

Peninsula Christmas Walk 2023

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Melbourne Walking Club Circular



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FEBUARY WALKS

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Copy for March to: Charlie Freedman - Phone: 0415 558 249 email: editor@melbournewalkingclub.org by the 1st Wednesday in the month, 7th February.

UNPAID SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR 2023/24 ARE NOW OVERDUE

If your 2023/2024 subs are paid, thank you. If you have not yet paid, they are now overdue. See inside back page of circular for payment details.

Laughter Is The Best Medicine

Two silk worms had a race, but they ended up in a tie.

New Members

Five new Members were admitted during the months of August and December: Madeleine Geraghty, Peta Rawson, Lynette Macartney, Susanna Bevilacqua and Neesha Shimmen. We welcome these Members to the Club and wish them many happy years of walking and participating in other Club activities.

John Rankin, Membership Officer



views last Saturday in the Age and the Sydney Morning Herald. Copies can be purchased from Benn's Books, 437 Centre Road Bentleigh, 9557 3969, and from the publisher, Ginninderra Press. Praise for Barry's Book:

In unaffected prose, Barry Revill takes us back to the Australia of his childhood, a time of simple pleasures and caring communities ready to heal each other's wounds. He shows us that, while some of the ties that bind drag us down, others offer liberation through the grace of small mercies.

Bushwalking News Victoria (BNV)

The Melbourne Walking Club is affiliated with Bushwalking Victoria which publishes "**Bushwalking News**" monthly. The Current and past BNVs can be read on their web page:



Diary of a Young Boy

Barry Revill

https://bushwalkingvictoria.org.au/bushwalking-newsletter

2023/24 Subscriptions were due by 30 June 2023, and are set out below with discounts available to members who wish to take them when paving. 2023/24 rates -- Within Victoria and aged under 80 years \$65 -- Outside Victoria or aged 80 years and over \$60 The following discounts apply: Prompt Payment: \$5 (for payment by 30 June 2023). Emailed Circular (not by post): \$10 (for 12 months). Note: Life Members and those who have been members for 50 years or more are not required to pay annual subscriptions. Please send a cheque payable "Melbourne Walking Club Inc" to: Mr A Robertson, 45 Albany Cres, Aspendale, Vic, 3195. Or By bank transfer to the Club's general account: Account Name: Melbourne Walking Club Inc. BSB: 063-000. Account No: 1078 3218. Please ensure that you clearly state your name on the transfer. Arthur Robertson, Treasurer, MWC,

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Mon 18 Mar Mornington – Sweetwater Ck – Frankston

Leader: Les Littlejohn

Phone: 0409 400 302

3rd Wed 20 Mar Wattle Park

Leader: Doug Swinbourne

Phone: 0438 881 176

Sun 24 Mar Cycling Tour: Ballarat – Skipton Rail Trail

Wendouree Railway Station to Smythesdale and return. Suitable for mountain bikes, touring bikes, hybrid bikes, e-bikes. Not really suitable for road bikes with skinny tyres.

NB. You must contact the leader if you want to attend this activity.

Leader: Colin Crook

Phone: 0418 386 459

Rendezvous: 10 am at Wendouree Railway Station.

Morning Tea: In the Sticks Café at Haddon. Very good coffee.

Distance: 40 km cycle.

Grading: Medium, mainly flat rail trail with fine gravel surface.

<u>Transport</u>: Private Car or 8:14 am train from Southern Cross Station arriving at Wendouree at 9:51 am. Note that this is a service to Ararat. Wendouree is the first station after Ballarat.

<u>Walk Details</u>: A pleasant ride from the outskirts of Ballarat through farming countryside. On a clear day we can see the Grampians. Many points of historic interest along the way. Lunch in Smythesdale township historic area. Afternoon tea at the leader's home which is only 1 km from Wendouree station. Trains leave Wendouree at 4:14 pm, 5:03 pm and 6:14 pm for Melbourne.

Mon 25 Mar Easy Metro: Oakleigh - Rosstown - Elwood - St Kilda

Leader: Les Littlejohn

Phone: 0409 400 302

Wed 27 Mar Lalor – Edgars Ck – Edwardes Lake

Leader: Alex Hordijenko

Phone: 9383 3257

Diary of a Young Boy

Diary of a Young Boy, by club member Barry Revill, received nice re-



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FEBRUARY WALKS

Sun 4 Feb High Lead Carpark – Powelltown

NB. You must contact the leader if you want to attend this activity.

Please note that the walk which was originally scheduled for Sunday 4 February to Pyramid Rock on Phillip Island has been cancelled due to a section of the track now being impassable.

Leader: Trevor Rosen Phone: 0412 136 124

<u>Rendezvous & Morning Tea</u>: 9.30am at the Powelltown Public Hall car park .We will have morning tea here. There are toilet facilities.

Map: Melway X912 T4 Grading: Medium Distance: 13 km.

<u>Transport</u>: Private car. Take the Warburton Highway to Yarra Junction where you turn right on to the Powelltown-Noojee Road (C425). Continue into Powelltown turning up Blake St (opposite the Powelly Pub) and turn right into the carpark of the Powelltown Public Hall opposite the Gladysdale Fire Station. After morning tea there will be a car shuffle with some cars to be left in the Powelltown Public Hall carpark and the others to drive to the High Lead Carpark which is about 11km further along the Powelltown-Noojee Road. The High Lead Car Park is on the right and is sign posted. The walk commences here.

<u>Walk Details</u>: This is a pretty walk along old tramlines following the "Walk into History" Track back to Powelltown. Most of the track is flat and easy but there are a couple of short steep sections coming up from gullies which may be slippery when wet and also one creek crossing which involves stepping on a log and stepping stones. Poles and gaiters are recommended if you have them.

Afternoon Tea: At the Powelly Pub.

Mon 5 Feb Blowhole - Flinders

Leader: Jim Smith

Phone: 0437 077 532

<u>Rendezvous & Morning Tea</u>: 9:45am at the car park at the end of Blowhole Track, Melway 261 D11.

Maps: Melway 261 & 260 Grading: Moderate Distance: 10km.

Transport: Private car.

<u>Walk Details</u>: Walk starts at the Flinders Blowhole cliff tops car park, where we negotiate a couple of steep descents and climbs along the foreshore to the Quarry, from there we head up to Flinders Rd, then

<u>Rendezvous</u>: 9.15am at the Point Nepean National Park carpark, Melway 156 C2.

<u>Morning Tea</u>: At the Point Nepean National Park Carpark. Toilets available at car park.

Maps: Melway 156 & 157 Grading: Easy/Medium Distance: 12km.

<u>Transport</u>: Via car on Peninsula Freeway M11 to Mornington Peninsula. At end of M11 Freeway continue straight ahead at the roundabout to reach Boneo Road then turn right at roundabout and go straight until you turn left at Point Nepean Road. Stay on the Point Nepean Road to go to Sorrento and then turn right as you come into Sorrento to go on to Portsea. Continue through Portsea along the Point Nepean Road through to the Entrance of the Point Nepean National Park and to the carpark on the left just after you go through the entrance to the National Park.

Walk Details: Start walk at 9.45am. Most of the track is on well-formed paths. Starting from the carpark there is a short walk out to Police Point to learn about some of the early history of the Quarantine Station and to view a couple of early paintings of Port Philip Bay. Then returning to the main road pathway, the walk will go to The Cutting and go down onto a section of beach as the walk continues onto the Portsea Pier for a wander. Then returning to the Pt Nepean Road, the walk goes to Franklin Road to a walk along the cliff tops for some beautiful views of Port Philip Bay, some more of the artists trail and views of the backvards of some modern looking Portsea Mansions. The walk then continues down onto Shelley Beach for a 1.5 km walk along the beach to Point King, and an historical marker. From Point King, the walk continues onto the famous Millionaires Walk, which is about 1km. Then the walk returns to the Point Nepean Road pathway for another 1km to the Sorrento History Park where a spot for lunch will be chosen. Toilets available at park. Again, there are beautiful views of Port Philip Bay and the Sorrento Pier. There may be time to walk down to Sorrento Pier and back to the park. The return walk of 3km will be along the gardened pathway following the Point Nepean Road back to Portsea for a coffee and cake. Then there is a 1km (15 min) walk back to the carpark.

Escapes: There is a 788 Bus service between Sorrento and Portsea.

<u>Notes</u>: Poles and walking boots would be helpful on a gravelly section of the trail. There will be two sections of the walk along the beach in sand. One beach sand section is short, and the other is about 1.5km. There are also a couple of small hills in sections of the walk.

track to the car park opposite the Somers store. With the weather OK this can be a nice summer walk, there is a toilet at the start only, the walk has plenty of bush.

Wed 6 Mar Westgate - Victoria Harbour - City

Leader: David Watkins

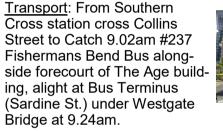
Phone: 0414 547 190 david39mwc@gmail.com

<u>Rendezvous</u>: 9.30am under Westgate Bridge at Sardine Street (Melway 56 D1).

Morning Tea: Westgate Park; Shelter, Toilets (Melway 42 F12).

Grading: Easy

Distance: 12km approx.



Lunch: Near end of Station Pier.

<u>Walk Details</u>: A flat walk through Westgate Park then down to Sandridge Life Saving Club. At this point a decision will be made on walking down the Webb Trail to the Observation Point and return. We shall take the coastal path and follow to Beacon Cove and lunch. Following lunch we pick up the walking track following the #109 Light Rail Route to the Westgate Freeway and then across Seafarers Bridge along Flinders Wharf to Docklands Park and Southern Cross Station to complete walk. Many escapes.

Sun 10 Mar Mt Donna Buang – Mt Boobyalla

NB. You must contact the leader if you want to attend this activity.

<u>Leader</u>: Kim Rosen

Phone: 0422 804 816

Wed 13 Mar Princes Bridge – East Malvern

Leader: Richard Bowen Phone: 9885 0438

Sun 17 Mar Portsea – Sorrento, Artist's Trail & Millionaire's Walk

NB. You must contact the leader if you want to attend this activity.

Leader: Sue Cranage Phone: 0414 669 948

along Keys Rd. to Punchbowl Rd and return. This is a hilly walk with contrasting rugged coast and farm views. No toilets but plenty of bushes and no escapes. Lunch will be along the side of Punchbowl Rd.

Wed 7 Feb Box Hill - Koonung Creek Trail - East Kew

Leader: Alan Manzoori

Phone: 0417 546 604

Rendezvous: Box Hill Tram Terminus at 9.30am.

Morning Tea: Mont Albert New Scout Hall.

Maps: Melway 45, 31, 32, 46 & 47 Grading: Easy Distance: 13km.

<u>Transport</u>: 8:56 am Belgrave train ex Flinders Street to arrive Box Hill station at 9.17am and then walk to Box Hill Tram Terminus at Whitehorse Road stop 58.

<u>Walk Details</u>: A pleasant walk mostly through Koonung Creek Trail, parks and some suburban streets. The walk is mostly flat with few short uphill sections. After passing through 2 parks north of Whitehorse Road, we arrive at Mont Albert North Scout Hall for morning tea. After morning tea passing through more parks we arrive at Koonung Trail. Continuing along this trail we have lunch at Hayes Paddock before we head towards Outer Circle Rail Reserve and finish the walk at Harp Junction, East Kew. Few escapes available along the way.

Sun 11 Feb Warburton River Walk

NB. You must contact the leader if you want to attend this activity.

<u>Leader</u>: John Gates

Phone: 0428 761 644

<u>Rendezvous & Morning Tea</u>: Warburton car park at 09:30 am.

Map: Melway 290 Grading: Easy Distance: 14 km.

<u>Transport</u>: Private car. Take the Warburton Highway to Warburton after running off the Maroondah Hwy passed Lilydale. Go to the Warburton Bakery, and turn left onto Thomas Avenue which will take you down along the river where you can park.

We will have morning tea here. There are toilet facilities.

<u>Walk Details</u>: From the Warburton highway we follow the river walk heading east. We cross under the highway at Signs Bridge following the river through the caravan park and then through bushland before exiting onto Woods Point Road. We follow this till we reach Riverside Drive. We then return to Warburton on the south side of the river till we again cross the highway and continue on the north side of the river till we get to the Mayer Bridge and then return to our starting point.

February 2024

Lunch is at the picnic ground near the Redwood Bridge.

Afternoon Tea: At the Three Sugars Café.

Leader: Graeme Barker

Wed 14 Feb Heatherdale – Blackburn Lake – Laburnum

<u>Phone</u>: 9874 6938 0437 006 938

Rendezvous: 9.17am at Heatherdale Railway Station.

<u>Morning Tea</u>: Approx. 15-20 minutes into the walk at Simpson Park in Mitcham (toilet available), Melway 49 A11.

Maps: Melway 49, 48 & 47 Grading: Medium Distance: 12 km.

<u>Transport</u>: 8.45am Lilydale train ex Flinders Street, arriving Heatherdale station at 9.17. Return trains from Laburnum station at 10 minute intervals.

<u>Walk Details</u>: An interesting walk along some streets, a couple of pipeline easements and bushland reserves, including Blackburn Lake Sanctuary (the lunch spot), concluding at Laburnum station. Just near the station is a group of shops where coffee is available. Toilets at Heatherdale station, Simpson Park in Mitcham and Blackburn Lake Visitor Centre. The walk includes viewing some interesting streets which to my knowledge have not been included in any previous walk.

Sun 18 Feb Punty Lane, Red Hill South

NB. You must contact the leader if you want to attend this activity.

Leader: Glenys Harrison

Phone: 0415 934 978 Please SMS.

<u>Rendezvous</u>: 9:30am at Bushland Reserve car park, corner Pt Leo Rd and Callanans Rd (Melway 191 A7). Toilet facilities and café.

Morning Tea: Bushland Reserve car park.

Maps: Melway 191. Google Maps gives good directions.

Grading: Medium

Distance: 14.5km.

Transport: Private car.

<u>Walk Details</u>: From Red Hill South, this hilly walk traverses picturesque farmlands and vineyards. Majestic old pine trees line Punty Lane. There is an off-track section in Punty Lane, gaiters are recommended for snake protection for this short creek crossing (there is a rustic log bridge). Walk detours through Montalto sculpture park before returning to Bushland Reserve starting point.

<u>Rendezvous</u>: 10.00am Point Roadknight Beach Carpark (NOT Point Roadnight Bridge).

Grading: Easy

Distance: 12-13km.

<u>Transport</u>: Private car. Drive over the Westgate Bridge in the direction of Geelong. Take the Geelong bypass and follow signs to Great Ocean Rd towards Anglesea on the B100. Drive through Anglesea until you get near the outskirts. You will see a sign on the left that says Point Road-knight Beach. Go down Third Avenue, through a number of roundabouts to the carpark and park near the toilets.

For the car shuffle some of us will take our cars to the Airey's Inlet Lighthouse carpark. At Airey's Inlet turn left into Inlet Rd just before a brown sign for Spit Point Lighthouse precinct. Continue up the top of the hill to the Lighthouse carpark..

<u>Walk Details</u>: This is a very pleasant walk about 50% along the beach and then along the Surf Coast Path up to a ridge where you have some spectacular views overlooking the sea until you get to the Airey's Inlet lighthouse. Here we will finish the day at the very pleasant coffee shop.

The beach we walk along is the nesting place of the hooded plover which nests from August to March.

It is an easy walk and should take about 3 hours. Urquhart Bluff is about half way. There are tables and toilets there. However a nicer place for lunch is a few hundred meters up on the ridge where there is a table and a couple of benches. Here you have a bird's eye view of the beach back to Anglesea.

Participants must contact the leader as this walk requires a car shuffle with some cars required at Airey's Inlet. Car shuffle arrangements can be worked out once we meet. While some have morning tea some cars can be taken to Airey's Inlet.

Mon 4 Mar Somers - Sandy Point

Phone: 0419 527 653

<u>Rendezvous & Morning Tea</u>: 9:45am at Somers Store Car Park, Melway 194 B10.

Maps: Melway 194 Grading: Easy

Distance: 11km.

Transport: Private car.

Leader: Doug Connell

<u>Walk Details</u>: Beach walk from the Somers Store to Sandy Point, where we cannot walk any further because of the boundary of Cerberus Naval base. We have lunch in the sand dunes then return on the same beach

<u>Morning Tea</u>: 10.00am beside playground and toilet block on F.R. Smith Drive. Melway 59 B1.

<u>Maps</u>: Melway 59, 60 & 69 <u>Distance</u>: 11.5km.

Grading: Easy walk (no hills). Mainly along paths.

<u>Transport</u>: 9.28am Glen Waverley Train ex Flinders Street, 9.31 at Richmond arrives Heyington at 9.38am.

Lunch: Lunch will be held at T. King Oval Park (Melway 59 K9).

Walk Details: Mainly along paths.

<u>Escapes</u>: Escapes at all the Glen Waverley Stations or by trams and buses at Glenferrie Road, Tooronga Road, Burke Road, High Street and Dandenong Road.

Wed 28 Feb Lilydale – Mooroolbark

Leader: Doug Swinbourne

Phone: 0438 881 176

Rendezvous: 9:40am at Lilydale Station waiting room (street level).

Morning Tea: Lillydale Lake (seating & toilets).

Grading: Easy

Distance: 12 km.

<u>Transport</u>: Lilydale train departing Flinders Street at 9:45am, arriving at Lilydale at 9:37am.

Lunch: Mooroolbark Heights Reserve (seating, toilets & shelter).

<u>Walk Details</u>: From the station we progress to Lillydale Lake for morning tea, then generally southward to cross Hull Rd (escape). We follow some streets and a pipeline track to Bickleigh Vale which was designed in the 1920s by Edna Walling as her image of an English woodlands village. Lunch follows at Mooroolbark Heights Reserve, then a rather short walk to Mooroolbark Station where trains depart to the city at 1:44pm, 2:14pm, 2:44pm etc.

<u>Escapes</u>: About halfway the #680 bus on Hull Rd. to Lilydale or Mooroolbark Stations. No escapes after that.

MARCH PROGRAM

Sun 3 Mar Point Roadknight – Aireys Inlet

NB. You must contact the leader if you want to attend this activity.

Leader: Glen McIntyre Phone: 0468 971 450 glenmmcintyre@gmail.com

Escapes: There are no escapes.

<u>Notes</u>: This is a circuit walk. There are toilets at Montalto Winery which is 3km from the end of the walk.

Mon 19 Feb Maribyrnong River Circuit

Leader: John Ackerman

Phone: 0477 648 528

<u>Rendezvous</u>: Maribyrnong Terminus of the 57 Tram at 10.10 am.

<u>Morning Tea</u>: Canning Reserve at 10.20 am, where toilets and seats are available.

<u>Grading</u>: Easy/Medium. One steep climb up the valley wall and another steep descent.

Distance: 10 km with escape at 5 km.

<u>Transport</u>: From Flinders Street Station walk to the Elizabeth Street / Flinders Street Junction tram terminus at the western end of the station. The official tram will be the 9.20 am and walkers will complete the full 57 Tram journey to the terminus at the other end at 10.10 am where the leader will meet the tram.

<u>Walk Details</u>: Walking the Maribyrnong upstream for several kilometres before climbing the valley wall and entering a series of streets. Lunch in a children's park Allen Reserve. Toilets further over in Milleara Mall where a number 465 bus will take escapees to Essendon Station. Further street walking takes us to a steep descent back to the river valley. We return to the Canning reserve and the 57 tram terminus. Returning home walkers have the choice of catching the 406 bus at the same location to Footscray Station.

3rd Wed 21 Feb Brighton Beach

Leader: Graeme Barker	

Phone: 9874 6938 0437 006 938

<u>Rendezvous</u>: The pavilion in the park at Green Point Esplanade, Brighton Beach at approx 10.05am. Melway 76 C2. Toilets available nearby.

Morning Tea & Lunch: Green Point Esplanade.

<u>Maps</u>: Melway 76 & 67

Grading: Easy.

Distance: am: 4.5 km; pm: 3 km.

<u>Transport</u>: 9.32am Sandringham train ex Flinders Street arriving Brighton Beach at 9.56. Leader will meet train and lead group to rendezvous. Return trains at 15 minute intervals.

<u>Car</u>: Either pay for parking in nearby beachside car parks or find a suitable spot inland – watch time limits.

<u>Walk Details</u>: am: From Green Point the walk is along the Esplanade before going down path to the beach and then walking along the sand past the Brighton bathing boxes towards Middle Brighton along a pedestrian only path. A walk along the Middle Brighton pier can be included to view the marina and city skyline.

pm: Short walk from Green Point along the beachside path towards Hampton, returning along this path to the traffic lights at the South Road/ Esplanade corner then a short walk to Brighton Beach station. Toilets are available along the Esplanade in both directions.

Fri 23 Feb Boobyalla Track Clearing – Mt Donna Buang

NB. You must contact the leader if you want to attend this activity.

Leader: Kim Rosen

Phone: 0422 804 816

<u>Rendezvous & Morning Tea</u>: Meet at 9.00am at the Warburton Bakery on the corner of Warburton Highway and Thomas Avenue, Melway 290 B4, for a quick morning tea.

Grading: Medium

Distance: 5km.

<u>Transport</u>: Private car. After morning tea we will drive up the mountain to meet the Rangers at 9.30am at the Rainforest Gallery (toilets here). They will then drive us along the Acheron Way and up Road 4 to the intersection with the Boobyalla Track.

<u>Activity Details</u>: Yes, there's more to do! We reached the summit of Mt Boobyalla with the brush cutters at the end of November. The goal now is to clear the track over the other side of the hill until we reach the next access track, "Road 4". We will then be able to reach the Acheron Way on cleared tracks. Work on this section has already started and we are making good progress. The track clearing is a fun day so do come along and join us. All help is greatly appreciated and no special skills are required. The work is not difficult.

The equipment is provided – loppers or brush cutters etc. Training is provided with the equipment.

<u>What To Bring</u>: Gardening gloves, gaiters, ear-muffs (if you want to use a noisy brush cutter), sharp loppers as extras if you have them, packed lunch, drinking water and clothing for all seasons. Long pants are recommended.

<u>Note</u>: Participants need to have a current Working with Children Check (https://service.vic.gov.au/services/working-with-children) and must register on ParkConnect (https://www.parkconnect.vic.gov.au) and join the group "*Melbourne Walking Club – Woori Yallock*". Please contact Kim if you need assistance.

Sun 25 Feb Working Bee – Walter Briggs Hut

NB. You must contact the leader if you want to attend this activity.

Leader: Trevor Rosen Phone: 0412 136 124

<u>Rendezvous & Morning Tea</u>: 9.30am at the Warburton Bakery on the corner of the Warburton Highway and Thomas Avenue. Melway 290 B4.

<u>Grading</u>: Easy <u>Distance</u>: 300m walk into the hut from a car park.

<u>Transport</u>: Private car. After morning tea we will drive up the mountain, a 30 minute drive, and park near the hut.

<u>Details</u>: We need assistance with various projects at the hut. These include the continuation of the paving of the cleared area near the woodshed and track maintenance. The paving work requires the positioning of suitable rocks which are found in the immediate area. The track from the hut to the summit needs checking and some clearing. There is also another track down to the Healesville Rd. The hut also needs a spring clean. You are also welcome to simply enjoy the ambience of the open fire and the pristine forest surrounding the hut.

Bring your own lunch, drinking water and a thermos for hot drinks. Gardening gloves, rubber gloves (for cleaning), clippers, secateurs and any other tools you think would be useful should also be brought. Long pants and gaiters are recommended if track clearing.

If you have not been to the hut before this is the perfect opportunity to see for yourself this wonderful asset of the club. The hut is a precious asset of the club and we need your help to maintain it. Any assistance will be most appreciated. We particularly need people (members or friends) with handyman or trade skills.

Mon 26 Feb Easy Metro: Heyington - Hughesdale

<u>Leader</u>: Alex Hordijenko

Phone: 9383 3257

NB. Please note change of leader.

<u>Rendezvous</u>: 9.45am at Heyington Place on south-west side of Heyington station.