



Federation of Victorian
Walking Clubs Inc
A2548 ABN 88 344 633 037

VicWalk News

March 2006

No. 158

\$1.20

Calendar

VICWALK COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday 7 March 2006
Holy Trinity Church Hall,
Hotham St, East Melbourne
Melway Map 2G D3

BUSHWALKERS SEARCH & RESCUE

Meeting

Monday 20 March 2006 at 6pm.
Carlton Community Room,
216 Rathdowne Street, Carlton
(next to the baths). Most nearby
parking, eg Neill St. has a 2-
hour limit but no meter. Longer
parking can be found further
away, ie Newry St to the north.

Practice & Rogaine

8-9 April 2006

CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETINGS

4th Wednesday each month except
December at 7.30pm
St Martins Anglican Church
27 Cromwell Rd (cnr Wilson St)
South Yarra
Melway Map 58 F4

FEDERATION WEEKEND

17-19 November 2006
Bright & Beyond

Contributions

Email or post news, views, club profiles, articles, photographs, sketches and letters on any subject of interest to bushwalkers (subject to editorial approval) to ekerlin@optusnet.com.au or 2 Glenwerri Court, Vermont South 3133.

Deadline for April:
Monday, 13 March

Editor: Eileen Kerlin
Design & Layout: Helen Rowley

CONSERVATION

Although our committee has not met since late November, members have still been active.

I volunteered as a camp host for five weeks with Parks Victoria (PV) at Cathedral Range, then a track ranger at Mt Buffalo. It was an extremely rewarding experience that I recommend to all. I will write more in next month's *VicWalk News*.

After years of discussion and lobbying, a hard-working group (including VicWalk) has preserved another area of bushland - Devilbend, on the Mornington Peninsula. Minister John Thwaites announced on 19 January that 1000 hectares of the land (96%) would become a 'Natural Features Reserve'.

VicWalk has nominated the old growth forests of East Gippsland for the Victorian Heritage Icon Awards.

VicWalk welcomes Geoff Kelly as the new project officer for the Australian Alps Walking Track.

Recently the Environment Protection Authority released its findings on logging breaches, by way of a special forest audit report, at the request of the Minister. For many people the report was not satisfactory. VicWalk, as a recognised stakeholder, continues in discussions with the EPA.

Discussion continues with land management authorities about conservation of the areas we love, ie restricted access by motorised vehicles, track maintenance, track development opportunities, management plans and codes of practice. To enable us to be more effective in this area I need to hear what concerns you. Please drop me a line.

A few vacancies still exist for volunteers for the Mossbed Rehabilitation Weekend on the High Plains to be held on the Labour Day weekend 10-13 March 2006. See February *VicWalk News* for more details.

On Sunday 12 February, twelve people from VicWalk Clubs, in conjunction with PV, helped create an additional section of track near Freemans Mill in Bunyip State Park. Track work is an important activity: please support the VicWalk Track Maintenance Group events as well as your own club's activities.

I hope to lead a strong team in managing conservation issues - but to do this our team needs your support and regular communications.

STEVE ROBERTSON

Convenor
VicWalk Conservation Committee

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Who's Who at VicWalk

Administration Office

Jenny Sykes
 Phone 9455 1876
 Fax 9457 5438
 vicwalk@vicnet.net.au
 www.vicnet.net.au/~vicwalk

Monday 12 noon–3pm
 Tues, Thur & Fri 10am–3pm
 Not open Wednesdays

Office Bearers

President: David Reid
 5984 0039
 valdavid@alphalink.com.au

Vice-President: Nick Brown
 9509 1112
 camnix@optusnet.com.au

Secretary: Wayne Rice
 9842 2817
 longgrain2@bigpond.com

Treasurer: Greg Weston
 9399 9592
 greg@ttcc.com.au

Assistant Secretary: Barbara Guerin
 bjg123@bigpond.com

Convenors

Bushwalkers Search & Rescue:
 Monica Chapman
 9859 8464
 convenor@bsar.org

Conservation, Tracks & Huts:
 Steven Robertson
 9762 5367
 srob7859@bigpond.net.au

Track Clearing: Jim Harker, 9547 1152
 jnharker@netspace.net.au

For other project officers please contact Conservation Convenor, Steven Robertson, as above

Insurance: David Gordon
 02 6051 2602W or 02 6040 9599H
 david.gordon@fmg.co.nz
 Publicity/Promotions: vacant

Publications: Claire Garrett
 9598 4854

Risk Management: Wayne Rice
 see details above

Skills: vacant

Representatives on Other Organisations

Bushwalking Australia: Marianne Watt
 9328 4228

BMTAB: Peter Conroy
 9596 2639

ORC: Kyle Matheson
 9890 6094
 mathesonkyle@hotmail.com

WILKINSON LODGE - PHOTOS WANTED

Wilkinson Lodge was originally built by the SEC in 1932–3 to house meteorologists who surveyed rainfall, snowfall and snow depths, etc, prior to the construction of the Kiewa Hydro Scheme. It housed a family in the early 1940s. It was known as the SEC Cottage.

When the SEC finished with the building, the Ski Club of Victoria bought it and renamed it Wilkinson Lodge in honour of a pioneer skier of the High Plains. The SEC lost interest in the hut in the late 1950s and the Melbourne Bushwalkers bought it in 1960.

Melbourne Bushwalkers used the lodge extensively over the years, maintaining and renovating it considerably. Various clubs and associations used the lodge over the years, like Maroondah Bushwalkers, the VMTC, Bayside Bushwalkers, VNPA, SGAP, and individuals known to the Melbourne Bushwalkers.

It was accidentally burned down in January 2004. Melbourne Bushwalkers had an album of photos in the lodge which was also lost and I am in the process of recreating it. Many of the photos were mine, dating back to the early 1960s. But there were many contributions from others.

Any photos – particularly of interiors and of the early SEC Cottage and SCV days – would be greatly appreciated.

I have a few early photos already but we lost some good ones in the fire. So if anyone in the bushwalking fraternity can help with photographs or scanned copies, this would be much appreciated.

BOB STEEL

Melbourne Bushwalkers

Email photos to

bobsteel@alphalink.com.au

Phone enquiries to 9725 6171

OXFAM TRAILWALKER

February *VicWalk News* had an article about the very well known Oxfam event Walk Against Want. This year is in fact the last in which it will be held. Apparently numbers have been declining and costs are going up. It does however have another fund raising event that is probably of more interest to bushwalkers, and that is the Trailwalker.

The Trailwalker is a 100km walk held over a weekend. Teams of four can join and must pay a minimum fee of \$1000, with the idea of course that this is made up of donations. The walk is from Jell's Park to the summit of Donna Buang, the final 10km being very steep! There are many checkpoints on the way but it is up to teams to arrange their own food and sleeping arrangements as they see fit.

The Trailwalker has become a very successful event for Oxfam over the last few years. The next Melbourne event, which is in early April, was booked out months ago and the waiting list for entrants has over 100 teams on hold. I had intended to enter but missed out before getting a team ready. There is another way in which people can help and that is to volunteer for support

– over one thousand people support the event.

I strongly support Oxfam. It is an organisation that has a very strong focus on educating disadvantaged communities to help themselves. Most of its field staff are local people. Typically Oxfam offers programs that teach people how to store, process and handle food, education on seed selection for crops, improving soil quality, support for micro businesses, and much other detailed knowledge. Oxfam also acts as an advocate. The mining industry advocate for example has achieved particularly good media coverage.

Preparations are well under way for Oxfam Trailwalker Melbourne 2006 and Oxfam is looking for volunteers to join in the fun. It needs over 500 volunteers to help run the biggest Trailwalker ever in Australia. Oxfam Trailwalker relies on a number of key volunteers to assist with pre-planning of the event. There are opportunities in the areas of logistics, administration support, marketing and media. Go to their website to register: www.oxfam.org.au/trailwalker/melbourne/volunteer.

GREG WESTON

WALKING AND TALKING WITH YOUR PRESIDENT

THREAT TO PUBLIC LAND ACCESS

Access to public land with minimum restriction and regulation is essential for bushwalking clubs to be able to pursue their chosen activity and as a result contribute value to the community.

For some time the Department of Sustainability and Environment (DSE) has been reviewing the licensing requirements for commercial operators who access public land as part of their business. DSE aims to strengthen provisions and apply some consistency. This is appropriate, however, their review also looks at the management of organised groups, eg schools and community organisations. VicWalk has been closely monitoring this review to ensure that access rights and conditions are not diminished.

DSE has now issued a directions paper for public comment. Contained in the paper are several ambiguous statements which have implications for our access to public land. These are in Section 2.1B, C and F under the heading "Clarifying who requires a tour operator licence". They are inconsistent with other statements that claim to preserve the current access arrangements for community groups. The paper can be accessed at www.dse.vic.gov.au/licencer eforms.

We are preparing a submission related to these problem statements and will keep you fully informed. Members should read the paper and make direct responses to DSE. To help you do this a copy of our intended response will be posted on the VicWalk website and sent to all clubs. Comments must reach DSE by 29 March 2006. Your support is important.

WALKING INTO THE FUTURE

Saturday 4 February dawned a beautiful sunny day – a great day for bushwalking! However it was a different kind of track we were following.

This was the day when executive members, conveners, council delegates and some club members gave up the whole day to help plot the track we as a peak body will follow in the next two years. With the help of facilitator (retired consultant) Tony Walker, the group of 22 discussed which are the most important action plans we

must implement to ensure that we perform our role:

"To proactively represent the interests of all bushwalkers, promote bushwalking and engage in other activities that add value to the community".

Nineteen action plan suggestions were discussed and prioritised. We considered eight of the plans high priority. These include investigation and preparation of proposals/recommendations on:

- 1 An organisational restructure;
- 2 Provision for individuals to join VicWalk;
- 3 The role and structure of the conservation, tracks and hut committee;
- 4 Funding options for a Development Officer;
- 5 A strategy for volunteer recruitment and management;
- 6 Development of an integrated communication plan;
- 7 A leadership competency program; and
- 8 The nature of our constituency.

At the VicWalk council meeting on 7 February council gave approval for these plans. We are forming working groups, with assistance from members, which is pleasing. However we still need more people. Some of these projects are only 3–9 months long. If you have skills in any of these areas we would be pleased to have your help.

More details will be published soon in our Strategic Plan 2006–2008.

COMING EVENTS

The Great Australian Bushwalk will be held in Victoria on Sunday 10 September, and organized by VNPA. More details soon.

This will be a good warm up for the 17–19 November Federation Weekend – Bright and Beyond, of which planning is well underway by northeast clubs under the chairmanship of Border Bushwalking Club. Reserve these dates in your diary now.

DAVID REID

SECRETARIAL RAMBLINGS

INSURANCE

Clubs should have received the 2006–2007 insurance questionnaire from our insurer acting for Bushwalking Australia by now.

The numbers that you calculate as your membership numbers in question 2 will be the numbers that VicWalk uses to calculate your club's premium for billing. The BWA insurer uses these numbers to bill VicWalk each year. Last year, because most clubs re-adjusted their membership numbers down from the original questionnaire, VicWalk funded a loss, so please calculate carefully.

If the personal accident insurance is not arranged for all members, PA cover will not apply for temporary members (visitors).

Clubs should complete and return the questionnaire to the VicWalk office before Friday 31 March, so that we can talk to the underwriters.

WAYNE RICE

Full Moons

Wednesday 15 March; Friday 14 April;
Saturday 13 May; Monday 12 June; Tuesday
11 July; Wednesday 9 August

Sunrise & Sunset

Friday, 10 March 7.13am 7.46pm
Friday, 24 March 7.26am 7.25pm
Daylight saving ends on Sunday, April 2 at 3:00 am
Friday, 7 April 6.39am 6.04pm
Friday, 21 April 6.51am 5.45pm
Friday, 12 May 7.10am 5.21pm
Friday, 26 May 7.22am 5.11pm
Friday, 9 June 7.31am 5.07pm
Friday, 23 June 7.36am 5.08pm
Friday, 14 July 7.33am 5.18pm
Friday, 28 July 7.23am 5.29pm
Friday, 11 August 7.09am 5.40pm
Friday, 25 August 6.51am 5.52pm

Sources: www.museum.vic.gov.au/planetarium
www.timeanddate.com/worldclock

TRACK MAINTENANCE GROUP

TRACK MAINTENANCE CALENDAR

DATE	DETAILS	CONTACT
10-13 March	Bogong High Plains moss bed rehabilitation. VicWalk Track Maintenance Group is organizing a weekend in conjunction with Parks Victoria to help rehabilitate the moss bed/bog systems. We need 40 people, with 20 camping out on the High Plains and 20 staying at a lodge at Falls Creek in subsidized accommodation.	Contact Steve Robertson on phone 9762 5367 or email srob7859@bigpond.net.au for information or to register your support.
1-2 April	Riggalls Spur	Contact Jim Harker on email jnharker@netspace.net.au
13-14 May	Grampians	Contact Rod Novak on phone 9561 2407

TRACK MAINTENANCE FORMS

The Track Maintenance Form is available for download from the VicWalk website. There is also an on-line submission version so that walkers/leaders can submit it directly from the web site.

PARK CLOSURES & OPENINGS AFTER RECENT BUSHFIRES

For updates about significant fires, phone the Victorian Bushfire Information Line on 1800 240 667 (free call).

Check PV's website, or ring the information line, for updates if you are considering going into any of the areas listed below. The PV website is an invaluable resource for leaders as it gives regular updates throughout the year on park closures and re-openings around Victoria, and provides park notes and maps (although taking along a proper topographical map as well is always preferred).

The following parks closure information is from PV's website www.parkweb.vic.gov.au (updated 10 February).

GRAMPIANS NP

The Mt Lubra fire was declared 'contained' and as a result some roads, walks and campground are now re-opened.

The Grampians update outlines new road openings, current closures and general park facility access and has a map showing areas and priority of works.

MOONDARRA STATE PARK & TYERS REGIONAL PARK

The parks are still closed due to the Moondarra fire as works continue on fire control and rehabilitation. Access roads into these parks were affected by the fire and until a full assessment of risks to the public has been undertaken they will remain closed.

Facilities within the park are undamaged, however Seninis Campground is closed until further notice.

MOUNT ECCLES NP

The Mt Eccles NP campground and Lake Surprise picnic area were re-opened for visitors following the recent wildfire. The Crater Rim, Lake Surprise and Lava Canal walking tracks are open but walkers are

advised to contact the ranger at the park office before commencing the Lava Canal Walk.

About 10% of the park was burnt and the south-east portion of Mt Eccles NP is closed to visitors to ensure their safety while recovery works are undertaken. **The park will be closed east of Long Paddock Track and south of Park South Track and Natural Bridge Track.** Vehicle access to the Natural Bridge area will be restricted.

BRISBANE RANGES NP & STEIGLITZ HISTORIC PARK

It is not safe to travel on roads that are closed to the public. Visitors and residents should stay away from fire-affected areas. Most areas of the Brisbane Ranges NP are closed to the public. PV is making every effort to assess and restore tracks and facilities to enable safe access.

BAW BAW NP

Baw Baw NP was not affected by the fire, and as access roads to the park have now been re-opened, visitors can safely return.

KINGLAKE NP

This 1600 ha fire is contained. The park is closed until further notice.

VicWalk News

Advertising Rates

1/6 page advertisement.....\$25.00

1/4 page advertisement.....\$40.00

1/3 page advertisement.....\$50.00

1/2 page advertisement.....\$75.00

Full page advertisement.....\$150.00

Address list of affiliate clubs....\$50.00

Insert for Newsletter*\$50.00

Note: Advertisements must be artwork ready.

*Advertiser to supply 300 printed inserts each edition



YHA BUSH DANCE

Collingwood Town Hall,
140 Hoddle Street
Abbotsford (plenty of free
parking alongside).

5 May 2006, 8.30pm start

Featuring Blackberry Jam
Bush Band

A great night is always had, by up to 200 people - come and join the fun!

BYO drinks, glasses, supper - tea and coffee provided

Tickets: \$18 pre-purchased, \$22 at the door (if available)

12 persons per table, with one free ticket per table sold.

For ticket sales ring Ron Bell 9338 4057(H) or 0429 384 057,
or send mail to 8 Burnleigh Drive, Gladstone Park 3043.

Cheques should be made payable to YHA Bushwalking.

Include a stamped, self-addressed envelope for tickets.

WALK IN TURKEY: 2-20 OCTOBER 2006

Members of Bayside Bushwalking Club, including a Turkish-born writer of books about Gallipoli, have devised a customised 18-day tour of Turkey. The itinerary is designed to maximise opportunities for walking through three of the most interesting regions for Australian travellers to Turkey.

Highlights include:

- Three daywalks at Cappadocia (Central Turkey)
- Three daywalks on the Lycian Way (Southern Turkey)
- Three daywalks at Gallipoli (Western Turkey)
- Four days of sightseeing in Istanbul (two days at start/end), and
- A day's boating on the Mediterranean.

The average walking distance per day will be 10km, with pension accommodation and daypacks, and we will have local guides as well as a bus accompanying the party. The trip includes visits to the historical sites of Ephesus and Troy, and the culinary delights of Turkish cuisine will further enrich our experience.

The land cost, including accommodation, travel, guides, and most meals for a group of more than 10 walkers, will be \$3406 (single supplement \$511).

There is scope to run several groups of up to 14 travellers in parallel, so we are inviting travel-walkers from other clubs to join us. For further information or reservation of a place, please contact John Basarin on 0438 055 056, 9502 0605 or john@fairychimneys.com.au.

NEW PUBLICATIONS

The Great Otway NP was formally declared on Sunday 11 December 2005 at Triplet Falls and new information is available to clubs on the parks website at www.parkweb.vic.gov.au, in two new Parknotes (both A4, four pages and free):

- 'Marreeyn Shipwreck Coast and Hinterland'
- 'Angahook Surf Coast and Hinterland'

The Great Ocean Walk was formally opened on Monday 9 January 2006 at Glenample Homestead and new information is available on the web at www.greatoceanwalk.com.au in two free publications:

- 'Great Ocean Walk' - a colour, eight-page brochure giving general information, services, tours and accommodation, and
- 'Otways' - the official touring map, a double-sided A2 with detail of Apollo Bay to Colac and the GONP.

Of more use to walkers are two new publications for sale:

- 'Great Ocean Walk', a \$4 double-sided, folded A2 which contains information and a map guide. This brochure gives details of short walks, day hikes, and the long walk. All overnight walks must be pre-booked and registered with PV (as at Wilsons Promontory).
- 'The Great Ocean Road and Otway Ranges': an \$8 Special Vision 1:125,000 map.

Let's hope many VicWalk members can visit these new walking assets soon!

DON HUTTON
Conservation Committee
Otways Representative

OTWAY RANGES WALKING TRACK ASSOCIATION

ACTIVITY	DATE	DESTINATION	CONTACT	PHONE
Walk	Sunday 5 March	Sabine Falls Grand Circuit	Les	0417 526 070
Track Clearing	Sunday 17 March	Wye River	Ed	5289 2107
Walk	Sunday 2 April	Wye River Falls & Gorge	Les	0417 526 070
Walk	Sunday 7 May	GOW Elliott River to Apollo Bay	Les	0417 526 070

VICTORIAN ROVERS



 The Adventure Continues ... for 17-26 year olds
www.rovers.com.au


Rovers meet as a crew and participate in a variety of activities. These activities offer you the opportunity to mix socially, push yourself physically, challenge yourself mentally and develop spiritually. Each crew is different and chooses the activities that suit its members the most.

Joining a Rover crew could be one of the most important steps in your life. It can open doors to new friendships, fun, adventure and some unforgettable experiences while at the same time developing your leadership and organisational skills.

So what next?

Well if you have decided that you want to join a crew simply visit www.vicrovers.com and use the 'find a crew' system to get your local crew's email and phone number. You can also phone our head office from 8.30am-5.00pm Monday to Friday on 8543 9800 or country toll free on 1800 640 454.




 The Adventure Continues ... for 17-26 year olds
www.rovers.com.au

Scouting is the largest youth organization in Victoria with over 23,500 members including 4500 trained adult leaders. Part of Scouts Australia is the Victorian Rovers.

Rovers is the oldest youth section in the scouting movement. By taking part in the many opportunities available to you as a Rover you will experience fun, fellowship and personal growth.



 The Adventure Continues ... for 17-26 year olds
www.rovers.com.au

The Victorian Rovers is also just an email away on vicbrc@vicscouts.asn.au.

We look forward to hearing from you.

And you may ask - what if I am over 26 - we are always looking for new leaders in scouting so give us a call and we can assist you with that as well.

AROUND THE TRACKS

Border, Benalla, Wangaratta and Warby Ranges clubs are into the planning phase of this year's Federation Weekend to be held in the Bright, High Plains region on 17-19 November. So put the dates in your diaries now.

Some clubs have taken up the challenge for Clean Up Australia Day (5 March), with Border Bushwalkers organizing a half day clean up of regularly used tracks followed by a BBQ - very civilized - and the Great Dividing Trail Association choosing an area of Wombat State Forest. Waverley Bushwalkers has decided that one day is not enough and will carry plastic bags on all walks during the month of March! If any other clubs have made the commitment, let me know about it for next month's VicWalk News.

Keep an eye open for a new section of the Rail Trail from Wodonga - a bridge over the Kiewa at Finns Creek - to be officially opened on 23 April, with walking and riding opportunities.

Some unique anagrams from Basically Bushwalking's newsletter:

- Astronomer Moon Starer
- The Eyes..... They See The Morse
- Code Here Come Dots Slot Machines..... Cash Lost in Me Election
- Results Lies - Let's Recount Snooze Alarms Alas! No more Z's A Decimal Point I'm a Dot in Place The Earthquakes ... That Queer Shake Eleven Plus Two Twelve Plus One

Couldn't resist reporting just a few of the club awards presented at the Border Bushwalking Club's 2005 Christmas Party:

Nit Picking Award - presented to Albert Lightfoot for his honesty in admitting that when backpacking he likes to pack multi-purpose devices, such as using his fork for eating as well as an effective comb!

Hume & Hovell Award - presented to John Stevens for his inability to limit himself to one walk a day. John appreciates when a day walk starts at 9am so that he can squeeze in a quick trip over Huon Hill before the walk begins!

AROUND THE TRACKS

All in the name of Education Award - presented to Rick Pickering who, with no consideration for his own safety and nearly sacrificing his beloved hat, set his gas bottle on fire just so he could show the other Budawang participants the correct procedure to extinguish the flames!

A group of members from the Catholic Walking Club enjoyed a six-day pack carry on the Overland Track in January taking in Pine Valley, the Acropolis, the Labyrinth, Mt Geryon, Narcissus, Echo Point and Cynthia Bay. Here's a sample of Corrie van den Bosch's write up to tempt the rest of us:

"We set out for the Acropolis, starting in the rain forest through the bottom of Pine Valley. It wasn't long before the track started to climb. The lower part of the mountain is well wooded, trees, shrubs, mosses and lichens, numerous shades of green and brown, some colourful fungi and lots of tiny streams. When we rose above the forest we came to an exposed plateau ... Having crossed the plateau, we arrived at the base of the almost perpendicular rocky crags of the mountain. The track was cairned and sidled around the eastern side, easing the gradient ... What views! We could see range upon range of mountains ...

below us on the western side was the Labyrinth, our destination for the next day, and on the east the Walls of Jerusalem - both dotted with blue lakes, reflecting the clear skies. We enjoyed our lunch in this magnificent dining room, then retraced our steps to arrive back at our camp by 5 o'clock."

Members from Diamond Valley and Koonung clubs combined to enjoy four days in the Howmans Gap area after Christmas. Highlights included a visit to Fitzgerald Hut with

"glorious panoramic vistas across the high plains to distant blue mountains, swathes of alpine daisies looking like patches of snow amongst the tussocky grasses and other blending colours of red and orange with myriad shades of green providing a feast to the eyes. We came across many snow gums re-shooting ie, the lignotubers under the surface had not been destroyed by the fires. It was wonderful to see how much the high plains vegetation has recovered from both the fires of 2002 and the removal of cattle."

Congratulations to Koonung club member, Tom Patton, who received an Australia Day Community Award for services to Search and Rescue.

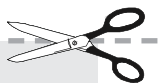
Strzelecki Bushwalking Club

has a varied and interesting program coming up, including a "Northern Pacific Sea Star Search Weekend at Inverloch" where members will assist in the search for sea stars around Andersons Inlet; a day walk with a local geologist; a bike ride, and at least five extended or overnight walks everywhere from Tasmania to Glenmaggie Creek Gorge! Great planning Strzelecki.

VMTC's Margaret Timbury reported on the track clearing activity at Mt Buffalo:

"**In exchange** for strenuous track work on the loop track to the back wall, we were rewarded by camping in a previously 'un-camped-in' site on the Buffalo Plateau. The loop track to the back wall had been closed since the 2003 fires due to burnt bridges, fallen logs and extensive regrowth. Ross Grant, the park ranger, with five members from the Echuca Bushwalking Club, three members from the VMTC, and one member from Bayside Bushwalking Club, sawed, snipped, brush-cut and raked a passable corridor. The guys' superior male strength (due as we all know to their extra ration of red blood corpuscles) was evident in some very impressive rockwork, including the positioning of some massive stepping stones to afford

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Enquiries should be directed to the Secretary.

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Club _____

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_____ years subscription to *VicWalk News* at \$15 per year posted (11 issues).

_____ copy/copies of... _____ at \$1.70 each posted (individual issues).

AROUND THE TRACKS

a 'dry-feet' crossing of the creek. Only a few kilometres of track were restored but the outcome means an interesting round trip to the back wall may be enjoyed by many walkers. It certainly left us with a warm and fuzzy feeling. So if you have a free weekend or day, why not try a bit of bush therapy?"

I always knew learning to navigate could be fun, but I didn't realize it could be quite the gourmet experience as well, at least if you do it with VMTC's Dave Miller, it appears so. Excerpted from Jude Brydon's report on Dave's Whroo Navigation Skills Weekend:

"It was exhilarating to achieve our first assignment with everyone making it back successfully. Into the cars to follow Chris to a billabong at Graytown State Forest where we set up camp. So with the fire established and the biscuits, cheese, quince paste, pate, dips and smoked oysters on the table, we settled quite easily into relaxed mode which was followed by dinner and an evening of some amazing bushwalking stories."

Can I come next time Dave?

I couldn't resist a couple of metaphoric masterpieces from club newsletters last month:

VMTC's David Davies (aka Maestro)

wrote up a report on their November Great South-West Walk with various musical allusions.

"Walk is a symphony in four movements: The Forest; The River; The Beach; The Cliffs. Under the baton of conductor Genia, our sextet performed the final movement - The Cliffs - with several interludes of beach and forest ... There was quite a bit of harping on the geology (rock music?) ... Rather than a rondo with cars, Genia had orchestrated local transport to the start and from the finish of the walk ... We were most appreciative of the local Friends group which obviously does a lot of work to keep the Great South West Walk in tune. A standing ovation and a big bouquet are due to our conductor Genia, who wielded her baton with perfect *andante con brio* tempo."

And Waverley's mystery writer "The Joker and Fellowship Recorder" wrote up an entire pack carry on the new Great Ocean Walk with a script of proverbial biblical proportions to rival Peter Jackson's Lord of the Rings. It is far too long to repeat here, but needless to say the party was led by 'Gandalf' (the bearded one) and the Fellowship included the self-titled Joker, the pack weight conscious Microliter, and the not-

Action for Clubs

- Write to the Conservation Committee with your conservation concerns (p1)
- Request Wilkinson Lodge photographs from members (p2)
- Read DSE's direction paper and consider a response (p3)
- Consider helping formulate VicWalk's future directions (p3)
- Fill in your insurance questionnaire (p3)

very-bright Forty Watts, to mention just a few.

As VicWalk News editor I have access to most of your club newsletters and find that there are some great story tellers out there. It would be great if club editors would send me some of their local contributions for wider publication in VicWalk News so we can all share in some of the special track moments.

Collated by
EILEEN KERLIN



VicWalk News

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