



SAC Newsletter

January 2023

SAC November Midweek walk: Big Hill Longwood.

Once again Justus Hagan treated us to a fantastic walk in the Strathbogie area. He really finds some real gems for us and this one didn't let us down.

A group of nine walkers met at the Longwood store before organizing the car shuffle, leaving cars at the end of the walk, and then heading up the hill to the start at Alchera. Alchera is privately owned, with four households sharing this spectacular property. We walked in perfect mild overcast weather through the granite bush landscape with many trees, boulders, high green grass and wonderful wildflower glades scattered throughout our walk. First, we walked downhill to Winding creek at the bottom of the valley and then followed this delightful creek, managing three boulder hopping crossings as we went. Once the creek started to descend through open farmland, we left it and scrambled through four fences and over a dry-stone wall, ready to tackle the serious uphill climb. We took this section gently as we managed the steep slope to the ridgeline; at times crawling between rocks and around huge boulders, but mostly going straight up. Once at the top we walked up and down as we traversed the ridgeline until we reached the peak of Big Hill. The views with colourful wildflowers and dramatic boulders in the foreground, then across the undulating farmland and beyond to the flats and hills, were amazing; walkers even spotting the faint Shepparton CBD tower on the horizon as well as Mt Major TV masts.



Somewhat reluctantly we left the heights and ventured down the steepish slope to our cars at the bottom. This crazy weather of late meant the area was still wonderfully green and we walked amongst a beautiful carpet of wildflowers, despite being the end of November.

The general feeling of the group was of gratitude for being able to spend a day in this wonderful environment. any thanks to Justus for sharing this beautiful part of Victoria with us.

Dianne Hanna



Twilight Ride and Christmas dinner at Dookie

20 members turned up for what was a perfect weathered ride, almost all were wearing our team shirts which looked impressive! Those that didn't were waiting on their shirts to arrive, fantastic commitment!!

Ray took us on a 25KM round trip of Dookie and (just one hill "Ray said") well this "One Hill" had some of us walking our bikes up!!

The ride was fantastic, leading us back to the pub where we all enjoyed a lovely dinner and a few be vies.



Thanks Sue and her watch for this fantastic picture



Adventure:

The spirit of adventure.

An exciting or remarkable experience

Club Calendar

Date	Location	Leader	Rating	
21 Jan	Local Bike paths from shepp to Mooroopna	Shelley Wyllie 0422268102	Easy Flat	Ride
25 Jan 8am	Goulburn River walking tracks of Shepparton	TBC	Easy	Walk
13 Feb	Committee Meeting 7.30pm 11 Nillahcootie Cres Kialla	Scott Birchell		
18 Feb	Axedale to Heathcote O'Keefe Rail Trail	Ray 0438591749	Easy- Mod	ride
22 Feb 8am	Cussen Park Tatura	TBC	Easy	walk
28 Feb 6pm	Club Day BYO, BBQ, Food, drink, Chair Canoeing from earlier time			
11 March	Beechworth to Yackandandah or Elmore to Rochester	Ray Peter and Jan		ride
27-31 March	Tree tops camp Gunbower Island Mon-Fri 3 days walking. Canoeing, bike riding, bird watching and scenic driving	Richard Graves 0408547065	Easy	
15 April	Wahgunyah to Rutherglen	Peter and Jan 0438093668	Easy	ride
18 April	Club Meeting			
26 April	Winton wetlands walk	Dianne Hanna 0437289281	Easy	walk
20 May	Mulwala to Corowa Overnight ride	Marty and Wendy 0421050880	Easy	ride
24 May 9am	Boat Hole to Mineral Springs Strathbogie	Dianne Hanna 0437289281 Justus Hagan	Easy - Mod	walk
17 Jun	Bike Ride TBA	Geoff and Lyndall 0429036658		bike
20 Jun	Club Meeting			
28 Jun	Murchison Area Walk	Jenny Stammers 0407556639	Easy	walk

15 July	Murchison Bike Ride	Maarjite and Alfred 0407849794		bike
26 July 9am	Yundool	Kerry Storer 0417115385	Easy	walk
15 Aug	Club Meeting			
19 Aug	Bike Ride TBA	Geoff and Lyndall		bike
23 Aug 9am	Taylor's Surprise	Ross and Judy Taylor 0428994654		walk
16 Sept	Melbourne Ride	Susan and Bruce Rodney and Lee		ride
27 Sept 9am	Whroo Forrest Rushworth	Karen and Richard Speedy 58251785	Easy	walk
13 – 15 Oct	Weekend Camp Melville Caves	Maartje Heuperman 0407849794	Easy - Mod	
17 Oct	Club Meeting			
21 Oct	Tocumwal Bike Ride	Peter and Jan 0438093668		bike
25 Oct 8am	Warbies Spring time Flower walk and pine gully nature trail	Dianne Hanna 0437289281	Easy	walk
18 Nov	Bright to Harrierville (Possible weekend)	Maarjite and Alfred 0407849794		bike
22 Nov 8am	Gemmill Swamp	Barbra Brown 0417364985	Easy	walk
5 Dec	Club Meeting			
16 Dec	Tatura Twilight Ride with dinner at the pub	Ray 0438591749	Easy	ride

*Share your
adventure with
the club!*

*Shelley.wyllie
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President's report

Welcome to 2023 and I hope you have enjoyed some festive time with family and friends since our end of year dinner in early December.

After some interrupted personal trips during 2022, Jill and I finally got to do one as planned (mostly) during November when we travelled to the south coast of NSW near Eden to walk the Light to Light track. This is in Beowa NP (formerly Ben Boyd NP) and can be walked in either direction along the coast between Green Cape lighthouse and Boyd's Tower. It has a variety of vegetation zones and we saw a good range of wildflowers and wildlife, plus spectacular coastal rock formations. We took 4 days/3 nights and met few other backpackers, but did spend 2 nights at a busy car-based campsite as some of the walker camps had not yet been reopened since the 2020 fires. It's a lovely area to visit, even for car camping, day walks and swimming. The birdlife was prolific, including lyrebirds and bower birds, and we also saw goannas, dolphins and kangaroos. After the walk we headed north to Jervis Bay for a bit of snorkelling and exploring, seeing even more wildlife and spectacular coastline and beaches all the way.

Stay cool and hydrated in this warmer weather we are finally having,
Greg



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Trip Leaders: *Please remember to ask visitors to sign an Acknowledgement of Risk form for Temporary Members and pass it on to our Secretary, Karen. This form is available on our website once you login (member, bushwalk) under Members>Leader Information. It is a requirement of our club insurance policy.*

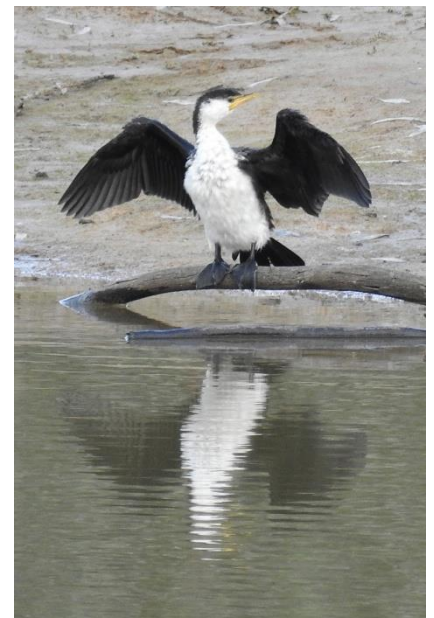
All things Birds with Marge

These photos are of two small cormorant species commonly seen in the Goulburn Valley, the Little Pied Cormorant and the Little Black Cormorant. They have their wings spread out for drying even though they swim low in the water to absorb water to assist with diving. It seems there is a fine balance between the two.

The Little Pied Cormorant usually is a solitary forager while the Little Black Cormorants are seen in groups.

The distribution of both species is through out all of Australia. They are both mainly silent.

The great Cormorant which is black is also a local resident.



Editors note

I am looking for a lot of participation in this newsletter from all members, so please email me with any of your stories, adventures, fun facts, news or even fiction if you want to share 😊

REMINDER the lunch on our ride for the 21st is fast filling up for as I have booked for 15 people, if you want to join us please RSVP as soon as possible so I can increase the numbers.

The ride is around the flood affected paths of Shepparton and Mooroopna where we will see a lot of devastation and a lot of recovery.

Floods in Pictures



Macintosh street



Colliver street shops still traded you just need a boat to get in.



The causeway, you can see its almost on the road in this area, it did cover towards Mooroopna.



The start of the causeway, the track to Mooroopna



Mooroopna 3 days after peak



Bridge showing how high the water rose at the botanic gardens



The lake, water over Wyndam, street

Our Shed and the clean up!

