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Copy for August to: Dean Howe – Phone: 0422 494 333
email: deanhowe@yahoo.com
by the 1st Wednesday in the month, 1st July.

Laughter Is The Best Medicine

Two men are walking down the street.
One walks into a bar - the other one ducks.

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
Activities: Susan Cranage

Other Officers
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Circular Editor: Charlie Freedman

Non-Executive Officer
MWC Fundraising: Nicole Smyth

Activities Coordinators
Monday Peninsula Walks: Ron Anderson
Easy Metro Walks: Alan Manzoori
Sunday Walks – East: Trevor Rosen
Sunday Metro Walks: Cynthia Lui
Bike Rides: John Rankin
Monday Metro Walks: Graeme Barker
Mid-week Walks: Doug Swinburne
Sunday Walks – West: Susan & Colin Crook
Sunday Peninsula Walks: Colleen Simpson

Generic email addresses to contact appropriate Club Members:
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MELBOURNE WALKING CLUB
2026 CAMPING WALK PROGRAM
UPDATE'S FOR OCTOBER & NOVEMBER

After the success of the recent light weight camp and walks at Wilsons Promontory we have adjusted the future camp programs for an even better experience for members…

Our hikes are going to be 2 or 3 day walks returning to the same basecamp each evening – basically a 'base under cover' camping experience.

So dig out your tent, sleeping bag and camp stove- and bring a comfy camp fire chair for evenings.

WEEKEND CAMPS LATER IN THE YEAR

17-18 OCT, MURRINDINDI/WILHELMINA FALL
21-23 NOV, LAKE CATANI, MOUNT BUFFALO

TO REGISTER YOUR INTEREST PLEASE TEXT RICHARD SIMPSON ON 0419.528.130

Base undercover activity: Cradle Mountain, Tasmania

Dates: 16th – 20th January, 2027.

Group size : maximum of 10 participants.

Expressions of interest are sought for a base undercover activity at Cradle Mountain exploring Tasmania's most iconic alpine landscapes.

Cradle Mountain is known for its dramatic peaks, glacial lakes, button grass plains and cool temperate rainforest, making it an ideal destination for walkers who enjoy both scenic beauty and varied terrain.

Transport: The group will travel from Launceston to Cradle Mountain by private bus transfer and stay for 3 nights at Cradle Mountain.

Proposed walks:

This trip is designed with hikers in mind and will include a selection of the region's best moderate/hard walks, including the Cradle Valley Boardwalk, Dove Lake Circuit, Marion's Lookout, Lake Lila, Wombat Pool, Crater Falls, Hanson's Peak and Twisted Lakes. These walks offer a mix of easier boardwalk sections, lakeside scenery, alpine viewpoints and more challenging uphill sections for those seeking rewarding mountain views. January is a popular summer walking season in the area, with longer daylight hours that suit full days on the track, while alpine weather can still change quickly. Overall, this will be a memorable group hiking escape combining comfortable accommodation, convenient transport and outstanding day walks in the Cradle Mountain wilderness.

This trip is best suited to walkers with:

- a reasonable level of fitness
- confidence walking on uneven terrain
- experience with moderate day hikes and happy to self-cater meals
- appropriate hiking gear for alpine weather (option to hire gear).

Participants will need to book their own accommodation and flights. The leader will arrange private bus transfer to/from Cradle Mountain. Please contact Cynthia Lui (0415 038 776 or **cynthialui@mac.com**) for further details or to register your interest.

JULY ACTIVITIES

Wed 1 Jul Fyansford – Moorabool River – Barwon River – Newtown

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

Rendezvous/Transport: 8.10am Southern Cross Station under the clock, to catch the 8.30am Geelong Train arriving Geelong 9.31am. Catch #25 Bell Post Hill bus from Bay 1 at 9.45am and after a scenic tour of Geelong alight at Hyland Rd at 10.02am.

Maps: Melway 450 & 451 Distance: 8km.

Grading: After a difficult 800m ***steep*** section at start, an easy flat walk.

Morning Tea: Picnic Area on Fyansford Common (Melway 451 A2), toilets, seating and cover.

Lunch: At Newtown Park, seating, cover and toilets (Melway 451 D6). Escape available.

Walk Details: This walk is in an area which, to my knowledge, the club hasn't walked in before. Fyansford is an old industrial area of outer Geelong but now is being developed for housing. Wikipedia has information on its history.

From the bus we descend steeply down to the Moorabool River and to view the historic hotel and bridge (1899), then to morning tea on Fyanford Common (shelter, seating and toilets). After morning tea we follow Moorabool River passing its junction with the Barwon River at about 3km, we then continue to lunch (5km). From lunch we continue along river to pass under Shannon Ave where we turn sharp left 6.3km and walk through Balyang Sanctuary to Shannon Rd, which is crossed with great care, to finish at bus stop for #43 bus back to Geelong. Buses at 12.28; 1.13; 1.53; 2.29pm (17min journey).

Escapes: At lunch at Newtown Park 5km; Bus #24 to Geelong and North Geelong stations.

Sun 5 Jul Crossroads Mollongghip – Sailors Creek Rd (Goldfield Track Stage 5)

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

Leader: Kim Rosen Phone: 0422 804 816
Max No.: 16

Rendezvous & Morning Tea: 9.30am at Mollongghip Community Hall (on Dean-Mollongghip Rd.). There is a toilet at the rear of the hall. A car shuttle will be needed to take some cars to the end of the walk at Sailors Creek Rd.

Grading: Medium Distance: 14km.

Map: Melway X909 B11, C10 & Google Maps.

Transport: Private car. Approx.1.5 hours drive from the eastern suburbs of Melbourne via Westgate Bridge and Western Highway towards Ballarat. Take the C291 exit and head north towards Mollongghip.

Walk Details: We follow the Goldfields Track from Dingley Dell Rd. through the Wombat State Forest towards Mollongghip and then along the route of the old Anderson's tramway. The track continues through the Wombat State Forest to Mullens Dam and on to Wombat Station for lunch. There is a rotunda here for shelter but no toilet facilities. The track then follows a very impressive railway cutting for about a kilometre and then on bush tracks until intersecting with Sailors Creek Rd where some cars will be left.

Afternoon Tea: We may be able to have afternoon tea in the kitchen/living area at the back of the Mollongghip Hall.

Mon 6 Jul Baldry Crossing – Gwenmarlin Rd.

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

Leader: Jim Smith Phone: 0437 077 532

Rendezvous & Morning Tea: 9:45am at Baldry Crossing (Melway 254 G6).

Maps: Melway 254 Grading: Moderate Distance: 13 km.

Transport: Private car.

Walk Details: From Baldry Crossing we walk along Baldry Rd. to Meakins Rd. then Gwenmarlin Rd. till we enter Greens Bush for lunch and return to the start along bush tracks. This is a pleasant country walk along tracks beside the roads, then a bush walk where we should see some wildlife.

There are no Toilet facilities.

Wed 8 Jul Sunshine – Tottenham – Stony Creek Trail – Spotswood

Leader: Miles Pierce Phone: 0429 359 832

Rendezvous: 9:45 am on the elevated concourse at Sunshine station beyond the ticket barriers.

Morning Tea: Approx 10:10 am at Tom O'Brien Park in Matthews Hill reserve (under cover and open picnic tables/seats, no toilet facilities). Melway 40 K3.

Maps: Melway 40, 41 & 42 Grading: Easy / Medium Distance: 11 km.

Transport: 9:23 am Watergardens bound train from State Library Station or 1 - 2 minutes earlier at Town Hall station to arrive Sunshine at 9:44 am. (The above new city stations have pedestrian linkages to Melbourne Central station and to Flinders St station respectively.)

Walk Outline: This walk is likely a new one for the Club. From the morning tea spot a short excursion will be made into an adjacent and interpreted remnant area of Australian Native grasses. The paved trail then continues eastwards to cross Stony Creek and then boarders a redeveloped area that formerly

accommodated large buildings that were hastily constructed in WW2 for RAAF Stores.

After crossing under the railway lines via the Tottenham underpass and a short section of street walking, the route continues south-east along the quiet Stony Creek trail. After lunch at the McNish reserve (picnic tables both under cover and in the open plus toilets) the Stony Creek trail is resumed to reach the Federation Trail beside the West Gate Freeway. The latter will then be used to cross over Williamstown Road and the railway and then complete a loop through Stony Creek Reserve before finishing at Spotswood station.

Toilets: Sunshine station; McNish Reserve (at approx. 6.5 km).

Escapes: At Geelong Road (approx. 5.5 km). Buses 411 and 412 to Footscray stations. Taking the Federation trail off ramp into Stony Creek reserve shortens end of walk by about 1.5 km.

Sun 12 Jul Wattle Park – Gardiners Creek Circuit

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

Leader: Helen Renehan Phone: 0439 337 066

Rendezvous: 9.30 am at the 2nd carpark at Wattle Park, Monsborough Drive (near the chalet). Melway Map 60 K3. Entrance to Wattle Park is at 1012 Riversdale Road.

Maps: Melway 60 & 61 Grading: Easy Distance: approx. 10 km.

Transport: Private car or via tram (Tram stop 70 on Riversdale Road).

Optional Coffee After the Walk: Sis N Me Café.

Walk Details: This walk offers a peaceful suburban retreat. This loop winds through parkland, featuring a mix of gravel paths and natural dirt tracks. The route is known for its groves of wattles and towering eucalypts. While largely flat, the trail includes some gradual inclines that provide a light workout. Expect to finish no later than 12 pm.

Note: Toilets at Wattle Park (start/end of walk).

Mon 13 Jul Valley Reserve – Mount Waverley

Leader: Jim Cone Phone: 9560 8175
0498 972 945

Rendezvous: Mount Waverley Railway Station at 10.03am. Leader will meet the train.

Map: Melway 70 Grading: Easy Distance: 6km.

Transport: 9.33am train from Flinders Street Station. Car parking at Valley Reserve with entrance at junction of Wills Avenue and Waimarie Drive (Melway 70 G1).

Morning Tea & Lunch: Undercover BBQ area nearby to toilet block and car park.

Walk Details: A pleasant walk through Valley Reserve continuing through wetland area to East near Waverley Hospital. Retrace steps to Valley Reserve for lunch. Nice trees and minimum street walking. Toilets at Mt Waverley Station and Valley Reserve.

Buses 742, 736, 737 and 902 call at Glen Waverley Station. 2 stops to Mt Waverley Station on train.

Tue 14 Jul Lunch – Charles Dickens Tavern

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

Leader: Dean Howe Phone: 0422 494 333

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 members and visitors welcome.

Wed 15 Jul Jacana – Broadmeadows

Leader: Peter Barbetti Phone: 0413 413 551

Rendezvous: 9.40am at Jacana Railway Station (No toilets).

Maps: Melway 6 & 7 Grading: Easy Distance: 13 km.

Transport: 9.06am Craigieburn train ex Flinders Street, arrives Jacana at 9.35. Return trains from Broadmeadows every 20 mins.

Morning Tea: Jack Roper Reserve, Melway 7 A10. Toilets and Shelter.

Walk Details: East along track beside Western Ring Road, to Jack Roper Reserve for morning tea (Toilets and Shelter). Then north mainly along tracks beside the Merlynston Creek, viewing Pioneer Cemetery on the way. Then west and after crossing Pascoe Vale Road lunch at John Ilhan Reserve (No Toilets). Following Yuroke Creek south provides sweeping views. Returning by bus 101 or 102 at Johnstone St to Broadmeadows station.

Escapes: Midpoint Escape at Coolaroo Station and several other bus stops.

Sun 19 Jul Mount Eliza Quarry Park Circuit

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

Leader: Sue Cranage Phone: 0414 669 948

Rendezvous: Mount Eliza Regional Park at 10am (Melway 105 K9).

Maps: Melway 105 K9 & 106 A7/8 Distance: Approx. 10 km.

Grading: Medium/easy walking on well-defined paths.

Transport: Via private car. Travel on the Peninsula Link Freeway, M11 then use Exit 15(C777) onto the Frankston Flinders Rd. At round about turn left onto Sages Rd, then left onto Moorooduc Highway. After approx. 2.5 km, turn

right into Two Bays Road. The entrance to the Mt Eliza Regional Park is on the left not long after turning into Two Bays Road and park in the Mt Eliza Regional Park carpark.

Morning Tea: In the picnic area of the Mount Eliza Regional Park. Bring your own morning tea. Toilets and shelter available.

Walk Details: Walk will start at 10.30am with a visit to the Moorooduc Railway Station of the Mornington Tourist Railway, which has restored steam locomotives and passenger carriages. After visiting Moorooduc Station, the walk will head back to the Mount Eliza Regional Park with a walk around the lake and then across the Two Bays Road following a trail to Balcombe Park for a pleasant walk through a paperbark forest and back to a picnic area with toilet facilities.

The walk will then cross Two Bays Road again to the Moorooduc Quarry Flora and Fauna Reserve. This part of the walk features a steep section of approximately 200 wooden steps with spectacular views of the Moorooduc plains. With keen eyes, there may be a koala in the manna gums or a peregrine falcon to be seen. This Reserve contains views of the remains of a disused quarry, which operated between 1887 and 1927. After lunch the walk will return to the carpark at the Mt Eliza Regional Park.

Lunch: In the small peaceful gorge remains of the quarry beside a lily pond.

Notes: Sturdy walking boots and walking poles recommended as descent section of the Moorooduc Quarry Reserve path has sections of gravel. If wet, surfaces maybe slippery.

Afternoon Tea: After returning to carpark, for those who have time, afternoon tea will be at Sages Cottage Farm, 85 Sages Road, Baxter at 2.30pm (Melway 106 F5).

Mon 20 Jul Bike Ride – City Circuit

NB. Please notify the Leader if you intend to come on this ride.

The ride is suitable for all types of bikes, including ebikes, and all levels of expertise.

Leader: John Rankin Phone: 0408 373 148

Rendezvous: 10.00 am at Quarries Park car park, Clifton Hill.

Morning Tea: Quarries Park (Melway 44 G2); seating and toilets.

Maps: Melway 44, 30, 29, 43, 44, 58 & 45.

Grading: Medium Distance: 30 km.

Transport: Two options – car or train. **By train**: 9.29 am Mernda train ex Flinders St station, arriving Clifton Hill 9.49 am. Exit Clifton Hill station to east side, ride down John St then left into Ramsden. Continue to car park in

Quarries Park. **By car**: Park in car park at the end of Ramsden St (in Quarries Park) or in Field St.

Ride Details: This is a pleasant ride along made paths and there are numerous escapes. There are a few inclines but no major roads to cross. From Quarries Park we follow the Merri Creek north to the Capital City Trail which we then follow west then south all the way to Docklands, crossing Flemington and Footscray Roads (on the recently opened Green Snake bridge) on the way. We then head east following the Yarra to join the Main Yarra Trail to Burnley then head north along the Trail passing the Abbotsford Convent and Dwights Falls to return to Quarries Park and Clifton Hill station.

Escapes: There are a numerous escapes to stations along the way: Flemington Bridge (7 km), Macaulay (9 km), Southern Cross (14 km), Flinders St (15 km), Richmond (18 km) & Collingwood (28 km).

Wed 22 Jul Box Hill – Heatherdale

Leader: Doug Swinbourne Phone: 0438 881 176

Rendezvous: 9:20am at Box Hill Station bus interchange bay 6.

Maps: Melway 47, 48 & 49 Grading: Easy/medium Distance: 11.5 km.

Transport: 8:56am Belgrave train ex. Flinders Street, arriving at Box Hill at 9:17am. Bus 302 departing the interchange at 9:34am, arriving Elgar Park at 9:44am.

Morning Tea: Elgar Park (toilets).

Lunch: Yarran Dheran (toilets).

Walk Details: The walk progresses south of Eastlink along the Koonung Trail, then crosses to the north side of Eastlink, passing under Springvale Rd, Mitcham Rd. and Park Rd. It then enters Mullum Mullum Reserve and over Quarry Rd where it meets Mullum Mullum Creek. There is a short uphill section to Yarran Dheran for lunch. After lunch we return downhill to the creek and follow it along Eastlink Trail almost to Schwercolt Cottage, where we head south and uphill to Antonio Park (toilets), cross Maroondah Hwy and finish at nearby Heatherdale Station. The #901 bus also passes Antonio Park.

Escape: At Springvale Rd, the #902 bus to Nunawading Station.

Mon 27 Jul Easy Metro: Craigieburn – Malcolm Creek Park

Leader: Alex Hordijenko Phone: 0497 699 507

Rendezvous: 9.51am at Craigieburn railway station.

Maps: Melway 387 & 386 Grading: Easy Distance: 7 km.

Transport: 9.07am Craigieburn train ex Flinders Street arriving Craigieburn station at 9.51am. We then catch the #533 bus leaving at 10.09am to the corner of Hanson Road and Grand Boulevard to commence the walk.

Morning Tea: Hamilton Hume Reserve (Melway 387 A5). Seating but no shelter or toilets.

Walk Details: A pleasant, attractive walk following Malcolm Creek and then through a number of open parklands. The paths are flat and sealed with the many magnificent river red gums along the creek banks being a highlight. Lunch will be taken in the Malcolm Creek Park (shelter, seating, toilets) and the walk will be concluded shortly after by catching the #541 bus to Roxburgh Park station.

Escapes: There are several bus escapes to both Craigieburn and Roxburgh Park stations along the way.

Wed 29 Jul Edithvale – Seaford

Leader: Graeme Barker Phone: 9874 6938
0437 006 938

Rendezvous: 9.53am at Edithvale Railway Station.

Maps: Melway 93, 97 & 99 Grading: Easy Distance: 12 km.

Transport: 9.03am Frankston train ex Flinders Street, arriving Edithvale 9.53. Return trains from Seaford, 10 minute service.

Morning Tea: Edithvale Recreation Reserve (Melway 93 C9), 1.3 km from Edithvale station.

Walk Details: A scenic walk along Edithvale Seaford Wetlands and the Patterson River. Lunch is near the boat launching ramp at the Patterson River. After lunch the walk is through a number of reserves and finally joins the Kananook Creek Trail to reach Seaford Railway station.

Escapes: This easy flat walk has three escapes available: At 3.3 km to Chelsea station, at 4.5 km to Bonbeach station, and at 7.8 km to Carrum Station.

Notes: There are a number of toilets available on the walk, which the leader will point out en route. Check Metro Trains for any work disruption which may affect travel times as the level crossing at Mordialloc is being replaced.

AUGUST PROGRAM

Sun 2 Aug North Geelong – Botanical Gardens – Geelong Art Gallery

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

Leader: Susan Crook Phone: 0408 517 381

Rendezvous: North Geelong Railway Station platform 2 at 10:00am. Bus Stop Shelter (Melway 441 K9).

Grading: Easy, well defined paths Distance: 9 km.

Transport: **If travelling by train**, take the 8.50 am Geelong service from Southern Cross to North Geelong arrives platform 2 at 9.47 am. North Geelong Station toilets are on platform 1 (both train platforms are connected by an underpass).

NOTE: Do not get off the train at North Shore station.

If travelling by car, drive to North Geelong Station. Free parking is available at station outside both platforms 1 and 2.

Morning Tea: Approx 10.30 am at Café 42, Rippleside Park (toilets).

Walk Details: Walk from North Geelong Station along Victoria Street to Corio Bay Rippleside. Walk 5km along foreshore to the Geelong Botanical Gardens, view many natural features and the 40 Bollards along the way, plus walk along Eastern Beach. Lunch: Geelong Botanical Gardens. Café serves light lunches. Toilets available. After lunch walk approx. 2km along Little Malop Street to Geelong Art Gallery.

OPTION 1: 2.20 pm. Geelong Art Gallery. See an exciting exhibition "Discovering The Impressionists" with over 70 Impressionist paintings from France never seen before in Australia. If people wish to view this exhibition you must BOOK your tickets online (as soon as possible) for the 2.20pm TIME SLOT. Allow about an hour to view works.

OPTION 2: National Wool Museum.

Return Transport Options: Easy 15 min walk to Geelong Railway Station, a 4.15pm train service back to Southern Cross Station OR Port Phillip Ferry service. A Ferry leaves from Steampacket Pier at 4pm. This pier is on the foreshore near Carousel/Information Centre. The Ferry travels via Portarlington arriving at Docklands 6.10pm, 10 min walk to Southern Cross Station. If travelling by Ferry you have to book this journey on line.

Escapes: Many escape options available.

Mon 3 Aug Redhill Circuit

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

Leader: Ian Tregear Phone: 9548 3391

Wed 5 Aug Emerald – Emerald

Leader: Greg Taylor Phone: 0430 047 218

Sun 9 Aug South Melbourne – Albert Park

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

Leader: Dean Howe Phone: 0422 494 333

Mon 10 Aug Slater Reserve, Blackburn North

Leader: Graeme Barker Phone: 0437 006 938

Tue 11 Aug 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 members and visitors welcome.

Wed 12 Aug Frankston – Seaford (Kananook)

Leader: Les Littlejohn Phone: 0409 400 302

Sun 16 Aug Bridgewater Bay Beach

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

Leader: David Adams Phone: 0419 342 663

Wed 19 Aug Canterbury – Alamein

Leader: Greg Burkhalter Phone: 0411 779 716

Mon 24 Aug Seaholme – Williamstown

Leader: Terry Keating Phone: 0418 149 032

Wed 26 Aug Airport West – Aberfeldie

Leader: David Blackwell Phone: 0407 877 028

Sun 30 Aug Goldfield Stage 6: Sailors Creek Rd – Tipperary Springs

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

Leader: Kim Rosen Phone: 0422 804 816

2026 Mt Buller Ski Season Opening Weekend

Winter begins at Mt Buller. Be there for the first turns of the season with guaranteed skiing and boarding from Opening Weekend and a village buzzing with celebration.

There will be live entertainment, marshmallows by the fire, mascots making the rounds and plenty of reasons to get more than a little excited as the ski season comes to life. Classic Opening Weekend vibes from The Home of Aussie Apres!

Lift Passes & Gear: Book your lift passes, lessons, and equipment rentals in advance via the Mt Buller First Timer's Guide:
www.mtbuller.com.au/winter/plan-your-journey/first-timers-guide

Check Conditions: Review the most current weather and lift operations on the Mt Buller Resort Status Page before you drive up:
www.mtbuller.com.au/winter/snow-weather/snow-report

Accommodation: Book your accommodation at the Club Lodge now:
www.melbournewalkingclub.org/mt-buller-lodge

The “Skier’s Walk”

We had a total of 16 people who participated in the “Skier’s Walk” on Sunday 24 May including a number of visitors. The walk was led by Trevor Rosen and included a walk to the summit of Mt Donna Buang from the Ten Mile Carpark and a visit to the Walter Briggs Hut for lunch and a cake.

Report on Blue Mountains Tour, Monday 20 – Thursday 23 April 2026

The Blue Mountains have always fascinated me. I wondered how could they prevent the early settlers from expanding west of Sydney? Why are the Blue Mountains considered upside down, in that you start from the top and go down?

In April 2026 eleven members of the Melbourne Walking Club explored the region. We found large plateaus overlooking deep box canyons, up to several hundred metres tall. The forested valley floors have spectacular waterfalls, sandstone peaks and pillars. The well-engineered paths rove through a wide variety of vegetation, from temperate rainforests to watery dells of ancient ferns.

The trip was completed as three day hikes using public transport to walk one way journeys. We followed the recently completed Grand Cliff Top Walk for days 1 & 2 and then Grand Canyon walk on day 3.

We stayed in Leura, which is a two hour train ride from Sydney airport. Leura has stately established colourful autumn gardens, good accommodation, restaurants, cafés and supermarkets. We discovered the Carrington Hotel was a welcoming finale to a day’s hiking, with comfortable couches in grand lounges with an open fire and its own brewery. We were tired as there were many stairs. Everyone completed the hikes in good time making the refreshments at the end more enjoyable.

Grand Clifftop Walk

Day_1: Wentworth Falls to Leura. We started along Darwin’s Walk track to Gordan Falls. Past pretty Weeping Rock waterfall and into Blue Mountains National Park. We got our first Blue Mountain views. As expected, they were sensational. We took the rugged Rocket Point Lookout detour which lead to the opposite cliff face, to give a clear top view of the spectacular 100 m high Wentworth Waterfall, and the Valley of the Waters.

Returning to the main route we visited many more lookouts and passed water pools with falls. Climbing out of the canyon and we got the first view the Three Sisters Gundungurra site from afar, plus an afternoon break to gaze at the stunning Pool of Siloam small waterhole.

The final steep ascent of steps to Gordon Falls led us back to autumn leafy Leura village.

Day_2: Walk from Gordon Falls to Katoomba. The track follows the cliff-edge above Jamison Valley, with countless lookouts and panoramic views, including Bridal Veil waterfall lookout, Leura Cascades and a close-up view of The Three Sisters sandstone pillars from multiple lookouts.

Our group chose to explore Scenic World. It gave a stunningly beautiful overhead view of Katoomba Falls and fern forest canopy below. We got excited by the steep, cliff-hanger 52° decline cable railway ride down to the historic mine site below Katoomba Falls. Then enjoyed the ease of the 36° incline cableway back up to the clifftop, passing the fragile Orphan sandstone pillar.

We retired to the Carrington Hotel lounge to celebrate an awe inspiring two days.

Grand Canyon & Grose Valley Clifftop Rim Walk

Day_3: Blackheath. The historic, significant landscape of the Grand Canyon track is a World Heritage wonder.

We descended the plateau steps into a deep, low-light, moist canyon made of sandstone cliffs with walkways along horizontal ledges with stone ceilings. These iconic paths provided close-up views of even more beautiful waterfalls, fern caverns and glens, rainforest, deep holes leading to underground rivers below, and towering overhead cliffs.

The steep climb out of the canyon took us to Evans Lookout for lunch. The afternoon walk to Govetts Leap Cliff Top Walk overlooked the Grose Valley. The deep and close cliffs give an impression of being impenetrable.

We retired to the Carrington Hotel lounge again, to celebrate an awe-inspiring day and had a cheery farewell dinner at the Leopard Italian Restaurant in Laura.

Well done group! Thank you for a rewarding week in the Blue Mountains.

Rob Ivory & Eileen O'Callaghan, co-leaders

2026 Federation Walks

The 2026 Federation Walks (FedWalks) will be hosted in Portland, Victoria, along the Great South West Walk on the weekend of October 10–11, 2026. The host club is the Friends of the Great South West Walk.

General bookings and ticket registrations for the event are scheduled to officially open on July 31, 2026.

Come and explore one of Australia's best kept secrets – a 262km walking trail located in the beautiful south west corner of Victoria.

MWC Mt Buller Lodge Booking System Update

From 1 July 2026, our Mt Buller Lodge Cbdweb booking system will change its payment gateway from PayPal to EWAY.

All credit cards will still be accepted, but members wanting to use up their PayPal points for payment should book well before the end of June.

This switch will streamline our work and reduce behind-the-scenes costs. All your prices, availability, and existing bookings will stay exactly the same.

For new bookings after 1 July, you'll simply notice EWAY listed as the payment provider in your emails and on your bank statements. Your emailed receipts will now come from **noreply@ewaypayments.com** or **bullerlodge@melbournewalkingclub.org**.

Thanks for supporting our lodge and here's to more great seasons, all year round, at Mt Buller.

The Mt Buller Lodge Subcommittee.

2026/27 Annual subscriptions are due by 30 June 2026, see below:

2026/27 rates:	**Within Victoria AND under 80**	**Outside Victoria OR 80 or over**
Annual Subscription:	**$70**	**$65**
With $5 discount for payment by 30 June:	**$65**	**$60**
With $10 discount for email circular only:	**$60**	**$55**
With both discounts:	**$55**	**$50**

Note: Life Members and those who have been members for 50 years or more are not required to pay annual subscriptions.

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.

Or

Please send a cheque payable "Melbourne Walking Club Inc" to:
Mr A Robertson, 45 Albany Cres, Aspendale, Vic, 3195.

Arthur Robertson, Treasurer, MWC.

May 1-3, members walking at Wilsons Prom, summit of Mt Oberon

If undeliverable, return to:
Melbourne Walking Club Inc.

Box 2446 GPO
MELBOURNE VIC 3001

Melbourne Walking Club Circular

Place Stamp Here