



Mt Buninyong walk, Central Highlands, 20 April 2014  
Photo by Fran Callinan, Boroondara Bushwalkers

## Contributions

Email or post news, views, club profiles, articles, photographs, sketches and letters on any topic of interest to bushwalkers (publication is subject to editorial approval) to:

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Camberwell Victoria 3124

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The statements and opinions expressed in articles are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the views or position of Bushwalking Victoria.

Editor: Joslin Guest

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## WALKING AND TALKING WITH THE BUSHWALKING VICTORIA PRESIDENT

### Bushwalking Victoria AGM

Just to remind everyone: the 2014 AGM will be held on Saturday, 14 June at Templestowe Valley Primary School, Birchwood Avenue, Templestowe (Melway Map 33 A5). Please contact the Bushwalking Victoria office if you intend to come or if you need more information (see page 5).

We hope to see as many club representatives and individual members as possible.

The Leaders Forum will discuss the issue of commercial activities in national parks and other protected areas as well as other issues raised by you.

A special feature of the day will be the unveiling of **Bushwalking Victoria's new 'brand', including a new logo and new standards for how we communicate.** We'll talk about the rationale for the branding and where it is going to lead us over the next few years.

### Join the Bushwalking Victoria Board

Two current board members are retiring this year. Terry Sydes from Benalla Bushwalking Club who has given valuable and valued service to bushwalking over many **years is standing down. Unfortunately, Terry's wife is unwell, and he needs to make the commitment to help and support her. We'll miss Terry's deep knowledge of bushwalking and the Victorian countryside and his common sense approach.**

Val Wake, from CAEX, is also standing down after many years on the board. Val has served as Secretary and Treasurer and has lately been heading up a new program to help identify and recruit volunteers with specific skills to help Bushwalking Victoria further the cause of bushwalking. Val has promised that she will continue to **support and assist the board's work where she can.** We thank her for her hard work and effective advocacy over the years.

**We haven't yet had any new nominations to the board, and we ask all members of bushwalking clubs to think about whether and how they could contribute.** Being on the board of Bushwalking Victoria is a position of trust and commitment to all bushwalkers, and it is rewarding and interesting (and occasionally frustrating!).

Please think about it, and if you have someone in your club who you think could contribute, please dob them in (or encourage them to talk to us).

### Bushwalking Victoria - Individual Members

Over the last 12 months, as our work has started to take effect, Bushwalking Victoria has had a strong growth in individual membership. At present, we are gaining more than 25 new individual members a month and by June 2014 the total individual membership is likely to exceed 250.



It is time that we considered what role individual members should play in the governance of Bushwalking Victoria. At present, individual members cannot nominate for board positions and cannot vote at meetings. We need to ensure that we give them a fair say in how Bushwalking Victoria is run and in our decision making.

Time does not permit us to make any changes relating to individual membership at the 2014 AGM. But we have decided to

establish a work-group headed by **Bushwalking Victoria's Secretary, Fred Bover,** to consult and consider what changes should be made, with a view to putting appropriate motions to a future Bushwalking Victoria meeting – either a special meeting or the 2015 AGM.

### A Look Ahead to 2014-15

We did much in 2013-14 to implement our Strategic Plan, but a lot more remains to be done. We intend to build on the branding and imaging work we have done to launch two new programs.

- One will focus on identifying and establishing sponsorships and partnerships – preferably medium or long term – to help us build for the future.
- The second will focus on promoting bushwalking to the wider public as an enjoyable and socially positive part of a healthy lifestyle.

To complement these two projects, we hope to build on the work we have done in 2013-14 in creating a short training program aimed at individual bushwalkers (whether they belong to a club or not), focussed on giving them an understanding of what responsible bushwalking means – preparation, equipment, safety and bushwalking **etiquette.** **This program won't replace commercial or in-depth programs,** but it will help intending bushwalkers to bushwalk in a safe, responsible and appropriate way. We hope to get Victorian government support to develop this program.

In 2014-15, we plan to further develop the Bushwalking Victoria website towards the concept of a bushwalking **'one stop shop'** – a place where bushwalkers can access or link to all the information they need to plan, prepare and book for a bushwalking trip in Victoria. This will require considerable development, which will take more than one year. We also hope to get Victorian government support for this project.

The more enthusiastic people we can involve in bushwalking, the better we are able to influence decision makers to act in ways that will foster a love of our countryside, a respect for its beauty and uniqueness, and better bushwalking.

See you on the track.

Tony Walker

### WORKING WITH CFA — WORKSHOPS FOR BUSHWALKING CLUBS

The CFA has recognised that people spending time in bushland from November to April each year need to be made aware of the risks relating to bushfires. Therefore, the CFA would like to promote a free one-hour workshop for bushwalking clubs throughout Victoria.

The sessions have been put together specifically for bushwalkers and include the following topics:

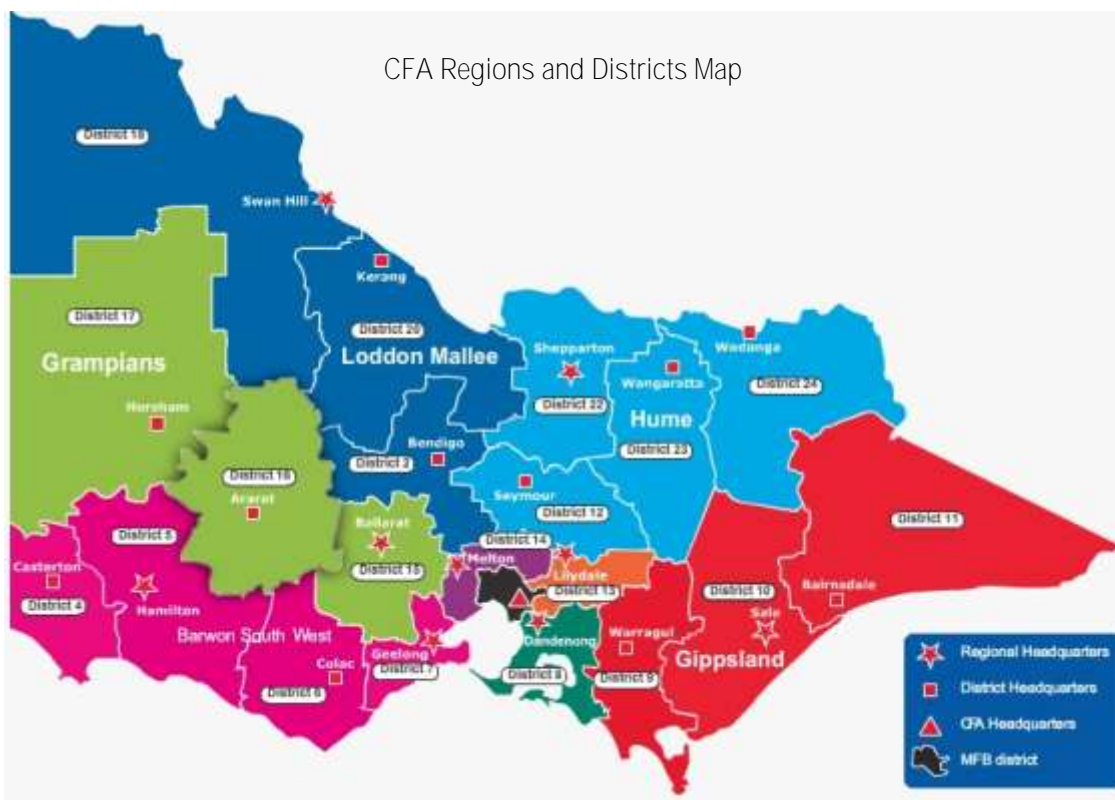
- Travelling and hiking in a high-risk area
- What to do if caught in a vehicle during a bushfire
- Understanding Fire Danger Ratings and how to plan a walking holiday around them
- Where to get information while out on the road
- Not travelling into high-risk areas on bad days – rearranging your plans
- Going to a Victorian Visitor Information centre for further information.

We also have some great resources specific to bushwalking and travelling in high bushfire risk areas which we can make available to your club.

If this is something you would like to book or you want to discuss this in further detail, please contact your local Community Education Coordinator:

- Southern Metro Region – Ellisa Bourne – 9767 1891
- Eastern Metro Region – Tarryn Campbell – 8739 4013
- Hume Region – Alex Caughey - 5735 3114
- Barwon South West Region – Nikki Habibis – 5240 2700
- Grampians Region – Chris Carey - 5329 5515
- Northern and Western Metropolitan Region - Nicole McGill - 8746 1488
- Loddon Mallee Region - Paul Tangey - 5430 2200
- Gippsland Region – Emily Durbridge - 5149 1016

Ellisa Bourne Community Education Coordinator  
 CFA Southern Metro Region – 120-122 Princes Hwy Dandenong VIC 3175  
 T: 03 9767 1891 M: 0419 879 216 F: 03 9767 1880 E: [e.bourne@cfa.vic.gov.au](mailto:e.bourne@cfa.vic.gov.au)





*An invitation to join*

# Lake Mountain Ski Patrol

Lake Mountain Ski Patrol (LMSP) is recruiting volunteers who would like to join the weekend patrol team and have a proactive role at an alpine resort that boasts one of the highest day-visitor numbers in Australia.

The patrol is integral to the smooth operations of Lake Mountain Alpine Resort which is just 120km from Melbourne's CBD and attracts hundreds of visitors a day at peak times.

### Patrollers:

- Are required to have a minimum of Level 2 First Aid
- Need to be fit, competent skiers or willing to learn
- Need to be available to be rostered on weekend days throughout winter
- Are subsidised to gain ASPA certification
- Receive free entry to Lake Mountain Resort
- Can share on-mountain accommodation on rostered weekends
- Have fun working as part of a team of like-minded people.

The 2014 winter training weekend for current and prospective volunteer patrollers will be held at Lake Mountain on June 14 and 15.



*For further information please contact LMSP Secretary, Cathy Sutton on 0403 146 378 or [cacsutton@gmail.com](mailto:cacsutton@gmail.com)*



Book of interest to Bushwalkers  
**WALKING DISTANCE:  
 EXTRAORDINARY HIKES FOR  
 ORDINARY PEOPLE**

Authors: Robert and Martha Manning  
 Publisher: Oregon State University Press (2013)  
 ISBN 978-0-87071-683-6,  
 Paperback, 244 pages, \$35US

The book describes 30 long-distance hikes in various countries. Some walks are inn-to-inn, others are pack carries. This is an American book and the majority of walks are located in North America. It includes two Australian walks and one NZ walk.

The descriptions include personal anecdotes, natural and cultural history, useful tips and suggestions for additional reading. Each trail is illustrated with colour photographs and maps. *(I have included the walk distance below where I could find it out. Editor)*

Africa

Cape Winelands Walk (South Africa) - 100km

Asia

Lycian Way (Turkey) - 510km

Australasia

Great Ocean Walk (Australia) - 100km

Overland Track (Australia) - 65km

Milford Track (New Zealand) - 53km

Europe

Alta Via 1 (Italy) - 150km

Cinque Terre (Italy)

Camino de Santiago (Spain) - 500km

Coast to Coast Trail (England) - 306km

Cotswold Way (England) - 164km

**King Ludwig's Way (Germany)** - 100km

Kungsleden (Sweden) - 440km

South Downs Way (England) - 100km

Tour du Mont Blanc (France, Italy, Switzerland) - 170km

**Walker's Haute Route (France, Switzerland)** - 180km

West Highland Way (Scotland) - 155km

North America

C&O Canal (US) - 397km

Chilkoot Trail (US and Canada) - 53km

Colorado Trail (US) - 777km

John Muir Trail (US) - 340km

Kaibab Trail (US)

Kalalua Trail (US)

Long Trail (US) - 438km

Lost Coast Trail (US) - 56km

Ocala Trail (US)

Paria River Canyon (US) - 42km

Superior Hiking Trail (US) - 433km

Tahoe Rim Trail (US) - 290km

West Coast Trail Canada) - 75km

South America

Inca Trail (Peru) - 43km

**PARKS VICTORIA'S  
 2014 KOOKABURRA AWARDS**

The Kookaburra Awards:

- Recognise and honour individuals and groups who have made an outstanding voluntary contribution to the Victorian park system
- Raise awareness of the extent and importance of community involvement in the Victorian park system
- Encourage community involvement in the future conservation and use of the park system.

The award categories are:

- Conserving Special Places (group)
- Connecting People and Parks (group)
- Providing Benefits Beyond Park Boundaries (group)
- Individual Achievement Kookaburra Award (individual).

The celebration of the awards at Point Nepean on Volunteers Day on May 15 were for recipients in the Melbourne Region.

Apart from the awards to Friends Groups, citations of particular interest to Bushwalking Victoria were an award to the Victorian High Country Huts Association for work on **Wallaces Hut and the nomination (although he didn't win an award)** of Bill Casey of the Great Dividing Trail Association for survey work and mapping of the GDT and Central Victoria.

Representing Bushwalking Victoria at the awards ceremony were myself, Charlie Ablitt, David Reid and Val Ford.

Afterwards, I had discussions with Craig Bray, Regional Manager Yarra Ranges. We agreed that Bushwalking Tracks and Conservation (BTAC) and Parks Victoria at Yarra Ranges needed to have regular dialogue, and I canvassed a number of issues that BTAC has had concerns about. I also talked with Chris Hardman, Regional Manager for Port Phillip Area. He complimented us on the work we have done in the Bunyip State Park.

I toured the Quarantine Station, which was interesting and the tour group was taken through some of the buildings that are not open to the public.

Dave Rimmer  
 BTAC committee member

**NOTICE OF BUSHWALKING VICTORIA  
 LEADERS FORUM AND AGM**

Saturday, June 14, 2014

Templestowe Valley Primary School, Birchwood  
 Avenue, Templestowe (Melway Map 33 A5)

- Leaders Forum: 9.30am
- Bushwalking Victoria AGM: 3.30pm

Registration for the forum by email at [admin@bushwalkingvictoria.org.au](mailto:admin@bushwalkingvictoria.org.au) or by contacting our Office Manager, Patsy Scales, on 03 8846 4131 by Wednesday 11 June.





# Bogong Alpine Area Outdoor Recreation App



Take Spatial Vision's award-winning SVmaps with you on your iPhone with the latest ORG map of the Bogong Alpine Area.

Discover the remarkable history of the area as you travel through the region on foot or by car. Find the best location to set up camp, have a picnic or go on a bushwalk whilst storing all of your favourite walks in the App.

Download the latest **ORG** iPhone Apps



Bogong



Buller Howitt



Wilsons Prom

[www.svmaps.com.au](http://www.svmaps.com.au)

## CONSERVATION

## Deer Control Program in Three Parks Near Melbourne

The number of Sambar and Fallow deer in parks is increasing rapidly and the animals are impacting adversely on the native vegetation, fauna, creeks and invertebrates. The detrimental effect hard-hoofed browsing deer have on park environments includes habitat degradation, competition for food with native wildlife, degrading fragile vegetation, soil disturbances, erosion and soil compaction.

Fifty-four hunters, members of the Australian Deer Association and Sporting Shooters Association of Australia who have an Authority to Control Wildlife Permit, have been authorised to take part in the cull of 220 deer over 12 months in three parks near Melbourne:

- Dandenong Ranges National Park – 70 deer
- Yellingbo Nature Conservation Reserve - 130 deer
- Warramate Hills Nature Conservation Reserve - 20 deer

In Sherbrooke Forest (Dandenong Ranges NP), deer are damaging waterways, causing erosion and turning parts of the forest floor into mud baths. In the Yellingbo reserve, deer are having an adverse impact on endangered species such as Leadbeater's Possum and the Helmeted Yellow Honeyeater.

Ideally, all of the deer should be eradicated from the three parks, but Craig Bray, Parks Victoria District Manager for the Dandenong Ranges and Yarra Ranges, said complete eradication is unlikely because of the nature of the bush in which they live and behaviour of the deer which makes them very difficult to find.

Spotlight shooting will occur at night and stalking during daylight. The parks will be closed to the public during deer control operations. There will be no shooting on weekends, public holidays or during school holiday periods. No deer control activities will take place during Total Fire Ban or Code Red days.

The program is supported by Zoos Victoria, Friends of the **Leadbeater's Possum** and **Friends of the Helmeted Honeyeater**.

Sources:

- [http://parkweb.vic.gov.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0010/625177/Deer\\_Control\\_Program\\_OA\\_2014.pdf](http://parkweb.vic.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0010/625177/Deer_Control_Program_OA_2014.pdf)
- <http://www.theage.com.au/victoria/deer-numbers-spark-call-for-a-victorian-cull-20131217-2zjc2.html#ixzz32PcGvJsC>
- <http://www.smh.com.au/environment/deer-to-be-culled-by-hunters-in-parks-including-sherbrooke-forest-20140304-345b3.html>
- <http://www.heraldsun.com.au/leader/east/professional-shooters-will-cull-deer-in-yarra-ranges-parks-to-protect-endangered-wildlife/story-fngnvixu-1226845571384>

## Cattle Grazing in the Alpine National Park – Writ Filed

On 16 May, the Victorian National Parks Association (VNPA) filed a writ in the Supreme Court claiming the Victorian state government had failed to meet its obligations under national park laws by allowing a grazing trial to go ahead.

Sixty cattle had been grazing the Wonnangatta Valley in the Alpine National Park under the first year of a three-year trial. **In the trial's second and third years, as many as 300 cattle may be grazed in the park.**

The VNPA is seeking to have the trial declared unlawful, as well as seeking an interim injunction to stop cattle from grazing in the park.

The state government says the cattle grazing trial is necessary to test whether grazing reduces the risk of bushfire. Mountain cattlemen say grazing in the park is part of their cultural heritage. Environmentalists and major scientific institutions point to existing research that has found grazing does not reduce bushfire risk in alpine regions and say cattle grazing damages sensitive alpine wildlife and ecosystems.

**As part of the case, the VNPA's lawyers will argue the trial is in breach of the *Victorian National Parks Act*.** In particular, they will argue that under the national park laws the Secretary of the Department of Environment and Primary Industries cannot permit the entry of cattle, horses, dogs or allow grazing in national parks.

**The VNPA's Executive Director, Matt Ruchel, said that by insisting on re-establishing cattle grazing in the alpine park, the Napthine government was ignoring the intention of the laws that established national parks.**

Cattle grazing was first removed from the Alpine National Park in 2005 by the Bracks government. When the Baillieu government was elected in 2010, it returned 400 cattle to the park under a four-year trial across six sites, but was later ordered to remove the cattle by the Gillard federal government because it had not sought approval under national environment laws. The then federal Environment Minister, Tony Burke, later blocked the grazing trial, and a subsequent court challenge by the Victorian government to that decision failed.

After the Abbott federal government came to power in 2013, the Napthine government submitted plans for the current trial. It was approved earlier this year by the federal Environment Minister, Greg Hunt, with cattle returning to the park in March.

Source:

<http://www.theage.com.au/environment/conservation/conservationists-take-new-action-against-napthine-government-over-alpine-cattle-grazing-20140516-38dsy.html>



### Conservation Dogs

In the [January edition](#) of *On the Track* (the Bushwalking Tracks and Conservation newsletter), we reported on Missy, a dog being trained to sniff out hawkweed. Now specially trained conservation dogs are being used in national parks to try to detect Tiger Quolls.

#### Tiger Quolls

In 2012, the Conservation Ecology Centre (CEC) confirmed evidence of two wild Tiger Quolls in two different areas of the Otways – one in the Eastern Otways and one near Cape Otway. Prior to that, the last confirmed evidence of Tiger Quolls in the Otways was in 2003 from a hair collected in a hair trap in the Anglesea heathlands by the Friends of the Eastern Otways. Last year, a camera, installed to monitor a colony of brush-tailed rock-wallabies in the Grampians NP, snapped a picture of a Tiger Quoll. It was the first confirmed sighting of a quoll in the Grampians for more than 140 years.



The first step in conserving quolls is detecting their presence and the CEC's survey methods include remote cameras and hair tubes. They are also working on the development of new detection techniques such as detection dogs, artificial latrine sites and audio call-ins.

Using dogs in conservation is a well-established technique around the world. For example, in New Zealand, they are being used to sniff out kiwis. The CEC's [Otway Conservation Dogs Program](#) has been running for two years and dozens of dogs have been trained. Both the dogs and their handlers are volunteers. Almost any breed



of dog can be trained to be a conservation dog, but the dog must be obedient as well as energetic. The teams must pass strict tests before they are certified for field work.



The Otway Conservation Dog Program graduated its first five teams shortly after the Grampians quoll was discovered and the new graduates headed straight for the Grampians.

**The dogs don't look for the actual quolls. Instead they use wind-borne smells to sniff out quoll scats, then trace the odour to its source, at which they do an alert.** Tiger Quolls use communal latrine sites and by locating these, important information about the status and location of quolls can be gathered. If a scat is found, it will be sent to a laboratory at Melbourne University to analyse its genetics.

In the Grampians deployment, the dogs searched the area north of the Moora Moora reservoir. No quoll scats were discovered, but based on how the dogs performed, the search is being called a great success. Parks Victoria is negotiating to bring the Otways dog teams back in the spring, when quolls might be more active and, hopefully, nursing young.

Sources:

- <http://www.conservationecologycentre.org/our-work/tiger-quoll-conservation-program/>
- <http://www.theage.com.au/victoria/sniffer-dogs-search-for-endangered-tiger-quolls-in-grampians-national-park-20140523-38u67.html>

### Regent Honeyeater Project

Since its launch 20 years ago, about 28,000 volunteers have planted 500,000 trees and shrubs in the Lurg Hills near Benalla to build wildlife corridors and provide habitat for endangered birds, Squirrel Gliders, Sugar Gliders and Brush-tailed Phascogales. As a result, in the last eight years the number of Grey-crowned Babblers in the area has increased from 50 to 120. The migratory Regent Honeyeater has been spotted twice in revegetated areas.



In 2014, 25 new sites are scheduled for planting on:

Aug 9-10    Aug 23-24    Sep 6-7    Sep 20-21

For more information, visit

<http://regenthoneyeater.org.au/index.php>

To participate in a planting weekend contact Ray Thomas at [ray@regenthoneyeater.org.au](mailto:ray@regenthoneyeater.org.au)



Expanded Yellingbo Park

The Victorian government has agreed to set up a new 2,490ha conservation area uniting several fragmented areas in the Yellingbo area with the aim of restoring the **habitat for the endangered Lowland Leadbeater's Possum** and the Helmeted Yellow Honeyeater. The new park will include the current Yellingbo Nature Conservation Reserve plus 13 other parcels of public land.

The government also announced a 5% reduction in land open to logging. Conservationists are disappointed that the Greater Forests Park (see [March edition](#) of *Bushwalking News Victoria*) has not been included in the forestry plan. Nor did the government adopt the recommendation **of the Leadbeater's Possum advisory panel for the 200m exclusion zone around possum nesting trees to be at least 800m larger.**

MT TORBRECK TRACK CLEARING — PHASE 3

3-4 May

What a weekend this was!

We arrived at Barnewall Plains camping area in thick fog and persistent rain on Friday night. In attendance were Nick Dykes, Shane Millard, Andy Kelly, Paul Fletcher, Shane Bayliss and me. Shane M and Paul were the new faces to the project.



The Sunday team

On Saturday morning the weather had cleared up and according to the forecast we were in for a pleasant day. We arrived at the base of the walking track at 9am and began our trek up the mountain to get to where we left off last time. Much to our delight there was not as much regrowth as we had expected since our last effort six months ago. However, there was quite a large tree down along the way, which Andy and Paul made light work of. As on previous trips, lugging in all the gear was quite an effort, but we knew it was rewarding because we could see the well-defined track that we had created on the earlier visits.

Our starting point was a large tree that the DEPI had attempted to clear a few weeks ago. They had done the hard work by getting it off the embankment, but because of chainsaw issues they couldn't cut it up. So we started our clearing at this tree. It proved just how much of a valuable asset Andy and Paul are on this project; their equipment, experience, professionalism and chain-sawing are second to none! While they worked on the bigger stuff, the rest of us tackled the smaller stuff. Nick on the brushcutter slashed through all the bracken. Shane M and I chain-sawed smaller logs and regrown shrubs. Shane B cleared what the machines left behind. By mid-afternoon



The marathon effort starts

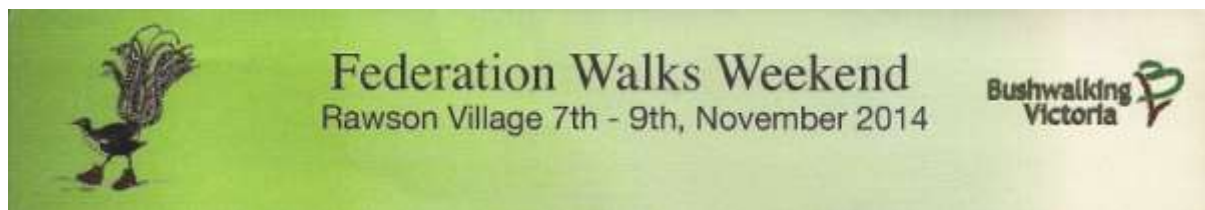
We reached the giant mountain ash that we've always known was going to be a massive challenge for anyone, but Andy and Paul just got into it! After a couple of hours at this beast, the light was fading so we decided to leave the gear on the mountain (including Andy's chain bar firmly wedged in this log) and started the trek down the mountain to get back to camp before dark.

On Sunday morning, mother nature reminded us that we were in alpine country and provided us with a light dusting of snow. Nick and Shane M could not join us on the Sunday because of other commitments, but Ryan Lane and Pat Mills had come up on Saturday night, so on Sunday morning we were two down and two up.

When we arrived back at where we had left our gear the night before, we were into it again. After Andy and Paul



Andy and Paul, two very skilled guys, and the marathon completed  
**Article continued on page 11**



Hosted by the Gippsland-based bushwalking clubs

Web: [www.fedwalks.org.au](http://www.fedwalks.org.au)

Telephone: 0425 702 788

Email: [enquiries@fedwalks.org.au](mailto:enquiries@fedwalks.org.au)

**BULLETIN NO. 2 — JUNE 2014**

Message from the Event Convenor

Welcome to the second bulletin from the Federation Walks Weekend organising committee. As you are now aware, the event is planned for the Friday the 7<sup>th</sup> to Sunday the 9<sup>th</sup> of November and our venue will be the Rawson Village, Pinnacle Drive, Rawson, Victoria, 3825. Rawson is a comfortable two-hour drive east of Melbourne along the Princes Highway.

The Walks Committee has been busy developing and receiving the walks program. A description and map for each of the walks can be found on our website. We plan to offer all the walks on both days.

Registrations

As previously advised, registrations for the Weekend will be in two parts, due to the number of options available for both accommodation and the walks program over the Saturday and Sunday.

1. Accommodation/Meals Package registration
2. Walks Program registration

Registration opens on 1 July and closes on 10 October 2014. An all-inclusive accommodation and meals package is available for the weekend. The event registration fee is included in the accommodation-meal package.

People do not have to register via clubs. They can register online as an individual or a group by downloading the forms and paying by EFT.

People registering for day walks only will need to pay the \$30 registration fee with their Walks Registration Form.

Day walkers are welcome to join us for dinner on Saturday night, but must book and pay \$19.50 with their Walks Registration Form.

Refund policy

We appreciate that the event is six months away, and that after registering things may change and you may not be able to attend. A full refund will be offered for cancellations made before 10 October 2014, the registration closure date.

Website

The 2014 Federation Walks Weekend website is now live.

You can view the website at [www.fedwalks.org.au](http://www.fedwalks.org.au)

We hope it is easy to navigate and you can find all the information you need about the weekend on it.

You will be able to download copies of the registration forms from the website, as well as walk descriptions and maps.

The Walks Committee welcomes any feedback on the website and suggestions for improvement.



Walks Program

The Walks Committee has put together a suite of 22 walks and the plan is to offer them on both days, subject to demand.

The walks on offer are in and around Walhalla, Rawson, the Baw Baw National Park and Wirilda State Park, and range from easy to hard off-track.

The Walks Committee, while receiving the walks, also completed the more detailed walk descriptions required by Bushwalking Victoria for their [where2walk](#) database. This additional information will be progressively added to the Bushwalking Victoria database.

Guest Speaker

Beau Miles, filmmaker and adventurer, will be our guest speaker on Saturday night after dinner.

We first came across Beau at a walking club meeting when he described his exploits in running the Australian Alpine Walking Track (AAWT) in record time of under 14 days. Beau released the film of his AAWT journey at the Travel and Adventure Film Festival in Bright in February 2013.

He will talk to us about his affinity with Gippsland and share his thoughts on how he engages in physical pursuits under the banner 'adventure' and what brings him home to Gippsland. This will no doubt challenge us all to think about why we develop an affinity to place – as geographer, Yi-Fu Tuan writes, 'home' only exists when there's an 'away'.

Next Steps

1. Enter the event dates in your diary.
2. Decide on accommodation options and be ready to register when bookings open on 1st July.
3. Check out the details of the Walks Program on web site and register your preferences from 1st July.
4. Please contact us with any questions you may have.

Happy walking  
Organising Committee  
Federation Walks Weekend 2014

Walk No.	Description	Grading	Distance	Walk Time	Map
1	Wilson Track	Medium	14 km	5-6 hrs	Map 2
2	Woolman Falls	Easy	7 km	2-3 hrs	Map 2
3	Mt St Clemons to Mt Erica Car Park	Hard	16 km	6 hrs	Map 2
4	Pherson's Lookout	Easy	5 km	2 hrs	Map 4
5	Mt St Clemons to Mt Eric Car Park	Medium	16 km	6 hrs	Map 2
6	Walhalla to Wirilda Creek (loop)	Medium	13 km	5 hrs	Map 3
7	Walhalla to Thomson Station via Forestry Field	Medium	15 km	5 hrs	Map 3
8	Mt St Clemons and Mt St Hubert	Easy/Med	10 km	3-4 hrs	Map 2
9	Walhalla to Phillip via Stopping Rock	Medium	11 km	4 hrs	Map 3
10	Walker Quarry	Easy/Med	8 km	2 hrs	Map 3
11	The Hutches to Erica via Mt and Phillip's Hill	Medium	10 km	3 hrs	Map 3
12	Woolman Falls Track (loop)	Medium	14 km	5 hrs	Map 2
13	St Leonards Hill	Medium	12 km	5-6 hrs	Map 13
14	Rawson, Humevale Road Tunnel, Walhalla	Easy/Med	19 km	7 hrs	Map 14
15	Woolman Falls	Hard	13 km	7 hrs	Map 2
16	Woolman Falls, Humevale Road Tunnel, Thomson Station	Easy	8 km	3 hrs	Map 16
17	Woolman Falls, Quarry Creek (loop)	Medium	10 km	5-6 hrs	Map 17
18	Walhalla to Phillip Track (loop)	Medium	11 km	5-6 hrs	Map 18
19	Rawson to Phillip Track (loop)	Medium	14 km	5-6 hrs	Map 19
20	Walhalla Historic walk	Very Easy	4 km	1.5 hrs	Map 20
21	Woolman Falls	Medium	11 km	5 hrs	Map 21
22	Woolman Falls walk	Hard	8 km	4 hrs	Map 22

*Mt Torbreck—Stage 3, article continued from page 9*  
had spent another couple of hours on the monster mountain ash, a beautiful walkway between two massive logs had been was created. It was an amazing effort by these two guys!

At 11am I received a call that David Hibbert and his Artworkz team had arrived at the base of the track and were starting to make their way in to photograph our work and the surrounding area. By then we had reached the gully which was the resting place of the crashed WW2 aircraft's engine, which meant that we had less than 50m to go and a very good chance of reaching the memorial by the end of the day.

About half an hour later I received a call that John, one of David's team members, had fallen and required urgent medical attention. When I arrived at the scene, David was on the phone to the emergency services organising John's evacuation. The ambulance crew arrived at about 1pm and diagnosed that John had a suspected fractured hip. The SES were called in to stretcher him out. He was taken to Maroondah Hospital at about 5pm, where he was diagnosed to have a fractured fibula. The team and I wish John a full and speedy recovery.

On a positive note, we have almost reached the memorial in our three visits. I'm extremely pleased with what we have achieved in getting this far. There are many people I would like to thank for their support, but most importantly I want to thank the guys who worked side by side with me **over the last six months, I can't thank you all enough** for your ongoing commitment to get this track to the stage that we are at and I am extremely proud of each and everyone of you! I look forward to the next visit when we reach our ultimate goal and are standing side by side at the memorial dedicated to the crew of Avro Anson A4-4 call sign 8BNA.

Until next time. Cheers

Anthony Dykes  
Independent bushwalker

*To read more about Anthony's efforts to clear the track to the WW2 plane crash at Mt Torbreck, see the [December edition](#) of Bushwalking News Victoria and visit the [Avro Anson Aeroplane Crash website](#).*

*On behalf of all bushwalkers, I thank Anthony and his friends for their mighty effort. Now, bushwalkers, get out there and walk the track.*  
Editor



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