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Copy for February to: Charlie Freedman – Phone: 0415 558 249
email: charliefreedman@yahoo.com
by the 1st Wednesday in the month, 7th January.

Laughter Is The Best Medicine

Last night the internet stopped working, so I spent a few hours with my family. They seem like good people.

Notice re Cancelled Walks

Sometimes walks are cancelled at the last minute. These are usually notified to members via email. Members without email addresses should ring the leader before departing for the walk, to check for cancellations.

New Club Website

The Club will soon be upgrading its website. If you wish to preview the new website please email Charlie Freedman on **webmaster@melbournewalkingclub.org** to obtain the URL.

Office Bearers 2025-2026

Club Executive

President: Kim Rosen
Secretary: Alison Anthony
Treasurer: Arthur Robertson
Activities Officer: Susan Cranage
Membership Officer: John Rankin
Immediate Past President: Trevor Rosen

General Committee: Charlie Freedman
Julie Paris &
Dean Howe

Sub-Committee Convenors

Mt Buller Lodge: Julie Paris
Walter Briggs Hut: Trevor Rosen
Base Undercover Activities: Susan Cranage
Membership: John Rankin

Other Officers

Website Administrator: Charlie Freedman
Circular Editor: Charlie Freedman

Walk Coordinators

Mid-week Walks: Doug Swinbourne
Easy Metro Walks: Alan Manzoori
3rd Wed Walks: Graeme Barker
Bike Rides: John Rankin

Sunday Walks East: Trevor Rosen
Sunday Walks West: Susan & Colin Crook
Sunday Peninsula Walks: Colleen Simpson
Peninsula Walks: Ron Anderson

Generic email addresses to contact appropriate Club Members:

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activities@melbournewalkingclub.org

JANUARY ACTIVITIES

Sun 4 Jan Creswick Area

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

Leader: Colin Crook Phone: 0418 386 459

Rendezvous: 10:00 am at Creswick Visitor Information Centre, 41/43 Albert Street Creswick. It is at the north end of the shopping strip. Parking available at rear of information centre. Toilet facilities and coffee shops available. There is an IGA Supermarket opposite for any last minute supplies.

Map: Melway X909 A10 Grading: Moderate Distance: 10 km.

Transport: **Private car**. Follow Western Highway (M8) to turnoff to Creswick, follow C291 to Creswick. It is 120 km or 90 minutes from WestGate Bridge to Creswick.

Train. There is an option to catch the 7:55 am Ararat train from Southern Cross to Wendouree Train Station, arriving at 9:31 am. Wendouree is the first station after Ballarat on the Ararat train. There will be a car to take four people from Wendouree Station to Creswick. This option is available to the first four applicants.

Morning Tea: St George's Lake Main Picnic Area, St George's Lake Road off Melbourne Road C291, Creswick.

Walk Details: We walk through the historic gold mining town to beautiful St George's Lake for morning tea. Then climb Brackenbury Hill for a good viewing point. Then walk to Oak Gully Road and follow the La Gerche trail, a historic planting of exotic trees. We then walk through University of Melbourne Creswick Campus, the former Creswick School of Forestry. We finish back in Creswick in time for afternoon tea at a local cafe. Following afternoon tea train travellers will be driven to Wendouree station to catch a train to Southern Cross.

Escape: From St George's Lake back to Creswick.

Wed 7 Jan Kananook – Seaford – Carrum

Leader: David Blackwell Phone: 9557 9177
0407 877 028

Rendezvous & Transport: 8.51 am Frankston train ex Flinders St to Kananook Station 10.00. Then catch 10.13 am. #901 bus north to intersection of Frankston-Dandenong Rd & Seaford Rd arriving about 10.20 am. Meet at the bus stop by the shops.

Bus #901 visits Frankston, Dandenong, Stud Park, Ringwood, Blackburn, The Pines, Greensborough, Epping, Roxburgh Park, Broadmeadows, & Melbourne Airport. If you have a current timetable, rendezvous from anywhere as above.

Morning Tea: Belvedere Reserve, East Rd (Melway 100 A4).

Maps: Melway 99, 100 & 97 Grading: Flat, easy Distance: 10 km.

Walk Details: Initially we visit Belvedere Bushland Reserve. Following morning tea, we find our way into the Seaford Wetlands. Walk up to Eel Race waterway, have lunch at Riviera Reserve. Walk by Patterson River, and finish at Carrum Station, which has spectacular views across the bay.

Sun 11 Jan Sunday Metro: Melbourne Botanical Gardens

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

Leader: Cynthia Lui Phone: 0415 038 776

Rendezvous: 8.30 am at the front of Kanteen at 154 Alexandra Avenue South Yarra. Melway 2M C2.

Maps: Melway 2K, 2L & 2M Grading: Easy Distance: Approx. 9 km.

Transport: Private car. There is ample free parking on the weekends along Alexandra Avenue in front of Kanteen (Melway 2M C2).

Morning Tea: At the Terrace café within the grounds of the Botanic Gardens where you will be able to buy coffee, snacks and maybe even a gelato! (or BYO). Seating and toilets available.

Walk Details: We follow the Main Yarra Trail until we get to the entrance of the Botanic Gardens at Anderson Street. From there we head to the Terrace for our morning tea break. The café can get very busy on Sundays so feel free to BYO coffee/tea, if you don't want to queue. Morning tea will be on the lawn by the lake. It may be good to bring a towel or rug to seat on. After morning tea we continue through the gardens and visit some of the leader's favourite spots including: Fern Gully; the new Australian Drylands and Guilfoyle's Volcano. If you've never visited the Botanic Gardens or haven't been for a while, you won't be disappointed. We rejoin the Main Yarra Trail and head back to Kanteen. Expect to finish no later than 12 noon.

Note: Toilets at morning tea and throughout the Botanic Gardens.

Mon 12 Jan Altona – Cherry Lake

Leader: Bruce Armstrong Phone: 0416 758 204

Rendezvous & Morning Tea: 10.15 am at Cherry Lake Reserve, end of Fresno St, Melway 54 H9. Tables and Toilet available.

Map: Melway 54 Distance: Approx 4 km.

Transport: **By Train**: 9.26 am Werribee Train departing Flinders St and arriving at Altona Station at 9.56 am.

By Car: parking at the Reserve.

Walk Details: Easy walk around Cherry Lake at your own pace and return to Tables used at Morning Tea for Lunch.

Tue 13 Jan Lunch – Charles Dickens Tavern

Note: There is no Tuesday lunch in January.

Wed 14 Jan Waterways – Braeside Park – Waterways

Leader: David Watkins Phone: 0414 547 190
david39mwc@gmail.com

Rendezvous: Waterways Boulevard/Springvale Rd 9.40am; Melway 93 G3.

Maps: Melway 88 & 93 Grading: Easy Distance: 9.0km.

Transport: **1.** 8.27am Frankston Train from Flinders Street arrive Chelsea Stn at 9.19am Then # 902 Airport West Bus at 9.26 arriving Waterways Boulevard along Springvale Rd at 9.37am (11 Mins journey).

2. From Nunawading Station #902 Chelsea Bus 8.25am; Arr Waterways Boulevard at 9.35am.

3. Come by car and park in Waterways Boulevard.

Morning Tea: Seating near playground, no cover, no toilets, Melway 93 E3.

Lunch: Picnic Area in Braeside Park; Seating, Cover, Toilets Closed when recced. Melway 93 F1.

Walk Details: This is an easy flat walk, initially through the attractive Waterways suburb, then into Braeside Park which is a bushland setting with many tracks to follow. We return via Waterways to bus stop on Springvale Rd. Probably visiting local lakeside café en route.

Escapes: There are two escapes, the first at 3km and the second immediately after lunch (8.3km), both are 800m along Governor Rd to Springvale Rd and bus #902 to either Springvale (20 mins) or Chelsea (11 mins)

Note: Toilets available at 2km and 8km.

Sun 18 Jan Carrum Beauty Spot – Kananook Creek Trail – Seaford Foreshore Reserve Walking Track

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

Leader: Terry Simpson Phone: 0400 037 291

Rendezvous: 9.30 am at “The Beauty Spot” Carrum, at the mouth of the Patterson River on the South Bank.

Grading: Easy Distance: Approx. 10 km.

Transport: Private car. There is ample free parking on the weekends at Carrum Railway Station on Nepean Highway. The Beauty Spot meeting point is 200 metres north at the Paterson River. Toilets are available.

Walk Details: We follow the Carrum Boardwalk to the Carrum Life Saving Club. We then go onto the beach and walk down the beach to the Carrum Bowling Club, joining the Seaford Foreshore Reserve Walking Track.

At Armstrong Road we cross Nepean Highway to join the Kananook Creek Walking Trail, following it down to the Seaford Broughton Reserve, where we can stop for lunch, or at Seaford Beach, depending on the wind. There are toilets available. We then rejoin the Seaford Foreshore Reserve Walking Track for the return trip, going back towards the Carrum Bowling Club and then to the Beauty Spot.

Escapes: There are multiple escapes.

Wed 21 Jan Mitcham – Heathmont

Leader: Doug Swinbourne Phone: 0438 881 176
dougrayswin@gmail.com

Rendezvous: 9:45am at Mitcham Station.

Maps: Melway 48, 49, 63 & 64 Grading: Easy/Medium Distance: 12km.

Public Transport: 9:16am Belgrave Train ex Flinders Street Station, arriving Mitcham at 9:45am.

Morning Tea: Simpson Park (toilet, seats, shelter).

Lunch: Marie Wallace Park, Bayswater - seating, toilets, shelter available.

Walk Details: Simpson Oval is a delightful spot for morning tea. The walk then proceeds along Heatherdale Creek, across Canterbury Road to join a walking/bicycle track. It proceeds along the Dandenong Creek Trail (easy level walking) where bird life is abundant. It crosses under the railway line, then shortly to Marie Wallace Park Bayswater. After lunch the walk backtracks to H.E.Parker Reserve (approx. 1 km) then an attractive gradual uphill rise along the Heathmont Rail Trail, past the Uambi Nature Reserve. There is good tree cover along this section. There are several coffee shops at the end of the trail, then across Canterbury Road to the station.

Escapes: Wantirna Rd bus to Ringwood. After lunch it is a short walk to Bayswater Station.

Finish at Heathmont: Trains regularly depart approx every 30 minutes (2.07pm, 2.37pm, 3:07pm).

Sun 25 Jan Mt Victoria – Mt Donna Buang – Walter Briggs Hut

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

Leader: Trevor Rosen Phone: 0412 136 124

Rendezvous: 9.30am at the Warburton Bakery, 3415 Warburton Highway, Warburton. We will have morning tea here and directions will then be given to the start of the walk which is at the Ten Mile Carpark on the Mt Donna Buang Road. Toilets available at Warburton.

Grading: Medium Distance: Approx. 11 km.

Transport: Private cars.

Walk Details: This is a circuit walk. We will follow the road downhill for 1 km and then turn left up the access track to a pair of communication towers and then to Mt Victoria. The track is then followed for 2.6 km over Mt Victoria to the summit of Mt Donna Buang. The tall observation tower can be climbed and on a clear day has wonderful views. From the summit we will walk off-track down through the bush for about 45 minutes to the Walter Briggs Hut. Bring your own lunch to have at the hut. We will return to the summit off-track and with a section on the road. The last 30 minutes will all be downhill via a shorter track back to the Ten Mile Carpark. Walking poles and gaiters are recommended if you have them.

Afternoon Tea: Three Sugars Café, Warburton (optional).

Wed 28 Jan Flinders Street – Hawthorn

Leader: Oliver Lucas Phone: 0451 957 821

Rendezvous: 9:30am at Flinders Street Station – top of the steps.

Maps: Melway 43 H10 – 45 A10.

Grading: Easy Distance: Approx 11 km.

Transport: Your feet!!

Morning Tea: At a point along Alexandra Ave.

Walk Details: Pleasant easy walking along the Yarra. Lunch in Burnley Park – Melway 2H H10.

Escapes: If necessary, various escapes along the walk.

FEBRUARY PROGRAM

Sun 1 Feb Mount Macedon Memorial Cross – Camel's Hump – Day's Picnic Ground

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

Leader: Cynthia Lui Phone: 0415 038 776

Rendezvous & Morning Tea: 9.45 am at Harbison Picnic Ground carpark near the entrance to the Memorial Cross (Melway 657 G1).

Maps: Melway 657 G1 and X909 G10.

Grading: Medium (Grade 3) Distance: Approx. 13 km.

Transport: Private car. Mount Macedon is 65 km from Melbourne and is easily accessed via the Calder Freeway. There is ample free parking within the Harbison Picnic Ground. It can get busy on weekends so you may need use one of the parking areas a bit further away.

Morning Tea: A short morning tea break before we start our walk. BYO coffee/tea or grab one at the coffee van. Please note at the time of the recce the tearooms were closed for renovations. If the tearooms are still closed, a

coffee van should be open. Cake and bikkies supplied by leader. Toilets available.

Walk Details: We start our walk with a visit to the Macedon Memorial Cross and Major Mitchell's Lookout. The memorial cross was donated by William Cameron in 1935 to commemorate Australians who died in WWI. It was damaged in the 1983 Ash Wednesday bushfires. It was replaced in 1995 through funding from the Grollo family and the local community.

We then follow the Macedon Ranges Walking Trail to Camel's Hump, the region's highest peak at 1,011 metres, where the panoramic views of neighbouring Woodend and Hanging Rock will make the steep rocky climb worth it. From there we head to our lunch location at Day's Picnic Ground where there are toilets and seating. As seating is limited and this is a popular picnic spot, please bring something to sit on (towel or seating pad).

Note: This is not a flat trail but is mostly in shade. Sections are rocky with tree roots. Hiking poles are recommended. Gaiters would be useful as there is one section that could be overgrown by late summer. Toilets at start/end, lunch and before we reach Camel's Hump. Potential escapes at McGregor Picnic Ground and Camel's Hump carpark which requires a shorter return walk via Cameron Drive.

Mon 2 Feb Hastings – Jacks Beach

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

Leader: Jim Smith Phone: 0437 077 532

Wed 4 Feb Lilydale – Lilydale

Leader: Richard Bowen Phone: 9885 0438

Sun 8 Feb Sandringham – Rickett's Point

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

Leader: Stephen Pfundt Phone: 0434 199 736

Mon 9 Feb Sandringham

Leader: Graeme Barker Phone: 0437 006 938

Tue 10 Feb Lunch – Charles Dickens Tavern

NB: Please let the leader know if you are going to attend this activity.

Leader: Charlie Freedman Phone: 0415 558 249

Our regular monthly social lunch occurs on the 2nd Tuesday of each month (except January) at the Charles Dickens Tavern in the basement of 290 Collins Street Melbourne at 12 noon. All welcome.

Wed 11 Feb Diamond Creek – Eltham

Leader: John Rankin Phone: 0408 373 148

Sun 15 Feb Arthurs Seat – Dromana

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

Leader: Doug Bates Phone: 0408 321 633

Mon 16 Feb Bike Ride: Boronia – Richmond

Leader: John Rankin Phone: 0408 373 148

Wed 18 Feb Plenty – Diamond Creek – Wattle Glen – Hurstbridge

Leader: David Watkins Phone: 0414 547 190
david39mwc@gmail.com

Rendezvous: Outside Plenty Hall 9.45am. Coffee and snacks available at Plentiful Café, Melway 11 D5.

Maps: Melway 11, 12 & 185 Grading: Easy Distance: 5k/9k/11.8k.

Transport: 8.34am Hurstbridge Train to Greensborough (9.22). Cross Para Rd to bus station to catch 9.34 #901 Melbourne Airport bus to alight at Howell / Yan Yean Rds (7 mins).

Morning Tea: Plenty War Memorial Park football Ground, seating, cover and toilets.

Lunch: Nillumbik Park Diamond Creek, Melway 12 A5.

Walk Details: The beginning is an easy downhill stretch along Sutherland Rd, then the remainder of the walk is generally flat along quiet roads to join the Diamond Creek Trail which is followed to the finish.

There are options to finish at Diamond Creek, 5km, Wattle Glen, 9km or Hurstbridge 12.5km.

Sun 22 Feb Metung

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

Leader: Brendan Beattie Phone: 0411 187 871

Mon-Sat 23-28 Feb Tasman National Park, Tasmania

Leader: Cynthia Lui Phone: 0415 038 776

Mon 23 Feb Albert Park – Port Melbourne

Leader: Graeme Barker Phone: 0437 006 938

Wed 25 Feb Oak Park – Royal Park

Leader: Alex Hordijenko Phone: 0497 699 507

A Message from the President

The AGM of the Melbourne Walking Club was held at the Box Hill RSL on 27 November 2025. Fifty-three members attended.

Three members of the Executive Committee retired this year and two members were elected to fill the vacancies.

The following members were elected to the Executive Committee:

- Kim Rosen – President
- Alison Anthony – Secretary
- Arthur Robertson – Treasurer
- John Rankin – Membership Secretary
- Sue Cranage – Activities Officer
- Julie Paris – Mt Buller Lodge
- Trevor Rosen – Walter Briggs Hut
- Charlie Freedman – Circular Editor and Website Administrator
- Dean Howe – General Committee Member

On behalf of the Club I would like to thank the three retiring members, Neale Oxley, Terry Simpson and John Gates for all the work they have done on the Committee over the years and for their contribution to the Club.

I also warmly welcome Alison Anthony and Dean Howe to the Executive Committee and thank them for agreeing to nominate for their respective positions.

Ian Morton and Barry Revill were each awarded Life Membership of the Club for their outstanding contributions to the Club over a sustained period of many years. Congratulations to both of them.

This year's winner of the Golden Boot Award was Terry Keating who completed 63 walks/activities during the year. Congratulations to Terry.

The motion to amend Clause 3.1.1 of the Constitution to reduce the number of qualifying walks to apply for membership of the Club from four to two in a twelve-month period was unsuccessful. Voting was conducted by way of a secret ballot. The result was 62.5% of votes against the motion. The Executive Committee will continue to work closely with the Mt Buller Lodge Subcommittee to find ways to improve the financial position of the lodge.

Kim Rosen
President, Melbourne Walking Club
29 November 2025

More Historical Photos Uploaded to the Club's Website

More historical photos have been uploaded to the club's website. Thanks to Alan Shell and Ian Fillis for passing them on. They may be viewed at:
www.melbournewalkingclub.org/photo-gallery/archives
Then click on ***Base Camps MWC*** or ***Bush Walking with MWC WEB***.

Bushwalking News Victoria (BNV)

The Melbourne Walking Club is affiliated with Bushwalking Victoria which publishes **"Bushwalking News"** monthly. The Current and past issues can be read on the Bushwalking Victoria website:

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

Prom Summer Update

Wilsons Promontory National Park, or "the Prom", is one of Victoria's most loved holiday spots. Every summer, thousands of people come to enjoy its pristine beaches and spectacular walks.

For more information visit:
www.parks.vic.gov.au/places-to-see/parks/wilsons-promontory-national-park

At peak times, like summer holidays and long weekends, the national park gets extremely busy. Roads can become crowded with cars and pedestrians. Popular spots, like Tidal River, Norman Beach, and Squeaky Beach, often fill up by mid-morning. Tidal River Campground can be booked out many months in advance.

Ranger tip: If you don't already have a campsite booking for this summer, consider visiting at a quieter time outside the peak period for a better experience.

To help you plan ahead and stay safe, here's what to expect at the Prom this summer.

- A free shuttle bus will run between Tidal River and Telegraph Saddle daily from 9am to 6pm during school holidays. From Telegraph Saddle, you can access the Mt Oberon Summit Walk.
- Reduced speed limits will apply in busy areas. Remember, Tidal River is a shared 10 km/h zone. Please respect the directions of traffic controllers and rangers.
- Visitor Centre upgrades are underway at Tidal River, so follow signs and temporary arrangements, and allow a bit of extra time to find your way around.
- A maximum of two cars are allowed per campsite. There is an additional change per night for the second car. Extra cars cannot park in day visitor areas.
- Carpool with friends or family and arrive early (before 10am) to get parking at popular places.

Terry Keating awarded his Golden Boot
and Ian Morton awarded his Life Membership at the AGM

If undeliverable, return to:
Melbourne Walking Club Inc.

Box 2446 GPO
MELBOURNE VIC 3001

Melbourne Walking Club Circular

Place Stamp Here