

# The Mitchell ID Walker

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Issue 77

June 2020

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

*A very short edition this month, with just one walk report. We have only one more walk planned currently, and that is the Avenel walk on Sunday June 7th. (Details inside) Planning meetings will not be restarted until we receive permission from Mitchell Shire to use the Centre. A Planning Zoom Meeting may be the solution before then? (Ed.)*

## **Trawool. Sunday May 31<sup>st</sup>.**



“Cold and windy, with a chance of showers.” It wasn’t great news for our first walk together after weeks of lockdown. However, it was great to think we would be able to start our walking program again, albeit with a few added restrictions to keep us all safe.

John Miller had agreed to take us on a tour of a new section of his family’s farm at Trawool. We have had several walks over the years on the original property and they have always been popular.

We knew the climb and the views would be similar this time, and worth the effort. The newly acquired land does not have any wind turbines on it, but the Cherry Tree Wind Farm is on adjacent land, and we knew they would be close by and visible to us.

Arriving in separate cars, we were met by John at the farm



gate, where we filled in the requisite paperwork for Bushwalking Victoria and for animal husbandry tracking records.

Expecting a long hard climb to the top of the ridge, it was good news that the first kilometre or so was fairly gradual; a good way to prepare for what was to follow. Most of the walk was on 4-wd tracks, so we were climbing, but not too steeply. After a few

minutes rest in a saddle, we took a detour to a new high-point from where the wind turbines were visible in the distance. There were fantastic views in all directions from up there. Such beautiful country!

Returning to the saddle, we headed off in another direction; another climb along a fairly steep ridge. The views continued to impress but there was a cold wind blowing and we were very happy to shelter behind a small hill to

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eat our lunch. Maintaining our social distancing, we chatted about our lives during the lockdown and plans for future walks.



After lunch there was yet another incline which took us closer to the turbines that we'd been viewing from a distance. Then the gradual descent began. With less huff and puff we were better able to appreciate the beauty of the countryside around us. There are some fabulous specimen trees but unfortunately, the new property also has quite a bit of Patterson's curse. It looks attractive and is valued by beekeepers, but it will keep the family busy when they start trying to eradicate it.

Back in the valley again, we passed a beautiful, spring-fed dam, where John said he would like to one day build himself a small home. Suitably isolated, and with great views, it appeared to be an ideal

location to enjoy nature while being not too far from the rest of his family.

Thanks to everyone who came on the walk, and to John who led it and made it possible.

*(Report by John B.)*



**Next Planning Meeting:** The Living and Learning Centre is closed for non-essential services and all meetings are cancelled until further notice. Hopefully, we'll be able to get back into the Centre for our July meeting, but this will need to be confirmed.

### **Next Walk.**

John Miller has agreed to lead another walk on **Sunday 7th June**, at Avenel, where he now lives.

#### Covid 19 restrictions include:

Social distancing within the group.

Cars to have family members only. (due to the 1.5m rule)

Maximum of 10 in the walking group. (But we could have 2 groups)

Now, the walk. It's about 10km and unlike Trawool, it will be pretty flat. The walk includes part of the famous Ned Kelly Trail. 'Stop 2' on this trail is in Avenel, and our walk will include the following Kelly family history.

*The Kelly family moved to Avenel and in 1864, rented a 40-acre farm for £14 a year from Mrs Mutton. Ned lived here with his parents, John and Ellen, and his 6 siblings until 1867. In Avenel we'll see:*

- *The Bridge over Hughes Creek where Ned Kelly saved Richard Shelton from drowning and was rewarded with a green silk cummerbund. Ned Kelly was wearing the cummerbund at the Siege of Glenrowan.*
- *Avenel Court House. This is where Ned's father John Kelly was charged with cattle stealing. He was later*

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*acquitted but fined £25 for the illegal possession of a hide.*

- *Avenel Cemetery. The Resting place of John 'Red' Kelly.*

Meet at 9.15 am at Kilmore library car-park, to drive to Broadford Living and Learning Centre by 9.30 am. From there the cars will proceed to Jubilee Park in Avenel. John will meet us at 10.00 am, near the public toilet block there.

I will again be the contact person for this walk. Please let me know by phone or text if you want to come, on 57 841970 or 0407225089.

Bring your lunch.

Casuals and un-financial members will need to pay \$5 for insurance through Bushwalking Victoria.

Many thanks to John for leading this walk, again in an area he knows well.

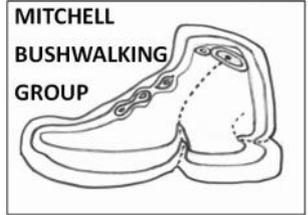
**John Brissett (Secretary)**

**\*\*\* Membership application on the next page \*\*\***



Fred, ensures social distancing with his walking poles.

# 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: |
|-------|------------|-------|

|                        |                      |                               |
|------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------|
| <b>OFFICE USE ONLY</b> | Receipt No:          | Database updated Date:        |
| <b>Membership No:</b>  | Receipt issued Date: | Email notification sent Date: |

The club membership year is 1<sup>st</sup> 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](mailto: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](mailto: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.