

Timboon ↔ Port Campbell: Sunday 8 October

Club members: Coralie 📷, Jim, Irene, Linda, Rob 📷, Janice, Clive and Mabel (leader)
Guests: Jeff, Diane, Peter, Jack, Liz, Heather, Lester, Elwyn, Malcolm and Elaine

This large group of cyclists had a great ride down to Port Campbell and back to Timboon. The weather was really good for cycling. It was cloudy, not cold and very little wind. The trees that has fallen over the trail in the severe storm we had a few weeks before had been cleared but Rob still found a bit of track clearing to do so he was happy!

The trail from the view point overlooking Port Campbell to the town is still a work in progress and will be really good when completed. We rode on the Great Ocean Road for this small section. Coming back up the hill was not as hard as anticipated. Great coffee and food was available in Port Campbell and Timboon. Of course we indulged and negated most of the benefits the cycling had done for our well-being. We arrived back in Timboon in time to say 'Hello' to the walkers led by Lothar.

Mabel



Timboon to Schultz's and back: 8 October

Participants: Christine M, Chris S, Helen S, Lothar (leader), Pauline

We arrived at the carpark near the swimming pool only a short while after the 18-strong cycling group had left for their return ride to Port Campbell. We did a quick recce of the Sunday market, then headed off ourselves.

The first section of the walk is through Power Creek Reserve. This is a lovely forested area on one side and farmland on the other with lots of birds in the canopy above.

At Glerums Rd, Chris S returned to Timboon for refreshments whilst the rest of us continued to Schultz's.

The 6 km walk took about an hour. We had hot drinks, cakes, and a toastie. The people at the outside table next to us had 3 cats in 3 separate carry cages. Never seen that before!!

On the way back the cycling group started to catch up with us. First it was Jim...he would have screamed past us but for another group of walkers blocking his way just as he was about to pass us. Rob reached us near the swimming pool and took a couple of photos. When we reached the carpark the rest of the cycling group finally appeared.

We spent a few minutes chatting, then drove the 6 km back to Schultz's for much, much more of the same fare. Then finally, home.

Many thanks to all for a great morning out!

Lothar



St Arnaud—Saints and Sinners: 14 and 15 October

Mike, Liz, Jim, Coralie, Rob and eight other riders from Warrnambool and Koroit made up a quarter of those who went to St Arnaud to participate in the annual Saints and Sinners bike ride. This year was the 20th ride.

Both days' riding started from St Arnaud, Saturday a full day, Sunday just the morning. Each leg of a ride had a most welcome drink stop at about the 20 km mark.

Saturday's ride went to Wedderburn and back. It was a ride of contrasts. The morning ride was fast and effortless, as we had guardian angels on our shoulders in the form of a westerly wind pushing us along. We were able to complete the morning ride of 50 km in about two hours. Lunch at Wedderburn was a BBQ with salad served with country hospitality.

The ride in the afternoon to return to St Arnaud was a very different affair as we had the very devil of a head-wind, and long hills to climb. However, after about three hours we arrived at St Arnaud, tired but elated. We had completed the 93 km ride.

The evening entertainment was held at the Liberty RSL Hall. Flo, Wayne, and Simon had decorated the hall and provided a game so that

we had to mix around meeting participants in order to fill in our little game sheet. A roast meal followed by chocolate cake and cream was provided, again with country hospitality.





*(Far left) Wedderburn has six murals of birds.
(Left) The Liberty RSL Hall started life in 1928 as the Princess Theatre, had a midlife making over 10,000 brassieres a month after being purchased in 1943 by the Liberty Corset Company, and now, after being sold in 1953 to the RSL, is a Memorial Hall and clubrooms.
(Below) It has a pressed metal ceiling.*

On Sunday it was eggs, bacon, cereal, and toast for breakfast, followed by a lunch of cold meats and salad, and apple pie (or pav) and cream, both again at the Liberty RSL Hall. Oh yes, in between there was a more modest 44 km ride to Coonooer Bridge and back.

Many thanks to Flo, Wayne, Simon and all the other volunteers for their hard work organising the event. It was a great weekend activity of riding, friendship and eating, which we will try and do again next year.

Mike



Bushwalking Victoria's Fedwalks around Trentham: 21 and 22 October

Fedwalks is an annual weekend event having a choice of 20 day-walks. Normally it is organised by one or two clubs, but this year it was an ad hoc group that did all the hard work. And a very good job they did—many, many thanks to them all.

The event was much closer than recent ones. *Christine, Rosalie, Mabel, and Rob* stayed at the Blackwood camping ground (with some King Parrots) while *Katrina* commuted both days from Ballarat. A pub tea for Friday, a Saturday dinner was part of the social program, and, after finishing a walk, a wide range of goodies for afternoon tea. That's the all important food section summed up. As for the raison d'existence for the weekend, between us we did five of the 20 walks on offer and had a good time.



#13: Sailors Falls and Wombat Forest

We (*Katrina, Mabel and Rob* &) choose this for our Sunday walk—flattish, a decent length but, most importantly, it was the most westerly walk and so there was less distance to drive home afterwards. The drizzle that greeted us on arising persisted on and off for the whole day, but never heavy enough to cause problems. All the same, the forecast had put off a few—there were only seven on the walk.

We started from Sailors Falls and went along roads, tracks, paths and the old train line to Jubilee Lake with its peacock and small falls, and then to Lake Daylesford where all agreed that eating lunch in a shelter at 11:30 was better than later open air alternatives. After passing some minerals springs we followed the Wallaby Track through the forest to complete our loop, spotting one clump of bird orchids en route.

A walk well worth doing.



#18: Lohs Lane, Lerderberg River and Ah Know Spur

Rob was one of the 12 who did this Saturday walk. After saying “Hi” to some donkeys at the car park we were soon walking down, down, down to the Lerderberg River. We followed the river for two kilometres, crossing it four times, most with dignity, some not. No photos taken as we went steeply up, up, up to the cars—a maximum gradient of 41%. A very enjoyable river walk.



#11: Tunnel Point Loop

Saturday's choice for *Christine, Mabel* and 10 others.

This walk was a well planned 13 km circuit through open forest with some short steep ups and downs in the first half of the walk and 5 to 6 kms flat at the end. The walk was very enjoyable with ideal weather, good company and a number of interesting features. There were plenty of wildflowers including bird orchids. The main feature was the Lerderberg River tunnel which is at a horseshoe bend in the river and was made about 1855 to allow the exposed river bed to be sluiced for alluvial gold. Another relic from the gold rush era was a mine entrance that looked like a cave. It went back into the hillside for a few metres.



#14: Hepburn Springs

Rosalie 📷 and Katrina 📷's Saturday walk had two loops both starting and finishing at Hepburn Springs.

The route was mainly through dry sclerophyll forest, with little undergrowth and few wildflowers, and was up hill and down dale, mostly on fairly rough management tracks. The party had 11 people but 26 legs—Bronwyn from Peninsula club brought Ralph, a well-behaved springer spaniel. Our leader, Gail, and whip, Ken, were from Gisborne Bushwalkers. Highlights of the eastern loop included Wild Cat Cascades (but no water!) and Jackson's Lookout—Katrina was first to the top. A pleasant lunch at the Springs under shady European trees, some tasting the spa waters. Then the southern loop where we checked out the Hepburn Reservoir (at the top of the hill) before descending to the old swimming pool and rock carving. Back at the Springs we inspected the beautiful old Pavilion cafe.

A pleasant 12 km with lots of chatter amongst participants.



#8: Wombat Trail

Sunday saw Christine and Rosalie 📷 on this mostly flat 15 km walk.

The cold drizzle ensured that 11 walkers were shrouded in rain-proof jackets, occasionally removed during the walk. Leader was Mark from Strezlecki Bushwalkers and whip was Kathryn from a Meet-up group near Geelong.

We started through the streets of Trentham (pretty cottage gardens and huge rhododendrons in full bloom), past the Chinese Spring, and on to the bushland track—beautiful forest of manna gums and peppermints. We circumnavigated the old racetrack, now covered in bush, and found a useful fallen tree for a morning tea stop. The trail narrowed and would have been more pleasant without the churned-up-mud depredations of trail bikes. Besides a few roos, we saw a large white-faced heron; oh, and a couple of leeches at our lunch log. Finally, it was back to the outskirts of town, past the cemetery, and through the park with its profusion of ducks and ducklings.





Lake Colac and Botanic Gardens: Wednesday 25 October

Jennifer

Highlight: I enjoyed the company, parkland scenery and eateries. The dampness of the day gave the gardens a fresh and vibrant look and the wind dried us quickly after the rain. Thank you all for another enjoyable day.

Lowlight: The only thing I didn't like was that we'd missed noticing Coralie going back to find her phone. (... *luckily I'm hard to lose!*)

Lothar

Highlight: Great walk and location, and great choice of refreshment venues. (... *one was Lothar's pick!*)

Lowlight: We ran out of time!

Mary

Highlight: Another great Wednesday adventure exploring Lake Colac and surrounds as well as the Colac Botanic Gardens. Lunch at the Lake View Café was an added bonus.

Lowlight: None supplied.

Pauline

Highlight was all the birdlife at the lake.

Lowlight was that I got hailed on before I even boarded the train. 😊 (... *you and couple of other mugs!*)

Trevor

Highlight: I took the last two photos of the day for the group at the Colac Railway Station. (... *and a finer assortment of posed walkers is yet to be seen!*)

Lowlight: The pelicans didn't come in to land on the water.

Coralie (... organiser and annotator)

Highlight: The planned itinerary almost worked despite the weather. An autumn trip on a Thursday to Sunday when the Information Centre is open would be worth considering for future club programs.

Lowlight: Picking an appalling day for an event again!



A Wannon Woodland Wander: Saturday 28 October

Rob ~~z~~, Diane, Cam and Dina found it wonderful wandering in woodland along the Wannon River near Dunkeld. We reached Brady Swamp, although 100 metres short of the hoped-for vast open section. Our return made even more use of kangaroo routes to go closer to the river when skirting around occasional patches of scrub in the open, easy-walking country. There wasn't much open water in the river—either tall reeds or a deceptively solid-looking surface of plants. Huge red gums abounded, with root system perpendicular for many in the river. Seen were four lethargic bluetongue lizards, no snakes, a mob of 30 or so roos, a small patch of bulbine lilies, ditto fairy aprons, the usual squawking cockatoos, and, among the water birds, herons, egrets, ducks, and two swans with nine adolescents.



Port Campbell—Two Mile Bay: Saturday 4 November

After Coralie's walk along Port Campbell's Discovery Walk a year ago, she wondered if it was possible to continue west from its end. With no one to disagree with me, extending today's walk seemed a good way to find an answer. Result: yes, for 2 km! From a motherhood sign on Two Mile Bay Road a typical surfer's track goes down through scrub to the Bay. Its length is edged by a rock shelf a metre or so above the high tide level. The shelf was a complete joy to walk on.
Rob



Coogee to Manly: 28 October—6 November

Participants: Coralie 📷 p9, Gwenda, Lothar 📷, Mabel 📷, Tam; more pictures on our [Facebook](#) page

Saturday 28:

I (Lothar) had come to Melbourne on the Friday for birthday celebrations; Coralie, Gwenda and Mabel arrived on Saturday. We met in the DFO area at Southern Cross just before closing, purchased food and drinks as best we could, and consumed them downstairs. The train experience was eventful. Before we got underway we had to wait because of a fatality up the line.

Sunday 29: Coogee to Bondi, 8 km

From Junee the forward engine wasn't working and the whole train had to be pushed into Sydney by the rear engine...at a slowish pace. All up, we were over 3 hours late. After battling the quirks of the Opal card system, we took a train over Sydney Harbour Bridge to Milsons Point, a 15-minute walk from where we were staying at Glenferrie Lodge in Kirribilli. Tam, from Canberra, was there already.

We headed to Coogee Beach via ferry, train and bus, had a quick lunch, took the obligatory photo, and started walking, zigzagging past the G-strings and beautiful people. Zillions of Sydneysiders were doing the same walk, more than half coming towards us. We were there for the fantastic coastal scenery, they were there for the artworks dotted along the way. Bedlam! It was supposed to be 31° but the coastal breeze cooled things down.

When we reached Bondi Beach, we didn't linger because we thought we'd have hours to wait for a bus—the queue in front of us seemed to be 50 m long. But then two buses came and we were on our way to our accommodation. Sydney transport is excellent.



Monday 30: Bondi to Watsons Bay, 13 km

A ferry ride, a train to Bondi Junction and a bus trip saw us deposited at the famous Bondi Beach. The sand was raked clean and plenty of wetsuit-ed surfers were hitting the waves. After walking the length of the promenade and making cursory contact with the sand we headed up onto the path through one of many grassy reserves. At times we walked along connecting footpaths until we reached the next park. Highlights of this day were finding the fenced off North Bondi Aboriginal Rock Engravings, running the gauntlet of the dog minders' park without Mabel being attacked, Macquarie Lighthouse and, of course, the infamous "The Gap". The numerous tourist buses there meant viewing space was limited but it's an impressive drop, nonetheless. The narrowness of this headland meant we lunched at Watson's Bay then completed a loop to South Head via Camp Cove and the South Head Heritage Trail and finished back at Watsons Bay Wharf.

Tuesday 31: Darling Point to Watsons Bay, 13 km

After much debate we walked from Darling Point to Watsons Bay, the opposite to the guidebook's directions. This caused a few minor unintended detours, but we all eventually made it back to the ferry safely. Walking through the suburbs of Vaucluse and Rose Bay you get a good idea of how the well-heeled live. Beautiful bougainvilleas and jacarandas in full bloom featured prominently. Standouts were viewing the [Murray Rose enclosed sea pool](#), passing [Greycliffe House](#) and [Strickland House](#), and The Hermitage Foreshore Walk.



Wednesday 1: Darling Point to Kirribilli, 11 km

Lothar bows out with Covid!

The iconic Sydney landmarks were visited on today's walk. We didn't indulge in a burger & chips at the legendary Harry's Café de Wheels near Finger Wharf but did have our photo taken by Chinese tourists on Mrs Macquarie's Chair. Many photos were also taken in the Royal Botanic Gardens and on the Opera House steps. We enjoyed the jaunt over the Harbour Bridge though the security guards looked bored and did not engage in banter.

Thursday 2: Kirribilli to Balmoral Beach, 17 km

This long day was voted the best by participants. We left from our lodgings in Kirribilli and were soon snapping along with the best of them on Sydney's 'most photographed street'. The superb jacarandas formed an archway across the road and Milson's Park was a blaze of colour. Of special interest today were the [Sub Base Platypus](#), Cremorne Point and the lovely Mosman Bay where Gwenda found a beautiful coffee spot opposite the wharf. The crowds were thick at the Taronga Zoo entrance, so we continued quickly on through bushland to Bradleys Head, overlooked Taylors and Chowder Bay before resting at the scenic Georges Head. After descending a very long staircase onto Balmoral Beach, very welcome smoothies were downed at the boathouse before the long trip back to our base.



Friday 3: Middle Head to Manly, 15 km

With Tam returning to Canberra, the walking group dwindled to 3. Undaunted we took a ferry and bus and started walking at Middle Head. There, while the HMAS Penguin recruits were engaged in a sweaty run up the hill, we explored the old military fortifications. We returned to Balmoral Beach and continued to the Split Bridge via a lighthouse and lush bush at Parrawi. It was a long 10 km walk from here to Manly in warm conditions. Grotto Point with its rock engravings was followed by some great views across to the Heads and Manly as we traversed the fire ravaged cliff line. Weary but satisfied, we headed back to Circular Quay on the Manly Ferry and then to our abode in Kirribilli.



Saturday 4: Manly wharf to Manly Beach via North head, 10 km

As this is one side of the entry into Sydney Harbour defence features of years gone by were numerous with old forts and gun installations. The track even crossed a parade ground. There was a quarantine station in use here until the late 1920s and three quarantine cemeteries. There is also a memorial walk that honours those who have served and supported the defence of Australia in peace and in war. There is easy road access to this side of the harbour entrance, and it has been extensively developed with beautiful Sydney sandstone. The bush sections were good with lots of wildflowers. It was very overcast all morning and the last half kilometre was done in a heavy downpour.

In the late afternoon we all met at the YHA next to Central Station, had dinner, then boarded the overnight XPT to Melbourne.

Sunday 5:

We had breakfast at Flinders Lane's Brunetti's [*quelle surprise –Ed*] then split up for window shopping before taking the 1 pm train home. Well, some of us did!

A most memorable week for lots and lots of reasons! Thank you also for looking after me, and for your contributions to this article.

Lothar

Pattersons Camp and the Glenelg River Gorge: Saturday 11 November

Participants: Rob, Dina, Cam, Ken, Shirley and their fellow birdwatcher Lynn

Three cars converged on the Nelson Kiosk at 9 am then went north to the river. We left one car there before driving east to a spot where the Great South West Walk leaves the road. The first stop was Pattersons Camp, with two canoeists almost ready to set off. Next the only real hill for the day returned us to the clifftops along which a reasonably level track was our guide for the rest of the walk. Not many birds, not many flowers, one snake, one eastern bearded dragon, frequent views of the brown river with its bends, reeds, cliffs and the aforesaid canoeists disappearing downstream.

The GSWW has a convenient seat opposite the jetty for Princess Margaret Rose Caves, just crying out to be a lunch spot. We retraced our steps back to the car and then parted: the birdwatchers to their caravan park in eager anticipation of their Sunday birdwatching, Cam to camp at Pritchards, and Dina and Rob to Heywood for a vanilla slice and a beesting respectively. A grand day out through superb scenery in ideal walking weather.

Rob



An evening at Killarney: Saturday 18 November

Relaxed beings: Lothar (leader) and Chris; Pauline and Trevor; Jen, Rob, Chris M and her Adelaide-bound friend Carol

A 6 pm start for this stroll along the beach from Killarney to the Basin and back. Lots and lots of seagulls at the edge of the water often with those little birds whose name one day will eventually sink in, while on the rocks, some oyster catchers, a white face heron, two ibis, and no doubt more species. After the walk we ate tea, sheltered between two cars.

Rob





Thunder Point ↔ Levy's Point: Saturday 25 November

Bird watchers: Rosalie (leader), Ken, Rob, Khyll, Graeme, Dina

We left Thunder Point at 3.30 pm in fine drizzle. We turned off the Shelly Beach track and skirted the expanding Wannan Water sewerage station before crossing the golf course to reach the rail trail beside the Merri River channel. Here the resident white egret posed for us and ducks, grebes and coots scooted around in the water. Reed warblers and other birds identified by Ken were heard but not seen.

The descent to Levy's Beach was steep and sandy. The low tide (the reason for the late start) and the calm sea made for easy progress. Storms and high tides had cut back the dunes severely, leaving vertical sand cliffs and pyramidal sand slopes. We were able to navigate easily around all but the last rocky point until we overlooked Shelly Beach. Few birds were seen at this time of day, except for silver gulls, oyster catchers and a singing honeyeater. We arrived back at Thunder Point within three hours having had surprisingly little need for rain jackets.

Rosalie



A week in the Fleurieu: 19–25 November

Participants: Coralie 📷, Janice 📷, Lothar, Chris, Mabel, Mike, Liz, Linda, Irene, Pauline, Trevor 📷; more pictures on our [FaceBook](#) page

Monday 20. We rode the start of Encounter Bikeway to the Planted Coffee House, had a picnic lunch in the Victor Harbor Memorial Gardens before circumnavigating Granite Island on foot.

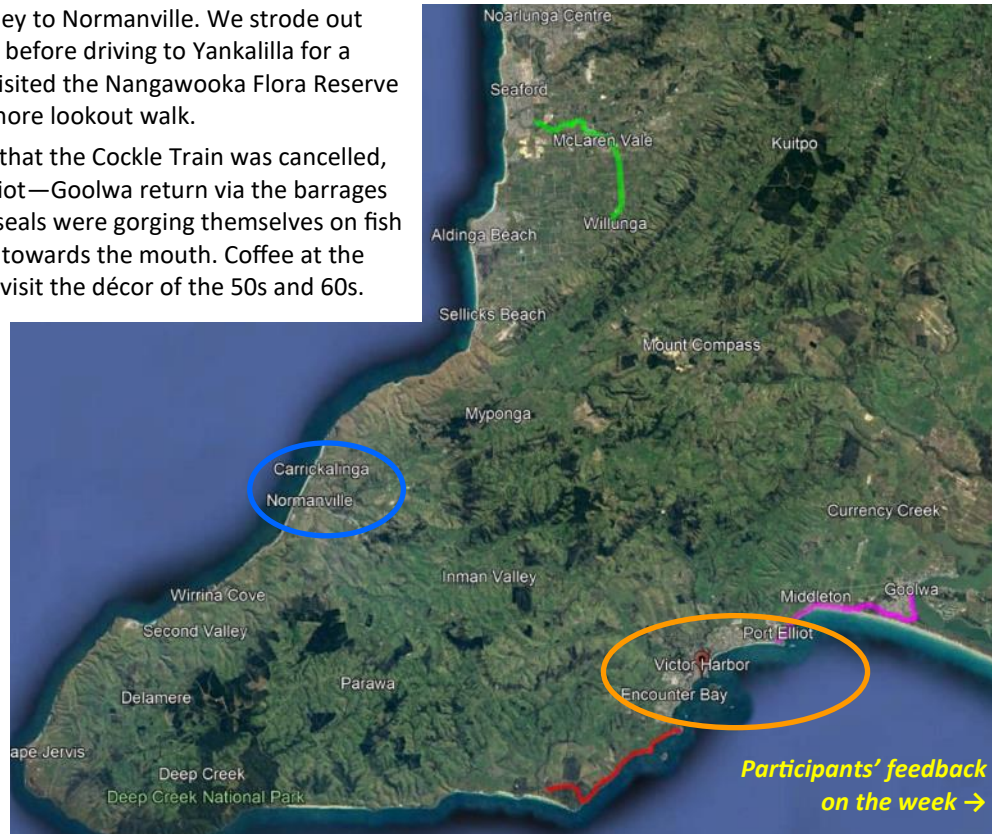
Tuesday 21. We drove through Inman Valley to Normanville. We strode out along the firm beach sand to Carrickalinga before driving to Yankalilla for a pasties lunch. Back in Victor Harbour we visited the Nangawooka Flora Reserve and in Port Elliot, Mabel led a short, foreshore lookout walk.

Wednesday 22. Disappointed as we were that the Cockle Train was cancelled, we nevertheless had a scenic ride, Port Elliot—Goolwa return via the barrages on the Murray River. Abundant birds and seals were gorging themselves on fish where the river water exited the barrages towards the mouth. Coffee at the Retro Vibe in Port Elliot enabled us the re-visit the décor of the 50s and 60s.

Thursday 23. Bikes were loaded onto racks for the 30-minute drive to Willunga where we tackled the Shiraz Trail. When we hit the 'burbs of Noarlunga we returned to lunch at the Ginny Pig in McLaren Vale, cunningly avoiding the threatening showers.

Friday 23. A serious walking day along the Heysen Trail. Starting at The Waitpinga Campground we soon found the newly erected walkers' camp *The Sand Dunes*. The Waitpinga Cliff section was truly spectacular and although past their prime, the wildflowers were a delight.

Coralie



Participants' feedback
on the week →

A week in the Fleurieu continued:

Janice:

My highlight for the week was the ride(s) along the Encounter Bikeway, including the Barrage extension. It is followed into close second place by the Shiraz Trail, partially due to the excellent mince pie and lunch at Ginny Pig. It is very difficult to choose a lowlight as even the beach walking was on hard sand, and the missing Cockle Train allowed us an out and back ride. I also enjoyed our cooperative and collaborative catering efforts.

Lothar and Chris:

We had a lot of fun with great people! A beautiful area to visit with many things to see and do. The only lowlight is that it's a long way there ... and back!

Linda & Irene:

Positive. We enjoyed the camaraderie around the dining tables, especially at your (the Ginn) family home.

Negative. We were disappointed that we had to leave earlier than the rest of the group.

Mabel:

The low point was definitely the Cockle train being cancelled.

The high was Natunyuru Ngawanthi walk in campsite (on the Heysen Trail) with the amazing shelter with preparation bench, filtered water, protected nook to use a gas cooker, steel laser cut designs and two USB charging points!!



Michael and Elizabeth:

We thought the week activities were varied and suited to a range of interests and abilities. We enjoyed the walking around Granite Island, and along Normanville Beach. Despite the Cockle Trail cancellation, we enjoyed riding the Encounter Way from Goolwa to Port Elliot, and return, and then to the Barrages, to view the birds and (flatulent) sleeping seals.

Trevor:

Highlights were good location, great company, great food, and weather conditions were nice.

Lowlight was sore bum from riding.

Pauline:

Highlight of the trip was the cliff top scenic walk on Friday.



Lowlight of the trip was



Destination dismal Durd Durd: Saturday 2 December

Participants: Rob, Ken, Coralie, Janice (leader)

Our visit to Durd Durd, at the southern edge of the Major Mitchel Plateau, was planned as an opportunity to enjoy the beautiful wildflowers which were a highlight of our last trip three years ago.

We set off with high hopes that the wet and windy weather of the previous week had passed with a mild 19° and a mere 25% chance of 1 mm rain forecast, but as we got closer to the Grampians the cloud got lower and the drizzle got more persistent. The final section along Emmett Road into Mafeking was very wet and slippery with potholes and gutters so that by the time we arrived at the start of the walk the car was covered in orange mud. It was not looking good for flower photography.

Not to be deterred we donned our raincoats, gaiters and sturdy boots in fine mist and optimistically headed up the steep Stockyard Track. We were walking in cloud by the time we reached the junction with the Grampians Peak Trail and, sadly, the fabled floral meadows of the Stockyard had succumbed to a cold spring and the previous week's weather. There was a mere sprinkle of blue and white flowers and none of the bird orchid carpet of three years ago. At least the wallaby from central casting was doing its bit to add interest to a bleak scene. Still hopeful of views from Durd Durd we continued on.

This part of the GPT wasn't finished on that last trip. We enjoyed its initial gentle gradient and carefully placed flights of steps before reaching a backcountry[#] section where the track just disappeared and one had to toil one's own way up the final steep slope to Banksia Hill. Luckily for us the pounding feet of competitors on the inaugural Grampians Peak Trail 100 mile race held the previous week had compacted the route and made navigation a little easier.

[#]*euphemism for find your own adventure.*



Banksia Hill has been the traditional morning tea stop on our walks to Durd Durd, but this time we had a very quick refuel in the biting cold, strong winds and damp conditions. We decided that continuing onto Durd Durd was futile in the low visibility. Not today.

We turned around and carefully picked our way back down the “backcountry” track, scampered our way downhill, and detoured for a quick inspection of the Durd Durd camp. Lamenting the lack of a shelter where we could eat and possibly warm up we headed downhill back to the car and to Mafeking Picnic Ground to have lunch. It was so cold we ate in the car, and one member of our party (who shall remain nameless) spent the return drive snuggled up under the car rug to warm up.

We had time on the way home to explore the backstreets of Glenthompson (ask Coralie). One of the sites of interest was the defunct [Macs](#) hotel on Station St which features some Tudor architectural elements in its gables. It was some consolation for the lack of wildflowers and expansive views.

Janice

Sniff!
This is what I'd hoped to see!





A ride in the Victoria Valley: Saturday 9 December

A damp day's riding—never drizzle but rarely dry either—with only two bouts of rain. Jack and I (Rob) started our 43 km loop at the Victoria Valley Public Hall, had a quick look at Bryan Swamp, crossed the Wannon River twice, admired some Christmas cheer on the remote Victoria Point Rd after conquering the only hill, and passed emu-central on the last and wettest leg along the Victoria Valley Road. The route has much to recommend it, even more if done on a dry day. We finished in time for lunch at the Peshurst Bakery.

