

The Mitchell Walker ID

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Issue 85
Mitchell Walking Group is a program of Broadford Living
& Learning Centre inc. 158-160 High St, Broadford 3658
June 2021

Sunday 6th June. Silver Light Circuit - Flowerdale . Nine walkers including a potential new member. We were all delighted to be out and about as we headed off in convoy to Flowerdale .

The forest provided a misty ambience and some light drizzle. There was a proliferation of fungi and wildflowers on display so lots of photos were snapped on the way. This provided us with lots of excuses to stop and marvel, on the way up the many up sections of the track.

We stopped for lunch beside a pretty cascade. The temperature was only 8 degrees. Paul was joined by a leech who wanted to enjoy a snack as well. Mary treated us all to homemade biscuits.

After lunch the track was more overgrown, and we needed to push through light undergrowth. We heard lyrebirds calling but no one spotted them.



The highlight of the day came when we finally made it back to the cars where Kerry delighted us with a scrumptious lemon curd cake. It was much appreciated by all.

We walked approximately 14 km. Thanks to Tony for leading the walk, and Mary and Kerry for the treats.

(Report by Yvonne.)



Sunday June 20th. Black Range/ Goldie Reserve.

On a cold, gloomy morning our party consisting of Mary, Fred, Yvonne, John & Fadia, Paul, Marg, Fran, Rene and Snoopy (a very energetic Jack Russell) set off on our walk through the Black Range and Goldie Reserve.

The walk started on private property along an undulating track. As we walked the gloom lifted and the sun actually came out, making it pleasant walking weather.

Due to recent rain, the creeks were flowing and at one stage we had to rock-hop across one that would normally be only a trickle.

After climbing through a couple of fences, we started our climb through thicker forest heading for Mount Goldie. We were treated to fabulous views across to Mount Piper and the Pyalong area.

As Mary and Rene weren't too sure of the terrain, they decided to act like Hansel and Gretel, but tying pink ribbons to trees rather than by dropping bread crumbs, so we could find our way back down the steep hills. Some of us were better than



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others at spotting them! Pink proved to be a very fortuitous colour as Fran's pink phone must have fallen out of her pocket as she was climbing over one of the many fallen trees. Hundreds of trees had been uprooted and branches snapped off during the storm the week before our walk. Once Fran re-

realised her pink phone (perhaps her granddaughter chose that colour?) it was decided some of our group would continue on, while Fran, Margaret and Mary backtracked to look for it. Fortunately, Fran did find the phone. Not sure if it was the bright pink colour or the constant ringing that revealed its hiding spot.

While Fred, John and Yvonne pushed on up towards the top of Mount Goldie, the rest of us pulled the pin and decided to stop for lunch. It was almost 2:00 pm so we found a spot amongst the bracken in the sunshine, and enjoyed the fabulous view while munching on our long-awaited lunch. We also summoned those that had gone ahead to return to us. They hadn't quite make it to the top of the mountain but as it was getting quite late we decided to head back. Our walk back was quite steep and once again there were all those fallen trees to climb over or detour around. Thank goodness for the pink ribbons or we might have taken a wrong turn. We were rather tired by the time we got back to our cars. Even Snoopy had started to slow down.



What Mary had called a "moderate" walk, some of us rated "hard", mainly due to all the fallen trees and debris on the steep tracks.

Depending on who's phone you believe, we walked either 13 or 16 kilometres by the time we reached the cars. It was dark when we got home, but nevertheless a very enjoyable day. Thank you to Mary and Rene for organising (Report by Fran and Marg.)



Other news:

Mitchell Bushwalking Group has been fortunate to receive \$500 of extra funding from Bushwalking Victoria to promote ourselves and our activities. This is to offset the negative effects that Covid has had on our recruitment and membership. Thanks to Bushwalking Victoria for the funding and Fred for his efforts in successfully applying for it. Part of the money has been spent setting up a web site, which you can now view at: www.mitchellbushwalkers.org. Some more has purchased a mobile billboard which we will have to all look out for, around our Shire and at walk venues.

The group is also planning to purchase a sign to be set up at walks and at promotional events that we attend.



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Upcoming Walks.

Sunday July 18th. Wombat MTB Trail loop #1. A 9.8 km. loop in the Wombat State Forest near Bul-lengarook. Leader Fred. More details closer to the date.

Sunday August 1st. Black Range near Lancefield. Yvonne will be leading another walk in the Black Range area, from the opposite end of the range to the walk done by our group on June 20th. It will be about 10 km. and easy/medium level of difficulty. (Note: The Cobaw Nudist Walk, as planned last month, could not go ahead because there are too many trees down across the path.)

Sunday 15th August. Warrenbayne walk in the Benalla area. More information to follow. Leader Fred.

Sunday 29th August. Malmsbury town walk and Ellis Falls, A 10.2 km walk along the Campaspe River and taking in the botanical Gardens and cemetery. Leader will be Paul. More information closer to the date.

French Island. October 8th-10th. Yes, it's on again and you need to be quick. French Island is a magical place; so close and yet so surprising and unknown. We're looking at the weekend of October 8th, 9th and 10th, providing there are no unexpected Covid outbreaks to prevent it.

Camping is probably not going to be an option, as it is only available as overflow, when the cabins and dorms are full. Expect to pay \$70+ pp. which includes a continental breakfast. Prices seem to have gone up so maybe the facilities have improved too? The whole island is off-grid which keeps costs and prices up.

Anyway. It's a real experience and not to be missed if you've never been there before. In spring you'll probably see the baby koalas too. Contact Kerry by phone or text if you would like to be included. Her contact number is 0408 126 411. **NOTE THE DEADLINE TO BOOK IN, IS WEDNESDAY JULY 14TH** Kerry will need 50% of the cost as a non-refundable deposit to confirm the booking, so timing may be tight.

We have had a long and detailed response from the proprietors of the French Island Eco Inn accommodation, about facilities and opportunities on the island, which Kerry or I could forward to you on request. It's too long to include here.

November 12-13-14-15 Federation walks: Licola area high country. A combination of day walks and overnight. More later.

Next Planning Meeting. Monday 2nd August at the Prince of Wales Hotel in Seymour. (aka The Prince) at 6.00 pm. Meeting before meal or vice versa, depending on the venue's preferences.

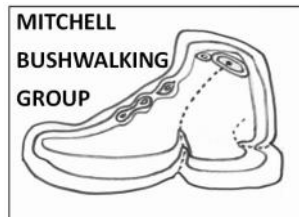
Note that we will need to plan for the election of office bearers, possibly at the September planning meeting. Please consider putting yourself up or accepting a position if invited by one of our members. It's all pretty low key. Let's share the work and get some fresh blood and ideas into the committee as we move forward.

John Brissett (Editor)

**** See Membership application form on the next page.**

Mitchell Bushwalking Group

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION



<i>Contact details may be made available to leaders for the purpose of organising trips.</i>			
Name:	M / F Year born:		
Email:			
Postal Address:			
Phone:	Home:	Mobile:	Work:
Emergency Contact:	Name:	Mobile:	
Do you hold a Level 2 First Aid Certificate? Y / N		Date of qualification:	
Brief description of bushwalking/outdoor experience:			

Acknowledgement of Risk – Please read and sign (all members over 18 years must sign)

I am aware that my voluntary participation in any activity of this club may expose me to risks that could lead to injury, illness or death, or to loss of, or damage to, my property. These risks include, but are not limited to, slippery and/or uneven rocks, dislodged rocks, cliffs, exposure to weather and whiteout conditions, falling and hypothermia.

To minimize these risks I will endeavour to:

- Ensure that any activity I participate in is within my capabilities;
- Carry appropriate food, water and equipment for the activity;
- Advise the leader if I am taking any medication, or have any physical or other limitation which might affect my participation; and
- Make every effort to remain with the group during the activity and accept the instructions of the leader.

I have read and understood these requirements and have considered the risks before choosing to sign this Acknowledgement of Risk. I accept that in signing this form I will take responsibility for my own actions.

Name:	Signature:	Date:
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OFFICE USE ONLY	Receipt No:	Database updated Date:
Membership No:	Receipt issued Date:	Email notification sent Date:

The club membership year is 1st April 2017 to 30th March 2018. New members January-March pay half the annual subscription. Annual membership, which covers insurance through Bushwalking Victoria, is **currently under review**. For further information please email: mitchellwalksgroup@gmail.com

* This form could be posted with a cheque to **Secretary, Mitchell Bushwalking Group, c/o PO Box 76, Broadford 3658** OR Scanned and sent electronically to mitchellwalksgroup@gmail.com The membership fee could be paid via bank transfer to **Mitchell Bushwalking Group** at Bendigo Bank. The BSB number is **633-000** Account number: **160294047** Please write your surname in the details.