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# Old Man Emu

**AUG 2007  
ISSUE No. 34**

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## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

### Greetings Members

In contrast to our recent dry summer we are now having one of our coldest winters in 20 years and along with that, is some much needed rain as well as lots of snow for us XC Skiers. Hopefully spring will bring us a lot more rain to top up our reservoirs.

With the AGM now over and done with for another year the committee now comprises myself - President, Neil Campbell- Vice-President, Brian Smith-Secretary, Ian Yarde-Treasurer. Normal Committee Members are, Jan Edwards, Tamara Hycenko, Ron Bell, Ryan Davies & new member Tony Creedy. Thanks to out going committee member Darren McClelland.

We have just had our 2<sup>nd</sup> Christmas in July, and from all accounts it was another successful and enjoyable night and it looks like we will be having a similar format for our actual Christmas lunch on 8<sup>th</sup> December.

The committee has put together the Emergency Contact & Medical Canisters: they are simply a labeled film canister with an information form inside. We encourage all members to fill out this form with their emergency contact and health details, place it in the canister and keep the canister in their pack at all times.

The Spring-Summer program is looking excellent with a large variety of walks and activities for the members pleasure. Thank you to all the leaders and a special thank you to our new leaders. 7 out of 10 of the new leaders have put activities on the program.

Thanks to Ron Pearce for putting the program together, the committee and all others for all their help in the last financial year.

Happy Walking  
Ian Tovey



### New Leaders

*Back row L - R*

Rob Hughes, Ian Tovey (Lecturers), Marek Turski, Tamara Hycenko, Jan Rhodes, David Gibbs, Ian Jones,

*Front Row L - R*

Roger Muhl, Alan Moule, Rod Casey (sitting) Georgie Johnson and Alan Clarke

# THE RACE THAT DIDN'T STOP A NATION



**OR**

**Interference at the finish line.**

There were thirteen walkers lined up on the hallowed turf of the front straight waiting for the man with the camera to give the “off”, and record the event for history and Old Man Emu (or would it be for evidence in court?).

But wait! This is jumping the gun – so to speak – by a few hours. The day – Sunday 3 June 2007 – started with our Leader, Ron Bell waiting at the Pipemaker’s car park for any latecomers. He was to take us to Kensington Gardens Estate and Flemington Racecourse on a leisurely 11 kilometer stroll, graded easy. After a while, he decided that fourteen walkers was all he was going to get, and we started walking towards the Maribyrnong River via the lower Pipework’s car park to check if anyone had parked there by mistake. No one was there!

Heading south, we walked past the new Edgewater Lakes Estate towards Footscray. At the Boatshed, there was a short water stop before moving along to cross the river into the Kensington Gardens Estate, built on the site of the old Melbourne Sale yards. Morning tea was at the “Women’s Garden”. Ron claimed to have brought along a dress in his pack in case he wasn’t allowed into the Garden. He decided that, with several other males in the group, the dress was staying in his pack.

A leisurely tour of the newish estate and old Sale yards followed, checking out the notice boards as we went, learning about the history of the old yards. All the time we were being watched over by the old clock tower (who has been listening to Rod Casey too long?).

The weather was perfect, a clear blue sky, and not too cold, as we moved away and along Epsom Road to the main entrance of Flemington Racecourse. Ron had told us there was a new walking

track inside the racecourse - “open to the public”. The walking track turned out to be the front straight of Flemington Racecourse, as we were soon following our intrepid leader onto the holy of holies.

Walking on this hallowed ground wasn’t enough for our Ron. He decided to organize a race – he did! Before anyone could say “they’re racing”, he had thirteen walkers lined up before the cameraman, and following a short delay while the runner on the inside started to get serious by taking off her coat, the cry “they’re off and running” was heard.

Well, at least two of them were. Lightfingers Ron and Tamara Diva shot (make that stumbled) past the starter/cameraman, leaving the rest stranded at the starting gate – sensible people! The rest is history (and so it should be), as the race was declared a non event pending inspection of the photo finish.

But wait, there’s more. Not satisfied with invading sacred ground, Ron got the bit between his teeth, so to speak, and cantered into the grandstand, where a quick chat to the lady behind the bar, and we had a “do it yourself” tour of the Hill Stand. Following this, he declared it was time for lunch, and “invited” us to join him in the Hill Stand – opposite the finishing post!

If you thought that Bill Casey had looked after us in the 2006 GDT Marathon, by having lunch in an old cricket grandstand in Ballarat, then Ron had everyone wondering if they were really part of a bush walking club. Our lunchtime view looked out over the whole of the racecourse with a backdrop made up of the City of Melbourne. Ok, so the seats needed a clean before sitting on them, but who was complaining?

The chance was taken to check the photo finish of the previously reported “race”. This showed that Tamara Diva was causing interference near the finish,

and therefore the race was awarded to Lightfingers Ron, pending further investigation by the stewards. The Diva was later reported as saying “I was only trying to whip him!” Guilty as charged was the result.

After lunch, it was a guided tour around the racecourse – the guide of course being our leader. Always one for a challenge is Ron. There wasn’t another soul to be seen – luckily for us. Enough was enough, and we eventually made our way back to Pipemakers via the Essendon Golf Course and the obligatory afternoon tea at the kiosk.

The day had definitely been something different. Not sure where the bush walking came in, but then, you never know what to expect when you sign up for a walk with Ron Bell – you don’t.

Nearly forgot to mention, that locked gates are not a problem for one member – but that’s another story for another day.

by arespe



*Editors note: I printed this article under duress of freedom of speech.*

**REGENT HONEYEATERS  
TREE PLANTING PROJECT**

W/E Sept 8 & 9  
Ian and Sylvia McLean

Come along for a very satisfying and fun filled weekend at Lurg Hills (Benalla), planting trees, socializing with like-minded people over a sumptuous Saturday evening meal and Sunday lunch BBQ. All of this along with a bush dance and evening spotlight walk. Including accommodation, **ALL THIS IS FOR FREE!** as organized by Ray Thomas and his trusty band of volunteers for the past 13 years. Arrangements are to meet at the Benalla Post Office at 9am, Saturday and drive in convoy to the planting sites.

Bring: lunch for Saturday (in the field) and breakfast for Sunday morning (the Benalla bakery is an excellent place to treat yourself to breakfast), beverages for Saturday night i.e. reds to accompany dinner, sleeping bag and pillow, towel and personal hygiene items. A nominal charge applies for a shower at the Benalla Leisure Centre after planting.

**MT EGERTON/  
LAL LAL STATE FOREST**

Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> September  
13km Medium  
Neil Campbell

Lal Lal forest is a small park which encroaches around the Lal Lal Reservoir in the Bungal Historical Reserve. Today we will start the walk near the edge of Lal Lal Reservoir and walk up to the old brick blast furnace. The furnace was used for the nearby mine during the gold rush. We will do a short loop walk before heading to the lookout overlooking the Reservoir. From here we will walk up the Iron Mine Rd, which will be up and down in

sections, near the mines along the way towards our lunch spot, Champion Hill, near the old brick chimney. After lunch we will walk through a gully area and up along Heatherbell Rd onto another area where there was extensive mining. We will return along Anderson Rd and back to the cars via Chalk Mine Rd. We will leave from the Moonee Ponds car park at 8.00am.

**KORWEINGUBOORA**

Sunday 23rd September  
16 km Medium  
Ian McLean

This walk (70km WNW from Melb) follows the route of the Anderson brothers' historical timber tramway. Remains of the tramway can be seen once they are pointed out. The tramway commenced close to their Barkstead Mill and terminated at the Toe Rag Mill site at the junction of the Werribee River and Toe Rag Track. Boots are recommended along this tramway which is gradually being cleared by an enthusiastic local who will be on hand to guide us along and explain what we see. Permission has been granted to follow this tramway over private property where we can. When this is not possible, it is necessary to by pass a small section along some roads, most of this walk is in the Wombat Forest. Lunch will be at a surprise location. (It is warm and cosy.)

Those wishing to travel direct are welcome to meet the group at the Spargo Creek Hotel where we will later enjoy refreshments.

**MOUNT CHARLIE AND  
MOUNT TENERIFFE**

Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> September  
14km Medium  
Alan Moule

In the Macedon Ranges State Park, this walk starts at the Rowallen Scout Camp on Mount Charlie Road, north of Riddell's Creek. After climbing Mt Charlie, we follow forest tracks and some off-track adjacent to farming land with pleasant views before climbing to Mt Teneriffe and a well-earned lunch. The views from Teneriffe are well worth the steep climb. After lunch we descend in a southerly direction to a land-locked flora reserve before making our way back to the start of the walk.

**NORTHERN GRAMPIANS**

4-7 October  
Med & Hard day walks - Base Camp  
Tony Creedy

The base camp went well last year so this year we will return to Dadswells Bridge Caravan Park, between Stawell and Horsham on the Western Highway, 260 km from Melbourne. Attending for all or part (e.g. just the weekend) of the time is an option. Cabins and on site caravans can be rented at the park. There are also sites for camping, towed caravans, and campervans.

The walk programme includes half and full day walks on the Mt Zero and Mt Difficult Ranges, taking in locations such as Hollow Mountain, Mt Stapylton, Iskra Crag, Mt Difficult and Briggs Bluff. Charlie Cassar, Alan Moule and Alan Clarke each plan to lead a walk, and at the weekend a choice of medium or hard walks should be available.

The area has been described as 'equally as good as the Wonderland (which is 30km south at Halls Gap) and about the most rugged in terrain'. So come along and see if you agree. For more information on the caravan park and the walk programme come and see me.

**Wildlife Rescue**  
If you come across injured wildlife, Wildlife Victoria can be contacted 24/7, to arrange a rescue.  
Phone **0500 540 000**  
**Put it in your Mobile!**

**MT DISAPPOINTMENT**

Fri-Sun Oct 5-7  
EM walks  
Ron Bell

Mt Disappointment is 60km from Melbourne Melway, map 510 M11. Please no alcohol.

Accommodation and meals included in the cost, except for lunch, Saturday. Suppers, tea, coffee, fruit provided.

Accommodation is in mud brick cabins, heated with showers and toilets. A large mud brick conference centre for meals with a large open fire.

Cost for weekend \$56 per person, 4 per room or private room for two \$122. Only four private rooms available. Bring your own bedding etc.

Activities – horse riding, tennis, table tennis, pool, bushwalking and many wild flowers in nearby bush.

EM walks in rainforest to Comet Mill and other areas or just relax around fire and play sport games. Highlight is a wonderful roast lunch cooked in wood stone oven with dessert for Sunday lunch.

**GOLDIE FLORA RESERVE**

Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> October  
12 km, Medium  
Tony Creedy

About 1.5 km by 3 km, the reserve sits between Mount William and the Forbes-Morand Rd, 11 km NW of Kilmore, 80 km from Moonee Ponds. An E-W ridge in the centre stands 200m above surrounding country, and is high enough (670m) for a few snow gums to be present. There are views of Melbourne if the weather's suitable. Our starting point will be on an adjoining property. We'll undertake a circuit, first along the pretty Back Creek on the southern boundary of the reserve, then up a spur to the ridge top and back to the start. Several native and feral animals have been spotted there in the past, and there may be a good display of everlasting flowers.

**WONTHAGGI COAL TRAIL**

Saturday 13th October  
17km Easy/Medium  
Neil Campbell

We will start our walk from the old original Wonthaggi railway station, and walk along the Wonthaggi-Anderson rail trail towards the South Dudley area. We cross over a stile near the Wonthaggi State Coal Mine Historical Reserve. We pass the entrance to McBride Tunnel, which produced huge amounts of black coal. We will walk towards the remains of an old fenced brace. From here we head out through Baxter's wetlands and out along towards Bass Strait at Baxter's Beach. A walk along the beach for 1.5kms where we will have lunch. After lunch we will head inland again through the grasslands along Collins Track, and then down to Harmers Haven for some spectacular views. We will head back through the Wonthaggi heath land and coastal reserve, back towards the stile we crossed earlier. We will be leaving the Moonee Ponds Bowling Club car park at 7.30am.

**RIDDELL/CHEROKEE/  
BARINGO CIRCUIT**

Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> October  
20 km Medium  
Sylvia McLean

Commencing at our place and walking into the foothills of the Macedon Ranges north of Riddells Creek (50km NW of Melb), along country lanes to Cherokee and beyond to Baringo picnic area for lunch, in spring it is an absolute delight. Return to Riddell for afternoon tea. There are two hills: the first one "up" to Cherokee is a good challenge. The other is not so steep but after lunch. The remainder is all downhill! Up and back the views are rewarding. On a clear day the views are extensive, nearby are the green rolling hills and in the distance the Eastern Peaks can be seen. The city skyline is clearly visible and a close up unfamiliar view of Mt. Macedon from the east side, as we walk towards it is quite different. Return is via different country roads, and tracks through the local foothills displaying some of the best wildflowers in the area. Boots are not necessary unless there is good rain in the days preceding the walk. Afternoon tea provided by the leader.

**MACEDON/TOWRONG  
CIRCUIT**

Wednesday 24th October  
17km Medium  
Alan Moule

This traverse in the Macedon Ranges includes the summits of Mt Macedon, the Camels Hump and Mt Towrong. All these peaks provide brilliant views. We start and finish in Mt Macedon Village. The walk entails a steep climb at the start from Douglas Rd to The Cross on Mt Macedon and a steep descent from Towrong towards the end. Otherwise the walking is mostly a gentle grade following the Macedon Ranges Walking Trail.



EBWC laid claim to the top of Mount Bullengarook (near Gisborne) again on 30 June 07. Although a shower had been through and the sun showed itself, people were taking no chances and kept their warm/waterproof clothes on. The walk was free of the extremes of weather and injuries that have hit previous trips, and there was plenty of energy left in the last quarter. *Back row, L to R, Keith, Alan, Charlie, Ron, Rod, Marek, Bill, Sue, Ali. Middle row: Loris, Sylvia, Marion, Henry. Front row: Louise, Trish, Mary.* Picture: Tony Creedy.

**FEDERATION/BUSHWALKING  
VICTORIA WALK - 2007**

**Healesville Area – Various Walks**

**Sunday 21st October**

This year's Federation Walk 2007 will be in and around the Healesville area on Sunday 21st October, and will be run by both the Diamond Valley and Koonung Bushwalking Clubs.

For more detailed information please see Neil Campbell who has all the booking forms, walk sheets and costs.

Email Fred Bover for further information regarding accommodation in Healesville. fbover@ozemail.com.au

**GREAT DIVIDING TRAIL MARATHON  
PRELIMINARY WALK**

**DAYLESFORD/HEPBURN  
SPRINGS**

Sat 3rd November  
25km Medium  
Neil Campbell

Now is the time to get ready for the 2007 Marathon in 2 weeks time. The walk will be along a large majority of the GDT. We will start from the Lake Daylesford boathouse café and walk past Central Springs and Sailor's Creek out to Twin Bridges. From here we will leave the GDT temporarily, out to Tipperary Springs. From the Tipperary Spring picnic ground we will continue to walk away from the GDT. From here we will pick up the GDT and walk along towards the blow hole. We will walk out towards Breakneck Gorge to where we meet up with the Hepburn-Newstead Rd. We continue to follow the GDT along Spring creek towards Hepburn, but on approach to Hepburn we will walk an alternative route via Jackson's Lookout. We will finish on the opposite end to the Mineral Springs Park. We should all be primed up

and ready for Bill's marathon after this walk! We will leave the Moonee Ponds car park at 7.30am or 9.00am at the Lake Daylesford Boathouse Car Park.

**WOMBAT STATE FOREST**

Sunday 4th November  
18 Km Easy/Medium  
Ian McLean

Walking along some old loggings tracks, exploring old diggings and tram tracks, this circuit walk explores the Wombat Forest (70km WNW from Melb) and connects the localities of Korweinguboorra, Barkstead and Leonards Hill.

Boots recommended. After walk, refreshments to be enjoyed locally.

**FAIRFIELD/STUDLEY PARK  
Twilight Walk**

Monday 5th November  
11 km Easy  
Ian & Sylvia McLean

Meeting 6pm at Yarra Bend Road, Fairfield, and the first car park on the right (with toilets) Melways 30 H12. BYO tea in your pack to enjoy along the way. NO shops at all on this walk.

Walking in a clockwise direction via Fairfield Boathouse, tea will be enjoyed at Studley Park. Views to the city will be enjoyed with sunset as the thousands of bats fly overhead in the direction of Ivanhoe to roost for the night.... a sight to behold! The return trip along the Yarra should take in the Collingwood Children's farm, the city lights; Dight's Falls and the Merri Creek back to the cars.



**CITY PARKS & GARDENS  
Twilight Walk**

Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> November  
12 km Easy  
Ian & Sylvia McLean

Meeting at 6pm. leaving promptly from the Western Oval car park (the most western oval of the group of 3) in Park Street, Parkville. Mel Ref. 29 E10. This walk traverses Royal Park, Melbourne University, Exhibition Gardens, Spring Street and onto the Treasury Gardens. BYO tea to eat en route in one of the parks. Delightful possum and fruit bat sightings are guaranteed. Return via Princess Park will include Lygon Street for supper.

**14<sup>th</sup> GREAT DIVIDE  
MARATHON**

Saturday November 17  
42km  
Bill Casey

Nearly every year when the Marathon is mentioned I hear someone say "I know I couldn't walk that far". Quite often they eventually give it a go, and are surprised when they succeed in conquering their doubts and the 42km.

I can truly say that during the course of the year many of us do at least one walk which is harder than the GDM. The fact that you are not carrying a backpack makes it that much easier. Seven short walks (4-8km) in succession with a 10 to 15 minute rest in between (30 for lunch) are not all that difficult, and the thought of all that fruit cake and yummy biscuits and the friendly faces of the fantastic support crew keep you going (they carry your pack with whatever food and drink you bring). This year we start from the top – yes, the top – of Mt Tarrengower near Maldon, so all the early walking is down, down, down. Then comes a gentle climb through the main street of historic Maldon, past the old railway station, before we enter bush

land for our first rest and refreshment.

Stage 2 is beside the railway towards Castlemaine, and everyone knows that trains don't climb steep hills. The restored Muckleford station is stop number 2. For stage 3 we continue along the railway for several kms before branching away on the Castlemaine outskirts, making our way to the beautiful Botanic Gardens where we will enjoy lunch after having completed 20km – almost half-way.

Stage 4 takes us around the northern edge of Castlemaine, through Kalimna Forest. We eventually descend to Forest Creek and join the Great Dividing Trail (which we follow for the remainder of the walk) to Chewton Recreation Reserve where we again rest with only 14km to go.

After an easy climb over The Monk we pass the Dingo Farm and descend Cobblers Gully to Spring Gully which marks the end of Stage 5. Fryerstown is passed en route to Irishtown which is the last resting point, and as we start stage 7 daylight begins to fade (not too much I hope). Arrival at Vaughan Springs and the end of the GDM should be at around 8-30pm.

At the time of writing there are only 10 places left on the bus which picks us up at Vaughan Springs (we leave our cars there so we have them when we finish). The bus then transports us to Mt Tarrengower where the fun begins.

There is no requirement that you do the whole walk; you are able to drop out and join in at any of the rest points. The support cars can take passengers, or you might offer to drive a stage to allow the driver to have a walk.

So if you haven't done the GDM before, please give it some thought. But book soon or it might be too late.



## WILSON'S PROMONTORY

Tue 20th Nov to Fri 23rd Nov  
4-Day Pack Walk  
58km Medium/Hard  
Alan Moule

This classic Victorian bushwalk, over-nighting at Roaring Meg, Little Waterloo Bay and Refuge Cove, takes in the best that Wilson's Promontory National Park has to offer. Our walk will commence from Telegraph Saddle and follow the Lighthouse Track to Roaring Meg. We should also be able to visit the southern-most point on the Australian mainland on this first afternoon. Next day we'll continue on to the Wilson's Promontory Lighthouse to explore the Lighthouse grounds, before following the southeast track, built by Tasmanian track-cutters in 1998. The day will end with some beach walking along Waterloo Bay before reaching Little Waterloo Bay, our camp for the night. We can almost be guaranteed of sighting Tasmania while walking these southern reaches of The Prom. Thursday will see more beach walking and a climb to Kersop's Peak with more views of Tasmania before reaching camp at Refuge Cove. Our last day is a solid 18km, passing through Sealer's Cove, before the climb to Windy Saddle and finally Telegraph Saddle. This walk promises to be a photographer's delight with the rich foliage regeneration following the 2005 fires and magnificent coastal scenery.

## CATHEDRAL RANGE STATE PARK

Sat 1st Dec / Sun 2nd Dec  
Base Camp Medium Walks  
David Bass

Have you always wanted to walk the full length of the Cathedral Ranges? We will be departing from my home in Keilor Park at 7.30 am Saturday

and driving to Cook's Mill camp site for our base camp. Walking from Cook's Mill to Sugarloaf hut then up to Mt Sugarloaf continuing along the feature of the range the Razorback to Jawbone saddle then back to our camp site. An early morning start on Sunday, walking to Ned's Gully camp site then up to Ned's Peak visiting Little Cathedral and North Jawbone and back to our campsite at about 2pm. If you would like to come for the day only, you are most welcome as this walk has plenty of variety with excellent views and is close to Melbourne.

## CATHEDRAL RANGES NTH

Saturday 1st December  
Medium/Hard 10.5 km  
Commentary walk - part two  
Neil Campbell

Due to the weather conditions and time constraints, we have decided to do the Cathedral Commentary walk in two halves with no time constraints. We will start the walk from the Ned's Gully car park and walk up through the Ten Fathoms ridge along Ned's Gully Track towards Ned's Saddle. We will branch off towards Little Cathedral as we start to take in some excellent views. From here we will walk along the Northern Ridge to Cathedral North Peak, where we will stop for lunch. After lunch we will walk along the Ridge towards The Cathedral Peak, which is the highest peak on the northern section of the range. Hopefully we will see views back along towards Eildon Weir and Mt St Leonard. From here it will be slow going along the Ridge towards the farmyard, but if time permits a visit to North Jawbone Peak. From there it will be a very steep descent down Farmyard Track to Jawbone car park and the finish at Cook's Mill. We will leave the Moonee Ponds Bowling Club car park at 7.15am.

### SUNSET/BEACH WALK

Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> December  
16km Easy/Medium  
Neil Campbell

Today we will do something out of the ordinary. We plan to meet at a secret location in Moonee Ponds at 10.30am. Or 1.30pm adjacent to the Black Lighthouse, Gellibrand St., Queenscliff Mel Ref 500K1. We will start the walk from the lookout and walk along the beach towards Point Lonsdale, checkout the views across the rip near the Point Lonsdale Lighthouse, and perhaps buy an ice cream along the way. From the lookout near Buckley Cave we will then enjoy a pleasant afternoon walk along the coastline with the backdrop of the sun. We will walk towards Ocean Grove and arrive around 7.30pm at Barwon Heads. Just in time for sunset! We will get a chance to clean up, then grab a meal at an eatery in Queenscliff afterwards and relax before heading back to Melbourne, or people can make arrangements to stay overnight on the Bellarine Peninsula.

### WOODLANDS HP/GELLIBRAND HILL Twilight Walk

Monday 31<sup>st</sup> December  
11km Easy  
Ian & Sylvia McLean

Parking outside the BBQ area on Somerton Road, Oaklands Junction (Melways 178 B6) and meeting for a 6pm walk start. Carry your tea in your pack to be enjoyed atop of Gellibrand Hill. We stroll through Woodland's beautiful red gum forests onto the historic Homestead and through the wildlife enclosure (dogs are banned from this area), along the creek and up to Gellibrand Hill to sit on the granite boulders watching dusk change to darkness

and a fantastic view of the Melbourne lights as they appear. A torch may be helpful but hopefully there should be a cloudless sky lit up by the full moon, which is very easy to navigate by.

### "BON CAMINO"

#### Walking In Spain

Inspired by the exploits of our intrepid Val, who took on the challenges of The Pilgrim Trail two years ago, we decided that we too, would tread the paths that the early pilgrims trod.

Not for us Val's authentic pilgrims approach, we opted for a more civilized version of the walk, with our hostels pre booked and our bags being carried.

The Camino de Santiago commences in the Pyrenees, on the border between France and Spain and extend for 800kms across the Northern part of Spain to Santiago. After 35 hours of traveling, five airports and eight in flight movies, we arrived in Leon ready to tackle the last 310km of "The Camino". This sector is probably the most varied of the trail, but full distance walkers we met declared that the Pyrenees half was equally as interesting.

Armed with maps and instructions to follow The Yellow Arrows and Scallop Shells, we set out. We soon learnt to be vigilant with the arrow and shell spotting. "Slight navigational errors" would add to the days tally and were not favoured at all, especially on days of 30kms.

The scenery en route was ever changing. Hours of walking through cool, leafy green forest, vineyards and farmlands, medieval cities with castles, cathedrals and narrow cobbled street, quaint little hamlets and mountain villages, each with its own small stone church and bell tower, ancient stone bridges and

vistas of mountain ranges.

Walkers came from all countries but you join the brotherhood of pilgrims. Even with the little English spoken, with a smile and a nod and a "Bon Camino" you greet each other and companionably walk together for a little way and days later your paths cross and you carry on as old friends. As our hostels were pre booked, we found that our allocated days walks would range from 20-30kms. However, even the 30km days were all easy going and we had enough time and steam left "to do the town" when we arrived. EBWC gradings would be E-M, the medium being the longer walking days, or the few hills that would be classified as "undulations" by some of our leaders.

If you hanker for a really good walk, rich in history and culture, all with a great Spanish flavour, plus gorgeous scenery, check your boots are good for a few more kilometers, buy your Spanish phrase book and "Hasta Luenga" See you later!

Hilary and Geoff



**Submitting Articles:**  
*articles can be sent to:*  
*Tamara Hycenko*  
*E-mail:*  
*tamrah@bigpond.com*  
*or*  
*snail mail via the*  
*Club's post office box*  
*at: P.O. Box 32,*  
*Moonee Ponds 3039*



**YOUR COMMITTEE**

For 2007 - 2008

President: Ian Tovey  
 Vice President: Neil Campbell  
 Secretary: Brian Smith  
 Treasurer: Ian Yarde

Committee: Ron Bell, Jan Edwards, Tamara Hycenko, Ryan Davies, and Tony Creedy.

**MEMBERS' DISCOUNTS**

Don't forget that members can obtain a discount at Bogong Equipment, 374 Little Bourke Street, City. They offer a 10% discount on all non-sale items.

**LOAN EQUIPMENT**

The contact for loan of equipment is Ron Bell, Ph. 9388 4057.

Equipment available for loan: Tents; backpacks; sleeping bags; rain jackets; stoves; sleeping mats.

**PARKS VICTORIA**  
[www.parkweb.vic.gov.au](http://www.parkweb.vic.gov.au)  
 This web site will give you the Draft Access Reopening Strategy on tracks that were affected by bush fires.

**CONTACTING THE CLUB**

**GENERAL ENQUIRIES**

(Snail) Mail: The Secretary, Essendon Bushwalking Club Inc., P.O. Box 32, Moonee Ponds 3039.  
 Telephone: Ron Bell Ph. 9338 4057  
 E-mail: [trekker@netspace.net.au](mailto:trekker@netspace.net.au)

**Club Web Page:**

[www.netspace.net.au/~trekker](http://www.netspace.net.au/~trekker)

**CLUB MEETINGS**

Are held on the second Wednesday of each month, at the Moonee Ponds Bowling Club, Mt Alexander Road, Moonee Ponds. Meetings start at 7.30pm

**WALKS PROGRAMS**

Are released three times each year, at the April, August and December Club meetings. One copy of the program is included within the hard copy version of the Club newsletter, Old Man Emu. Additional copies are available from the Secretary or Treasurer for 20c each

**CLUB FEES**

Annual Membership (from June 1st) \$40.00  
 Visitor's Fee (per event) \$5.00

Annual Membership fees apply from June 1st to May 31st.

Membership fees not paid two months after the June AGM render the member unfinancial. There are no pro-rata membership fees as the Club is required to pay an annual Federation/Insurance premium.

An unfinancial member is required to pay the visitors fee for every event they attend until they have paid their full membership fee.

As an unfinancial member, the Club's Personal Accident and Public Liability Insurance on any Club activity does not cover you.

Unfinancial members and visitors attending more than three events in a Club year are required to pay the full membership fee.

New members fee within 28 days of their membership application being approved by the Committee.

If undeliverable return to  
 ESSENDON BUSHWALKING CLUB INC.  
 P.O. Box 32, Moonee Ponds 3039  
**Old Man Emu**  
 Newsletter of the Essendon Bushwalking Club Inc. A0005559B



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