



BENDIGO BUSHWALKING AND OUTDOOR CLUB

The more things change

The current directions; **Stay Safe Directions (Regional Victoria) (No 8)** apply until next Thursday 23rd. I'm sure everyone is acquainted with the general requirements particularly with regard to the wearing of face masks. After a careful read of the regulations I would make the following observations.

Firstly, there is no specific mention of Bushwalking. Members of the public are in general limited to groups of 10 people, with several associated groups together, provided the groups are at all times **separated by at least 50 metres**.

There is an exemption to the wearing of masks if **the person is engaged in any strenuous physical exercise**.

In relation to car-pooling, there does not appear to be a prohibition, however all occupants must wear a mask unless **each person in the vehicle ordinarily resides at the same premises**.

With regard to meetings, the limit is 10 persons with other restrictions, so there will be no September meeting.

You can read the directions here: <https://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/victorias-restriction-levels-covid-19>

My thoughts are that NSW may not be open to the other states before Christmas, and Regional Victoria, or parts of it are likely to go back into lockdown at any time in very short notice.

In this situation, there can be no guarantee that trips on the calendar can or will go ahead, **so meeting times and locations are no longer included in the trip details**. If you intend going on an activity, **you must contact the trip leader within 48 hours of the advertised date, so that you can be easily contacted if there is a change**, right up to the last minute, if the trip cannot run.

Please, stay safe, use a mask as required, log into all premises via the QR codes, and get jabbed. The QR code for the BBOC is published in this newsletter, so please log in before heading off for a club walk.

Hopefully we will be back to some sort of normal in the near future.

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, 35 – 41 Forest Street

Meetings start at 7:30 pm sharp

Membership: Single \$40.00
Family \$60.00

E-Mail: enquiries@gobush.org.au

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

BBOC is affiliated with



COMMITTEE MEMBERS 20/21

President	Kerrie Cramer	0409 537 799
Vice President	Christina Stuke	0400 306 683
Secretary	Graham Borrell	0438 437 680
Treasurer	Greg Doubleday	03 5448 3661
Walks Coordinator	Graham Borrell	0438 437 680
Web Master	Garry Brannan	0428 869 196
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Newsletter	Garry Brannan	0450 879 917
General Committee	Anne Forsyth	0438 566 234
General Committee	Peter Galvin	03 5439 4595
General Committee	Lisa Reid	0419 973 707

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 inc.

Club Meetings:

Again, we are unable to have a meeting because of Covid-19 restrictions.

In normal times, join us in the Presbyterian Church Hall, 35 – 41 Forest Street, 4th Tuesday of every month that is not subject to a Covid-19 lockdown, self isolation, curfew or quarantine. Meetings, starting at 7.30 pm sharp. Visitors are always welcome.

In the meantime, if you have any ideas for the club meeting nights such as 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, please contact Garry with your idea.



Monthly Meeting Activity

• Tue September 28th	Meeting Cancelled
• October	TBC

Internet:

Bendigo Bushwalking and Outdoor Club Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/2186169581602751/>

News from the Victorian National Parks Association

<https://vnpa.org.au/category/news/>

Bushwalking Victoria

Directory of Bushwalks – 'where2walk'

<https://bushwalkingvictoria.org.au/frontpage/walks-directory>

Bushwalking News Victoria – the monthly Bulletin with news, articles, and happenings.

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

Bendigo Bushwalking and Outdoor Club

35-41 Forest St BENDIGO

Bendigo Bushwalking and Outdoor Club



Location code Y6J HWE

*If you are going on a Club activity, you can scan in before you go to save time.
No need to print – your phone will scan the CQ code directly off your computer screen.*

Trip Report – Mt Buffalo 12 - 15 August 2021

Six starters converged at Lake Catani campground for Andrews 'Snow Camping Weekend'. Unfortunately due to Scomos lack of advance notification of the sudden onset of the temperature rise, we all ended up camping, not on snow but on dirt!

This was a great relief, because I'm not sure how my ancient bones would have handled sleeping on actual Snow!! In the end it wasn't an issue because I had lugged in the latest, fully self inflating ALDI, mattress - with pillow. (Is this newsletter getting any endorsements or paid sponsorship yet!?)

Our varied group comprised Andrew, his son Pat and friend Allan (from Castlemaine, Taradale), Eamon and Kylie from Seymour and Hans from the One tree Hill Pub! The Lake Catani Campsite is a lovely enough campground and the best thing about it, was that our cars were only about 800 metres away, so we could easily lug in any extra equipment we needed.

On the Friday the group ventured out past Cresta snowfield to the Hump or somewhere in that vicinity. I arrived from Porepunkah Ski Hire store later that afternoon, looking very much like the guy from Carry on Camping, with cross country skies, snow shoes and chains plus all of my camping gear.

We'd commandeered the picnic pavilion that night (there were only about another 4 campers here) and with the firewood, were quite comfortable as the temp dropped to -5 that second night. Saturday morning turned out quite clear. A few of us walked a bit of the snow covered track, around to the Chalet before lunch and checked out the new elevated lookouts that have just recently been built. One has a glass bottom section but you couldn't see thru it due to the underneath portion needing a window cleaner to strap on a harness and clean it (whilst overhanging a 30m drop!).



Hans – he who does not sleep on snow

After lunch back at the picnic shelter, we headed off to try walking up to the Cathedral lookout. This our merry group achieve with a combination of snow shoes and no snow shoes – to start off at least. By the time we got to the deeper snows up the top, we all had snow shoes on! One other lady following us (not with us), hiked up just in boots and there was a lot of deep sinking into the snow going on.

For a short while on the last section, I got separated from the main group and my arrival on top was preceded by the snow shoes, having to climb ever steeper and steeper, with them having to function as Ice Crampons on the last 4 metre climb. There was no retreat possible on the ice and it wasn't a pleasant feeling. Luckily when I got to the top, Alan arrived from a slightly flatter route, which meant there was an escape route for me. After a rest and taking in the 360 views, it was back to the cars below.



Eamon and Kylie approaching the Horn

That night back at the 'Catani Hilton', we enjoyed another night regaling tales to one another around the kitchen fireplace. For some strange reason when Andrew and I were ready to hit the tents at midnight, Pat and Alan (the Young uns) decided it would be an appropriate time to go for a walk/hike to the Chalet. If it had have been operating, it would be closed after midnight anyway but as it was it has been closed for at least the last 15 years!

Sunday dawned cloudy and then after breaky it did rain/sleet for a short while. The Young uns, didn't surface for some time (think they were working on GMT). Eomon and Kylie left early, so Andrew and I sat around drinking freshly brewed cups of tea*. At noon, I drove around to the Cresta carpark and skied out to the Horn.



It was still overcast but by the time I arrived at the Horn, the sun finally broke thru for the first time that day. Two interesting observations at the Horn. 1/. there were some young people who had taken a Vision Labrador 'training dog', out there and 2/. a group of young folk arrived (anyone younger than me is young) They were mainly 20-30ish, and had walked thru the snow from the carpark.

Turns out they were all from the UK & Ireland and were working on the West Gate Tunneling project at the precast works at Benalla! They had been brought out specifically to work on the Concrete workings here. I told them they could easily go up to the Horn lookout (even the Blind Dog could go up there) but after going about zoom and stumbling around in the deeper snow, they came back and said it was too hard. Puffed a few more cigarettes and returned back down the road. Its amazing who you sometimes meet out there.

* In the time it took Andrew to brew two billys of tea that morning, the Taliban apparently took over the remainder of Afghanistan. It was only less than 7 days ago they were saying on the news, that there were only a few major cities still under government control. I remember thinking, 'Oh well there should be another month or so before it all folds up!' Bit surprised to return back home, to have the whole house of cards fold that quickly!

So where were you when the earthquake struck this morning. It was very much a 'What the . . . ' moment for me, reading in bed enjoying a coffee. Reminded me of the wonderful Nicholson cartoon from way back, when Gough was making the first visit to China of a PM from Australia.

Gough and Margaret in China earthquake



Upcoming Walks and Activities

Vaughan Springs – Golden Gullies Walk

Wednesday 29th Sept

Type: Day Walk **Grade:** Medium 17km

Costs: Fuel Share: Zone 1 \$10

DESCRIPTION: A loop walk starting from Vaughan Springs, visiting a number of old mining sites including mines, water races, various ruins and a mine chimney before passing through Glenluce Mineral Springs on the way back to the starting point.

Afternoon tea/coffee at Coffee Basics Das Kaffeehaus in Castlemaine before returning to Bendigo.

As Covid-19 restrictions are unknown, please contact David for details of meeting time and location.

Contact: David Crocker ph 0409 425 604 email: dcrocker46@gmail.com

Mt Alexander Day Walk – Magical History Tour

Sunday 3rd October

Type: Day Walk **Distance:** 13km **Grade:** Medium

Description: A tour of places with mysterious or historical names such as the Oak Forest, Target Rock, Shepherds Flat, Boar War Memorial, Sericulture Cottage, Mud Brick Dam, not one but two Koala Parks, and the icing on the mystery cake – the Lady of the Mount

Bring - Solid shoes/boots, wet weather gear, water, snacks, lunch, sun protection and a few dollars for coffee afterwards. The petrol contribution for non-drivers will be \$16.00 [ring 2].

Afternoon tea/coffee, location – depends on Covid restrictions.

Map – A very good A3 size map of Mt Alexander can be found here and it is free -

https://cartography.id.au/mt_alexander/hvhtc_leaflet_2p.pdf

As Covid-19 restrictions are unknown, please contact Garry for details of meeting time and location

Garry Brannan garrybrannan@gmail.com 0450879917

Mt Alexander is the closest real mountain to Bendigo and it is a wonderful place to walk in any month and in any weather.

Bob Jones.

THE BIG HILL RANGE

Wednesday 6th October

Type: Day Walk **Grade:** Medium 15km

Costs: Fuel Share: Drive own car to the walk starting point

A loop walk starting near the Coliban Water Channel and slowly climbing to the crest (but not the top) of the Big Hill Range. The crest of the range is then followed south west for several kilometres with a few small ups and downs along the way all the time with extensive views to the south across central Victoria. Some walking on management tracks, some on walking/bike tracks and then some off track walking for the last section of the Range and the descent back down to near the Channel. Then an easy walk back to the cars.

Afternoon tea/coffee at Spring Gully.

As Covid-19 restrictions are unknown, please contact David for details of meeting time and location.

Contact: David Crocker ph 0409 425 604 email: dcrocker46@gmail.com

Laureston Reservoir paddling trip

Sunday 10th October

Easy 9km – pleasant paddling on flat water. Ideal for new paddlers.

You need to dress for the conditions and bring water, snacks, lunch, spray deck, spray jacket or cag, warm clothes in a drybag, gloves if you wish. Sun protection is always needed on the water.

We will be back at the cars by lunch time, so perhaps coffee and a pie at Malmsbury.

As Covid-19 restrictions are unknown, please contact Garry for details of meeting time and location

Garry Brannan. 0450879917

The Macedon Ranges Walking Trail

Wednesday 13th October

Type: Day Walk Grade: Medium/Hard 19km

Costs: Fuel Share: Zone 2 \$20

DESCRIPTION: Starting from the Mt Macedon township soon climbing the mountain to reach the Memorial Cross on Mt Macedon. The trail then passes McGregors Picnic Ground and the Camel's Hump before reaching Days Picnic Ground for Lunch. Then on past Sanatorium Lake before reaching the summit of Mount Towrong after which there is a long descend back down to the cars at Mt Macedon township.

Afternoon tea/coffee in Mt Macedon before returning to Bendigo.

As Covid-19 restrictions are unknown, please contact David for details of meeting time and location.

Contact: David Crocker ph 0409 425 604 email: dcrocker46@gmail.com

Mt Hayes to Tooborac via Mt Koala

Saturday 16th October

Day Walk. Grade E/M One way – Car Shuffle/pooling required.

Distance: About 8km Fuel zone 2 \$16.

After meeting at a convenient location, we will travel in convoy to the start of the walk where we will have morning tea. Bring a thermos & snacks to have while the car shuffle is being done.

Mt Hayes is 685m but it's an easy climb up from where we access it. We will also climb Mt Koala but that is optional. Views on this walk are magnificent

Bring water, snacks/fruit for nibbles etc. Lunch will be in Tooborac at conclusion of the walk.

Limit of 10, booking is essential.

As Covid-19 restrictions are unknown, please contact Ray for details of meeting time and location.

Leader : Ray Wilson rayandmareewilson@gmail.com or ph 54478862 – leave a message if you don't get me

This trip will only run in good conditions

Blowhole and Bald Hill

Wednesday 20th October

Type: Day Walk Grade: Medium 17km

Costs: Fuel Share: Zone 2 \$20

DESCRIPTION: The walk starts at the Blowhole on Sailors Creek and follows an old water race descending to an old charcoal burning site and then climbing to the basalt plateau west of Daylesford. The walk visits Boots Gully, Henderson Spring and the hamlet of Basalt then descends to Bald Hill Creek. There is a steep climb out of the gully then a gradual ascent to Bald Hill before descending to Tipperary Springs and following the Goldfields Track along Sailors Creek back to the start.

Afternoon tea/coffee in Daylesford before returning to Bendigo.

As Covid-19 restrictions are unknown, please contact David for details of meeting time and location.

Contact: David Crocker ph 0409 425 604 email: dcrocker46@gmail.com

Landsborough Hill Nature Conservation Reserve

Saturday 23rd October

Day Walk. Distance – about 10 Km.

Rating: Hard to easy.

Description: The walk starts on Frenchmans Track just inside the reserve, 10 min from Moonambel. Initially the walk will take us up the steep side of Landsborough Hill, (that's the hard bit over and done with, about 2km). After that a stroll along the summit ridge track south, then contour downwards on a compass bearing back to the car, via some old gold workings. The area looks good, and hasn't been killed off by government burns. Perhaps we may see a wealth of wildflowers.

Map: Navarre Sth 7524-3-S. 1:25,000. OrGoogle.

Fuel: Fuel ring is 2-3. Suggested contribution is >\$20.00...

Bring: Water, food and lunch & Compass. First aid for sprains and snakes. Clothing for any October weather. (If we see any lightning about, I will be the first to run away.)

Communication: I found I always had at least 1 bar of signal on 3G.

Visitors: \$2.00 fee for insurance and will have to fill out a waiver form

As Covid-19 restrictions are unknown, please contact Bill for details of meeting time and location

Contact: Bill Clark 0408 545 256.

Jacksons Lookout, Hunts Dam and Mineral Springs

Wednesday 27th October

Type: Day Walk **Grade: Medium 14km**

Costs: Fuel Share: Zone 2 \$20

DESCRIPTION: Starting from Hepburn Springs heading North along the Great Dividing Trail past Jacksons Lookout and on through old gold mining areas to reach the Chocolate Mill. There are many ups and downs on this section as the track undulates through the forest. From the Chocolate turn back to the south towards Hunts Dam for a lunch stop. Further on after lunch turn to the west and head to Argyle Springs (fill your bottles with mineral water) before heading back to the cars.

Afternoon tea/coffee in Hepburn Springs before returning to Bendigo.

As Covid-19 restrictions are unknown, please contact David for details of meeting time and location.

Contact: David Crocker ph 0409 425 604

email: dcrocker46@gmail.com

Mt Kooyoora West Ridge.

Sunday 7th November

Day Walk. Grade: Easy. **Circuit:** 13.7km. **Fuel:** Zone 2 – \$15.

Some off track through light scrub with the ground littered with timber, some rock scrambling, and a section on a road.

Bring: Morning Tea, nibbles, lunch and water. Long pants or gaiters, sun hat, sunscreen, beanie, rain jacket.

Highlights: Granite boulders of all sizes up to massive, rock shelters, overhangs, balancing rocks and colorful rock markings. Expansive views and the wild and beautiful Mt Kooyoora and its western ridge. Wallabies, kangaroos and various birds including wedge-tailed eagles.

As Covid-19 restrictions are unknown, please contact Garry for details of meeting time and location.

Garry Brannan 0450879917 garrybrannan@gmail.com

Great South West Walk – Sat 27th November to Sun 12th December

Type: Extended Overnight Hikes **Grade:** Medium

Distance: 111km + 119km **Costs:** Fuel Share: Zone 6 \$55

Camping: 10 nights on GSWW + 5 nights in caravan parks in Nelson and Portland

DESCRIPTION: The Great South West Walk provides an excellent opportunity to explore the fascinating variety of scenery and wildlife in south west Victoria. The track winds inland from Portland to Nelson via the Cobboboonee Forest and the Glenelg River. It then returns along the beach and the rugged coastline to complete the loop.

First Week: We will walk most of the inland section from Portland to Nelson. This section will be a six day walk (5 nights) covering a distance of 111km.

Second Week: We will walk the coastal section of GSWW from Nelson to Portland, along the beach with a diversion to the top of Mt Raymond and then along the top of the cliffs past Cape Bridgewater to Portland. This section will be a six day walk (5 nights) covering a distance of 119km.

It may be possible to make a one week trip from Bendigo and complete either the first or second week of the walk.

As Covid-19 restrictions are unknown, please contact David for details of meeting time and location

Contact: David Crocker ph 0409 425 604 email: dcrocker46@gmail.com

A few ideas for next year – Garry

1. A caves exploratory trip to the Victoria Range - Grampians.

Day 1 Start from Buandik campground and walk into a cave that had a perhaps inappropriate name on an early map of the Grampians. I slept in it way back, and intend spending the night there on this trip.

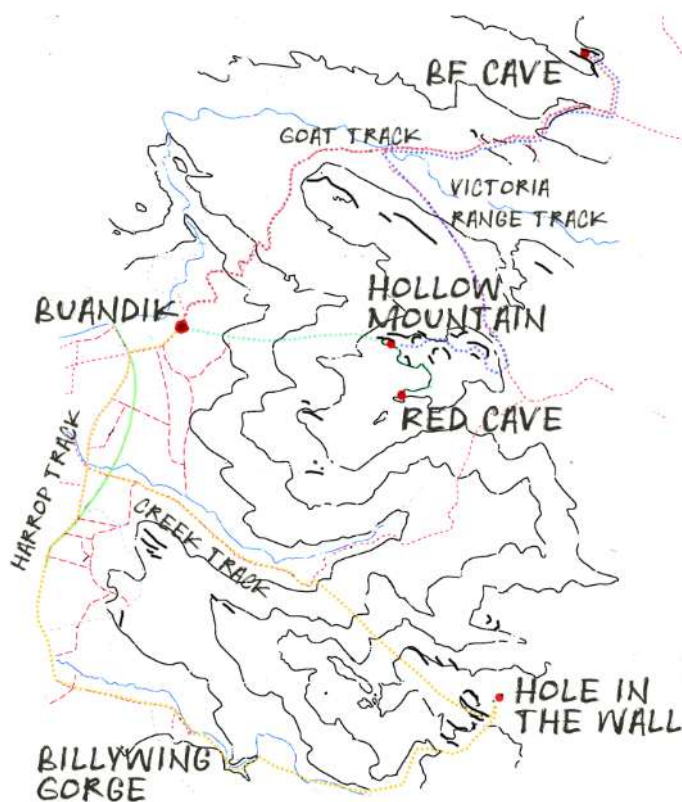
Day 2 Walk to the other Hollow Mountain [not the one near Mt Zero that every one knows about] for another night sleeping in a cave. In the afternoon walk over to Red Cave

Day 3 Walk out to Buandik campground and have an afternoon off to explore art sites in nearby caves.

Day 4 A day walk into the "Hole in the Wall", then walk and swim Deep Creek through the Billywind Gorge. This is a big but fantastic day, but not one for the fainthearted.

Day 5 A day walk the Black Range with rock art paintings in caves at the northern end, and the Wildman Caves at the southern end. [not on the map]

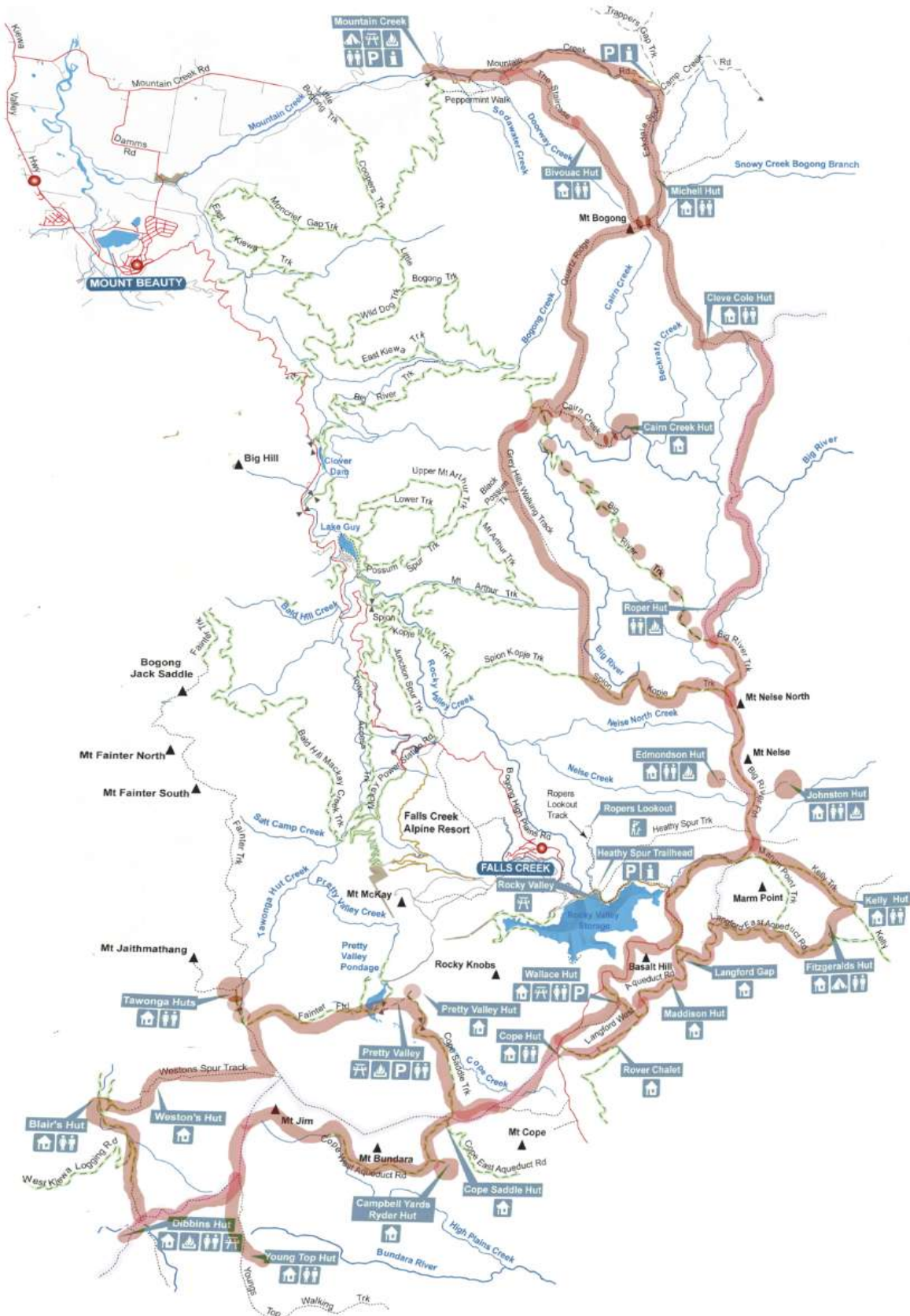
Day 6 The Mt Stapleton traverse plus the real Hollow Mountain. [not on the map]



2. Visite des refuges alpins à la grande - The Grand Tour of Alpine Huts.

Start-finish is at Mountain Creek at the northern end of the map with the potential to visit 27 different huts, or sites of now non existent huts. If we take a day off at Dibbins Hut, we could walk up to Hotham for a steak at the pub :-)

With a food drop near Cope Hut we would only ever have to carry 3 days.



BBOC ACTIVITIES CALENDAR September – December 2021

DATE	DESCRIPTION	RATING	COMMENTS	CONTACT
SEPTEMBER				
Wednesday 29th Sept	Vaughan Springs – Golden Gullies Walk . A 17km loop walk	Day Walk Medium	Visits old mining sites, various ruins, a mine chimney, and Glenluce Mineral Springs	David Crocker 0409 425 604
Tuesday Sept 28th 7.30pm	<u>Meeting Cancelled</u>			
OCTOBER				
Sunday 3rd October	Mt Alexander	Medium	A Magical History Tour	Garry Brannan 0450879917
Wednesday 6th October	The Bill Hill Range	Medium	Circuit walk including a traverse along the crest of the Big Hill Range	David Crocker 0409 425 604
Sunday 10th October	Laureston Reservoir	Easy	9km – pleasant paddling on flat water. Ideal for new paddlers.	Garry Brannan 0450879917
Wednesday 13th October	The Macedon Ranges Walking Trail	Day Walk Medium/ Hard 19km	Visit the Memorial Cross, the Camel's Hump, Sanatorium Lake and Mount Towrong. Coffee in Macedon township.	David Crocker 0409 425 604
Saturday 16th October	Mt Hayes to Tooborac via Mt Koala	Easy/Med	Day walk	Ray Wilson 54478862
Wednesday 20th October	Blowhole and Bald Hill	Day Walk Medium 17km	From the Blowhole on Sailors Creek the walk takes in Boots Gully, Henderson Spring , Tipperary Springs	David Crocker 0409 425 604
23rd October to 29th October	Paddle the Gippsland Lakes from the Port of Sale to Lakes entrance	Hard	Five days plus travel. Distance – 80Km with 50km on open water. For experienced paddlers only.	Garry Brannan 0450879917
Saturday 23rd October	Landsborough Hill Nature Conservation Reserve	Day Walk	A short steep climb to the top of Landsborough Hill, then an easy scenic ridge walk	Bill Clark 0408 545 256
Tuesday 26 th Oct 7.30pm	Club Meeting - Presbyterian Church Hall, 35-41 Forest St	To be advised		Garry Brannan 0450879917
NOVEMBER				
Sunday 7th November	Mt Kooyoora West Ridge. Circuit walk: 13.7km	Day Walk Easy	Expansive views and the wild and beautiful Mt Kooyoora West ridge.	Garry Brannan 0450879917
Friday 12th – Monday 15th	Federation Walks – Based in Licola.	<u>Planning continues to ensure a COVID-safe event</u> Details here https://fedwalks.org.au/		
DECEMBER				
4 th to 19 th Dec	Mallacoota Coast	Cancelled, alternative below.		David Crocker
Sat 27th Nov to Sun 12th Dec	Great South West Walk	Medium	Two six-day walks in forest, along river, on the coast and cliff tops	David Crocker 0409 425 604
19th December	Lake Eppalock	Easy	Twilight paddle, 8km Ideal for new paddlers.	Garry Brannan 0450879917
TBA	Club breakup			

Easy - a leisurely walk on level or undulating terrain

Medium - may need to follow markers, some "rock-hopping" or strenuous long uphill or downhill sections

Hard - may need navigational skills. expect rough terrain, rock scrambling and strenuous long steep ascents or descents.

Some cartoons from The Age

