

# WALKLINES



*Newsletter of the  
Waverley Bushwalking  
Club Inc  
October 2023*

**NEXT MEETING:** Monday October 9th at the Mount Waverley Community Centre,  
Miller Cresc, Mt Waverley (MEL 70 E1)

**GUEST SPEAKER:** Bill McIntosh - Farina, Its History and Restoration

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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Affiliated Member of  
  
Bushwalking Victoria

## President's Report

At the last committee meeting we had 242 fully paid up members. We welcome three new members, Jenny Byron, Helen Song and Martin Wojak. Please make them welcome on walks.

Thanks to everyone who completed our leadership survey. It is closed now and the committee will be examining the results. This should help in developing future walk leaders. We are also looking at providing more accessible leader training. 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.

The Events program is looking better than it has for a while and thanks to our leaders for putting on more walks. We also have some new leaders. Mani Andretta is now leading several walks and Mark Gao, Jane May, Graeme Kittle and Jan Copland are about to start with new walks on the program. A big thankyou to them and to all the leaders who are putting on events.

As you know the committee is reviewing our emergency procedures. As I explained in the notice I sent out last month, leaders on remote area walks are asked to take a PLB. The problem is defining a remote area walk and determining where there is a lack of mobile phone coverage in the event of an emergency situation arising. Consequently, the committee has decided to purchase three more PLBs to add to the three we have already. These will be placed in the First Aid kits which should be taken on every walk. That way there will be a PLB available on all walks. Hopefully they will never have to be activated, but they will be there in the rare event they are needed. Instructions on how and when to use the devices will be published shortly and these will be included with each device.

We also have a problem if any emergency arises on a walk in that over 100 members have not nominated an emergency contact in On-Trax. Consequently, if something happens the club has no way of contacting relatives of friends. Please remedy this if it applies to you.

Last year we had a problem with base camps in that every camp was fully booked and there were subsequent late cancellations. This prevented a number of people from getting on camps. This year the situation seems to have improved. There are now 10 base camps on the program over the next few months and while a number are fully booked there are spaces on some. So, if you want to go on a base camp there is still an opportunity to have a great time with other club members.

Thanks to Jane Taylor and Robyn Timmers who have volunteered to join the Walklines editors. However we also need assistance in another area. At our meetings Fred Bullock is always sitting at the front managing the AV equipment and we are indebted to Fred for his sterling service over many years. However, Fred can't be at every meeting and he needs an assistant who knows how to set everything up. If anyone can help out, please see me or Fred.

That's all for now. See you on a walk sometime.

David Lumb

Sixteen committed members gave up their Saturday and chose to obtain, or refresh, their first-aid accreditation today.

Thanks to our members who commit their time, and to the club for committing the funds, to ensure we can be as safe as possible while in the track.

A fun day, with a great instructor, learning a bunch of cool stuff, which we hope we never have to use. Are YOU going next year?



**Cover Photo:** Jane May. Jehoshaphat Walk . Rolf and Gary

# Day Walks

Photo: Rod Potts

## Jehoshaphat Gully to Mount Everard Loop Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> of August 2023 Leader: Rolf Exner

What a lovely way to spend a Saturday. Rolf Exner and Rod Potts drove through mist to deliver us safely to Jehoshaphat Gully picnic area.

Eight walkers led By Rolf walked the Shelley Harris and Mt Jerusalem tracks to Old Kinglake Rd. We stopped at the Black Saturday Memorial plaque and stone chair. These were placed in memory of the Aherns and Barnetts, who died in the fires and were active in nature conservation community of Steels Creek. Also honoured were the many others who lost their lives on the 7<sup>th</sup> of February 2009.

After a brief respite we headed steeply offtrack to Mount Everard Summit and track for a well-deserved lunch. We returned past Mt Beggary and looped back to Kinglake and the Songbird Café and Larder. We enjoyed well-earned hot drinks feeling tired but satisfied and followed up with a very short walk back to the car.

Thanks go to Rolf and our two whips, Roy and Rod.

Report by Jane May

## Outer Circle Walk Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> August, 2023 Leaders: Graeme Brownfield & Judi Tindale

Today 14 brave souls turned up at East Malvern Station to do a shortened version of the Outer Circle walk -12 km in total. The heavens were rumbling, and the rain was falling as the team sheltered at the station for the head count and roll call.

Graeme and Judi were the walk leaders and as anticipated Graeme had spent weeks researching interesting facts to share along the way. Graeme explained that the Outer Circle railway was first discussed in 1877, with a suggestion that the Gippsland Railway could be brought into Melbourne via the outer suburbs. The line was eventually opened in 1890 between Oakleigh and Fairfield, but much of it soon closed due to lack of patronage.

This was a cut down version of the club's 21 km. walk through what is now a long strip of greenery. We also learnt that the great Sir John Monash cut his engineering teeth on the construction of the Outer Circle railway.

Given the focus of the walk history being around public transport we managed to incorporate a train ride, a tram ride and then a second train ride into our journey for the day.

We enjoyed lunch under shelter at Victoria Park Kew (we were expecting to see the great AFL and AFLW teams on the majestic park but alas it was the wrong Victoria Park).

After lunch we meandered through Boroondara (Kew) Cemetery and again Graeme had many stories to share.

First time walker Eddy and recent new member Jenny both noted the friendly and inclusive nature of members on the walk.

Thank you, Judi and Graeme, for an enjoyable day out.

Paul Rake



Photos:  
Paul Rake



## Speaker for the meeting on

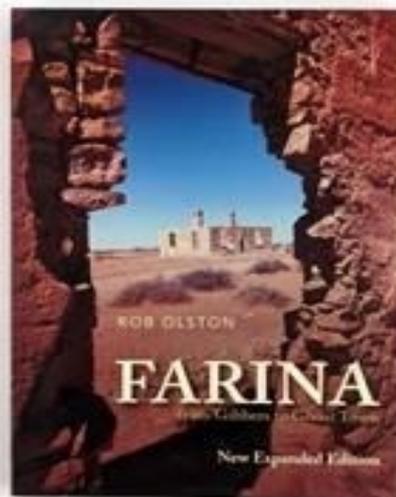
Monday 9th October is

Bill McIntosh

**Topic: Farina, its history and restoration**

Bill is Works Coordinator for the volunteer restoration group.

The remains of Farina township are located within Farina Station on the Oodnadatta Track, 700 km north of Adelaide.



## Day Walks

**Candlebark Park to Edendale Farm and return on different tracks**

**Leader: Smita Sabhlok**

**Date: Wednesday, September 6, 2023**

18 walkers departed from Candlebark Park via the paved main Yarra Trail path which meanders along the Yarra River shared with many cyclists. After about 5-10 minutes into the walk Smita surprisingly left the path to join a bush track on her right leading us into peaceful bush and tall gums. We followed the track which felt like many kms around, about, up up, and down down dale as they say! At this time I had no idea where I was until we climbed up and out to reach transmission lines in open grassland...that was quite a treat! We eventually crossed the Yarra and join Diamond Creek and continued Smita's well planned walk on a flat paved path shared again with many cyclists and walkers being the main link between Diamond Creek Trail and Mullum Trail.

On the way to Edendale Community Farm for an extended lunch, we passed by the Diamond Valley Miniature Steam Railway and the old railway bridge near Eltham. The Farm is an educational centre supporting sustainability living practices. We met friendly goats, sheep, alpacas, chickens etc .Simon's goat even posed for an awesome photo!

On behalf of us all, a big thank you Smita for effortlessly leading this interesting 18-19kms walk and in perfect weather too!!

**Beth Alcorn (photos Simon Johnson)**



**Photo:**  
**Simon Johnson**  
**Walk: Candelbark Park**  
**to Edenvale Farm**



**Westerfolds Park to Finns Reserve**  
**Tuesday 5th September, 2023**  
**Leader Margaret Keir**

Nine walkers left Capital Reserve and one met us at the start of the walk at Westerfolds Park. Walking on a nice wide path, which is also the Main Yarra Trail, we stopped at The Rapids for a look and a photo. On we went observing some kangaroos relaxing in the sunshine and many rabbits feeding nearby to the paths, not worrying too much about us.

The first crossing of the Yarra on a wide bridge, gave us a view downstream at the wattles and gums hanging over the river creating a very Australian scene. On we walked to Finns Reserve, stopping at the History Pavilion to read information about the early days in Templestowe, with old photos showing some local pioneers.

James Finn, one of the original pioneering families came from Ireland penniless in 1860 and took up work as a coachman. In 1866 he started up a beer shop and called it 'The Happy Home', he added 6 rooms and in 1872 was granted a licence. He then called the establishment Finn's Upper Yarra Hotel.

We enjoyed morning tea at Wombat Bend, near a children's playground, before returning via the same track and finishing our walk with lunch close by to our cars.

**Margaret Keir**

Photo: Margaret Keir



## Day Walks

### WARRANTYTE GOLDFIELDS

Leaders: Shir Yeoh

Date: 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2023

The day started off with an overnight low of 3°, that however did not stop 22 of us taking off for a new circuit walk in and around the goldfields of Warrandyte.

The mist hung low amongst the gumtrees creating a beautiful backdrop, the kookaburras were laughing and a large kangaroo watched us from a distance.

We walked along the Yarra river, walked on the Fourth Hill Heritage Gold circuit walk and saw the entrance to the Victory Mine, the main mine in Whipstick gully during the 1890s.



Photo: Gill Paterson

A short ascent on one side of a disused quarry and we were almost back to where we started. 22 happy hikers finished with a coffee and just a bit more Chit Chat.

Thank you to Shir and Moo Nee for putting together a new walk in Warrandyte state park.

Chris Clarke. Photos from Gill Patterson

### Panton Hill to St Andrews Market

Date: 16<sup>th</sup> September by

Leaders: Simon Johnson and  
Linda Stewart

Departing Panton Hill at 9.00 by 13 walkers to finish at 2.30 including a car shuffle.

We could not have picked a better day. The sun was out but not too hot and no sign of rain about.

Once numbered off we ventured onto the Bulwidj Reserve- This was named after the Yellow Box tree *Eucalyptus melliodora*. This attractive tree with its white and creamy flowers is highly valued for timber and honey. We pass the last of the wattles for the season and even stop to admire some petit wax lip orchids along the way.

The trail leads us through a significant stand of old growth ironbark forest with a rich understory of grasses and bracken along the Watsons Creek which we keep in sight. There are so many kangaroo tracks going off each way which are strewn with their droppings as they have made their way down to the water. There is evidence of much work done by local Landcare on this track with plantings and fencing to protect the flora and fauna. We undulate through Panton Hill Reserve, Wimbi Reserve and Yangga Reserve while taking in the lush green views of hills and enjoy the sounds the birds. Lunch at Peter Franks Reserve where there is still evidence of the gold rush of the 1850s, where equipment and mullock heaps remain. There is the Queenstown cemetery nearby which has over 400 souls resting. Heading off in single file through the sword grass trails there are many information boards to absorb lots of knowledge of how it was in the 1850's where in 1854 gold was discovered here. We reach St Andrews market in time to stroll around the stalls before we make our return trek. Loved the walk and thank Simon and Linda for their time and effort they put in.

Robyn Timmers



Photo: Robyn Timmers

# Pack Carry

**The Little Desert Discovery Walk**  
**Date: September 8<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> 2023**  
**Leader: Chris McLennan**

This is a beautiful part of the world between the Wimmera River near Dimboola and the South Australian border. It is the first park managed by a co-operative agreement between the Barengi Gadjin Land Council Aboriginal Corporation and the Victorian Government ensuring the traditional owners will be able to continue to care for country.

We unfortunately picked the wrong weekend and on day one, we were subjected to a cold snap bringing strong winds, rain and icy temperatures overnight. We were well prepared with plenty of thermal layers and Jane was very keen to try out her new sleeping bag which was a big success. The campsites have a refuge hut and water tank attached but there is no guarantee that there will be water so extra supplies need to be carried, just in case.



The sandy track had been dug up by trail bike riders who use the walker's tracks illegally and so made our walk a lot harder. The desert topography is very diverse with swampy lakes, golden wattle, gum trees and a myriad of small flowering plants and tons of sand. There were many insects such as Jewel Beetle, annoying flies, the occasional kangaroo and the footprints of the elusive emu.

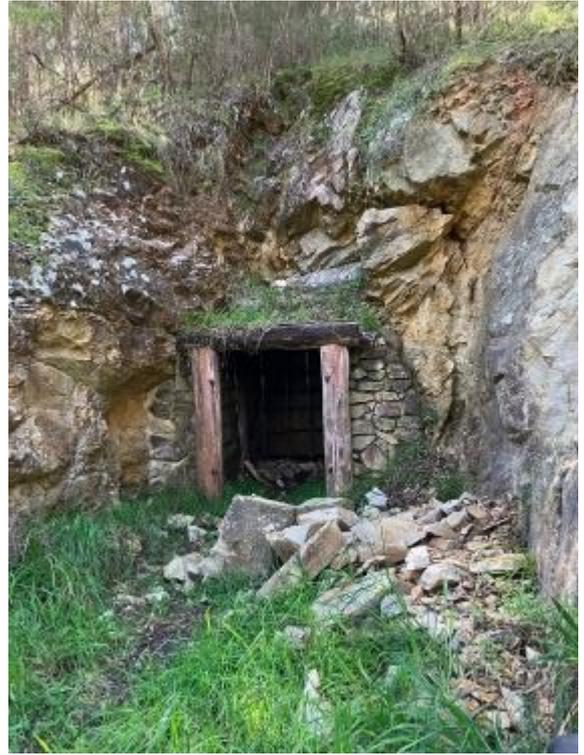
We walked for three days, camping at Mallee and Yellow Gum camps, covering 42 kms of sandy tracks and on our final night we stayed in the Victoria Hotel in Dimboola built in 1924 enjoying a decent meal and a warm bed, before heading back to Melbourne the following day.

Thanks to my companions for making our walk so enjoyable.  
**Chris McLennan**



**Photos: Chris McLennan**





Photos: Gillian Paterson, Warrandyte Goldfields



## Day walk

**Historical walk around Hawthorn and  
Glenferrie Rd**  
**Date: Wednesday September 20, 2023**  
**Leaders: Graeme Brownfield  
and Judi Tindale**

An interesting historical 12 k walk yesterday around the streets of Hawthorn & Glenferrie Rd;

Magnificent old homes that are well maintained & preserved, many built around the 1850's -some with intrinsic iron lace-work, a variety of coloured bricks & their different designs, set in beautifully well manicured gardens & stunning settings.

Thanks Graeme & Judi for a great walk & the history lesson.

**Denese Jowett**



**Walk: Olinda to the top of Mt Dandenong**  
**Date: 17th September, 2023**  
**Leader: Mark Gao**

The weather was beautiful. 7 of us walked along the Dandenong Creek Trail to the Skyhigh. and then the last 2 km was a big hill before arriving at the carpark.

Spring is coming, there are many little flowers blooming all over the mountain.

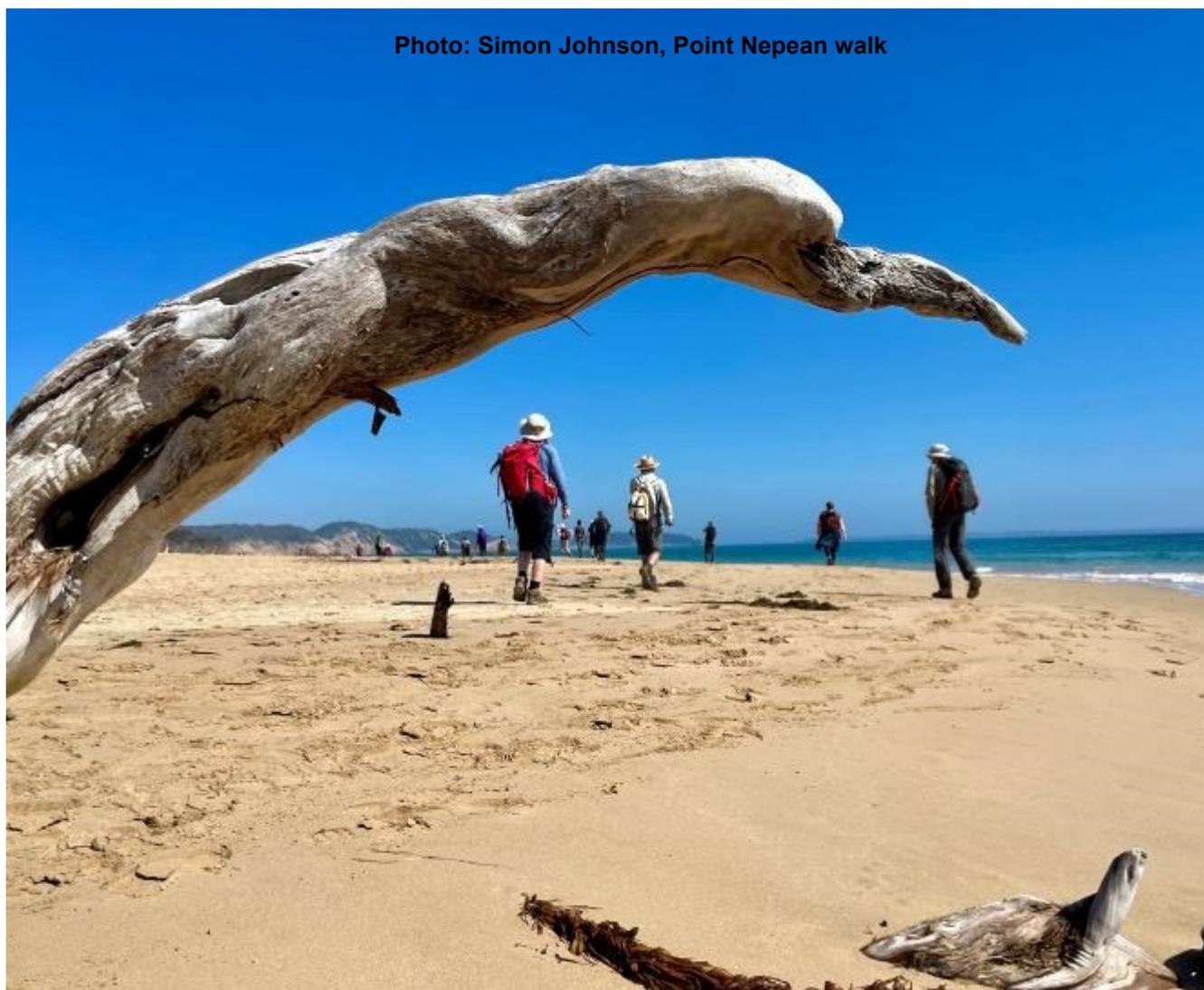
Thanks to Mark Gao for leading this interesting walk, and congratulations on completing your first walk as leader .

**Tracey Gao**

**Tracey Gao: Olinda to Mt Dandenong**



**Photo: Simon Johnson, Point Nepean walk**





## Before the walk

Check the grading of the activity and read the grading definition in *Walk Notes*, which are a guide only. If in doubt check with 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; 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.

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 close together**      **Emergency, regroup with leader immediately**

Ensure you leave details of the activity and the names and phone numbers of the Club Emergency Contacts with your family or friends and make them aware of the emergency procedures (details on page 2).

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.

Carry a personal First Aid Kit

## During the walk

Arrive at the meeting place in time to depart on the activity at the time stated.

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. All participants should complete and carry the Personal Health Details – Emergency Information form.

On the walk obey all reasonable instructions given by the leader.

Advise the leader if you feel unwell or cannot cope with the activity.

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.

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.