



BENDIGO BUSHWALKING AND OUTDOOR CLUB INC

President's message for September

Once again it is my pleasure to write the Presidents report. The committee is operating very effectively, with a diverse membership, which offers good leadership for the club.

A Leadership pack is being reviewed/compiled to assist any members that are contemplating leading a walk..

The club is opening up dialog with other similar clubs in the Bendigo area and also other bush walking clubs an our general area.

The club is investigating running a other first aid course. Time has passed quickly since that last course, and members that attended the last one need to do a refresher to keep their first ad credentials.

Any members that did not attend the last one are encouraged to join this one.

The Lake View hotel has been booked for the 15/12/15 for our end of year gathering. Please let Kerrie Norris no if you are going. You may think it is a bit early to contemplate this, but the time will soon be here.

The trip calendar is on the web site and will be updated on a regular basis to allow all members to be informed of the latest going s on with our activities. If you are interested in participating in any of the scheduled events it would be a good idea to check the web site to be kept up to date on any changes that may have taken place.

The drop box is being further refined. It will be operational soon, and will be a great way to share photos with others on your trip.

There are interesting activities coming up at our monthly meetings so I would encourage all to attend and enjoy the fellowship.

Kerry Cramer, VP

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



Bushwalking Victoria

The statements and opinions expressed 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 15/16

President	Leigh Callinan	03 5442 3675
Vice President	Kerry Cramer	03 5441 4422
Secretary	Chris Franks	03 5439 3549
Treasurer	John Lindner	03 5448 3406
Coordinator	Keith Longridge	0417 151 591
Equipment Officer	Chris Franks	03 5439 3549
Web Master	Peter Pemberton	04 2886 9196
General Committee	Kerrie Norris	03 5447 8017
General Committee	Roland Cauka	04 0202 4096
General Committee	Leisje Wilson	03 5441 6118

Club Meetings:

Meetings are at 7.15 for a prompt 7.30 pm start on the 4th Tuesday of every month (except 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

- **September 22nd** **Keith Longridge** – Aspects of leadership from the Bushwalking Victoria courses.
- **October 27th** **Roland Cauka** will demonstrate the wonders of 'Drop Box'.
Keith Longridge – Calendar planning
- **November 24th** **Liesje Wilson** – a presentation on her experience on Tasmania's South West Track.
- **December** **EOY Dinner** – Lake View Motel , 204 McCrae Street, 7:00pm. Booking essential
Kerrie Norris 5447 8017
- **January 26th** **TBA**

Ideas Wanted

Do you have any ideas for the club meeting nights, pictures of special trips you have been on [club or otherwise], interesting people you know who might come and speak at a meeting, or anything else that you might think of to entertain the ever increasing numbers attending meetings. If so please contact the Arts and Entertainment Officer, AKA Kerrie - 5447 8017



Membership – Subs are now due for 2015/16.

Please make John Lindner, our new treasurer, feel like he has a job to do – Fees are \$60 for a family and \$40 for single members. A Membership Form is at the back of the newsletter.

Welcome to new members and visitors

Meeting Place, St Johns Presbyterian Church Hall

A reminder – meetings are now held in the St Johns Presbyterian Church Hall, 35-41 Forest Street, Bendigo.



Trip Reports

Janet Jiricek in Kromeriz, Czech Republic – 12 September

We have joined the local Turistky group which seemed the best way to do a bit of 'bushwalking' here in Czech and we've just done our second walk. (They had no activities for the summer months). With a 7.30 start we had two train and one bus ride to get into the hills known as Chriby where we were dropped off for a steep climb up to a very new lookout but a hazy morning gave disappointing views.

After an early morning tea we were off back down to the village below where another break was taken in the local hostelry. We then split into two groups and our little dog accompanist remained with the shorter walk group. Our group followed a shared cycle/pedestrian path for 5 km to the pilgrimage church of Velehrad through alternating fields and forest.

After a brief look around the large religious complex and I think some people took lunch in a restaurant while we had our sammies watching two wedding parties, we picked up another shared path for the remaining 5km back to the station. This was again largely through fields but made more interesting by the new regularly spaced pilgrim stations which were beautifully carved monoliths. We had been told we would be catching the 1803 train but we jumped on the 1318 so there were some miscalculations there and we were home in time for a well deserved cuppa.

Janet



WERRIBEE GORGE HIKE. 29 AUGUST 2015

For my first leaders walk with the Bendigo Club, I had a good turnout; Janet, Ray, Kerrie, Rechelle, Garry, Mervyn, Max, Bob, Geoff and Anne all meeting in Harcourt to hot foot it down south. By the time we got to Mt Macedon, the clear skies and sunshine of Bendigo had disappeared into showers. These cleared as we approached Bacchus Marsh. After a slight detour on a "No Thru Road" we finally rendezvoused with Greg who had been patiently waiting for us to arrive.

The VLine sprinter train whizzed past just as we were ready to commence, the track was right next to the train line. We headed off on the Western Bluff Walk which starts off a bit up and down and then descends rapidly, following a narrow razorback ridge near the bottom. At one stage it drops a straight 40 metres to the river below. At the river we couldn't just rock hop across, as I had done on numerous previous occasions! So it was boots off to cross the river. Greg goes in first and yells back 'At least the waters not cold!' By the time we had all got across and got boots back on, it had taken us a half hour. Oh and by the way, the water was freezing. Good one Greg; you sucked us all in!

Once on the other side, it was only a short distance upstream before we arrived at Needles Beach, a pleasant sandy patch by a pool skirted by sheer vertically cliffs. As it was now around midday, this became our

smoko/lunch/brunch rest-spot. After lunch we continued up the track. The sun came out briefly and lit up the Falcons lookout and the cliffs on the opposite sides of the gorge, a mere 200+ metres above! It didn't take us all that long before we arrived at Blackwood pool. This is the furthest upstream point on the main Werribee Circuit track. Thereafter its find your own way. We all successfully worked our way around a steep rock shelf and then continued along the river bank trying to find a suitable crossing point. The river at this point narrowed down considerably and despite the other side being tantalisingly close (2.5m), the river was flowing with some force and didn't seem prudent to cross.



Ray, Susan, Janet, Kerrie and Rechelle clamber down towards the river.



Garry, Mervyn and Ray at the river crossing

We retraced our steps a bit and then Greg and Garry went exploring (or should I say disappearing) into the tall reed beds. It was quite a funny sight. The main group were sitting up slightly elevated and all we could see were these reeds thrashing about. Eventually they both returned with Garry looking slightly, 'wet!' In the end Kerrie used her calming influence and we all determined that 'discretion was the better part of valor' and despite everyone involved handling the challenges thrown at them so far, we thought it would be tempting luck to try and push on regardless, so we decided to go back the way we had come.

For a first-timer at this sort of thing, Sue was really being thrown in at the deep end, (literally) but did really well. Now it

was boots off once more and recross the wider river section that we had crossed earlier. Despite being later in the day, the water hadn't got any warmer. By the time we had rested and put our boots back on, it was a matter of just slowly retracing our way up the steep incline. Surprisingly it only took 1h 5mins and we were back at the start of the Western Bluff Track. Greg kindly invited us all back to Blackwood for coffee and cakes but unfortunately some people had to get back and we still had a bit of travelling ahead of us so we had to decline.

The Werribee Gorge is a small compact, yet spectacular area. From the top of the gorge we could see the cars whizzing up the Western Freeway to Ballarat and to our east the skyscrapers of the Melbourne CBD were lit up, a mere 50 km away (as the crow flies). At the point we were stopped by the river we had completed just under half of our planned hike. Eagles Eyrie still lay over 130 vertical metres opposite. I'm sure all participants were a bit blown away by the amazing landscape and the adventure we had all shared. As some said the club still has some 'unfinished business in this park'. A lower river level will help next time.

Hans T

O'Keefe Trail Bike Ride – Sunday 6th September

Five intrepid cyclists on an overcast Sunday rode the O'Keefe Rail Trail from Heathcote to Bendigo. We left a car in Bendigo and Axedale and then headed to Heathcote. The start (end?) of the trail is poorly marked and there was a short cruise to discover it. No matter, we launched ourselves into the wilderness and rode off with happy expectations.

The overall elevation from Heathcote to Axedale is negative so the first half of the trip was easy, relaxed and pleasant with the track in fine condition, the wind cool and the scenery interesting.

Lunchtime coincided with arrival in Axedale so we sat on the purpose built picnic tables by the river. Due to the rather ominous threat of rain we decided to skip the Axedale Tavern and head to Bendigo. The rain did not arrive and occasional sunny breaks were a pleasant surprise.

The trail has been refurbished since I last rode it and the surface was very good. The mad Axedale magpie was missing and the pace was relaxed as we headed towards Bendigo. Lake Weeroona was reached with a total trip time of 5 hours.

Many thanks to John, Steve, Jack and Iris for an excellent bike ride, Roland



Cathedral Rock – Grampians Lost World Of The Incas 5 Sept 2015

Cathedral Rock in the Mt William Range is not one of your main skyline peaks, still it is a prominent peak visible from the Mt William tourist road.

Despite its proximity to the Mount William track, it has received few visitors until recent years, when large scour paths created during the heavy 2011 rains, have created easier access to the northern buttresses, from the creek down below.

On Friday Garry, Rechelle, Bob J, Kerrie and Hans rendezvoused at 'Tim's Place', a comfortable backpacker lodge with various sleep-out cabins, in Halls Gap. Garry was allocated a 'spacious premium suite' which looked quite comfortable and was reputed to be very soundproof. Tim the proprietor was most friendly, as were the sprinkling of young people there from Poland, Austria and France.

Saturday dawned promising; we commenced our hike 15 km down the Dunkeld Road the start of the Mt William Track. This track was fairly level and the going easy until we reached the second river crossing where we stopped for a rest. Here we encountered a fully laden hiker (bushwalker?) on his way to catch his mates who were further up near Mt William.



Cathedral Rock from the Mt William road. The land slip scars prominent on the northern flank.

at

When we mentioned that we were heading off to Cathedral Rock, he expressed an interest in the peak and asked us where he could find the track notes for this walk? We told him there were none!

At this crossing point we left the track and detoured south east along the creek for circa 20 minutes. This comprised a bit of rock hopping up the creek. For former veterans of our Werribee Gorge hike the week before, this creek only rated 1/10. (Note: Werribee River has not yet been rated by the author due to fear of class action).

Shortly we came to the first of the great landslip scours, where a vast volume of water, mud, trees and debris had cascaded down the escarpment into the creek. Here we encountered the remnant trunk of a huge gum tree 20 metres high, where the mud-flow had peeled away the bark on one side and the mud plastering was still visible 4.5m high on the uphill side of the trunk, giving some indication of the volume of debris that came down the hill that day.

From this tree we climbed up the hill following this 'superhighway' walking track, conveniently created for us by the forces of nature. After the initial first section this 'path' gradually levelled off and rose more gradually. Within an hour of leaving the creek we reached the junction of the two great erosion scours. At this point the scour was over 50 metres wide, with the last section now rising up very steeply, directly to the base of the northern buttress of Cathedral Rock.

We didn't climb this last section but stopped at the confluence for morning tea. By now the weather had cleared and the sun was shining. From this broad cleared junction we ventured off west into the bush, following a rudimentary track leading off through the hakea. This eventually led us to the prominent V notch feature in the Cathedral Rock massif which provides easy access to the top plateau. Once we passed up through the notch the track disappeared and we made our way to the top by keeping to the left side of the plateau. The scrub on top was not all that dense and the patchy rock platforms made for easier progress.

En-route on the northern rim we passed our next 'wow-factor' feature, which was a large cleft with a tottering rock pylon jutting out on the far side, the top of which looked something like a 'bird head?' In any event everyone was very impressed with it. From here we pushed on thru the centre of the plateau to the summit, where partially hidden by trees and shrubs we found the old summit rock trig cairn. The summit became our lunch stop and from here we had great panorama views down the valley to Mt Sturgeon, directly to our west were the big peaks of the Serra Range, whilst to our east lay Mt William and the northern cliffs of the Major Mitchell Plateau. Directly below we could view the great scour highway by which we had accessed the peak. Rechelle even managed some sun-baking here. After lunch we retraced our steps back down thru the V notch along the track then to the creek. Once on the main track it was just a gentle stroll back to the road.



Kerrie and Rechelle near the rock pylon.

Despite some off track hiking we had all only suffered minor superficial wounds due to the hakea and wattles. Returned to Halls Gap for a relaxing coffee and cake. Later that night we all went out for a counter meal at the popular Halls Gap Pub – Gee life's tough!

BOROKA PEAK WALK 6 SEPT 2015

Sunday dawned overcast and cloudy. We walked up to Boroka Lookout from the carpark at the Silverband Rd turnoff. The walk is quite steep up the side of Mt Difficult Range, but it is on a well marked and maintained track. The climb is about 600 m, with the last 1 km of the walk the steepest. The rewarded at the top would normally be the spectacular views, but with low cloud in all directions, we missed out. Otherwise the walk had all of the features which made it enjoyable, and we made it up and back with no hint of rain.

Back at Halls Gap we enjoyed lunch at the bakery, then headed for home.

Thanks Bob, Rechelle, Kerry and Garry – Hans

Activities . . . September and beyond

Terrick Terrick National Park – Sunday 27 September – Day Walk

Grade: A 14km circuit walk through open woodland on gravel roads and barely discernible tracks together with some short sections off track. We will climb the 3 rocky outcrops in the park but the walking is predominantly on pretty level ground.

What to Bring: A sense of adventure, morning tea, nibbles, lunch and at least a minimum of one litre of water. Long pants or gaiters, sun hat, sunscreen and lip-eze. Runners are suitable footwear but make sure you have good tread on your shoes. Bring a cup to share tea and coffee after the walk as there are no shops in the vicinity of the park. Check weather forecast for temperature, rain and wind.

Highlights: Victoria's most significant stand of white cypress pine; rocky outcrops providing great views across the very flat plains of northern Victoria; rock wells, wildflowers in bloom and high bird activity.

Where to Meet: Club Meeting Hall in Forest Street departing 9.00am sharp.

Fuel Costs: \$15 per person. 70km one way involving one hour of driving.

Leader: Bob Jones. Mobile 0458012934. Ring me for the weather forecast or any queries, including what to wear, otherwise just turn up before 9am.

Sunday 4th October Local Wildflower Walk

Due to an extremely dry winter and 'fuel reduction burns' in what have traditionally been local wildflower strong holds close to town, it has not looked promising for an abundant blooming of wildflowers this Spring. However, there are always some surprises to be found and our local bush has its own unique charm no matter what time of year – often overlooked.

At time of writing, exact location still not determined. Come prepared for a distance of between 6-10 km, on rough rocky tracks, and occasionally off track through scratchy vegetation (to find the most special of flowers!). Terrain – some ups and downs. Sturdy footwear and long pants or gaiters are recommended. Bring your water, lunch and nibbles, hat, sunscreen and clothing appropriate for weather and personal first-aid kit. You might also bring a magnifying glass, camera and binoculars for a close up look at things.

Meet and depart from clubrooms – Corner of Forest and McKenzie Sts at 0930 sharp. A car shuffle may be involved. Fuel share will be less than \$10.

Contact – Kerrie Norris Ph 5447 8017

Mt Samaria Base Camp 16-18 October

Base Camp, Rated Easy

Although I did a base camp here in late summer which included a film night at Swanpool, this trip is designed to see Mt Samaria at a far less dry time of year, when the spring flora should be on show. There will be two walks, one encompassing Mt Samaria and Wild Dog Creek Falls and the second will visit Back Creek Falls, Camphora and Rocky point Lookout.

Set in tall, shady eucalypt forest, Mount Samaria State Park offers a cool and quiet retreat for beautiful walks, camping and picnicking. The Mount Samaria range incorporates a variety of scenery with spectacular vistas over the Victorian Alps, granite outcrops, high waterfalls and historic remains.

Spring Creek Sawmill Camping Area has three distinct sites for camping. Cars are able to drive onto each site. Some sites have a picnic table and fireplace. Non-flush toilets are provided. Road conditions can vary so a four wheel drive is recommended for travel through the park.

No bookings, no fees. Fee free sites operate on a first come, first served basis

Buzza 0438437680 ECP Glenys Shelton 0402994496

3rd – 5th October - White Water Rafting - Indi (hard)

Three days paddling in the shadow of Mt Kosciusko on the Indi and Geehi rivers. Both these are day paddles are through stunning scenery and both are Australian classics for white water river trips. Unfortunately, if you wish to come along, you will need to have previous rafting or kayaking experience. Will camp at Geehi Flats or Tom Groggin. Sam North – 0400 567 201 Garry Brannan – 0450 879 917

Federation Walks Weekend

Bookings have now closed.

Glenelg River Paddling

Booked out – Garry Brannan 0450 879 917

Sat Oct 31 – FRYERS RANGES – Day walk.

Easy – medium, distance app 10-15kms. I plan to go off exploring, to see what is there. It will add to my knowledge of the eastern part of the park. Bring lunch, snacks, water, hat, sunscreen and lipeze. Wear solid footwear, there will be some off track so long pants/gaiters may be appropriate.

Fuel share: ring 1 – \$10.

Maps: 1:25,000 – Guildford 7723-4-2 and Drummond 7723-1-3

Leader: Bill Clark, 5442 1432

November 28 to December 13 [16 days] – Kosciuszko National Park

Booked out. Garry Brannan 0450879917

Bits and Pieces

Bushwalking News Victoria

The most recent edition the Bushwalking Victoria Newsletter can be found here.

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



Goats on Mount Alexander

On my last walk with the Club on Mt Alexander (a while ago now), we spotted droppings that we couldn't quite identify.

Last year in June I was there again with friends from Belgium and my friend spotted some goats. Because we were only a group of three and quiet, the goats hung around longer than we did, which gave us a good photo opportunity!

At least now we know what the droppings were. Cheers, Maria





*The crew from the recent Sugarloaf Range walk.
B - Ann, Roland, John, Garry. F - Janet, Geoff and Rechelle*

The deadline for the next edition of GoBush –
Wednesday October 21.

*Please forward Trip Reports and interesting articles to Garry at
garrybrannan@gmail.com 04 5087 9917*



BBOC ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

Date	Description	Rating	Comments	Contact
September				
Tuesday 22nd 7.30pm	Club Meeting - Presbyterian Church Hall, 35-41 Forest St.		Keith Longridge - Discussion or Leadership Training provided by Bushwalking Victoria	
Sunday September 27th	Terrick Terrick National Park Day Walk.	E/M DW	The granite peaks of Terrick Terrick NP contrast with remnant native grasslands.	Bob Jones 0458 012 934
October				
Sunday 4th	Local Day Walk	DW/E	Spring Flowers	Kerrie Norris
Sat- Monday 3rd -5th	Paddling the Upper Murray River (3 days)		Must have previous paddling experience.	Sam North 0400 567 201
16th – 18th	Mt Samaria Base camp	E BC	Highlights: Mt Samaria, Wild Dog Creek Falls, Back Creek Falls, and Camphora.	Graham Borrell 0438 437 680
23 - 25	Federation Day Walks	E		John Lindner 5448 3406
Tuesday 27th 7.30pm	Club Meeting - Presbyterian Church Hall, 35-41 Forest St.		The wonders of 'Drop Box': Roland Cauka Calendar planning: Keith Longridge.	
Wed 28th – Sunday Nov 1st	Glenelg River Paddling	E	Booked out	Garry Brannan 0450879917
Saturday 31st October	Fryers Ranges. Day walk. Distance app 10-15kms.	E-M	An exploration of the eastern part of the park.	Bill Clark 5442 1432
November				
20th – 22nd	Wilson's Promontory National Park		Cancelled – to be rescheduled early next year	Graham Borrell 0438 437 680
Tuesday 24th 7.30pm	Club Meeting - Presbyterian Church Hall, 35-41 Forest St.		Liesje Wilson – “Summer Walking in South West Tasmania.”	
28th or 29th	Day Walk Leader wanted			
November 28 to December 13	Kosciuszko National Park	Hard Alpine	Booked out	Garry Brannan 0450879917
December				
Tuesday 15	End of Year Function: Dinner 7:00pm. Venue to be confirmed.		Lake View Motel , 204 McCrae Street. Booking essential	Kerrie Norris 5447 8017
January				
Tuesday 26	Club Meeting		Presbyterian Church Hall, Forest St. 7:30pm.	
27-28	Day Walk Leader wanted			
30 Jan to 5 Feb	Extended alpine trek: Mount Cook National Park, NZ.	Easy	Six days, spanning seven; no previous rope experience required.	Keith Longridge 0417 151 591

For additions or alterations to the activities calendar, contact the Trip Coordinator, Keith Longridge on 0417 151 591 or email him at k.longridge@campaspe.vic.gov.au

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.