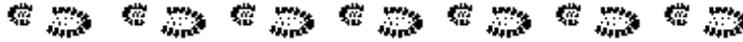




FOOTPRINTS

July 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

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 JULY 3rd

CHANGE OF VENUE

The senior citizens hall is being renovated so this club night is being held at St. John's Church hall, Beechworth road Wodonga.

SOUP NIGHT.

What better way to warm up than a good bowl of soup and a chat with fellow walkers? This club night you are invited to bring your favourite hiking bowl or mug, fill it with some delicious home made soup that will be provided and yarn about the places you and your mug have been. Bread, soup and the usual supper will be provided.



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

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 23/7/18

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S STUMP

As a result of the recent incident involving one of our members, Charles Dunn, while on the Young's Hut day walk, I convened a debriefing session as soon as possible after the event. This involved available committee members and participants from the walk. The purpose of the debrief was to discuss and evaluate what worked well, how effective responses were to the evolving emergency and areas we need to improve upon and/or address in the future. Below is a summary of the more relevant and pertinent points from that debrief. Please take some time to read them and reflect upon your own preparedness to deal with an emergency situation that may arise when you are participating in a Club activity.

Our August Club Night will focus on "**Dealing with Emergencies**" and will be led by one of our newest members, Tanya Eade-Smith. Tanya comes with an extensive background of 18 years in the police force, including Emergency Management and 4 years as a member of the NSW Search and Rescue unit based at Cooma. (Tanya was one of the Young's Hut day walkers.)

EMERGENCY INCIDENT DEBRIEF MAY 27TH 2018

The following is a summary of pertinent points; issued raised; and suggestions for further action following the debrief held on Sunday, May 27th. They are listed in no particular order of importance.

- *No personal medications to be offered to others UNLESS directed by a doctor/paramedic.*
- *Space blanket or similar to be carried by Leader and/or participants.*
- *Emergency App such as "Emergency +" be installed on mobile phones.*
- *Leaders to check participants are carrying 2 current 'Walkers Emergency Details' forms in their First Aid Kit and top pocket of their backpack.*
- *Leaders and walkers to carry head torches and spare batteries.*
- *It is paramount that the first priority in an emergency is for individual's to make sure they look after their own safety and well-being in the first instance.*
- *Organise and conduct at least one Leaders Training Session per year that is open to ALL members.*
- *Organise and conduct First Aid/Wilderness First Aid training for members.*
- *Remind participants of their responsibility to ensure they are fit and capable of completing an activity and alerting the Leader if unwell. Encourage participants to pull out before an activity if not sure they are well enough.*
- *Leaders should draw on and utilise the expertise and/or experience of members of the group in the case of an emergency.*
- *EPIRB and/or Personal Locator Beacon to be carried by Leaders when an activity is taking place in remote or 'limited/no mobile signal' areas.*
- *Leaders and walkers should carry a spare pair of socks in packs.*

Ian

THANK YOU DAVID

On behalf of all members, the Committee would like to record its thanks and appreciation to David Graf who has spent innumerable hours working to renew and revitalize our website. The result, as I'm sure you will agree, is a credit to David and his IT skills. "Thank You" David.

Apologies.

Oops. It is with great pleasure I tell you I was wrong in writing our June "Blast from the Past" contributor, Joan Causer, was deceased. I hear she is a sprightly 96 year old living in Queensland. Ed.

TRIP REPORTS

Mt Buffalo; Back Wall and Dickson's Falls 14km 26/5/18

Perfect Autumn weather as 11 walkers gathered at Cresta Valley's car park to hear first time leader Ralph takes us through the walk and introduce five newcomers to BBC walking.

Mt Buffalo was at its autumn best, soft breeze, golden grasses, clear views and a track recently cleared. There were overgrown sections in spring and gaiters were recommended. All walkers who had gaiter's worn them; impressed to see suggestions taken seriously.

The Back Wall track is interesting as it travels through three distinct areas. The track meanders through the plains grasses of Cresta Valley with magnificent rock formations surrounding it including the Giants Playground. It then climbs steadily entering a thick understory and snow gums, then opens into a dramatic bouldered area with stunning views across to the Horn and into the Buckland Valley

An early lunch was had at the Back Wall with spectacular views. As always, an enjoyable and educational conversation began, debate over the Horn, Ralph and Ian; Darryl's Para band bracelet unraveling to become a belt to hold up his shorts and Paul, ex forestry knowledge on the difference between the Victorian plantations technique we were viewing and Tasmania's. Always learn something.

We returned the way we came and picked up the track to Dickson's Falls with yet another Mt Buffalo magnificent view over Buckland Valley and on to the main range.

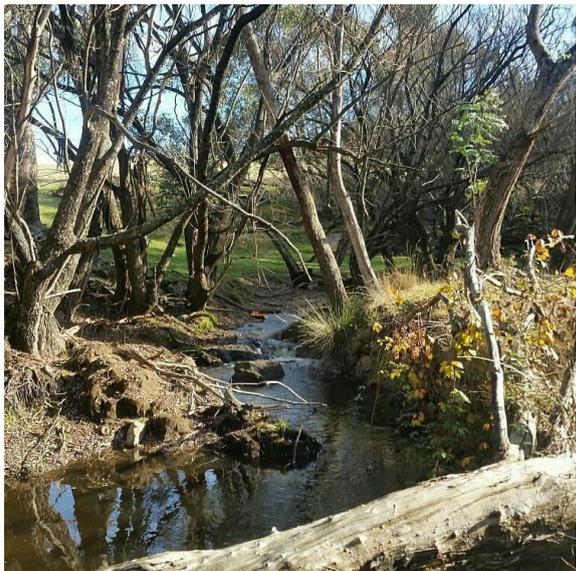
It was great to have good crew of new BBC walker's and three visitors. Thank you for coming, see you on the trail again; a great group. Ralph.



Two days on the Hume and Hovell Track

It takes the same time to drive to Tumbarumba as it does to Falls Creek or Mt Hotham, but sadly it's overlooked. Henry Angel Trackhead campground is 10kms from the bakery and a great base to explore parts of the Hume and Hovell Track. We arrived when the puddles were still frozen, set up our tents, checked out the hot water in the amenities block, then headed south along Burra Creek. Burra Creek had a significant mining settlement and remnants of this are still visible. The track is almost flat, as it follows the creek to the swing bridge over where Tumbarumba Creek flows into Burra

Creek. Rosemary quickly found out that ice, cold steel and hiking boots aren't a good mix and was very lucky not to have a swim. We decided that this would be a good spot to turn around and retrace our steps. We detoured from the track slightly and went up Big Hill (not big at all) to the lookout for lunch. Some of the group decided to go further up the hill to see the views while most were happy to look across to the Australian Alps from the saddle. The return trip to our campsite was uneventful. It rained Saturday night, but we kept our fire going and just as most people were ready to go to bed the rain stopped allowing the noisy people to stay up for a bit longer. Sunday morning saw us head north in sunshine once again following Burra Creek. The bush this time, was very different to the day before and unfortunately was thick with blackberries as far as you could see. We returned to our campsite for lunch, before hopping back into cars and driving home. Thanks to Pam, Christine, Janice, Rosemary, and Jan for joining me for the weekend. Deb



The Big Walk June 2018: A lesson in probability.

The forecast stated 10% chance of rain and we all know what that means: no rain. Well it seems we had a lesson to learn. Apparently it means that you have 10% chance of rain. Throughout the day rain came and went, prompting us to explore another probability issue: If I stop, take off my pack, open my pack, take out my raincoat and put it on, what is the probability of the rain stopping? It seems very high. Conversely if I continue walking in this drizzle what are the chances of it continuing? Not only are they high but it is highly probable that it will become heavier rain very quickly. The Big Walk is a varied and rewarding walk from the base of Mount Buffalo to the top (and back again in this case). Deb had led it only a few months ago so what was the probability that David, who had missed out on Deb's walk, could gather a group together for this beautiful walk? High as it turns out as 8 of us had a lovely day walking and talking our way up and down.

And now for the biggest probability shock for the writer: What was the probability that she would be the oldest walker in the group? There is always a chance for firsts and I had plenty of time to reflect as I followed in the wake of the 'youngies' striding ahead. This event was in no way a reflection on my increasing age but, rather, a sign of the diverse mix of members, new and old, that enjoy our club and the environs that we explore.

Maybe I should buy a lottery ticket, although I think I've already won the lottery with so many days like this available thanks to great leaders like David. Thanks David, another fantastic day. Bernadette.



Trip Report Nail Can Hill

Six met at eight, no-one was late
In spite of the rain, we did not complain
Next, it was up, up, up to the top
We were so hot now we had to stop
On the way down, we let it rip
Nobody lingered by the tip
We squeezed through the gate, aware that our rate
Would now become slow as up we must go.

The fog was still low, it caused us no woe
And a short break for food improved our mood
The track became flat, I fancied that
But it didn't last long, more hills came along
Then the zig-zag took us down
Almost into the centre of town.

In the rotunda, it was slurp, munch and crunch
And two departed after lunch
The remaining four set off again
Well aware of the terrain
Down became up and up became down
We managed it all without a frown

Back at the cars before half-past four
26 k completed, perhaps even more
Metres climbed, over 800
Quite a big walk, in case you wondered
E, D and S said thanks to BC
Then it was home for a cup of tea
And thereby ends my poetry.

Eileen.

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 1999 and was written by BBC Life Member, Pauline McLaughlin.

5-12 September Gangerang '99 Medium/Hard 70-80kms

Leader: Albert Lightfoot

About 5 or 6 day (however long it takes) of wilderness walking in the Kanangra Walls-Kowmung River area of the Kanangra-Boyd National Park. Some on track.

I read the notice in Footprints and had heard about other trips Albert had led in the Kanangra-Boyd National Park, so I booked in and was looking forward to an exciting, wilderness adventure.

There were 9 enthusiastic bushwalkers who left the comfort of home to explore some wilderness. An overnight stay in Oberon had us ready for the descent the next morning.

It was a sunny day with a wonderful feeling that we were walking through country that few had the privilege of experiencing. The descent took us all day and as we took our packs off, Ron sat on a rock and announced that he had hurt his back. It seems he had hurt it when he was weighing all the packs before we started walking that morning. A friendly debate followed, and the leader gave a few options. 1. He and Ron would walk out together and the rest of us continue. 2. We all walk out. 3. We all continue and share the injured member's pack contents amongst us.

Option 3 was adopted and so on the second day, we continued walking with packs a little heavier than when we started. The bush was lush and we were walking through a valley with the Kowmung River always close. There were many river

crossings. (I gave up counting after 100.)

Each day greeted us with lush bush, more river crossings, lots of chatter and laughter and sometimes fresh trout to eat as we had a keen fisherman with us. The days ended at varied times as we searched for cleared areas to set up tents. But on Friday, as we were negotiating thick slippery bush with logs beneath, one Rae slipped and gashed her knee open. As we were tending the wound, our fearless leader was watching and he too slipped and was heard to say "I've done it. I've broken my wrist."

After bandaging the wrist the group continued until a campsite was reached, and tents were erected very hurriedly as night set in. By this stage there were no pain-killers to be had, as Ron had been supplied by everyone over the last few days. So our two new casualties had to survive without pain killers.

On rising the next morning Errol suggested he walk on ahead as we had a steep climb ahead of us. He suggested ringing families to say we might be late home. So off he went and the rest of us struggled up the incline. It was so steep that we went from tree to tree moving one arm from one tree to the next and a stick in the other arm to support us. Our leader only had one arm to help himself but he struggled on. As we reached the top, nightfall had descended and we heard a helicopter circling overhead. "They couldn't be looking for us!" But we stood in a row shining our torches at the helicopter and yes, they were looking for us. A rescue person was winched down and told us that the SES and an ambulance were on their way.

Errol had phoned families, but had also gone to the police station to let them know there was a group with some injuries.

So when all the rescuers were there and checked our injured members, they suggested a visit to the local hospital, but our injured members said "No", they wanted to be treated at home.

A night in some cabins prepared us for the trip home the next day and our injured members sought medical attention the day after we returned home.

This trip resulted in Albert being awarded the Burnt Boot.

The Burnt Boot Award is not given every year but is only presented for club trips that are truly memorable. The burnt boot belonged to Dorothy Reedy. Once a sturdy walking boot, it came to grief whilst drying out too close to the camp fire. It was mounted on native timber and became the infamous "Burnt Boot Award".



Back: Bruce Key
Next row: Pat Fairweather, Ron Hammond, Robyn Duncomb,
Next: Pauline McLaughlin Errol White, Chris Sobey, Albert Lightfoot, Rae Close



NOTICES

The Border Bushwalking Club Fees are now OVERDUE.

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.

YHA BUSHWALKING CLUB MELBOURNE AND BBC INTERCLUB WEEKEND 28/29/30 SEPTEMBER 2018

Please save the date as our interclub weekend is shaping up to be a great weekend of walking. YHA will be bringing 15 members up to spend 3 days walking in the Upper Murray region. Each day we will host a different walk for our visitors. All walk details are on our club activities calendar as is the Friday night dinner (venue TBA). I'm hoping that BBC will be well represented with members on each of these walks and happy to take bookings as soon as possible, because I keep getting asked by Erryn from YHA "how many members have signed up for the walk?"

Deb.

CROSS COUNTRY SKIING

Sue Cardwell

02 6056 0501 or sunacard@outlook.com

Trips are planned with a few days notice snow & weather permitting on the borderskiers Yahoo site. If you wish to join this group please contact the co-ordinator Warwick McLachlan 6025 1323, 0418 673 164 or mcla@bigpond.net.au

Most trips Grade 3 medium with some hard at times. Fit beginners will be welcome.

PHOTOS FOR NEXT YEAR'S HUTS CALENDAR REQUIRED.

The VHCHA is looking for beautiful hut images for next year's calendar.

This year's theme is "HUTS WE'VE WORKED ON".

If your photo is selected, it will be published in a sell-out calendar. Importantly you will be helping us preserve our precious huts through funds raised by calendar sales.

We'd also love to see - and possibly use - shots of work in progress. We would love to show off what we've been up to.

Please see the attached flyer for more information and submission instructions.

If you have any questions, please contact Vice President Stephen Renfree by email to vp@hutsvictoria.org.au.

Thank you,

Andrew Higgs
Treasurer

Victorian High Country Huts Association

treasurer@hutsvictoria.org.au



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.

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

Photo credits this issue:

Deb
David
Ralph
Pauline



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>



PHOTOS IN FOOTPRINTS.

Often on walks there will be photos taken of participants. If you **DO NOT** wish your photograph to be taken, it is **YOUR** responsibility to inform fellow walkers.

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

Mt. Warby

Saturday, June 30th

Grade 3

Bushwalking

14kms approx.

Leader: Deb

Phone: 0410047884 before 8pm

Bookings by: Wednesday, June 27th

The Victorian Government created Warby-Ovens National Park, in June 2010 to protect and enhance the remaining River Red Gum forests in Victoria. The park is an important location for the survival of species such as the Squirrel Glider, Feathertail Glider, Powerful Owl, Turquoise Parrot, Carpet Python and Lace Monitor.

The walking tracks that we will access to get to Mt Warby summit include; Salisbury Falls Tk and Friends Tk. We will return (hopefully thats the plan) via Alpine Views Tk, make a short detour to Kwat Kwat Lookout for excellent views of the Ovens Valley and the Victorian Alps and then join back up with Salisbury Falls Track. All up nothing too extreme, a nice easy/medium grade walk of about 14kms.

Mt. Jack

Saturday, July 14th

Grade 4

Bushwalking

17kms approx.

Leader: Deb

Phone: 0410047884 before 8pm

Bookings by: Wednesday, July 11th

Finding a walk that is accessible in winter is tricky. Mt Jack, at the back of Dederang fits the bill nicely. Whilst it is all on 4WD track, these tracks are rarely used so we won't be dodging vehicles all day. The walk is a loop that is accessed via private property and by crossing a number of creeks (depth of water is dependant on weather). On a clear day whilst climbing steeply (700m over 4km) up Billy Hicks Track you can see the main range. This climb will take us to the Mt Jack Track and from here its a bit up, a bit down, and a bit around till we get to the unassuming summit of Mt Jack. Following the North House Creek Track we will descend back to the flatter farmland and the cars. All up about 17km.

The Great Dividing Trail - Dry Diggings Track **Friday July 20 to Sunday** **Grade 3**
Bushwalking Overnight camping **22nd July**

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 accomodation). 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. Murramurrangbong, Kergunyah **Saturday, July 28th** **Grade 3**

Bushwalking

Leader: Eileen

Phone: 0412042195

Bookings by: Wednesday, July 25th

Mt Murra towers over the Kiewa Valley Highway between Kiewa and Kergunyah. I've often looked at it but never walked it, so this walk will be somewhat exploratory, guided by a trip report from the Warby Walkers:

<http://warbybushwalkers.org.au/2017/06/21/mt-murramurrangbong-june-18/>

We will start/finish at the Kergunyah end and there is quite a bit of climbing involved, all on track and leading to splendid views, about 15 km in total.

Mt. Samaria **Saturday, August 4th** **Grade 3**

Bushwalking

Leader: Deb

Phone: 0410047884 before 8pm

Co-leader: Mick

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.

Tawonga Gap Ridge Track - South **Saturday, August 11th** **Grade 3**
Bushwalking **14kms approx.**

Leader: Eileen

Phone: 0412042195

Bookings by: Wednesday, August 8th

Starting from opposite the lookout at Tawonga Gap, this walk is all on 4WD tracks along the ridge. We head south towards Mt Beauty and should get excellent views of snow-covered peaks.

There are lots of ups and downs on this walk and walking poles are recommended if you use them. Return by the same route, about 14 km in all.

Howman's Gap Ski Weekend **Friday, August 17th - Sunday, Ungraded**
Leader: Sue Cardwell **August 19th**

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.

Tawonga Gap Ridge Track - North**Saturday, August 25th****Grade 3****Bushwalking****14kms approx.****Leader: Eileen****Phone: 0412042195****Bookings by: Wednesday, August 22nd**

This walk starts at the Tawonga Gap car park and we head north along the ridge to its junction with the German Creek track, which we follow until it reaches the Bright road. The track is up and down, steep in places, and walking poles are recommended if you use them. There is a very small creek crossing right near the end and a short car shuffle. We should also get some views. The walk is about 14 km in all.

Mt. Stanley**Sunday, September 2nd****Grade 4****Bushwalking****Leader: Bernadette****Phone: 0419241687****Bookings by: Wednesday, August 29th**

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.

please phone to talk to me unless I have walked with you a number of times. Don't phone before August 25th.

Yes, I know it is now on in Spring but my attempt to do this in Winter was foiled by Winter weather!

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.

YHA Melbourne & BBC Intra Club Walk**Friday, September 28th****Grade 4****Pine mountain and Rocky Knob****10km****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**Saturday, September 29th****Grade 3****Flaggy Creek Gorge Walking Track****14km****Bushwalking****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.

Falls Creek Young's Hut day walk **Saturday, November 3rd** **Grade 3**

Bushwalking

Leader: Eileen

Phone: 0412042195

Bookings by: Wednesday, October 31st

We'll accompany Ian's overnights on their way in to Youngs Hut from Pretty Valley in the morning, then return after lunch. The walk is about 8 km in each direction with some climbing and the top part is very exposed.

Hopefully we will have great views and no dramas!

Young's Hut Overnight **Saturday, November 3rd -** **Grade 3**

Overnight camping

Sunday, November 4th

Leader: Ian

Phone: 0425782983

Bookings by: Tuesday, October 30th

My last visit to "our" hut was just before Winter set in, so this will be an opportunity to see how she has fared in our absence. Young's Hut is a rustic former SEC survey hut that our club maintains in conjunction with Parks Victoria. The walk will start from Pretty Valley Pondage, follow the Fainters Fire Trail for a few kms before heading cross country to Pole 333, past Mt Jim on the track leading to the hut, a distance of approx 20kms. Return journey is via the same route with a possible side trip to Mt Jim. We should have great views to Mt Hotham, the Razorback and Mt Feathertop and may see some brumbies. Walk is both on and off track, with a couple of short steep climbs, and is very exposed across the top.

(I would appreciate someone to organise hikers coming from Albury/Wodonga)

Ryder's Yards Overnight **Saturday, November 17th -** **Grade 3**

Leader: Ian

Sunday, November 18th

14kms

Phone: 0425782983

Bookings by: Monday, November 12th

This walk is suitable for those who have not previously completed an overnight walk. The walk follows the Australian Alps Walking Track and begins with a visit to Cope Hut before setting off across the Bogong High Plains via Cope Saddle Hut (former SEC hut), up Mt Bundora to Pole 380 then cross country to the aqueduct and along the track to Ryder's Yards. We'll camp here overnight before returning along the same route the next day. There will be plenty of scope for a bit of extra wandering if time, energy and enthusiasm warrants. This is an ideal opportunity to hone up on cross country navigational skills and an opportunity for those who would like to experience an easy overnights.

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

Leader: Mick Sheedy

22kms approx.

Phone: 0437101009

Deb: 0410047884 before 8pm

Bookings by: Tuesday, December 12th

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 Author 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 small car shuffle at the start and finish of our walk and the walk is approximately 22ks

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