

Dibbins Hut at Cobungra Gap, November 2012
 The Geelong Walker, March 2013

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:

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 or
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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

Wanted, new office bearers and board members

Bushwalking Victoria is looking for passionate bushwalkers interested in joining the Board of Management and contributing to better bushwalking for Victoria. (See also page 7.)



I will conclude my term as Bushwalking Victoria President at the Annual General Meeting on 15 June, as I will have served in the position for the maximum period of three years according to the Bushwalking Victoria Rules. It is my intention to nominate to remain on the Board of Management.

Tony Walker, our current Vice President and former Strategy Adviser, will be nominating for the position of President. He is an excellent candidate. He has been chairing our Strategic Review Working Party, and if he becomes Bushwalking Victoria's President he will be well placed to implement the Strategic Plan due to be in place by the end of June this year. Should Tony be elected as President in June, Bushwalking Victoria will also be looking for a new Vice President.

Val Wake, our current Treasurer, has indicated that she will not be re-nominating for the position, although she intends to nominate to remain on the Board. As a consequence, Bushwalking Victoria will be seeking a new Treasurer.

Bushwalking Victoria's Secretary, Fred Bover, and the current General Board members, David Reid, John Creaser, Terry Sydes and Megan Major, have indicated that they intend to re-nominate for the 2013-14 year.

Following the appointment of Patsy Borton to the upgraded position of Office Manager, much of the routine and administrative responsibilities of President, Secretary and Treasurer will be performed by Patsy, which will reduce the workload on these office bearers and, hopefully, make it easier to attract more people interested in nominating as an office bearer or Board member.

First aid subsidies - possible changes

For several years now, Bushwalking Victoria has paid a subsidy of \$40 to club members who satisfactorily complete an approved first aid course. The subsidy has been possible due to a grant received from the Department of Planning and Community Development (DPCD) to support participation, membership and the development of coaches and officials in community sport and recreation organisations. The subsidy is just one of a number of initiatives that the DPCD grant supports.

Over the past couple of years, applications for the subsidy have increased substantially. But because of uncertainty about the continuation of grant funding, Bushwalking Victoria may no longer be able to continue the subsidy in its current form. This is because Bushwalking Victoria has only been funded for one year rather than the three years

available to most State sport and recreation associations. While Bushwalking Victoria will for the time being continue to pay the subsidy to members who have already completed or signed up to undertake a first aid course, we may be forced to change the arrangements—for example, by reducing the amount, limiting the subsidy to walk leaders or capping the number of subsidies available.

Bushwalking Australia

In early February, Dodie Green, immediate past President of the Confederation of NSW Bushwalking Clubs, stood down as President of Bushwalking Australia due to work and personal pressures. As Vice President I have now assumed the role of President and, for the time being, will also continue as Bushwalking Australia Treasurer. Hopefully a replacement Vice President can be found from one of the other States.

Chris Towers

IMPORTANT DATES FOR 2013

Leadership Forum and AGM - Saturday 15 June

The 2013 Leadership Forum and AGM will be held on Saturday 15 June 2013. The day provides a fantastic opportunity to contribute ideas and opinions that will help build a stronger and more successful Bushwalking Victoria and club network, and to learn first hand about the work undertaken by Bushwalking Victoria and member clubs.

The leadership team (ie. the President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer) of each club is invited to attend. All club committees should pencil this date into their calendars NOW.

Details of the forum will be provided directly to clubs in the next couple of months. However, suggestions for topics to covered are welcome any time.

Travel and accommodation assistance is available for representatives from regional clubs who wish to attend. Contact the Bushwalking Victoria Office Manager for more information.

2013 Federation Walk - Sunday, 13 October 2013

Boroondara Bushwalkers will be hosting the 2013 Federation Day Walk on Sunday 13 October, based in the small township of Mymiong near Bacchus Marsh. There will be 20 and 25 walks of grades ranging from Easy to Medium-Hard in the western gorges region, west of Melbourne, including Lerderderg State Park, Werribee Gorge State Park, Brisbane Ranges National Park and Wombat State Forest.

Please put this date in your club calendar NOW.

For more information, go to <http://tinyurl.com/c3esmyb>

Book Review

**BEST WALKS OF
GEELONG, THE BELLARINE AND
THE BRISBANE RANGES**

Julie Mundy and Woodslane Press have produced another book in their excellent Best Walks series. As well as the areas listed in the title, the guide includes the Surf Coast.

40 walks are described:

- 12 for Greater Geelong – urban and reserves
- 13 on the Bellarine Peninsula – townships and reserves
- 6 on the Surf Coast
- 9 in the Brisbane Ranges and surrounds.

The different walk districts are colour-coded for easy reference—shades of orange for Greater Geelong; blue for the Bellarine Peninsula; yellow for the Surf Coast; and green for the Brisbane Ranges.

The guide is geared principally to non-bushwalkers, but its walks will be of interest to the increasing number of bushwalking club members who do Easy and Easy-Medium walks; there a few walks that bushwalkers might grade as Medium walks.

The format of the guide is:

- An introduction: this provides comprehensive, but succinct, information about things walkers need to think about and know about access to and walking in the areas
- Walk summary section: this includes useful quick reference information, including the availability of cafes, whether dogs are permitted, whether the walk is stroller-friendly, whether swimming is allowed and highlights.
- Detailed walk descriptions:
 - At a Glance: grade, time, distance; conditions; getting there (car and public transport)
 - Step-by-step walk directions
 - Variations, extensions or other relevant information
 - Map
 - Enticing colour images.

Edition: 1 (1/1/2013)
 Pages: 212
 Dimensions: 13.3cm x 23 cm
 Weight: 410g
 Binding: Perfect; soft cover

**BUSHWALKING VICTORIA'S
NEWS BLOG**

If you haven't visited the [Bushwalking Victoria News Blog](#), you should because it has two items that should be essential reading for all bushwalkers interested in enhancing or, as a minimum, preserving our bushwalking environment.

Senate climate change enquiry

Bushwalking Victoria has made a [submission](#) to the [Senate Inquiry into Extreme Weather and Climate Change](#) expressing serious concerns about the likely effects of climate change on bushwalking in Victoria and throughout the nation.

Commercial development in national parks

In August 2012, the Victorian State Government proposed that private investment in tourism facilities in the states national and state parks be permitted.

In February 2013, the State Government announced that it has redrawn the boundaries of the Alpine National Park to allow the Falls Creek Resort to expand in the direction of Rocky Valley Dam to enable the development of more non ski-season tourism and to establish a high-altitude training camp for athletes. In exchange the government will add almost 12ha of land on the slopes of Mt McKay to the park

Bushwalking Victoria's attitude to commercial activities is outlined in [10 Principles on Commercial Activities, Tourism and Infrastructure in National Parks](#).

Travel Enriched
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*Would you like to explore ancient Camino trails in Spain and Portugal?
 Are you interested in travel at an easy pace, with flexibility in distances walked and visiting nearby historic and scenic sites?*

We offer guided walking tours, supported with transport, along several Camino routes to Santiago de Compostela, some with journal writing workshops.

See our website:
www.travelenriched.com.au

Contact Diane on
 0404 417 485 or email
dm.travelenriched@me.com

9 DAY AUTUMN IN HOKKAIDO
14th SEPT to 2nd OCT 2013

Cost: (land only) \$3,400 per person
twin share, \$4,400 single

18 breakfasts, 12 dinners, 1 lunch, 2 boat cruises, rail pass, 9-day bus hire and guide, some park/museum entry fees

For itinerary and expressions of interest

Contact

Lorraine Cotter or **Ron Andersen** at
loron@iinet.net.au or telephone **03 6265 8626**

This tour caters for those who would like to do some hiking as well as for those who would prefer a more sedate approach. There are options for all fitness levels. For nine days, you will have a bus and a guide, which means you will be taken door to door, and for those who are less active there are strolling opportunities around relatively flat landscapes/townscapes as well as the two cruises. For the mountain climbs, you can either expend a bit of energy or you can do it in the comfort of cable cars, buses, or lifts. You still get to see the magnificent landscapes. The cultural experience will focus on traditional Japanese holiday onsen etiquette and the aboriginal Ainu communities and their fight for recognition. Our bus facilitator will also give an insight into everyday life through all the seasons for the people now living in Hokkaido.

BUSH SEARCH AND RESCUE
CLOTH BADGE

A BSAR cloth badge in the distinctive BSAR colours is now available.

BSAR members and supporters can purchase a badge for \$12, posted.

Alternatively, clubs' BSAR delegates can obtain badges at BSAR committee meetings for \$10 each.



To order a badge, go to the BSAR website: www.bsar.org

On the left side of the home page, select **Orders**. Use the link to the badge order form.

Any questions? Contact orders@bsar.org

FORESTS FOREVER! ECOLOGY CAMP

Easter 2013
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- * EXPLORE old growth & rainforests
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For more information & bookings, contact Jill on (03) 5154 0102, email forestsforever@eastgippsland.net.au or visit www.eastgippsland.net.au





GDTA MACEDON-BUNINYONG LONG WALK, 2013

In 2013 the GDTA guided walks program includes 12 walks, beginning at the summit of Mt Macedon, through Daylesford, Creswick and Ballarat to the summit of Mt Buninyong, or nearly 175kms.

NOTES:

- GDTA walks will not be held on days of Total Fire Ban or in extreme weather (ie, expected temperature 35°C and over, or electrical/thunderstorm activity) or when planned burns are scheduled in the vicinity of the walk.
- Intending walkers must notify the leader by the Thursday preceding the walk.
- Walkers should be reasonably fit. All walks are rated Medium or Hard because of the terrain or distance.
- BYO first aid kit, sunscreen, plenty of water, food and protective clothing (hat, jacket etc)
- Walkers must be members of the GDTA (join via www.gdt.org.au) or a Victorian club affiliated with Bushwalking Victoria or be an individual Bushwalking Victoria members. Non-GDTA members will be required to show proof of current membership. A donation of \$3.00 will be collected at the beginning of each walk.

A celebration lunch will be held after the final walk.

Walkers who complete all 12 walks with the GDTA group will receive a Certificate of Completion.

Walkers who complete six or more walks with the GDTA group will receive a Certificate of Participation.

Dates

	Sunday	To/from	Leader /contact details for RSVP
1	17 February	Mt Macedon – Finger Post Road, 14kms	Richard 0448 572 867
2	10 March	Finger Post Road – Firth Road, 14kms	Richard 0448 572 867 Bill 0407 347 319
3	7 April	Firth Road – Blackwood, 14.5kms	Richard 0448 572 867
4	28 April	Blackwood – Nolan Creek Road, 14kms	Ed 0434 672 392
5	19 May	Nolan Creek Road – Leonards Hill Road, 15kms	Gib 0419 370 342
6	16 June	Leonards Hill Road – Lake Daylesford, 13.5kms	Ed 0434 672 392
7	7 July	Lake Daylesford – White Point Track, 14.5kms	Barry 5345 6343
8	28 July	White Point Track – Dingley Dell, 14kms	Neville 0418 558 278
9	18 August	Dingley Dell – St Georges Lake, 17.5kms	Bill 0407 347 319
10	8 September	St Georges Lake – White Swan Road, 13.5kms	Alison 0477 968 579
11	29 September	White Swan Road – Whitehorse Bridge, 15.5kms	Gib 0419 370 342
12	20 October	Whitehorse Bridge – Mt Buninyong ,13.5kms	Pat 0418 131 545

2013 NEST BOX WEEKENDS FOR RARE SPECIES

16/17 March 20/21 April 18/19 May 2013

The Regent Honeyeater Project's nest box program in the Lurg Hills near Benalla has been in operation for over 13 years. We invite you to join us as we do our annual monitoring work. 381 boxes already in place, with Squirrel Gliders and Sugar Gliders nesting in about 10% of them. We are also finding more and more stringybark nests of the rare Brush-tailed Phascogale; so we're hoping to see some of them face-to-face when we go checking this year.

Why do we need nest boxes?

The basic problem facing all of these animals is an extreme shortage of natural tree hollows, because the old trees were heavily cleared decades ago and the regrowth forests are still far too young to have many hollows.

New boxes to place

As well as checking the older boxes, we will be placing some new boxes to help the animals when they move around the district in search of better food reserves. This is especially critical for breeding females, as they need the best food to provide enough milk for their babies. The extra boxes will also provide crucial shelter for juvenile gliders when they leave their parents' territories at the start of the next breeding season.

Why check them every year?

Regular checking is important so that we can monitor the extent of local populations, the habitats they prefer, the breeding success of particular colonies, and barriers to their movement across the landscape.

We also need to get accurate reports of unwanted species (such as feral bees) taking over our boxes, so that we can remove them at a later date.

What do the results tell us?

Results from several years of monitoring have provided conclusive evidence that gliders need the fertile soils along creeks to breed successfully. Our records also show that gliders move out of the dry hills down to the creeks every summer, and they absolutely need continuous corridors of appropriate vegetation to do this safely. Each major break in the tree cover along roadsides or creeks is a serious barrier to glider populations. Isolated 'islands' of habitat have proven empty, because when gliders are taken by predators and there are no possibilities for replacement gliders penetrating the gap. Solid information like this makes it possible for us to know what needs doing and also where to do it to make the most difference.

Possum boxes for mistletoe control

We will also monitor 30 other boxes that have been specifically designed for Common Ring-tail and Brush-tail Possums. These boxes are all located where there is heavy mistletoe infestations to re-establish a population of these hungry possums as a natural biological control for mistletoe.

GPS fixes

Most of the box locations have been recorded by GPS so visiting groups can find the boxes more easily.

(You need to use GDA 1994 coordinates on your GPS to ensure you are at the correct nest box. Look for UTM/UTS WGS 84 in your GPS menu.)

Bush navigation

The nest box weekends provide an excellent opportunity for bushwalkers to practise their map-reading and navigation skills while looking for the nest boxes. The sites are all mapped on 1:25,000 contour maps and location instructions include access and location descriptions.



A family of Squirrel Gliders rest safely for the day in one of our nest boxes. The boxes are a virtual "motel chain" of safe havens all across the district.

Activities:

- Checking nest boxes to see the wildlife at home
- Recording data for our ongoing research investigations
- Sharing insights from our day's observations
- Spotlighting wildlife after dark (if suitable conditions)
- BBQ on Saturday night (BYO food and drink)

Meals:

- BYO lunch & drinks for Sat & Sun; we are out all day
- BYO food and drink for the Saturday-night BBQ

Accommodation:

- Free accommodation at Benalla Scout Hall
- Mattresses supplied
- BYO sleepingbag & pillow
- Minor kitchen facilities available
- BYO tent if you prefer to camp outside

Meeting:

- 9.30 am Sat DSE, Sydney Rd, Benalla
- 6.00 pm Sat BBQ at Lake Benalla, beside Shire Offices, Fawckner Dve, Benalla
- 9.00 am Sun DSE, Sydney Rd, Benalla

Personal gear:

- Sun screen, hat, sturdy shoes, long trousers
- Sock protectors or gaiters to keep out grass seeds
- GPS unit (if you have one) for easy location of boxes

Group gear:

Please let me know if you can bring any extra equip, eg:

- 5-6 metre extension ladder
- Roof rack & rope to carry ladder
- Tow ball to carry a ladder on a trailer.

Bookings:

Please let me know:

- The number of people expected
- Any of the extra group equipment you can supply.

Contact:

Ray Thomas
 Phone: (03) 57 611 515
 Email: ray@regenthoneyeater.org.au



Quietly, quietly. Who's there?

Do come and join us. It's the perfect opportunity to see these beautiful little animals up close, and the data collected will help us refine our habitat works.

It's also a great way to meet some new people, while you're all having some fun together in the great outdoors.

Ray Thomas
 Regent Honeyeater Project

**BUSHWALKING NEEDS YOU
 BECOME A BUSHWALKING VICTORIA BOARD MEMBER
 Make a Difference - Become Involved**

Bushwalking Victoria wants to hear from anyone interested in joining our dedicated and hard-working Board team. Vacancies are available now or at the AGM that will be held on Saturday 15 June.

While there are no specific skills, knowledge or experience required, people with experience and skills in areas such as business, management, marketing, education, training, IT or conservation are encouraged to consider.

The most important attributes for a Bushwalking Victoria Board member are:

- A passion for bushwalking
- A desire to make a difference
- Enthusiasm
- Open to new ideas
- A willingness to devote time and energy to promoting bushwalking and representing the interests of all bushwalkers.

The Board meets on the second Tuesday of each month from 5pm at Westerfolds Park in Templestowe. Anyone considering nominating is encouraged to attend a Board meeting or two.

More information on the role of the Bushwalking Victoria Board of Management and details of the current Board are available on the following page of the Bushwalking Victoria website:

<http://www.bushwalkingvictoria.org.au/governance.html>

If any of this appeals, or you know of someone with the skills and experience we are seeking, I'd love to hear from you.

Email president@bushwalkingvictoria.org.au or phone 9802 4449.

Chris Towers
 President, Bushwalking Victoria

BEEN WALKING?

Tell us about your bushwalks by completing our short survey.

Win Great prizes

www.wherewewalk.org.au (WWeW) is an initiative of Bushwalking Victoria to collect some basic data on bushwalking.

LATEST PRIZE WINNERS

We are delighted to announce that so far this year the following people have won prizes for entering details of their walks on WWeW:

- A Norman, Traralgon - Lowe clothing, supplied by Bogong Equipment
- K Dessent, Ivanhoe - EMC gift voucher and Snowgum drink bottle
- S Bastock, Heathcote Walkers - Petzl headtorch supplied by Snowgum
- J Counsell, Bendigo Bushwalkers - Steripen water purifier supplied by Snowgum
- P Mason, Boroondara BWC - Perseus Daypack and a tri-loop water bottle supplied by Snowgum
- B Piper, Ballan - \$25 gift voucher from EMC and a sports water bottle from Snowgum

Why is Bushwalking Victoria doing this?

There is no systematic collection of information on who is bushwalking, where people are walking or how often they are walking. The lack of data compromises Bushwalking Victoria's ability to advocate for better bushwalking and government funding to support bushwalking, including clubs.

The Survey

WWeW is a quick and simple online survey for **anyone who bushwalks in Victoria** to record basic details for **each and every bushwalk they undertake**, such as date, location, specific walk completed, distance and duration of walk and how many people were in the group. Walkers can also provide comments such as how they enjoyed the walk and any problems they experienced along the track. Suggestions for improvements or changes to the walking tracks will be passed on to the relevant land manager — ie. Parks Victoria or the Department of Sustainability and Environment.

WWeW is for anyone who bushwalks, so we also need as many non-club bushwalkers as possible complete the survey too please promote WWeW as widely as possible to friends, family, colleagues etc.

Clubs also have the option of using an Excel spreadsheet to record the required details which can then be emailed to Bushwalking Victoria. Walks reported using the spreadsheet will be included in the prize draw. Download the spreadsheet at

<http://www.bushwalkingvictoria.org.au/files/wherewewalkform.xls>

GREAT PRIZES

We have a great range of prizes to offer people who enter their walks on WWeW.

Winners are drawn randomly with weekly prizes awarded from October until May 2013. Bushwalking clubs are also eligible for the prizes and should a club be successful the prize will be sent to the club which can then decide how the prize is to be allocated within the club.

Major Prize

A \$400 Snowgum Caddis tent. This prize will be awarded after 31 May with all participants eligible to win.

Weekly Prizes

Our range of prizes include:

- Backpacks and water bottles (supplied by [Snowgum](#)), valued at \$70
- Items of Lowe clothing e.g. supplied by [Bogong Equipment](#), value varies with item types
- Vouchers (supplied by [Ajays Snow Country Sports](#) and [Eastern Mountain Centre](#)).
- Head torches - latest release Petzl Tikka2Plus, valued at \$74
- Steripen Emergency Handheld UV water purifier, valued at \$70
- Powermonkey Discovery Charger ,valued at \$90

Chris Towers, BWW President

Bushwalking Victoria gratefully acknowledges the generous support from our commercial and government sponsors for WWeW.



TRACK MAINTENANCE & CONSERVATION ACTIVITIES

Scheduled activities

<p>Kurth Kiln <u>Tuesday</u> 19 March 2103</p>	<p>Building steps on the Thornton Track. To register interest or for more information contact Charlie Ablitt at conservation@bushwalkingvictoria.org.au</p>
<p>Australian Alps Walking Track and Baw Baw feeder track clearing Fri 22-Mon 25 <u>March</u> 2013</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Note: New date</u></p>	<p>Join local Parks Victoria staff, Friends of Baw Baw National Park and the Strzelecki Bushwalking Club for a 4-day track clearing activity on the Baw Baw Plateau (Baw Baw NP). Come for the whole period or part. Participants are welcome for whatever time they can spare and there will be a variety of tasks to complete from very easy to arduous.</p> <p>The activity will focus on clearing the walking track network between Jeep Track Flat and the Baw Baw Alpine Resort, including a section of the AAWT across Mt St Phillack. This will further enhance walking opportunities in Baw Baw National Park following the completion of track works in the remote Mt Whitelaw area of the park in 2012.</p> <p>Parks Victoria will establish a base camp for this activity at Jeep Track Flat from early Friday 22 March 2013. Access to the base camp is via the St Gwinear car park or Baw Baw Village. Parks Victoria will provide all safety gear, fresh fruit, general consumables, energy food and all evening meals for participants who register an interest in attending. Ample water is also available at the base camp. Participants will need to bring their own camping gear, sturdy footwear and wet weather clothing.</p> <p>For further information or to register your interest in this activity, please contact the Parks Victoria Latrobe Ranger-in-Charge, Andy Gillham on 5172 2186, Mob 0428 333 464, Email agilham@parks.vic.gov.au</p>

Proposed track maintenance & conservation projects for 2013-14

The following is provided for information only. The Bushwalking Environment Committee has the following projects the early stages of planning. Dates and materials are being negotiated with the relevant land managers.

Falls Creek

The 2013 Australia Day long weekend event was cancelled due to fire risk. **Possible dates:** 2-3, 16-17 & 23-24 March or a weekend in April.

Wilson's Promontory

Track clearing and defining track from Five Mile Beach camping area to Three Mile Point. Probably 2 weekends of work. **Possible dates:** 4-5 May & 11-12 May.

Snake Island

Possible dates: a weekend in June, July or August.

Freemans Mill , northern section

Possible date: (Not available)

Alpine National Park, East Alps

Possible date: January 2014.

BEC field officer and other reports

compiled by Dave Rimmer, Manager BEC

Alpine, report by Jim Harker

A new toilet and five Tasmanian-style camping platforms have been built at Cope Hut.

State Forest Walking Tracks Project, report by Dave Rimmer

This project which was scheduled to run for four years was cancelled by the State Government, However, because some contracts had been issued, some tracks in the 'Walk into History' in the Powelltown area had to be finalised.

The work completed is on the Starling Gap to Ada No.2 Mill site. The Mill site has been upgraded to cater for camping. Some boardwalk has been built over previously boggy sections

I recently did an inspection, and the work done is very good, and should enhance the bushwalking experience.

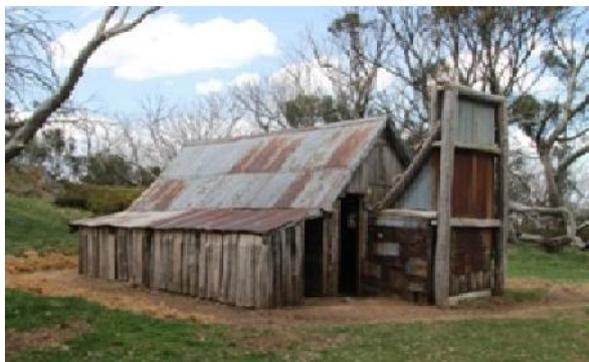
Wallaces Hut

Wallaces Hut has undergone repair work done in accordance with historical preservation techniques.

Cont next page

BEC field officer and other reports (cont)
Wallaces Hut (cont)

Parks Victoria funded the project and the work was carried out by the Victorian High Country Huts Association.



Wallace Hut

Mt Buangor SP, report by John Petheram

Ballarat Bushwalkers and Outdoor Club (BBOC) members have had a series of meetings with Parks Victoria about:

- The closed Cave Hill (Buckatillible) Track in the Mt Buangor State Park
- A project called 'Crossing Borders Tracks and Trails' in the Central Victoria forests which is being proposed by the local shires.

Following our work last year with Parks Victoria to re-open the first 800m section of Buchatillible from Middle Creek campsite to Cave Hill after fires and flood damage, we appealed to Parks to re-open the rest of the track which has great heritage and natural value.

We have made two official visits to survey the damage to the track, but Parks are still inclined to keep it closed, despite offers that club volunteers will do most of the work. We challenge their contention that the track work involved is too dangerous and the track is used too little to warrant re-opening within the scope of their budget. However, the BBOC membership is very determined and Parks have agreed to another reccy (and trial clearing day on part of the track), which is planned for April with Parks staff.

Wilson's Prom, report from Ian McKellar

The Mt Oberon and Telegraph Tracks were re-opened about 21 December. During the summer period the Telegraph Saddle car park is accessible only by the shuttle bus. The bus is also serving the major car parks - Lilly Pilly Gully, Squeaky Beach, Picnic Bay, Darby Saddle and Darby River.

The Telegraph Saddle to Sealers Cove track is still being reconstructed and will not be open for some time. Sealers Cove is accessible via Waterloo Bay and Refuge Cove; it is not yet part of a circuit walk.

Johnny Souey Camp and adjacent tracks are close to being open again, as is the Cotters Beach walking track.

The track from Chinaman Long Beach and Lighthouse Point, cleared by Bushwalking Victoria last year, needs continual use to keep it open. There could be scope for further work on the eastern end. Parks Victoria Ranger in Charge, Ben Robertson, is very appreciative of the work done by Bushwalking Victoria on the northern track

The popular Lighthouse accommodation is to have dedicated staff appointed.

**WORKING BEE:
 GRAMPIANS - ASSES EARS TRACK**

The second work bee on the Asses Ears Track attracted five workers: Linda, Helen, Mabel, Diane D and Coralie.

We worked without supervision from Parks Victoria this time, as the ranger had to fulfil a number of far-flung duties that day.

After picking up tools we set about clearing the top end of the track. In two hours, the marked track had been 'refreshed' clearly to the base of the summit. The northern end and the side track to the peak remain to be defined, but without direction from Parks we could do no more.

The Warrambool Bushwalker , Feb 2013



Photo: Linda, Helen, Mabel and Diane D (obscured) hard at work

The work bushwalking clubs do to assist land managers maintain and improve tracks & other facilities is important to the bushwalking community and needs to be better known.
 Tell us about the work you club is doing to improve the bushwalking environment. Send reports and images to the editor@bushwalking.org.au

**Bushwalking News Victoria
 Advertising Rates**

1/6 page advertisement	\$27.50	1/2 page advertisement	\$82.50
1/4 page advertisement	\$42.00	1/3 page advertisement	\$55.00
Full page advertisement	\$165.00		

Note: Advertisements must be artwork ready.
 * Advertiser to supply 300 printed inserts each edition.
 Advertising is welcome but insertion is subject to the editor's discretion.
 Products or services advertised in this publication are not endorsed or

BUSHWALKING VICTORIA AWARDS SCHEME



There are three types of awards:

- **Distinguished Service Award**
- **Special Recognition Award**
- **Club Special Anniversary Certificate.**

To mark the 75th anniversary of Bushwalking Victoria (BWW), there was an additional once-only award—the **Foundation Member Recognition Certificate.**

**DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD
(Gold or Silver)**

Eligibility:

- A member of an affiliate or associate club
- An individual member of BWW
- An affiliate club or an associate club

Categories:

- Gold: Special effort or contribution by an individual
- Silver: Special effort or contribution by a club

Selection criteria:

It must be demonstrated that nominees have through their bushwalking activities:

- Enhanced the development of recreational bushwalking walking in Victoria, and/or
- Significantly furthered the objectives of BWW, and/or
- Added value to the wider community in Victoria.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION AWARD (Bronze)

Eligibility:

Persons or organisations who may or may not be a BWW member but who have, through their activities, contributed to the advancement and recognition of recreational walking in Victoria.

Selection criterion:

It must be demonstrated that nominees have through their activities enhanced the development of recreational bushwalking walking in Victoria.

CLUB SPECIAL ANNIVERSARY CERTIFICATE

Eligibility:

- Member clubs at 25, 50, and thereafter every 5 years
- Must be a member of BWW at the time the anniversary is being celebrated

FORM OF RECOGNITION FOR AWARDS

- For clubs and other organisations: Presentation of a framed certificate
- For individual awards: Presentation of a framed certificate and a badge

GENERAL CONDITIONS

- A three-person selection panel that includes at least one BWW Board member who will chair the panel will assess nominations and present a recommendation to the BWW Board for approval. The BWW Board will have absolute authority to approve or decline to approve any nomination.
- No discussion or correspondence will be entered into with nominators or nominees regarding the BWW's Board's decision.
- Nominees must meet the eligibility requirements.
- Nominations must be in writing and signed by the nominators. Each nomination must address the relevant selection criteria and provide specific information about the activities and achievements of the nominee to assist the selection panel in assessing the nomination properly.
- Any two club members or individual members or a club committee can nominate an eligible person, club or organisation.
- The BWW Board may also make a nomination.
- Nominees for the Distinguished Service Award must be a financial member of BWW or a BWW club.
- Current BWW Board members and paid employees are ineligible.
- Nominees do not need to agree to be nominated. However, before awards are announced the BWW President will contact successful nominees (or their next of kin in the case of awards being made posthumously) to confirm that the award will be accepted.

GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR THE SELECTION PROCESS

- The panel will initially assess each nomination based on the information provided and how well that information addresses the selection criteria. However, the panel may request clarification or further information from the nominator or other persons.
- All nominations in a category will be assessed relative to each other as well as in relation to the selection criteria.
- Nominations received for a category does not mean that an award will be made automatically. It will still be assessed against the criteria and if necessary relative to previously successful nominations.
- Except for club anniversary awards, years of service alone is not enough to justify an award. The criteria look primarily at how the nominee has contributed in a special way. However, years of service could be taken into account when assessing the relative merits of similar nominations.

Who's Who at Bushwalking Victoria

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Office

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 Tuesday: 9.00am – 3.30pm
 Wednesday: 9.00am – 3.30pm

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 David Reid david@bushwalkingvictoria.org.au
 Terry Sydes terry@bushwalkingvictoria.org.au
 John Creaser john@bushwalkingvictoria.org.au

Standing Committees

Bush Search and Rescue Victoria: Peter Campbell
convener@bsar.org
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Standing committees (cont)

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Specialist Officers

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 Honorary Auditor and Accounting Consultant:
 Stephen Skaleskog
 Land Management Submissions: Phil Brotchie
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Representatives on Other Organisations

Bushwalking Australia:
 Victorian Delegate: Chris Towers
 Victorian Deputy Delegate: David Reid
 Please contact via the office

Organisations where BWV Members Provide a Bushwalking Perspective

Grampians Peak Trail Task Force: Phil Brotchie
 Living Links Steering Committee: Tony Walker



Bushwalking News Victoria

If undeliverable
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