

The Mitchell ID Walker

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A membership application form is on page 5.

Issue 96

October 2022

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

Sorry. This newsletter is rather late. It was going to be combined with November but I have recently been forwarded some more reports and have decided to keep the newsletters separate. November's will be out soon. Ed.)

Otways Walks Weekend: October 7th, 8th & 9th.

Walkers: Paul (tour guide), Yvonne & David, Wayne McG, Tony & Sue, Valerie, and Mary.

Friday 7th October. We all arrived at different times, some of us driving through a very challenging rain event on the Ring road and the Geelong Rd. The windscreen wipers were working at full steam, and we were only just seeing the road. Not a particularly fun time, at this stage. However, we all made up for it during the rest of the weekend.

The **Art Studio Café** became the go-to place at Beech Forest. With its old record player, and a great array of LPs to choose from, it was Val who offered to act as DJ and carefully positioned the needle on the records.

Paul walked **the Treetop Walk**, where he had some swaying to contend with, especially after some of the wiggly roads he had been on. After settling into the Beechy hotel, we went off to walk the Beauchamp falls. It was a specular waterfall, and set the tone for the weekend, as we were able to get to the bottom of it and clamber around it enjoying the ambience of the falls.

Table service for our evening meal was slow, but we all know that everywhere businesses are short staffed. When we finished eating, we set off for a brisk evening walk with the moon guiding our steps some of the time. We came to a cutting and were delighted with the glow worms. How stunning are these little fellows. David (entomologist) filled in our knowledge gaps on glow worms. We strolled for quite some time enjoying the many glow worms on show. They really are worth going back to see again!

Saturday 8th October. We headed off to the **Californian Redwoods**. What an amazing place this is! There is no under story, it is all pine needles, and trees reaching for the sky. Breathtaking! These trees are slow growing, so we can be thankful for the forethought of previous generations for us to enjoy. There was much discussion on the different redwoods present, but issues were not resolved.

Hopetoun Falls were close by. We were able to get down to the bottom of these falls, the mist creating ambience, along with the roar of the water coming down. Did you know that foam is caused but certain gum leaves rubbed together? The indigenous people used them for soap. A Val gem.



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Congram Falls are not on the official list, but we went exploring anyway. This involved some very tricky parking. Well done drivers. We didn't walk far before we found the falls. It was off track, and very slippery and boggy, so great caution was required. Another great find, thanks to Paul.

Back to that coffee shop, and the record player. Some of those metal-heads went for the heavy stuff.

Triplet Falls: We came to the triplet falls, after exploring some of the old equipment used for timber milling, and steam boilers. We met a group of Asian girls, heavily into photography, and we all learnt a lot. How many poses can one do for the same photograph? I really don't know.

After our lunch and taking some photos ourselves, we were off and away to find the **Little Aires Falls**. This was a delightful walk, more on the forest floor. Yvonne found the black snail that is specific to this area. We met a group of English tourist at the falls, but otherwise we had the place to ourselves. These falls were stunning. We could see the little creek and the water flowing towards us, then down over the falls. We saw so many tree ferns and they often formed arch ways for us the walk beneath.

Back at the Pub: Paul and I went for a town walk. We saw the old butter factory flooring, a plaque to the Bush Nursing Center, and Cliff Young's rubber boot as a statue. Cliff was 61 yrs. old when he won the Sydney to Melbourne marathon.

Sunday. 9th October. A windey drive toward Forrest. We called in at **Stephenson Falls**, with a beautiful walk through the redwoods again, but also blue spruce. and our magnificent mountain ash was never too far away. We had these falls mostly to ourselves. We were doing well as there were many people around, including campers. We were very lucky.

We went into Forrest for another coffee and a snack. They made delightful chia tea. ++. I think everyone was happy with what they ordered.

Off to **Lake Elizabeth** to see if we could find a platypus or two and enjoy some classic reflections. Lake Elizabeth was a wonderful walk; gentle most of the walk and again those tree ferns were stunning. No platypuses were found, but not for the lack of trying. We had lunch after walking the circumference of the lake. I would recommend this walk to anyone. It's an easy walk but take water with you and allow time to enjoy the wonders.

Thanks to one and all for coming and sharing this weekend, Yvonne and David gave their camper a road test and it came up trumps. Lots of fun and laughs.

(Report by Mary)

Mt Charlie, near Gisborne. Sunday 23rd October. Unfortunately, this walk was cancelled a day or two before it was due to be held, because of a dire weather forecast, and the possibility of road closures and flooding in the area. Instead a local walk was popped in at the last minute to replace it. Mary was keen to get out and she had checked out the lay of the land before suggesting it. The replacement walk was

Goldie Reserve. 23rd October.



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The group had had a walk planned in the Gisborne area. At the time, the weather was impacting on many walks and wind conditions were a major factor so the walk was cancelled. But there were a few walkers that had itchy feet and just needed to get out between the rain and wind events, so we headed for the Goldie reserve. We did a 10 km loop, with a bit of a steep section, walking past an abandoned vehicle that created quite some discussion. No conclusions, mind you. Rene, Yvonne and I carried our overnight packs for some training. Rene and Yvonne are soon heading for the Grampians for a 12-day walk.



The weather held well, though we spend some time stepping around puddles, and the choirs of frogs were a delight.

We headed back along McGraths lane, with the Number 3 Creek running well, and some more very big puddles to get around. We also saw some beautiful gardens along the Old Lancefield–Kilmore Road, which Fran and Rene would have loved to have explored.

A lovely morning out for Fran, Yvonne, Rene, and Mary.

(Report by Mary)

Planning Meeting. Monday 7th November. This was held at the Broadford Living and Learning Centre, and numbers were down due to some people being away, and others being too ill to attend.

Present were Fran, Mary, Tony, Arthur, Kerry, Yvonne & Rebecca.

Apologies were from Fred & Sandra, Paul Bramich, Rene Reynolds and John & Marg Brissett.

President, Fran, opened the meeting and welcomed those present.

Minutes had been distributed by email.

Business arising from the past meeting included a reminder that although walkers are covered by accident insurance, **THEY ARE NOT COVERED FOR AMBULANCE COSTS.** That is the responsibility of the individual walkers. After future walks had been determined, supper was served and Mary showed slides of Mason's Falls and the Otways camp weekend.

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 6th November Kinglake and Masons Falls. More later.

Saturday 19th November. Mary will be leading a walk in the Heathcote area. She has not finalized the details, but it will be planned to fit the skills and wishes of those attending. This will be the last walk for the year. We always finish up the Sunday day-walks program before the end of the year because the weather heats up, and because people tend to be busy doing other things in December.

Note that this walk is on a Saturday.

******* Mary has asked me to send out an early notice about a 5-day hike she is organizing, including Dibbing hut, Young's hut and beyond. She plans to drive up to the High Country on **Sunday 8th January** and camp at Harrietville, before starting the walk on Monday 9th January. The walk is still being worked out but if it sounds like something you'd like to do, please text her on 0428 479 469. She will get back to you, but not for a few days.

Friday 9th December. Christmas breakup. Notification about this has gone out separately.

March 2023. The Rubicon weekend camp and walks has been postponed until March 2023, and will be held in conjunction with Echuca Bushwalkers. More later.

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SUMMER EVENING TWILIGHT WALKS PROGRAM: During January we conduct shorter evening walks in the local district, on Wednesday evenings. These are expected to be:

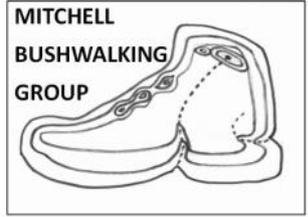
- ***Wednesday 4th January. Say G'day walk in Wandong. Leader Paul.*** More details closer to the walk.
- ***Wednesday 11th January. Broadford Town Walk. Leader Arthur.*** More details closer to the walk.
- ***Wednesday 18th January. Monument Hill. Kilmore. Leader Rebecca.*** More details closer to the walk.
- ***Wednesday 25th January. Lighthouse Memorial Park. Seymour. Leader to be announced.*** More details closer to the walk.

(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.