



MWC CIRCULAR

SEPTEMBER 2024

www.melbournewalkingclub.org

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SEPTEMBER WALKS

Monday	2 Sep	Port Nepean Park Portsea	Doug Connell
Wednesday	4 Sep	Hurstbridge Circuit	Stephen Pfundt
Sunday	8 Sep	Murrindindi River Walk	Kim Rosen
Wednesday	11 Sep	President's Walk – Ballarat	Kim Rosen
Sunday	15 Sep	Red Hill – Merricks	Eileen O'Callaghan
Monday	16 Sep	Craigieburn Circuit	Alan Mannzoori
Wednesday	18 Sep	Melb Botanical Gardens	Les Littlejohn
Monday	23 Sep	Jells Park – Knox City	Jenny Hosking
Wednesday	25 Sep	The Pines – Eltham	Marsha Rankin
Sunday	29 Sep	Walter Briggs Working Bee	Trevor Rosen

Copy for October to: Charlie Freedman - Phone: 0415 558 249
email: charlifreedman@yahoo.com
by the 1st Wednesday in the month, 4th September.

Laughter Is The Best Medicine

If everything seems to be going well,
 you have obviously overlooked something.

2024/25 Subscriptions were due by 30 June 2024

Subscription rates are unchanged from last year.
 Details are on the inside back page of this circular.

New Members

Six new Members were admitted during the month of July: Tom Corrigan, Miranda Milne, Cynthia Lui, John O'Toole, Greg Wambach and Ann Lewis. 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



HELP US GROW OUR CLUB'S MEMBERSHIP BASE
by joining the Melbourne Walking Club Facebook page – and then *inviting your own friends and family* to also join our page...!
It's a great way to encourage new members!

On our [Facebook Page](#) we post pictures from weekly walks, upcoming events for your diary, invites to potential members to come along as a visitor, Mt Buller and Donna Buang news, and so much more!
[Please have a look – and Join NOW!!!](#)



Like us on Facebook

Office Bearers 2023-2024

Club Executive

President: Kim Rosen
Secretary: Neale Oxley
Treasurer: Arthur Robertson
Activities Officer: Vacant
Membership Officer: John Rankin
Immediate Past President: Trevor Rosen

General Committee: John Gates
Charlie Freedman, &
Terry Simpson

Sub-Committee Convenors

Mt Buller Lodge: John Gates
Walter Briggs Hut: Trevor Rosen
Activities: Vacant
Membership: John Rankin
Marketing: Terry Simpson

Other Officers

Website Administrator: Charlie Freedman
Circular Editor: Charlie Freedman

Walk Coordinators

Metro Walks: David Watkins, &
Doug Swinbourne
3rd Wed Walks: Graeme Barker
Bike Rides: John Rankin

Sunday Walks: Terry Simpson (Temporary)
Easy Metro Walks: Gordon Proudfoot
Peninsula Walks: Ron Anderson
Sunday Peninsula Walks: Colleen Simpson

Generic email addresses to contact appropriate Club Members:

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editor@melbournewalkingclub.org
webmaster@melbournewalkingclub.org
walterbriggshut@melbournewalkingclub.org
activities@melbournewalkingclub.org

MT BULLER LODGE

Winter Season

June - September

Individual Bookings Only

**Plan and book early to
secure your preferred dates!**



*Come on up and stay for skiing, or a
winter wonderland holiday in the
club's Mt Buller Lodge.*

*Ski Room, Sports Room, Drying Room,
Central Heating and more ...*



You're welcome to invite family or friends:

- **Member only Bookings open April 1st.**
- **Guest Bookings open May 1st.**

The Lodge is located right at the village centre.

It sleeps up to 16

5 bedrooms (3 x 4 bed / 2 x 2 bed)

- each bedroom has its own en-suite bathroom.

Fully equipped kitchen and dining room,
lounge, TV and table tennis rooms, deck
and barbeque. A small supermarket is close by.

Winter Weekend Bookings:

Members & Dependants -

High Winter - \$119 / night

Low Winter - \$112 / night

Visitors -

High Winter - \$184 / night

Low Winter - \$177 / night

Winter Midweek Bookings:

Members & Dependants -

High Winter - \$107 / night

Low Winter - \$101 / night

Visitors -

High Winter - \$165 / night

Low Winter - \$158 / night

To book simply visit the Club Website,
click on Mount Buller and open the
Mount Buller Booking page

An Unmissable MWC Member Privilege

SEPTEMBER WALKS

Mon 2 Sep Port Nepean Park Portsea

Leader: Doug Connell

Phone: 0419 527 653

Rendezvous & Morning Tea: 9.45 am, Melway 156 C2.

Maps: Melway 156 & 166

Grading: Easy

Distance: 10 km.

Transport: Private car.

Walk Details: Starting at the car park we follow the track towards the information centre and continue along the Coles Track to the Gun Emplacements for lunch, we will return via Cheviot Hill then to the car park. If we get the right weather this is an attractive walk along the coast.

Wed 4 Sep Hurstbridge Circuit

Leader: Stephen Pfundt

Phone: 0434 199 736

Rendezvous: 9.40am at Hurstbridge Station.

Maps: Melway 185, 263 & 264

Grading: Medium

Distance: 12 km.

Transport: 8.25am Hurstbridge train ex Flinders Street, arriving Hurstbridge at 9.40am. Aiming for return train from Hurstbridge at 2.00pm. Next is 2.40pm. As always, check PTV timetables for any possible changes.

Morning Tea: In Fergussons Paddock, near Hurstbridge station. Shelter & toilets available.

Walk Details: Pleasant walk, mainly sparsely populated countryside, sealed and unsealed roads, and grassy reserves. Lunch at Panton Hill Firefighters Memorial Park, Melway 264 A9.

Note: Some steep hills; hiking pole may be useful. No escapes.

Sun 8 Sep Murrindindi River Walk

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

Leader: Kim Rosen

Phone: 0422 804 816

Rendezvous & Morning Tea: 9.30am at the Murrindindi Scenic Reserve, Suspension Bridge carpark. There are toilets and picnic tables here.

Grading: Easy

Distance: 12km approx.

Maps: Melway X910 R10. Google Maps: Murrindindi Scenic Reserve.

Transport: Private car. Take the Maroondah Highway to Lilydale and

then via Melba Highway north through Dixon's Creek, then Glenburn. Just before Devlins Bridge turn right onto Murrindindi Road. Follow east for 5.5km and turn right for a further 2.2km to the information board and carpark on the left near the Murrindindi Camping area. Drive through the carpark to the picnic area next to the Murrindindi Suspension Bridge Carpark.

Walk Details: A car shuttle will be used to commence the walk further south at the Murrindindi Cascades car park. Some cars will be left at the Suspension Bridge carpark where the walk will finish. The river walk follows the Murrindindi River between the Cascades and the Suspension bridge and crosses the river 5 times. There are several picnic areas along the route which are suitable for a lunch stop. This is a pretty walk through tall trees and ferns with waterfalls at the Cascades.

Afternoon Tea: At Dixon's Creek or Yarra Glen.

Wed 11 Sep President's Walk: Ballarat – Eureka Centre – Ballarat

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

Leader: Kim Rosen

Phone: 0422 804 816

Rendezvous: 8.10am Southern Cross Station outside passenger lounge/ prayer room to catch the 8.36am V Line Wendouree Service.

President's Walk: Ballarat - Eureka Centre - Ballarat

Grading: Easy

Distance: 10km approx.

Transport: 8.36am Wendouree Service arriving Ballarat at 10.04am or private car to meet train at 10.04am. No train booking required, just use your Myki card.

Morning Tea: On train.

Lunch: Eureka Centre; Seating, Shelter, Toilets and café.

Walk Details: From the station after a little street walking we pick up the Wallaby Track heading east and after 4km head south to join the Bunny Rail Trail and follow it to lunch at the Eureka Centre. There is an option to extend the walk by 2km before lunch by following the Goldfields Track to a tunnel under the freeway to see the start of the route to Creswick through the bush on the northern side. From lunch we again take the Bunny Rail Trail back to Ballarat Station.

Escapes: There is an escape at lunch (at 7km) by bus #15 at 12.04pm, 12.34, 1.04, 1.34 to Ballarat Station.

NOTE: We will catch the 2.04pm train from Ballarat to Southern Cross to

Transport: Private car. From Melbourne drive south-east for ~75km to Red Hill. Contact leader if you can take extra passengers or if you seek transport.

After The Walk Social: Food On The Hill café, 10/159 Shoreham Rd, Red Hill South VIC 3937. 300 meters before the end of the Rail Trail (a 5-minute walk to car park start point).

Walk Details: This easy and straightforward out-and-back walk on well-defined trail has views of Philip Island and passes through farmland, vineyards, pine trees, and Eucalypt forests. The trail begins at the high point of Red Hill South and can be muddy, bushwalking boots recommended. The very pretty lunch spot is at Merricks, the halfway point of the walk. An option exists for coffee and treats inside by the fire. The walk back to Red Hill South is gently uphill.

Just 300 meters before the end of the walk, a shelter shed indicates the position of the Food On The Hill café for those who want to socialize.

Mon 16 Sep Craigieburn Circuit

Leader: Alan Manzoori

Phone: 0417 546 604

Rendezvous: 10:00am at Craigieburn railway station.

Maps: Melway 386 & 387 Grading: Easy Distance: 12 km.

Transport: 9:16am Craigieburn train ex Flinders Street, arriving Craigieburn at 10:00am.

Morning Tea: Craigieburn Gardens Reserve (Melway 387).

Walk Details: A pleasant walk mostly along Aitken Creek Pathway and through new suburban developments. The walk starts and finishes at Craigieburn railway station. There are a number of bus stops along the way for escape. Lunch at Highlands Lake adjacent to Children's playground. Toilets only at Craigieburn Central Shopping Centre more than halfway through the walk.

Wed 18 Sep Melbourne Botanical Gardens (Historical Walk)

Leader: Les Littlejohn

Phone: 5987 2215
0409 400 302 (on the day only)

Rendezvous: Southern Cross station, Collins Street end, near clock at 10am.

Maps: Melway 2E, 2G, 2F & 2L Grading: Easy.

Distance: 4 km pre lunch, 2 km after lunch.

Transport: Any train to arrive at Southern Cross before 10am.

Morning Tea: Docklands Park Melway 2E H8.

Walk Details: The Botanic Gardens were originally to have been at Batmans Hill, hence the start at Southern Cross. After morning tea and examining the site we will get a train to Richmond and cross Gosh's Paddock to enter the Gardens at the Anderson Street entrance. What follows then will be a leisurely walk taking in points of interest such as the original Yarra River course and features left by John Dallachy, von Mueller, and most notably William Guilfoyle, as well as some more recent additions. Lunch will be probably near the restaurant or any suitable spot. After lunch and after leaving the Gardens at the Observatory, (coffee shop) we may walk down to Government House Drive examining several interesting monuments.

Escapes: Trams in Domain Rd and St Kilda Rd offer the best options.

Mon 23 Sep Easy Metro: Jells Park – Knox City

Leader: Jenny Hosking

Phone: 0423 627 232

Rendezvous: By Train, 9.18am Glen Waverley train ex Flinders St Station arriving at Glen Waverley 9.54am to connect with 10.08am #753 bus to Jells Park/Ferntree Gully Rd entrance.

Morning Tea: Jells Park - 300m from bus stop. Toilets available.

Maps: Melway 71, 72, 63 & 64 and/or Google.

Grading: Easy

Distance: 10-12km approx.

Walk Details: Pleasant walk northward through Jells Park via lake, to Nortons park for lunch (Toilets available). After lunch, follow Blind Creek to Knox City Shopping Centre. Major bus interchange service at Knox City SC.

Escape at High St Road, Buses #736, #737.

Wed 25 Sep The Pines – Eltham

Leader: Marsha Rankin

Phone: 0402 058 184

Rendezvous: 10.00 am at the #906 bus stop at The Pines Shopping Centre, Doncaster East.

Maps: Melway 34, 22 & 21

Grading: Easy

Distance: 11 km.

Transport: #906 bus to Warrandyte Bridge from Lonsdale St, departing cnr King St at 9.10 am (or cnr Swanston St at 9.15 am) arriving The Pines Shopping Centre at 9.53 am. (Note, #906 buses run every 12-15

minutes and #905 and #908 buses to The Pines also regularly depart from Lonsdale St but take a slightly longer route.) Alternatively, the #901 bus from Blackburn for Greensborough stations.

Morning Tea: Renoir Ave Reserve (Melway 34 C6), a short walk from The Pines.

Walk Details: This is a pleasant walk along tracks following Green Gully Linear Park to the Mullum Mullum Creek then the Main Yarra Trail to the footbridge across the Yarra near Fitzsimons Lane, through Eltham Lower Park then along the Diamond Creek trail to Eltham Station. An easy walk with one or two gentle climbs. Escapes at Fitzsimons Lane (Melway 21 F12) and Main Road Eltham (Melway 21 G10). Toilets at The Pines, Eltham Lower Park and Eltham station.

Sun 29 Sep Walter Briggs Hut – Mt Donna Buang – Working Bee

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

Leader: Trevor Rosen

Phone: 0412 136 124

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

Distance: 300m walk into the hut from a car park Grading: Easy.

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

Details: We need assistance with various projects at the hut. These include clearing the access track, the continuation of the paving of the cleared area near the hut, restocking 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 another track down to the Healesville Rd. The hut also needs a spring clean.

We particularly need someone with a chainsaw who can cut up fallen timber near the hut. We also need someone who is able to climb a ladder to clear the gutter of leaves and other debris.

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.

OCTOBER PROGRAM

Wed 2 Oct Waurm Ponds – South Geelong

Leader: Miles Pierce

Phone: 0429 359 832

Sun 6 Oct Wookwookarung Regional Park – Bush Walk

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

Leader: Tony Crocker

Phone: 0419 331 458

Rendezvous: Dementia Friendly Forest and Sensory Trail (Rotunda/information area) at 10:30am.

Maps: Type Woovookarung Regional Park Map pdf in search engine. Not necessary but helpful if you like to research.

Grading: Easy to moderate

Distance: 10.5km.

Transport: Private car or collection available at Ballarat Train Station. Take 8:14am Ararat train from Southern Cross arriving Ballarat 09:43. We would aim for 3:20pm or 2:20pm train to return to Southern Cross.

Morning Tea: In your car or on train.

Walk Details: Defined trails among Messmate Stringybark, grass trees and heath. Some moderate hills and stony underfoot in some places. Boots or walking shoes are recommended. We will have an early picnic lunch at a lookout.

Escapes: Can be shortened to approximately 6km, by an early return along Katy Ryans Rd.

Note: **There are no public toilets.** Red Lion Hotel would be a convenient toilet stop prior to walk. Leader will carry paper and a trowel.

Post walk chat and refreshments at above mentioned hotel for those interested.

Mon 7 Oct Bushrangers Bay – Cape Schanck Lighthouse

Leader: David Painter

Phone: 03 9570 5591

Wed 9 Oct Point Cook Coastal Park Circuit

Leader: Alex Hordijkeno

Phone: 0497 699 507

Mon 14 Oct Wonga Park Mount Lofty Anticlockwise Circuit

Leader: Stephen Pfundt

Phone: 0434 199 736

Wed 16 Oct Combined 3rd Wed & Metro – D'nong Botanic Gdns

Leaders: David Watkins

Phone: 0414 547 190
david39mwc@gmail.com

Graeme Barker

Phone: 0437 006 938
grbark@yahoo.com.au

Bruce Armstrong

Phone: 0416 758 204
brucearm@hotmail.com

Rendezvous: **Longer Walk;** 9.45am at Croydon Station to catch Upper F.T. Gully Bus #688 at 9.55 to alight at Mt Dandenong Hotel at 10.22am.

Shorter Walk; 10.15am at Croydon Station to catch Upper F.T. Gully Bus #688 at 10.28 to alight at Olinda Township at 10.58am.

Distance: Longer walk 9km approx.

Grading: Easy.

Maps: Melway 66 or Parks Victoria.
Shorter Walk 3km + Garden.

Transport: **Longer Walk;** 8.45am Lilydale train Ex Flinders Street, arrive Croydon 9.26am.

Shorter Walk; 9.10am Lilydale train ex Flinders Street, arrive Croydon 9.52am.

Private Car; Park at Olinda Netball at 10.45am. Entry is approx. 50m up Georgian Rd through gateway on right.

Morning Tea: All will meet at Olinda Netball courts for Morning Tea (Melway 66 J7). Seating, Cover, Toilets.

Lunch: Those on longer walk will lunch at Serenity Point; Shelter, Seating, Toilets. Those doing the shorter walk meet at the **Chelsea Garden at 12.30pm** for lunch.

Walk Details: **Longer Walk;** From Mt Dandenong Hotel walk up Monash Avenue passing Falls Rd to arrive at Olinda Township (Toilets), passing through township follow Olinda Monbulk Rd to arrive at Netball Club and morning tea. (1.6km).

After morning tea we shall all walk to the Botanic Gardens, (450m) where the walk will follow the perimeter of the gardens, lunching at Serenity point, and then continuing to pass through the Chelsea Australia Garden. After visiting the Gardens return to the Mt Dandenong hotel via Falls Rd & Monash Avenue to catch return bus.

Shorter Walk; Alight from bus at Olinda Township (Toilets) then walk through township to arrive at Netball club for morning tea (600m). After morning tea we shall all walk to the Botanic Gardens, (450m) where there are two options available:-

- After the recce it has been decided that instead of an organised group walk it would be better for everyone to explore independently and meet up for lunch at The Chelsea Gardens for lunch at 12.30pm.
- Guided tour (30mins) on the "Electric People Mover"; this operates from 10.30am to 3.30pm every 45mins, this must be booked in advance on (03) 8427 2087 as it will be very popular. Cost \$11.00 Full Fare, \$8.50 Concession (at time of recce).

Return buses from Olinda: From Olinda township; To Croydon; 1.43pm; 2.28; 3.05. Journey time; Approx. 31mins.

To Upper Ferntree Gully; 1.35pm; 2.26pm; 2.59pm. Journey time; approx. 26mins.

Sun 20 Oct Port Nepean Beach

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

Leader: Michael Corrigan

Phone: 03 9821 0571

Mon 21 Oct Mernda – Old Mernda – Mernda West – Hawkstowe

Leader: TBA

Phone: TBA

Wed 23 Oct Jordanville – Gardners Creek – Holmesglen

Leader: David Blackwell

Phone: 0407 877028

Sun 27 Oct Marysville – Steavenson Falls

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

Leader: Chris Thomson

Phone: 0425 759 399

Wed 30 Oct Sunbury Circuit

Leader: Alex Hordijkeno

Phone: 0497 699 507

Stalwart Walkers of Our Earlier Days

Richard G. Hemmy

'Dick' Hemmy joined the Club in 1927 and in his twenty-five years of active membership proved to be a valuable member. A surveyor with the Lands Department, he used his talents to draw about a dozen maps of sections of the north-eastern Victorian mountains. These maps were made available to walkers in the form of blue prints, through the Club's Tours Committee. His finest achievement in this work was his map of North Eastern Victoria which covered an area of approximately 7,200 square miles of the most mountainous section of the State.

An active bushwalker and attendant at all Club activities, Dick was ap-

pointed Tours Officer in 1950-51, elected a Life Member in 1954 and became President in 1955-58. He was entrusted by the Lands Department to survey the Mt William track in the Grampians and also the snow pole line and its erection across Mt Bogong in 1938. Had this latter work been commissioned a little earlier, it would have saved the life of former Club member Cleve Cole.

Dick was a regular leader of Club walks, including the Christmas trip of 1937. He was a regular contributor to the "Melbourne Walker", his subjects usually being of an informative nature - 'Snow poles', 'Maps', 'Forest Roads' and historical themes - 'Mt Donna Buang', 'Yarra River' and 'Dandenong Ranges' etc.

Dick wrote an essay "Unto the Hills" which he dedicated to the Melbourne Walking Club to commemorate their Diamond Jubilee year. The 24 page essay was awarded an Honourable Mention by the State Government in conjunction with the State's Centenary in 1951. The introduction to the essay could well be applied to Dick Hemmy, who is remembered as a modest, unassuming and very likeable man.

"I will lift up mine eyes to the hills, from whence cometh my help". Psalm cxxi.

Getting Onto Rodondo

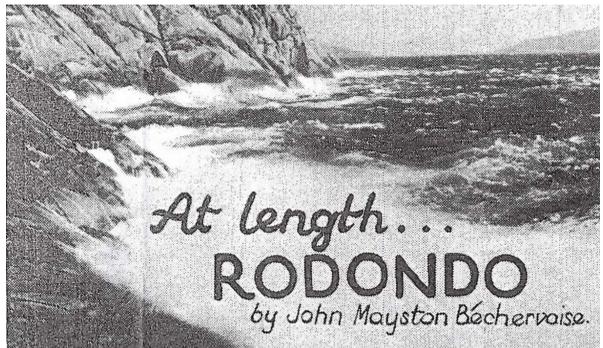
The first part of a series.

From an Article in "The Quarterly Supplement To The Gum Tree" by John Mayston Béchervaise, reprinted from "The Educational Magazine".

And also from an Article "Rodondo Report" by John Mayston Béchervaise, reprinted from "Walkabout", 1 June 1947.

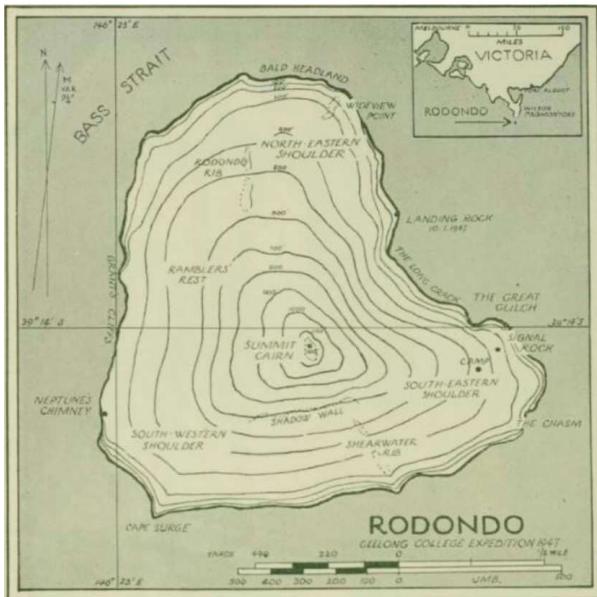
For those who seek them, pioneering and high adventure are still to be found. In January 4 of 1947 the writer led an expedition to hitherto unknown Rodondo Island, off Wilson's Promontory; of the journey and the discoveries he writes the following general account for "The Educational Magazine."

There is something almost whimsical in the fact that the achievement of a random boyish ambition, undertaken when at length opportunity and effective desire coalesced, should have sprung into unmediated headlines in the



daily Press, should have found echoes even in the columns of the "London Times" and caused the name, at least, of an obscure granite island in Bass Strait to be known to millions of people.

The story of Rodondo has several beginnings, all vastly separated in time. Geologists trace the commencement of its independent insular existence to the later stages of the great glacial epoch, when the waters washing both sides of a great southern



peninsula flooded the isthmus and, twenty thousand years ago, formed Bass Strait, leaving a chain of granite islands as sea-free mountain witnesses. The process was probably gradual, allowing ample time for un-hasty migrations of fauna and flora, so that, while doubtless there was evacuation on the grand scale toward both the north and the south, it might be imagined that much life merely moved higher up the mountain slopes, unconscious of its impending isolation. Within this hypothesis lay at least the most important scientific reason for a visit, for a careful analysis of plant and animal life might reveal much of considerable ecological interest. Even a mere seven or eight miles of stormy sea is inimical to migration, other than that of birds and perhaps some wind-blown seeds and insects. Surely it would be possible to classify life above Rodondo's granite walls into that which might have been introduced fortuitously and that which had persisted from the beginning! The fact that no human interference, no fire or clearing, had ever disturbed the isle made it ideal as a research selection.

To be continued ...

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:



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



Snow Play at Walter Briggs Hut, July 29th 2024

**If undeliverable, return to:
Melbourne Walking Club Inc.**

**Box 2446 GPO
MELBOURNE VIC 3001**

Melbourne Walking Club Circular

