

**2020**

DATE	LEADER	PLACE	DISTANCE	ACTIVITY DURATION ESTIMATE	GRADE AWTGS	COMMENT	BOOK REFERENCE
29 January 8am	Gerry Egan	Castlemaine	7 kms plus 1 km from Dove to the Octopus	2.5 hours	3	Octopus to Dove via Forest and Moonlight Creek and through Kalimna Park. It is relatively flat and easy but with a few rocky parts, so poles might be useful for those parts. A few patches of long grass, so wear closed shoes. I chose not to make it longer in the expectation that it will likely be hot.	

**2020**

12 February 8am	Lorraine and Geoff Callister	Castlemaine	10.8 kms	3.5 hours	2/3	<p>A circular walk, partly within the National Heritage Park. Group lunch/coffee at Dove afterwards for those who are interested.</p> <p>Leave Octopus, walking 1.4 kms on sealed township roads</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Follow the Poverty Gully vehicle road 3.7 kms, in dappled shade, towards Wesley Hill</li><li>• undulating gravel road, incorporating 5 relatively short, steep hills, from the begin of road at 320 mts to highest of hills at 421 mts</li><li>• turn off onto a bush track, walking for approximately 3 kms, again in dappled shade</li><li>• On the outskirts of Wesley Hill, walk on town gravel roads towards Loddon Gaol</li><li>• follow track alongside the rail line back to the Octopus</li></ul>	
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**2020**

26 February 8am	Jules Hurley and Rex Odgers	Castlemaine	7 kms	2.5 hours	3	<p>The walk will start and finish at the Octopus so to include a coffee gathering at the Dove would require an additional short walk or car trip and an additional hour or so in time.</p> <p>A combination of two loops in the C'maine Heritage Park to the south of the Poverty Water race track.</p> <p>From the Octopus we'll use back streets to walk via Victoria Gully towards the Ajax mine area.</p> <p>From there we walk in a southerly loop in the bush on rough, stoney tracks, at times narrow, rocky and with a couple of climbs meaning walking poles would be advisable.</p> <p>We anticipate being at the Octopus by near 11am</p>	
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## 2020

11 March 8.30am	Bill and Deb Wiglesworth	Babbington Hill	9-10kms	Travel time 40 minutes to the start.  Coffee - 1 hr  Coffee will be in Daylesford or Guildford	3/4	<p>We will travel to Lyonville, between Trentham and Daylesford.</p> <p>The walk will be 9-10 km, depending if we decide to take in the Lyonville Springs at the northern extremity of the circuit.</p> <p>Most of the walk is through Wombat Forest, which has beautiful eucalypts, much larger than what we see around Castlemaine.</p> <p>The final climb up to Babbington Hill is steep and involves some loose rocky pathway. We gain over 100 vertical metres in less than 2 km, so, a reasonable level of fitness is recommended.</p> <p>Walking poles could be useful.</p>	Glen Tempest's Victoria's Goldfield Walks. #6 page 32
Walks cancelled due to Covid 19 Restrictions							
10 June 0900	Jules and Rex	Colles Road - Quartz Hill.	6.5kms			<p>Maximum of 20 people. We will meet at the Pennyweight Childrens cemetery in Colles Road. There is ample parking space available, if people nose into the barriers to park.</p> <p>The walk will be partly on unmade wide roads/tracks and partly on rocky narrow tracks. Some inclines, but not any steep climbs. We intend to find a spot to stop for morning tea and for people to chat. Not sure of our estimated time of the walk, but will finish no later than noon.</p>	

**2020**

<p>24 June 9am</p>	<p>Keith Neaves</p>	<p>Mt Alexander. the Gold Fields Track</p>	<p>7 kms</p>	<p>Walking - 3 hrs Travel time - to the start 20 mins</p>	<p>3/4</p>	<p>The walk commences in McQuillans Rd Faraday on the southwestern edge of the Park. The first and last kilometre is steep and is a grade 4 incline. Sticks are recommended. The next 5 kms contours around the Mount passing through Dog Rocks on the west and then contouring on the east side of the park. We walk around to Leaganook Picnic area where there are public toilets. We then walk back to the start in McQuillans Rd.</p>	
<p>8 July 9am</p>	<p>Bryan and Julie Fitzgerald</p>	<p>Barkers Creek/ Walmer</p>	<p>8 kms</p>	<p>1 hour 45 mins walking. Bring your morning tea and we will stop for about 20 mins.</p>	<p>3/4</p>	<p>Starting point is at the junction of Youngman's Track and Dalton's Road with Woodbrook Road at 9 o'clock.  There is just under 1 and 1/2 kms of mountain bike trail which is slightly slippery underfoot. The remainder of the walk is on forest vehicular tracks. 2 kms is along Pipeline Track which has 2 very steep uphill and one very steep downhill sections. Poles are recommended for those who normally use them.  There are quite a few varieties of early wildflowers starting to appear; wattles, grevillias and even a few tall greenhoods.</p>	

**2020**

22 July 9am	Alan Roberts	Shadbolts Picnic Area to Old Tom Mine circuit, Woodvale.	7 kms	45 minutes drive Castlemaine to Shadbolts Picnic Area. 2 hours walking.	3/4	<p>Most of the walk is gently undulating on single track through the bush. There is a moderate climb of around 200m in length.</p> <p>This walk is quite different to other walks we have done. The Whipstick is a unique environment created following the buckling and shattering of the underlying sandstone as a result of the Mount Alexander granite intrusion pushing northwards. It is characterised by the lack of free surface water. We walk through stands of Blue, Green and Bull mallee, then through mixed box/ironbark forest with an understory of wattles, bottlebrushes and other native species. The area is rich in songbirds. Signs of gold mining are still evident. With any luck the Wirrakee wattles will provide a magnificent mass flowering display. Return trip will be via Skylark Road to view old Eucalyptus leases and mature Whipstick forest.</p>	
29 July 9am	Alan Robers	Shadbolts Picnic Area to Old Tom Mine circuit, Woodvale.	7 kms		3/5	Repeat of the above	
Walks cancelled due to Covid 19 Restrictions							

**2020**

14 October 8.30	John Butselaar	Malmsbury Botanic Gardens, Coliban watercourse. Starting and finishing at the Malmsbury Botanic Gardens.	7 kms		2	<p>The walk will the historic bluestone railway viaduct and station.</p> <p>The Coliban is flowing quite nicely and water is cascading down the falls. We can enjoy our snack and drink next to the falls.</p> <p>Meet at the parking bays in Ellesmere Place, in front of the Gardens, off Mollison Street at the Malmsbury Town Hall</p>	10 Walkers
28 October 8.30	Janobai Smith	Warburtons Bridge Campground, Drummond-Vaughan Road, Glenluce	9.5 km	20 min drive from Castlemaine to the start.  Walking about 3.5 hours	3	<p>The walk sets out from Warburtons Bridge camping ground, which is a 5-minute drive past Fryerstown. Much of it is quite comfortable walking on (4WD) tracks but there are a couple of steep inclines. Walkers who use poles should bring these. The walk goes in a loop (going up Bridge Track then heading south along Smuttas Track before joining Irishtown Track and back along Smuttas Track, with one diversion down to Salters Creek.) The walk will take in a few of the Loddon Race points of interest.</p> <p>To get to Warburtons Bridge camping ground, if coming from Castlemaine, turn left from Vaughan-Chewton Rd onto the Drummond-Vaughan Rd. The camping ground (with parking) is immediately after the bridge.</p>	10 walkers  The majority of the walk that we will be taking is shown on the Columbine Creek Walking Tracks map. The northern section is on the Irishtown Walking Tracks map. The maps can be accessed here: <a href="https://cartography.id.au/columbine/columbine.htm">https://cartography.id.au/columbine/columbine.htm</a>  <a href="https://cartography.id.au/irishtown/irishtown.htm">https://cartography.id.au/irishtown/irishtown.htm</a>

## 2020

<p>11 November 8.30am</p>	<p>Peter Turner</p>	<p>Northern section of Kalimna Park</p>	<p>5.5 km</p>	<p>2 hours</p>	<p>3/4</p>	<p>We will follow the steep rough track past the Devonshire Mine site up into Kalimna Park, across the Tourist Road, then head north alongside Moonlight Creek, before another climb along the eastern boundary of the park, past the Miners Grave to the highest part of the park. After a break for morning tea with a view, the return route completes a loop via the western edge of the park, backup to the Tourist Rd and a final steep descent to the cars. Walking poles recommended, especially for several steep descents. There are wildflowers to be admired along the route.</p>	<p>CCM Map - Kalimna Park Walking Tracks.</p>
<p>25 November 8.30am</p>	<p>Keith Neaves</p>	<p>The southern area of Fryers Ridge Conservation Reserve</p>	<p>Approx 6.8km</p>	<p>Travel time to start 20 mins.  Walking 2 hours15 mins</p>	<p>2-3</p>	<p>This is a new U3A walk.  Meet at Octopus at 8:30am. If some members are comfortable with car pooling, suggest 3 per car max., that will help with parking at the start point.  The walk will start near Old Drummond Rd and Shirley Drive. A map can be provided if required.  It is an easy loop walk mainly on formed paths, plus one section about 300m of cross country, Bring your coffee etc.,  Size of the group is 10 but may change after Sunday's announcement.</p>	



**2020**

11 December 0830	John Butselaar	Black Hill Reserve Kyneton	Approx 6.3 km		3	<p>There are three interconnected walks in the Blackhill Reserve. We will cover a conjoined version of all three walks. There has been a deal of Reserve and track/path maintenance activity in the Reserve the last couple of years. Some is completed and will be obvious during the walk. Some is ongoing with the northern section of the Base Circuit Walk closed. I have revised the walk taking this into account.</p> <p>Walk 1. The Revegetation Walk is the on the flat and has the least defined track, although adequately marked. We walk through grassland, which until the 1960's formed part of shallow quarries. With the abundant rainfall this year the grass is growing tall as the weather warms. I suggest walkers wear long trousers. In our version of the walk this section is the final one.</p> <p>Walk 2. The Base Circuit Walk track is clear and wide. There are many pleasant views of the surrounding country and some spectacular views of the rock formations, such as the Monolith. The flora and fauna are increasingly abundant. This section forms the middle part of our walk.Walk 3. The Ridge Track is part single file and part wider track. It is more strenuous with some steep inclines and many steps. It rewards walkers with spectacular views and the opportunity to climb in amongst the granite boulders that make up the ridge. This will form the early part of the walk. Walking poles will be useful.</p> <p>Since the devastation caused by the 2015 bushfire, the resilience of the bush is clearly evident. This spring the recovery has continued with more birdlife in the maturing shrubs and trees. Those of you who have done this walk since 2015 will I am sure notice the continuing recovery of the reserve.</p>	<a href="https://sites.google.com/site/blackhillreservekyneton">https://sites.google.com/site/blackhillreservekyneton</a>
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