

Bush Telegraph June 2007

Newsletter of the Locksley Bushwalking Club Inc. A1186C
LBC on the Federation of Victorian Walking Clubs Web page: www.vicnet.net.au/~vicwalk

Next Meeting Annual Dinner Wednesday 15 August (see below for details)

AGM:

Office bearers:

President:	Elizabeth Ainsworth
Treasurer:	Glenys Schubert
Trip secretary:	Andrew Lees
Newsletter Editor:	Peter Seligman (Grub)
Public officer:	Sue Richardson
Secretary:	Savita Hazari
Quartermaster:	Glenys Schubert
Vicwalk committee rep:	Barb Guerin
Committee member:	Sue Lees
Meeting secretary:	President, Elizabeth Ainsworth

Fees have not changed: single email \$30, family email \$60, single posted \$41, family posted \$71

Fees are now due and payable to:

**Glenys Schubert,
20 Hillside Road
Rosanna 3084
Tel 9459 5524**

UPCOMING TRIPS AND EVENTS

Moonee Ponds Creek Saturday 23 June

Leader: Peter Seligman 9337 9077

Meet: Johnstone St Reserve, Jacana, opposite Hillcrest Secondary College, **Melway Map 6 F8 at 10.30 am**

Following on from previous years' theme of exploring unknown reaches of Melbourne's creeks, this walk is not actually along the Moonee Ponds Creek but starts from it. We will head north through the Westmeadows Valley Park along an unnamed (by Melway) creek and then along the Yuroke Creek to the Greenvale Reservoir. This is one of Melbourne's dams and is currently 67.6% full. In the Reservoir Park we will climb to the lookout (Melway 179 B6).

Distance 8 km.

Bring: lunch and raingear.

A car shuffle will be required.

Urban Walk Saturday 14 July

The details of this walk are still being sorted out but we still plan to have a walk on that day.

Annual Dinner Wednesday 15th August

Where: Heidelberg RSL corner Mount and Yarra St Heidelberg.
Time: 7pm onwards.
What: A la carte menu, basic "club" style food. Drinks at bar prices.
No BYO!
Attendance: Please let me know by Monday 13th at the latest so I can adjust numbers up or down.
Elizabeth 94597891

Day walk Saturday August 25th.

Leader: Elizabeth Ainsworth 94597891
Where: Cranbourne Botanical and Australian Native Gardens.
Entry off South Gippsland Highway Ballarto Rd.
Mel: Map 133 A10 (signed). Park Stringybark picnic area.
Mel: Map 134 K12.

Meet: Banyule Council car park behind the Rosanna library 8AM for car pooling
Entry off Douglas St. Mel: 32 A1

Plan: Meander about 5-6 kms around the Botanical Gardens.
This is mixed native vegetation including an interesting man made lake/drainage system.

Return to the cars for lunch and then walk to the Native Gardens.
There is an entry fee of \$6.75: \$9.00.
Enjoy a lemon myrtle tart before going home.

Federation walks 21 October

The 2007 Federation Walk is a Bushwalking Victoria activity and is being hosted by Diamond Valley and Koonung Bushwalking Clubs. It will be a single day event based in Healesville.

The walks program will be available on the Bushwalking Victoria website (http://www.vicwalk.org.au/fed_walks.htm). Detailed descriptions of the walks should be available on the website within the next month or so.

To minimize congestion at the start of Federation Walk Day it is planned that all walkers should submit their registration and walk preferences via their Club's Federation Walk Coordinator by 21 September 2007. Walkers will be booked into walks in the order of their registrations being received by the organizing committee. When a walk is fully booked, walkers will be allocated to their second preference wherever possible. Under this scenario, where a walker does not indicate a 2nd or 3rd preference they will be allocated to another walk of similar length and grading.

Club Federation Walk Coordinators are asked to mail their Club's registration form together with their cheque, made out to "Koonung Bushwalking Club", for payment so that it is received by 21 September.

Registration

Cost	\$15.00	
	\$20.00	for registrations on the day of the Federation Walk (21 October)

Further Information

Fred Bover email fbover@ozemail.com.au
For information regarding accommodation in Healesville see www.visitarravalley.com.au

TRIP REPORTS

Kinglake day walk 19 May.

Sue was not impressed as I resolutely drove past the St Andrew's Market without stopping on the way out to Kinglake.

I could see her telling me to leave her there and pick her up at the end of the walk.

We did the Mt Everard circuit which was a good 16km walk with a few decent climbs to get the blood flowing. The weather was fair and raincoats were not required (except by Sim who had every piece of clothing in her wardrobe on).

It is mainly dry forest with occasional views out over the surrounding valleys. Close to Melbourne but with a feel of being out in the bush.

Parks Victoria has put in a fancy warm and fussy notice board about butterflies and the like that inhabit the area. Interesting, but would it have been better to spend the money on protecting them?

I guess that they are trying to encourage people to get out into the bush but perhaps it is the bush that people go to see and not notice boards. What do LBCers think?

It was good to see a new couple on a walk – Robert and Nina, along with Sim, Sue and me - Andrew.

Pink Lakes June 9-11

The Mallee is greener than New Zealand!

Rolling hills of newly shooting bright green wheat were everywhere as we drove up on Friday afternoon. Pools of water beside the road were not unknown.

On arrival at Pink Lakes, the sand dunes there were green also, and the Lakes full of water. Apparently the area has had a lot of rain in the last few weeks.

The next surprise was the camp ground. It was full of camper trailers and pop-tops. In fact we were the only site not to have one. Apparently the whole of Australia is now travelling around the country in these cocoons. I must add that we did not see much evidence of them venturing very far from their hideouts, and we hardly saw anyone out walking.

I think that Howard and Elizabeth should be required to come on all future base camps so we can have a camper trailer in our site as well.

Saturday AM was cold. Pack ice on the car roof and spherical slow moving bodies looking enviously at the other sites with insulated campervans. 2 hours to have breakfast and get ready for the day's walk.

Actually there was a beautiful blue sky and the sun soon warmed us up as we strolled along the western shore of Lake Crosbie. A few relics of an old Tramway reminded us of Connex trains in Melbourne.

A mysterious 'revegetation area' had a fence around it that had been carefully designed to let rabbits and most other animals in. It looked identical to the surrounding area.

Lake Becking was the next stop. This is perhaps the most beautiful of the 3 main lakes and was also the pinkest. The colour is due to Beta carotene (carrot stuff) produced by algae in the water.

Around all the lakes is evidence of old salt mining including big mounds of salt which have gone rock hard and old rusty bits and pieces.

After beckoning farewell to this lake we had our 1st bit of X country that all desert walks are famous for. This led us out to 'SaltBush Flat' which is self explanatory.

We then wheeled around and headed to the south through typical Mallee forest then on into open plains which hid another lake called L Roulten. Here the kids X 3 showed us how to walk on water (and mud).

Finally back past a very cute small lake to camp finished a great day's walk. Some unconcerned Mulga parrots let Grub in close with the long zoom for a wonderful close up of their beautiful greens, yellows, blues and reds.

Sunday was the space walk. Designed from a Google Earth photo and navigated almost entirely by GPS.

It was a very misty morning, which gradually dispersed as we drove 20km into the Park to the Mt Crozier area. Over a long day, a wide variety of vegetation types was traversed. Birdie highlights were a flock of Major Mitchell Cockatoos flying over head then a frolic of Red Caped Robins dancing around only metres away from us.

The mighty Mt Crozier (110m above sea level and 40m above the surrounding country) was scaled, without oxygen, at the end of the day for panoramic views of the "mallee seas".

Unfortunately the steep descent finished a few of our party off. (Not the kids who thought this was the best part of the trip).

However, red wine therapy seemed to have a positive effect on the weary body parts of the victims that evening.

Monday morning it was showers, drizzle and mist – just like Melbourne’s weather.

Reduced numbers did a stroll around to Lake Kenyon not far from the camp ground. We visited the ‘Salt Museum’ on the way to learn how lucky we are not to be labourers in the good old days (or a horse or camel for that matter). Pink Lakes is one of the most interesting parts of the Mallee. It is quite degraded in many ways from the effects of the salt mining and grazing etc but the lakes really are still very special, and the surrounding country is full of variety.

I bet it will be absolutely spectacular this spring with the breaking of the drought.

Walkers were: Grubs X 2, B&L, Glenys, Alex, Lawrence (apprentice GPSer) and friend ‘big Andrew’, Greg & Vicki, Sim (on her 1st desert w/e) and receiver of all complaints - Andrew.

PROPOSED LBC PROGRAMME

Date	Location	Activity	Grade	Leader	Telephone
June 23 Sat	Moonee Ponds Ck	Day walk	Easy	Grub	9337 9077
July 14 Sat	City discovery	Day walk	Easy	? David	9827 8775
July 22 Sun	Firth Park loop	Day Walk		GDTA - Barb	9859 5945
August 8 Wed	Heidelberg RSL	Dinner			
August 11	Cobblers Gully Chewton	Day walk		GDTA - Barb	9859 5945
August 25 Sat	Cranbourne/Lysterfield	Day walk	Easy	Elizabeth	9459 7891
Sept 8-9	St Arnaud	Base camp		Barb/ Elizabeth	9859 5945
Sept 14 Fri		General meeting			
Sept 22-23	Grampians	O/n walk	Medium		
October 12 Fri		Committee meeting			
October 21 Sun	Fed walk Healesville	Day walk	Medium	Grub	9337 9077
Nov 3-6 Cup w/e	Mt Eccles	Base camp	Easy	Neil	9458 3317
Nov 9 Fri		General meeting			
Nov 17-18	Alpine	O/N	Medium		
Dec 1-2	Phillip & French Is	Day walks	Medium	Elizabeth	9459 7891
Dec 7 Fri		Xmas BBQ			

COMING ON A WALK?

Please let the trip leader know personally as soon as possible. Day walks by the Tuesday before and weekend walks at least a week in advance.

A FEW IMPORTANT THINGS THAT NEED TO BE DONE ON WALKS.

We need to do a couple of simple things on walks.

1. Visitors and “non members” need to be signed up as *Temporary Members* and sign an *Acknowledgment of risk* form before going on a walk with us. These forms will be E mailed to all and sundry so they will be readily available and the trip leaders need to have with them for each walk.
2. Trip leaders need to have a list of all participants on the walk and their emergency contact details. The list of walkers needs to be sent to the Newsletter Editor with the trip report or given to the Club Secretary – Savita - at some stage after the walk.

Newsletter Editor: Peter Seligman

Please send all the reports, trip details etc to lbc@seligman-family.net

Please forward contributions by 25th of the month.