Mt Jagungal – Kosciuszko National Park

If undeliverable, return to:
Melbourne Walking Club Inc.

Box 2446 GPO
MELBOURNE VIC 3001

Melbourne Walking Club Circular

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SEPTEMBER ACTIVITIES

Wed	2 Sep	Kalorama – Olinda	Doug Swinburne
Sun	6 Sep	Walter Briggs Hut Working Bee	Trevor Rosen
Mon	7 Sep	Flinders – Blowhole	Jim Smith
Tue	8 Sep	Lunch – Charles Dickens Tavern	Charlie Freedman
Wed	9 Sep	Yarraman – BonBeach	Alison Anthony
Sun	13 Sep	Fairfield – Abbotsford	Alison Anthony
Mon	14 Sep	Banksia Park	Bruce Armstrong
Wed	16 Sep	Castlemaine – Garfield	Kim Rosen
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Wed	23 Sep	Tooronga – East Malvern	Alan Manzoori
Sun	27 Sep	Tipperary Springs	Kim Rosen
Mon	28 Sep	Richmond – Como Park	Alison Anthony
Wed	30 Sep	Keon Park – Watsonia	Charlie Freedman

Copy for October to: Charlie Freedman – Phone: 0415 558 249
email: charliefreedman@yahoo.com
by the 1st Wednesday in the month, 2nd September.

Laughter Is The Best Medicine

I never thought I'd be the kind of person to wake up early to exercise ...
and I was right.

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
Website Administrator: Charlie Freedman
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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activities@melbournewalkingclub.org

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

Sunday 2nd August Geelong Walk

There was a great day on Sunday 2nd August in Geelong with our leader for the Activity, Susan Crook.

We disembarked from the train at North Geelong and walked along the foreshore Esplanade from Rippleside to Eastern Beach

We enjoyed seeing most of the 40 Art Bollards along the way and learnt much about the early history of life on the shores of Geelong with additional information from Colin Crook.

We continued our walk to the Geelong Botanical Gardens for lunch.

After lunch we made our way to the Geelong Art Gallery and very much enjoyed our time at The Impressionist Exhibition.

An excellent day.

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.

Base Undercover Activity – Hiking Adventure
Blue Mountains Katoomba and Leura
Monday 5th – Friday 9th April 2027

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

An opportunity to explore the stunning Blue Mountains in autumn. This walk follows the newly opened Grand Clifftop Trails for two days and the Grand Canyon and Cliff route near Blackheath.

Enjoy spectacular World Heritage lookouts, panoramic clifftops, and several optional excursions.

The 3 single day hikes include iconic views like the Three Sisters, stunning Wentworth waterfalls, deep canyons, Pool of Siloam and Aboriginal cultural sites.

Leader: Robert Ivory Co-leader: Eileen O'Callaghan

Rendezvous: Monday, 5th April 2027 at 6.00pm for a group dinner at the Alexandra Hotel.

Transport: Private car (10 hours from Melbourne) or public transport (fly to Sydney and 1 hour train to Leura). All walks are accessible by public transport using trains and buses from Katoomba, Leura and Blackheath.

Accommodation: Our base will be in the township of Leura. The Leisure Inn Spires apartments are recommended as a group booking or participants can book their own accommodation for a 4-night stay from Monday, 5th – Friday 9th April.

Day One: Tuesday 6th April: Wentworth Falls village – Gordon Falls picnic ground.
Distance: 13 km. Grading: Moderate – High. Approx. 5 - 6 hours. Vertical climb 450m.

Day Two: Wednesday 7th April: Gordon Falls picnic ground – Scenic World. Optional visit to Scenic World: cable car, gondola and funicular train to view the Blue Mountains. Cost is approx. $60.
Distance: 12 km. Grading: Moderate. Vertical climb 250m.

Day Three: Thursday 8th April: Blackheath. Grand Canyon and cliff walk: from Evans Lookout to Govetts Leap lookout.
Distance: 14km. Grading: High. Vertical climb 550m.

For further information and queries, please contact:

- Robert Ivory (043 4532 901), **riv53758@bigpond.net.au**.
- Eileen O'Callaghan,(040 2209 840), **eocallaghan2000@gmail.com**.

Please Note: You must contact Leaders if you want to attend this activity. Places are limited to 12 participants. All walkers must have good fitness as there are a lot of steps.

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.

SEPTEMBER ACTIVITIES

Wed 2 Sep Jell's Park – Knox City

NB: this is a repeat of the walk held on 22nd June 2026 which only had 3 walkers attending.

Leader: Doug Swinburne Phone: 0438 881 176

Rendezvous: 9:55am at Glen Waverley Station.

Maps: Melway 72, 71 & 63 Grading: Easy Distance: 11 km.

Transport: 9:18am Glen Waverley train at Flinders St., arrive Glen Waverley at 9:54am; connect with #753 bus leaving at 10:08am to arrive at Jell's Park at 10:21am.

Walk Details: From the bus stop we walk a short way to the Oaks Picnic Ground in Jell's Park for morning tea (seating, toilets). The walk continues through Jell's Park around the lake and then connects with the Dandenong Creek trail to head north until it reaches a junction where a gravel track leads up a moderate hill to Norton's Park for lunch (seating, toilets) and great views. Following lunch we enter the Blind Creek Trail through bushland, passing under Eastlink then High St. Rd. and finally Burwood Hwy. From there it is a short walk to Westfield Knox City where there are bus connections to Ringwood (#901) or Bayswater (#755) Stations, or to the Vermont South tram (route #75) terminus to Camberwell and the city.

Escapes: After lunch #736 bus to either Glen Waverley or Mitcham along High St.

Sun 6 Sep Walter Briggs Hut Working Bee, Mt Donna Buang

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. Warburton is only 75km from the Melbourne CBD.

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: Depending on the numbers attending we plan to finish clearing the track from the hut to the Healesville Rd. Some of this track has already been partly cleared but there is a final section to complete. When the track is open it allows access from the hut to the walk along the dirt road to the Ben Cairn rock formation. Other work involves cleaning the hut, clearing the main access track, cleaning the gutter and the water filter and restocking the firewood.

Lunch: Longer walk, at small shelter in Conglomerate Hills at about 5km; limited seating but plenty of fallen tree trunks. Shorter walk at the local football ground, seating under cover, toilets.

Walk Details: When we arrive all will have Morning Tea at Lions memorial reserve. After Morning Tea we will split into two groups, longer walk led by Doug Swinboure, shorter walk led by David Watkins.

Longer walk is a steady climb from the township to reach the rocky Conglomerate Hills. The first 1.5km of the shorter walk is through a bush setting visiting the historic Carre Riddle rail bridge, built in 1859, and the Wybejong Park, which involves a short rough climb. The remainder of the walk is along roads with their interesting modern homes.

This website link gives detail of the Conglomerate Hills and an illustrated description of the walk in the hills;
www.greentrails.com.au/hiking/conglomerate-gully-walking-track

Escapes: Escapes back to the township are available all through the shorter walk, but none are available on the longer walk. Trains to Southern Cross; 1.40pm; 2.39pm; 3.39pm. Travel time 49 min.

Sun 25 Oct Hepburn Springs – Porcupine Ridge Rd (GT Stage 8)

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

Leader: Kim Rosen Phone: 0422 804 816

Mon 26 Oct Burnley – Docklands

Leader: Richard Bowen Phone: 0406 500 061

Wed 28 Oct Upper Ferntree Gully – Upper Ferntree Gully

Leader: Stuart Galloway Phone: 0421 560 031

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.

John Royston Moore Memorial Service, 9th August

Trevor Rosen spoke at the Memorial Service of John's 47-year membership of the Melbourne Walking Club. John enjoyed walking and loved conversations, was President, Treasurer, a Golden Boot winner, and most likely served longer on the executive than any other member. His interest in the club was with him to the end.

He will be sadly missed.

Denis Ward

Wed 7 Oct Kalorama – Montrose

Leader: Wayne Hanson Phone: 0415 351 492

Fri-Sun 9-11 Oct Federation Walk – Portland

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

Leader: Kim Rosen Phone: 0422 804 816

Sun 11 Oct Westerfolds Park – Petty's Orchard

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

Leader: Francis Brennan Phone: 0438 383 899

Mon 12 Oct Elwood

Leader: Ingrid David Phone: 0478 858 156

Tue 13 Oct 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 14 Oct MacLeod – Greensborough

Leader: Jenny Hosking Phone: 0423 627 232

Sat-Sun 17-18 Oct Murrindindi Reserve (2nd camp/hike)

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

Leader: Francis Brennan Phone: 0438 383 899

Sun 18 Oct Shoreham – Flinders Jetty

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

Leader: Luke Renehan Phone: 0413 394 519

Wed 21 Oct Riddell's Creek – Conglomerate Hills

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

Rendezvous/Transport: Outside passenger lounge at Southern Cross Station at 8.40am to catch 9.01am Bendigo train arrive Riddells Creek 9.45am.

Maps: Melway 660; Google; Komoot – contact leader for link.

Distance: Two walks available; 9.5km or 5km, or have a leisurely day in and around the township.

Grading: 9km walk Medium/Hard; 5km easy; Sturdy footwear and walking poles recommended for longer walk as track is quite rough and slippy in parts.

Morning Tea: Lions memorial Park, Melway 660 D8, Seating, Cover, Toilets. There are a bakery and café across the main road for anyone wishing to purchase morning tea or lunch.

Bring your own lunch, drinking water and a thermos for hot drinks. We will have an open fire. Bring gardening gloves, rubber gloves (for cleaning), shears, secateurs, loppers and any other tools you think would be useful. Long pants and gaiters are recommended if track clearing.

Whether you have been to the hut before or not it is always enjoyable to visit the hut and to explore the surrounding forest areas in the beautiful Yarra Ranges National Park.

Mon 7 Sep Flinders – Blowhole

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 Melway 261 D11, Blowhole Rd runs off Boneo Rd.

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

Transport: Private car.

Walk Details: Walk starts at the Flinders Blowhole cliff top car park, where we negotiate a couple of steep descents down and up a Gully, we then walk along the cliff top with great scenic views to the Quarry, from there we head up to Flinders Rd, then along Keys Rd. to Punchbowl Rd on very pleasant unmade roads. This is a hilly walk with contrasting rugged coast and farm views. At the end of the walk, you have an option to walk down the steps to the Blowhole.

Notes: No toilets.

Tue 8 Sep 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 9 Sep Yarraman – Dandenong Creek – BonBeach

Leader: Alison Anthony Phone: 0422 424 718

Rendezvous: 10am south west of Yarraman Train Station on Hanna Street.

Maps: Melway 89, 94, 98 & 97.

Grading: Easy (mostly flat paved tracks).

Distance: 14.5 km (2 possible escapes).

Transport: Cranbourne train ex Flinders Street 9.18am, Richmond 9.21, South Yarra 9.25, Caulfield 9.32, arrives Yarraman 9.57am.

Morning Tea: Approx 10.10am at Greaves Reserve, Melway 89 K6.

Lunch: Approx 12noon, by Perry Rd - a few tables and chairs, some tree cover. If raining, best shelter is under Perry Rd bridge (Melway 94 G8).

Walk Details: We follow the walking track beside Dandenong Ck, but at both ends of the walk we get to visit vast green sports grounds. We see the Eastlink Crossing and the Dandenong Bypass, a picturesque crossing at Eumemmering Ck, the National Water Sports Centre and the SE Metro Purification Plant. Arrival at Bonbeach Station about 3pm. Bush toilets are plentiful but some proper ones are at the sports grounds. No significant challenges for an average to good walker, except the distance at 14.5km. Trains from Bonbeach to Melbourne or Frankston every 10 minutes.

Escapes: **Escape 1** – at about 7.5km - bus 857 from the corner of Worsley Rd and Bangholmes Rd (Melway 94 H8) goes to Carrum or Dandenong (one every hour).

Escape 2 – at about 12km – after passing the Peninsula link.

Sun 13 Sep Fairfield Boathouse – Abbotsford Convent – Return

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

Leader: Alison Anthony Phone: 0422 424 718

Rendezvous: 9.30am near the public toilets (Fairfield Park Drive) at the Fairfield Boathouse. If driving, there is 4 hour parking at the FBH or all-day parking on Westgarth Street.

Map: Melway 30 G9 Grading: Easy Distance: 10 km.

Transport: Private car or via train to Fairfield train station (and a further 950m walk to Fairfield Boathouse).

Walk Details: A pleasant meander on the Main Yarra Trail and parklands (with potential sightings of birds), past Dight Falls, and then to the Abbotsford Convent. We head back to the Fairfield Boathouse (our Rendezvous) after morning tea. Expect to finish around 12.30pm.

Note: Public toilet at start of the walk near the Fairfield Boathouse; and at the Abbotsford Convent Café during morning tea.

Mon 14 Sep Banksia Park

Leader: Bruce Armstrong Phone: 0416 758 204

Rendezvous: Outside Heidelberg Railway Station at 10.00am at the 903 Bus Stop. Melway 31 K5. Leader will be there. (Toilets at Station.)

Maps: Melway 31 & 32 Grading: Easy.

Distance: 4-5 km in AM – afternoon walk back to Heidelberg Station.

Transport: 9.15am train Ex Flinders St (Platform 1) to Hurstbridge arriving at Heidelberg Station at 9.51am.

Morning Tea: Heidelberg Park, Toilet and Parking, Melway 32 C5.

Transport: Private Car. Or alternatively 9:01 am Bendigo line train from Southern Cross Station. This train arrives Castlemaine on Platform 1 at 10:34 am which allows 11 minutes to get from Platform 1 to Platform 3 before the steam train departs. The steam train will normally wait for the V line train if it is delayed. Note V line trains normally have room for about six bikes per train.

Ride Details: We will catch the catch the heritage Goldfields Explorer steam train from Platform 3 at 10:45 am for the 45 minute scenic trip to Maldon. The cyclists will have two hours to explore historic Maldon, Australia's First Notable Town, and have lunch at the 1854 bakery or a local café. Then we will depart from Maldon Railway Station for the two hour bike ride downhill back to Castlemaine in time to catch the 3:54 pm or 4:54 pm train to Southern Cross.

Tickets for the one way 10:45 am steam train trip from Castlemaine to Maldon are best to be booked online. I would recommend travelling First Class to enjoy the beautifully restored heritage Pullman dining and observation carriages and enjoy a coffee and/or morning tea on the trip. When booking the one way trip it is necessary to tick the box for Bike transport. Our bikes will be transported in a dedicated carriage from Castlemaine to Maldon. **PLEASE NOTE** that because of the heritage wooden carriages, E Bikes are **NOT ALLOWED**. You are also not allowed to carry your E Bike battery separately.

The Maldon to Castlemaine trail is not a rail trail as such. It is a compacted earth and crushed granite track near to the railway line. It is suitable for mountain bikes and hybrid bikes. Not suitable for road bikes with skinny tyres.

This trip is also suitable for non bike riders. You would need to book a return trip. The return steam train departs Maldon at 3:30 pm which allows four hours to explore beautiful Maldon.

Morning Tea: Available for purchase in First Class , or you can bring your own in Economy Class. There are a kiosk and toilets at Castlemaine and Maldon stations. No toilets on the steam train.

Escapes: There are road access points to the rail track. For the cyclists there are toilets at Muckleford station which is between Maldon and Castlemaine.

Mon 5 Oct Sorrento – Portsea

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

Leader: Doug Connell Phone: 0419 527 653

Rendezvous & Morning Tea: Melway B7 at 9:45 am.

Maps: Melway 156 & 157 Grading: Moderate Distance: 10 km.

Transport: Private car.

Walk Details: We begin the walk at the Sorrento Historic park. From Hotham Rd, to Lentell Av, then through the Millionaires walk to Point King, from there we make our way to Portsea for lunch. On the return we will have a beach walk to Hemston Av. and on to Sorrento.

Walk Details: A pleasant meander following the Main Yarra Trail and Yarra River to Como Park in South Yarra (some road walking), with potential sightings of birds. If we're lucky, we'll spot a platypus! Note the Main Yarra Trail is a shared path with cyclists. Closer to our lunch stop, we'll also pass Herring Island (in the Yarra River), important habitat for native fauna, particularly birds. On the way back we walk along some parks and do some road walking along Burnley St.

Escape: Tram at corner of Swan and Burnley Streets at about 8km (after lunch).

Wed 30 Sep Keon Park – Pipe Track – Watsonia

Leader: Charlie Freedman Phone: 0415 558 249

Rendezvous: 9:35 am in the street level forecourt of Keon Park Station, near the corner of High Street and Keon Parade, Melway 8 J12. **Note:** As the station is now elevated, the meeting point is on the south side of Keon Pde.

Maps: Melway 8, 18, 19, 9, 10 & 20.

Grading: Easy Distance: 12 km.

Transport: Catch the 8:52 am Mernda train from Flinders St (8:55 at Southern Cross), arriving Keon Park at 9:33 am.

Walk Details: This is a pleasant amble through parks, along parts of the Maroondah Aqueduct Pipe Track, and via some side streets. We cross several main roads at pedestrian lights.

Morning Tea: Approx 9:45 am at J.C. Donath Reserve, Melway 18 J1. Toilets and seating but only limited shelter.

Lunch: The north end of Binnak Park, just off Binnak Dr, Melway 10 D11. Toilets, tables & seating, and shelter.

Escapes: Buses #556 to Epping station in Cheddar Rd West, #902 to Keon Park or Greensborough stations in Settlement Rd & Grimshaw St, #566 to Greensborough station in Plenty Rd.

Notes: Toilets at Keon Park Station, morning tea, Hungry Jacks in Penty Rd, and lunch in Binnal Park. Note that the Maroondah Aqueduct Pipe Track is grassed and may be wet depending on the weather.

OCTOBER PROGRAM

Sun 4 Oct Castlemaine Steam Train / Bike Ride

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

Leader: Colin Crook Phone: 0418 386 459

Rendezvous: Platform 3 Castlemaine Railway Station at 10 am.

Grading: Medium Distance: 18 km bike ride.

Lunch at Morning Tea spot.

Walk Details: Pleasant casual walk in Banksia Park – North side of the Yarra.

Wed 16 Sep President's Walk: Castlemaine to Garfield Water Wheel

NB: You must contact the leader if you intend to come on this walk

In addition to those members of the Club who usually walk on a Wednesday we also encourage other members of the Club to join us on the trip to Castlemaine for this very enjoyable walk.

Leader: Kim Rosen Phone: 0422 804 816

Rendezvous: 8.40am at Southern Cross Station outside passenger lounge/ prayer room to catch the 9.01am V Line Bendigo Service to Castlemaine.

Grading: Longer Walk Medium, Shorter Walk Easy.

Distance: Longer Walk 12km, Shorter Walk 6km.

Transport: 9.01am Bendigo Service arriving Castlemaine at 10.37am or private car to meet train at 10.37am. No train booking required, just use your Myki card.

Morning Tea: BYO own morning tea to have on the train.

Lunch: Longer Walk, BYO packed lunch to have at the Garfield Water Wheel site. Picnic tables available, but no toilets or shelters here. If there is wet weather a shelter with picnic tables and a toilet is available in Chewton.

Shorter Walk, in picnic area behind post office, Seating, cover, toilets.

Walk Details: Longer Walk, we follow the Goldfields Track through the streets of central Castlemaine up to the famous Burke and Wills Monument and then on through revegetated parkland at Forest Creek. The Castlemaine Diggings Park is entered passing the Manchester Reef diggings and on to the grand foundations of the Garfield Wheel, one of the more spectacular artefacts from the late gold rush era. A different route is taken walking back to Castlemaine, skirting the historic small town of Chewton.

Shorter Walk, led by David Watkins, will follow the Leananock Track to Chewton for lunch. After lunch we catch the #5 Castlemaine bus to arrive at Castlemaine station for the 1.53 train to Southern Cross

Alternative Easy Walk: Castlemaine is an interesting town to wander around with a helpful Information Centre, many heritage buildings, an attractive Botanical Gardens and many cafes.

Afternoon Tea: For the easy walkers the Mill area has several cafes including Das Kaffeehaus. Unfortunately, the longer walkers won't have time to visit this area.

Notes: Trains depart Castlemaine for Southern Cross at 1.53pm arriving at 3.28pm, 2.53 pm arriving 4.28pm, or 3.53pm arriving at 5.33pm.

Sun 20 Sep Bridgewater Bay – 16 Beach

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

Leader: David Adams Phone: 0419 342 633

Rendezvous: Bridgewater Bay Carpark, 150 Saint Johns Wood Road, Blairgowrie at 10.00 am.

Transport: Private vehicle.

Grading: Moderate (due to distance) Graded 2/5 Distance: 12 km.

Lunch: At turn around point (on the beach if weather is kind).

Toilets: There are no public toilets at the beach car parks at either end of the walk. There are public toilets on the beach side of Nepean highway near the turn off into Saint Johns Wood Road and the management of the General Store near Number 16 Beach have kindly offered us theirs.

Walk Details: This is an exhilarating ocean beach, clifftop and bush track walk in the seeming wilderness of the Mornington Peninsula National Park. Rugged exposed ocean coastline is the highlight. The track is not demanding but has some easily managed sandy sections.

Escapes: At the turn around – 16th Beach, corner of Browns Rd and Tasman Drive, Rye.

Afternoon Tea: The Gallery Café, Blairgowrie.

Wed 23 Sep Tooronga – East Malvern

Leader: Alan Manzoori Phone: 0417 546 604

Rendezvous: 9:35am at Kooyong Railway Station.

Maps: Melway 74, 59 & 60 Grading: Easy Distance: 10 km.

Transport: 9:18am train from Flinders Street Station arriving at Kooyong Station at 9:30.

Walk Details: A pleasant walk on Gardiners Creek Trail, Ferndale Trail and Anniversary Trail. Shortly after leaving Kooyong railway station we stop at the playground of HA Smith Reserve for morning tea. Then we take the bike pass (Gardiners Creek Trail) under Taronga Road (escape at 1.5 km), under Burke Road (escape at 2.5 km) to Nettleton Park (3.5 km) where toilets are available. Then we take Ferndale Trail to Glen Iris Road (escape at 4 km). Lunch at Summerhill Park (5.5 km). After lunch, we turn right to the Anniversary Trail past Ashburton railway station (6.5 km) and then Alamein railway station (7.5 km) where escapes are available at these stations. We continue walking on the Anniversary Trail and then the Gardiners Creek Trail to East Malvern station (10 km).

Sun 27 Sep Goldfields Track – Stage 7
Tipperary Springs – Hepburn Springs Reserve

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 Hepburn Mineral Springs reserve Picnic Area, Hepburn Springs. Drive right to the end of the reserve's carpark where there are toilets and picnic tables. There will be a car shuffle back to the start of the walk at Tipperary Springs.

Maps: Melway X909 C9 & Google Maps.

Grading: Medium Distance: Approx 11km.

Transport: Private car. Approx.130km and 1hour 40mins drive from the eastern suburbs of Melbourne via Westgate Bridge and Western Highway. Take the C141 exit to Daylesford.

Walk Details: This is the seventh stage of the Goldfields Track (GT). The walk starts at the intersection of the G.T. and the Tipperary Springs Picnic area and continues past interesting landmarks such as Bryces flat, the Blowhole and Breakneck Gorge. The destination is the Hepburn Mineral Springs Reserve. Lunch will be along the track. Wear gaiters and bring poles if used.

Afternoon Tea: Hotel Bellinzona is open until 3pm.

Mon 28 Sep Richmond – Como Park South Yarra – Return

Leader: Alison Anthony Phone: 0422 424 718

Rendezvous: 9.45 am at the corner of Victoria and Burnley Streets, Richmond (outside the Bon Matin Café).

Map: Melway 2H F2 Grading: Easy Distance: 11-12 km.

Transport: Private car or via tram (or train). Tram 109 from Collins Street along Victoria Street arriving at Victoria & Burnley Streets corner (stop #24). From Flinders Street Station, walk to Melbourne Town Hall (corner of Swanton & Collins Streets) to catch the tram OR from take it from Southern Cross Station at Spencer Street. There are also trains to the North Richmond train station, with a 15min walk, along Victoria St, to the Rendezvous.

If driving, there is ample all-day parking further up on Burnley Street or Kent Street (near Trinity Primary School).

Morning Tea: About 10am along the river Main Yarra Trail. Upside - beautiful river views. Downside - not much seating available. No toilets.

Lunch: About 12.30pm at Como Park (about 6km from start). Public toilet available. We head back to the Richmond Rendezvous after lunch, via parks and some road walking. Expect to finish around 2.30pm.