

Stage III Summer

Stage III

Summer 2009

'Wollangarra'

Licola 3858

(03) 5148 0492



Contact Us

www.wollangarra.org

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Stage III on Facebook

'Mountain Work Parties'

finishing off the pizza oven we've been working on all year in time for the Open Day at which we ran the café and pumped out the pizzas.

This year, in many ways, has been about Stage III gaining momentum. If you

witnessed anything of Wollangarra's 20th Open Day it is obvious that it is happening. You can see it by the involvement of so many incredible young people. The flat was run that weekend by the energy, passion

and initiative of all the young crew that breathed life into our celebrations. Young people are, have been and will always be the heart of all we are at Wollangarra. If there is purpose, they will never fail to be part of it! It is through their hard work that Stage III has moved into a time of strengthen and so quickly. It is

a truly amazing time and I know that I am not the only one to be awed by being part of it. **YOUR ALL SO AMAZING! WHAT AN AWESOME YEAR!**
Jac Semmler (Stage III Facilitator)



Some of the young people that made this Open Day such a heartfelt success.

STAGE III COMMITTEE

Jac has finished her illustrious run as facilitator, and is off to lend her expertise to Mittagundi, as their director. Interviews for the new facilitator are ongoing.

Since the last newsletter we've had some great events, outlined in these pages. These events included

Stage III Summer Hike

Harrierville to High Plains, Cross Mt. Feathertop to Mittagundi Pioneer Skills Weekend this January

.Burgoynes Hut Reroofing

Spend time with skilled bushmen Graham 'Fallsy' Fall and Jack Gilbert this February. Dates T.B.A

Stage III is a dynamic and strong community of young people and their supporters, who actively undertake purposeful and practical environmental work in the mountains and at home.

Stage III is open to any keen young person who wants the opportunity to make a real difference.

Adventures & Events

Banana Flat Hike

Stage III at Wollangarra is a whole new world that I have discovered. At the end of September into the start of October I went on my first, an experience that showed me a whole new meaning to hiking and Wollangarra. Stage III for those of you who don't know is more about you as a group taking and planning what you want to do and 'adopting the mountains'. A mixture of six veteran stage IIIs, six stage III noobies and two leaders formed an awesome group and provided a great introduction. I think I can speak on behalf of Bonnie, Nathan, Ruby, Tara and Annabelle and say that we learnt a lot from Hamish, Eric, Alex, Keith, Clare, and Tish, the more experienced stage threes. Under the leadership of Dan and Jac they become less of leaders and more of the group and handed the decisions on to us.

Our hike was fun and also challenging at times. We hiked into Burgoyne's Hut at night and attempted to scare the Stage IIs who were already there. Hiking in the dark was something new for me and very exciting but also resulted in a lot of scratches. The next morning we left the Stage IIs and hiked to Banana Flat, set up our tents and did a bit of work on the track back to Burgoyne's helping out the stage IIs. After half a day of track work we decided to spend the rest of the day lazing around playing cards and sleeping in the sun, taking in the beauty of the mountains. However I think this was a good choice because after a bit of discussion and Ruby constantly saying no, we decided to hike up the 4WD track to the helipad the next day. When we got there I thought oh shit! Ruby was not lying when she said it is a hard walk. The road went on and on and got steeper and steeper but by the time we got to the top the view was amazing, I had forgotten about how long it took and how steep it was, and Hamish saved the day with boiled lollies. After a long lunch we headed down the local track to Wollangarra. Home sweet home. In the end it was a very rewarding hike and one I look back on with many fond memories! The hike tied in with the recent Stage III Induction I did and really showed me the endless opportunities that Stage III has to offer. So I urge any of you Stage IIs who are contemplating the move to Stage III to jump right into it - you will love it!

Harriet Negus



Wollangarra's 20th Open Day . . .

The Vibe That Was

'Vibe' in all its wholesome, buzzing goodness. Earlier in the year when the committee gathered to discuss the strengths, successes and integral aspects of Stage III we stumbled across this concept of 'vibe'. In my best attempts to explain this notion, I would describe it as the warm fuzzy feeling or, rather the 'luminous internal buzz' one may feel while enjoying a particularly excellent Wollangarra moment. It's the silliness and the playfulness partnered with the sense of reward that is felt from witnessing or cooperating in group achievement.

If there was ever a time throughout the year that this certain feeling was, well, felt; it was during the 2009, 20th anniversary Open Day weekend. The sweet hum of cooperation and chaotic order was clearly evident in the hard work, smiles and excessive bowls of grated cheese. The excitement of creating, building, playing, enjoying, feeding, entertaining, dancing, and achieving was felt amongst a myriad of folk, young and old! Everyone worked very hard that weekend and it came together brilliantly; overall it was just so very exciting! We achieved a lot, fed many, had fun and giggled regularly. Thanks to everyone who made it such a success!

Alexsandra Pontonio



Stage III Committee

Poisitons coming Up

- Melbourne Events
- Designer

Apply by sending 100 words on what you will can offer as being part of the committee abd what you will get from it. Send to the Committee secretary Claire Hazelwood Email

- General Members

Limit of 5 general members need to come to a committee meeting to check it out

Calendar released for 2010

Sarah Bates

Hello there, I'm Sarah Bates the committee member and ready to make the stage three of your dreams come true with the help of the wonderful committee we have. I've just finished up studying botany and enviro science and am ready to see what the world has install for me. Hope to see you around Woll sometime soon. *(Due to a technical error, Sarah's profile missed the last edition. Sorry!)*



Creative? Merchandise Comp!

We are looking to come up with some innovative designs for new Stage III merchandise to help raise funds for Stage III and to keep everyone looking the goods. We are thinking T-shirts, Hoodies, anything that's going to be fashionable in the future.

Post Design to 'Stage III Committee c/o 'Wollangarra' Licola VIC 3858



New Stage III Facilitator



We have secured the services of Lisa Strain as the Stage III Facilitator for 2010. Lisa will be basing herself in Melbourne and effectively doing the job on a part time basis. She was really keen for the position and we think her knowledge and love of Wollangarra and the way she goes about doing things will be spot on for Stage III looking forward. Stage III is such an important part of Wollangarra and the possibilities are endless with what it can become. Having people like Lisa on board will help the Stage III's realise this potential.—*Simmo*

Lisa Strain poking her tongue out at adversity, one cool, calm and collected cat.



More Info on Stage III? See the web: 'Stage III' at www.wollangarra.org

'Stage III Mountain Work Parties' Group on Facebook or Call Stage III at Wollangarra on (03) 5148 0492

Follow Spot

Raising Funds

Follow Spot: Tish Gort

Interviewed by Aleksandra Pontonio

How long have you been coming to Wollangarra?

I first came to Woll in April 2007 for my stage 1. So that means I have been coming to Woll for... two and half years? Yeah something like that.

How did you find out about the place?

I found out about Woll through my cousins. They are the Woodwards, Eric, Nicola and Angus. Yes that's right; I am related to Eric Woodward.

Are you a ryvita-eater or vita-wheat'er?

Mmmm, that's a tough one. Really depends on how hungry I am or what topping I feel like. Usually when I am really hungry I tend to eat Ryvita wheat because it's bigger and you can fit more stuff on it. But hey I like to mix it up a bit.

Mmmm, yum....

Can you choose/describe your favorite Wollangarra moment?

One moment only? Each moment I spend at Woll is amazing but if I had to choose, that would be going on the Alpine Walk this year. We had the best group. Getting to the top of mount speculation was absolutely amazing. Standing on top of that massive mountain was just unreal. Another one was when we walked into Mittagundi at the end of the hike, and I'd never been to Mitta before. When we walked in all our families were standing on top of the driveway and clapping and cheering. It was really weird seeing all these people after two weeks in the mountains, after not seeing anyone but the same twelve people for 14 days. It was crazy! But awesome. Oh! and meeting Ian Stapleton. Yeh, that's right, I shook his hand!

Put your thinking caps on and let's come up with some innovative, productive ways to raise all important funds for our Stage III. We need to keep growing our gear store bank of equipment and get ourselves in a position where we are self sustainable in terms of finance. We can make it happen as a group and help Stage III to grow and strengthen. Contact the committee or Wollangarra if you come up with an idea or two and let's get cashed up.



Thanking You . . .

- Riss Robbins (Admin Space and Company! Thank you!)
- Dan Abikhair - Help on Hike
- Stage III Committee - YOU ROCK! So much happy work!
- Eureka Coffee: Café Donations
- Greg (Paxhill Pizza in Traralgon): Huge stack of secondhand pizza trays.
- Dori Ellington and The CERES Market for generous donations of teas and Soy Milk
- All Stage III's at Open Day— where to start . . . It was YOUR Day. Thank you
- Rachel (AJ Pizza in Bairnsdale) Huge stack of second hand pans.

Wish List

- Nalgene Bottles and Containers
- Gaiters in all sizes
- Trunks and Tubs to store hike gear .
- Trunking Radio
- Pavers for in front of the pizza oven
- Lots of adventures in the mountains

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Wollangarra

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