

WALKLINES



Newsletter of the
Waverley Bushwalking
Club Inc
May 2024



NEXT MEETING: **AGM** Monday May 13
at the Mount Waverley Community Centre,
Miller Cresc, Mt Waverley (MEL 70 E1)

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—May 2024

This is my last report for Walklines. After 9 years as Membership Secretary, Events Coordinator and President it is time for me to step down. I would like to thank all the people I have worked with over the last few years who have helped run the club successfully. I will thank individuals in my President's report to the AGM in May.

By the time of the AGM our current committee will have served for 2 years without any change, and we will have some members leaving the committee. Fortunately, we now have enough nominations to fill all the vacated positions.

For the AGM we don't have a guest speaker but we would like people to bring something for a light supper after the formal meeting. Please come along as we need a good attendance for this event.

At the last committee meeting we had 258 members with 5 new members this month, Kwai Chan and Linda Wu, Li Tao, Neville Pieper, Qin Zhang.

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. Bookings for this open on June 3rd and popular walks fill up very quickly.

David Lumb

Welcome New Members

The Waverley Bushwalking Club warmly welcomes

Kwai Chan,
Neville Pieper,

Linda Wu,
Qin Zhang ,

Li Tao,

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

Cover Photo: Wendy & David Lumb Toorong Falls

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.

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

**Note: Reports and documents for the AGM are available to members from the On
trax Document Library**

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.

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**

Day Walks

TWO BAYS WALKING TRAIL

Sunday 24th March

Leaders: Mark Gao, Mei Yong

Photo: Chris Clarke

An enthusiastic team of WBC walkers met early for a 7 am departure on Sunday 24th of March.

Our destination was the Two Bays walking trail that traversed Arthurs Seat State Park & Mornington Peninsula National Park. The walk was a point to point walk between Latrobe Parade car park and Cape Schanck Lighthouse car park.

Due to numbers the walkers were divided into two groups. Group A started at Latrobe Parade car park and finished at the Cape Schanck Lighthouse Reserve. Group B started from Cape Schanck Lighthouse Reserve car park and finished at Latrobe Parade car park.

The walk was approximately a 26km hike with some short hilly sections and steep gravel sections around Arthurs Seat State Park. It was a beautiful walk with eucalypt forest, rolling grassy sections and spectacular coastal cliff sections near Cape Schanck.

The jewel for many was Greens Bush with its largest remnant bush land on the peninsula. The sea of grass trees, the bird song and wildlife added to the beauty.

A tired but happy group of walkers returned to their cars, thankful for our wonderful day and the enormous amount of planning from our leaders Mark Gao and Mei Yang.

Thank you Mark and Mei from all of us.

Chris Clarke



GRIFFITHS FALLS

Wednesday 27th March

Leader: John Bradshaw.

Photo: Heather Lucas

After meeting at Wicks Reserve in The Basin our tight-knit group of only 8 began our uphill climb, initially through suburban streets taking a few secluded and "secret" passages. Once inside the Dandenong Ranges National Park we continued to climb until we eventually reached One Tree Hill Picnic Ground for morning tea.

Eddy was lucky not to lose his delicious scroll to an opportunistic kookaburra.

On the descent towards Mountain Highway the forest was alive with hundreds of butterflies and many small birds. There were also quite a few wallabies and even an echidna along the way. Griffiths Falls was the highlight of the walk. Despite the lack of recent rainfall, the falls were running quite well. We thoroughly enjoyed our lunch on the rocks by the creek, before negotiating the return single-file track with a few challenging creek crossings and fallen trees. It was a great day out, thanks John.



Heather Lucas

Day Walks

Photo: Richard Watson



ALTONA TO POINT COOK HOMESTEAD **Saturday 6th April** **Leader: Richard Watson**

I led this 10km walk to celebrate the opening in January 2024 of the Bay Trail extension at Point Cook (<https://www.parks.vic.gov.au/projects/melbourne-region/urban-parks-active-wellbeing-program/bay-trail-extension-at-point-cook>). This extension reduces a 3.8km detour down to just over 400 metres of continuous, flat, off-road journey for pedestrians and cyclists. Disappointingly only four walkers participated in what was a very interesting and varied walk from Pier Street Altona to Point Cook Homestead.

We departed from Capital Reserve at 8:30am in two cars, as a car shuffle was needed. One of the cars was left at Point Cook Homestead Road Point Cook and the other left at Altona after returning us all from Point Cook. The weather was cool and dry, threatened rain did not occur. The

track was entirely on a concrete path, so shared with many bicycles. Starting out from Altona at 10:35am we headed south west beside Altona beach on the Foreshore Trail and crossed the bridge over Laverton Creek into the beautiful, forested Truganina Park. The remainder of the track was through open grassland of Point Cook Coastal Park beside Cheetham Wetlands. Point Cook has been much developed in recent years and the large two story homes about the Wyndham Bay Trail beside the wetlands.

We stopped for lunch at a viewing point beside Citybay Road Point Cook, from which the Melbourne CBD and West Gate Bridge could be seen in the distance. We reached the waiting car at 1:40pm and drove down to Point Cook Homestead, which dates back to 1849. The precinct includes buildings, garden and landscape listed by Heritage Victoria. It is said to be haunted, but it seems the ghost only appears at night! After inspecting the buildings, currently closed, we drove back to Altona, stopping for coffee at Sanctuary Lakes Shopping Centre.

Richard Watson

NOOJEE **Wednesday 3rd April** **Leader: Heather Lucas**



We started the walk with a scenic drive to Noojee trestle bridge, a very imposing wooden structure, the tallest surviving wooden trestle bridge in Victoria. The bridge is a legacy of the old railway that ran from Noojee to Warragul. It was originally constructed in 1919, but in 1939 was completely burnt down and rebuilt in the same year.

We walked up to the trestle bridge and then into the township of Noojee, an old timber town along the old railway line. We had morning tea at a historical area with displays and an old steam train.

Then we drove to the Toorong Falls reserve and followed a steepish track to the spectacular Toorong Falls flush with water from the recent rains. We then followed the track around the hill to a second set of falls, Amphitheatre Falls.

After returning to Noojee for lunch we set off along an old timber tramway making our way past large tree ferns. The rain started as we made our way back to the cars. However, we were able to have coffee sitting on the terrace of the old Noojee pub. An interesting and enjoyable walk thanks to our leader, Heather.

Wendy Lumb

Day Walks

MOUNT DANDENONG

Sunday 7th April

Leader: Mark Gao

April day, cool morning, raining.....

Twelve walkers, Mr Dandenong, 18 kilometres

After a quick name call and a brief intro from our brave-heart leader, we set off from Micawber Tavern carpark. Without warning, we were confronted with a steep climb up a very slippery slope made especially treacherous by the constant rain since several hours ago. Water streamed downhill carrying leaves and cutting out new channels on the ground. Almost instantly, small chitchats turned into heavy breathings. No sooner had we got to the top of the first slope, another even steeper, seemingly never ending slope appeared in front of us. We huffed and puffed, putting one foot in front of the other, slowly working up the great slope. Barely half an hour into the walk, I was completely soaked inside and out. On the exterior the cause was apparent as heavy rain kept pouring incessantly. On the inside, not so obvious but I was sweating profusely from the strenuous climbing. A curious but legitimate question echoed in my head: "What really is the point of wearing a rain jacket"? Morning tea was taken by the roadside, everyone standing, and of course in rain.

The wet condition brought out those annoying "L" creatures by the number. The first scream broke out, then it became a chorus. For those newer members who haven't seen a leech before, it was both excitement and fear. Hair, face, neck, turn around, roll up the sleeve, I examined them one by one, feeling like a slave trader inspecting his commodities in Roman times.

Lunch was in Alfred Nicholas Memorial Garden where after walking in circle for a while we finally found the pagoda hence literally had a roof over our heads. We were promised a rain-free window of 45 minutes so we made a quick dash for the finish line after lunch. Rain did ease off, and of course the sun came out just as we were approaching the carpark. The weather gods were having a joke at our expense. The highlight of the day was coffee and chocolate at Harndorf's. This soon restored our spirits.

By the way, for those of you who have seen the walk video on WBC Facebook page, this romantic picture of walking in the mist, frolicking in the rain, it is entirely misleading, a falsehood only conceivable in the comfort of your lounge sipping tea in the afternoon. The reality was a mess of bedraggled walkers hallucinating about hot showers.

Apologies to our leader: the above was all said in jest. We enjoyed the walk, fresh, clean air, challenging climbs, and excellent company. (Thank you but, maybe next time you could organise good weather too ?!)

Dennis Cheung

BUSHRANGER BAY AND CAPE SCHANCK

Wednesday 10th April

Leaders: Pauline McGuire and Louise Power

Rain washed our cars as we drove down the Mornington Peninsula, but eased to light misty rain by the time we all assembled at our starting point where Boneo Road crosses the Two Bays Walking Trail. Rain jackets were needed at the start of the walk but most ended up in our packs as the day progressed.

A banksia forest with a chorus of wattlebirds lined the track and sheltered the 23 walkers as we made our way to the beach at Bushrangers Bay, but once there a decidedly fresh breeze had us looking for sheltered spots among the rocks for our morning tea. A steady climb up from the beach brought us to the clifftop walk with views through to Cape Schanck but also lovely overarching 'tunnels' of mature trees. Once we reached the lighthouse carpark we wound our way down and down the steps and ramps to the pebble beaches at the base of Pulpit Rock for lunch. It was fascinating to watch the tracery of water cascading down the side of Pulpit Rock from larger waves breaking against it. Something I had not been aware of before was the distinct rumble from the pebble beach as the larger waves receded, tumbling the smooth waterworn stones. It was a long climb with a quite strong gusty wind back up all those steps and ramps before the more sheltered afternoon walk to return us to our cars.

A short drive on our return trip took us to nearby Hawkes Farm Gate for coffee (and a few extra purchases for dinner that night).

Thank you Pauline and Louise for leading another great walk.

Elaine Fasken

Photo: Dennis Cheung - Mt Dandenong



Photo: Simon Johnson



Day Walks

DAY WALK SUGARLOAF RESERVOIR

Saturday 13th April

Leader: Sharon Higgins

Photo: John Bradshaw



After meeting in somewhat misty weather at Capital Res those not driving were rewarded with enchanting views in elevated areas with numerous mist pockets through eastern Melbourne. Sugarloaf Reservoir is an off-stream reservoir, receiving water from on-stream reservoirs and the Yarra River at Yering Gorge.

Walk commenced from Ridge carpark & the group was soon rewarded with a sighting of some quite big kangaroos. After crossing the main embankment, where there were views of highrise in Melbourne's east, early morning tea was taken at the Southern lookout with views across the reservoir as well as a visit from a fearless Crimson Rosella. The walk continued with short & sometimes steep climbs out of the many gullies before the longest climb to our excellent lunch spot. Here we had views of the Dandenongs, down the Dandenong Valley, across to the Yarra Ranges and in the other direction of the CBD highrise to the You Yangs.

After lunch the group tackled more of the steep climbs out of the many gullies before passing the yacht club with sailors trying to pickup what little available wind was available in the calm conditions. Whilst there being no bridal creeper apparent before lunch there was enough after lunch to cause concern & despair for the writer. The group then finished with coffee, milkshakes or a beer at Dark Horse Café.

Thank you, Sharon for another delightful and always interesting walk.

John Bradshaw

PS the writer was bribed by offer of one of Sharon's gourmet treats to provide a write up



Crimson Rosella at Sugarloaf Reservoir
Photo: John Bradshaw

MOUNT WAVERLEY AND GLEN WAVERLEY CIRCUIT

Wednesday 4th April

Leaders: Margery Kennett and Elaine Fasken

Overnight rain ensured that Scotchmans Creek and associated wetlands were running strongly as we followed the bushland walk beside them from Valley Reserve to the Holmesglen campus on Waverley Rd, with a short detour to admire the delightful secluded setting of a small group of houses around Bunker Lake.

Crossing Waverley Rd at the Monash Aquatic Centre we headed south to Herriott Boulevard which encircles parkland and wetlands, quite an oasis, a good place for our morning tea.

After a short walk north we turned onto the grass under the transmission lines and followed that to Forster Rd (with a wriggle around Pinewood shopping centre), to rejoin Scotchmans Creek and the paths back to Valley Reserve. Raincoats went on and came off and went back on, but so what, none of the rain was heavy and we are bushwalkers, and the sunny periods were delightful.

Thanks to eight fellow walkers for a pleasant morning's walk company. It was particularly good to be walking with Jehn Chen again, he must be WBC's oldest actively walking member.

Elaine Fasken

MT LITTLE JOE CIRCUIT WALK
15 km, 600m elevation gain
Wednesday 24 April 2024
Leader: Rod Jones

This was a figure of 8 loop walk through part of the Warburton State Park via Mt Little Joe Track & Old Warburton Road. The first 2.5 km was a gradual uphill for an initial elevation gain of about 200m for 2.5 km. We circled around Mt Little Joe on the undulating Mount Little Joe Track till reaching the junction with Yarra Silvan Conduit Track, where we turned left and continued on eastward until the junction of Old Warburton Road. We walked on Old Warburton Road for about 100m then turned right onto Cemetery Fireline, then bore left to take Edwardstown Road for about 2 km.

The gradual downhill terrain suddenly became very steep on the Lady Hopetoun Track. It was about 120m descent in 1.1km, quite a thrill but all safely landed on flat ground without incident. That concluded one & half of the figure of 8 loop, and the rest of the walk was easy peasy towards our cars & coffee was just round the corner!

The undulating narrow bushy path between Old Warburton Road & Leila Road was so beautiful that everyone, as if on cue, walked in silence through the amazing tranquil fern lined forest.



Photos: Elizabeth Leung

A BIG THANK YOU to our leader Rod Jones for the fabulous forest immersion walk.
Elizabeth Leung



Day Walks

BUNYIP STATE PARK

Saturday 27th April

Leaders: Simon Johnson & Linda Stewart

On a perfect Autumn morning 16 of us set out from Mortimer picnic ground in the Bunyip State Park to tackle the Four Brothers Loop. The initial nature trail presented us with some immediate challenges, climbing over logs and branches felled in recent storms. The trail here was lush and moist with fresh fern foliage and the occasional bright fungi.

We then started the gentle but long ascent of around 400m which continued through the morning on a wide trail. The vegetation became drier and more scattered and as we reached higher ground large granite boulders started to appear beside the trail.

Lunch was taken at the Four Brothers rock formation. We had a sparklingly beautiful view across lush forests while sitting on warm sun bathed rocks.

Any post lunch somnolence was quickly dispelled by a challenging much more rapid descent back towards the picnic ground. Most of us used poles for this and all succeeded in traversing this section injury free.

Our afternoon then continued on undulating tracks through woodland some of which included mountain ash. We stopped by a wetland pool and were led in a rendition of Waltzing Matilda by Simon, a fitting end to an extremely enjoyable and interesting walk.

Thank you to Simon Johnson and Linda Stewart for such a great day.

Louise Alexander



Photos: Gillian Paterson



Phillip Island Base Camp 15-19/4/2024

WALK 1, BEACH WALK

Monday 15th April

Leaders: Margaret Reeve & Louise Power

After meeting at our venue, NRMA Holiday Camp, Phillip Island, our group headed for our first pleasant walk along the beach from the sea front in Cowes. From sand to streets, we wound our way back through Cowes in time for our first convivial Happy Hour. Thanks Marg and Louise for a great start. **Jane Taylor**

WALK 2, CONSERVATION HILL & RHYLL INLET

Tuesday 16th April

Today we visited Conservation Hill and Rhyll Inlet, part of the Western Port wetland of international importance for migratory wading birds and part of the Ramsar Convention to protect the flight paths of these amazing birds. There is a boardwalk through the mangrove and mud flats but some of this is being replaced so our walk was cut short. The leaders took this all in their stride and so we headed onto the Rhyll Inlet where the early settlers set up the sealing and the fishing industry forming a pivotal hub for the seafood and trading industry. Today it is focused on conservation. There is a modern pier and a beautiful carving called the Ferry Captain depicting the relationship of Rhyll Village and the sea, carved from a Cypress Pine that had been damaged in a storm but remained in situ.

After lunch we visited the Oswin Roberts Reserve and did the Woodlands loop to complete our walk for the day. Thanks to Marg and Louise for organising such an interesting day, the weather improved as the day went on, we saw many of the wading birds and we were entertained by a pair of Cape Barron Geese whose patch we were invading.

Photos: Chris McLennan



Chris McLennan.



WALK 3, PYRAMID ROCK, KITTY MILLER BAY, SWAN LAKE AND THE NOBBIES

Wednesday 17th April

We left our accommodation bright and early at 8am. The sky was grey. We expected a cloudy day with the occasional showers. We arrived at the beginning of the track to Pyramid Rock around 8.30am. Louise informed us that the walk was about 6.5 km return.

We walked along the southern coastline of Phillip Island with full view of Bass Strait. It was a bit windy at times but that was expected. However, we were rewarded by the refreshing salty sea air and the soothing sound of the waves crashing against the rocky shore. There were interesting rock formations sculpted by the force of the wind and the waves. Along our way we encountered some local wildlife such as kangaroos, wallabies and many Cape Barren Geese. The surrounding areas were well covered by spinifex grass which created gentle waves when the wind was blowing. We stopped at Red Bluff Lookout to take in a good view of Pyramid Rock. We arrived at our destination after an hour.

Then we drove to Kitty Miller Bay where we had morning tea. For our next adventure, we walked along a rocky beach and then made a steep ascent to what looked like a cliff top. We did a bit of bushbashing as we walked along a narrow track which was slightly muddy at times. Finally at the highest point the wreck of the SS Speke was in full view. Eight of the brave and adventurous in our group wandered down a very steep and slippery descent to get up close and personal to the wreck. They were well rewarded for their efforts. Was it a photo finish or finish with photos? Anyway, it was memorable for them. The remainder of the group just relaxed and participated as spectators.

We then drove to Swan Lake, had lunch, and walked to the two viewing hides to attempt a bit of bird watching. It was a rather relaxing afternoon. We ended the day's activities with coffee at The Nobbies and a stroll on the boardwalk before we returned to our accommodation.

Winnie Mak

Phillip Island Base Camp 15-19/4/2024

WALK 4, CAPE WOOLAMAI AND FOREST CAVES BEACH

Thursday 18th April,

The loop around Cape Woolamai is bare and windswept, and the whole area is pock marked with the burrows left by the migratory Shearwater Gulls (aka Mutton birds). This part of Phillip Island is characterised by steep cliffs, beaten by wild breaking waves. The scenery is spectacular.

In the afternoon we ventured along Forest Caves Beach and explored the red rocks sculpted by sea into weird shapes and cavities.

Jane Taylor

WALK 5, CHURCHILL ISLAND

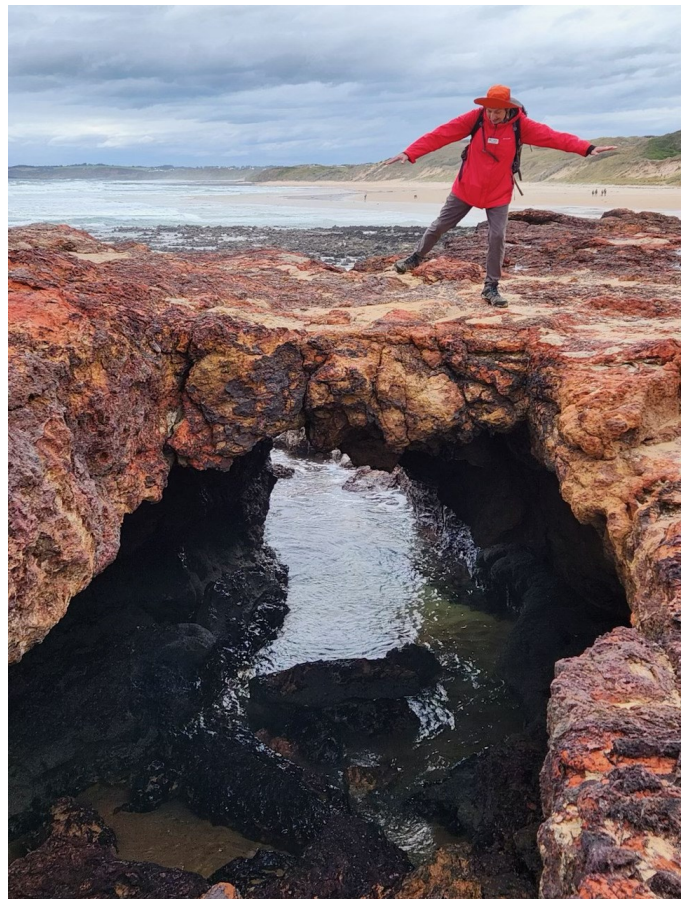
Friday 19th April

Thanks go to our leaders who jam-packed this camp with such a variety of island experiences. Even on our way home we made the most of the morning walking a circuit of Churchill Island, admiring yet more sea views on one side and green paddocks with cute Scottish cattle and sheep on our other side.

Jane Taylor



Cape Woolamai—photo: Jane Taylor



Forest Caves—Photo: Beth Alcorn

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.