



The Australian Forum for Acoustic Ecology is hosting a

SOUNDWALK @ ABBOTSFORD CONVENT

on Saturday 25th June 2005, 3.00-5.00pm.

The AFAE is an affiliate of the World Forum for Acoustic Ecology <<http://www.wfae.net>>, an organization concerned with the inter-relationship between sound, nature and culture.

“... the “sonic environment” can be regarded as the aggregate of all sound energy in any given context, we will use the term “soundscape” to put the emphasis on how that environment is understood by those living within it - the people who are in fact creating it.”

A group soundwalk at the Abbottsford Convent, “a place where the city meets the country...a rare combination of heritage, history, culture and landscape” <http://www.abbotsfordconvent.com.au/>, has been organised to roughly coincide with the shortest day of the year. The soundwalk will begin at the St Hilliers St entrance, then explore the convent grounds towards the Yarra River. It will take place between 3.30-4.30pm, with a discussion of the soundwalk and people’s experiences to conclude. Please be there from 3.00pm as St Heliers Road gates will be locked at 3.30pm while we walk.

The basis of a group soundwalk is that there is only one rule: NO TALKING. This allows auditory perception to become the focus and to be fully appreciated. Here are some techniques to help focus whilst embarking on a soundwalk:

- * listen to the sounds of your own body first, your breath is it soft and steady?
- * listen with your eyes closed whenever possible
- * what is the furthest sound you can hear?
- * what is the quietest sound you can hear?
- * listen for buildings that “hummm”
- * can you hear the sound of your own footsteps?
- * how many times do you hear airplanes?
- * are sounds isolated or is their a subtle composition?

So if you can enjoy walking and can handle NOT TALKING for at least 30mins then come along and of course its FREE!

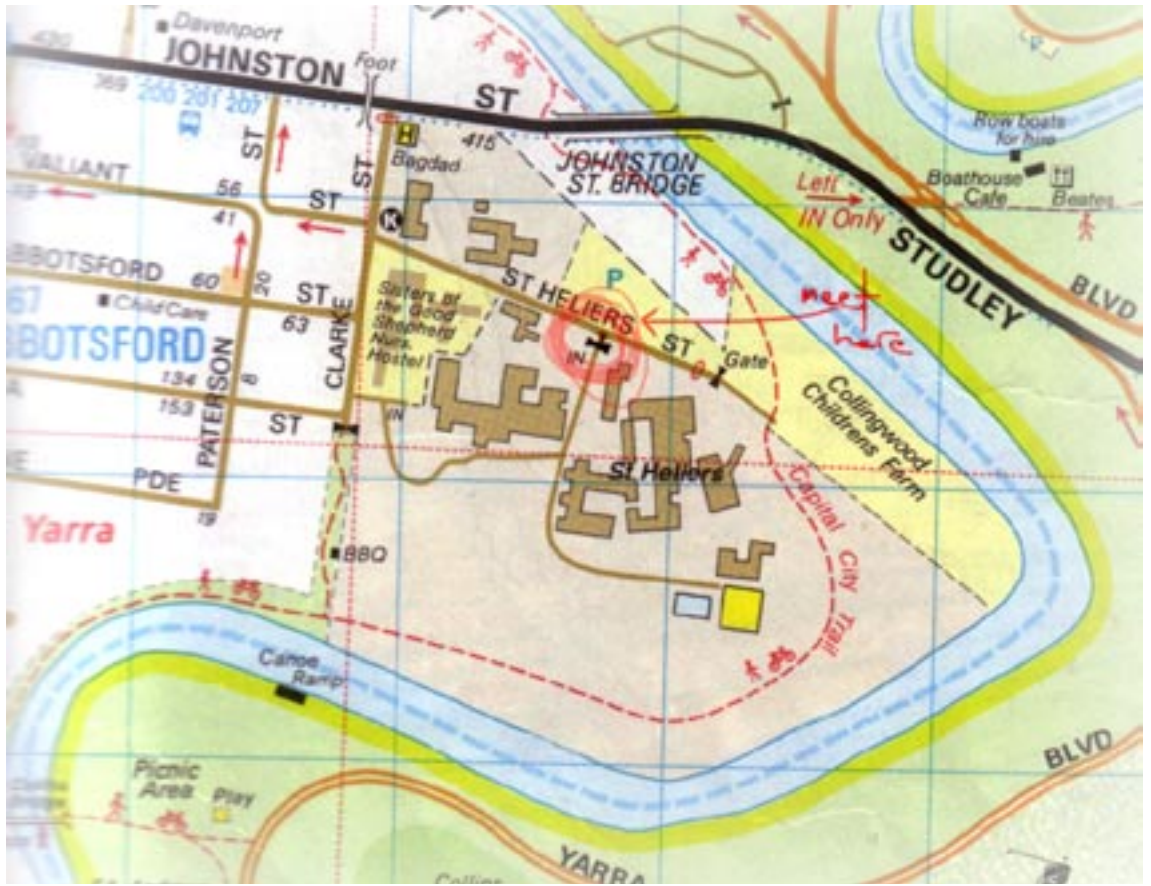
Just send an email to anthony@urbaninitiatives.com.au confirming your attendance.

As a participant told Hildegard Westerkamp after a soundwalk in Melbourne in 2003:
“I lived in the area where we walked. I thought I knew it well. During the soundwalk I heard new sounds. New layers of sounds I had no idea how much I had closed my ears.”

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listening notes: