

BENDIGO BUSHWALKING AND OUTDOOR CLUB INC

BBOC Presidents notes for the February meeting.

Committee members Leigh, Roland, Chris, Liesje, John & Kerry met on February 16. In summary:

- The First Aid Course run by Wilderness First Aid will be held this weekend. Thirteen of us will be attending and hopefully we all will earn an up to date First Aid Certificate. The Certificate will last for 3 years. It will be reassuring to know that many of us in the Club are competent first aiders.
- I'd like to give another plug for our DropBox site, where you'll see our Trip Photos. Go to the link http://tinyurl.com/ou89w4m and have a look. Also those who have led trips since November last, put your photos up so we can all enjoy them.
- While you are on the internet, check out our continually improving website at http://gobush.org.au.
- Remember to get your outdoor gear at Aussie Disposals and Mountain Designs, and enjoy the discounts.
- At the February meeting Susan McMinn will be giving a presentation on the Horses of WW1. 39,300 were sent over; what happened to them; how many returned. Come along on Tuesday nite and find out.
- Also at the meeting we'll be bring along boxes of our gear collected over the years; you can help sort out what we need to keep.
- We want to now promote the idea of encouraging Mentors to accompany new Leaders on trips.
- We are going to spend some money updating our rafting safety equipment.
- And importantly, check out the Activities Calendar; you might find just what you are looking for. Come along to the Meeting to learn more.

Leigh Callinan

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.

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



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 Peter Pemberton 04 2886 9196 Equipment Officer Chris Franks 03 5439 3549 Web Master Peter Pemberton 04 2886 9196 General Committee Kerrie Norris 03 5447 8017 04 0202 4096 General Committee Roland Cauka 03 5441 6118 General Committee Leisje Wilson

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.

Club Meetings:

March 22

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

Club Meeting – It is more than 100 years since almost 39,300 horses were sent to the Middle
 February 23 East during the Palestine Campaigns of World War One, but what did happen to all of these horses after the war? Member Susan McMinn will talk on the facts and fiction of this story.

to explore and some great huts with toilets (vital necessity for snow campers).

Club Meeting — John Lindner. Snow Dreaming - my years of bushwalking on skis

This illustrated talk will cover the time between when I finally learned to ski in 1978 to when
I gave away the dreaded pack-carrying on skis for a home-made sled. I have undertaken
some really great extended trips to all the major snowy mountains. Now I'm happy to settle
for about 5 days each year on the Bogong High Plains, where there is a good variety of places

• April 26 Club Meeting – TBA

Membership fees are now overdue if you have yet to pay.

Fees are \$60 for a family and \$40 for single members. A Membership Form can be found on the website at www.gobush.org.au. Remember you must sign the Acknowledgment of Risk at the bottom of the membership application otherwise you are not covered by the Club insurance.

Bits and Pieces

Bushwalking News Victoria

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





POSITION VACANT

The services of a Newsletter Editor is urgently required by the Bendigo Bushwalking and Outdoor Club.

General computer literacy and experience with Microsoft Word an advantage.

Work from home, be your own boss. Remuneration – by negotiation. Immediate start. Applications to The Secretary, BBOC – Telephone Bendigo 5439 3549



Dear Friends,

Our great national parks are precious beyond words, but with climate change upon us, they are already showing changes. More frequent bushfires put the survival of our great Alpine and Mountain Ash forests in jeopardy. Increasing temperatures, more frequent droughts and floods, and rising sea waters will affect our native plants and animals in many different ways. Some will do well, but others will struggle.

For this reason the Victorian National Parks Association teamed up with Melbourne University's Bio21 Institute and the Royal Society of Victoria to assemble some of the best scientific minds, and most experienced land managers, to see what could be done to support our surviving natural areas.

A lively symposium 'Managing Biodiversity in Victoria under Climate Change' attracted over 200 people, and the recommendations from those presentations and discussions have been compiled by ecologist Dr Ian Lunt.

They now appear as the "10 things we can all do to help nature adapt to a new climate" on a new website: www.vicnature2050.org

The recommendations include increasing funding and resources for our national parks. They also include radical suggestions, such as introducing new 'climate-ready' species in rehabilitated areas, and increasing the genetic diversity of plantings. The improved health of riverside vegetation will also be crucial. Importantly, to echo the words of one of the VNPA's founders half a century ago, this is not just a job for our land managers, 'it's a job for anyone who has ever sat under a tree'.

We strongly recommend that you have a good look at the <u>www.vicnature2050.org</u> website, become involved in this important task, and pass the message on to your friends.

Matt Ruchel
Executive Director

Ph: 03 9347 5188 | Email: vnpa@vnpa.org.au |

Web: vnpa.org.au



Trip Reports

Lyonville to Trentham Circuit Walk - Sunday 31 January 2016.

For the first walk on the Club's 2016 Day Walk Calendar I chose an easy walk south of Bendigo to escape the heat in a very hot summer. The Bureau of Meteorology (BOM) website predicted a 90% chance of rain for Sunday with varying percentages for the likelihood of rain for every 3 hours during the day. I awoke at 5am on Sunday to hear heavy rain falling in Spring Gully. Two people who had expressed an interest in joining the walk rang me at 8am to cancel as they had recorded 10mm of rain at their home on the outskirts of Bendigo and it was still raining there when they rang.

As the leader I had no alternative other than to be at the meeting place to see if anyone turned up but I did have one piece of information up my sleeve and that was the Norwegian weather prediction for Lyonville. I am a great supporter of the BOM weather predictions but when the site predicts something that I do not quite like I refer to the Norwegian site (www.yr.no). The site predicted 7.4mm of rain between 5am and 11am and no rain between 11am and 5pm.

Including myself there were 9 walkers. We examined the heavy trestle railway bridge spanning the headwaters of the Coliban River and then headed into the Wombat forest. It was nice to be in the bush following the rain. The smell of the bush and the colours on the tree trunks were wonderful. We joined the Domino Trail close to Trentham Station and we had lunch on tables under cover beside Trentham Lake.

For the return route we followed the Domino Trail. We saw few walkers and no cyclists but we did see a beautifully made circular brick tunnel running through the embankment. At walks end we drove to Castlemaine for tea and coffee in the Cured Café.

Thank you to Kerrie, Anne, Janet, Chris (yes, she's back), Alison, Susan, Leigh and David for supporting the walk.

Reference. Walk 16 in Federation Walks 2015.

The BOM and the Norwegian weather predictions were both correct but there was no measurable rain for the entire duration of our walk.

Bob Jones.

Activities . . . February and beyond

26th – 28th February – Mt Eccles Base Camp

Explore the volcanoes of the Western District - Mt Eccles, Mt Napier and Byaduck Caves

In the Western District south of Hamilton is Mt Eccles, a volcano which last erupted about 6500 years ago. Together with Mt Napier and Byaduck Caves, the area is a preserved living history of volcanic activity in Victoria. Although the walks are quite short in length, they give an interesting insight into the area, as well as an opportunity to view the abundant wildlife that frequents Lake Surprise.

The Mt Eccles camp site is an established camp area with toilet blocks etc. Participants should bring a torch and sturdy footwear in addition to the normal requirements.

The walks (of about 12km) are rated Easy.

Contact Buzza on 0438437680 ASAP as campsites have to booked

Clean Up Australia Day Sunday March 6

Meet 8.30 at the club rooms in Forest Street

Organiser and contact: John Lindner, 5448 3406

Our club used to regularly participate in this important annual event, and i think we should once again. I have talked to Anthony Sheean (club member and Council Environmental Officer) and Sam Falkingham (Ranger at Parks Victoria).

We will work in our own group as the job is a bit specialised. I am planning to do some heavy-duty cleaning up of long-term rubbish dumping in the Whipstick Regional Park (near Huntly). It is along Adelaide Hills Road, starting from Trickey's Garage. It would entail having a couple of cars with trailers to collect bricks, concrete and old tyres.

I will have my own utility and trailer. I will reconnoitre the bush again and map the pile locations. None are very big but there are lots. We will most likely have to take the stuff directly to the Eaglehawk Tip (with a free tip pass to do so)

The activity has been registered with Clean Up Australia.

Friday 11 to Mon 14 March – Murray River Canoe Tour – Speewah Ferry to Tooleybuc

Start at the Speewah Ferry and canoe downstream for 35 miles/56 k to Tooleybuc Bridge. Three nights camping out on the river on hairpin bends with excellent river access and sandbars; one even has furniture.

This trip will be limited to 12 paddlers.

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Friday 11 Bendigo to Kerang via Loddon Valley Highway and on to Swan Hill. From Beverford (14 k north of

Swan Hill), it is a short distance out to Speewah on the Murray River. Camp on the river, and

unload all gear.

Saturday 12 Take all cars, trailers etc into Tooleybuc. Meet Bev Porteous, long time member of the old Alpine

Club and now resident at Tooleybuc. Leave cars in Tooeybuc. Bev takes drivers back to Speewah.

Canoe Speewah Ferry to Gallows Bend (14 miles = 23 k)

Sunday 9 Gallows Bend to bend near Bev's place (10 miles = 16 k) Visit Bev at "Ring Tree"

Monday 10 Bend near Bev's place to Tooleybuc Bridge (11 miles = 18 k)

Return to Bendigo

John Lindner 5448 3406

MT BOGONG DAY WALK Sunday 12 March 2016 (long weekend)

This annual event, organised and staffed by members of the Upper Kiewa Valley Lions Club, is a Day walk open to all comers. The Mt Bogong Conquestathon is a safe but strenuous walk to the top of Victoria's highest mountain, to conquer Mt Bogong. This event is not billed as a competition, families are regular participants, but times are kept, and runners are welcome.



Starting from Mountain Creek Picnic Area, this is a 20km round trip with a climb of 1,300 metres The satisfaction of standing on top of Victoria is overwhelming.

Interested members should check out the links below. There is a fee to enter and camping is available before and after at the Mountain Creek campsite at the start of the walk.

I did this walk last year and it was a bit of a killer (for me at least). I'm not a coordinator but can provide some information to interested parties. The walk is up Staircase Spur and the descent is via Eskdale Spur. The day is a good chance for all hikers to reacquaint themselves with Mt Bogong, (forget about it if your knees are stuffed!) Hans Tracksdorf 0400 049 891 And you normally get a medallion if you do the walk.

https://www.runningcalendar.com.au/event/mt-bogong-conquestathon/http://www.coolrunning.com.au/calendar/public html/2016/2016e006.pdf

Moliagul & Mount Moliagul – Sunday 20th March

Type: Day Walk

Distance: 12km Grade: Medium

Description: A loop walk commencing at the Flynn Memorial Cairn in Moliagul. Initially walking SW to the Welcome Stranger site, we will then head North to the top of Mount Moliagul. After pausing to take in the views from Mount Moliagul, we will continue the loop walk back to the small township of Moliagul. The walk will more often than not be on 4wd tracks through Box/Ironbark forest.

Meet: At 9 am, Clubrooms Bendigo.

Fuel Share: Zone 2 - \$20

Contact: Peter Pemberton ph 0428 886 9196

Easter Walk – Thursday 24th to Mon 28th March – The Pilot & Cobberas.

This walk is a mixture of on & off track through a remote area with lots of points of interest. Unfortunately it involves a long drive to get there so an early departure from Bendigo on Thursday would be a distinct advantage.

We will visit the historic cairn on Forest Hill, marking the start of the Black Allen Line. Also the marker post at the start of the Murray River. A couple of 1800m high mountains & a few minor ones provide superb views and a plane crash site to investigate as well as a couple of excellent campsites to enjoy round out this walk.

Details of the area can be found in Chapmans book Australian Alps Walking Track. Bring something to carry water in as our last night may not be near water. This is a remote area with alpine peaks so be prepared.

Medium grade walk approx 50kms on & off track.

Map: Suggan Buggan 1:50 000 LPI - NSW

Fuel share: \$60 ECP – Garry Brannan 04 5087 9917 For more info & bookings contact Greg Doubleday 54483661

http://www.dtpli.vic.gov.au/ data/assets/pdf file/0010/217783/Surveying the Black-Allan Line.pdf

Corner Inlet Sea Kayaking – Fri 1st – Sun 3rd April

Paddle from Pt Welshpool to Johnny Souey Cove, camp overnight then return on Sunday. Must have open-water kayak experience.

Garry Brannan 0450 879 917 for details.

O'Keefe Rail Trail – Bike Ride – Sunday 3rd April 2016

Covering the section of the Rail Trail between Axedale and Heathcote

Type: Bike Ride Distance: 55km

Grade: Easy/Medium

Party Size: Maximum party size is 10

Features: Ride over the recently opened section of the O'Keefe Rail Trail between Axedale and Heathcote passing through the Knowsley Forest and across the Mt Ida Creek Bridge at Lake Eppalock.

Proposed Itinerary:

1. Drive from Bendigo to Axedale

- 2. Ride from Axedale to Heathcote and return (55km)
- 3. Lunch in Heathcote before the return ride to Axedale
- 4. Drive back from Axedale to Bendigo

Costs: Zone 1 - \$10

Info: www.bendigokilmorerailtrail.com and www.railtrails.org.au

Contact: David Crocker ph 0409 425 604

Two Creeks Walk - Castlemaine Diggings Heritage National Park

Wednesday 6th April

Type: Day Walk

Distance: 12km Grade: Easy/Medium

Description: Gentle forest walk in the lesser known southern reaches of the Castlemaine Diggings National

Heritage Park with some interesting ruins, water races and old diggings along the way.

Afternoon tea/coffee in Castlemaine before returning to Bendigo.

Meet: At 8:30am in the carpark in front of Rebel Sport at Lansell Square, Kangaroo Flat.

Fuel Share: Zone 2 - \$20

Contact: David Crocker ph 0409 425 604

Tipperary Track Day Walk – Sunday 10th April 2016

Distance: 16.5km Grade: Easy/Medium

Features: Passing through the Hepburn Regional Park, the one-way walk from Lake Daylesford to the Hepburn Mineral Springs Reserve follows historic water races along the Wombat, Sailors and Spring Creeks. Towards the end of the walk there is a short climb over Jacksons Lookout.

Afternoon tea/coffee at Frangos in Daylesford before returning to Bendigo.

Meet: Club's Meeting Hall in Forest Street at 9:00am.

Fuel Share: Zone 2 - \$20

Contact: David Crocker ph 0409 425 604

Bogong High Plains – The Huts Tour (Part 2)

Friday 15th April to Sunday 17th April 2016

Type: Overnight Walk Distance: 27km pack carrying + 4km with daypack

Grade: Medium Party Size: Maximum party size is 8

DESCRIPTION: As a follow up to the Bogong High Plains – The Huts Tour on the weekend of 29th to 30th March 2014 which visited seven huts on the eastern section of the Bogong High Plains, the plan is to walk a western section which will include visiting a further six or seven huts.

Friday night camping near Pretty Valley Hut.

Saturday morning walk with packs from Pretty Valley Pondage up onto the Bogong High Plains with a short detour (without packs) to visit Tawonga Huts, later arriving at Snow Pole No 333 on the Australian Alpine Walking Track. From this track junction an easy descent will be made to stop at the Westons Hut (rebuilt after the bushfires) (lunch) and then a steeper descent into the West Kiewa Valley to visit Blairs Hut followed by a steady climb up to Cobungra Gap on the Kiewa/Cobungra divide. It is then just a short descent to the campsite at Dibbins Hut.

Sunday morning with packs, along the AAWT back up to Cobungra Gap and on upwards past Basalt Temple and onto the flatlands of the Bogong High Plains passing Mt Jim and back to the junction at Snow Pole No 333 before heading east to Cope Saddle (Cope Saddle Hut). A short detour (without packs) along the Cope West Aqueduct to visit Ryders Yards (hut). Then northwards across the Bogong High Plains and back to the where the cars were left at Pretty Valley Pondage.

A possible extension would be to visit Youngs Hut. This would add an extra 4km to the walk.

This is an alpine walk so be prepared for every sort of weather over the weekend.

Contact: David Crocker ph 0409 425 604

The Monk & Poverty Gully Water Race - Castlemaine Diggings Heritage National Park

Wednesday 20th April

Type: Day Walk

Distance: 13km Grade: Easy/Medium

Description: A loop walk through the higher parts of the Castlemaine Diggings National Heritage Park south of

Chewton.

Commencing on the Chewton-Fryerstown Road initially following Jacobs Track skirting around the base of The Monk before heading south for a short distance on the Great Dividing Trail. By staying in the forest before the farm land is reach and heading west to meet the Poverty Gully Water Race (after 5km). The remainder of the walk is along the Water Race and therefore very easy walking. With interesting remains and ruins, sluices and adits from the gold mining era to be seen along the way. A stop will be made to explore the Eureka Reef Mine area along the way.

Afternoon tea/coffee in Castlemaine before returning to Bendigo.

Meet: At 8:30am in the carpark in front of Rebel Sport at Lansell Square, Kangaroo Flat.

Fuel Share: Zone 1 – \$10

Contact: David Crocker ph 0409 425 604

Spring Gully & Break Neck Hill - Castlemaine Diggings Heritage National Park

Wednesday 4th May

Type: Day Walk

Distance: 14km Grade: Easy/Medium

Description: A walk on the Great Dividing Trail (GDT) though parts of the Castlemaine Diggings National Heritage Park, commencing in Fryerstown.

The morning follows the GDT from Fryerstown passing through Irishtown and Choken Flat before turning north and making the steady climb to Break Neck Hill (405m). Further north the Dingo Park is passed before making a short steep climb to The Monk (459m). From The Monk the route now turns south along the GDT (Old Coach Road) passing the old mining village of Spring Gully where there is much evidence of the 1850s gold mining.

Afternoon tea/coffee in Castlemaine before returning to Bendigo.

MEET: At 8:30am in the carpark in front of Rebel Sport at Lansell Square, Kangaroo Flat.

Fuel Share: Zone 1 – \$10

Contact: David Crocker Ph 0409 425 604

The deadline for the next edition will be Wednesday March 16th

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

The Editor reserves the right to edit contributions where space, clarity or propriety dictate, and to maintain editorial consistency.



FEBRUARY 2016 BBOC ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

Date	Description	Rating	Comments	Contact			
February							
Tuesday 23rd 7.30pm	Club Meeting - Presbyterian Church Hall, 35-41 Forest St.		Susan McMinn will talk about the thousands of horses sent to the Middle East during the Palestine Campaigns of World War One.	Kerrie Norris 5447 8017			
Fri 26th – Sun 28th February	Mt Eccles Base Camp - Explore the volcanoes of the Western District - Mt Eccles, Mt Napier and Byaduck Caves	Easy Base- Camp	The walks are about 12km Established camp area with toilet blocks etc	Buzza 0438 437 680			
March							
Sunday March 6	Clean Up Australia Day	Ε	Cleaning up of long-term rubbish dumped in the Whipstick Regional Park	John Lindner, 5448 3406			
Fri 11 to Mon 14 March - Labour Day long weekend	Murray River Canoe touring, Speewah Ferry near Swan Hill to Tooleybuc Bridge	Ε	Flat water paddling, 56 k, two nights camping on the river bank. Full details & map from John on request. Limit 12 paddlers	John Lindner, 5448 3406			
Sun 20th	Mount Moliagul 12km	Med DW	A circuit walk including Welcome Stranger site and panoramic view from Mt Moliagal	Peter Pemberton 0428 869 196			
Tuesday 22nd 7.30pm	Club Meeting - Presbyterian Church Hall, 35-41 Forest St.			Kerrie Norris 5447 8017			
Easter – Thursday 24th to Mon 28th	The Pilot & Cobberas, pack-carry	Hard PC	Includes The Pilot, the source of the Murray River, the historic border marker on Forest Hill, and the Cobberas	Greg Doubleday 5448 3661			
April							
Fri [arvo] 1st – Sun 3rd April	Weekend sea Kayak trip. Must have open-water kayak experience.	Hard	Corner Inlet - Pt Welshpool to Johnny Souey Cove and return	Garry Brannan 0450 879 917			
Sun 3rd April	O'Keefe Rail Trail Bike ride 55km	E/M DW	Recently opened section of the O'Keefe Rail Trail between Axedale and Heathcote.	David Crocker 0409 425 604			
Wed 6th April	Two Creeks Walk - Castlemaine Diggings Heritage National Park	E/M DW	Gentle forest walk in Castlemaine Diggings National Heritage Park	David Crocker 0409 425 604			
Sunday 10th April	Tipperary Track Day Walk - 16.5km Hepburn Regional Park	E/M DW	Walk from Lake Daylesford to the Hepburn Mineral Springs Reserve	David Crocker 0409 425 604			
15th – 17th April	Bogong High Plains – The Huts Tour (Part 2) Overnight Walk	Med PK	Bogong High Plains, walk a western section which will include visiting six or seven huts.	David Crocker 0409 425 604			
Wed 20th April	The Monk & Poverty Gully Water Race 13km	E/M DW	A loop walk through the higher parts of the Castlemaine Diggings NH Park Chewton.	David Crocker 0409 425 604			
Tuesday 26th 7.30pm	Club Meeting - Presbyterian Church Hall, 35-41 Forest St.			Kerrie Norris 5447 8017			
Sat 30th April	Daylesford 'The Three Lost Children' Walk	Easy DW	Includes a visit to Tasman House	Ray Wilson 54478862			
May							
Wed 4th May	Spring Gully & Break Neck Hill 14km	E/M DW	Great Dividing Trail through parts of the Castlemaine Diggings NH Park, Fryerstown.	David Crocker 0409 425 604			

Date	Description	Rating	Comments	Contact			
Fri 20th – Sun 22nd May	Murray to Mountains Rail Trail – Bike Ride 102km	Med	Covering the section of the Rail Trail between Beechworth and Bright	David Crocker 0409 425 604			
Tuesday 24th 7.30pm	Club Meeting - Presbyterian Church Hall, 35-41 Forest St.			Kerrie Norris 5447 8017			
28th or 29th may	Day Walk Leader wanted						
Future events							
10th July to 23rd July	Whitsundays Paddling, must have sea kayak experience.	Hard	Two weeks of sea, sun, surf, snorkeling, and sand. Booked out.	Garry Brannan 0450 879 917			
12th – 23rd August (TBC)	Vulkathunha Gammon Ranges South Australia. Wilderness overnight.	Hard	Please indicate intentions soon so dates can be confirmed. May spend a couple nights at Grindells hut if available.	Peter Pemberton 0428 869 196			