

WALKLINES



***Newsletter of the Waverley Bushwalking Club Inc
September 2023***



Next Meeting: September 11th at the Mount Waverley Community Centre

Speaker: Paul Rake: Changing Lives as a Volunteer

*Waverley Bushwalking Club wishes to acknowledge receipt
of an in-kind grant from the City of Monash*

Waverley Bushwalking Club Inc.



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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Hi all.

At the last committee meeting we had 239 fully paid-up members. We welcome four new members: Jeanette Green, Dave Barry, Vanessa Mallard and Sue Fernandez. Please make them welcome on walks.

The committee is continuing to review our emergency procedures. As explained in the notice I sent out last week, participants on remote area walks - those walks where mobile coverage is not available within half an hour's walk of all points on the walk - are asked to notify family or friends as to the need for them to check that the walker is safely back.

Leaders on remote area walks are asked to take a PLB and, if possible, notify one of our emergency contacts. It is no longer necessary to provide information on base camps to emergency contacts as information is available to them in OnTrax.

The communications subcommittee has just about finished its work and all club documents are now in OnTrax. The new website will be open to everybody and will be an information source for people who want to know more about the club. Everything actual members might need will be available in OnTrax and they will not need to visit the new website. This will resolve the problem where there were two different log-ins for members.

Another reminder about Walklines. All our editors have been in the job for a long period of time and need a break. We need additional editors and this is an appeal for people to step up and learn how to do the job. An editor only normally edits 2 or 3 Walklines a year and the editors work this around when they are available. Please contact me if you can help out.

Finally, you have heard from me about this before, but we really need more people to become leaders. The committee will do what it can to provide assistance and I have previously detailed this in an email to members as well as asking leaders to encourage participants on their walk on co-lead. You also will be receiving an online survey which is designed gather more information about what concerns people have about leading walks. Please complete this. There are questions for both leaders and for those who don't lead walks. It will help the committee decide on what other measures it can take and what type of advice and training future leaders will need.

As mentioned previously we have created a new position of Leader Liaison Officer which Rolf will take on. This will be strongly focused on helping prospective leaders receive assistance from existing leaders.

Remember without more leaders we won't have a walking club. It is up to everybody to make a contribution.

A further reminder about Bushwalking Victoria's Federation weekend

Federation weekend this year is in October which is immediately after the Grampians base camp which many members are going to. However, for those not going on the Grampians base camp it is an opportunity to meet with bushwalkers from all over Victoria. The following is a notice from Bushwalking Victoria.

We are excited to announce that bookings for the Federation Walks weekend based at Trentham on 21-22 October opened on Monday 31st July. Don't miss this popular annual event that brings together members of our bushwalking community for a fun weekend of walks and social activities.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT continued

This year provides an opportunity for participants to visit sections of the Wombat State Forest that have reopened after the devastation of the 2021 storms. The program will include visits to Lyonville Springs, Garden of St Erth, Blackwood township and Mineral Springs, Lerderderg River, Nolan's Creek Picnic Ground, Balt Camp and Yankee Mine.

The forest offers an extensive network of trails varying in difficulty levels and length - from steep ascents to rocky descents. It promises a diverse range of terrains for us to explore and a variety of flora and fauna to discover.

More information and the booking link are available on the event [website](#).

Bookings opened at 9:00am on Monday 31 July 2023

David Lumb

SEPTEMBER MEETING: CHANGING LIVES AS A VOLUNTEER

New club member Paul Rake will talk with us about some of the projects of the Rotary Club of Chadstone East Malvern that directly change the lives of other people. Paul is one of 1.2 million Rotarians around the globe.

Rotary as some of us know is an international service organisation based on volunteers giving their time to implement life changing projects. Projects range from large scale such as the worldwide eradication of polio to projects in remote rural villages of Cambodia to projects that engage local middle aged homeless women who have suffered from family violence to become bus drivers and start a new life.

Paul will focus on a major project in remote rural Cambodia where 17 Rotary Clubs are installing almost 250 washroom toilets. A washroom toilet is similar to an Australian outdoor dunny but the above ground structure is wider so that women can bathe themselves and their children in safety and so reduce the incidence of sexual assaults that occur when the bushland is used as a toilet.



Welcome New Members

The Waverley Bushwalking Club warmly welcomes

Dave Barry, Vanessa Mallard, Sue Fernandez, and Jeanette Greer

May you experience many happy hours with the Club, both on and off the track.



We urgently need some people to edit *Walklines* a couple of times each year.

Elaine, Robbie and Graeme will provide training, passing on lots of tips to make it easier. They will continue to provide help whenever you need it.

If you have reasonably good written English skills and can prepare and manage computer documents you can learn the rest.

You will get access to the editor's emails so you can produce practice editions with real material and build your confidence.

As well as making a valuable contribution to the club, you will gain new skills and enjoy the creativity of moulding members' contributions together in a popular publication.

Contact the editors to indicate an interest or if you have any questions about what is involved.

Email editor@waverleybushwalking.org.au or talk to us at the meeting or on a walk.

Why not start practising now for a place in our 2024 roster?

Elaine Fasken, Robbie Morrell, Graeme Brownfield

Wilsons Promontory Pack Carry

August 4th — 6th Leader: Dennis Cheung

We did two spectacular walks on our Wilsons Promontory Pack Carry day two with a light backpack.

We started our walk at 8 am from Roaring Meg Campground and walked to the Lighthouse which is the southernmost lighthouse on mainland Australia. This track is moderately intensive with some sharp climbs. The breathtaking views made it well worth of visiting.

We enjoyed our morning tea with a beautiful coastal view. We were lucky having our lunch when returned to the campsite.

Our second walk was from the campsite to South Point and return. Despite the various weather changes, we all very much enjoyed the day. Some of us were visiting these two famous sceneries for the first time. Thanks to our leader Denis for organising this wonderful walk.

Mei Yang



Photos: Mei Yang



Day Walks

KALORAMA TO MT. EVELYN CIRCUIT

Sunday, July 30th

Leader: Richard Watson

Five walkers met at Capital Reserve at the civilized hour of 9am for the short drive to Kalorama Recreation Reserve.

The weather was fine as we walked along Mt. Dandenong Tourist Rd, turned right at Childs Rd and entered Dandenong Ranges National Park.

We found Wols Track and headed north through Mount Evelyn Forest to the junction with Track 10 and Pipe Track, both of which lead south roughly in parallel.

After morning tea at the track junction we headed south, keeping an eye open for Angle Track, which Richard had warned would be a long climb to the top of the ridge.

However, we all managed the climb, with rests when needed, and eventually reached Richardsons Track, then Wallaby Track and Mountain View Road to finish at Kalorama Memorial Reserve.

We ate lunch at a picnic table, observed by the beady eyes of a kookaburra which swooped on Richard's lunch although it got away with little. After a fairly strenuous walk we deserved our coffee, which came with a free chocolate at Hahndorf's Fine Chocolates in Montrose.

Richard Watson



Photo: Richard Watson

See the August edition for more photos taken on this walk

MOUNT WAVERLEY AND GLEN WAVERLEY

Tuesday, August 8th

Leaders: Margerie Kennett and Elaine Fasken

This was a circuit walk that began and ended at Valley Reserve. From Valley Reserve we followed Scotchmans Creek eastwards to the Monash Aquatic Centre, enjoying some well informed commentary from Fred along the way. We headed south to the relatively unknown Herriotts Boulevard wetlands (pictured) for morning tea. The wetlands and some newish housing development occupy land previously reserved for the Westall Road extension. We powered our way uphill under the transmission lines to reach Pinewood and then made our way back to Valley Reserve via Forster road for lunch.

Thanks Margerie and Elaine for an enjoyable exploration of a fresh corner of our local area. **Graeme Brownfield** (Photos: Bee Ha Soo)



FERNTREE GULLY KNOX – short ‘n’ easy

Tuesday, August 1st

Leader: Margaret Keir

Although the day dawned a bit grey and damp, ten walkers gathered together for a morning walk commencing in the Tim Neville Arboretum near Ferntree Gully.

We set off in damp conditions, not rain nor drizzle, but a very fine mist which did wonders for people wearing glasses - just a little blurry! Fortunately, it didn't last long at all and we had fine weather thereafter.

We weaved our way along the track following the course of Blind Creek admiring our beautiful bush surrounds and the bird calls along the way. A large group of cheery 'senior' cyclists passed us, all enjoying their ride.

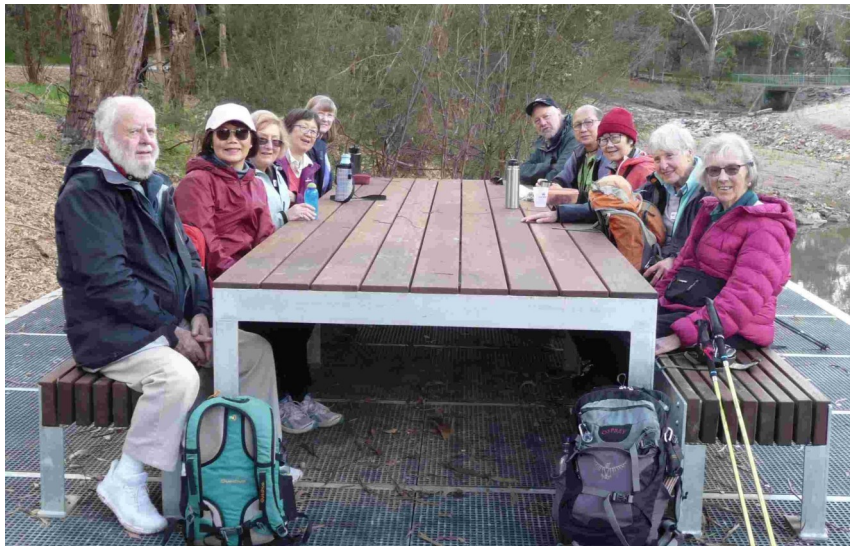
We paused when we came across a deep pond behind a wire fence where it is known that the 'blue billed' duck resides. There are many blue 'tags' attached to the wire fence indicating opposition to the pond being removed by developers but we don't exactly know for sure what is or isn't happening in the future. Hopefully, our blue billed duck survives.

A grant from the State Government has been used to do an enormous amount of work along the banks of the creek with multi plantings of small shrubs and rushes. Fine sturdy tables and bench seats have been built for folk to sit down, take in the scenery and have morning tea, as we did, which was delightful.

We continued on to a large reserve for a toilet break and then reversed our steps on the other side of the creek back to the Arboretum where we had lunch.

After lunch, we took a little wander around this park and gardens complete with a lake, children's playground, amphitheatre and War memorial. We were delighted to see two Wood Hens (I believe) with six tiny fluffy little ones, so very cute indeed.

Thank you Margaret for a very lovely walk, enjoyed by all. **Lesley Waters** (Photo below: Margaret Keir)



YOU YANGS

Sunday, July 23rd

Leader: Gillian Patterson

The walk started with a climb up to Flinders Peak, a climb of 450 steps that we all managed with ease. The gradient up the hill was somewhat steep but it was a gradual climb with steps and many level areas making it an enjoyable experience. We were promised a beautiful view and morning tea at the top, but the view was covered with mist. As we started our descent, the beautiful view started clearing and we finally got what we were promised.

After coming down, we turned right onto the East-West Walk. A short distance later, there was another view point from which we got a spectacular view of the area as the mist had completely cleared by then. The track involved lots of rock scrambling and ups and downs. We had to be careful on the rocks as they were a bit slippery and a few of us had close calls but no falls or injuries happened. When we reached the open area, at the intersection of several tracks, we had an early lunch.

After lunch, we went on the Northern Range Walk. This track was quite comfortable, the path climbed gently upwards, from there we got good views of the countryside around us and after that, there was a somewhat steep descent. After going around the loop we came out on the Branding Yard Trail, and then onto the Branding Yard Walk, a circuit walk of 5 km that came out at the car park. Two of us skipped the last one hour or so of the walk and took a short cut to the carpark, while others did the full circuit.

The You Yangs walk is one of the few walks which is graded Medium with a very good mix of experiences – a steep climb of 450 steps, rock scrambling, the excitement of negotiating slippery rocks, gradual climbs, somewhat steep descents, walking on narrow tracks, both flat and undulating areas and great views of the surrounding plains.

We saw kangaroos and birds for a dose of wild life but with no fear of leeches and snakes lurking in dense bush because the vegetation was fairly dry around the tall gum trees. It is hard to get so much variety packed into one walk and that made it a very enjoyable experience for all the walkers.

Thank you, Gillian, for a great walk! **Smita Sabhlok**



Photo by Smita Sabhlok

CHURCHILL PARK LYSTERFIELD

Wednesday, August 2nd

Leader: Mani Andreetta

23 walkers set off at 8.35 on a beautiful August spring day, with the temperature heading up to 17degrees. There was no wind so it was perfect to see all the great views ahead.

Along the way we came across mobs of kangaroos, females with their joeys at a very close distance. We walked up Stonemason Track towards morning tea, and after morning tea we headed towards the Granite Peak Trail checking out a quarry which was not in use.

We headed up the Lysterfield Hill Track to lunch and enjoyed spectacular clear views all around.

With only 4 km to go and most of the hills out of the way, we continued along the Granite quarry tramline. It was an easy walk back to our cars to finish at 1.20 pm.

We had coffee at the Stoners café.

Well done Mani, and thank you for guiding us. **Sharon Higgins**



Photo: Sharon Higgins

GARDINERS CREEK FROM HOLMESGLEN TO BLACKBURN LAKE

Wednesday, August 16th

Leaders:- Graeme Brownfield and Judi Tindale

Sixteen members and one visitor met at Holmesglen at the south end of the hike. After introductions at the TAFE Cafeteria, we proceeded along, and then under, Warrigal Rd to walk northwards alongside sporting facilities to High St Rd.

Then it was a very pleasant hike along the creek and under trees. It was great to find Tawny Frogmouths high up a tree on a side track. Later there were markers to show different periods of our geological history.

Further north, at the site of the old Burwood Drive-In screen, there was a car fashioned from tubular steel and some old Cypress trees had been chain-sawed to shapes such as humans, animals and birds.

A leisurely morning tea break was taken in the Gardiners Creek Reserve in warm sunshine outside a Deakin University cafeteria.

After crossing Station St, we followed the Artists' trail around Box Hill Golf Club, then walked beside the Box Hill rugby ground. Crossing Middleborough Rd, we sauntered through several very pleasant parks. An artist was finishing a very realistic oil painting of the creek in Kalang Park.

We walked along famous Jeffery St in South Blackburn to arrive at our lunch spot at Blackburn Lake. After lunch, we completed our circumnavigation of the Lake and retraced our steps along the other side of the creek to Gourmet Girl for coffee.

Thank you, Graeme and Judi for leading the hike along the Gardiners Creek trail. Thanks also to Paul Rake, our "leader-in-training" who did an excellent job in keeping us safe. **Margery Kennett**



Photos: Bee Ha Shoo



PLENTY GORGE

Saturday, August 19th

Leader: Rolf Exner

With grey skies overhead, an enthusiastic group of 21 walkers headed off under the leadership of Rolf Exner to explore the surrounds of Plenty Gorge.

We headed out along the southern edge of the park on the RAAF track and the Cobb & Co track, intending to cross the Plenty River at a small bridge - but alas the bridge had recently been washed away.

After a huddled discussion with many phone maps in use, a new course was implemented. This led to another "bridge" consisting of two narrow planks, which tested our balancing skills.

We ended up at the beautiful Blue Lake, although today it was a dull green, where we had lunch.

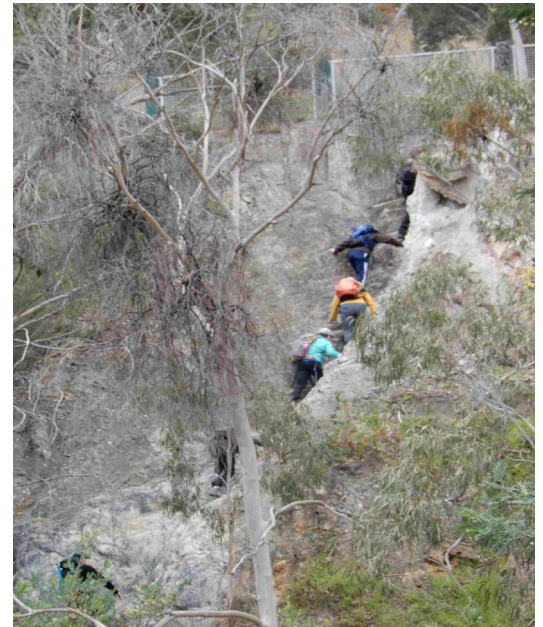
Afterwards, half of our group decided to scale the cliff surrounding the lake to take them up to the track at the top, while the remainder decided on a safer path back.

The contour walk high above the river provided spectacular views, although we were interrupted by several groups of mountain bikers trying to squeeze by.

After traversing the two-plank bridge yet again, we exited the park through the Janefield Wetland for coffee at the Jolly Miller cafe.

All up, about 16km with no big climbs but enough short ones to test our stamina.

Big thanks to Rolf Exner. **Julian Thomson**



Photos: Julian Thomson

SANDRINGHAM TO RICKETTS POINT

Wednesday, August 9th

Leader: Sharon Higgins

This was a pretty beach walk for eleven walkers on a sunny winter Wednesday, from Sandringham to Ricketts Point along the sandy, mostly winding, Bay Trail.

The tracks were quite sheltered from the wind but had great views of the beach stretching across Port Phillip Bay towards Arthurs Seat in one direction and towards the city skyline in the other.

We went past the Cerberus wreck in the bay, the early Heidelberg artist's views of the area- preserved on information boards- along the trail, and along the old bluestone sea wall at Black Rock beach.

Yellow wattles indicating that Spring is coming, the sounds of many birds, and well maintained picnic areas made the walk enjoyable.

Thanks to Sharon for a pretty walk. **Val Messer**

MULLUM MULLUM CREEK AND THE YARRA VALLEY

Wednesday, August 23rd

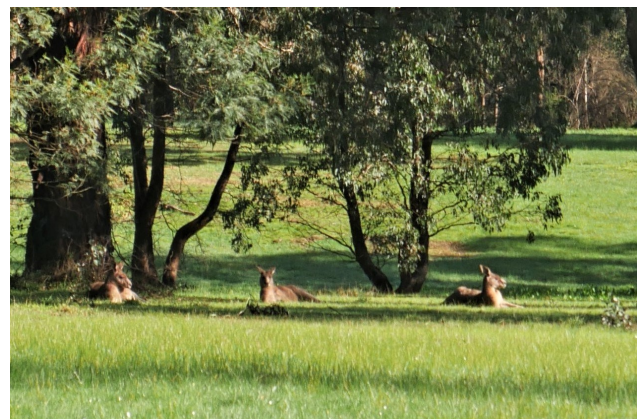
Leaders: Sally and Tony Walker

On a sunny winter's day, Sally and Tony Walker led a happy group along the Mullum Mullum to view where the Mullum creek enters the Yarra.

We walked alongside the Yarra on well-defined easy paths, with Yarra views at every turn, towards Diamond Creek and then returned. The wattles were out, glowing golden in the sunshine.

Sally and Tony made sure we had a pleasant stop for a cuppa with suitable conveniences and a stop for lunch with an early finish for a half day walk.

Thanks to Tony and Sally for a terrific winter walk. **Jane Taylor**



Photos: Robbie Morell (landscape) and Jane Taylor (portrait)

PARTICIPANTS' RESPONSIBILITIES



Before the Walk

- Check the grading of the activity and read the grading definition in *Walk Notes*, which is a guide only. If in doubt check with the leader before you decide to participate.
- Inform the leader, with as much notice as possible, if unavoidable circumstances prevent you from attending the event.
- Bring all the correct clothing, equipment, food, and water with you, see *Clothing and Equipment for Day Bushwalks*. Don't rely on others to lend you items or carry them for you. If in doubt about what to bring ask the leader at booking time or before departure. Some equipment may be hired from bushwalking shops or WBC.
- Complete the *Personal Health Details – Emergency Information form* or “Vial of Life” and place it in an outside pocket of your back-pack.
- If you suffer any medical condition that may require special action, please ensure that you carry the appropriate instructions in a sealed envelope, or they are with a friend at the activity. If necessary, carry the required medication.
- Carry a personal First Aid Kit comprising:
 - A minimum of: Variety of bandaids including extra large, Alcohol swabs for wound cleaning, 1 conforming bandage 7.5cm, 1 heavy weight crepe bandage 7.5cm, 1 triangular bandage, Safety pins, Gauze swabs (ie. 3 swabs 7.5cm x 7.5cm pack), Moleskin or adhesive tape or similar for covering hotspots on the feet, Thermal accident blanket, Personal medication ie. own pain killer tablets, antihistamine tablets - these will fit in a plastic ziplock bag.
 - Plus:** Alcohol hand wash, Sunscreen, Roll on RID (or similar) for insects and leeches, Small plastic bag for rubbish.
 - Optional extras:** Betadine, Gastrolyte tablets and glucose for hot weather, Instant cold pack, Duct tape, Pointy tweezers for ticks and splinters, Scissors, Snake bite bandage.
- Carry with you the mobile phone number of the Event Leader so that if your car breaks down en route to or from the activity or you become separated from the group you can advise details as soon as possible. This may also help the Leader to render assistance.
- Ensure you leave details of the activity and the Event Leader's name and phone number with your family or friends and make them aware of the emergency procedures in *Walk Notes*..
- It is wise to insure yourself for ambulance and medical treatment – WBC does not cover you for these expenses.

During the Walk

- Arrive at the meeting place in time to depart on the activity at the time stated
- Obey all reasonable instructions given by the leader.
- Advise the leader if you feel unwell or cannot cope with the activity
- If you are at the front of the group and the leader is not with you stop at all track/road junctions, signs, or whenever there is doubt about the correct route and wait for instructions from the Leader.
- Irrespective of where you are in the group, ensure that you can see the person behind you [and vice versa]. If not slow down and wait.
- The Whip is there to assist slower group members and to ensure that nobody is left behind. If you need to leave the track, for any reason, please inform the leader or Whip and leave your pack on the track.
- Carry a whistle at all times and remember the code:

| | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| Three short blasts regularly spaced | Emergency signal from person/s in distress |
| One long blast | Acknowledge a distress signal |
| Four short blasts regularly spaced | Emergency, regroup with leader immediately. |
- Provide assistance and support to others on the activity. Club events are generally not competitive and success of the activity is dependent on members providing mutual support and encouragement.

Remember, you have a responsibility for your own safety.

By following these few simple procedures, you will contribute to the safety and enjoyment of the whole group.