BENDIGO BUSHWALKING AND OUTDOOR CLUB INC

President's message for February

All 9 members of the Committee met at my place on February 18. They are remarkably keen to serve the Club.

- The new BBOC Logos will be coming soon. They will be free to club members.
- Peter has incorporated into our website, the ideas we (mainly Roland) have come up with in recent meetings. Check it out at http://gobush.org.au.
- We will be assessing the Bushwalking Victoria (BV) 'Leader's Pack', for inclusion in our website.
- Garry has found 'Just the Thing' on Walk Safety, which he is going to circulate to the Committee. It, or something like it, is going up on the web site.
- Mountain Designs have offered to give each of us a general discount on purchases, so try them out. Of course, we continue to enjoy similar support from Aussie Disposals.
- The February meeting will feature Julie Whitfield talking on 'What does a Butterfly Expert have in common with Bushwalkers'. Also, Garry will give us a quick rundown on what to take on his forthcoming Ritchies Hut trip.
- Check out the Activities Calendar in this newsletter. There's a lot of activities for you to enjoy. Apart from Garry's Ritchies Hut walk, there Kerrie Norris's Water, Walk or Wobble, Buzza's Mt Samaria base camp, My Vaughan Springs day walk and Greg's Noojee Powelltown overnite walk all in Feb/March.

Leigh Callinan

BENDIGO BUSHWALKING AND OUTDOOR CLUB INC

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

Meetings - 4th Tuesday every month [except Dec] Sacred Heart Hall, Short Street 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	Garry Brannan	0450 879 917
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) at the Sacred Heart Hall, just behind Haymes Paints in Short Street. There is an annual calendar of speakers, presenters, and activities. Visitors are always welcome.



Monthly Meeting Activity

• February 24th What does a Butterfly Expert have in common with Bushwalkers?

Apparently quite a lot! Come along and and find out for yourself.

Presentation by Julie Whitfield

10 minutes [maybe less] — "What's in the bag" — a quick look at what to take

on the Ritchies Hut trip. Garry Brannan

• March 24th Friends of Luro – Gen and Katrina Tehan will talk about their experiences in

the Luro district of Timor Leste, and the opportunities for Trekking and

Homestay in the area.

Friends of Luro is an Australian Friendship Group supporting sustainable pilot programs in Luro, Timor Leste with a special focus on Education, Clean Water and Sustainable Tourism Programs. Every year since 2005 they have been to Luro to run pilot community development programs and deliver much needed basic goods including water filters, wheelie bins for dry goods storage and provide Secondary Education Scholarships to the next

generation.

Friends of Luro is a not for profit Australian volunteer community group.

http://www.friendsofluro.org/

April 28th Calendar Planning

10 minutes [maybe less] - "Where am I" - plotting GPS co-ordinates on the

map. Quick and simple, not boring or techo. Garry Brannan

May 26th 'Magic Lantern Show' (Wyperfeld National Park) - Solo, pre and post fires,

from a desert rat's perspective. Presentation by Bill Clarke

Memberships for 2014 - 2015 Payment for annual Club Membership fees for 2014-15 are now being accepted. Please pay or forward your club fees to Greg Doubleday. 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 Newletter can be found here .



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

Topics this month include:

- Extended Walks Leadership Course
- Bushwalking Tracks and Conservation Reports
- News from Land Managers
- Invitation to Participate in Nest Boxing Weekends, 2015
- One Way of Optimising your Backpacking Food
- Dehydrated Food or Freeze Dried for Pack Carries

Bushwalking Victoria - Extended Walks Leadership Course

Bushwalking Victoria has worked with some of the bigger clubs to develop courses that help clubs identify and train activity leaders.

The first course covered leadership skills, planning and conducting a walk, basic navigation and risk management.

An extended course has been developed for leaders of day walks who would like to extend their knowledge to include base camps and overnight walks (pack carries). The course will also help leaders improve their navigation skills.

When: Saturday 16 May to Sunday 17 May, 2015.

Time: 9am-4.30pm both days.

Where: Conference Room, Parks Office, Westerfolds Park (Melway 33 F1).

Cost: FREE

A light lunch, morning and afternoon tea will be provided on both days.

Eligible applicants: The course is open to all members of clubs affiliated and associated with

Bushwalking Victoria and to individual members of Bushwalking Victoria. The course numbers are limited. Preference will be given to applicants who have attended the initial course and are now leading day

walks OR applicants who have significant day walk leadership

experience.

To register contact: Sally Walker (email preferred) at training@bushwalkingvictoria.org.au

or Telephone 03 9807 5576.

Deadline for applications: Friday, 1 May.

Notification date: Successful applicants will be notified by 8 May.

When applying, provide the following information:

Name:						
Club name / Individual member:						
Telephone:						
Mobile phone:						
Email address:						
Leadership experience:						
Did you attend the first course?	Yes No					
If you did not attend the first course, indicate your level of navigation skills:						
. Map craft	Understanding contour lines and landforms	None	Basic	High		
. Navigation	Using grid references	None	Basic	High		
. Map scales	Estimating distance None		Basic	High		
. Using a compass	Grid bearings	None	Basic	High		
	Magnetic bearings	None	Basic	High		
	Walking on a bearing	None	Basic	High		

Bits and pieces

Invitation to Participate in Nest Boxing Weekends, 2015

21-22 March 18-19 April 16-17 May

The nest box program has been in operation for over 13 years. 381 boxes are in place, with Squirrel Gliders and Sugar Gliders nesting in about two-thirds of them. An increasing number of boxes contain the Stringybark nests of the rare Brush-tailed Phascogale.

The basic problem facing all of these animals is an extreme shortage of natural tree hollows because the old trees were heavily cleared decades ago and the regrowth forests are still far too young to have hollows. Nest boxes help fill this need.

Regular checking of the nest boxes helps us to discover preferred habitats in different seasons, the breeding success of particular colonies, barriers to wildlife movement across the landscape and determine areas in which to place additional boxes. It also enables us to monitor unwanted species (eg, starlings, feral bees or rats) that might be taking over the boxes.

Activities

- Checking nest boxes to see the wildlife at home
- Recording data for our ongoing research investigations
- ☐ Sharing insights from our day's observations
- BBQ tea (BYO food and drink)

Accommodation

- Own arrangements
 - or
- ☐ Free accommodation at Benalla Scout Hall
 - Mattresses supplied
 - BYO sleeping bag and pillow
 - Minor kitchen facilities available
 - BYO tent if you prefer to camp outside

Meals

- BYO lunch and drinks for Saturday and Sunday as we are out all day
- BYO food and drink for the Saturday night BBQ

Personal gear

- ☐ Sun screen, hat, sturdy shoes, long trousers
- Sock protectors to keep out grass seeds

Group gear - Please let me know if you can bring any group equipment, eg:

- □ 5-6m extension ladder
- ☐ Roof rack and rope to carry ladder
- Tow bar to carry a ladder on one of our trailers
- ☐ A compass for map reading
- GPS unit for easy location of boxes

Meeting

- 9.30 am Saturday; 9.00am Sunday
- Regent Honeyeater Nursery, Sydney Rd, Benalla
- Located at the Yooralla Community Farm, about 1km past the Mitre 10 store. Look for the steel gates and cattle grid We're behind the buildings at the end of the long drive

Bookings

- Please let me know the number of people expected
- ☐ And any of the extra group equipment you can supply

Contact

Ray Thomas: Business hours (03) 5761 1515, email ray@regenthoneyeater.org



Above: checking nest boxes, and Below: A family of Squirrel Gliders



Discounts for members

Aussie disposals have been long time supporters of the current and previous clubs, and now Mountain Design are also offering member discounts.

There is little overlap in the goods on offer in each store, so please support them both.



23 View Point, Bendigo



45 Mitchell St, Bendigo

Online Bushwalking Magazine

Free Bushwalk Australia Magazine

- * Garden of Stone NP
- * Why is wildlife still vanishing?
- * Powering the 21st century bushwalker
- * DIY water carrier
- * Three Ways of Collecting Water in Tricky Places
- * A Quick Guide to Blister Prevention for Bushwalkers
- * Zip lock bag cooking

Download it from here - http://emag.bushwalk.com/BWA201502.pdf

Back issues here https://drive.google.com/folderview?id=0Bz-u1biWAmhaQktOLVI0OC1QdIU&usp=drive_web

From: Adam Smolak [mailto:ASmolak@conservationvolunteers.com.au]

Sent: Wednesday, 18 February 2015 9:38 AM

To: enquiries@gobush.org.au

Subject: Australian Alps Walking Track Maintenance Projects March $1\ -7$ and March $22\ -\ 28$

Good morning Bendigo Bushwalking and Outdoor Club Members

Conservation Volunteers Australia Bendigo Office & Parks Victoria have been running a yearly maintenance programme on sections of the Australian Alps Walking Track around the Mansfield, Falls Creek and Omeo.

This season we have two trips left and have 3 volunteer positions left for each trip.

Sun 1 March- Sat 7 March 2015 Departs Bendigo at 9am Australian Alps Walking Track, Bogong High Plains.

Sun 22 March- Sat 28 March 2015

Australian Alps Walking Track, Eastern Alps Region, Big River campground.

It would be fantastic if you could share the opportunities with your members.

If you have any questions at all please give me a call on 0427 507 004. Kind regards
Adam Smolak

Volunteer Engagement Officer,

Conservation Volunteers Australia 03 54440777 0427 507 004

Email: asmolak@conservationvolunteers.com.au



Trip Reports

February 21, 2015

My Dearest Nephew Graham

Your Uncle Ron and I were thrilled to receive your last letter, but please, in future don't mention the chickens. Since this daylight change climate saving thing started, the curtains haven't faded, but we haven't had any eggs for months. Anyway, the chooks all lost their heads and are in the freezer now. Next time you visit remind me to cook you a roast chicken for dinner.

I was a bit concerned about you doing this bushwalking thing, what with your history of bowel problems and such, so I thought I should check up on you. I contacted that lovely young Garry fellow, but all he could talk about was leeches. Leeches this and leeches that; I think he is a bit deranged, really I do.

I did get some sense out of him eventually. Apparently after you left, they spent a night in luxury at The Cradle Mountain Waldorf indulging on steak and chips for dinner.

The next day they caught the bus down to Dove Lake, and walked to Scott-Kilvert Hut at Lake Rodway via a steep climb up Hanson's Peak, past the Twisted Lakes and along the eastern slopes of Cradle Mountain. I don't understand why they didn't get the bus all the way, but apparently the views there were supers. The hut has recently been refurbished and is in really good condition, and there was enough room for the tents for a change.

The next day, most of the group headed off on a beautiful sunny day for Barn Bluff. Again the views were superb in all directions.

The following day on the way back, apparently that lovely Sharelle lass had energy to burn, so she trotted off and climbed Cradle Mountain just for something to do until it was time to go to the pub for dinner again. That Waldorf must be a huge hotel, they had to walk six kilometers back to their rooms. Perhaps next time they will pay a bit more and get good rooms.

Anyway Graham, Uncle Ron and I were glad to hear that you and your companions arrived home safe. Write again soon.

Love, Uncle Ron and Aunt Beryl xoxoxo

Canyon to Cradle, Tasmania

The Crew, Penguin Cradle Trail at the southern end of Gunns Plains.

Graham, Rechelle, John, Bob, Garry, David, Greg, Melinda and Keith.





Right: First night, Tulip Tree Creek. Eight tents and sites for about three; then it started raining, fortunately only a shower.

Below Left: The track in places was narrow and perched precariously on the steep canyon walls.

Below: Water cascading through the narrow Leven Splits





GoBush

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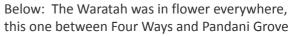
Left: John and Bob surveying the Griffiths Flats from the edge of the Loongana Range. Cloud covered Black Bluff in the background.



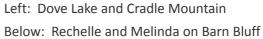
Right: Our tiny encampment crammed onto the edge of Paddys Lake. It was expected that we could shelter here from the wind, but it funnelled down the gap and blasted out across the lake. No substitute for having at least a couple of snow pegs in the peg bag.



Left: David, Greg and Melinda on the summit of Black Bluff. Cradle mountain on the horizon, just over one days [daze?] walk away.











GoBush

Bendigo Bushwalking and Outdoor Club Inc.

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Activities . . . February to April and beyond

Daylight Saving Robinson Crusoe Adventures - Wednesday 4th March

Take advantage of the extra daylight, come and explore the wonderful bush reserves at the southern end of the Bendigo Creek system.

If the weather is cooler, the activity will definitely be bushwalking based, with some exploration of heritage and natural environment of the area. For example, have you ever seen the pitch that the first English cricket team to visit Bendigo played on? Or maybe seen sugar gliders venturing out of their hollows at dusk? The bushwalking will generally be easy with some off-track. Be prepared for maximum of 8 km in two hours (on a cool evening).

If you wish to cycle, meet Kerrie at Crusoe at 6.30, or join with Garry and Rechelle at 6.00pm, they intend cycling out from the Golden Square Fire Station on the Bendigo Creek Linear Path.

Participants must be capable and suitably prepared for the activity and environmental conditions they choose to engage in.

What to bring:

- Adequate water and nibbles/snack, torch, binoculars (optional) personal first aid kit and emergency contact info. sheet.
- Clothing suitable to weather and protection from insect bites. Be prepared for cool change in evening. For walking, you must have fully enclosed boot or shoe/runner.
- Cycling wear an approved helmet and your bike [or you] must be fitted with lights.

Meet 6.30 pm at Crusoe Reservoir Park on Crusoe Road Kangaroo Flat - inside gateway (in the shade) near pine tree and peppercorn tree

Note: On days of Total Fire Ban - Crusoe Reservoir Park is closed thus event will be cancelled. For further details, contact Kerrie Norris 5447 8017

Wobbly-knees Weekend Walk for Weary, Wounded 'n Wannabe Walkers. Ritchies Hut, 27th February – 1st March

A very easy pack-carry weekend. Friday night at Sheepyard Flat then on Saturday walk into Ritchies from the Eight Mile [6km], set up camp, fish, swim, do yoga, read a book, sit around and tell lies of previous exploits, whatever. Community hors d'oeuvre, antipasto and canapés prior to a self catered main meal, then more stories and lies around the campfire.

There is no limit to what you may bring, deck chairs, umbrellas and four-burner BBQ's are to be encouraged, but strictly BYO. Drum kits and amplified music are prohibited.

Sunday, leisurely breakfast, then walk the 6 km out after lunch. Time to visit historic Fry's Hut.

Ritchies is a good hut if the weather turns bad, and there is also a long drop toilet nearby. This is an ideal weekend for those who do not carry a heavy pack any more, or for new members who would like to experience the joy of being free of the car for a weekend. No gear? No problem! Give me a call.



Fry's Hut

Fuel Share - \$40.00

Garry Brannan 0450879917

In Sturt's Wake - 11 April to 19 April 2015 – Booked out.

Mt Samaria Base Camp - March 7 - 9 ****Note change of date****

Date brought forward one week to utilise the Labor Day public holiday.

Mt Samaria is in a range of mountains climbing from the eastern side of Lake Nillacootie on the road between Benalla and Mansfield. To a degree, the range flattens once you get to the top with a range of small hilltops along the ridge. Somewhat surprisingly, Mt Samaria isn't the highest, even though the state park bears its name.

Our base camp is to be at Samaria Well, which is at the northern end and best approached via Swanpool. From the town its 8kms on bitumen and then 4 kms of relatively good gravel road.

Two walks are planned. On Saturday we will climb to Mt Samaria from a point to be determined. Sundays walk will be in the area of Wild Dog Creek Falls which cascades spectacularly from the plateau as it makes its way to Lake Nillacootie. Monday's activity – yet to be decided.

It is planned that we will go out for a country pub cooked meal at the pub before going to see a film at the historic Swanpool Cinema. http://www.swanpoolcinema.com.au/

The walks are rated Easy, though exploratory because some sections may be off track.

Ring Buzza on 0438437680 for further details.

Vaughan Springs - Mineral Springs Country - Sunday March 22 2015

The walk starts Vaughan Springs Reserve, 10 km south of Castlemaine. It's an easy 4-5 hour, 10.5 km walk. We'll cross the Loddon River, and follow it along an old water race with dry stone walls to Glenluce Springs and beyond. At 1.5 km ARF (As the Raven Flies) we'll head up and away from the river to a high point with good views, and then south across forest till where we met Italian Hill Track.

From here on there are shafts and heaps, from mining efforts of 150 years ago. We'll then head down the Track towards the river again to have lunch, then continued on to Helge Track. This track leads back up into the forest and meets the Great Dividing Trail. There are very impressive ruins of a cottage on this track. The GDT continues up Sailor's Gully and Butcher's Gully, before dropping back down into Vaughan Springs.

So if you want to come, call me on 0408 0617 66 or 54 42 3675 Leigh Callinan

Timber Tramways, Big Pats Creek to Powelltown - 28 – 29th March.

Medium Walk - Two Day - Pack Carry

This walk starts at Big Pats Creek, just out of Warburton, and follows old logging tramways to finish at Powelltown. This network of tramways supplied various sawmills in the area with logs for milling and was finally abandoned around 1949 when the New Federal Mill closed. Scattered along the walk are remnants of the tramways and abandoned machinery with the odd sawdust mound. Some sections are steep and can be slippery if wet. The odd leech will be encountered. If the weather is wet this walk can be quite miserable, worse if it snows. If it is windy there is a reasonable chance of being hit by falling limbs . Camp will be in the vicinity of Ada No2 Mill which was destroyed in the 1939 bushfires. If time and enthusiasm allow, a side trip to the Ada Tree and New Federal Mill site can be incorporated. A car shuffle of about 30km from Big Pats Creek to Powelltown is required as this is a through walk.

Maximum number of 8. Departing Bendigo Friday night.

Fuel-share: approx \$40.00 ECP Robyn Doubleday

Maps: Gladysdale, Ada River, Spion Kopje 1:25,000 Vicmap.

For more details & bookings contact Greg Doubleday 54478156.

Gammons Ranges-postponed to 2016

This trip was planned to visit the Gammon Ranges after a long hot summer to see it at its driest, experiencing the rich pallet of ochre colours with the least vegetation cover, and relying solely on water drops. The reality is that this year has been one of the wettest January's on record with more predicted.

So apologies to those who have indicated they would go this year: possible date for 2016 - 22/04/16 to 01/05/16). Peter Pemberton - 0428 869 196

SWANPOOL CINEMA DOUBLE BILL

PAPER PLANES (G)

Sam Worthington, Ed Oxenbould, David Wenham

ST VINCENT (M)

Bill Murray, Melissa McCarthy, Naomi Watts





The deadline for the next edition of GoBush - March, Wednesday 18th.

Please forward Trip Reports, details of Coming Events, and any interesting articles to Garry at garrybrannan@gmail.com 0450879917



Date	Description	Rating	Comments	Contact			
February							
Tuesday 24th	Club Meeting		Butterflys and Bushwalking - Julie Whitefield				
27/2 – 1/3 Feb/ March	Wobbly-knees Weekend	E PC	Ritchies Hut – Very easy. Suitable for all	Garry Brannan 0450 879 917			
March							
Wed 4th March	Water, Walk or Wobble	Е	Walk, paddle or ride on or around the Crusoe and No7 reservoirs.	Kerrie Norris 5447 8017			
Date Changed Sat 7th – Mon 9th	Mt Samaria Labor Day long weekend.	E	Base camp + picture night at the historic Swanpool Cinema	Graham Borrell 0438 437 680			
Sunday 23rd	Vaughan Springs	DW/E	Easy 10.5km. Mine workings, ruins, Loddon River	Leigh Callinan 5442 3675			
Sat-Sun 21-22nd	Nest Boxing Weekend		Refer Page 4, February GoBush				
Tuesday 24th	Club Meeting		ТВА				
Sat 28 – Sun 29 March	Noojee – Powelltown	М	Timber Tramways - 2 days	Greg Doubleday 5447 8156			
April							
April 3 - 6th	Easter		Still available to list a walk				
April 11th to 19th	In Sturt's Wake	М	Booked out.	Bob Jones 0458012934			
17 – 19th April	Lerderderg Gorge	М	2 days	Greg Doubleday 5447 8156			
Sat-Sun 18-19th	Nest Boxing Weekend		Refer Page 4, February GoBush				
Sat-Sun 25 -26	Anzac but no Public Holiday		Still available to list a walk				
Tuesday 28th	Club Meeting		ТВА				
May							
Sunday 3rd	Creswick Forest	DW E		Garry Brannan 0450 879 917			
Sat-Sun 16 -17th	Nest Boxing Weekend		Refer Page 4, February GoBush				
Sat-Sun 16 - 17th	Bushwalking Victoria -		Extended Walks Leadership Course Refer Page 3, February GoBush				
May 22-24th	Grampians Base camp	Е	Mt Rosea	Graham Borrell 0438 437 680			
Tuesday 26th	Club Meeting		ТВА				
June							
5th - 8th Queens Birthday Weekend	Wilsons Prom Three nights.	M+ PC	Possibly one night may be at the light house in the LHK cottage.	Garry Brannan 0450 879 917			
Tuesday 23th	Club Meeting		ТВА				
Sun 28th	Leaghur State Park	DW		Graham Borrell 0438 437 680			

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