



OLD SCOTCH
BUSHWALKING CLUB

Old Scotch Bushwalking Club

Tracknotes

December 2020

Number 94

Visit the bushwalking club's page on the OSCAnet website: www.oscanet.com.au. Click on 'Clubs and Societies', 'Recreational Clubs' and 'Old Scotch Bushwalking Club'.

Three parks and a cemetery



Graham Stanley makes good use of a park bench to brief the walkers before they set off for a stroll around East Brighton, which took in three beautiful parks as well as the Brighton General Cemetery, where the walkers visited the graves of several notable people, including that of Scotch's greatest son, General Sir John Monash GCMG KCB VD.

For some, it was a walk into uncharted territory, but for all it was an enjoyable walk on a magnificent late spring day. The full story begins on page 4.

To all our members ...
A very merry Christmas and a happy and
safe new year of walking
from
President Laurine Symington
and
the club committee



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Ten questions – Bee Moignard

How long have you been a member of the bushwalking club?

I have been a member for 15 years.

How did you find out about the club?

For many years I used to go skiing at Koomerang Ski Club at Thredbo with a large party of friends. Ian Marchment was one of the regulars, and he suggested that I join the bushwalking club.

What are your links with Scotch College?

My late father and my brother (both James Edward Earl) both attended Scotch.

What is your dream walk within Australia?

I would like to do the glamping, guided version of the Larapinta Trail in the Northern Territory, because it is a part of Australia that I have not yet visited and it looks spectacular.

What is your dream walk overseas?

I have done the Milford Track in New Zealand, and would like to add to my New Zealand walking experiences by embarking on the challenging Routeburn Track in the South Island, with its stunning scenery, elevations and vistas over vast mountain ranges and valleys. However, pre-walk training would be essential. It looks challenging!

What is your dream holiday in Australia or overseas?

My dream is to return to Lord Howe Island, which I visited on a school trip when I was 15. Due to a cyclone we were unable to depart on the Sunderland Flying Boat to Sydney. As a young girl, it seemed like a pretty great place to be stranded! The only form of transport around the island was bicycles, and we enjoyed having some extra time to explore. Nowadays regular planes can land on Lord Howe Island.

Given that overseas travel is off the books for the foreseeable future due to COVID-19, I am focusing on domestic travel in Australia. I would like to return to Pinetrees Lodge on Lord Howe Island, now a spa resort with elegant accommodation.

What are your hobbies and interests, other than bushwalking?

My hobbies and interests are spending time with my family and friends, cooking, gardening, reading, dining out in special restaurants, attending the opera, the theatre and ballet and travelling.

I have a special interest in the National Gallery of Victoria, and enjoy going to exhibitions and discovering more about this wonderful collection. I am hopeful that we will be able to enjoy the opening of the NGV Triennial in December.

Like everyone, my ability to pursue these interests has been limited in COVID-19 times, however the silver lining of this period has been discovering wonderful new parks and gardens close to home on walks with friends.



Bee standing on top of Mount Oberon at Wilson's Promontory, looking down towards Norman Bay.

What was your occupation?

I was an occupational therapist for 30 years. I worked in aged care, at St Vincent's, Royal Melbourne and the Association for the Blind (now Vision Australia). Occupational therapy was a new profession post-World War II. It was rewarding to be part of this. Nowadays it is a lot more specialised. It is a very important part of rehabilitation, which I just experienced first-hand following my recent successful hip replacement.

What football team do you barrack for?

Notionally I barrack for Collingwood as my late husband supported them, however I am more interested in watching the Tour de France or the tennis.

What is your favourite Melbourne restaurant?

My favourite Melbourne dining experience is enjoying a meal at the home of one of my four children, all of whom (and the grandchildren) are keen and capable cooks. During lockdown I have enjoyed many meals in the new apartment of my daughter, Emily, as we are bubble buddies and she has a spectacular new kitchen.

Now that we have emerged from lockdown, I am looking forward to returning to France Soir, a Melbourne institution of 32 years. This Parisian-styled bistro is always buzzing, full and fun, and the waiters are fantastic with oodles of cheeky Gallic charm.





President's Tree-Stump



Wow, we made it. After months of lockdown and disappointment we are now free to walk anywhere in Victoria, and we have started with a bang.

Fifteen walkers joined Richard Piesse for a walk among the wildflowers at Fryers Range State Park, and 22 strollers then joined the Stanleys on a ramble around Brighton. And our final walk of the year was along the beach as a prelude to our end-of-year dinner at the Beaumaris Motor Yacht Squadron.

The Midweek and Weekend Walk Coordinators are putting together activities for the start of 2021, and they look forward to welcoming you, in particular during the Mildura weekend away from 18 to 21 March. Please check the 2021 walk dates on the calendar on the back page of this edition, and mark them in your diary.

The major expense for our club is the production and postage of *Tracknotes*. After two e-copies this year we have now resumed the 'old fashioned' snail mail method of distribution. We are all much more computer literate, but feedback has indicated a preference for a printed copy.

As a result of the cost savings this year, the committee has decided to reduce the annual subscription for 2021 from \$30 to \$15 per family.

I also would like you to consider joining our club's committee. I know many of you have already served on the committee, but any committee thrives on fresh ideas and different faces, so even if you have previously served on the committee, maybe you could consider another term? The plan for 2021 is to have alternate Zoom and face-to-face meetings.

Thank you again to everyone who has contributed to *Staying Connected*. I have received many compliments. We all hope that the vaccine and the behaviour of our fellow human beings will ensure we don't need to return to the conditions we experienced earlier this year.

Roll on 2021.

Laurine Symington

President

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Why?

This poem is dedicated to those who do know why.

*Why? Oh, why, would you please explain
Do you go rambling in the pouring rain?
Where's the pleasure, where's the gain?
I do declare I think you're all insane.*

*Why do you venture across moors and bogs?
On days like these I wouldn't turn out my dogs.
Why go hiking in rain, sleet and snow?
Please give me a reason for I'd love to know.*

*Why, when winter winds are blowing a gale,
Won't you stop in, have a glass of mulled ale?
Instead, with your rucksack and gear from your locker.
You're tackling 12 miles. Have you gone off your rocker?*

*Why, when it's freezing, don't you stay warm in bed?
It's a 15-mile ramble; have you gone off your head?
Why is there a group of people like you,
Out in all weathers? Are they all crackers, too?*

*Why laugh and joke when you're wet to the skin?
There's an asylum nearby, I bet they'd take you all in!
Why? For the life of me I can't understand.
You stop, gasping for breath, yet insist you feel grand?*



*Why, when your feet are blistered and sore,
Say you enjoyed today's walk, could have done six miles more?
Why walk those wet fields and climb muddy stiles
When there's nothing but nettles and thistles for miles?*

*Why climb those steep hills when a path goes around?
The reason, I guess, is your minds are unsound.
Why, when they've invented the car, bus and train.
Do you still insist on walking 20 miles in the rain?*

*Why, when the forecast says rain on your walk tomorrow
Do you give a grin instead a grimace of sorrow?
I don't understand; give me a reason as to why.
I give a shrug and a smile; neither do I.*

This poem originally appeared in the spring 2020 edition of the British publication, *This England*, and was sent to Ros and Tom Morris by their friends, Jill and Graeme. It was written by John O'Connor, who identifies himself as an 'ex-Bolton ramblor'.

Our midweek walks

Three parks and a cemetery – a walk into new territory

SUE and GRAHAM STANLEY

For many of our bushwalking members, a walk into areas of Brighton East is a walk into uncharted territory.

So, as we walked from Brighton East to Bentleigh via the Brighton General Cemetery, quite a few walkers were heard to say things like: 'I never knew this part of Melbourne existed!'

It reminded me of a comment made to our younger son, David, when he started at Scotch in Year 7. The teacher was going around the room asking each boy his name and where he lived. When it was David's turn, he said he lived in Brighton East. To which another student (who lived in Toorak) queried where that was, and when given directions said: 'Yes, I know now. We go past it on our way to our holiday house in Portsea!'

So, feeling like intrepid explorers, we set off on Wednesday morning, 25 November, in what was part of Henry Dendy's Special Crown Survey, a parcel of 5120 acres of land which he obtained from the Colonial Land and Emigration Commission before he emigrated to Australia on 9 October 1840.



Henry Dendy

Dendy's land, which was about 10km from Melbourne, was bounded by North Road in the north, South Road in the south, East Boundary Road in the east and the coastline of Port Philip Bay in the west. Centre Road (in Bentleigh) was halfway between North Road and South Road. And apart from a slight diversion into the Brighton General Cemetery, our walk was within the Special Crown Survey.

Nineteen walkers met in Landcox Park, which was named after Jonathon Binns Were's house which still stands just a few metres from the park. Another notable owner of the house was Sir Thomas Bent, who was Mayor of both the City of Sandringham and the City of



In front – Pam McLeod, Sue Stanley and Carolyn Koger

Brighton, as well as being Treasurer and later Premier of Victoria. The home now houses a Buddhist Temple.

From our start in Landcox Park, we headed out of the park and along leafy streets with houses dating from Victorian times, through Federation and Art Deco styles to modern (and often ugly) square boxes.

We were heading for Brighton General Cemetery, to visit the grave of, arguably, Scotch's greatest old boy, Sir John Monash.

Many people thought that Monash would have been buried in the Melbourne General Cemetery, or perhaps St Kilda or even Kew. But no, he and his wife are both buried in Brighton.

While there is a plaque recognising Sir John's contribution to the community as a scholar, engineer, soldier and nation builder, there is no reference to his contribution to Scotch.

Other notable interments at Brighton include Adam Lindsay Gordon, Arthur Boyd, Guy Boyd, William Merric Boyd and Doris Boyd, Fredrick McCubbin, Sir Thomas Bent, Sir William Rooke Creswell (father of the Royal Australian Navy), Sir Bernard Heinze, Dame Marie Breen (first female Senator for Victoria) and Joseph Leslie Theodore Taylor – otherwise known as Squizzy Taylor, plus four VC recipients.

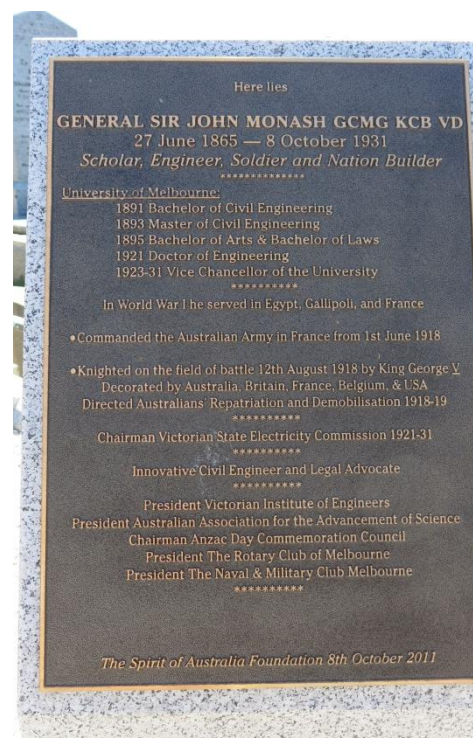
Leaving the cemetery, walkers crossed North Road at Hawthorn Road and followed it along to Union Street, where we stopped at the small schoolhouse which was built as part of the St John the Less Anglican Church.

The schoolhouse dates from 1850, which makes it one year older than Scotch. Where Scotch occupied several sites before settling in Hawthorn, the schoolhouse has been in the one spot for 170 years. But while Scotch

Our midweek walks



Old Scotch Collegians Angus McMichael ('00), Graham Stanley ('61), Ian Hansen ('67), Richard Luke ('60), Norrie McLeod ('59) and Bruce Brown ('60) in front of Sir John Monash's grave in Brighton General Cemetery



Plaque near Sir John Monash's grave lists many of his accomplishments

was started in the town of Melbourne, the schoolhouse was way out in what was bush, about 12 miles from Melbourne.

In 1950, a young, three-year-old girl attended kindergarten at the schoolhouse. Years later she married Graham Stanley at Scotch's Littlejohn Chapel.

From the schoolhouse we wandered along a linear park called Little Brighton Reserve, which covers the old Elster Creek drain. We crossed Thomas Street and into the suburb of Bentleigh (which is still part of Dendy's original Special Crown Survey) and into Allnutt Park, where we met five other club members who chose to meet us for lunch.

Allnutt Park was named after John William Allnutt (1887-1967), a market gardener and local councillor.

Following lunch, we started our trek back to Landcox Park, this time via a different route, where, at 1 Clive Street, we passed a grand, large Italianate Victorian home built in 1887 and still retaining many of its original features, including a three-storey tower.

As we headed for our third park, Hurlingham Park, most of us enthused over a very good example of an Art Deco home on the corner of Milliarda Grove and Howell Street, opposite Hurlingham Park. It is up for auction and a few had ideas of 'putting in a bid', but then thought better of it, as it was a long way from 'civilisation' as they know it.

Hurlingham Park was named after a home built in the 1880s up on a rise at the north end of the park, but now demolished.

From Hurlingham Park we were now just a few streets away from Landcox Park, our starting point. A quick walk around the lake and we were back at our cars and the walk was completed – a total of around 11km.

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Our weekend walks

‘Ring of steel’ removed just in time for our Fryers Range State Forest walk

RICHARD PIESSE

Fifteen walkers met in Taradale on the morning of Sunday 15 November, prior to driving into the Fryers Range State Forest, about 1.5km away.

We started the walk beside the Coliban Main Channel, which was constructed from the Malmsbury Reservoir to the goldmining town of Sandhurst (now Bendigo) over 70km to the north during the 1870s.

Our circular walk took us to the top of the ridge, along the ridge, and back down the other side. Fortunately, large sections of the approximately 7.5km were along relatively sheltered back roads, as the Melbourne forecast was for a rather hot day; but we enjoyed the dappled shade, with the temperature in the mid-20s tempered by a coolish breeze.

While 2020 is famous for the COVID-19 pandemic, it has also produced extraordinary growth in the bushland and forests (and home gardens), due to the consistent rainfall right through the year.

The wildflower display on our walk indicated that good rains fell in Fryers Range right through the winter and spring – more than 70 different plants were in flower, including seven orchids, several ‘egg and bacon’ flowers, heaths, lots of daisies, two grevilleas, a number of bulbs and lots of ground-cover plants.



Fryerstown grevillea – *grevillea obtecta*

We’re grateful to Daniel Andrews for removing the ‘ring of steel’ just in time for our walk.

Laurine Symington said: ‘Thank you, Richard, for organising a fabulous walk among the wildflowers. The most frequent comment I received was delight at being in the great outdoors and enjoying the bush.’

Examples of some of the wildflowers we encountered along the way are shown above and opposite.



Neil Hart-Smith with Russell and Gaile Kemp and Richard Piesse

Our weekend walks



Grass trigger-plant – *stylidium armeria*



Common wedge-pea – *gompholobium huegelii*



Downy grevillea – *grevillea alpina*

Wendy in WA

Wendy Le Get has sold the 7000ha farm, 'Koobabbie' at Coorow, in the Mid-West region of Western Australia, 264km north of Perth. Wendy's family inherited the property and Wendy has been running it. The property has been in her family for more than 114 years.

In a message to club President, Laurine Symington, Wendy said: 'Things are going slowly here, and at times I wonder will I ever be ready for the clearing sale on February 10th!

'We have decided to contract out the harvest to save ourselves lots of hassles. I now am down to 396 merino ewes which I hope are sold this week. That will leave me

with 570 lambs and 150 cull ewes, and they all go to market on 16 December, so then no sheep to worry about.

'I am off to Perth this coming week, a reunion, a memorial service, basic maintenance on myself and socialising!'

The photo shows three old buildings which have been relocated to a new site in the town of Coorow with a large amount of the old farming equipment from the farm, to become a small historical agriculture museum.

We look forward to welcoming Wendy back to our walks when she returns to Melbourne.



Three old buildings and farm equipment have been relocated to Coorow to become a small historical agriculture museum.



Wendy with one of her young lambs

Our Marysville walks

Old Scotch at Marysville

Marysville has been a favoured place for our walk weekends. We have visited there six times:

- May 1997
- March 2004
- March 2013
- April 2000
- April 2005
- November 2014

In this Section the extracts from earlier issues of *Tracknotes* of four of these weekends are reproduced.

Our Weekend of 36,104 steps

JAN MANLEY

What a fantastic weekend in March 2004! It was so successful that a repeat performance has been discussed for next year.

Neil Hart-Smith and his able assistants Lach McLean and Layton Moss did a wonderful job arranging the accommodation and walks; they even ordered the great weather. Mountain Lodge Guesthouse was also a perfect choice, with comfortable rooms, good food, great recreation facilities and, of course, excellent company.

Thirty-seven attendees managed to walk 36,104 steps and cover 28.87km. (This information was provided by Graham Stanley, and the steps are his!)

Day one *Steavenson Falls, De La Rue, Oxlee and Keppel's Lookouts*

With maps distributed, whistles provided and a briefing on security, we set off from the lodge car park at 10:30am.

After crossing the Steavenson River we walked the aptly named Tree Fern Gully Track to Steavenson Falls. Fortunately, water was flowing strongly over the falls, but we could still see the effects of the drought on many parts of the bush.

We proceeded up a long sawtooth track to De La Rue outlook, still glimpsing the falls on the way. The steep climb tested a few of us, but we were rewarded with spectacular views of the mountains from Oxlee and Keppel's lookouts.

During lunch at Oxlee lookout we were impressed with John Steel's knowledge of the terrain. He pointed out features including Mt Sugarloaf, Cathedral Mountain and the remnants, of an ancient volcanic caldera

We returned to the guesthouse along the Robertson Gully Walking Track. The sight of tall gum trees and magnificent tree ferns, along with the smell of eucalypts and the sounds of many birdcalls, remained fresh in our minds.

Dinner followed the annual general meeting, after which we all retired to the sitting room.



Day two *Athols Abbey car park to Phantom Falls car park and return*

After a substantial breakfast and collecting pre-packed lunches, we set off at 9:30am by car to Athols Abbey car park, our bushwalk departure point.

A slow procession of cars wound its way through Marysville, blocking traffic and providing entertainment for onlookers.

The long, picturesque tree fern bush drive along Lady Talbot Drive following the Taggerty River proved to be quite an adventure. Dust thrown up by the cars along the 6km dirt road sometimes completely obscured the road, cars and corners.

About 18 dust-covered cars pulled into the car park beside the river, to the absolute astonishment of a family camping in what they thought was a secluded spot!

We commenced what we hoped was a medium effort walk, easier and shorter than the previous day. As we attacked the third long steep slope (up, of course!), Neil promised it would be flatter around the "next" corner – but we just couldn't reach that elusive "next" corner.

Again we were impressed with the beauty of the bush: the messmate trees, the tree fern gullies and the beautiful river views on the road back to the car park. It was also pleasing to see large areas of bush undergoing regeneration, after what appeared to have been ravaging by fire or tree felling.

The tired but very happy walkers left for home about 3:30pm, most via the Marysville bakery for cake and iced coffee.

Our Marysville walks

A divine time at Marysville

GRAHAM STANLEY

So you still want proof that God is a bushwalker perhaps even a Melburnian bushwalker?

Then how about the great weather He served up to us for this year's bushwalking weekend in April 2005 at Marysville?

This year, some 26 members and their friends stayed again at Mountain Lodge where our host, Suzette Nasel looked after us in the comfortable style to which we have become accustomed over the years. Suzette has, in fact sold the guesthouse, but agreed to stay on until she can move into her new home in Healesville.



was the somewhat steep climb up to the lookout, and then a fair amount of ups and downs during the descent. Nevertheless, the views were stunning, particularly from Wood's Lookout, which took in the Acheron Valley and the Cathedral Mountain.

Sunday morning's walk was shorter and in different terrain, but just as spectacular.

It started with a 13 km drive, mostly along a mountain gravel track to the Beeches Rainforest Walk. This circuit walk started once again in ideal walking temperatures, in the low 20s (and no wind) at the Taggerty River crossing, and took us through ancient rainforest featuring groves of myrtle beech trees. Many individual trees were reported to be over 300 years old. We also walked past stands of enormous mountain ash, which are also reported to be among the tallest trees in the world!

After the walk of around 7km (Neil's guess was approximately right), most returned to Marysville where we camped in the local park for lunch. After lunch, all wended their way home and ANOTHER successful weekend walk concluded.



Both Saturday's and Sunday's walks were organised by President Neil Hart-Smith and, unlike the last walk he organised at Marysville, he (and his dog) actually walked two weeks before our weekend. Neil's bushwalking experiences go way back to his Scouting days (and beyond) so he clearly knows his way around the bush. And we benefit from his bush knowledge by visiting places we would never otherwise know about.

The scenery was magnificent, and once again showed us just how lucky we all are to live in Melbourne, with wonderful scenery just hours away (several more hours if you are the Hoopers!). Temperatures for Saturday's walk were an ideal 24 to 27 degrees, while the wind was at zero knots - until, that is, during our lunch stop, when the wind reached 8.1 knots on G S's nautical wind speed indicator.

There is, however, some dispute over the actual distance we walked. While Neil's walks notice claimed the walk to Wood's Lookout and return was a mere 12km, other members' pedometers told different stories. Ian Hansen's pedometer recorded 17.7km, Graham Stanley's, 17.4, Robyn Hansen's 13 and Sue McLean's 9.5 from lunch. The general consensus was that the distance was considerably more than 12 km! While the degree of difficulty was advertised as "medium", there



Our Marysville walks

Rising from the ashes

VALERIE HEMPENSTALL

Arriving in Marysville for our weekend of walks (15 -17 March 2013) after travelling at a steady highway speed of 80km, we were forced to come to a complete stop at a 'ducks crossing' sign, where 20 or so unperturbed birds surrounded our car, forcing us to inch along through the flock.

This was in front of the Marysville Coffee and Lolly Shop, a startling new two-storey timber building, open only since November, and built on the site of its predecessor which was destroyed in the Black Saturday fires. Over coffee we heard of the persistence of owners, Julia and David, to rebuild from nothing. Surprisingly, the white picket fence in the front yard was untouched by the fire that razed their shop, and it now resides in the Community Museum.

We were to see many examples of the vagaries of fire. The disastrous events of four years previous were never far from our consciousness or conversation on our weekend in Marysville; but the overwhelming feeling was one of renewal and optimism, starting with our splendid and stylish accommodation, El Kanah guesthouse.

We were the very first guests to stay in the impressive, sparkingly new building, where adzed beams, bay windows, timber floors and large open fireplaces are reflected in backdrops of glass to recapture the original charm of the 1930s Tudor-style guesthouse, destroyed on Black Saturday.



Locals were happy to share stories both happy and sad, and our genial hosts, Vera and Peter Gill, told how they had luckily increased their insurance cover from \$3 to \$5 million only months before the fires, in anticipation of extending the buildings. There is still a huge amount of



work to do with landscaping and replanting gardens over 2.8ha (seven acres). Old Scotch bushwalkers all agreed to support the community with a repeat weekend of luxury, delicious food and invigorating walks. Laurine assures us there are many, many more walks to enjoy in this evocative part of Victoria.

Steavenson Falls was a delight – floodlit on Friday night and in the daylight again on Saturday: high, gushing with lots of water, and offering a long-distance view of the valley from the upper lookout.



On Saturday we covered about 11km along the Michaeldene Track, going over the Taggerty River on a trestle bridge and, best of all, getting a free wish at an authentic wishing well, deep in a fern gully. Lunch was next to the Marysville football ground, where people had run to in panic on that Saturday and survived, when others had sheltered in buildings and died.

The weather was perfect for walking and considerate enough to pour with rain after we were back in our pristine 'rooms with a view', napping before dinner.

Another terrible fire, in 1939, was often mentioned in the signage at the Cambarville historic township, where we went on Sunday. There was fascinating exploration of the remains of the Cambarville settlement, built around the sawmill that cut giant mountain ash. We enjoyed a 4km walk to see the famous Big Culvert, Elephant Tree and – very special – the Big Tree.

Thank you to Laurine Symington for a memorable experience – so much more than just a bushwalk. And thank you to my sub-editor, bunkmate, friend and photographer, Bee Moignard, for her photos.

It was another great excursion brought to you by the Old Scotch Bushwalking Club.

Our Marysville walks

A delightful weekend in perfect weather

JENNY STEWARDSON

For a number of the 17 walkers, the Marysville weekend of walks (7 to 9 November 2014) was a return to the town after a year, to sample some new walks and the comfort of El Kanah.

This is a hotel and conference centre built on the site of its severely burnt predecessor. Marysville itself is attractively green again. However, the large number of new houses and, in higher areas, large stands of mountain ash and snow gums – their trunks and branches rising stark and pale grey minus their leaves and bark – remain as harsh reminders of the devastating bushfires of five years ago.

On the Friday evening after dinner we walked along the groomed and discreetly lit gravel path to see the impressive floodlit 84m drop of Steavenson's Falls.

The path is shared with the 5,330km Bicentennial National Trail, a horse trail linking Healesville (Victoria) with Cooktown (Queensland). The lunch spot was shady, restful and green, and we admired the trail's purpose-built water trough and extensive horse yards.



Somewhat exhausted by exercise in the hot sun on the way home, a number of us resorted to a brief kip before dinner at El Kanah. After dinner we heard a moving story by Peter Gill, El Kanah's manager, about the frightening devastation and loss of life wrought by the 2009 bushfires, and the subsequent rebuilding of El Kanah with extraordinarily generous help from volunteers, church groups and donors of materials and furnishings.

The following day we headed for Lake Mountain. Large, newly-built facilities are there for bushwalkers and winter skiers. Somewhat crestfallen, we noted that, unexpectedly, a huge pop music 'rave' was in progress, with electronic music pounding the mountain air. Undaunted, we all tackled the boardwalk path and the circuit.

Visitors' interpretive signs along the track explained about the three main tree species in the area – snow gums, alpine ash and mountain hickory wattle. Their similar leaves are distinguished by vein formation particular to each species.

The larger group of walkers headed up the summit trail to have lunch and enjoy the view across the valley. Along part of the track as we climbed we noted a flying fox – perhaps for another time with the grandchildren.

It was a delightful weekend in perfect weather, and our thanks go to Laurine for her excellent organisation.



For the following two days, our leader, Laurine Symington, had nicely balanced the walks for differing levels of fitness. On Saturday morning, we all tackled the gentle 2km walk, Gilbert's Gully, close to the township. The smaller group of four then headed for the Beauty Spot or other activities.

The bulk of our group took off for the Wilks Creek trail, which loops through the creek's catchment, and winds through a variety of forest types. We reached Anderson Mill No 1 Mill Site (formerly the most important sawmill in the area) for lunch.



The club's 2021 program

The dates for our 2021 walks are final, but the location of nominated walks may need to be changed.

2021	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Feature	Walk (Proposed)	Leader
Public Hol.					1	2	3	New Year		
New Year					1	2	3	New Year		
Jan	4	5	6	7	8	9	10			
Jan	11	12	13	14	15	16	17		Camberwell	C Moss
Jan	18	19	20	21	22	23	24			
Australia Day	25	26	27	28	29	30	31			
Feb	1	2	3	4	5	6	7		* * *	* * *
Feb	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	Valentine's Day		
Feb	15	16	17	18	19	20	21		Portarlington	J Isaac
Feb	22	23	24	25	26	27	28			
Mar	1	2	3	4	5	6	7			
Labour Day	8	9	10	11	12	13	14			
Mar	15	16	17	18	19	20	21		Mildura	J Moore
Mar	22	23	24	25	26	27	28		Mud Island	N Foote
Easter	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	Easter, Day save ends		
Apr	5	6	7	8	9	10	11		You Yangs	L Symington
Apr	12	13	14	15	16	17	18			
Apr	19	20	21	22	23	24	25		Sandringham	R Kemp
Anzac Day	26	27	28	29	30	1	2	Anzac Day		
May	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Mother's Day		
May	10	11	12	13	14	15	16		Anakie Gorge	N&P McLeod
May	17	18	19	20	21	22	23			
May	24	25	26	27	28	29	30		* * *	* * *
Jun	31	1	2	3	4	5	6			
Jun	7	8	9	10	11	12	13		* * *	* * *
Queen's B'day	14	15	16	17	18	19	20			
Jun	21	22	23	24	25	26	27		* * *	* * *
Jun	28	29	30	1	2	3	4			
Jul	5	6	7	8	9	10	11		* * *	* * *
Jul	12	13	14	15	16	17	18			
Jul	19	20	21	22	23	24	25		* * *	* * *
Jul	26	27	28	29	30	31	1			
Aug	2	3	4	5	6	7	8		* * *	* * *
Aug	9	10	11	12	13	14	15			
Aug	16	17	18	19	20	21	22		* * *	* * *
Aug	23	24	25	26	27	28	29			
Aug	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	Father's Day		
Sep	6	7	8	9	10	11	12		* * *	* * *
Sep	13	14	15	16	17	18	19			
Sep	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	AFL	* * *	* * *
Sep	27	28	29	30	1	2	3	Day save start		
Oct	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		* * *	* * *
Oct	11	12	13	14	15	16	17			
Oct	18	19	20	21	22	23	24		* * *	* * *
Oct	25	26	27	28	29	30	31			
Cup Day	1	2	3	4	5	6	7		* * *	* * *
Nov	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	Rememb Day		
Nov	15	16	17	18	19	20	21		* * *	* * *
Nov	22	23	24	25	26	27	28			
Nov	29	30	1	2	3	4	5			
Dec	6	7	8	9	10	11	12		* * *	* * *
Dec	13	14	15	16	17	18	19			
Dec	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	Christmas		
Christmas	27	28	29	30	31					

31 = School Holidays = Bushwalks

09-Dec-20