

# FOOTPRINTS June 2019

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





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

Ken: Policy and Sandy

## CLUB NIGHT 7:30 TUESDAY June 4th

#### Old Road of Kumano, Japan

Presented by Ian Trevaskis

The Kii Peninsula points south away from the great cities of Kyoto and Osaka, and is one of the most remote and mystical areas of Japan. From the 11th century successive emperors and their families made the long and difficult pilgrimage to Kumano from Kyoto. Several pilgrimage trails were established, collectively known as the Kumano Kodo (Old Road of Kumano). In March Ian and Trish walked through the forested mountains and small villages to the Grand Shrine of Hongu, before finishing near the Pacific Ocean at Nachi Grand Shrine. Ian will be sharing the experience at our next Club Night

**Where:** Senior Citizens, Meeting Room, Civic Centre Complex, Hovell Street, Wodonga **Visitors** are always welcome at me tings 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.

#### WELCOME

We extend a warm welcome to the following new members: Glenn Mackinnon Hannah Wolki

### NEW MEMBERS FROM MAY COMMITTEE REPORT

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, report to the editor. Photos of outings are also greatly appreciated. Please try to send photos as small files and acknowledge photographer.

Send to:

newsletter@borderbushwalkingclub.com.au

Deadline for next Footprints is 21/6/19

A huge thank you to all those who submit material.

#### FROM THE PRESIDENT'S STUMP

The Committee recently received some exciting news when we were advised that our submission to the Wodonga City Council for a Community Impact Grant was successful. The grant, to the value of over \$1500, will allow up to twelve of our Leaders to undertake First Aid training in early September at no cost to themselves.

This is part of the Committee's vision to make sure all our Leaders are capable and well equipped to lead the various outdoor activities the Club undertakes. By the end of the year we hope to have Leaders that are not only well versed in navigation skills, but will also have the necessary basic first aid training to ensure the well-being of the participants in their care.

This is the perfect segue to another issue that relates to the well-being of participants in Club activities. As well as the many and varied responsibilities a Leader takes on board, there are also responsibilities expected of all participants. Before booking into a walk, a bike ride, a cross country ski trip or any other Club activity, it is incumbent on the participant to make sure they have read and understood the physical demands of the activity. If in doubt, speak to the Leader. This is why we insist that anyone wishing to participate in BBC activities makes personal contact with the Leader. Such contact not only allows the participant to clarify any issues or doubts, but also provides the Leader with an opportunity to ascertain whether the intending participant is fit enough and has the appropriate equipment to undertake the activity successfully. It is also an appropriate time for the intending participant to alert the Leader to any medical conditions they may have, such as asthma, allergies, diabetes, etc.

All members and visitors are encouraged to think twice about taking part in an activity if they are feeling unwell, are recovering from an illness or are unsure if they have the requisite fitness and stamina to complete the activity. We would also expect that during the course of an activity, anyone feeling unwell or finding the going too hard to immediately alert the Leader.

By ensuring these simple, common sense approaches are taken by members, we would expect that activities are completed successfully and enjoyably and that Leaders are not called upon to resort to their recently acquired First Aid skills!

Look forward to seeing you on a track, a ski slope or a bike path soon. Ian



#### TRIP REPORTS

#### Circuit Falls Creek

We had ten club members and two visitors rug up with beanies, gloves, layers of thermals and down jackets, after being advised the predicted top temperature at Falls Creek was 5 C. Except for Ron, who always wears shorts. His experience in these matters became obvious as we all slowly removed the layers, while walking up the gentle but steady incline of Road 24, with the cloudless, blue, sunny sky above.

Morning tea was enjoyed with magnificent views looking down the valley, then we continued to the end of the road, passing a small waterfall, where some bottles were refilled. With only a short walk along Pretty Valley road, we headed down the Home and Away track, coming out at the 'Big Fella' artwork on the town's water tank. After this cultural interlude, we headed to the chairs and tables, (and toilets!), at the Village Bowl for lunch. Then it was a leisurely downhill stroll along Packhorse track back to our cars and home. A good day's walk with lovely weather and people.

#### **Pauline**







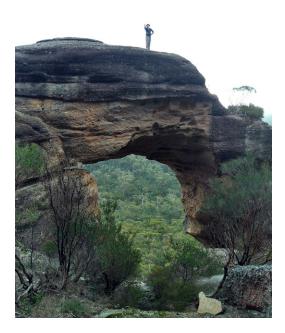
#### When the going gets tough the tough get going - Budawangs trip report

7 brave members headed off to the Budawangs in the Morton national park on the Easter weekend. 2 of us knew what was in store, the others maybe should have read their trip notes! They were to discover that the Budawangs is a test of endurance, nerve and equipment. If you want an excuse to replace equipment, just head off to the heart of the Budawangs.

Day 1 began with a stroll through the bush to Corang peak, where we had lunch enjoying the view before wandering down to Corang arch – an awesome geological formation.

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After that it was a fairly short walk in the approaching fog, to the first night's spot - a camping cave at Burrumbeet Brook. We were very grateful for the shelter of the cave as it drizzled all night.



Day 2 started in the fog, but the amazing scenery was soon to be revealed. As the fog lifted, we got our first glimpse of the sheer cliffs of Mt Owen. Somewhere hiding within those cliffs was our route up the mountain. This is where the challenges began in earnest. There were looks of disbelief on a few faces when they saw the rock face / fallen tree branch that we had to ascend.

Pete's rope came into play and we gradually got people and packs up the rock face – soon developing an effective team system. All the people survived, the packs and pants did not all do quite so well! From the top of Mt Owen, we could see our ultimate goal – The Castle. The challenges kept coming, with ropes and pack lowers required down the other side too. For 'what goes up must come down'! We all slept well despite a very busy camp site at Cooyoyo creek.



Day 3 perfect weather. The apprehension about climbing the castle was evident on the groups faces. What was in store for us, would we all summit and who would be 'King of the castle?' There was some concern about how the patriarch of

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the group would go, but Ian was to prove that age is no obstacle to rope climbing. He flew up the 7 rope climbs faster than all of us (maybe he is more closely related to monkeys).

We took some well-earned pictures of the magnificent views from the top, before descending to reunite ourselves with the enemy – the big packs. It was then on through the cool fern clad gorge of monolith valley, then to our campground at the base of Mt Tarn.





Day 4 was, as promised, an easier day, starting with Easter eggs all round. We arrived early afternoon at the lovely Corang river where we were amazed to have the campground all to ourselves. Everyone availed themselves of the fantastic swimming holes and washed away days' worth of blood, sweat, tears and grime!





Day 5 was a 3-hour speed walk back to civilisation. Well done everyone for surviving this challenging walk, with no sense of humour failures (well hardly any). And a massive thanks to Pete whose organisation and leadership ensured that we all had a safe and enjoyable walk. Final tally of equipment blowouts – 2 large packs, 1 day pack, 1 pair of pants, no bodies.

Vanessa















#### ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

Please click on the following events website for the latest events on offer from BBC

https://borderbushwalkingclub.com.au/events/

NOTICES

#### BORDER BUSHWALKNG CLUB FEES are now due

Fees are as follows:

Single \$45, Concession \$35, Family of 2 \$80. Concession \$65. Extra family member \$10 per person

Concessions are granted to those who have a Centrelink pension or allowance and not holders of Seniors cards. Please pay your fees by direct deposit into our account, including your name;

Border Bushwalking Club Inc BSB 640 000 ACC 111104448

#### **SAFE WALKING**

As Winter approaches we all need to think about what makes for safe walking. Days are shorter and torches may be needed if there is any delay, its colder and more layers are needed... Sometimes leaders may decide to cancel, alter or postpone an activity as the conditions are unsafe or just uncomfortable. That is always the leader's prerogative and the decision should be respected. It can be tricky for a leader to make that decision. If you, as a leader, are unsure whether you should proceed please discuss your concerns with another trusted club member who is aware of the area and how conditions may impact on the walk. Enjoy the joys of Winter activities knowing that it's much more fun if you feel safe.

Bernadette, Activities Coordinator.

#### **FUTURE OF OUR FORESTS INITIATIVE**

As you are aware in July 2018, the Victorian Government commenced a major program to modernise how Victoria's forests are managed and ensure future forest management delivers the highest and best value uses of our forests for Victorian communities.

We are currently undertaking a number of key initiatives as part of the modernisation process as well as significant community engagement across Victoria. We are pleased to release our latest newsletter to update you on the engagement process and outcomes and all of our activities. You can read it on our website <a href="https://www2.delwp.vic.gov.au/futureforests/get-involved/newsletter">https://www2.delwp.vic.gov.au/futureforests/get-involved/newsletter</a>

We are also pleased to launch the second phase of community engagement with an open public survey on an Independent Consultation Paper which provides an explanation of what the Victorian RFAs are, how they operate, and how effective they have been. Please submit your responses to the survey here:

https://engage.vic.gov.au/future-of-our-forests/rfa-consultation-paper

#### **FOR SALE**

SOARTD hooded rain jacket, breathable fabric, blue, men's medium size (100 cm chest)

https://www.soartd.com/collections/pullovers-jackets/products/global-storm-hooded-jacket Never worn. Will sell for \$150.

Phone/text for more details. Eileen Clark, 0412 042 195

#### 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...



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:

Vanessa Pauline Tania



#### 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.

**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.