

# GO BUSH

MAY 2015



## BENDIGO BUSHWALKING AND OUTDOOR CLUB INC

### *President's message for May*

*This will be our first meeting in our new premises: the Presbyterian Church Hall, 35-41 Forest Street. There is plenty of parking in Forest Street, as well as in the lane leading to the hall. Prior to the meeting, there will be a get together/meal at Tony's on High [Crn High and Forest Sts] to mark the occasion. Come and join in the chat, 6.00pm.*

*The Annual General Meeting is coming up. I ask that members begin to think how they can assist the club by having a formal roll on the committee. It is not an onerous task, but would make a big difference in keeping the club moving. As the old saying goes, many hands make light work.*

*Activities are a bit light on in June and July. It would be good for a couple of people to volunteer to lead an activity. If you are contemplating becoming a leader this would be a good time to cut your teeth on a day walk.*

*Dropbox is a site on the internet which allows users to store photos and documents. The Club is setting up access to Dropbox so we can each upload trip and event photographs, and they can be accessed by other members on their own computers. It is a great way to swap photos, as they can also be down loaded from Dropbox. Some of my family don't believe that I have been on all the walks because there is no evidence of me being there. This will be a good way for me to get documentary evidence from another member's photo, with me in them.*

*See you somewhere in the outdoors*

*Kerry Cramer*

### **BENDIGO BUSHWALKING AND OUTDOOR CLUB INC**

P.O. Box 989, Bendigo, 3552  
Reg No. A0051482V

Meetings - 4th Tuesday every month [except Dec]  
Presbyterian Church Hall, Forest Street  
Meetings start at 7:30 pm sharp.

Membership: Single \$40.00  
Family \$60.00

Web address: <http://gobush.org.au/>

BBOC is affiliated with



The statements and opinions expressed in articles herein are those of the Editor and individual authors. They do not necessarily represent the views of the Bendigo Bushwalking and Outdoor Club Inc.

### **COMMITTEE MEMBERS 14/15**

President	Leigh Callinan	03 5442 3675
Vice President	Kerrie Cramer	03 5441 4422
Secretary	Chris Franks	03 5439 3549
Treasurer	Greg Doubleday	03 5447 8156
Walks Coordinator		
Equipment Officer	Chris Franks	03 5439 3549
Web Master	Peter Pemberton	0428 869 196
Newsletter	Garry Brannan	0450 879 917
General Committee	Kerrie Norris	03 5447 8017
General Committee	Roland Cauka	0402 024 096
General Committee	Maggie Smyth	03 5443 4530

## Club Meetings:

Meetings are at 7.15 for a prompt 7.30 pm start on the 4th Tuesday of every month (except January and December) now in the Presbyterian Church Hall, 35-41 Forest Street, Bendigo.

There is an annual calendar of speakers, presenters, and activities.

Visitors are always welcome.



## Monthly Meeting Activity

- **May 26th**            **Pre-meeting Dinner – 6.00pm – Jojoe's Pizza Bar, Crn High and Forest Sts.**  
Menu - <http://www.jojoes.com.au/pdf/Jojoes-Dining-Menu-2014.pdf>  
**'Magic Lantern Show' (Wyperfeld National Park)** - Solo, pre and post fires, from a desert rat's perspective. Presentation by **Bill Clarke**
- **June 23rd**            **"In Sturts Wake", a paddle into history – John Lindner.**
- **July 28th**            **AGM**
- **August 25th**        **Patrick Burtscher** will discuss his boutique 10-day Nordic Walking tours to his spectacular Austrian homeland in the heart of Europe's alpine region.

## Membership – time to start saving for 2015/16.

Fees are \$60 for a family and \$40 for single members.

Welcome to new members and visitors

## Bushwalking News Victoria

The most recent edition the Bushwalking Victoria Newsletter can be found [here](#) .

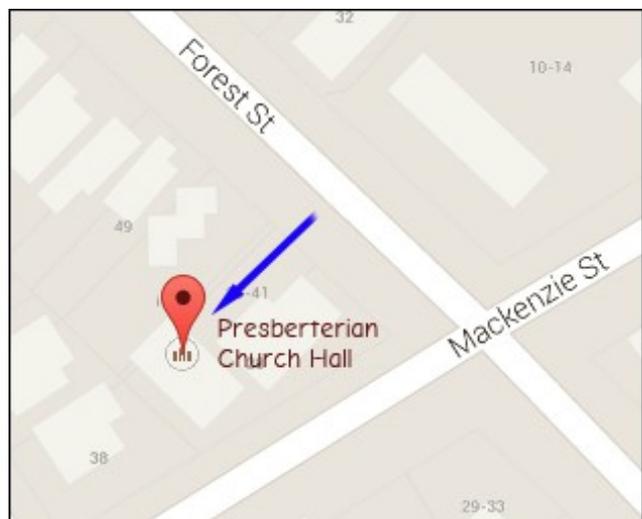
<http://www.bushwalkingvictoria.org.au/newsletter-archive.html>



## Bits and Pieces

### New Meeting Place, St Johns Presbyterian Church Hall

With the pending demolition of the Sacred Heart Hall, meetings will now be conducted in the St Johns Presbyterian Church Hall, 35-41 Forest Street, Bendigo.



# The History Of National Parks: America's Best Ever Idea

Lance Richardson "The Age" Apr 24 2015

Of all the remarkable inventions supplied to us by the United States over the past few hundred years, none is as valuable as the national park. "America's best idea" it is sometimes called, though that makes it sound calculated, like the Americans knew what they were doing. In truth, when President Ulysses S. Grant signed a law creating Yellowstone National Park in 1872, the intention was simply to stop the area's "decorations" from being exploited. Surveyors had noted the geysers, hot springs and waterfalls; they acted to prevent predatory developers from noticing them, too. It was only later that our modern conception of national parks came into focus. As the American frontier began to vanish, conquered all the way to the Californian coast, "thousands of tired, nerve-shaken, over-civilized people" began to realise, in the words of John Muir, that "going to the mountains is going home; that wilderness is a necessity; and that mountain parks and reservations are useful not only as fountains of timber and irrigating rivers, but also as fountains of life".

Perhaps we take national parks for granted in Australia. It is easy to forget they may never have existed, that the land of Royal National Park, near Cronulla, might very well have folded into Sydney's suburban sprawl were it not for the foresight of Sir John Robertson, acting premier of NSW. Established in 1879, "the Nasho" is the world's second-oldest national park. We didn't come up with the idea, but, in fine Australian tradition, we were quick to pilfer it. And thank God we did.

Anybody who has ever walked the 26-kilometre coast track from Bundeena to Otford knows this is one of Sydney's best treasures, a sublime stretch of sandstone crags and lonely, surf-caressed beaches. Ignore the airplanes flying overhead and it's possible to sense what the area once looked like for the Dharawal people, before the rest of us arrived with our more aggressive ideas of what it means to live on the land.

Sometimes I try to imagine Australia without the national parks. This takes quite an effort, because there are more than 500 of them, covering something like 28 million hectares of land. I imagine what the country would look like without Kosciuszko, Mungo, Kakadu, the Flinders Ranges and the Great Barrier Reef (which is increasingly easy given recent developments). Impoverished, certainly.

We would not be able to resist consuming just one more cove, one more valley of the Blue Mountains. Our desire to live surrounded by beautiful things, to use every available resource for human enrichment, would ensure helter-skelter development until nothing much was left.

Here is what we would lose: places to walk, to picnic, to fish, to ride bicycles and horses; places to spend time with family and practise camping skills; places to be alone; places for native flora and fauna to flourish in peace. Sure, you might get space for a second airport. In exchange, you would lose all reserves of natural resources, biodiversity, and something for future generations to see and understand as the world without us. In short, you would lose perspective.

National parks are terrific reminders of our own compulsive greed. They highlight bad habits, too, and our easily forgotten fragility. Again, Yellowstone is a good example here: despite the hotels and highways, people are regularly killed by bears and other natural calamities. It has happened so often that the park historian, Lee H. Whittlesey, has written an entire book called *Death in Yellowstone*. "The Park is the untamed and unfenced wildlife and the amoral energy of thermal wonders," he says. "It cannot be treated lightly; when it is it erupts in death." In one memorable incident, a father puts his infant on the back of the bison, hoping to snap a family photo, only to be gored to death by its horns. You would think this kind of incident is enough to dissuade visitors from coming to Yellowstone, but the book is actually a bestseller. Perhaps this is because people love to amble up to the abyss and peer over, frightening themselves. National parks allow us to get close to the wildness we think we have tamed.

This reminds me of a trip I once made to one of the world's greatest nature reserves, the Masai Mara in Kenya. "Everything gets eaten here in the end," the guide told me, after we observed a leopard nursing a broken leg. It occurred to me later this was one of the allures of those deceptively open safari vehicles, and the low canvas tent I slept in, woken occasionally by hyenas prowling around outside. Visitors want to feel so close to the animals they are almost part of the food chain again. Call it prehistoric nostalgia.

Along with the national park, the US is also responsible for conceiving its more raucous sibling, the wilderness area. In 1924, the US Forest Service designated the Gila Wilderness in New Mexico at the urging

of one of its foresters, Aldo Leopold. An avid outdoorsman, Leopold saw value in "a continuous stretch of country preserved in its natural state, open to lawful hunting and fishing, big enough to absorb a two weeks' pack trip, and kept devoid of roads, artificial trails, cottages, or other works of man". A national park could have hotels and caravan access; a wilderness was meant to remain untouched (excepting, of course, indigenous cultural uses). In 1964, congress passed the Wilderness Act, and now America has these areas all over the map. Australia has them, too, waiting out there for the truly intrepid: the South West Wilderness of Tasmania and the Lost World Wilderness Area on the NSW-Queensland border and various others.

Unlike national parks, the rationale for wilderness has always been deliberately anti-economic. We have become so accustomed to perceiving land in terms of financial worth (its resources, its real estate) that sometimes we forget there are other abstract values. Wilderness puts these first, including biological and scientific worth. Wilderness areas protect biotic communities and genetic material we are only beginning to understand. They are crucial in the fight against climate change. Furthermore, wilderness is a "control" in the sense of showing how far this experiment of civilisation has taken us.

But perhaps the more interesting rationales for wilderness are the more controversial ones. Here I mean the conception of wilderness as a place of freedom, vital to original thought. In George Orwell's 1984, wilderness is outlawed by the totalitarian government for this very reason. Somebody wandering the wild moors might get notions in their head, conceiving a different order for the world. Leopold expressed this idea as "adventure" – one of his six necessities in life, along with work, love, food, air and sunshine. "It is because the vast majority of people do not have the courage to venture off the beaten path that they fail to find [adventure], and live lop-sided lives accordingly," he once told a group of students. Conformity is impossible in wilderness because there are no paths to follow except the one you make with your own two feet. By embracing adventure, you embrace your full potential.

Leopold threw one other reason into the wilderness debate, too. What is the point of worrying so much about preserving American institutions, he argued, "without giving so much as a thought to preserving the environment which produced them and which may now be one of our effective means of keeping them alive?". In other words, America was a country forged by its frontier, so why not keep pieces of the frontier alive in perpetuity? Many of the characteristics Americans like to imagine make up their national character – inquisitiveness, practicality, individualism, exuberance – came from their early engagement with the wilderness of the New World. Losing that wilderness threatened everything it produced.

Before we fob this off as hysterical romanticism, here is our own NSW Office of Environment and Heritage explaining the reasoning behind protecting wilderness areas for travellers and citizens in our own country: "Wilderness is part of our national identity. The 'bush' and the 'outback', landscapes so typified by wilderness, continue to hold a central place in Australian culture."

It is really not such a shocking idea when you stop to think about it. Asked to explain the essence of Australia – the specific "Australianness" that sets us apart from the rest of the world – people will often hold up jars of Vegemite or a pair of flip flops. But then they inevitably talk about mateship, and egalitarianism, and resilience in the face of hardship. They talk about Anzac, forgetting that something made the diggers, before they got on the boats. In truth, all of these Australian traits evolved, Darwinian-like, in relation to the wild places that our national parks and wilderness areas seek to protect.

So when I try that hypothetical, imagining Australia without its natural reserves, I inevitably hit a mental wall. Because without those places we are rootless, destined to become a different and less distinctive kind of people over time. We have national parks and wilderness areas because we need them; they are like photo albums, reminding us who we are.

<http://www.traveller.com.au/the-history-of-national-parks-americas-best-ever-idea-1mnb7e>

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## National Parks Camping Fees

Following on from the Media Release published in last months GoBush, "No More Fees For Basic Camping In Our Regional National Parks", the Schedule of fee's that still remain for camping and accommodation in our parks can be found here. Good luck figuring it out!

[http://parkweb.vic.gov.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0003/630642/Fee-schedule.pdf](http://parkweb.vic.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0003/630642/Fee-schedule.pdf)

# Victorian grazing ban for national parks to take hold

The Age, May 5, 2015. Tom Arup

A ban on cattle grazing in national parks will take effect after the Andrews government secured enough numbers to pass the laws in the Victorian Parliament's upper house.

The passage of the law – which prohibits grazing for any reason in the Alpine and a number of other national parks – came after a last minute scramble by the government to secure support from crossbenchers.



Cattle grazing in the Alpine National Park. Photo: Justin McManus

<http://www.theage.com.au/victoria/victorian-grazing-ban-for-national-parks-to-take-hold-20150505-gguqv.html>

## Trip Reports

### In Sturt's Wake. Balranald to Boundary Bend Canoe Tour.

#### Sunday 12 April. Balranald Caravan Park to Murrumbidgee Camp 1.

Overcast with a red sky in the east. A Boobook was heard calling during the night and very large flocks of galahs gathered on the park lawns in the early morning. The adventure started at 8.30am as we moved away from the bank and started the journey on the Murrumbidgee River paddling towards the Murray River. We enjoyed a late morning tea at the Yanga Shearing Shed. The historic shearing shed once employed 40 shearers and was very impressive but the nearby dongas were in a serious state of disrepair. Our only obstruction for the day was the Balranald weir 17.8km from Balranald. The portage took 1.15hr with everyone working as a team. Doug's dismountable wheeled trolley made moving the canoes a lot easier. We started a bird count and an echidna was spotted on the bank. We stopped at 4pm and set up camp on top of a very steep bank.

Bird of the day: White-bellied Sea-Eagle.

Distance paddled: 21.3km.

Camp GPS: 54H UTM 0727500, 6160747.

River height at Balranald weir: 1.700m.



Murrumbidgee Camp 1

#### Monday 13 April. Murrumbidgee Camp 1 to Murrumbidgee Camp 2.

A clear morning led to a fine day. The river height had fallen during the night and this was confirmed by checking the river levels on the Internet on our return to Bendigo. Doug caught several Common carp and one Yellowbelly. We were on the river and paddling at 8.30am. Morning tea was taken at 10am accompanied by a slice of John's cake.

The Murrumbidgee is about one third the width of the Murray but with steeper banks and its water is a lot clearer. The banks are lined with magnificent River Red Gums with occasional Black Box trees. The understorey is sparse with two wattles, Eumong wattle predominating.



Paddling the Murrumbidgee

We did notice one palm and in the more swampy areas lignum was present. We experienced a current today as we were not under the influence of the weir and I estimated the current at 1.5km per hour. We were travelling at 5km per hour. We camped at 3pm.

Bird of the day: Azure Kingfisher.

Distance paddled: 21.5km.

Camp GPS: 54H UTM 0720758, 6156744.

River height at Balranald weir: 1.611m.

### **Tuesday 14 April. Murrumbidgee Camp 2 to Murrumbidgee Camp 3.**

Light rain fell during the night and we heard a Boobook calling. The day was overcast but very hot in the afternoon. The river height had dropped further. Morning tea was accompanied by another slice of John's cake. Sheep, a kangaroo and 2 dead cows were seen beside the river. We safely navigated our trickiest snag today with some help from Garry and this necessitated a revision lesson at lunchtime where Garry explained the use of the draw stroke, the sweep and back paddle and some general river safety tips. We set up camp at 3.30pm. Red sky at night with a light shower at dinner time.

Bird of the day: Regent Parrot.

Distance paddled: 26.2km.

Camp GPS: 54H UTM 0711603, 6156142.

River height at Balranald weir: 1.524m.

### **Wednesday 15 April. Murrumbidgee Camp 3 to Murrumbidgee Camp 4.**

A possum and Owlet Nightjar were heard during the night. A fine day and we were paddling at 8.20am. After 45 minutes we saw a very impressive hut on the northern bank which necessitated a stop. The hut had power and gas connected and it was located beside a billabong and was appropriately named "Crackatinnie Hotel". Severe pig damage was noted in the bank at morning tea. Today was the first day since leaving Balranald that we saw anyone. Workers operating a JCB and large crane were installing an incline pump whilst some others were loading cattle onto a truck. Two fishing inspectors in a tinnie passed us twice going upstream and downstream and paid absolutely no attention to us. The afternoon was hot so we camped at 2.40pm. Doug caught Common carp, Silver perch (released) and Yellowbelly. Kerrie N cooked the Yellowbelly and shared it around. At 7.15pm I read the section on Charles Sturt in Flannery's "Explorers" book to all.

Bird of the day: Fairy Martin.

Distance paddled: 20km.

Camp GPS: 54H UTM 0704855, 6158759.

River height at Balranald weir: 1.458m.

### **Thursday 16 April. Murrumbidgee Camp 4 to Murray Camp 1.**

Fine morning with red sky, overcast in the afternoon. The river had dropped slightly overnight. The campsite was a hot spot for Regent Parrots. Passed Weimby Homestead with limestone rock bars in the vicinity and pulled into Tualka Creek for morning tea beside a Ring Tree. A couple of canoes were paddled up the creek for 10 minutes or so whilst others relaxed and explored the local area. At GPS: 54H UTM 0703442, 6155220 we saw a River Red Gum with a very old blaze (at least 50% healed). The unhealed portion was painted red with an attached metal tag with the following details inscribed - **SR** above **82** above **VO2**. We finally reached "**the broad and noble river**" (Sturt's words describing the Murray River on 14 January 1830) at 12.15pm where we had lunch. Kerrie N produced a cake, purchased by Phil, which disappeared quickly. I was pleased to see the Murray 596 Mile Tree at the junction with the numbers 5 and 6 clearly visible.



*John relaxing at Murrumbidgee Camp 4*

After lunch we paddled downstream for 3.5km to a long sandbar on the NSW side, directly opposite *Passage Camp*, arriving about 3.30pm in spitting rain. John baked damper on an open fire and shared it around. Doug caught an undersized Murray Cod which he released. Light rain at dinner time.

Bird of the day: Black-fronted Dotterel.

Distance paddled: 15.5km.

Camp GPS: 54H UTM 0701425, 6155904.

River height at Balranald weir: 1.420m.

### **Friday 17 April. Murray Camp 1 to Boundary Bend.**

It rained continuously all night. We heard and saw a possum and two Boobooks were heard calling.

The rain eased during our pack up but then started again as we departed.

We crossed the river to *Passage Camp* where Major Thomas Mitchell found a favourable spot for effecting a passage across the Murray from 13-15 June 1836. It then rained heavily as we paddled the last 9.4km to Boundary Bend arriving about 10am.

Bird of the day: Egret (the only new species found in the Murray section).

We then travelled back to BP's house for carrot cake and tea, a celebratory dinner at the Tooleybuc Hotel and an overnight stay. We drove home on Saturday 18 April concluding a safe and enjoyable trip.

Bird Count 47 and Fish Count 9.

Thank you to BP for her guidance, assistance with the car shuffle, offering her house for accommodation and for joining me on the first river recce.

Thanks to Garry for joining me on my second river recce and for his general enthusiasm and willingness to share, in such a selfless manner, all the information he uncovered on the Internet. But most importantly thank you to the 9 paddlers (Barb, Lionel, Kerrie N, Phil, Kerry C, Garry, Steve, John and Doug) who accompanied me on this trip.

### **References.**

Two Expeditions into the Interior of Southern Australia. Vol 2. Capt. Charles Sturt. Goldfields Library Reference R-LOC 994.02 STU.

Charles Sturt, His Life and Journeys of Exploration. JHL Cumpston. Georgian House. Goldfields Library Reference R-LOC 994.02 CUM.

River Data. – <http://waterinfo.nsw.gov.au/drr/> and <http://riverdata.mdba.gov.au>

Major Mitchell's 1836 Australian Felix Expedition. Goldfields Library Reference R-LOC 994.502 MIT.

Topographic and Orthophoto Map 1:50,000 Weimby. 7528-N. 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition. GDA.

NSW Department of Lands.

### **Bob Jones.**



*The party at Tualka Creek, a very interesting distributary channel, possibly connecting to the Murray River. Not a rain cloud in sight, but wait until the last day. From left to right, Steve Beeby, Kerry Cramer, Garry Brannan, Phil Johnson, Bob Jones (leader), Doug Mannix, Barbara Guerin, Lionel Jenkins, Kerrie Norris. John Lindner is absent - he was holding the camera.*

*Below: Sheltering from the rain at Passage Camp*



## Chreswick Regional Park

When 16 people turn up for a walk that is always good, however when eight of the sixteen are new members or visitors, that has to be a good sign for the Club. Such was the case for the Creswick walk. The Parks brochure says “This Park is home to a variety of native wildlife, colorful spring flowers and myriad walking tracks”. Myriad walking tracks indeed, and a closed off section at St Georges Dam resulted in a couple of missed turns, a short cut or two, and the odd 'long way around'. We got there in the end though, with time to spare. That's what happens when you start walking on daylight saving time, call lunch at 11.30, and much to the amusement of all present, have to admit that the watch that is seldom worn is an hour fast.

This is an easy walk, initially on the GDT, and then from the Koala park it follows the contour on an old mining water race. It also uses several short sections of forestry roads, and a delightful walk on leaf littered pine forest on the La Gerche Forest Walk.

The Koala Park was created in 1942 when a group of forestry students constructed a netting fence in a section of the forest to be used as a breeding area for Koalas. They were able to climb the fence and many dispersed into the surrounding forest so the project was not a success.

Eaton's Dam [circa 1863] is a strikingly well preserved feature. The dam wall is unusual; it is a substantial stone wall faced with clay on the upstream side. Most other mining dams were simple mounds of clay with a stone outflow.

The dam wall is approximately 70m long, about 8m wide at the base, & 4 to 5m in height. The top of the dam wall is ~1.5m wide and was originally secured with a frame of heavy timbers. In 1933 heavy rain flooded the creek and breached the dam wall. The resulting outpouring of water flooded Creswick.

During the gold rush, most of the timber in the Creswick area was cut for the mines, either as fuel for furnaces, or for mine props, leaving the hills totally denuded. In 1882, John La Gerche was appointed as Creswick's first forest bailiff in an attempt to protect the remaining forest from exploitation.

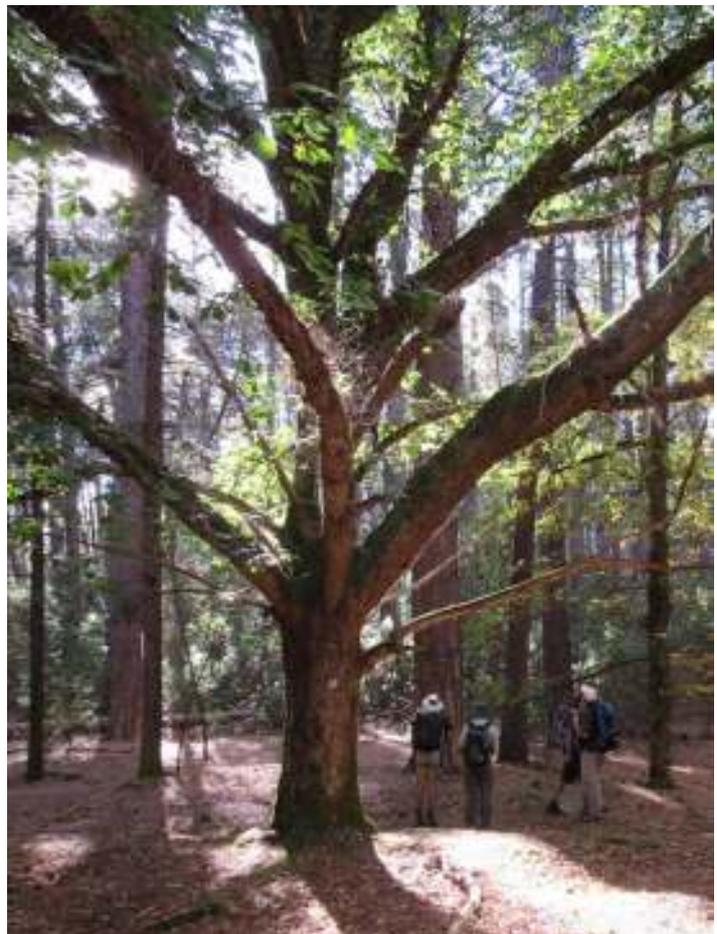
In 1883, La Gerche embarked on the immense task of restocking the forest. Over the years, he experimented with a range of eucalypts, pines and introduced species. La Gerche planted each tree by hand, in total more than 100,000 of them.

The section along the La Gerche Forest Walk passes through some of his original plantings, now well over one hundred years old and towering over the landscape. Thanks to regulars John L, Anne, Geoff, Kerrie, Roland, Max and John C with Brad. Welcome to Christine, Helena, Andrea, Miriam and Alan, and welcome back to Brett and Maria.

Garry



Above: Eaton's Dam showing the flood damage from 1933.  
Below: The La Gerche Forest Walk



[http://parkweb.vic.gov.au/data/assets/pdf\\_file/0005/315509/Heritage-story-Creswick-A-foresters-forest.pdf](http://parkweb.vic.gov.au/data/assets/pdf_file/0005/315509/Heritage-story-Creswick-A-foresters-forest.pdf)

## Activities . . . June and beyond

Wilson's Promontory – Booked out

### June 14th – Heathcote-Graytown National Park

A forest walk along the crest of the McIvor Range in the Heathcote – Graytown NP. These rolling hills overlooking Heathcote are covered in box-ironbark woodlands. There is one climb of 150m and two smaller ones each less than 100m. Features include granite outcrops, lookouts, and the chance to stumble upon the long lost loot from the McIvor gold robbery of 1853!

Distance: 11.8 km

Approx. time: 4 hours

Grade: Easy

Style: Circuit

Start/End Heathcote. Coffee and cake after the walk.

Meeting Location - TBA - Please ring if you are coming.

Leigh Callinan 0408 061 766

THE MERCURY, SATURDAY,  
JANUARY 5, 1935

### LONG-BURIED GOLD Robbers' 80-Year-Old Loot Buried in Victoria

Victoria has a cache of hidden treasure waiting for some lucky finder! For 25 years, says an article in the Victorian "Police Journal," many parties have searched for the loot from what is known as the McIvor gold robbery of 1853, which is supposed by many to be hidden somewhere in the Heathcote district, 70 or 80 miles from Melbourne. According to the article, a private escort company left McIvor Creek on July 20, 1853, in charge of 2,323oz. of gold and £702 in money. At a point about four miles on the McIvor side of the Mia Mia Inn, an attack was made on the party by a gang of robbers, who, after having wounded the driver and escort, made off with the boxes of gold and specie into the bush. Although the gang was subsequently captured, and a portion of the money recovered, the bullion has never been seen since.

### Sun June 28th Leaghur State Park Day Walk

Leaghur State park was increased in size in 2010 because it is one of few parks that have Black Box Woodlands with an encompassing wetlands area. The wetlands are flooded when the Loddon River overflows [it flows northward but to the east of the park] and this lends itself to the many birds and other wildlife which find habitat in the area. These include Whistling Kites, Brown Falcons and Fairy Wrens, wallabies and kangaroos. While the area is predominantly flat and walking is off track, it is still a fascinating park to walk through.

Distance 10- 12 kms and rated EASY. Fuel Share – \$20.00

Meeting Location - TBA - Please ring if you are coming.

Buzza 0438437680

## Down the Track . . .

### Day Walks In The Flinders Ranges, September 2015

**Date** Thursday 10 to Wednesday 23 September 2015 (14 days)

**Outline** Nine one-day walks in the Flinders Ranges, ranging from Hawker to Aroona Valley.

**Grading** All the walks have formed tracks or use the beds of creeks. Medium to hard (rough gravel and stones underfoot, climbing and descending, narrow foot-tracks, some formed dirt roads). Recommended that you bring walking poles.

**Meeting** Thursday 27 August, 8.00 pm, 5 Ross Street, White Hills

**Walks**

1. Along the Heysen Trail over the Yourambulla Ridge
2. Saint Mary's Peak
3. Mount Ohlssen Bagge

4. Bunyeroo Creek geological walk
5. Bunyeroo and Wilcolo Creeks circuit
6. Wilkawillina Gorge
7. Yaluna loop walk
8. Mounts Dib and Dob
9. Bathtub Gorge

**Other** Kanyaka Station ruins  
 Douglas Bruce tomb  
 Brachina Gorge geological  
 Yellow-footed Rock Wallabies if we are lucky

**Leader** John Lindner, 5448 3406, [jwl.bendigo@gmail.com](mailto:jwl.bendigo@gmail.com)



## Federation Walks Weekend

The Federation Walks Weekend is a Bushwalking Victoria event. Each year one or more walking clubs affiliated with BWV take turns to host the event in a different location, offering the opportunity for bushwalkers to participate in walks led by walk leaders with local knowledge.

Some Fedwalks have been single day events, however BWV encourages host clubs to run the event over a weekend, making it more accessible to all Victorian bushwalkers.

The event is usually held annually in October, or November if in an alpine region.

The event name Federation Walks has its origins in the predecessor to BWV, when Victoria's peak bushwalking organisation was known as the Federation of Victorian Bushwalking Clubs.

### FEDERATION WALKS WEEKEND 2015

The 2015 event is being hosted by Bayside Bushwalking Club, based in the suburb of Hampton, and the Great Dividing Trail Association, based in Daylesford.

Walks will be in the Daylesford and Hepburn Springs spa country and nearby goldfields, on the weekend of Saturday 24th and Sunday 25th October 2015.

Registration for walks opens on 15/06/2015 and closes 15/09/2015.

### SOCIAL PROGRAM

Afternoon Tea – Afternoon tea will be available on Friday, Saturday and Sunday afternoons.

Evening Meal – The Saturday evening meal starts at 6.30 pm. It is a full service, sit-down meal, with a choice of meat or vegetarian main course, and a dessert. Food and service will be provided by locally renowned gourmet caterer Spade-to Blade. Bring your own wine or other drinks, glasses are provided. Menu details will be available before registration opens.

The meal costs \$34. Places are limited by school hall capacity of 120. Bring your own pre-dinner nibbles and drinks. There is a large fridge available, tables and chairs indoors and an outside deck for socialising.

Guest Speaker – At 8 pm our guest speaker, David Bannear, goldfields archaeologist with Heritage Victoria, will share some of his rich local knowledge in a short talk entitled “*What lies beyond memory.*”

Contact John Lindner if you are interested – 5448 3406, [jwl.bendigo@gmail.com](mailto:jwl.bendigo@gmail.com)

## Glenelg River Paddling – Wed 28th [Bendigo Cup] – Sunday Nov 1st

An easy [it will be after the first day] five day paddle from Glenelg to Nelson, with a visit to the Princess Margaret Rose Caves.

Canadian Kayaks, double bladed paddles, Max 12.

Garry Brannan, 0450879917



Another one for the paddlers to think about – maybe next year after the stinger season.

## The Whitsunday Ngaro Sea Trail

Walk across pure white sands, sail over turquoise waters, see ancient rock art, rugged headlands, dry rainforest, rolling grasslands and experience the breathtaking views.

Travel from sea to summit with varying grades of difficulty and length across South Molle, Hook and Whitsunday Islands. The area is kayak friendly and within easy reach using hire vessels or bare boats.

Garry Brannan 0450879917



### Wizard of Id by Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



The deadline for the next edition of GoBush –  
Wednesday June 17

Please forward Trip Reports, details of Coming Events, and interesting articles to Garry at [garrybrannan@gmail.com](mailto:garrybrannan@gmail.com) 0450879917

Date	Description	Rating	Comments	Contact
<b>May</b>				
Tuesday 26th 7.30pm	<b>Club Meeting - Presbyterian Church Hall, 35-41 Forest St.</b>		This will be our first meeting in the new hall. <b>Wyperfeld National Park - Bill Clarke</b>	Leigh Callinan 0408 061 766
<b>28th or 29th</b>	<b>Day Walk Leader wanted</b>			
<b>June</b>				
5-8 Queens Birthday Week End	Wilson's Prom Three nights.	M PC	Booked out.	Garry Brannan 0450 879 917
June 14th	Heathcote – Greytown National Park	DW E	TBA	Leigh Callinan 0408 061 766
19th – 21st				
Tuesday 23rd 7.30pm	<b>Club Meeting - Presbyterian Church Hall, 35-41 Forest St.</b>		<b>"In Sturts Wake", a paddle into history – John Lindner.</b>	Leigh Callinan 0408 061 766
Sun 28th	Leaghur State Park	DW E	A significant Black Box wetland and Loddon River floodplain	Graham Borrell 0438 437 680
<b>July</b>				
3 – 5th				
10th – 12th				
17th – 19th				
24th – 26th				
Tuesday 28th 7.30pm	Club Meeting - Presbyterian Church Hall, 35-41 Forest St.		AGM	Leigh Callinan 0408 061 766
<b>August</b>				
<b>1st or 2nd</b>	<b>Day Walk Leader wanted</b>			
7th – 9th				
14th – 16th				
21st – 23rd	Paddling in NE Victoria (King and Buffalo Rivers)			Sam North 0400 567 201
Tuesday 25th 7.30pm	Club Meeting - Presbyterian Church Hall, 35-41 Forest St.			
<b>Saturday 29th</b>	Werribee Gorge – 10km circuit walk providing great views of the gorge.	DW M	Plus – Eagles Eyrie – this park is a breeding site for both Wedge-tailed Eagles and Peregrine Falcons	Hans Tracksdorf 5443 4442
<b>September</b>				
Fri 4th – Sun 6th	Cathedral Rock – Grampians + another great walk TBA	BC DWx2	A base camp weekend with accommodation in Halls Gap	Hans Tracksdorf 5443 4442
Thursday 10 to Wednesday 23 (14 days)	Flinders Ranges – a series of one-day walks	M/H	Some of the best peak and gorge walks in the Flinders. Full details and map from John on request	John Lindner 5448 3406
12th – 13th	Mitta River Paddling			Sam North 0400 567 201
Tuesday 15th	Registration for Federation walks close today	Various		John Lindner 5448 3406
18th – 20th				

Date	Description	Rating	Comments	Contact
Tuesday 22nd 7.30pm	Club Meeting - Presbyterian Church Hall, 35-41 Forest St.			
September 27th	Terrick Terrick National Park Day Walk.	E/M DW	The granite peaks of Terrick Terrick National Park contrast with areas of remnant native grasslands.	Bob Jones 0458 012 934
<b>October</b>				
Sunday 4th	Local Day Walk	DW/E	Spring Flowers	Kerrie Norris
3rd -5th	Paddling the Upper Murray River (3 days)			Sam North 0400 567 201
9th -- 11th				
16th – 18th	Mt Samaria	E	Base camp	Graham Borrell 0438 437 680
23rd – 25th	Federation Day Walks - Daylesford and Hepburn Springs. <a href="http://www.fedwalks.org.au/">http://www.fedwalks.org.au/</a>	DW Various	<b>A must for our Club</b> – fantastic walks and great social atmosphere. Registration from 15th June 2015. Walks Program – <a href="http://www.fedwalks.org.au/2015-walks.html">http://www.fedwalks.org.au/2015-walks.html</a>	Coordinator for BBOC – John Lindner
Tuesday 27th 7.30pm	Club Meeting - Presbyterian Church Hall, 35-41 Forest St.			
Wed 28th – Sunday Nov 1st	Glenelg River Paddling	E	A five day paddle from Glenelg to Nelson, incl Princess Margaret Rose Caves.	Garry Brannan 0450879917
<b>November</b>				
<b>Oct 31 or Nov 1</b>	<b>Day Walk Leader wanted</b>			
6th – 8th				
13th – 15th				
20th – 22nd	Wilson's Promontory National Park	BC - Day Walks	Iconic walks from Tidal River to locations like Squeaky Beach, Tongue Point, & Mt Oberon.	Graham Borrell 0438 437 680
Tuesday 24th 7.30pm	Club Meeting - Presbyterian Church Hall, 35-41 Forest St.			
<b>28th or 29th</b>				
<b>December</b>				

E – Easy M – Medium H – Hard D – Day DW – Day Walk PC – Pack Carry BC – Base Camp

*It is now Club policy that if possible, the weekend after each General Meeting is reserved for a day walk [either the Saturday or Sunday], or some other E/M day activity.*

For additions to the activities calendar: - Email trip details to Garry for inclusion in the calendar together with a write-up for the newsletter. [garrybrannan@gmail.com](mailto:garrybrannan@gmail.com).