

Popular walk to Rubicon Dam

Last Saturday, over 50 people of all ages enjoyed a 10km return walk to Rubicon Dam in the Rubicon Valley Historic Area organised by the Rubicon Forest Protection Group Inc..

Passing through magnificent tall alpine ash and shining gum forest with its dense understorey of shrubs, the group lis-

tened to a poem by C J Dennis about working bullocks in the forests around Toolangi in the early days while a whip bird called in the background. Another highlight was the prolific flowering native flax-lily, *Dianella tasmanica* with its distinctive purple flower spikes and strappy leaves hanging over the aqueduct.

Ken Deacon and other walkers revealed snippets about the intriguing engineering feats

achieved in the construction of the Rubicon Valley hydro scheme, including the fast flowing aqueduct, trestle bridges and railway line. After a challenging, awkward squeeze to get onto the Rubicon Dam wall, the group returned energised by the refreshing forest environment, companionship and new friends.

(Thank you to the Rubicon Forest Protection Group for this report).



Walkers crossing over a rainforest gully via a trestle bridge. Photo by Ann Jelinek.

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