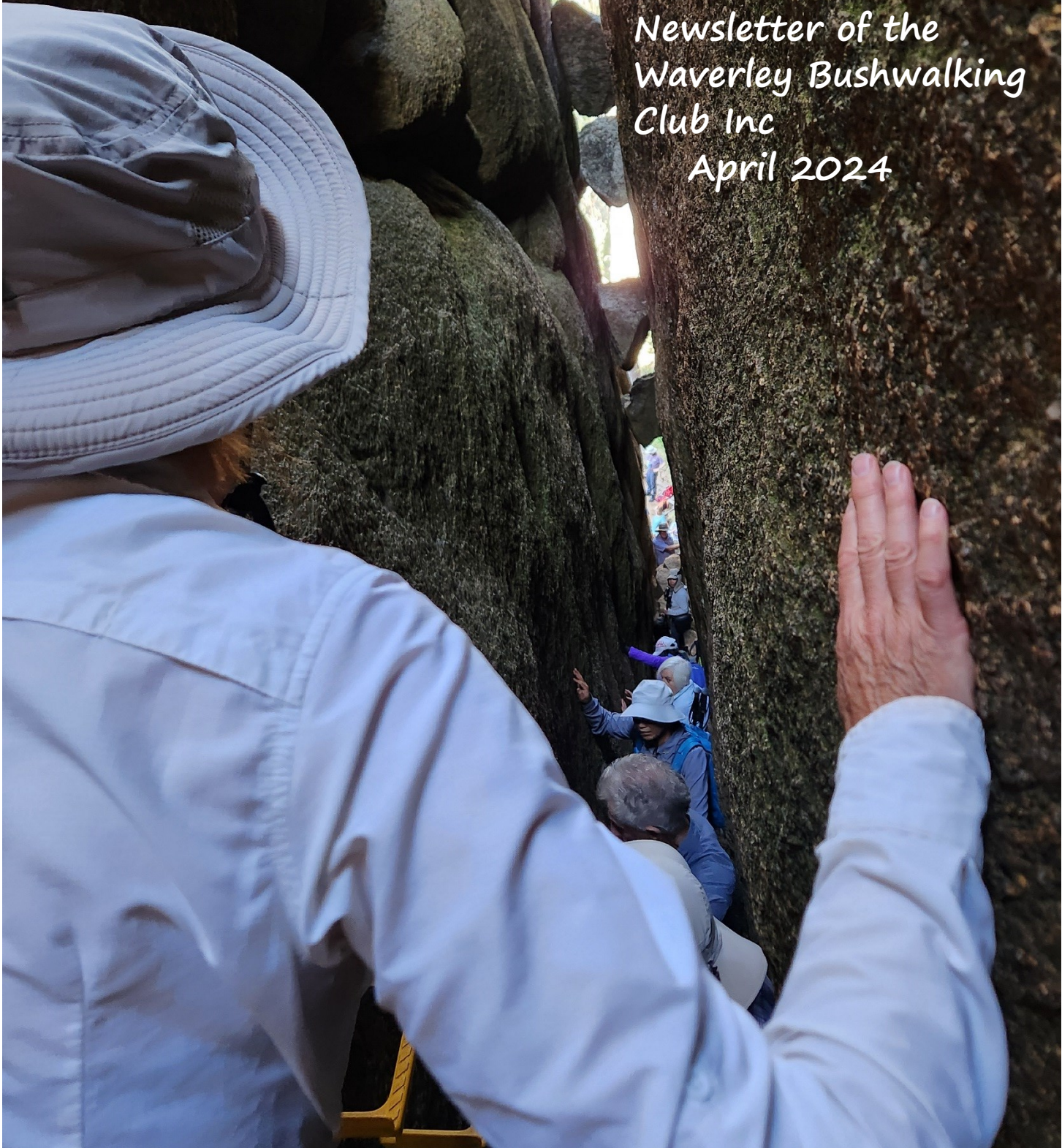


WALKLINES



Newsletter of the
Waverley Bushwalking
Club Inc
April 2024



NEXT MEETING: Monday April 8 at the Mount Waverley Community Centre,
Miller Cresc, Mt Waverley (MEL 70 E1)

SPEAKER: Malcolm Jennings & Tricia Heidmann - Coast to Coast track in the UK

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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Web: www.waverleybushwalking.org.au

Affiliated Member of



President's Report—April 2024

Wendy and I have just returned from a very enjoyable breakfast walk led by Glenys and Andy. After a big breakfast at the Carriage café in Seville we did a there and back walk along the rail trail. This was just one of a number of day walks which have been available through March. We are back into our full walking season now the weather has cooled down. The summer program was successful in that we managed to put on a range of walks through the warmer weather. The day walk program is looking good for the next three weeks but we need a lot more walks later in April and throughout May. We still have two base camps coming up on the program before winter sets in and also two pack carries. Thanks to those leaders who have put on all these events.

Membership fees are due by March 31st. It is now a lot easier to pay for your membership. In OnTrax, under the tab Me there is a direct link to Try booking where you can renew. Alternatively, there is a membership renewal form in March Walklines which provides bank account details..

At the last committee meeting we had 253 members. No new members this month but Bev Phillips rejoined. Meetings have been well attended this year with 70 – 80 members coming along. Our next meeting is on Monday April 8th when Malcolm and Trish will tell us about their Coast to Coast walk across England. If you have ever wanted to do this long distance walk Malcolm and Trish will have lots of tips for you.

Don't forget the AGM on Monday May 13th. We need a good attendance. By the time of the AGM our current committee will have served for 2 years without any change. We will have several departures this year so if you think you would like to join the committee, please let us know.

The committee looked into the position of recces. Most recces are done on a private basis and do not involve the club, but we confirmed that a recce can be made into a club event, which will allow for insurance cover and use of PLB. In this case it should be listed on Ontrax as a recce.

As mentioned previously, 2024 is the 90th anniversary of Bushwalking Victoria, and to celebrate the Federation weekend is being held at Wilsons Prom on the weekend of 11th – 13th October with a great program of walks. It would be great to see a sizeable contingent from our club going along. The event is listed in OnTrax but this is only an expression of interest to enable us to make a group booking when the event opens for registration. If you are interested, please sign up in OnTrax. This doesn't commit you to going but it will give us an idea as to how many might go and assist in booking accommodation. We will look at getting a group booking for cabins nearer the time when bookings open in June, if enough people indicate an interest.

Wendy has done an audit of all the library books and for anyone planning on leading a walk it is a great resource. There are also a number of travel guides. There are a few books missing so please have a look around at home and see if you can find any to return to the library.

David Lumb

Cover Photo: Beth Alcorn at Porepunkah Base Camp



The Annual General Meeting 2024
will be held on Monday 13th May 2024, 7.30 pm
at Mt Waverley Community Centre,
47 Miller Crescent, Mount Waverley.

Agenda

- 1. Welcome, apologies, and acceptance of proxies.
2. Confirmation of the minutes of the AGM held on Monday 8th May 2023.
3. Presentation of reports and acceptance resolutions:
President's Report.
Treasurer's Report.
4. Election of Committee for 2024/2025.
5. Items of special business requiring resolution There are no items of special business.
6. General questions to the Committee.

Authorised on behalf of the committee by David A Reid OAM, Secretary, 2 April 2024.

Note: A member unable to attend the AGM may use the attached form to nominate a proxy to vote at the AGM on their behalf.

Nomination for Waverley Bushwalking Club Committee

At the AGM, nominations are called for committee positions. Position descriptions available from the Secretary.

A member who is entitled to vote at the AGM may nominate or be nominated, with their consent, for one or more positions. Nominations must be supported by another member. A member may not hold the same Officer position for more than 5 years consecutively.

Written nominations must be delivered to the Secretary before the AGM. Please consider nominating.

Further nominations must be called for during the AGM, prior to the election for each position.

A candidate who fails to be elected to a nominated position may nominate or be nominated for any other position for which an election is yet to be held.

A member may be elected to only one position.

Waverley Bushwalking Club Inc. Reg. No. A0013370Z
Nomination for Election to Committee

Please nominate on this form. Using a separate form for each position.

Nominee: [name] [signature] [date]

Supporter or Nominator: [name] [signature] [date]

For the position of : (please circle the position)

The Officer positions:

President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Events Coordinator, Membership Secretary,

Ordinary Committee Member. Note: you can nominate up to three Ordinary Committee Members, using a separate form for each nomination.

Please send nominations by email to secretary@waverleybushwalking.org.au at least one day before the AGM, or by post to, Secretary, Waverley Bushwalking Club Inc. PO Box 685, Glen Waverley 3150 at least one week before the AGM or deliver by hand prior to the commencement of the meeting.



Waverley Bushwalking Club Inc

Appointment of Proxy for AGM

A member entitled to vote at the AGM may appoint a proxy by notice in the form set out below and given to the Secretary before the commencement of the meeting. *Note: The nominated proxy must be a member entitled to vote at the AGM*

Name..... Address.....
.....

I Hereby appoint

as my proxy to vote for me on my behalf at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting of the Association to be held on 13th May 2024 and at any adjournment of that meeting.

My proxy is authorised to vote as follows: -

Acceptance of President’s report. Yes No.

Acceptance of Treasurer’s report. Yes No

Signed Date

**“Join Monash Council and the
Friends of Damper Creek Conservation Reserve**

for a walk in the beautiful Damper Creek Conservation Reserve
in Mount Waverley

on **Sunday 28 April, 10am-12 noon.**

We will be guided through the reserve by the group, where we will learn about the indigenous plants and animals while taking as many observations as we can through the iNaturalist App as part of the **City Nature Challenge.**

The City Nature Challenge is a worldwide initiative to gather observations of wild plants and animals. Monash Council has joined other councils in Melbourne to challenge other cities in the world for the most observations taken in the 4 days of the City Nature Challenge (April 26- April 29).”

Our website link: [City Nature Challenge 2024 | City of Monash](#)

Booking link: [City Nature Challenge Walk at Damper Creek | Humanitix](#)

Porepunkah Base Camp - 25th February to 2nd March 2024

Leaders: Steve and Leanne Biggins

DAY 1 MYRTLEFORD & ENVIRONS

A gentle scenic walk in the environs of Myrtleford kicked off the 2024 Porepunkah base camp. The walk included some of the River Murray to Mountains Rail Trail then moved on to the local Mosaic trail which skirted the Ovens River through stands of picturesque gums. This section of the walk was enlivened by a mosaic spotting competition which gained enthusiastic participants. Small mosaics were scattered on rocks and trees. A small snake also made an appearance on the trail.

Photo: Louise Alexander



Thanks to Leanne and Steve for the entertaining walk. **Louise Alexander**

DAY 2

With a hot day forecast, we started our walk in the natural amphitheatre of the Alpine Park Wandiligong at the southern end of the Wandi Walk. In the 1860s, the area was used for horse racing, foot racing, cycling, wood chopping, tennis and picnics. Later used for horticultural shows and brass bands in the rotunda and now for the Wandiligong Nut Festival.

The walk follows the Morses Creek for 3kms to Doughty's Bridge and a further 2.6km to Bright. The bush track took us past a tree laden with apples, through pine forest infested with blackberries, and crossing over swing bridges. We joined the Diggings Walk to the site of a Chinese village established outside Bright to pan for alluvial gold and learnt of the harsh treatment of these people from the rest of the community. A feature was the Chinese Bridge.

Morning tea was by a pavilion & sports ground. A drive back to Bright for lunch by the Ovens River and a 2hr break at leisure to explore Bright before trekking a further 4km along the Canyon Walk with its many huge old oak, elm and eucalypts. This area was heavily dredged for gold in the early 1900s. Signs of the early gold miners in the hand cut tail races. Followed a narrow rocky path alongside the river, over a swing bridge and back through lovely parkland and an avenue of tall poplars. Huge thanks to Leanne and Steve for the wonderful Base Camp.

Pam Mathers

Photo: Pam Mathers



DAY 3 – LAKE CATANI, CHALWELL GALLERIES, UNDERGROUND RIVER TRACK

Another wonderful warm day for walks around Lake Catani from Mt Buffalo Chalet carpark. The lake has access to many other tracks one of which we chose was scrambling up and around huge granite boulders through Chalwell Galleries named after Ernie Chalwell, the stable master at the Buffalo Chalet in the 1940s and 1950s.

At what appeared to be the end of our climb, we were met with an ominous yellow arrow pointing straight down into a dark abyss of granite rocks. This was it!! Our challenge begins.... to descend awkwardly but bravely through this long, steep and narrow crevice between ginormous granite walls! With some tricky sections, we needed two hands for guidance so packs were advised to be removed via Lieutenant Leanne at the rear and shuffled down to reach Captain Stephen our trusty leader waiting at the bottom! Lots of team spirit carried us through this surprisingly, a sort of happy adventure and recorded as the highlight of our day so far (The Leap of Faith)!

Continuing on, we followed a track to the entrance of the Underground River Walk which crosses the Eurobin River and goes underground. A guided river caving tour was taking place as we crossed where participants must wear helmets and use head lamps. We continued past and up rough steep steps through rocky open forest and eventually back to Echo Point and cars. What a great day, thanks Leanne & Steve.

Beth Alcorn

DAY 4 - EAST OVENS RIVER TRACK

19 Walkers drove to the back of Harrierville early Thursday morning for our final walking adventure. Arriving at Tronogh Dredge Hole - this picturesque lake was the home to a former gold mining dredge, hidden in the forest. Leanne led the way on a fairly overgrown walking track. The twenty-four river crossings were the highlight of the walk - a few were strewn with fallen trees and other river debris. The isolated beauty was bathed in bright sunlight with crystal clear water and colourful river stones.

Morning tea was after the twelfth crossing, where there was a rather steep hill - making a perfect turnaround point. Despite soggy boots it was a memorable walk - thanks to Leanne and Stevens' adventuresome spirit.

Barbara Davies



Photo; Louise Alexander

Pack Carry—Falls Creek to Mt Bogong

Wednesday 21st to Sunday 25th February
Leader: Michael Strickland



Eight walkers met in Falls Creek for this classic 5-day walk across the Bogong High Plains. Our goal was to reach Mt Bogong via fire trails and Quartz Ridge, then return along the T-spur and Duane Spur tracks. It was a challenging walk as both directions necessitate descending into Big River, fording the river, and making a steep climb up the other side. All up we would walk 60 km with 3000 m of ascending, but the reward would be to see the best of Victoria's high country with wonderful views of well known distant peaks, and to enjoy superb camping on flat, sheltered campsites by historic mountain huts (with a toilet). The weather would be magnificent for the entire walk, even as Melbourne sweltered through several days in the high 30s.

Day 1's walking did not begin till 2pm after the long drive from Melbourne, and involved an easy 8 km walk to Edmondsons hut where we shared our camp with a group of high school students on an outdoor ed course.

Day 2 was the longest day, beginning with a quick trip up Mt Nelse, before following the Bogong High Plains fire trail to Big River. We swapped to camp shoes for the crossing to keep our boots dry for the walking to come. After the river crossing we set up camp at the creek just below Bogong Creek Saddle and were about to settle into our tents when a large tiger snake calmly slid across our clearing in front of Mani's tent. Mani didn't remain as calm as the snake and decided to relocate her tent to a location 200 m from the creek and everyone else, but had no more close encounters with reptiles that afternoon.



Day 3 started with a big climb up Quartz Ridge. Then came a wind-assisted traverse across the Bogong plateau, and a blustery and somewhat foggy interlude at the summit. From there it was an easy, gentle downhill traverse to camp at Cleve Cole hut. After setting up our tents we did a short daywalk to Howman Falls where several of us enjoyed a bracing dip.

Day 4 consisted of a long and steep descent down T spur to Big River for a return crossing, this time through deeper water but with a fixed chain to hold onto, followed by a long and steep ascent up Duane Spur to Ropers hut for the night. Once again we had a beautiful campsite with plenty of water from the nearby stream, shelter from the wind, and lovely afternoon sunshine.



On the final day we mostly backtracked the first day's route, reaching the carpark by 11 am and then reconvening for a coffee in Mt Beauty. All up a really enjoyable walk with a strong and capable group and 5 days of wonderful weather. Many thanks to Mike for leading us.

ROLF EXNER

Photos: Rolf Exner

Day Walks

SASSAFRAS – FERNY CREEK CIRCUIT

Date: Saturday, March 2.

Leader: Mani Andreetta

The day started nice and cool as the group of 14 started Mani's walk. She promised lots of up and down and certainly delivered. The start was a nice descent along the Sassafras Creek path to a lovely clearing for morning tea before returning to Sassafras and start the longer loops with plenty of climbs and views.

We saw lots of Oxfam walkers and encouraged them, but didn't say anything about us only walking 17 km and not the 100 that many of them were doing. Lunch was by the lily pond and images of Van Gogh and Manet paintings were made regarding the scenery. Mani also set a new club standard for crossing a busy road with traffic marshals stopping the cars while we strolled across Mountain Highway. I think we should expect this in future!

A highlight was the stroll along the Dog Track which was quite overgrown, but with plenty of ferns. We finished the walk in good time, a bit before 2:30 so we could all enjoy the chocolates at Hahndorfs. Many thanks to Mani and her able assistant Selwyn as well as the whips.

Peter May

Photo: Peter May



Day Walks



FINGAL BEACH TO CAPE SCHANCK TO BUSHRANGERS BAY
Wednesday 14th February
Leader: Gary Dubsy

Ten of us enjoyed another Dubsy Classic walk: a delightful route, with many lookout points and some diverting side-trips. We headed off from Fingal Picnic Ground through coastal scrub towards Gunnamatta Beach. Turning down to Fingal Beach, we then walked along the base of impressive dune

Photos: Trevor Blake



limestone cliffs, stopping at some sea stacks for morning tea. Gary had timed the low-tide window perfectly (and the weather). Seizing the moment, we ventured out across the rock platform to reach a far sea stack. The tide was fully in a half-hour later. Returning up a steep path and through the scrub we made our way to Cape Schanck, seeking shelter from the wind under the dramatic basalt cliffs near Pulpit Rock to have lunch. Then onwards to Bushrangers Bay, where some of us started to flag. A final leg up to Boneo Road completed our 16.7 km walk for a final car shuffle.

Trevor Blake

SORRENTO TO 16 MILE BEACH, RYE

Friday, March 8

Leader: Gary Prasad led his first walk with Gillian Paterson assisting

Weather: beautiful Autumn day, 25-30 deg C.

18 Club members + 3 visitors departed Capital Reserve at 8-00am and Sorrento Back Beach meeting point at 10-10. After a car shuffle, we started walking on the Coppins track, a very sandy cliff top track.

Morning tea was taken at Jubilee Point overlooking the Southern Ocean from a cliff top promontory.

On to Diamond Bay & Mt. St. Paul lookouts and Koonys Beach for a comfort stop. A beach trek followed prior to reaching Bridgewater Bay where lunch was taken on the foreshore. After lunch we followed the cliff top path along the sandy track to 16 Mile beach. Drivers retrieved the cars and members went to Blairgowrie for an iced coffee stop before the trip home.

Thanks to Gary Prasad for a very well planned and enjoyable walk, and to Gillian Paterson for her encouragement and support of Gary as a new leader.

Mal Walker.

Photos: Gillian Paterson



Day Walks

BANKSIA PARK TO CHELMSWORTH PARK ALONG YARRA RIVER

Saturday 16th March

Leaders: Barbara Davies & Pam Balaam

Pam and Barbara ably led 14 enthusiastic members on an urban walk starting at Banksia Park. Despite being near busy roads we were surprised to find ourselves in quiet winding tracks surrounded by beautiful timbers and no sounds of traffic.

We were graced with autumn weather perfection; blue skies on a 28-degree day. We crossed under Bulleen Road to follow the Yarra riverbank. Although we shared the path with bikes and walked single file from time to time, we were all delighted to get wonderful views of river reflections. Early on, an art theme emerged as the paths were marked with information boards about famous artists from the Heidelberg school who painted "En plein Aire" in these areas in the late 1800's. Arthur Streeton's iconic landscapes were painted in this valley of the Yarra River.

En route to our morning tea destination, we saw kangaroos, and were accompanied by choruses of kookaburras. At Chelmsworth Park we stopped for a tea break and retraced our steps to our Banksia Park for lunch pausing en route to watch a pair of ducks followed by a line of ducklings. By then the day felt hot and our wise leaders reduced the length of the final loop. We went straight to the sculpture gardens at Heide, where the art theme continued. Barbara, who knows Heide very well showed us the original home and the prolific kitchen gardens. Barb showed us the canoe tree, and filled us in with the history of the group of modern artists who with the support of John and Sunday Reid, artists like Sidney Nolan changed the way art was seen in the early 1900's. We finished, happily, with cool drinks at a nearby pub.

Thank you, Barbara, for a fascinating informative walk and congratulations Pam for your first leader role.

Jane Taylor

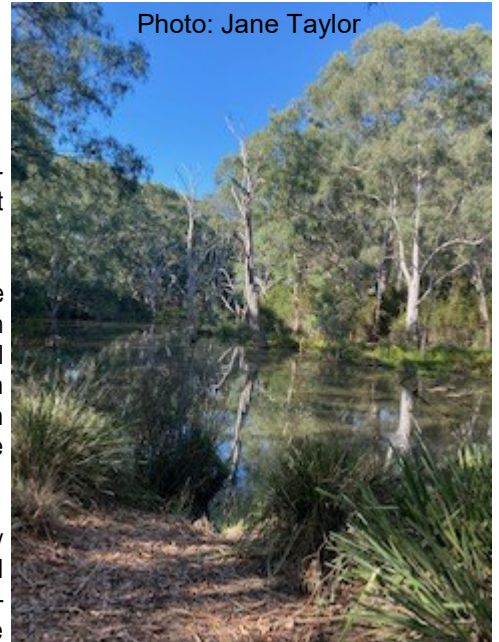


Photo: Jane Taylor



Photo: Tracey Gao

MT LOFTY CIRCUIT AND YARRA RIVER WARRANDYTE STATE PARK

Wednesday, 20th March

Leaders: Simon Johnston and Linda Stewart

21 walkers met at Wiltons Reserve. The weather was cool but a sunny start. Simon said he left all his papers at home but managed perfectly with the help of Linda to do the checklist of walkers.

The walk started with a short sharp hill towards Mt Lofty, where we admired the views and spotted large kangaroos grazing. Then we headed down on good tracks among the eucalyptus trees. We had morning tea on an oval with the river flowing nearby, then headed up another steep hill on the Bridle track where horses walk, stopping for lunch sitting on the bank. Then Simon took us to the Billabong and sang us a classic Aussie song about it with great cheers from us all.

Linda took over and lead us off track walking amongst dead tree branches and a lot of side tracks made by wildlife. We eventually got to the top, joining the wide dirt track, which took us back following the Yarra river with some great views. We finished the walk at 2pm. Everyone had enjoyed the walk, even though there were some tough hills. Coffee and refreshment were at the Warren Glen Nursery. I highly recommend going there if around this area.

Many thanks Simon and Linda for a great walk

Sharon Higgins



Photo: Simon Johnson



SORRENTO TO PORTSEA VIA LONDON BRIDGE
Sunday 17th March
Leader: Mark Gao

It is a beautiful day although it is hot. We start from Sorrento and walk along the beach towards London Bridge. When we arrive at London Bridge, it is low tide, so we could pass through the cave to the other side, and then we pass through another cave which is 100m away. The scenery is stunning.

After lunch, we walk through the woodland to front the sea. It is quiet and beautiful. Finally, we cross the Millionaires Track and complete our circular hike. Thanks Mark Gao for leading this nice picturesque walk. **Tracey Gao**

Photos: Tracey Gao



Photo:
Cape Schanck -
Tracey Gao



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.