



BENDIGO BUSHWALKING AND OUTDOOR CLUB INC

President's message for November

Five members of the Committee met at my place on November 12.

- ★ *We have selected the BBOC Logo; it is buff colored with a brown oval border. Chris Franks is going to now find a manufacturer.*
- ★ *There were 44 photographs submitted for the 2015 calendar, and the winning entries will be on display at the November meeting. Of those that made it into the calendar there are great photos of the Kosciuszko NP, Bogong High Plains, Black Hill and others from SA, Tas & NZ. The calendar is A4 on 200 gsm. gloss card. There is an early bird price of just \$10; ring Garry on 0450879917 to get one.*
- ★ *Roland has done a great job in drafting up a new front page for our website to include a 'Welcome to New Members'. He showed us link pages to important general bushwalking advice from both the Ballarat and Boroondara Clubs. We will study these and use them to come up with our own advice links, at the next Committee meeting in January.*

The November meeting will be a 'Calendar Nite'. Members are encouraged to notify an activity that they will lead. These activities are the reason that our club exists, so think now about what you could do next year. We will provide some wine and nibbles at that meeting.

Our Xmas function will be at the Marong Pub Lounge on Tuesday, Dec 9 at 7 pm. . We've heard that the venue and the food are excellent, so it should be a great nite. I've booked for 30 but RSVP's have been very slow coming so please if you want to come, RSVP me now at acallinan@ytown.com.au or 54423675 or 0408061766.

Check out the Activities Calendar in this newsletter. The next newsletter will be in early January, but before then there is Bill Clark's Fryers Ranges walk, the Murray River canoe trip and the Kosciuszko Main Range Walk. There is also Garry Brannan's Penguin to Cradle Mountain walk, but it is booked out.

If you have forgotten to renew your member ship, why not do it now? Fees are \$60 for a family and \$40 for single members. Fill out the membership form on the back of this newsletter and send/give it with your payment to our treasurer ,Greg.

See you at the meeting next Tuesday nite.

Leigh Callinan

<p>BENDIGO BUSHWALKING AND OUTDOOR CLUB INC</p> <p>P.O. Box 989, Bendigo, 3552 Reg No. A0051482V</p> <p>Meetings - 4th Tuesday every month [except Dec] Sacred Heart Hall, Short Street at 7:30 pm sharp</p> <p>Membership: Single \$40.00 Family \$60.00</p> <p>Web address: http://gobush.org.au</p> <p>BBOC is affiliated with</p>  <p>The statements and opinions expressed in articles herein are those of the individual authors, and do not necessarily represent the views of the Bendigo Bushwalking and Outdoor Club.</p>	<p>COMMITTEE MEMBERS 14/15</p> <table border="0"> <tr><td>President</td><td>Leigh Callinan</td><td>03 5442 3675</td></tr> <tr><td>Vice President</td><td>Kerrie Cramer</td><td>03 5441 4422</td></tr> <tr><td>Secretary</td><td>Chris Franks</td><td>03 5439 3549</td></tr> <tr><td>Treasurer</td><td>Greg Doubleday</td><td>03 5447 8156</td></tr> <tr><td>Walks Coordinator</td><td>Garry Brannan</td><td>0450 879 917</td></tr> <tr><td>Equipment Officer</td><td>Chris Franks</td><td>03 5439 3549</td></tr> <tr><td>Web Master</td><td>Peter Pemberton</td><td>0428 869 196</td></tr> <tr><td>Newsletter</td><td>Garry Brannan</td><td>0450 879 917</td></tr> <tr><td>General Committee</td><td>Kerrie Norris</td><td>03 5447 8017</td></tr> <tr><td>General Committee</td><td>Roland Cauka</td><td>0402 024 096</td></tr> <tr><td>General Committee</td><td>Maggie Smyth</td><td>03 5443 4530</td></tr> </table>	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
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Club Meetings:

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

- **November 25th** **Calendar Planning Plus.**



This will not be just any Calendar night; there will be pizza and refreshments on the menu, as well as presentations for the Photography Competition. All those who submitted photos should come along. Please give some thought to nominating to be a trip leader, particularly for day trips. If all past trip leaders nominated for just one trip, the calendar would look pretty healthy.

Also on the agenda will be a **10 Min talk** on Risk Assessment guidelines by **Greg Doubleday**



- **December 9th**



End of Year Function - Marong Hotel, Tuesday Dec 9, 7.00 pm

The MFH serve an enticing mix of fine dining & classic pub cuisine, home made soups and gourmet Pizza - Yummo. Don't forget, RSVP Leigh if you are going - acallinan@vtown.com.au, 54423675 or 0408061766.

- **January 27th** **Pizza in the Park.** BYO chair, drinks and nibbles [with something to share]. Meet in Rosalind Park, in the vicinity of the band rotunda, 7.30 pm. Short formal meeting then lots of time to chat and exchange stories.
- **February 24th** **What does a Butterfly Expert have in common with Bushwalkers?** Apparently quite a lot! Come along and find out for yourself. Presentation by **Julie Whitfield**
- **March 24th** **TBA** – Possibly “Trecking in Timor Leste” - watch this space.
- **April 28th** **Calendar Planning**
10 minutes [maybe less] - **"Where am I"** - plotting GPS co-ordinates on the map. Quick and simple, not boring and techo. **Garry Brannan**
- **May 26th** **'Magic Lantern Show' (Wyperfeld National Park)** - Solo, pre and post fires, from a dessert 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 current edition the Bushwalking Victoria Newsletter can be found [here](#) .

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



Bits and pieces

New Club Logo

Bev Ormerod saw the need for a less formal club logo that could be used on gifts, or to be produced as a cloth badge for wearing on caps, shirts, packs etc. This design is the product of considerable effort and consultation by Chris Franks and was selected unanimously from numerous contenders at the last committee meeting. This logo is not intended to replace the more formal design on the Newsletter, nor the Club Letterhead on stationary. The badge logo strongly retains the iconic elements of the foundation clubs, the boot and the triangular representation of a mountain. Well done Chris and Bev.



Greater Alpine National Parks Draft Management Plan

This draft plan was available for public comment until 25th August 2014. Unfortunately it has only just come to my notice.

The Greater Alpine National Parks Draft Management Plan is a strategic guide to the management of Alpine, Baw Baw, Errinundra, Mount Buffalo and Snowy River National Parks, Avon Wilderness Park, Tara Range Park, and Walhalla, Howqua Hills, Grant, Mount Wills and Mount Murphy Historic Areas.

You can download a PDF version of the draft plan and maps from the Resources page at <http://parkweb.vic.gov.au/explore/parks/walhalla-h.a/plans-and-projects/greater-alpine-management-plan/resources>

Printed copies of the draft plan may be purchased for \$10 (including GST) from:

Parks Victoria Information Centre
Level 10, 535 Bourke Street
Melbourne VIC 3000



The Victorian National Parks Association is critical of the draft plan, and make the following points.

- The plan gives little information about how the important natural values of the parks, including many threatened species, will actually be protected.
- The plan puts the aspirations of many current and potential 'user groups' above the protection of the parks' natural values. It does not give enough attention to decades of important alpine science.
- Alarmingly, the plan proposes a formal 'collaborative working relationship' with the Mountain Cattlemen's Association, even though the cattlemen have consistently argued against the establishment of the park. There is no such relationship proposed with any other organisation.
- The plan completely ignores decades of evidence of the damage cattle have done to the alpine region. It supports the infamous alpine grazing trial, even though scientific studies show there is no need for the trial.
- The plan promotes damaging private developments, such as long term leases for commercially run hiker lodges. Once established, commercial developments will inevitably grow in size and impact.
- The plan proposes damaging and unnecessary high levels of fuel reduction burning in the alpine region. Fire management should be based on the best scientific advice.

On the recent Razor/Viking walk, discussion touched on the murders in the Wonnangatta Valley.

MURDER MYSTERY AT WONNANGATTA STATION

By Mary Ryllis Clark, Discover Historic Victoria, 1996

Europeans first ventured into this part of the Great Dividing Range in search of gold in the 1850s and created the townships of Grant and Talbotville. Ten years later, an American prospector, Oliver Smith, found an isolated valley of rich river flats framed by mountain ranges and established one of Victoria's most inaccessible cattle stations.

It was called Wonnangatta after the river running through it. Here he lived a hard and lonely life with his wife, Ellen, and their sons. In 1882 he persuaded William Bryce to join him as a partner.

Bryce ran the pack-horse train with supplies for the gold diggings, but one of his more memorable journeys must have been moving his wife Annie, seven children under 14 and their possessions over the 48 kilometres of rough track between Grant and Wonnangatta. Annie rode side-saddle carrying the baby in her arms while the two toddlers, Alan and Jessie, travelled in gin cases tied to each side of a pack-horse.



Wonnangatta Homestead, 1916. Photograph by Constable Hays, from Hazel Merlo, courtesy of DSE.

The next year Ellen died giving birth to stillborn twin girls and Oliver Smith decided to quit. He sold his share of the partnership to the Bryces and they ran the Wonnangatta Station for more than 30 years.

They became something of a legend among the cattlemen of the high country. Three more children were born and all 10 were educated by their parents. As young adults, their parties were famous. Each played the fiddle or accordion by ear and they and their guests sang and danced for hours.

William Bryce died in 1902 and Annie stayed at Wonnangatta until her death in 1914. The station was then sold to Geoff Ritchie and Arthur Phillips, who installed a local cattleman, James Barclay, as manager.

Barclay was an easy-going man of 45 whose 18-year-old wife died of tuberculosis only nine months after they married. He was a real bushman, content to live with his dogs and horses in the solitude of Wonnangatta's quiet forests and mountains.

Late in 1917, Barclay decided that there was more work than he could handle and he employed John Bamford as cook and odd-job man. A wiry man in his mid 50s, Bamford had a wicked temper. He had been suspected of strangling his wife, but never charged.

Friends warned Barclay against Bamford but he had little choice. The war in Europe had lured most of the young men away and few of those left were prepared to accept the isolation of Wonnangatta.

Bamford arrived at the station on 14 December. Eight days later, he and Barclay rode into Talbotville to vote in the referendum on conscription. They spent the night in town and people who spoke to them said later that they were cheerful and seemed to be getting on well. This was the last time they were seen alive.

On 22 December, Barclay's neighbour and best friend, Harry Smith (stepson of pioneer Oliver Smith), rode to Wonnangatta with the mail. There was nobody about. He went back on 14 January and was alarmed to find still no sign of life other than Barclay's dog, Baron, looking distressed and half starved.

Smith raised the alarm and a few days later a search of the property uncovered Barclay's half-buried and badly decomposed body, with its severed head lying nearby. He had been shot in the back. There was no trace of Bamford and it was assumed that the two had quarrelled and the unsavoury Bamford had shot Barclay and escaped on a horse that was also missing.

A Melbourne detective was sent to view the scene of the crime. When he and his police troopers reached Wonnangatta, they sat down tired, cold and hungry to a meal of bacon and eggs in the homestead kitchen.

They sprinkled the food liberally with powder from a tin marked "pepper" but before they had a chance to eat anything, the eggs started to turn a funny colour. The 'pepper' was strychnine.

Nine months later, when the winter snows had melted, Bamford's body was discovered under a partly burnt-out woodpile on the Howitt Plains, about 12 miles from Wonnangatta. He had been shot in the head.

The mystery of the Wonnangatta murders was never solved. Rumors abounded, from one suggestion that Barclay was killed by a jealous husband who then chased and shot Bamford - to the more likely theory that Barclay had discovered cattle thieves in the area and he and Bamford had been shot to stop them reporting their activities.

There are few connections left with the dramas of the past at Wonnangatta. Cattle no longer graze in the valley and the old homestead was burned down by careless walkers in 1957. All that is left are the ruins of the house and a tiny cemetery containing the graves of Annie Bryce and two of her daughters, Ellen and Jessie. Ellen Smith is also buried here.



Headstones in the Wonnangatta Valley as they appear today

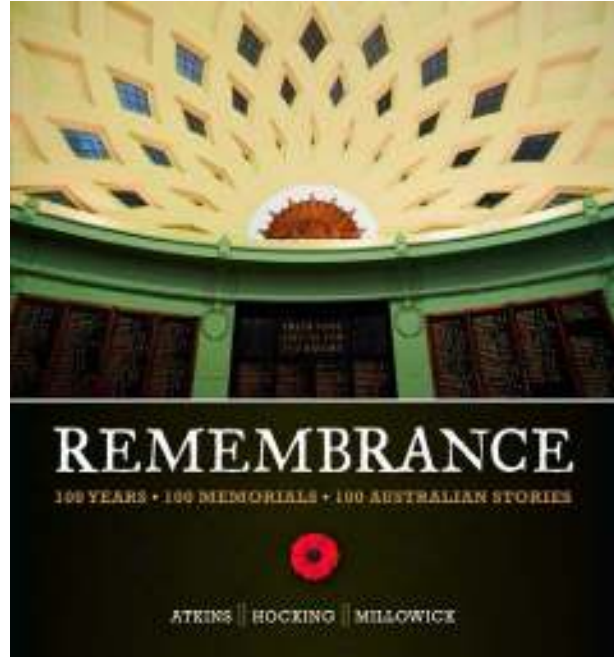
Wonnangatta station is now part of the Alpine National Park. Tracks intrude into the silence of the valley, bringing four-wheel-drivers, campers, walkers and riders. The scenery is always grand and the wildflowers wonderful, especially in spring and early summer. But evenings round a camp fire can be cool at any time of year and even the deepest sleep can be disturbed by dreams of the dark secret the valley has never given up.

REMEMBRANCE

100 YEARS, 100 MEMORIALS, 100 AUSTRALIAN STORIES

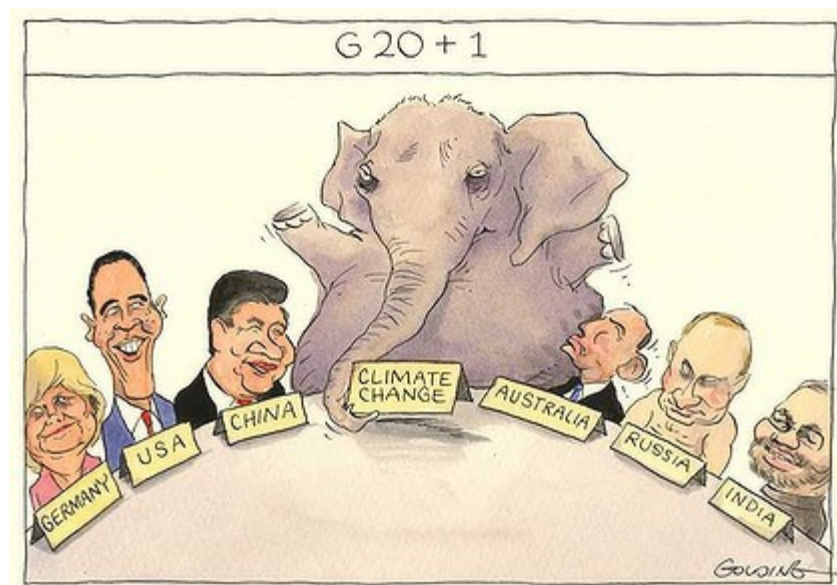
Many of you would be aware that I spent some time last year working with La Trobe University Lecturer and Photographer Julie Millowick on images for a book related to the 1st World War. Well, the book has been published, and it is superbly written and illustrated. If you are thinking of buying a book of this genre, perhaps as a gift for Christmas, I highly recommend it; it is a beautiful book. RRP: \$50, but it is available for \$35 to \$40 if you shop around. I can get a copy for you if you cannot find one. Garry

This beautiful hardback book celebrates 100 years since the outbreak of World War One by featuring stories behind 100 memorials to the fallen from across Australia. In a distinctively original and captivating way, this unique book shows how the terrible sacrifice of young Australians has reverberated across this country through time, and how the memories still resonate in so many different ways. Selected for their unique design, their grandeur or their simplicity, the one hundred memorials have been arranged alphabetically and represent the diversity of memorials to the Anzac spirit from each state and territory across the nation. 'In the "War to End all Wars" Australians paid an extraordinary price. A generation of Australians was never the same.



Geoff Hocking, Julie Millowick, Christopher Atkins

The ricochets have continued since. While Australia itself was not attacked, it was certainly changed forever. 100 years on, the search for understanding and the connections of family, place, institutions and community grow stronger every year. "Remembrance" is a timely tribute which captures the breadth of Australia's commitment and the endless quest to honour those who served and establish contemporary connections.' - Ted Baillieu MLA



Trip Reports

Mt Macedon Circuit – August 24th.

The Mt Macedon circuit walk is one of the best one day walks available to us. The walk commences with a 400 metre climb up the southern side of the mountain. Since the Ash Wednesday fires of February 1983, there has been prolific regeneration including stands of wattle, messmate, snow gum and alpine ash. The track is obviously well used, and there were many places where track maintenance had been done recently. I did wonder if this section of the circuit is being used repeatedly by would-be participants on the Kokoda Track.

Coffee and cake at the top, and a well earned rest. From the Cafe' the track undulates through the forest and makes for very pleasant walking around to The Camels Hump. We chose to have lunch there. It is the highest peak in the range, and offers superb views of Hanging Rock and the surrounding countryside.

The rocky outcrop of the Camels Hump is a mamelon, [as is nearby Hanging Rock] – a volcanic formation created by the eruption of relatively thick or stiff lava through a narrow vent in the bedrock. Because the lava is not fluid, it does not flow away; instead it congeals around the vent, forming a small hill or mound on the surface.

In the 19th century, the cool climate of the Macedon region was thought to provide a perfect environment for patients suffering tuberculosis. In 1899 a sanatorium was opened a short distance down the Mount from the Sanatorium Lake, in a building previously used as a private hospital. The lake was built to supply water to a new, larger sanatorium but because of opposition and lack of funding, it was never built. The original sanatorium closed in 1910 and was later destroyed by fire. All that remains is the lake.

In the vicinity of the lake there are remnants of huge trees, metres in diameter, but it will be very many years before the park has giants like that again.

With legs getting very weary, we pressed on to the top of Mt Towong and, as they say in the classics, it's all down hill from there. Well, almost. Just near the bottom Keith and I heard the sound of a koala growling and grumbling in the trees. It didn't take long to find him, or her, and Andrea had the thrill of seeing her first koala in the wild. I don't think the koala was as excited as Andrea though.

With superb timing we arrived at the coffee shop in Mt Macedon Road right on closing time. Nothing like a shot of caffeine to revive flagging spirits.

It is a long walk, but well worth it. Thanks to Geoff, John and Scott, Andrea, Roland, Mervyn, Max F, and Keith. Hope to see you all on another walk soon.

Garry.

Viking Circuit 24th – 28th October

Early one Friday morning, eight people traveled to Lake Cobbler, via a Violet Town coffee stop. There had been two scratchings, one due to severe case of hay fever. I had previously thought hay fever was a sneeze or two and nothing more, however eight days before the walk I was at the doctors with flu like symptoms to be told I was having a severe allergic reaction to the friendly airborne pollens, and given a course of prescription drugs. By the end of the week I was back on my feet and thinking all was fine...

At Lake Cobbler and after a quick lunch we donned our packs and walked passed the gate en route to Mt Speculation, taking turns to carry our barrel to store food for the last day on the return leg. After multiple discussions for the best spot for the barrel, we placed it behind a log several kilometres later. We arrived at our first camp in time to spot an Alpine Copperhead, enjoy the views of the Terrible Hollow and to have dinner in warm conditions.

The next day we descended to the Catherine Saddle and then up Mt Despair. Several of us were surprised how pleasant Mt Despair was, with views back to Mt Cobbler, despite its less than inviting name.

The warm weather made it thirsty work and several were happy to have short breaks in the afternoon, including myself as I was very much slowing down (later I was informed that fatigue can be symptom of hay fever!).

The track followed a rocky ridgeline in the afternoon. Ray and Melinda ventured onto the Razor, while the rest of us rested in shade before continuing to the Viking Saddle. The last part of the day was through heavy regrowth, with several of us having thoughts that we may have to pitch tents on the track. However we eventually arrived at the very charming Viking Saddle with ample grassy camp sites. Thirsty tired bodies then went in search of water, happy to finally locate the refreshing liquid. Dinner ensued and before long we were all horizontal.



The Razor from the Viking summit.

The next morning we continued on up The Viking, which from the saddle can look daunting. We soon came to the steep chute where packs were hauled up by rope, then followed by the eager and enthusiastic walkers, scrambling up the short climb and extracting themselves through the hole at the top. Shortly afterwards we were on the top of The Viking and enjoying the panoramic views, with big smiles.

At this point we were leaving the Alpine Track and we scouted around a base of a rock to head for the South Viking, stopping for lunch before the decent to the Wonnangatta River. The beginning of the spur was easily followed, but later very thick regrowth made it hard going and difficult to keep to the spur and the route. Debates were had on the best way forward before the party went off the spur down to the river. Thankfully the thick blackberries that were mentioned in many warnings from several people and emphasized in track notes did not eventuate, not hampering our way to the river or the campsite for that night. The river was a welcomed sight after a long hot hard day.



Ray climbing through "the hole at the top".

Day Four was the hard slog up the Zeka Spur track. The heat of the previous two days was wiped away by a 3am distant thunder storm and then rain. Later in the day and higher up, the rain turned to hail being carried on cold winds, but with occasional bursts of sun. By now I was well and truly struggling, and not wanting the rest of the party to be kept waiting in deteriorating cold weather, Jane accompanied me as I slowly climbed and the other six went ahead at a quicker pace.

A section of several kilometers of this days walk was on a disused track, which was largely indistinguishable. The advanced party used the GPS's to follow its route, while Jane and I used a compass bearing, which took us to the appropriate position on the Macalister Springs walking track. But not before we enjoyed an extended period of sun perched on a rock ledge enjoying the views of the rugged landscape, including the Devils Staircase.

At the Valejo Gantner Hut, the fire was lit by the time we arrived. Boots were soon lined up in front of the fire and various pieces of wet garments were strung up to dry.

Meals were cooked in the welcome shelter of the hut, and several of the party took advantage of the warmth of hut to sleep. The impressive loo with its views was marveled at by consecutive visitors.

The fog-dulled light of the morning was accompanied by the sound of sleet on the tent. It was on with wet socks to complete the fifth day across the Crosscut. The wind picked up more, the temperature dropped, sleet continued and fog disappointingly disallowed views. The immediate surrounds however could be seen. Ice was hanging sideways from the vegetation, courtesy of the wind. Exposed parts of the Crosscut meant no dawdling, and lee sides of the Crosscut teeth were welcomed. Several found footing difficult at stages. A beautiful part of the world to walk, but the weather meant a quick lunch on Mt Buggery.



Illustration 1: Mel, Kerry and Ray on the Crosscut Saw

Here we were within striking distance of the cars, and everyone was content with the five days of adventures already completed. Mt Cobbler became unfinished business and the food barrel became redundant, as tired hungry bodies jumped into cars late in the evening for the trip home a half day early, preferring their own beds to a wet cold night in a tent.

Thanks to Jane, Melinda, Garry, Geoff, Keith, Kerry and Ray for enjoying the Viking Circuit.

Interestingly, the Horrible Gap was not as bad as it can be in such weather, and clouds were sometimes now lifting for fleeting glimpses of the The Viking, and the lower sections of the distant Wonnangatta valley.

The rock scrambles onto Mt Speculation are always enjoyable, but and all too soon we were walking on the road back out again. Camping at Mt Koonika was not an option and we marched on to Mustering Flat, picking up the food barrel on the way.



There will be no edition of GoBush in December, your frazzled editor is taking a break. The next edition will be early January, deadline Wednesday the 7th.

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

Activities . . . November to February and beyond

Sunday 23rd November Bullarto Reservoir - Babbington Hill

An easy 10.5km circuit walk in Wombat State Forest involving a steep climb to the top of Babbington Hill, via a hidden reservoir and an historic spring.

Grade: An easy (well, there is one hill so you can call it medium) 10.5km circuit walk on tracks and gravel 4WD roads. Depending on participants we will take a slightly adventurous or soft option to cross the Loddon river the second time.

What to Bring: Morning tea, nibbles, lunch and water. Sun hat, sunscreen and wind proof top. Check weather forecast. Runners are suitable footwear but it may be wet under foot.

Highlights: Hidden reservoir for morning tea, Lyonville Springs and disused Lyonville Township Springs and an extinct volcano with rich soil supporting a tall forest of Manna gums.

Where to meet: Club's Meeting Hall in Short Street at 9am or central traffic lights in Castlemaine at roughly 9.30am.

Fuel Costs: Zone \$20 from Bendigo or \$10 from Castlemaine.

Post Walk: Check out Trentham Falls and coffee etc in Kyneton.

Leader: Bob Jones. Mobile 0458012934. Just turn up or ring me for weather forecast or for any queries.

Wheel Walk – Fryers Ranges 29 – 30 November 2014.

Rating: E – M.
Distance: >8kms Saturday. >10kms Sunday.
Country: This will be all on gravelly 4WD tracks. But, even those tracks are steep!.
Map: 1:25,000 Drummond. Series 7723-1-3. Victoria. And Park notes.
Weather: Probably warm.
Mission: To go bush and... NOT carry a pack on one's back. This will be a Sat morn to Sunday arvo walk.
YOU MUST CARRY ALL YOUR GEAR ON, OR IN, A WHEELED DEVICE.
People with packs on their back are not welcome!!... "persona non grata"
Bring: Wheeled device. Say 30 hours of food and water. Champagne. Cake. Compass, pencil, paper. Torch. Box of matches. Weather smart clothing. Tent etc. 1st Aid Kit.
Fuel share: Zone 1. \$10.00
Contact: Bill Clark 5442 1432. Ecp: TBA, probably the RACV

Murray River Canoe Tour Sat 27 December – Sun 4 January 2015 (9 days)

Rating Medium
Comments A six day tour on the Murray River, from the Murray River/Chalka Creek junction in the Hattah-Kulkyne NP to Gol Gol,(near Mildura)
Distance 156 river kilometres, this will average about 26 k per day
Campsites
Junction of Chalka Creek and Murray River 2 nights
On the river - (all these are sand bars) 5 nights
Gol Gol (River Gardens Tourist Park) 1 night
Itinerary
Day 1 Travel from Bendigo to Chalka Creek–Murray River junction via Kerang, Swan Hill, Piangil, Manangatang, Annuello, Wemen - Distance is about 330 k

Day 2	Place cars at Gol Gol, most likely at the caravan park – [210km return]. Since we do not want to do two car shuffles, hopefully we will get someone to bring all the drivers back, or we pay someone.	
Day 3/river 1	Chalka Creek to Doherty's Bend	26 km
Day 4/river 2	Doherty's Bend to near Tarpaulin Island	24 km
Day 5/river 3	Tarpaulin Island to Big Tree Bend	26 km
Day 6/river 4	Big Tree Bend to Bengallow Creek	28 km
Day 7/river 5	Bengallow Creek to Bottle Bend	24 km
Day 8/river 6	Bottle Bend to Gol Gol	28 km
Day 9	Return to Bendigo via the Calder Highway	
Organiser	John Lindner, 5448 3406 - please phone for full details to be posted/emailed	

Kosciuszko National Park Main Range & Thredbo area (9 days) Sat 17 – Sun 25 January

A series of day walks over nine days on the Kosciuszko Main Range and adjoining areas, base camping on the Thredbo River

ORGANISER John Lindner, 5448 3406

OUTLINE

- Day 1** Travel from Bendigo to Thredbo via Violet Town, Wodonga, Corryong, Khancoban, Tom Groggin, Dead Horse Gap. 504 k = 5/6 hours
Nice stops on the way: Murray River at Brigenbrong (Vic-NSW border), Swampy Plains/Geehi River, Tom Groggin, Dead Horse Gap
- Day 2** Mount Kosciuszko summit from the top of the chairlift, 12.0 k return.
- Day 3** Shorter walk (to be planned)
- Day 4** Ramshead Range circuit from Dead Horse Gap, 17.0 k
- Day 5** Shorter walk (to be planned)
- Day 6** The Chimneys from Dead Horse Gap, 14.0 k return
- Day 7** Perisher Village to Mt Wheatley and the Porcupine, 8.0 k circuit
- Day 8** Rolling Grounds circuit, 22.0 k
- Day 9** Return to Bendigo

CAMPSITE Thredbo Diggings, 13.0 k east of Thredbo on the Alpine Way

Facilities: toilet, tables, trees, grassed sites for tents.

River water: this is OK to drink but should be boiled or treated in some way, otherwise bring your own drinking water.

PARK ENTRY AND CAMP FEES - Camping charge is included in the vehicle entry fee. \$16.00 per vehicle per day, regardless of the people. For the 8 nights at the campsite this will be \$128.00. You can also buy a 5 day pass (one free day) at \$64, the other 3 days will cost \$48 [3x16] Total = \$ 112, it makes sense to have at least 2 people per car.

Park Fees are payable at the Khancoban office of the National Parks Service as you pass through during office hours only.

WEATHER The timing and exact location of all walks depends on the weather

EQUIPMENT Please make sure you bring clothing and equipment suitable to cope with alpine conditions, both hot and cold weather.

John Lindner, 5448 3406

Wobbly-knees Weekend Walk for Weary, Wounded 'n Wannabe Walkers. Where? Witchies . . . er . . . 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. 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.

Garry Brannan 0450879917

In Sturt's Wake. 11 April to 19 April 2015.

Preliminary Notice - Soliciting Expressions of Interest.

7 days paddling 120km and 2 days traveling (9 days).

Objective: To paddle the Murrumbidgee river from Balranald until it reaches the "broad and noble river" (Murray), as Sturt did in 1830. We finish the trip at Boundary Bend. I have not done this trip and I do not know anyone who has, but there is plenty of information on the Internet. This trip is therefore exploratory.

General Information: There is one significant portage around a weir. The banks of the Murrumbidgee are steep, the river is narrow and Sturt described one section as "its tortuous course, swept round to every point of the compass with the greatest irregularity". There will be snags and Google Earth shows a large tree across the river.

Participants:

- Must be adventurous. All Club members fulfill this criterion.
- Must not be concerned if we finish 2 days early or 2 days late. The trip is exploratory.
- Must not worry with no Facebook or Twitter for one week.
- Must be competent in a canoe and have preferably participated in a Club multi-day paddle. For those concerned note that John Lindner has a paddle on the Murray from 27 December to 4 January which would be a good training exercise.
- Must when faced with difficulties, challenges and problems be positive and help to develop solutions to overcome them.

Note: If the dates of this trip clash with the Peter's trip to the Gammons, it will be postponed until later in 2015.

If you are up for an adventure then ring me on mobile: 0458012934 to register your interest in this paddle following Sturt's route down the Murrumbidgee to the Murray.

Planning has started and will be continuous.

Bob Jones.

Down the track

Peter Pemberton Gammon Ranges – April

Bob Jones – Murrumbidgee Paddle - April

DATE	DESCRIPTION	RATING	COMMENTS	CONTACT
NOVEMBER				
Sunday 23rd	Bullarto Reservoir- Babbington Hill 10.3km	E/M	Basalt capped plateau, manna gums, hidden reservoir and historic spring	Bob Jones 0458012934
Tuesday 25th	Club Meeting		Calendar Planning	
Saturday 29th – Sunday 30th November	A Wheel Walk, Fryers Ranges aka Bill's Birthday Bash. Gravelly 4WD tracks, some steep.	E-M	YOU MUST CARRY ALL YOUR GEAR ON, OR IN, A WHEELED DEVICE. People with packs on their back are not welcome!!... "persona non grata"	Bill Clark 5442 1432
DECEMBER				
5th - Sun 14th	Penguin to Cradle Walk	H	Booked out	Garry Brannan
Tuesday Dec 9.	End of year function.		Marong Family Hotel	Leigh Callinan 0408 061 766
Sat 27th Dec – Sun 4 January	Murray River canoe trip. Six day tour, nine days total.	M	Hattah-Kulkyne NP to Gol Gol, 156 km Please phone John for full details .	John Lindner, 5448 3406.
JANUARY				
Sat 17 – Sun 25 January 2015.	A series of day walks on the Kosciuszko Main Range.	Both M & H	Alpine area day walks base camping. Please phone John for full details.	John Lindner, 5448 3406.
Tuesday 27th	Club Meeting		Pizza in the Park	
FEBRUARY				
27/2 – 1/3	Wobbly-knees Weekend	E /PC	Ritchies Hut – Very easy. Suitable for all.	Garry Brannan 0450 879 917
Tuesday 24th	Club Meeting		Butterflies and Bushwalking - Julie Whitefield	
MARCH				
Tuesday 24th	Club Meeting		TBA	
APRIL				
April – TBA	Gammon Ranges	H PC	Desert range wilderness area	Peter Pemberton
April 11 to 19	In Sturt's Wake.. Expressions of Interest requested	M	Paddle Sturt's route down the Murrumbidgee to the Murray. Some experience required	Bob Jones 0458012934
Tuesday 28th	Club Meeting		Calendar Planning	

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.com

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM

Adults:

1. _____

2. _____

Children:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Address: _____

Postcode: _____

Phone: _____ Mobile: _____

Email: _____

Next of Kin/Nominated person to contact in an emergency:

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Address: _____

Membership Fees for 2014/15 are due from 1st July 2014. Please return this form with your payment to:

The Treasurer,

Bendigo Bushwalking & Outdoor Club Inc.

PO Box 989, Bendigo, Vic 3552

Membership: Adults - \$40, Family - \$60.

Tick box if you agree to receive your newsletter by email rather than by regular post.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF RISKS AND OBLIGATIONS OF MEMBERS

This acknowledgment of risks applies to all club activities I may undertake as a member of the Bendigo Bushwalking and Outdoor Club Inc. In voluntarily participating in activities of the Club which are described to me by the activity leaders I am aware that my participation in the activities may expose me to hazards and risks that could lead to injury, illness or death or to loss of or damage to my property. I also acknowledge that I may encounter weather conditions that could lead to hypothermia and being in locations where evacuation for medical treatment may take hours or days.

In particular when participating in abseiling or above the snowline activities I am aware that these activities could expose me to additional hazards and risks described to me by the activity leader.

To minimise risks I will endeavor to ensure that

- Each activity is within my capabilities,
- I am carrying food, water and equipment appropriate for the activity.

In addition

- I will advise the activity leader if I am taking any medication or have any physical or other limitation that might affect my participation in the activity.
- I will make every effort to remain with the rest of the party during the activity
- I will advise the leader of any concerns I am having, and
- I will comply with all reasonable instructions of club officers and the activity leader.

I have read and understand the above requirements. I have considered the risks before choosing to sign this acknowledgment of risk. I still wish to join the activities of the Club. I acknowledge that I will take responsibility for my own actions and that signing this form or the payment of my subscription will be deemed as full acceptance and understanding of the above conditions.

Name: _____

Signed: _____

Date: _____