

# GDTA POST



## DISCOVER THE RUSH- EXPERIENCE THE GREAT DIVIDING TRAIL.

**Newsletter of the  
Great Dividing  
Trail Association**

<http://www.gdt.org.au>

Reg. AOO227959N

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A major exhibition on the Great Dividing Trail was opened at the Gold Museum Ballarat on Wednesday 28th February. The display features maps and charts on the four completed sections of the Trail, theme boards, a video and many artefacts in cases is located in the Buckland Gallery.

The function was chaired by Janet Cowles Chair Gold Museum Society and speakers included Chris Gallagher Chair Heritage Council of Victoria who spoke on the Goldfields and the Heritage Councils interest in the work of the GDTA.

Barry Golding Chair GDTA spoke on the development of the Trail and future plans.

The exhibition was formally jointly opened by John Landy GDT Patron and Steve Moneghetti Trail patron whom spoke on the significance of the Trail.

Roger Trudgeon Manager/Curator of the Gold Museum gave a vote of thanks. A framed photo was presented to each of John Landy and Steve Moneghetti.

The exhibition was arranged by Roger Trudgeon and Clair Muir with contributions from Daylesford and Buninyong Historical Societies, Parks Victoria, Bushwalking Victoria, Bendigo Heritage Trust and Bendigo Pottery. Major contributors were David Bannear, Gib Wettenhall and Neil McCracken.

Funding was supplied by the Heritage Council of Victoria, Gold Credit, Sovereign Hill and the GDTA.

The opening was attended by over 100 people including representatives of the Ballarat Bushwalking Club, Goldfields Tourism, Parks Victoria, GDTA members and Sovereign Hill Gold Museum Society and staff.

The exhibition will extend until 6th May. Following the exhibition the materials can be used for regional tourism groups for display purposes.

## Rail Trails

A LaTrobe study (a follow-up study to the 2003 study of Victoria's biggest rail trails) researched approx 8400 cyclists on the Murray to Mountains Rail Trail during Easter 2006.

Nearly half of the riders surveyed were between 41 - 60 years; approx 63% males. Riders spent an daily average of \$147 on food/drinks and only \$27 on accommodation (..."sleep cheap and eat well ..."); usually stayed 2-3 days at hotels, hostels and caravan parks along the trails.

Rail trails were "tourism goldmines" and would increase in popularity as the State Govt provides further funding.

Vic Govt spending to entice tourists to regional cycling and walking trails is stated to be \$8 million over four years.

Victoria has nation's most developed rail trail network, with 21 of the country's 47 major rail trails and more than 600 kms of trails.

## Macedon Loop Walk.

On Saturday 3rd February Richard Piesse led a small group from Camels Hump around the side of Mt Macedon to the Cross and back to the cars. Lunch was taken at a most impressive outlook site on the side of the mountain and was voted the best lunch stop for a long time. The whole walk was undertaken in cooler conditions than which prevailed down the mountain, and it was very pleasant in the shady forest. The expedition took four hours. Among the walkers was new member Chris Spencer.

## Conservation Volunteers team works near Twin Bridges.

A team of CVA members with sponsorship from the RACV has undertaken bridge rebuilding on the Tipperary track which is part of the Dry Diggings Track. The work was co-ordinated by Parks Victoria the land managers with Neville Fraser being the GDTA liaison person.

## Duke of Edinburgh Awarders Walk the Trail.

A group of Duke of Edinburgh award participants from Melbourne walked from Ballarat to Mt Franklin in January's heat.

## Walk in Turkey: 7 to 24 April 2007

V. John Basarin, a leader with the Bayside Bushwalking Club, also a co-author of books on Gallipoli and native of Turkey has concluded a successful walking tour to Turkey in October 2006 with participants from various Bushwalking Clubs.

Based on the interest shown in this walk, John is planning to repeat it next April for members and friends of bushwalking clubs.

The itinerary is designed to maximise opportunities for walking through three of the most interesting regions for Australian travellers to Turkey.

Highlights include:

- ◆ 3 day walks at Cappadocia (Central Turkey)
- ◆ 4 day walks at Lycian Way (Southern Turkey)
- ◆ 2 day walks at Gallipoli (Western Turkey)

together with 4 days of sightseeing in Istanbul (2 days at start/end) and a day by boat on the Mediterranean.

The average walk per day will be 10 kms, staying at special-type accommodation and only carrying daypacks. There will also be local guides as well as a bus accompanying the party. The trip includes visits to the historical sites of Ephesus and Troy, and the culinary delights of Turkish cuisine will further enrich the experience.

The land cost, including accommodation, travel, guides, and most meals for a group of more than 10 walkers, will be same as this year, i.e. \$3406 (single supplement \$511).

There is scope to extend the stay and participate in the Anzac Day commemoration at Gallipoli. For further information or reservation of a place, please contact John Basarin on 0438 055 056, 9502 0605 or [john@fairychimneys.com.au](mailto:john@fairychimneys.com.au).

## 100km on the Trail in 24 Hours.

A group of walkers from the Victorian Mountain Tramping Club will be walking from Bendigo to Mt Franklin on the weekend of 28/29 April planning to undertake the 100km stretch in 24 hours

## Collected near White Swan



## ANNUAL MEETING ENTHUSIASM.

A well attended annual meeting held in Daylesford on 28th February welcomed a new Committee Member Noelene Mason of Creswick.

## Federation Walk – Healesville 2007

**Sunday 21 October 2007**

**Hosted by Diamond Valley and Koonung Clubs**

Healesville is located to the northeast of Melbourne. It is 60 km by road from central Melbourne. It is situated on the Watts River, a tributary of the Yarra River. It is well known for the Healesville Sanctuary, a nature park with hundreds of native Australian animals displayed in a semi-open natural setting and an active platypus breeding program. Much of what is now Healesville lies on the ancestral land of the Wurundjeri people.

Healesville has long been considered as the gateway to the Victorian Alps and as such it provides a great base for this year's Federation Walk. We are planning to have around 25 walks ranging right through from easy to hard. Many of the walks will be within the Yarra Ranges National Park and the Cathedral Range State Park.

- contact Fred Bover ([fbover@ozemail.com.au](mailto:fbover@ozemail.com.au) or 94397092)

## Snippets from Vic Walk News

### Bushfires

These are hopefully behind us for now. I draw your attention to Bushfire Recovery Information - a very comprehensive update on fire affected areas, which has been posted on Parks Victoria website. Go to their website and click on Bushfire Information and then click on Draft Access Reopening Strategy. The report covers both Parks Victoria and DSE land detailing areas, roads and walking tracks that are now open or when they will reopen. I encourage you to

spread the word widely to your Club members. This part of Parks Victoria website will be updated from time to time as the recovery process continues.

Same track notices of interest to clubs – again please publicise within your own clubs:

Yarra Ranges National Park - what was regarded as one of the most popular walking tracks close to Melbourne has been closed for over two years - The Beeches and meeting of the Waters Track. Construction of new foot bridges is currently underway and it is hoped the loop will reopen by the end of April. Please check on opening before visiting.

Otways - Beaucamp Falls Walking Track is closed short term for track work and a new viewing platform being installed. To reopen soon.

Otways - Stevenson Falls. A beautiful area, but currently closed for logging in the area. It should reopen late March. Unfortunately all around the campsite has been logged (Ground Zero) and I suggest you avoid the area for some time as the landscape is not a pleasant site.

## Great Dividing Trail Association

### 2007 COMMITTEE

Position	Name	Telephone	Email
President	Barry Golding	5345 6343	<a href="mailto:barry@cbl.com.au">barry@cbl.com.au</a>
Vice-President	Ed Butler	5348 3059	<a href="mailto:edbutt@gmail.com">edbutt@gmail.com</a>
Secretary	Alison Lanigan	5345 2958	<a href="mailto:alanigan@vic.chariot.net.au">alanigan@vic.chariot.net.au</a>
Treasurer	Patrick Hope	5341 3711	<a href="mailto:pathope@netconnect.com.au">pathope@netconnect.com.au</a>
Maintenance	Neville Fraser	5331 1840 0418 558 278	
Membership	Dane Boag	5443 2435	<a href="mailto:cboag@netcon.com.au">cboag@netcon.com.au</a>
Newsletter	Ron James	5345 7539	<a href="mailto:rjames@netconnect.com.au">rjames@netconnect.com.au</a>
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Publications	Gib Wettenhall	5334 4643 (bh)	<a href="mailto:gib@netconnect.com.au">gib@netconnect.com.au</a>
Publicity North	Barry Hunter	5449 3286	
Publicity South	Patricia Hope	5341 3711	<a href="mailto:pathope@netconnect.com.au">pathope@netconnect.com.au</a>
Special Events	Liz Burns	5348 5667	<a href="mailto:trewhellafarm@connexus.net.au">trewhellafarm@connexus.net.au</a>
Track Development -Cycling	Patricia Hope	5341 3711	<a href="mailto:pathope@netconnect.com.au">pathope@netconnect.com.au</a>
Track Development - Macedon	Richard Piesse	0407 087 319	
Track Development - Skipton/Gra mpians	Patrick Hope & Neil McCracken	5341 3711 5341 2308	<a href="mailto:pathope@netconnect.com.au">pathope@netconnect.com.au</a> <a href="mailto:jenneil@netconnect.com.au">jenneil@netconnect.com.au</a>
Volunteers	Ron James	5345 7539	<a href="mailto:rjames@netconnect.com.au">rjames@netconnect.com.au</a>
Committee	Sue Cooper Noelene Mason Neil Campbell	5348 7550 5345 1260 9478 7995	<a href="mailto:suec@vic.chariot.net.au">suec@vic.chariot.net.au</a> <a href="mailto:anmason@bigpond.net.au">anmason@bigpond.net.au</a> <a href="mailto:neilcampbell75@hotmail.com">neilcampbell75@hotmail.com</a>

## New Trailer

Senator Julian McGuarons office just rang to say we have won \$1780 for a GDTA trailer which will be useful on working bees etc. This is the result of an application for a Commonwealth Small Equipment Grant last year

## Wombat/Barkstead Circuit

Loop walk commencing Wombat Station  
The walk will go north from Wombat station and emerge on the Railway Line coming through the cutting before heading south to Mullins Dam from Mullins Dam across to Pinchgut Road and through a stand of Large Timber, then back through the bush to a goldmine which has been active in fairly recent times, eventually come out near where GDT picks up Andersons Tramway and follow the GDT back to Wombat Station. Distance would be 10 to 12 km and would be easy grade.

## Enfield Walk

Saturday 12th May                    16Km    Easy/Medium  
Today we will be walking along, part of a future section of the Great Dividing Trail,(Mt Bunningyong- Skipton) in the Enfield State Forest, so it will be a chance to check out the area beforehand.

We will be starting the walk from the Enfield Picnic Ground near the small township and walk out along Dunn's Gully Track and will stop for morning tea along the way. Passing Mt Misery, we will head out towards Surface Point Picnic Ground for an early Lunch break. We will explore the Chinese Graves, as well as some of the old Gold Mines nearby, as this area was extensively mined by the Chinese. After lunch we will follow an old Aqueduct and walk along Firth Gully as we head towards Bald Hill. From here we will head out along Incolls Road before heading back into the forest again and finally back to our cars at Enfield Picnic Ground. This area has recently been upgraded with improved tracks ,so it will interesting how it has come along in such a beautiful area. It will also be a chance to sample an area which may be included along our Trail towards the Grampians! We will meet at the Enfield Picnic Ground,(centre of Enfield), at 9.30am. Confirm with Neil Campbell (03)9478 7995 or MOB: 0419 108 068

## Welcome to new Members

Welcome to  
Steve and Maxine Tester,  
Peter Hiscock  
Heather Brown  
Megan Ballinger  
Roger and Elizabeth Trudgeon

## Federation Day Walk

The 2007 Bushwalking Victoria Federation Walks will be held on Sunday 21 October at Healesville. The event is arranged by Diamond Valley and Koonung Clubs

## Bushfire Contacts

An update on fire affected areas throughout the State can be obtained from [www.parkweb.vic.gov.au](http://www.parkweb.vic.gov.au). Click on bushfire information and then click on Draft Access Reopening Strategy.

## Nolan's Creek - Rathole Mine - Stockyard Creek Circuit

### Sunday March 25

Richard Piesse led 14 members and visitors on a walk of about 16km on a day which was quite chilly early on, but later became perfect walking weather. We started out from Nolan's Creek at 9-45am, and climbed along Nolan's Creek Road before branching west on a logging track and climbing towards Pumphouse Track and Camp Road. Along the way we saw several kangaroos some distance off, and then disturbed two foxes, one of which was a little curious before deciding it was better to follow its companion and get away from us. After crossing Camp Road and descending Rathole Track, a lone wallaby was sighted. Morning tea was at the Rathole Mine after which we joined the GDT for a short stretch before going cross-country to Pines Track. The walk up Pines Track to Camp Road included two testing hills, but all made it quite well. We then crossed Camp Road and joined the GDT again to our lunch spot on a bend in Stockyard Track which, after we had satisfied our hunger, was followed down through some beautiful messmate and rain forest to Nolan's Creek Road again. The remainder of the walk was on the GDT back to our cars at Nolan's Creek which we reached at 2-45pm. Two features of the day were the magnificent messmate and gum forests and the abundance of flowering banksias. Thankyou, Richard, for a most enjoyable walk.

Bill Casey

<b>2007 GDTA Walks Program</b>					
<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Length</b>	<b>RATING</b>	<b>Contact</b>	
Sat 14 April	Wombat Barkstead loop	10-12	MED	Ron James	5345 7539
Sun 22nd Ap	Creswick Miners Bike Ride	40k	MED, RIDE	Pat Kelso	5341 3711
Sat 28April	Mt Alexander Harcourt Nth Non-loop 9.30	10-12	EASY MED	Barry Hunter	5449 3286
Sun 6th May	Daylesford - Sailors Falls Loop	15k	MED	Sue Cooper	5348 7550
Sat 12th May	Enfield Walk	16km	EASY/MED	Neil Campbell	9478 7995
Sun 20May	Castlemaine Heritage Walk Poverty Gully channel, Eureka Cambel Channel loop	14k	E-MED	Richard	0407087319
Sat 9 June	Welcome Mine Loop	12	E-M	Ron James	5345 7539
Sat 23June	Members Dinner Guildford- speaker I risk loop	5-7	E	Richard P	0407087319
Sun 8July	Browns Gully Loop	12-14	MED	Ed	5348 3059
Sun 22July	Firth Park Loop	12k	E-MED	Richard	0407087319
Sat 11 Aug	Cobblers Gully Chewton	12	E-M	Bill Casey	5330 2296
Sun 19th Aug	Hepburn Walk around	10-12	MED	Ron James	5345 7539
Mon 20 Aug	Nth Harcourt - Springs Rd 9.30	5km	E	Barry Hunter	5449 3286
Sun 2 Sept	Fathers Day Jubilee Mine - Scarsdale loop	10-12	E-M	Judy Murray	5335 5324
Sat 15h Sep	Porc ridge Browns Gully	15k	MED	Ed	5348 3059
Thurs 27 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Quarry Hill Spring Gully 9.30	6-7 k	EASY	Barry Hunter	5449 3286
Sun 30Sept	GDT ToeRag Nolans	15-18k	MED H	Richard & Ed	5348 3059
Sun 7 Oct	Joyces Crk, Plaistowe via Newstead		EASY	Alison	5345 2958
Sun 14 <sup>th</sup> Oct	VicWalks Day				
Sun 21 Oct	Slatey Creek Loop	12	E-M	Sue Cooper	5348 7550
Sat 3 Nov	Nature Walk Creswick	5-7	E	Alison	5345 2958
Sat 17 Nov	Essendon Marathon	42km	VERY HARD	BillCasey	5330 2296
Sun 25 Nov	Ballarat Town Walk	5-8	EASY	Neville Fraser	5331 1840
Sat 8Dec	Twilight Mt Franklin - Jim Crow	8-10	E	Barry Golding	5345 6343

## **14<sup>th</sup> Annual Great Divide Marathon - Saturday November 17**

Essendon Bushwalking Club's 42km GDM will this year start at the summit of Mt Tarrengower, and travel via Maldon, Muckleford, Castlemaine, Chewton, Spring Gully and Fryerstown to the finish at Vaughan Springs. The walk will incorporate the new Chewton - The Monk section which enables GDT walkers to avoid going into Castlemaine if they so wish. Entry will be available only to Essendon and GDTA members until September, after which visitors will be accepted subject to the limit of 55 walkers not having been reached. Further details from Bill Casey via email [bill@wtcasey.com](mailto:bill@wtcasey.com)

MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS AND RENEWALS	AMOUNT
• <b>Family Membership</b> two family members, \$45-00 per annum (plus \$17-00 additional persons)	
• <b>Additional participating family member</b> \$17.00	
• <b>Walking Club, Businesses, Other Organisations</b> \$45-00 per annum	
• <b>Single Membership</b> \$30-00 per annum	
• <b>Concessional Membership</b> \$25-00 per annum	
<b>PUBLICATIONS</b>	
• <b>DRY DIGGINGS TRACK MAP</b> (Daylesford-Castlemaine) \$6.00+\$1.00 postage (Suggested Retail \$7.50)	
• <b>Wallaby TRACK MAP</b> (Bunninyong - Ballarat - Daylesford) \$6.00 + \$1.00 postage (Suggested Retail \$7.50)	
• <b>LERDERDERG Track Map</b> (Daylesford - Bacchus Marsh) \$5.00 + 50c postage(Suggested Retail \$7.50)	
• <b>LEANGANOOK TRACK MAP (Castlemaine-Bendigo)</b> \$5.00+50c postage (Suggested Retail \$7.50)	
• <b>WOMBAT STATE FOREST Touring Guide</b> \$12 posted	
• <b>CD promotional CD \$5.00 + \$1.00 postage</b>	
• <b>Hidden Treasures Promotional Brochure, free</b>	
• <b>GDTA CLOTH BADGE</b> (logo for sewing on clothing) \$6.00 + 50c postage	
<b>DONATION TO GDTA for Track Construction and Maintenance</b>	
<b>TOTAL ENCLOSED</b>	

GDTA MEMBERSHIP DETAILS FOR OUR RECORDS, MAILING / EMAILING NEWSLETTER

MEMBER NAME .....

- **Other Member Names** (if *Family Membership*)
 

Other member 2.....	Other Member 1.....
Other Member 4.....	Other Member 3.....
	Other Member 5.....

MAIL address.....

Postcode .....

Telephone .....

Mobile .....

Email .....

Would you like to ...

- *the regular newsletter to be sent to you on Email rather than posted?* Yes/ No
- *regularly participate in GDTA activities and programs?* Yes/ No
- *help the GDTA by arranging walks & other activities?* Yes/ No
- *help the GDTA with maintenance, marketing, track development etc.* Yes/ No

Queries on Membership, please phone Dane Boag 54432435 or email [cboag@netcon.net.au](mailto:cboag@netcon.net.au)

**Post Remittances to:**

Treasurer, GREAT DIVIDING TRAIL ASSOCIATION INC, P O BOX 429, DAYLESFORD Vic 3460



Newsletter of the Great Dividing Trail Association  
po Box 429 Daylesford **3460**

Member Name  
Street Address  
City, Postcode