

The Mitchell ^{ID} Walker

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A membership application form is on page 4.

Issue 94

August 2022

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

Two walk reports this month, plus Upcoming and future walks. Special thanks to first-time walker, Bec, who volunteered to write the Euroa walk report for us. (Editor)

Fryerstown to Vaughn Springs. Sunday. 14th August 2022.

6 walkers headed off to complete a short section of the Goldfield walking trail on an overcast day. A car shuffle was needed with one car at Fryerstown and one at Vaughn Springs. The Vaughn Springs couple were to complete a shorter circuit with a plan to meet up with the Fryerstown town group later in the afternoon. The walk from Fryerstown to Vaughn Springs passes through old mine shafts and sluicing gullies with pleasant scenery along a well marked track. Scattered showers persisted all day although we still saw plenty of green hills and golden wattle trees dotting the landscape.



Lunch was at the Vaughn Springs picnic area situated beside the Loddon River. The track from the Springs over the Loddon is the prettiest section of the walk then back into the gold mining sites and old relics from those days. The Tubal Cain Hillside Chimney is the most interesting remaining relic (for more information on this feature and the area check out the Friends of Mt Alexander diggings website). We met up with our other walkers who covered some other areas of the park and returned to the Springs.

Thanks, Mary, for leading.
(Report by Yvonne)



Euroa walk, 28th August 2022.

After organising ourselves into as few cars as possible, 12 walkers set off from Broadford, being Marg (leader) and John, Mary, Yvonne, Pia and K9 Bella, Paul, Fred, John and Judy, Fran, Hayley and newcomers Bec and



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Kerryn.

Arriving at Euroa Arboretum, we were all a bit too excited and headed off in various directions before our leader, Marg, arrived. Sorry Marg! Having all come back together at the Arboretum's meeting circle, we went for a lap around the wetlands which were full. The glorious purple of the Hardenbergia in flower was a notable highlight.

We then headed to Seven Creeks Park BBQ area behind Euroa's main street. From here, we walked south-easterly along Seven Creeks, passing the caravan park towards Balmattum Hill. The group was enjoying much chatter and marvelled at one garden so full of cherry blossom trees it looked like it was snowing!

Balmattum Hill is 168m of 'up', so some of the group waited in the rotunda near the bottom taking in views of the Strathbogie Ranges. Halfway up the hill is a pile of rocks carried up and down by soldiers during training drills for WWII. The enormous granite boulders protruding from the earth are spectacular in their colours, having been weathered over time.

The eastern side of Balmattum Hill was burnt by fire in January 2020. The white, grey and red box gum trees are regenerating, with the juvenile round leaves bigger than my hand! (See photo on the right). Most joyfully, there were a variety of wattle species exploding with their yellow flowers and sweet scent announcing spring is imminent!

Those who made it to the top (well done!) were rewarded with views of Euroa township, a flowering canola field and a passing mob of kangaroos. After descending Balmattum Hill, we walked back to the BBQ area along the other side of the creek.



Our lunch stop was at Seven Creeks Park BBQ area. It is a most lovely spot to enjoy lunch above the small weir, surrounded by a carpet of the greenest grass, and umbrellaed in dappled light by the canopy of the giant gum trees. Fortunately, the BBQ area had tables in full sun for us to enjoy whilst we ate, drank and made merry conversations.



After lunch we headed along the north-eastern section of Seven Creek, Hayley and Mary coaxing a 'toot toot' from the miniature train passing. As we turned off the end of the creek path to detour through Euroa's main street, we passed the 'swaggie's tree' in which (yes, 'in'!) travelling swagmen would shelter. We then wandered the grounds of the old Euroa Butter Factory. Ceasing butter production in the early 1950's, it's now used for weddings etc, but the lovely building remains with groomed gardens and veggie patch. We also admired the old, ornate bank and pharmacy buildings.



On the way back to the cars, we walked via Euroa's main street, stopping at a café for coffee, cake and ice



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cream. With so many of us, the staff, weary from a busy weekend, managed to accidentally produce some extra orders of coffee, biscuits and toasted sandwiches which they gave us 'on the house' as it was the end of the day before pack up. We gratefully shared them out amongst the group before we waddled back to the cars for the drive home. By the end, we'd walked just over 13km according to Fred's app tracking our walk.

(Report by Bec.)

Upcoming walks * ** Please note that these are proposed walks, and may change. A final announcement with meeting arrangements will always be emailed out a few days before each walk.

Sunday 11th September. Yea Wetlands. A guided tour of the Yea wetlands, followed by a cuppa with scones and cream at the Tourist Information Centre. Some may wish to extend the day by walking the rail trail from Yea towards Homewood afterwards.

The tour has been booked for 10. You may be able to add yourself to the group if you ring Mary, on **0428 479 469**. The cost is \$15.00 pp. and you will need to be at the Yea Tourist Information Centre by 10.30 am.

If coming from Kilmore, meet at the Kilmore library car park by 9.30 am, to meet the Broadford group by 9.50 am, at the Living and Learning Centre.

Sunday 25th September. "Cascades" at Murrindindi. Leader Paul. More information to follow.

7/8/9th October. Ottways weekend. This looks like being a great weekend, visiting many of the local attractions, including Hopetoun Falls, Redwood forest, Beauchamp Falls, Ottway Fly, Stevenson Falls, Triplet Falls etc. Accommodation is available at the Beechy Hotel at Beech Forest, see website thebeechyhotel.com. You will need to book your own accommodation there, and the contact number is **03 5235 9220**.

Ring or text Yvonne on 0407 509 633 by September 30th, if you wish to go, or have questions about this weekend.

23rd October. Mt Charlie, near Gisborne. Leader Paul. More information to follow.

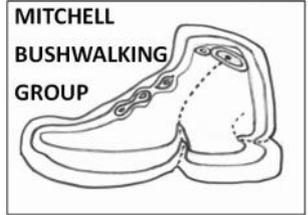
Saturday 3rd December. Christmas breakup BBQ. Mark it on your calendars now so you don't double book.

Upcoming Planning meeting. The next planning meeting, should be held on Monday 3rd October, but will need to be confirmed.

(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:	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 August 2022 to 31st July 2023. New members May –August pay half the annual subscription. Annual membership, which covers insurance through Bushwalking Victoria, is **currently \$35.00** . For further information please email: mitchellwalksgroup@gmail.com

* This form could be posted with a cheque to **Secretary, Mitchell Bushwalking Group, 3 Hibiscus Court, Kilmore, 3764** 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 section.