



Bushwalking Victoria

**F E D E R A T I O N   W A L K**  
Sunday October 21

Promoted by

Bushwalking Victoria



Hosted by

Diamond Valley Bushwalking Club Inc



Koonung Bushwalking Club Inc



**Bushwalking Victoria  
Federation Day  
Sunday 21 October 2007**



**Final Walks List (as at 08 August 2007)**

*Please note: Walks may be cancelled or new walks added as required*

| <b>Walk No</b> | <b>Walk Title</b>   | <b>Grade</b> | <b>Walk Km</b> | <b>Drive Km</b> | <b>Depart Time</b> |
|----------------|---|--------------|----------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| 1              | Mt Riddell  | M            | 12             | 4               | 10.00              |
| 2              | Base – Healesville - Watts River - Donnelly Weir - Maroondah Reservoir-Base               | E            | 14             | 0               | 10.00              |
| 3              | Healesville Sanctuary - Badger Weir - Healesville Sanctuary                               | E/M          | 12             | 5               | 10.00              |
| 4              | Maroondah Reservoir - Donnelly Weir - Maroondah Reservoir                                 | E            | 9              | 8               | 10.00              |
| 5              | Donnelly Weir - Condon Track - Mt St Leonard -Donnelly Weir                               | H            | 21             | 8               | 08.00              |
| 6              | Donnelly Weir - Road 11 - Mt St Leonard - Road 11 - Donnelly Weir                         | H            | 18             | 8               | 08.00              |
| 7              | <b>WALK CANCELLED</b>   |              |                |                 |                    |
| 8              | Dixons Creek - Paul's Range Track - circuit & return                                      | M            | 15             | 46              | 09.30              |
| 9              | Mount Blue – Toolangi Potato Farm   | M            | 16             | 40              | 09.00              |
| 10A            | Tanglefoot Track circuit from Monda Road  | M            | 16             | 40              | 09.00              |
| 10B            | Tanglefoot Track circuit from Rain Forest Board Walk at Sylvia Creek - Myrtle Creek Track | M            | 16             | 46              | 09.00              |
| 10C            | Tanglefoot Track circuit from Tanglefoot Picnic Area on Sylvia Creek Road                 | M            | 18             | 58              | 09.00              |
| 11A            | Fernshaw - Morley Track - Carter Gap - Dom Dom Saddle                                     | M            | 10             | 40 s            | 09.00              |
| 11B            | Dom Dom Saddle - Carter Gap – Morley Track - Fernshaw                                     | M            | 10             | 40 s            | 09.00              |
| 12             | Dom Dom Saddle - Mt Dom Dom and circuit around to Dom Dom Saddle                          | M            | 11             | 40              | 09.00              |
| 13             | Dom Dom Saddle - Mt Monda - Narbethong  | M            | 15             | 50 s            | 08.00              |

|     |  |    |          |       |       |
|-----|--|----|----------|-------|-------|
| 14  | Sugarloaf Reservoir circuit, Christmas Hills   | M  | 16       | 50    | 09.00 |
| 15  | Marysville - 3 Lookouts - Bismarck Track   | M  | 15       | 70    | 08.00 |
| 16  | Warburton - O'Shannassy Aqueduct Trail-to Don Road   | E  | 12       | 70 s  | 09.00 |
| 17  | Mt Donna Buang - Mt Boobyalla - Cement Creek   | M  | 14       | 66 s  | 08.00 |
| 18  | Murrindindi Scenic Reserve river walk & Wilhelmina Falls   | M  | 12       | 100   | 08.00 |
| 19  | Cathedral Range SP. Neds Gully - Cooks Mill - Farmyard - North Jawbone - Cathedral Peak - Neds Peak - Neds Gully | M  | 10       | 110   | 08.00 |
| 20A | Cathedral Range SP. Neds Gully - Little Cathedral - North Cathedral - Cathedral Peak - Neds Gully                | H  | 8        | 110   | 08.00 |
| 20B | Cathedral Range SP. Neds Gully - Chapel Hill - Cooks Mill - Neds Gully   | M  | 10       | 110   | 08.00 |
| 21  | Lake Mountain NP. Snowy Hill Car Park - Upper Taggerty Road - Keppel Hut - Gerratys Car Park                     | M  | 16       | 120 s | 08.00 |
| 22  | Bike ride: Yarra Junction - Woori Yallock - Warburton and return<br>Optional: East Warburton - return            | EM | 36<br>50 | 32    | 09.00 |

s = car shuttle

### Walk Standards

**Easy** Moderate walking, ample rests, on tracks or in open country. Few ascents or descents. Suitable for most people in good health. Likely distance 10 to 14 km.

**Medium** Sustained walking on constructed or rough tracks. Some may be off track on moderate terrain through light vegetation. Sustained ascents and descents over 1km, or more. A good level of fitness and walking experience required. Likely distance 14 to 18 km.

**Hard** Strenuous walking, on and off tracks, possibly through medium scrub and forest. Moderate to hard ascents and descents. Experienced and fit walkers only. Likely distance from 18 to 25km, less with rocky gullies and creeks.

**Note:** Walks are rated according to the hardest part of the walk.

## **Walk 1: Mt Riddell**

### **Walk Leaders:**

Ann Wetherall and Barry Blount

### **Short Description:**

A there-and-back walk up Mt Riddell in the Yarra Ranges National Park. A gradual climb at first, becoming steeper nearer the top with great views over the Maroondah Reservoir, mountains and valleys from cleared viewing points.

**Distance:** 12 km                      **Time:** 5 hrs                      **Grade:** Medium.

### **Where do we start?**

At the gates marking the boundary of the Yarra Ranges National Park on Mt Riddell Road.

### **How do we get to the start?**

Leave the Healesville Sporting Complex and turn right into Don Road. Take Mt Riddell Road which is the 3<sup>rd</sup> road on the right. Follow Mt Riddell Road for just over 2 km until reaching the gates at the end of the road.(Melway Map 278, F2)

### **What maps have we used?**

Vicmap - Juliet South 8022-4-S - 1:25 000 Topographic Map, Melway Map 278

### **Tell Me About The Walk:**

The walk starts on Mt Riddell Road at the gates marking the boundary of the Yarra Ranges NP. From here the closed access road wends its way through the forest, climbing gradually up Mt Riddell. The climb becomes steeper about two thirds of the way up the road but affords great views of Maroondah Reservoir and the surrounding countryside. We will stop at a flat grassed area on a saddle for lunch before walking to the summit of Mt Riddell. The walk then continues along an overgrown track then off track marked by yellow stakes to the cairn marking the summit, and then back to the grassed area. This takes about 45 minutes. In this off-track section, there were many signs of lyrebird activity and we could hear one singing, so there is a possibility of sighting a lyrebird on this part of the walk.

From the start of the walk to the cairn at the summit we climb 650m. We return the same way so it is downhill all the way to Mt Riddell Road.

If anyone is still full of energy, there is the option of then walking back about 2 km to the Healesville Sporting Complex.

### **Should I be especially careful on any part of the walk?**

Yes – the section to the summit is off-track and requires negotiation over roots and fallen tree branches.

**Walk 2: Base – Healesville - Watts River - Donnelly Weir - Maroondah Reservoir - Base**

**Walk Leaders:**

Karen Sheedy and Jenny Keamy.

**Short Description**

A circuit walk from Healesville Sporting Complex through the Healesville township to Donnelly Weir, returning via Henderson Hill and Maroondah Reservoir. Undulating with one short, medium hill.

**Distance:** 14 km      **Time:** 4 hrs      **Grade:** Easy

**Where do we start?**

Healesville Sporting Complex (Melway Map 278 H5).

**How do we get to the start?**

Walk starts from the Federation Day base at the Healesville Sporting Complex.

**What maps have we used?**

Juliet South 8022-4-S Zone 55 and Melway maps 270 and 278

**Tell Me About The Walk:**

Starting at the Sporting Complex, walk left along Don Road and turn right into Toora Crescent. Turn right at Badger Creek Road along the bike track which leads into Healesville township and Queens Park. Turn right after crossing the Maroondah Highway and turn left into St. Leonards Road through to Camerons Road, Maroondah Parade and right into Donnelley Weir Road to Donnelley Weir. A link track is taken to Maroondah Reservoir viewing point and after a small climb to Henderson Hill, the walk descends into Maroondah Reservoir Park. Follow the vehicular exit road and turn right onto Maroondah Highway. After a short downhill on this road, turn left into Wallace Parade and then right into Mt Riddell Road. At Don Road turn left and return to the Healesville Sporting Complex.

**Should I be especially careful on any part of the walk?**

Yes, especially when crossing the Maroondah Highway at Wallace Parade.

### **Walk 3: Healesville Sanctuary - Badgers Weir – Healesville Sanctuary**

#### **Walk Leaders:**

Bernice Guizzetti and Jeanni Suttie.

#### **Short Description:**

This walk is amongst mature forest of mountain ash and manna gum with magnificent ferns in the gullies. We walk in the vicinity of the water catchment area for Healesville. Some steps are involved.

**Distance:** 12 km      **Time:** 4 hours      **Grade:** Easy/Medium.

#### **Where do we start?**

Healesville Sanctuary car-park (Melway Map 278 D11)

#### **What map have we used?**

Melway Map 278 and Yarra Ranges National Park Notes for Badger Weir including map.

#### **Tell me about the Walk**

Leaving from Healesville Sanctuary car park we continue walking along Badger Creek Road, over Don Road along Badger Weir Road and directly into Yarra Ranges National Park. Continue walking to second toilet block and stop for morning tea at the Rosella rotunda at Badger Weir picnic area.

Follow Coranderrk track via Stringybark track and Aqueduct track. Over small bridge and turn left at the Slip Track. (Badger creek is now on the left.) Follow Lyrebird track. Turn right at the "T" intersection into Aqueduct track, then Coranderrk track and Stringybark track, back to Badger Weir Picnic area. Stop for lunch at Lyrebird Rotunda.

Return to Healesville Sanctuary car park

Highlights: Many small birds including rosellas, kookaburras and lyrebirds. Wallabies may also be spotted. Some of the tree ferns are over 200 years old.

#### **Should I be especially careful on any part of the walk?**

Slippery when wet.

## **Walk 4: Maroondah Reservoir - Donnelly Weir – Maroondah Reservoir**

### **Walk Leaders:**

Dick Beton and Connie Beton

### **Short Description:**

Short very pleasant figure of eight walk mainly along dirt roads through open forest

**Distance:** 9 km                      **Time:** 3hrs                      **Grade:** Easy

### **Where do we start?**

Maroondah Reservoir Main Car Park below Rangers' Office.

### **What map have we used?**

Melway Map 270 E K 5 - 11. Vicmap Juliet South

### **Tell me about the walk.**

From the car-park we climb the rose bush lined steps to the top of the Reservoir wall, cross it and a short climb to look over the Reservoir near the outlet tower. Then drop down to the service road heading west for a kilometre to the junction of the Mount Monda Track. Here we pick up the disused Maroondah Aqueduct and follow it for nearly a kilometre to the Donnelly Weir Road. A few hundred metres to the north is the Weir and the picnic shelter and toilet.

After a leisurely lunch we head south down the Weir Road, cross a shallow ford on Donnelly Creek, pass by some hobby farms on the west side and the scrub lined creek on the east. 500m from the ford turn left on to track 17 travelling north east through open forest to the Monda Junction. A short distance along the return track a path heads south west over Henderson Hill, then south east down to the picnic area adjacent to our car park at the foot of the Reservoir.

Boiling water is available in the car park for a cuppa before or after the walk.

### **Should I be especially careful on any part of the walk?**

Some large loose road metal. Suggest a good pair of walking boots

## **Walk 5: Donnelly Weir - Condon Track - Mt St Leonard - Donnelly Weir**

### **Walk Leaders:**

Greg Snow, Mike Evans and Yvonne Evans.

### **Short Description:**

Not for the faint hearted. This walk involves a steep climb to the Monda Track and Mt St Leonard and a steep descent down a fire track back to the start of the walk

**Distance:** 21 km      **Time:** 8 hrs      **Grade:** Hard.

### **Where do we start?**

Park just outside the gates to Donnelly Weir at Healesville

### **How do we get to the start?**

Drive towards centre of Healesville; turn right onto Mt St Leonard Road and after about 2 km turn right towards Donnelly Weir and park just before the gates (Melway Map 270 G7).

### **What maps have we used?**

Vicmap Topographic Map Juliet North and South 1:25,000.

### **Tell Me About The Walk:**

This is one of the hardest walks on the program. We start just outside the gate to Donnelly Weir and follow a track along the side of an aqueduct to Echo Tunnel which carries water from Maroondah Reservoir. The road then bears left and follows Sawpit Creek to the junction of Condon Track. The initial part of the track is wide and easy to follow but then becomes very steep and less distinct, particularly near the top. Condon Track ends at the Monda Track which is a wide fire trail that follows the ridge and is relatively level. There are some views from the Monda Track but after a short steep climb to Mt St Leonard there are good views from the fire tower on top. This is the highest part of the walk at just over 1,000m and we then begin our descent back to Donnelly Weir. The initial part of the track is wide but quite steep; this becomes less steep after about 2km. The remainder of the walk down follows a wide fire trail through attractive bushland down to Donnelly Weir. We walk through the Weir picnic area, across the creek and along the road to the cars.

### **Should I be especially careful on any part of the walk?**

The ascents and descents are difficult and it is advisable to use hiking poles.

## **Walk 6: Donnelly Weir – Road 11 - Mt St Leonard –Road 11 - Donnelly Weir**

### **Walk Leaders:**

Chris Close and Heather Close

### **Short Description:**

This walk is the beginning of the Bicentennial Trail and involves a 900m climb from Donnelly Weir to the top of Mt St Leonard, and hopefully a good view. The return is by the same route.

**Distance:** 18 km      **Time:** 6 hrs      **Grade:** Hard.

### **Where do we start?**

Donnelly Weir picnic ground.

### **How do we get to the start?**

Donnelly Weir is reached from Healesville via St Leonard Road which forks off the Maroondah Highway northwards near the east end of the shops. After 1.3km turn right on to Donnelly Weir Road and travel 700m, avoid a road off to the right and cross the small Watts River. Some 400m further on diverge left for another 700m to a ford and gate which marks the entry to the weir area.

### **What maps have we used?**

Vicmap Topographic Maps 8022-4-N, 8022-4-S (Juliet North and South)

### **Tell Me About The Walk:**

It is an excellent forest walk on good tracks for those happy to have a steady climb for about 3.25 hours. The walk commences on a service road for the water catchment before joining Road No. 11 which continues up the spur. After 6.3km the track leaves Road 11 and there is a steep ascent for 1.8km through lush bush to the Mt St Leonard towers access road. From here it is a short walk to the summit and good views of the ranges and towards Melbourne. The return walk is by the same route.

### **Should I be especially careful on any part of the walk?**

It is a good wide track, no drops or scrambling required although some sections could be slippery, particularly after rain.

## **Walk 8: Dixons Creek - Paul Range Track - Circuit & return**

### **Walk Leaders.**

Jan Falconer and Marcia Green

### **Short Description:**

This is a pleasant circuit walk through undulating country with magnificent ridge views, plenty of birds and the possibility of wildflowers in bloom.

**Distance:** 15 km      **Time:** 5 hrs      **Grade:** Medium

### **Where do we start?**

At the south west corner of the Paul Range State Park, Dixons Creek, Melway Map 610-Q-12

### **How do we get to the start?**

Take the Healesville/Kinglake Road for one km then the left fork which is the Healesville/Yarra Glen Road. After 2 km turn right into Old Healesville Road for 8.3 km to the Melba Highway at a T intersection. Turn right and follow the Melba Highway for six km. 300 metres past De Bortoli's Winery (on the left) turn right into the Old Toolangi Road. Proceed along Old Toolangi Road for 1 km, and then turn right into Beaches Lane. Follow Beaches Lane for 1.5 km until it intersects with Pauls Lane. There is a large sign saying "Pauls Range State Park". This is the start of the walk. Park by going straight ahead into Pauls Lane. There is more parking inside the Park and in Pauls Lane to the right.

### **What maps have we used?**

Melbourne's Mountain Country (HEMA Maps), Toolangi (Vicmap 1:25000, 7922-1-2)

### **Tell Me About The Walk:**

The walk starts with a short, steep climb up to the ridge that we will be walking along. Once at the top, the views are worth the climb. We will proceed along the ridge in a northerly direction for approx 7 km. There are several short, sharp pinches along the way. The track has been somewhat broken up by trail bikes in recent years and the condition of it on the day will depend on how much rain there has been. It can be quite slippery in parts after rain. We then take a left fork and head in a south westerly direction for approx 4kms on a gentle down hill part of the track. Eventually we link up with Paul Creek Track to complete the remaining 4 or so km of the walk. After reaching Paul Creek there is one final hill before arriving back at the car park.

### **Should I be especially careful on any part of the walk?**

The first hill is quite steep, and can be crumbly if dry or slippery after rain. Some of the smaller hills can also be slippery after rain. But for the most part, the track is good.

## **Walk 9: Mount Blue – Toolangi Potato Farm**

### **Leaders:**

Russell Bell and Judy Bell

### **Short Description:**

A climb and walk through forest beside farmland, mountain forest, banksias, grass trees, tree ferns and wildflowers in season

**Distance:** 16 km      **Time:** 5.5 hrs      **Grade:** Medium

### **Where do we start?**

From Healesville take the Healesville Kinglake Road and drive approximately 10km, past the Yarra Glen junction (near RACV Club), to a sizable lay-by on the left. Park cars here.

### **What map have we used?**

Rooftop's Toolangi – Black Range Forest Activities Map. Coordinates 58 37 – 58 42 / 3 65 – 3 69

### **Tell me about the Walk.**

Walk about 100m towards Toolangi on the main road until reaching a logging track to your right. Take this track (Weasel Creek Road) & go left. Climb for about one hour to the top of the ridge. Do not take any of the side routes. At the top you will be opposite the "Potato" farm. Turn right towards Blue Mount and walk about 300m to where there is a water tank to your left & view towards the Yarra Ranges NP. (Good place for morning tea). A little further along turn left through a Park gate onto Spud Track (not signed). Descend keeping farmland to your left and forest to your right. Continue along this track until arriving at a T intersection with Lowes Road. Turn right and follow this road for about half an hour, passing a few private properties to your left. Where Xanthorrhoea Road meets Lowes Road there is a tree with the number 601 attached to the trunk & there are two posts to mark the start of Xanthorrhoea Track (there is no sign). Here, there is an open area - a good lunch spot. Turn right from Lowes Road into Xanthorrhoea Track and follow the undulating track until arriving at an open space with a number of intersecting tracks. Follow the clearly marked Xanthorrhoea Track. The Track will continue to undulate until it descends to meet the Chum Creek Road (Healesville Lilydale Road). Turn right on the bitumen, cross the creek & immediately turn right again onto another dirt track. A short distance this track will meet another track to your left (Weasel Creek Road). Keep left & follow this track which runs parallel to the Chum Creek Road back to the cars on your left.

### **Should I be especially careful on any part of the walk?**

Slippery when wet

## **Walk 10A: Tanglefoot Track Circuit from Monda Road**

### **Walk Leaders**

Peter Goodwin and Heather Goodwin

### **Short Description:**

A circular walk through towering Mountain Ash, Myrtle Beech and Treeferns and the beautiful Wirrawilla Rainforest Walk.

**Distance:** 16 km.      **Time:** 5 hrs      **Grade:** Medium

### **Where do we start?**

From Healesville along Myers Creek Road for 11 km then right onto Monda Road (track) for 4 km, then park on the firebreak.

### **What maps have we used?**

Vicmap Juliet North 1: 25000

### **Tell Me About The Walk:**

From the Monda Track parking area the Tanglefoot Track goes north, dropping steadily through mountain ash, tree ferns and silver wattles towards Sylvia Creek. From here the track continues up to the junction with the track from Tanglefoot Car Park. We turn left at the junction, which is 8 km north of Monda Track, onto Myrtle Gully Track, walking initially west then south down through rainforest to the Wirrawilla Rainforest Walk. After a detour through this cool damp glade of ferns and beech myrtle the track leads south upwards towards Monda Track along the old Quarry Road. On reaching Monda Road we turn left to reach the cars.

### **Should I be especially careful on any part of the walk?**

Parts of the track can be slippery after rain and care should be taken.

## **Walk 10B: Tanglefoot Circuit from Wirrawilla Car Park - Myrtle Track - Tanglefoot Track - Quarry Road**

### **Walk Leaders:**

Keith Lierse and Val Lierse

### **Short Description:**

A varied walk traversing magnificent rainforest gullies with ferns and very old myrtle beech trees and towering mountain ash. About 20 minutes will be spent exploring the Wirrawilla Rainforest Walk.

**Distance:** 16 km      **Time:** 5 hrs      **Grade:** Medium

### **Where do we start?**

Wirrawilla Car Park, Sylvia Creek.

### **How do we get to the start?**

From Healesville take the Myers Creek Road for 16kms to Sylvia Creek Road, then travel 5km from the turnoff to Wirrawilla Rainforest Walk car park.

### **What maps have we used?**

Vicmap Juliet North 1:25,000

### **Tell me about the walk.**

Upon departing from the car park 20 minutes will be spent exploring along a board walk which has excellent interpretative signs. The walk then steadily ascends the Myrtle Gully Track for 3km with delightful fern gullies and 200 year old plus myrtle beech trees. The walk then continues east for a gentle climb to meet the Tanglefoot Track. The Tanglefoot Track runs generally south, skirting Mount Tanglefoot (1,009M), passing through huge stands of mountain ash and manna gums, interspersed with beautiful fern gullies. The walk meets the Monda Track and then joins Quarry Road for a steady descent of 4km to the starting point. Quarry Road parallels Sylvia Creek for the last 3km (west side of road) and subtle but clear changes can be seen in the vegetation.

### **Should I be especially careful on any part of the walk?**

Some sections can be muddy and slippery especially after rain.

**Walk 10: Tanglefoot Track circuit from Tanglefoot Picnic Area on Sylvia Creek Road**

**Walk Leaders:**

Noel Adams and Graham Richardson.

**Short Description:**

A varied walk traversing magnificent rainforest gullies with ferns and very old myrtle beech trees and towering mountain ash. Some time will be spent exploring the Wirrawilla Rainforest Walk.

**Distance:** 18 km      **Time:** 5 hrs      **Grade:** Medium

**Where do we start?**

Tanglefoot Picnic Area on Sylvia Creek Road.

**How do we get to the start?**

From Healesville take the Myers Creek Road for 16kms to Sylvia Creek Road, then travel 7km from the turnoff to the Tanglefoot Picnic Area.

**What maps have we used?**

Vicmap Juliet North 1:25,000

**Tell me about the walk.**

Departing the picnic area we will follow the walking track for about one km to the junction of the Tanglefoot and Myrtle Creek tracks. The Tanglefoot Track runs generally south, skirting Mount Tanglefoot (1,009M), passing through huge stands of mountain ash and manna gums, interspersed with beautiful fern gullies. The walk meets the Monda Track and then joins Quarry Road for a steady descent of 4km to the Wirrawilla Rainforest. Quarry Road parallels Sylvia Creek for the last 3km (west side of road) and subtle but clear changes can be seen in the vegetation. From the Quarry Road it is a short excursion to the Wirrawilla rainforest board walk where a few minutes will be spent exploring the rainforest area which has excellent interpretative signs. The walk then steadily ascends the Myrtle Gully Track for 3km with delightful fern gullies and 200 year old myrtle beech trees. The walk then continues east for a gentle climb to meet the Tanglefoot Track and a return to the Picnic Area car park.

**Should I be especially careful on any part of the walk?**

Some sections can be muddy and slippery especially after rain.

## **Walk 11A: Fernshaw - Morley Track-Carter Gap - Dom Dom Saddle.**

### **Walk Leaders:**

Patricia Borton and John Scales

### **Short Description:**

Enjoy a walk through mountain ash forests in Melbourne's 'water catchment'.

**Distance:** 10 km      **Time:** 3 hrs      **Grade:** Medium (climbing 400m)

### **Where do we start?**

Fernshaw Picnic Area

### **How do we get to the start?**

From Healesville continue north east along Maroondah Highway for 11 km and leave one or more cars at Fernshaw for a car shuffle. Take one or more cars a further 5km to the car park on the right at Dom Dom Saddle.

### **What maps have we used?**

VicMap 1:25000 Juliet North

### **Tell Me About The Walk:**

This walk takes you beside Morley Creek and Watts River through beautiful mountain ash forests, their high canopy providing an ideal habitat for an understorey of shade-tolerant trees and shrubs that thrive in cool moist gullies. This dense, mixed forest of wattles, tree-ferns and blackwoods permits little of the hot sun to permeate to the forest floor, consequently providing cool walking during the hot summer months. We can also enjoy some lovely views as we walk from Carter Gap to Dom Dom Saddle on a track beside Road Eight. A steady climb, a slight challenge and in general a good workout.

### **Should I be especially careful on any part of the Walk?**

No, apart from normal care. Keep to signed tracks in Restricted Access areas.

## **Walk 11B: Dom Dom Saddle - Carter Gap – Morley Track- Fernshaw**

### **Walk Leaders:**

Janice Bayer and Cheryl Carmichael

### **Short Description:**

A beautiful walk through mountain ash forest, a steep downhill and a river flat walk to finish.

**Distance:** 10 km      **Time:** 4.5hrs      **Grade:** Medium

### **Where do we start?**

Dom Dom Saddle Car Park

### **How do we get to the start?**

From Healesville, follow Maroondah Highway 11km north east to Fernshaw Reserve Picnic area on the right. Car shuffle and continue along Highway 5km to Dom Dom Saddle Car Park on right.

### **What maps have we used?**

Juliet North 1:25,000

### **Tell Me About The Walk:**

From the rear of the Dom Dom Saddle Car Park, pass through the gate to the start of Eight Road. Walk up the road to a sign indicating a track on the right to Carter Gap. This is a long and wide grassy downhill area. The alternative route is to follow Eight Road to Carter Gap. After a short walk there is a signpost on the right for Morley Track. Follow this track and it is a short, steep climb to another track junction. Follow the right-hand track and you will come to a long and quite steep downhill section which can be slippery in wet conditions. Continue west following the Watts River, crossing a vehicle track. The last section of the track meanders alongside the Watts River until you reach the Fernshaw Car Park.

### **Should I be especially careful on any part of the walk?**

The steep downhill section of the Morley Track can be very slippery if wet.

Keep to signed tracks in Restricted Access areas.

## **Walk 12: Dom Dom Saddle - Mt. Dom Dom + circuit around to Dom Dom Saddle**

### **Walk Leaders:**

Ken O'Sullivan and George Turner

### **Short Description:**

A popular day walk to the summit of Mt. Dom Dom and return by completing the circuit walk back to the car park.

**Distance:** 11 km      **Time:** 6 hours      **Grade:** Medium

### **Where do we start?**

At the Dom Dom Saddle picnic area & car park, Approx 19 km from base at the Healesville Sports Centre.

### **How do we get to the start?**

From Healesville follow Maroondah Highway North East, past Fernshaw Reserve on the right hand side of the road and proceed on up "Blacks Spur", at the summit turn right (east) into Dom Dom saddle picnic area & car park (509m)

### **What map have we used?**

Cathedral Range Outdoor Leisure Map July 1993, Vicmap Topographic Maps T8023-3-2-1, T8023-2-3-4, t8023-2-4-3 and T8023-3-1-2 ([www.land.vic.gov.au](http://www.land.vic.gov.au))

### **Tell me about the walk:**

The walk starts at the car park and circles the mountain anti-clockwise. Soon after the start we divert from the main track to the climb to the summit of Mt. Dom Dom. Returning to the main track we proceed in an easterly direction down hill before heading north and meeting up with some 4 wheel drive tracks that proceed towards Narbethong. We then leave the 4X4 track and head west before swinging around to the south as we begin the climb back to the finish at Dom Dom car park.

### **Should I be especially careful on any part of the walk?**

Yes, the diversion to the summit requires some care, as the track is not well defined. Some of the 4-wheel sections of the track may be slippery in parts if there has been recent rain. Suitable clothing & good walking boots are advisable; some walkers may like to use hiking poles.

## **Walk 13: Dom Dom Saddle – Mt Monda – Narbethong**

### **Leaders:**

Julie Gatenby and Ching Wong

### **Short Description:**

The Monda Track follows the crest of the Great Dividing Range and is easy to navigate along walking tracks, management roads and grassy firebreaks. There are extensive views of mountain ash forests, blackwood trees, daisy bush, mint bush, silver wattle and tree ferns.

**Distance:** 15 km      **Time:** 6 hrs      **Grade:** Medium

### **Where do we start?**

Dom Dom Saddle picnic area- Black Spur

### **How do we get to the start?**

From Healesville follow Maroondah Highway north east to Dom Dom Saddle picnic area and toilet block on the right, at the top of the Black Spur (approx 18km from Healesville). A car shuffle is required, so passengers stay here while all cars travel a further 3km to Black Spur Roadhouse, the end of the walk. Drivers car pool back to Dom Dom Saddle where the walk begins.

### **What map have we used?**

VICMAP 1:25000 Juliet North. "Melbourne Mountains" by Siseman

### **Tell me about the walk?**

This walk begins on the opposite side of the Maroondah highway from Dom Dom Saddle car park at the Yarra Ranges National Park sign, near slow vehicle turnout. A vehicle track behind the water tank climbs for approx 200 metres to meet the Old Black Spur Road at a T-intersection. Cross straight over and continue along the grassy avenue which meets up with a dirt road. The area on the left is Maroondah water catchment where entry is not permitted. Keep following the Monda Track using walking signs to guide you, climbing up to a rain gauge on Archer Hill. The undulating track continues through to a tree marker on a hill top, indicating the Bicentennial National Trail at the junction of Nursery Spur Track. At this point you have walked 7.5 km and gained an elevation of about 540 metres. Continue into Nursery Spur Track following this down to Rough Road clearly marked on the right. Turn into Rough Road staying on this as it takes you down to Maroondah Highway

### **Should I be especially careful on any part of the walk?**

Rough Road has a steep descent and can be very slippery if wet

Keep to signed tracks in Restricted Access areas

## **Walk 14: Sugarloaf Reservoir Circuit, Christmas Hills**

### **Walk Leaders:**

Pam Hall and Ron Hall

### **Short Description:**

A pleasant circuit around the reservoir, with views across the water, and from the high point, views of the city. Kangaroo sightings

**Distance:** 16 km      **Time:** 4.5 hrs      **Grade:** Medium.

### **Where do we start?**

Saddle Reservoir Car Park, Sugarloaf Reservoir. Mel. 273 E 7

### **How do we get to the start?**

From Healesville, follow Healesville - Yarra Glen Rd into Yarra Glen. Turn right onto Melba Hwy. (Bell St) approx 800 meters turn left into Symon Street which becomes Eltham - Yarra Glen Road. Continue on Eltham - Yarra Glen Road to Simpson Road Melway Map 273 A 7 (this is the entrance to Sugarloaf). Saddle Reservoir Car Park is the 3rd (and final) car park on the left.

### **What maps have we used?**

Parks Victoria "Sugarloaf Reservoir Park". leaflet and Melway Map 273.

### **Tell Me About The Walk:**

From Saddle Reservoir Picnic Area and car park, we cross the Reservoir wall and continue on well formed 'Ironbark Ridge' walking track to Ridge Picnic Area. The track as such does not continue any further, but the way is clearly marked with orange markers. At most times the water is within our view, as we walk through open bushland and more heavily timbered areas. We pass Eagle Point and a long gradual climb to the highest point, provides us with views of the city and Yarra Valley. We then follow the lower slopes of Mt Graham and 'Chris Phillips' walking track, back to the car park.

### **Should I be especially careful on any part of the walk?**

Not particularly, general care when walking in the bush. A hiking pole can be useful. There is no shelter on the walk.

## **Walk 15: Marysville – The 3 Lookouts - Bismarck Track**

### **Walk Leaders:**

Ian Barr and Lyverne Newson

### **Short Description:**

This is a delightful walk that encompasses the best features of the areas around Marysville, including bush tracks, a steep climb, breathtaking views, untouched forests, quiet gullies and rushing waterfalls and streams.

**Distance:** 15 km      **Time:** 5hrs      **Grade:** Medium.

### **Where do we start?**

Sheehans Lookout in Marysville

### **How do we get to the start?**

Drive to Marysville by taking the Maroondah Highway through Healesville, over the Black Spur and turning off to Marysville just outside Narbethong. Once in Marysville turn right onto the Old Melbourne Road and Sheenans Lookout is on the corner of Kings Street on the right hand side. Parking is by the roadside.

### **What maps have we used?**

Marysville Lake Mountain Vicmap (1:30,000) 2<sup>nd</sup> edition June 1990.

### **Tell Me About The Walk:**

From Sheehans lookout we walk down the Man O' War Track which skirts the Marysville Road and then deviates into the forest. We emerge at the Paradise Plains Road and walk downhill (north) for about 1 km till we reach the track to Keppel Lookout. A short but steep climb is then rewarded with magnificent views back towards Marysville and to the Cathedral Range from Keppel Lookout. A short distance away is the Three Tower Lookout. After lunch we take the road south from Keppel Lookout and then pick up the Bismarck Track. This undulating track crosses into the Steavenson Falls Scenic Reserve and has some big trees and ferns in an untouched environment to admire. We emerge at the De La Rue Lookout and follow the Keppel Track down to Steavenson Falls. After a brief stop to admire the falls we will then return to Marysville down the Treefern Gully Track which follows the Steavenson River all the way into town. A short car shuffle to pick up our cars will be required.

### **Should I be especially careful on any part of the walk?**

The track can be slippery and muddy especially on the Keppel Track after rain. Care should be taken and boots are advisable.

## **Walk 16: O'Shannassy Aqueduct Trail, Warburton to Don Road.**

### **Walk Leaders:**

Claire Harris and Terry O'Callaghan

### **Short Description:**

A pleasant easy guaranteed-level walk through tall timbers beside the O'Shannassy Aqueduct. The aqueduct delivered 90ML/day to Surrey Hills Reservoir. It was decommissioned in 1997.

**Distance:** 12 km      **Time:** 3.5 hours      **Grade:** Easy

### **Where do we start?**

Yuonga Road car-park.

### **How do we get to the start?**

From the Healesville base turn left on to Don Road, follow south to the Ewarts Road/Don Road car park at the end of the Aqueduct Walk. One or two cars will be left at Don Road to enable drivers to retrieve their cars from Yuonga Road car park. Because of its size, leave as few cars as possible at Yuonga Road car park. Proceed to Warburton Highway and turn left (east) to Warburton. From Warburton drive a short way up the Donna Buang Road and just past the hospital turn left up Yuonga Road which is followed to the end and a small car-park.

### **What maps have we used?**

Vicmap topographic 1:25,000 8022-4-5 Juliet South.

### **Tell me about the walk:**

From Yuonga Car-park the road is wide, grassy and soft, closed to vehicles and follows the aqueduct. It winds through tall forests of messmate and manna gum, past fern gullies and in places where clearing has occurred, there are magnificent views over the valley and beyond. Note the Dee Slip Bridge. Just past the Dee Road lunch-spot with the panoramic view, the trail drops down, crosses the road end and follows up a new piece of track which quickly rejoins the soft road which continues to Don Road.

### **Should I be especially careful on any part of the walk?**

No.

## **Walk 17: Mt Donna Buang – Mt Boobyalla – Cement Creek**

### **Walk Leaders:**

Peter Osborne and Sandra Baguley,

### **Short Description**

A steep grunt from the Cement Creek car park to the saddle. On to Mt Donna Buang followed by a gentler walk to Mt Boobyalla and down Road Four back to the cars.

**Distance:** 14 km      **Time:** 4.5 hours      **Grade:** Medium

### **Where Do We Start?**

Cement Creek Car Park

### **How do we get to the start?**

From Healesville continue east along Don Road for approx 10 km to a well sign posted Donna Buang Road on the right. This road soon becomes gravel and very narrow in places, so take your time, but it is very picturesque and comes out virtually at the summit of Mt Donna Buang. Turn right and drive the 8 km down hill to the Cement Creek car park

### **What map have we used?**

### **Tell Me About The Walk:**

The walk starts from the Cement Creek car park and ascends the Cement Creek walking track to the saddle. This is a climb of 480m in 2km through beautiful wet forest with some scrambling under fallen logs. From the saddle the walk crosses to Mt Donna Buang before returning along the saddle and crossing to Mt Boobyalla. From Mt Boobyalla the walk continues on to Road Four which provides an easy gradient and pleasant forest walk to return to the cars.

### **Should I be especially careful on any part of the walk?**

If it has been raining in the recent past, the ascent of the Cement Creek track can be slippery.

## **Walk 18: Murrindindi Scenic Reserve River Walk & Wilhelmina Falls.**

### **Walk Leaders:**

Vic Murray and Gerhild Preuss

### **Short Description:**

A moderate walk which climbs up to Wilhelmina Falls then continues through the forest to an old timber tram track back down to the river and along the valley. A very pleasant walk with a mixture of vegetation, scenery and gradients.

**Distance:** 12 km      **Time:** 4.5 hrs      **Grade:** Medium.

### **Where do we start?**

Wilhelmina Car Park, Murrindindi Road, Murrindindi Scenic Reserve.

### **How do we get to the start?**

From Healesville, head North through Toolangi & Castella to the Melba Highway. Continue North on the Melba Highway through Glenburn to Devlins Bridge. Turn right (east) off the highway and follow the road for approximately 8km to the Murrindindi Road which is on your right. Turn right and head south down this road which follows the river for about 2km until you come to the sign posted Wilhelmina Falls Car Park.

### **What maps have we used?**

### **Tell Me About The Walk:**

After leaving the car park the walk climbs up from the Murrindindi River along Falls Creek to Wilhelmina Falls, with views of the 75m drop of the falls down the smooth granite slabs. After passing the falls the walk then continues along Boroondara Track through peppermint, messmate and mountain grey gums. Plenty of birdlife is common here. The track then follows along an old timber tram track back down to the river and along the tranquil river valley to the car park.

### **Should I be especially careful on any part of the walk?**

If it is wet, it might be slippery around the falls area. Extra care should be taken here.

**Walk 19: Cathedral Range SP, Neds Gully – Cooks Mill – Farmyard – North Jawbone - Cathedral Peak – Neds Peak - Neds Gully**

**Walk Leaders:**

Michael Carter and David Smyth

**Short Description**

A classic walk starting with a warm-up then a steep climb, a high peak, a spectacular ridge walk, a gully descent and a river flat walk to complete the circuit.

**Distance:** 10 km      **Time:** 6 hours      **Grade:** Medium

**Where do we start?**

Cooks Mill-Jawbones Car-park, Cathedral Ranges State Park

**How do we get to the start?**

From Healesville follow Maroondah Highway north east through Narbethong, and Buxton and turn right (east) at the Cathedrals Sign (Brown Tourist sign) along Cathedral Lane, turn right again (south) along Little River Road to Cooks Mill Site car park just over the river and a short way up Cerebus Road on your right to the Jawbones car park.

**What map have we used?**

Cathedral Range Outdoor Leisure Map July 1993, Vicmap Topographic Maps T8023-3-2-1, T8023-2-3-4, t8023-2-4-3 and T8023-3-1-2 ([www.land.vic.gov.au](http://www.land.vic.gov.au))

**Tell me about the walk?**

From Cooks Mill-Jawbones Car-park there is a warm-up walk for about 1km up Cerebus Road then a steep climb up a well marked track but before reaching the top turn north and head around a gully to another track junction. Then follow the right hand track for a detour to North Jawbone Peak. Return to the track and continue north to the Cathedral Ridge. Follow the ridge to The Cathedral (Cathedral Peak) and then north again to Cathedral North, the highest point in the walk. Return and having passed The Cathedral again, find the steep rocky track east and down to Neds Saddle. Take care as this section can be slippery. Head further east and up to Neds Peak. Continue on and down and rejoin Neds Gully Track. Down in the Little River flat and before the river, turn right at the Little River Walking Track and head upstream south to the start at Cooks Mill Car Park.

**Should I be especially careful on any part of the walk?**

Yes - The walk along Cathedral Ridge is over rocky outcrops and requires good balance and agility as well as care. The track from Cathedral Ridge to Neds Saddle is steep and rocky and needs care.

## **Walk 20A: Cathedral Range SP, Neds Gully –Little Cathedral – North Cathedral - Cathedral Peak – Neds Gully**

### **Walk Leaders:**

Des Bain and Hermann Oostindie

### **Short Description:**

A long gradual climb from Neds Gully up to the top where we clamber over the large boulders along the spectacular ridge walk from peak to peak and return down to Neds Gully again.

**Distance:** 8 km      **Time:** 6 hrs      **Grade:** Hard.

### **Where do we start?**

Neds Gully Car Park, Cathedral Range State Park

### **How do we get to the start?**

From Healesville take the Maroondah Highway North east through Narbethong and Buxton. 10 km after Buxton, turn right at the Brown Tourist sign "Cathedrals Range State Park" into Cathedral Lane for 2.7km. Turn right along Little River Road for 2.7 km. Neds Gully main car-park is on the left (Avoid the 15 minute restricted parking area)

### **What map have we used?**

Cathedral Range Outdoor Leisure Map July 1993, Vicmap Topographic Maps T8023-3-2-1, T8023-2-3-4, t8023-2-4-3 and T8023-3-1-2 ([www.land.vic.gov.au](http://www.land.vic.gov.au)) Parks Victoria leaflet.

### **Tell me about the walk?**

From the start, cross the road and foot bridge over Little River. Turn left and 100 metres later go right (west) through the forest. The trail zigzags steeply past 10 Fathom Ridge to a five way intersection on Neds Saddle. Take the right hand track (north) towards Little Cathedral. This rough track rises along rocky slopes for about 1 km to another intersection. Continue north, dipping into a saddle before climbing steeply up rocks to the Peak of Little Cathedral. Grand views across the valleys to the north and west. Return to the intersection and take the right track. There is a considerable amount of clambering along the rocky ridge to North Cathedral Peak, 814 metres, and a further 1/2 km to the summit of The Cathedral, 845metres. Stunning views along the range to the highest point, Mt Sugarloaf in the south and down to the Acheron Valley below. After about 200 metres from the summit take a minor trail off on the left that descends steeply down to Neds Saddle. From here return back down Neds Gully Track to the start.

### **Should I be especially careful on any part of the walk?**

Yes. The trail along the Cathedral Ridge involves clambering over boulders and in places is not defined. Parts of the track can be muddy and steep and need care.

## **Walk 20B: Cathedral Range SP, Neds Gully - Chapel Hill - Cooks Mill - Neds Gully**

### **Walk Leaders:**

Philip Tewksbury and David Cooper

### **Short Description:**

This walk (in an area of the park unjustifiably overlooked) has magnificent views and includes a good climb, scrambling, open forest and finishes off walking next to a picturesque mountain stream.

**Distance:** 10 km      **Time:** 5hrs      **Grade:** Medium

### **Where do we start?**

Neds Gully Car Park

### **How do we get there?**

From Healesville follow Maroondah Highway north east through Narbethong and Buxton and turn right (east) at the Cathedral SP Sign (Brown Tourist Sign) along Cathedral Lane. Turn right again onto Little River Road to Neds Gully Car Park.

### **What map have we used?**

Cathedral Range Outdoor Leisure Map July 1993

### **Tell me about the walk:**

The walk starts at the Neds Gully Car Park and heads due east climbing up Knobby Spur to Chapel Hill a total climb of approx 380 metres. Most of the terrain is open bush but near the top of Knobby Spur there is a section of rock scrambling requiring reasonable care. Along Knobby Spur there are great views to the north. Then further on towards Chapel Hill there are great views of the Cathedrals. From Chapel Hill we take a basically open ridge down to Cooks Mill. The walk thus far is not on a set walking track. From Cooks Mill we follow the Little River walking track back to Neds Gully.

### **Should I be especially careful on any part of the walk?**

You should have a reasonable degree of fitness and proper walking boots and equipment. Hiking poles are strongly recommended. You should be comfortable with rock scrambling and some enclosed bush.

## **Walk 21: Lake Mountain SR, Snowy Hill Car Park – Upper Taggerty Road - Keppel Hut – Gerratys Car Park**

### **Walk Leaders:**

Alan Marshall and Don McKelvie

### **Short Description:**

A circular walk through beautiful and diverse forest starting on a 4WD track followed by an ascent up a very overgrown walking track then on undulating walking tracks with a moderate climb through snow gum forest. An easy descent on ski trails completes the circuit. Total climbing about 450m.

**Distance:** 16 km      **Time:** 5.5 hrs.      **Grade:** Medium.

### **Where do we start?**

Snowy Hill Car Park, Lake Mountain

### **How do we get to the start?**

From Healesville follow Maroondah Highway north east through Narbethong then turn right to Marysville. Follow the signs from Marysville to Lake Mountain and park at Snowy Hills Car Park. A short car shuffle will be required to Gerratys Car Park.

### **What maps have we used?**

VicMap Marysville – Lake Mountain Outdoor Leisure Map 1:30000

### **Tell Me About The Walk:**

From Snowy Hill Car Park the Upper Taggerty 4WD Road is followed through alpine ash forest for about 6km. The start of the very overgrown Gould Track is difficult to find on the right hand side at this point but the track, once found, leads up through thick bush to the well defined but also overgrown East Boundary Track. Turning west, the East Boundary Track is followed to the Keppel Hut Road. A short distance to the right along the road brings us to Keppel's Hut. The Keppel brothers built a number of huts in this area from 1885. The present hut was built in 1985 and is in excellent condition. It is representative of a typical hut of the mountain cattlemen. After having a lunch break here we shall retrace our steps along the East Boundary Track and continue on, climbing through magnificent snow gum forest to the Bullfight Lookout and the ruins of the Boundary Hut, the highest point on the Lake Mountain Plateau. From there we shall follow the cross country ski trails, initially along the Hut Trail and then via the Royston Trail to Gerratys Car Park where the walk will finish.

### **Should I be especially careful on any part of the walk?**

The walking tracks are overgrown, particularly Gould's Track. Some tracks may be covered in leaf litter, branches and fallen trees. If the weather is wet these tracks will be slippery.

**Walk (Bike Ride) 22: Rail Trail – Yarra Junction - Woori Yallock - Warburton and return. (Optional Warburton East and return)**

**Ride Leaders.**

Bruce Ford and Tom Patton

**Short description:**

This picturesque ride is on what is described as Australia's best recreation trail. The ride covers the best sections of that trail and is further enhanced by the optional extension to Warburton East.

**Distance:** 40 or 50 km return **Time:** 3.25 hrs or 4 hrs

**Grade:** Easy/Medium – gentle grades and good surfaces.

**Where do we start?**

Yarra Junction Reserve near toilet. (Melway Map 288 D7)

**What map have we used?**

Maps in [www.yarravalleytrails.org.au](http://www.yarravalleytrails.org.au) or from Lilydale to Warburton Rail Trail brochure

**Tell me about the Walk (ride)?**

From Yarra Junction Reserve the ride passes the old railway station of Launching Place before having to cross the Warburton Highway at traffic lights. Then on past the old station at Woori Yallock to the Woori Yallock Creek and the restored 175 metre bridge over it. After stopping to admire the bridge and creek, head back to the starting point at Yarra Junction. From there continue past the old railway stations of Wesburn, Millgrove and Warburton. Near Warburton Station there is a great spot for lunch on the banks of the beautiful Yarra River where everyone may lunch together before the riders on the longer option head off and those remaining explore the shops and the delights of Warburton while waiting for the others to return.

The Rail Trail ends at Warburton but the ride continues alongside the Warburton Highway until the bridge over the Yarra is crossed. Turn right and follow the track by the river past the caravan park and on through beautiful bush until the track peters out at the Woods Point Road. Cross the road with care and ride alongside it on the north side until just past the bridge over the Yarra, turn right into Riverside Drive and follow this quiet road by the Yarra River back to Warburton. After rejoining the others at the Water Wheel Information Centre all ride back to the cars at Yarra Junction.

**Should I be especially careful on any part of the ride?**

Yes, crossing the Woods Point Road and crossing the road bridge over the Yarra on the Woods Point Road.