUT WORRIED ABOUT SAFETY?

We have the following equipment available for free for any club walk:

- First aid kits
- GPS
- PBLs

Where do I get the gear?

ADVENTURE GEAR, DEAN ST ALBURY

BORDER BUSHWALKING CLUB
PO Box 857 Wodonga VIC 3689
Association Number A 5665B



INCIDENT REPORT FORM

No: ICR 1/05/06b.

An addition to Bushwalking Victoria Risk Management Guideline Document

This form can be hand-written or completed by typing

To be completed by event Organizers / Walk Leaders as soon as practical after the incident.

This report should be returned to *Secretary – BBC* and retained by CLUB
as our formal record.

secretary@borderbushwalkingclub.com.au

Report Prepared By: **Date Prepared:**

Date of Incident: **Time of Incident:**

Type of event: (*Federation Day Walk, Club walk, Club bike ride etc*)

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Location:

Type of Incident: (*Injury, missing person, damage to property, theft, fire, etc*)

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Incident Details

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Actions Taken:

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External Involvement: *(Were authorities or other agencies notified at the time? If so, who, by whom, and how? Did they take a role in managing the incident? If appropriate have the Insurers been notified?)*

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Final Outcome: *(What was the final outcome of the incident? When was it resolved?)*

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Future Prevention: *(Can this incident be prevented at future Club / Vic Walk Events? If so, how?) ..*

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Supplementary Information: *(This section can include a list of attachments, such as a map, witness statements etc.)*

PRIVACY NOTE

The inclusion of the names of individuals and their contact details in this report must be done in accordance with relevant Privacy Laws.

Photo credits this issue:

Eileen
Tania
Eve
Deb
Vanessa
Ralph
Bernadette



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

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>

Benalla Bushwalking Club Camp Cookout

Saturday, June 2 - Sunday,
June 3

Ungraded

Leader: Gary Versteegen

Phone: 03 57624564

Participant numbers: 4

Final booking date: ASAP

The camp cookout takes place on the Murray river. There are 4 places for BBC members. Meat and Vegetables for the main course will be supplied but if people could bring along something to share in the way of nibbles before dinner and a sweet to share for dessert that would be greatly appreciated. There will be a cost involved but that will be worked out at the dinner when we know how many are coming. Please let me know as soon as you can if you are joining us for this great weekend.

Two Days on the Hume and Hovell Track **Saturday, June 2nd - Sunday** **Grade 3**
Bushwalking Overnight camping **June 3rd**

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.

The Big Walk **Sunday, June 3rd** **Grade4**
Bushwalking **22km**

Leader: David

Phone: 0432632142 after 8pm

Bookings by: Wednesday, May 30th

Unfortunately I couldn't make it on Deb's big walk in April, but it would be a pity to miss it for a whole season. The walk starts at the carpark at the Park entry, and climbs steadily to the Gorge, is approx. 22km return and all on well-formed walking tracks. Bring a thermos and winter gear, as it could be cool. It'll also be an early start, given the shorter days.

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 choose 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.

Mount Stanley **Saturday, June 16th** **Grade 4**

Bushwalking

Leader: Bernadette

Phone: 0419241687

Bookings by: Wednesday, June 13th

This is a great walk for keeping fit in Winter. It is about 18km of ups and downs. Most of the walk is on 4WD drive track but the last part is up and involves a short section of bush bashing. Don't be turned off, we won't be in a hurry and it's close to Beechworth so it's not too far to drive for most of us.

**The Great Dividing Trail - Dry Diggings Track
Bushwalking**

Leader: Deb

Phone: 0410047884 before 8pm

Bookings by: Friday, June 22nd

Last year we walked part of the Leanganook Track, this year we will do a section of the Dry Diggings Track. We will be staying in Castlemaine on Friday and Saturday nights (share costs of accommodation). Saturday we will do part of the The Golden Mountain Walk and Cry Joe Walk (total distance approx 23km). On Sunday a short walk before driving home will be an option.

Because of the location participant numbers will be based on car loads. There will be 2 seats available in my car.

Then I will require another car to be able to take another 4 people. Total number of people will be 2 car loads.

More information on booking.

Mt. Samaria

Bushwalking

Leader: Deb

Phone: 0410047884 before 8pm

Bookings by: Wednesday, August 1st

Mount Samaria State Park is between Benalla and Mansfield and has great views from a variety of locations. This walk of approx. 16km will visit Mt Samaria summit with its 360 degree views to The Alps and lowlands, Wild Dog Falls from where you can see Lake Nilhacootie and The Strathbogies and Spring Creek Sawmill ruins and kilns. The walk criss crosses the park and is on a variety of walking tracks with a few short sections on a dirt road.

Howman's Gap Ski Weekend

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. No experience necessary.

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

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.

YHA Melbourne & BBC Intra Club Walk

Pine mountain and Rocky Knob

Bushwalking

Leader: Deb

Phone: 0410047884 before 8pm

Bookings by: Wednesday, Sept. 26th

Pine Mountain is a gigantic rock monolith reputedly one and half times as large as Uluru. The walk to the top over imposing rock outcrops is rated as strenuous (grade 4) but offers panoramic views of the surrounding Murray River valleys.

YHA Melbourne & BBC Intra Club Walk

Flaggy Creek Gorge Walking Track

Bushwalking

**Friday, July 20th - Sunday,
July 22nd**

Grade 3

Saturday August 4th

Grade 3

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

Ungraded

Friday, September 28th

Ungraded

Friday, September 28th

Grade 4

10km

Saturday, September 29th

Grade 3

14km

Leader: Deb

Phone: 0410047884 before 8pm

Bookings by: Wednesday, Sept. 26th

This is a rugged 14km (7-hour) return walk that provides access to the waterfalls and rock pools within Flaggy Creek George. Panoramic views over the Murray River are available from Valley View after 1.5km.

Section 1: Kurrajongs to Valley View (1.5km) – is a continuous climb through granite boulders. This section is a demanding climb with very few flat areas. On reaching Valley View there are views in both directions along the Murray River. Caution is required on this section as there are unguarded cliff edges.

YHA Melbourne & BBC Intra Club Walk

Sunday, September 30th

Grade 3

Mt. Granya Walking Track

10.4km

Leader: Deb

Phone: 0410047884 before 8pm

Bookings by: Wednesday, Sept. 26th

This walk through open forest links Cotton Tree Creek with Mt Granya Summit via Granya Falls.

Bluff Hut/Ritchies Hut

Friday, November 23rd -

Grade 4

Bushwalking and Overnight Car Camping

Sunday, November 25th

Leaders: Mick Sheedy

2018

Phone: 0437101009

Deb: 0410047884 before 8pm

Bookings by: Tuesday, November 20th

This is a two night car camp starting Friday night at 8 mile camp on the Howqua River. Saturday will start with an early drive up to the walking track to Bluff Hut. It's a short steep climb up the Bluff, but once up on top it has some of the best views. We'll be walking along the top of the Bluff cliffs to Bluff Hut for lunch then returning back down to the cars and back to our camp at 8 mile campsite. In total it's approximately 12 kms return trip.

Sunday mornings walk will commence from our base at 8 mile camp to Ritchies Hut. We will have a choice of a low track and a high track. Walking along the low track we follow the Howqua river to the hut. On the return trip back we will follow the high track back to cars. This should be a nice relaxing walk along the river of approx 12 kms return walk.

Numbers are dependent on 4wds available.

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.

The three tracks Pre Christmas Walk

Saturday, December 22nd.

Grade 3

Bushwalking

Leaders: Mick Sheedy

Phone: 0437101009

Deb: 0410047884 before 8pm

Bookings by: Tuesday, December 18th

After meeting at Mt Beauty we will head up to the Bogong village to start our walk. The first track starts with a short steep climb up the Black Possum Spur track to Mt Arthur before going down to Bogong Creek Saddle. Bogong Fire track will start us off on our second track which makes its way underneath Mt Bogongs West Peak to where our last track following Roper Spur track to which we will then follow back to our cars.

There will be a short car shuffle at the start and finish of our walk and the walk is approximately 22kms.

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.

