



VNPA BUSHWALKING & ACTIVITIES PROGRAM

Autumn
2018





BUSHWALKING AND ACTIVITIES PROGRAM AUTUMN 2018

In this Autumn 2018 program you will find a great mix of activities to choose from including bushwalks and urban walks, excursions, camps and social nights.

Once you've had a read through the program and have found an activity or activities you're interested in, follow the steps below to make a booking.

HOW TO JOIN IN THE ACTIVITIES

BOOKING A WALK OR ACTIVITY

- Contact the activity leader about 2-3 weeks, but not more than one month, before the trip, unless early booking is indicated in the program. Leader phone numbers are generally home numbers and calls should be made in the evening on weeknights before 9:00pm or on weekends. Please remember that all leaders are volunteers.
- When booking, indicate your name, telephone number, personal emergency contact number, and whether you are interested in car sharing. If contacting a leader by email, put the email subject as "BWAG <walk name>"
- If you are unknown to the leader, s/he will discuss with you your fitness, equipment and experience to undertake the activity you have chosen, or they can recommend another activity that is more suited to your ability. Persons under 18 cannot be accepted unless accompanied by an adult.
- Leaders will not accept early bookings – it increases the chances of cancellations and it is unfair to those who follow the guidelines. Leaders will limit numbers on a trip to comply with our Minimal Impact Bushwalking Policy and safety considerations.
- Please read the Activity Descriptions table before booking a trip.
- Non-members are welcome on trips. They must be booked in with the leader and may attend three trips before it is necessary to join the VNPA.
- To book a NatureWatch activity, please email the NatureWatch Coordinator (christine@vnpa.org.au) and include your phone number. Bookings for NatureWatch activities can be made at any time.
- **Keep updated with activity changes by subscribing to the VNPA monthly *Bushwalking, Event and Activities* email update. Subscribe via vnpa@vnpa.org.au.**

FEES

The activity leader will collect fees, with the money used to pay for general BWAG expenses, printing the walks program, and VNPA conservation activities. Attendance fees per day are:

	Adult	Child (U16)	Family
Member	\$5	\$2	\$10
Visitor	\$9	\$3	\$20
Annual Pass	\$50	\$20	\$100
NatureWatch	Free	Free	Free

The fee for multi-day activities will not exceed a three day fee.

BOOT WASHING – DIEBACK THREAT

Dieback is caused by *Pytophthora cinnamomi*, a plant disease that lives in the soil. Clean your boots with a 70% methylated spirits/water solution immediately after completing your bushwalking activity.

VICTORIAN NATIONAL PARKS ASSOCIATION (VNPA)

The Victorian National Parks Association is Victoria's leading nature conservation organisation. It is an independent, non-profit, membership-based group that exists to protect Victoria's unique natural environment and biodiversity through the establishment and effective management of national parks, conservation reserves and other measures.

The Bushwalking and Activities Group (BWAG) is part of the VNPA and its committee of volunteers prepares and coordinates the activities in this program.

NatureWatch is a VNPA community engagement and citizen science program that brings together community groups, scientists and land managers to develop and manage projects that get volunteers out into the field monitoring native plants and animals.

BWAG CONTACTS

Convener: *Terese Dalman*

0413 234 130 vnabwag.convener@gmail.com

Program: *Ellen Finlay*

0425 705 353 vnabwag.program@gmail.com

Treasurer/Trip reports: *Rob Argent*

0417 502 191 vnabwag.treasurer@gmail.com

Victorian National Parks Association

Level 3, 60 Leicester St, Carlton VIC 3053

Ph: (03) 9341 6500, Fax: (03) 9347 5199

Email: vnpa@vnpa.org.au

Web: www.vnpa.org.au ABN 34 217 717 593



TRANSPORT

Trips are by private transport unless otherwise stated. Where possible, please try to share transport, as it cuts costs and fuel usage. The leader may arrange car pooling. The objective of our cost-sharing policy is for costs to be shared between all the occupants of the vehicle.

INSURANCE

VNPA has a package of community organisation insurance policies that covers a range of activities. Check the activities infopak at www.vnpa.org.au/publications/activities-program

Every person participating in a VNPA activity does so at his or her own risk in all respects and as such accepts full responsibility for his/her suitability, fitness and preparedness for the activity and for any injury to him/herself. The Association, its office bearers, organisers, leaders and helpers are absolved from any liability in respect of any injury, loss or damage suffered by the participant while engaged in any VNPA activity to the extent permitted by law. While incidents are rare, the great outdoors can throw up challenges. If an incident occurs, you should inform the activity leader and the VNPA office.

The VNPA has determined that overseas trips have significant risks and insurance costs to the VNPA and are outside the scope of the VNPA's geographical focus on Victoria. As such, overseas trips will no longer be offered under the auspice of the VNPA or BWAG and will not be covered by VNPA Insurance.

Participants of overseas trips, especially outdoors, are strongly encouraged to have appropriate personal travel insurance.

Flowers from the Crowea exalata, Alpine National Park. Photo by Mary Ferlin.

EMERGENCY CONTACTS

COORDINATOR

Adrianna Koutsofrigas Emergency Contacts Coordinator
0439 067 798 / vnabwag.ec@gmail.com

The (EC) notation after an activity title indicates that the emergency contact system is to be used. The leader will advise participants of the name and phone number of the selected contact. All participants should leave details of their trip, the expected time of return and the phone number of the contact with a relative or friend. Enquiries about the late return of people are to be directed to the contact. Do not ring the police. The names and phone numbers of emergency contacts are listed for relevant dates in the program. Direct any queries to the emergency contact coordinator.

2018 EMERGENCY CONTACTS

17-18 March	<i>Terese and Lawrie Dalman</i>	9562 9938 / 0413 234 130
24-25 March	<i>Kate Parker</i>	0409 231 746
31 March-1 April	<i>Sue Parkhill</i>	0432 413 442 / 9510 4316
7-8 April	<i>Christine Longman</i>	9397 5712 / 0411 483 571
14-15 April	<i>Fred Gerardson</i>	0411 533 415 / 9434 3078
21-22 April	<i>Terese and Lawrie Dalman</i>	9562 9938 / 0413 234 130
28-29 April	<i>Adrianna Koutsofrigas</i>	0439 067 798
5-6 May	<i>Cheryl Mioch</i>	0412 743 866 / 9397 7470
12-13 May	<i>Russ Bowey</i>	0417 328 651 / 9510 4316
19-20 May	<i>Ann Turner</i>	0425 732 384 / 9878 3297
26-27 May	<i>Helen Buckley</i>	9801 4346 / 0418 398 580
2-3 June	<i>Christine Longman</i>	9397 5712 / 0411 483 571
9-10 June	<i>Robyn Desnoy</i>	9528 2390
16-17 June	<i>Pat Witt</i>	0407 360 650 / 9802 8914
23-24 June	<i>Fred Gerardson</i>	0411 533 415
31 June-1 July	<i>Adrianna Koutsofrigas</i>	0439 067 798

ACTIVITY DESCRIPTIONS

GRADE	EASY	MEDIUM – May involve:	HARD – May involve:
Walk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> on formed tracks terrain level or undulating pace relaxed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> some rough terrain, forest or road walking longer ascents or descents up to 6 hours walking in a day 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> rough terrain rock scrambling steep sustained ascents or descents
Excursion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bus trips to places of interest to members, including the option of an easy or medium grade walk (see 'easy walk' above) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bus trips to places of interest to members, including the option of an easy or medium grade walk (see 'medium walk' above) 	N/A
Walk, Talk & Gawk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Park visits/guided walks, with frequent stops for observation of significant features or ecology. 	N/A	N/A
Easy Going Amble	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Slow-as-you go strolls with rests along the way still enjoying the great outdoors 	N/A	N/A
Canoe Kayaking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> slow-flowing rivers a good command of basic strokes required 'beginner' trips assume no experience 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> moderately flowing rivers small rapids requiring some manoeuvring route generally easy to recognise 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Level 1 rapids longer days, sustained paddling required manoeuvring in faster flowing water
Cycle	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> up to 40km/day bitumen roads few hills no steep grades 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> up to 50km/day in hilly country or 70km/day in flat country short stretches of dirt road 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> sustained stretches on dirt roads up to 60km/day in hilly country or 80km/day on the flat
Ski Snowshoe (day)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> up to 5hr/day mainly groomed trails limited experience is assumed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> up to 7hr/day ability to snow plough and stop moderate slopes and off-trail 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7hr/day or more off trail, steep slopes, all snow conditions competent in poor weather
Ski Snowshoe (overnight)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> able to snow plough and stop with a daypack overnight backpack camping experience 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ability to ski gentle slopes with a full pack snowcamping experience desirable 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> moderate slopes in all snow conditions with a full pack snowcamping experience in all conditions

You can use the descriptions above to decide whether you can complete a proposed activity enjoyably and with little risk.

If you are inexperienced, you would be expected to progress through the grades, doing day walks before attempting overnight pack-carrying walks.

You should discuss any doubts about your abilities with the activity leader. In some cases gradings are combined, e.g. easy/medium or medium/hard.

ACTIVITY ICONS



Bushwalk



Walk, Talk & Gawk



Urban Walk/Activity



Easy Going Amble



Overnight/
Multi-day



Conservation Activity
or Event/Training



Social/Presentation



Excursion



Public Transport



U35



Family



Ski/Snowshoe



Kayak/Canoe



Cycling



4WD



24 Mar (Sat)

Kinglake – Mt Everard Circuit

Medium/Hard 22km | Limit 18 | 65km NE Melb
Anna van Tatenhove 0433 842 410
annavt62@gmail.com



Taking in three of Kinglake National Park's higher forested peaks – Mt Jerusalem, Mt Everard and Mt Beggary – this walk is a cardio workout. However, the views are definitely worth it.

26 Mar (Mon)

Macedon in Autumn

Easy/Medium 10km | Limit 20 | 65km NW Melb
Ruth Stirling 9699 7225 / 0418 245 151



We will take the morning train to Macedon (9:14am from Southern Cross Station), for an uphill walk towards Mt Macedon, taking in side streets and peeking at beautiful gardens. We will return to Melbourne on the 3:36pm train from Macedon.

29 Mar (Thu)

U35 Social Night

Contact: Eva Klusacek
U35 Social vnpau35@gmail.com



Hear about our recent walks, catch up with those you've walked with before, or make new friends to walk with in the future! Dinners are a very informal way to meet others under 35 (more or less) who are interested in bushwalking. Details and contact information for the host will be posted to the U35 email and Meetup list. RSVP essential.

30 Mar-2 Apr (long)

Alpine National Park – Refrigerator Gap to Hellfire Creek and back (amended route) (EC)

Hard/Exploratory 40km | Limit 6 | 350km NE Melb
Taariq Hassan taariq.music@gmail.com



Easter long weekend pack-carry hike. Meet Friday 9am at Sheeppark Flat. 4WD/AWD car-shuttle to 8 Mile Flat and Refrigerator Gap. Hike the Bluff (weather permitting) to Bluff Hut and Lovick's Hut. Saturday to Hell's Window via King Billy #1 and Mt Magdala. Sunday, return to Bluff Hut and 14 Mile Spur and camp at Ritchie's Hut. Monday return to 8 Mile Flat, car shuttle and drive home. You need to be fit and carry extra water.

30 Mar-2 Apr (long)

Forests Forever Easter Ecology Camp

Easy/Medium | 420km E Melb
VNPA and Environment East Gippsland



Camp beside the Brodribb River at Goongerah in East Gippsland. Walk amongst the rainforest trees and visit Errinundra National Park. Learn about the ecology of these forests from scientists who have been studying them. Visit www.vnpa.org.au/forests-forever. Contact Mike Forster: mike.forster10@gmail.com or Euan Moore: calamanthus5@bigpond.com

5 Apr (Thu)

Silvan Reservoir public transport walk

Medium 15km | Limit 15 | 40km E Melb
Mark Learmonth 9807 7506 (H)



This public transport walk begins at Kalorama, and climbs to an attractive public garden, maintained very well by Yarra Ranges Council. We then head downhill all the way to Silvan Reservoir, finishing in Powerful Owl territory at Mount Evelyn.

7 Apr (Sat)

Mt Macedon, summit and circuit (EC)

Medium 16km | Limit 14 | 65km NW Melb
Doug Palmer 9399 4494
dpalmer@iimetro.com.au



A circuit walk to enjoy features of the mountain; Camels Hump, lake, views and varied vegetation. We will start near the village, beginning with an uphill section to the summit, then undulations. Aerobic and scenic. Short car-shuttle.

9 Apr (Mon)

Quarry Hills Park, South Morang

Easy 9km | Limit 20 | 40km NE Melb
Ruth Stirling 9699 7225 / 0418 245 151



Meet at South Morang station 11.30am. BYO lunch. Distant views, space, eagles, kangaroos and wetlands. Has it changed since our last visit in 2015?

11 Apr (Wed)

Social Night: The personal and positive impacts of long distance walking with Rob Saunders

VNPA 9341 6500
vnpabwag.social@gmail.com



After a 30-year career in park visitor communication and management, VNPA member Rob Saunders undertook a PhD on the lasting personal effects of experiences in parks. This talk will outline his research and provide an opportunity to discuss its implications for leaders of extended activities. 60 Leicester St Carlton. Doors will open at 6:30pm for a 7:30pm start. Entry \$2. Tea, coffee, wine and biscuits provided.

Walking The Bluff, Alpine National Park. Photo by Mary Ferlin.

12 Apr (Thu)

Discover Dandenong Creek Festival

Easy | 30 km SE Melb
Tirhatuan Reserve, Kriegel Way,
Dandenong North



11am-2pm. As part of Nature Play April, join in for a wild day of family-friendly fun and discovery celebrating Dandenong Creek's natural wonders, hosted by City of Greater Dandenong and Living Links, including VNPA Wild Families activities. All are welcome but please book for catering purposes – call 8571 1702 or register online at www.greaterdandenong.com

14 Apr (Sat)

Easy Going Amble: Lillydale Lake

Easy 5km | Limit 15 | 45km NE Melb
Geoff Durham 9523 5559



Keep moving to keep going. A return walk from Lilydale Station around the artificial Lillydale Lake and interesting wetlands. Optional coffee/lunch.

14 Apr (Sat)

Caught on Camera at Wombat State Forest

Easy/Medium | Limit 30 | 100 km NW Melb
VNPA NatureWatch
naturewatch@vnpa.org.au 9341 6500



9.30am-1pm. Join NatureWatch and Wombat Forestcare to begin our 2018 Caught on Camera season. Learn how to use motion-sensing cameras and help set them at the first sites. Fully field-based, meet in Wombat State Forest near Trentham - details on registration. Some driving on dirt tracks (car-pooling). Morning tea provided, registration required. Email or phone Christine.

15 Apr (Sun)

U35 Keppel Lookout via Steavenson Falls (EC)

Medium 16km | Limit 10 | 100km NE Melb
Eva Klusacek 0423 053 318 eklusacek@hotmail.com



An autumn bushwalk with steep climbs to see Steavenson Falls and surrounding area.

15 Apr (Sun)

Queenscliff walk

Easy/Medium 16km | Limit 16 | 100km SW Melb
Cheryl Mioch 9397 7470 / 0412 743 866
cherylmioch@bigpond.com



Walk along the beaches and tracks around Queenscliff, including part of the beach paths to Point Lonsdale.

18 Apr (Wed)

Conserving the Bogong High Plains Joint presentation by

La Trobe University and VNPA

VNPA NatureWatch
naturewatch@vnpa.org.au 9341 6500



6.30pm-8pm. Deer are a major conservation concern especially in vulnerable ecosystems. La Trobe University, with VNPA, are monitoring deer in the Alpine National Park's fragile wetlands. Presentations by the VNPA's Phil Ingamells and Christine Connelly, and La Trobe research scientist Zac Walker, about the issues associated with deer and our monitoring results.

21-22 Apr (w/e)

Alpine National Park – Mt Clear circuit (EC)

Hard/Exploratory 22km | Limit 6 | 400km NE Melb
Taariq Hassan taariq.music@gmail.com



A weekend pack-carry hike taking in a section of the AAWT including: The Nobs; High Cone and the prominent summit of Mt Clear (1695m) Friday: camp Sheeppark Flat. Saturday: 4WD/AWD car pooling to the trail head. A steep ascent, ridge trek, and camping near water NW of Mt Clear. Sunday: complete the loop and drive home via Mansfield. Good fitness, carrying extra water and reliable hiking/camping gear.

21-22 Apr (w/e)

Cycling and cake on the Great Victorian Rail Trail (EC)

Medium 100km | Limit 8 | 100km N Melb
Lesley Gillespie 9386 9077
lesley_gillespie999@hotmail.com



Two delightful day rides on the Great Victorian Rail Trail. With a car shuffle from Tallarook on the first day we will stay overnight at Yea (camping or accommodation options available). Day two involves well graded but sustained climbs to Yarck and return via the Cheviot Tunnel. Mountain or hybrid bikes essential. Consumption of cake optional.

21-22 Apr (w/e)

Port Phillip Bay Sea Slug Census

Easy | Port Phillip Bay
Kade Mills, ReefWatch Coordinator
kade@vnpa.org.au 9341 6519



If you are taking a dive in Port Phillip Bay this weekend, consider getting images of sea slugs as part of the ReefWatch Sea Slug Census. Sea slugs (also called nudibranchs) come in every colour and can be found in rock pools and the bottom of the sea. To find out more about these amazing creatures, and how to send in your sea slug images, visit www.vnpa.org.au/programs/sea-slug-census



21 Apr (Sat)

Excursion by coach:

Whroo and Chateau Tahbilk

Easy 5km | Limit 57 | 190km N Melb

Bookings: Larysa Kucan 93473733

Leader: Larysa Kucan



On this Autumn trip, there will be a stop at Nagambie Lake before we travel to Whroo Historic Reserve to view the Balaclava open cut mine and visit the old cemetery. Our next stop will be Chateau Tahbilk. The historic winery, situated on the Goulburn River, was established in 1860 and comprises acres of vineyard, beautiful historic buildings and the Tahbilk Wetlands.

21 Apr (Sat)

Autumnal Daylesford walk (EC)

Medium 17km | Limit 16 | 110km NW Melb

Louise Prendergast 9826 0037

lprendergast2009@hotmail.com



Exploring trails around the lakes, Wombat Hill, the botanical gardens and part of the goldfields trail towards Hepburn Springs. Hopefully we will see the autumnal colours in all their glory.

22 Apr (Sun)

WT&G: Point Nepean National Park

Easy 10km | Limit 10 | 90km SE Melb

Terese Dalman 0413 234 130

teresedalman@gmail.com



Explore historical Point Nepean. Starting at the Quarantine Station we walk along the bay beach to the Fort at the Point. Returning via Cheviot Beach and the Monash Light.

23 Apr (Mon)

Geelong foreshore and gardens

Easy 8km | Limit 20 | 75km SW Melb

Sue Parkhill 0432 413 442 / 9510 4316



Meet at 11am at Geelong station. This is our second go at this walk. Last year the weather was against us. From the station, we will walk to the foreshore on our way to Limeburners Point. We can check out some of the bollards before making our way to the gardens.

26 Apr (Thu)

U35 Social Night

Contact: Eva Klusacek

U35 Social vnpau35@gmail.com



Hear about our recent walks, catch up with those you've walked with before, or make new friends to walk with in the future! Dinners are a very informal way to meet others under 35 (more or less) who are interested in bushwalking. Details and contact information for the host will be posted to the U35 email and Meetup list. RSVP essential.

28 Apr (Sat)

Lerderderg Gorge and the Byers Back Track (EC)

Medium 22km | Limit 18 | 87km W Melb

Anna van Tatenhove 0433 842 410

annavt62@gmail.com



This circuit walk is a great showcase of the Lerderderg River's gold mining history with its water races, abandoned mines and mullock heaps. We will make our way up to Blackwood via the Byers Back Track where we will have lunch in the Mineral Springs Reserve, before heading back via Shaw's Lake and the Tunnel.

28-29 Apr (w/e)

Razorback Ridge to Mt Feathertop (EC)

Easy/Medium 24-30km | Limit 6 | 350km NE Melb

Deb Henry 0409 338 182

debhenry@debsta.net.au



Before the snow falls come and see a spectacular park of the high country. The Razorback Ridge to Mt Feathertop walk is on the roof of Victoria and it is a great start for those who want to explore the overnight walking experience for the first time. Done enough day walks? Then come overnight hiking.

29 Apr (Sun)

Yarraville to St Kilda

Easy/Medium 14km | Limit 16 | 5km S Melb

Glenn King 0448 816 504



From Yarraville Railway Station, we will walk down the Yarra River and cross the river on the punt (fee). Then walk through Westgate Park and follow the bay to St Kilda, finishing near Luna Park.

5-6 May (w/e)

Mt Erica and the Baw Baw Plateau (EC)

Medium 24km | Limit 10 | 200km E Melb

James Shannon 9754 4951 / 0407 346 467

jms Shannon1962@hotmail.com



A pleasant walk across the beautiful Baw Baw Plateau, through long, unburnt snowgum woodlands and heathlands. We will visit Mushrooms Rocks and Mt St Gwinear along the way, as well as some other side-trips without packs.

Buffalo Gorge has long been a popular place to visit. Photo by Historic Places, DELWP.

5 May (Sat)

Upper Mullum Mullum Creek public transport walk

Easy/Medium 14km | Limit 15 | 25km NE Melb
Mark Learmonth 9807 7506 (H)



This public transport walk begins in Doncaster East. We travel through Bellbird Park and Yarran Dheran Reserve, then above Eastlink to finish at Heatherdale Railway Station. Surprisingly 'bushy', and the home of large numbers of birds.

5 May (Sat)

Boneseeding – Arthurs Seat State Park

Easy | Limit 20+ | 70km SE Melb
Terese Dalman 0413 234 130
teresedalman@gmail.com



Annual boneseed weeding at Arthurs Seat. Work alongside other bushwalking clubs to remove boneseeds from our marked plots on Cook Street Spur, while enjoying a beautiful part of the peninsula. Mostly boneseed regrowth and easy to remove. Lunch provided afterwards at Sea Winds on top of Arthurs Seat.

9 May (Wed)

Social Night: Lightning Talks – short, sharp and intriguing topics of conservation

VNPA 9341 6500
vnabwag.social@gmail.com



An erudite collection of short talks intended to inform and entertain. On a diverse range of topics from tall stories to fascinating facts. Come and hear a number of speakers on the one night and get your gold coin donation's worth. 60 Leicester St Carlton. Doors will open at 6:30pm for a 7:30pm start. Entry \$2. Tea, coffee, wine and biscuits provided.

12-13 May (w/e)

Exploring Victoria's western volcanoes

Easy 14km | Limit 10 | 360km W Melb
Evelyn Feller 5962 5227
evfeller@gmail.com



We will be visiting a number of Victoria's western volcanoes such as Mt Leura, Mt Napier, Mt Eccles and Tower Hill. We will be doing short hikes at each location, and observing how there has been good restoration work in some. The location for Saturday night's base camp is yet to be determined.

12 May (Sat)

Easy Going Amble: Carlton Gardens, Royal Exhibition Building, Murchison and Macarthur Squares

Easy 5km | Limit 15
Geoff Durham 9523 5559



The World Heritage listed Royal Exhibition Building and the Macarthur and Murchison Squares, are of state historical and architectural importance. These are the two most intact squares from an important phase of urban improvement initiated by the Surveyor-General Clarke, containing a great variety of buildings. Optional lunch/coffee.

12 May (Sat)

Bendigo Art Gallery – Marimekko Design Icon

Easy 5km | Limit 16 | 154km NW Melb
Cheryl Mioch 9397 7470 / 0412 743 866
cherylmioch@bigpond.com



Going via train, we will visit the Bendigo Art Gallery and see their exhibition on Marimekko Design Icon. Then lunch at the gallery and train home.

14 May (Mon)

Craigieburn

Easy 8km | Limit 20 | 30km N Melb
Sue Parkhill 0432 413 442 / 9510 4316



Meet at Craigieburn Station at 11am. We will walk from the station along the Aitken Creek Linear Park. The finer points of the walk are still to be checked out, but there is sure to be a coffee shop at the end.

19-20 May (w/e)

Mt Buffalo National Park – Mt McLeod (EC)

Medium/Hard/Exploratory 20km
Limit 6 | 350km NE Melb
Taariq Hassan taariq.music@gmail.com



A weekend pack-carry hike to the campsite at Mt McLeod on the northern section of the Mt Buffalo plateau. Hopefully there will be some fine late Autumn weather and views. Friday night option to camp at Nug Nug near Lake Buffalo. Saturday meet at the park entrance and drive near the trailhead. Hike out to Mt McLeod and camp. Return on Sunday the same way. Booking hike-in campsites is necessary.

19 May (Sat)

Excursion by coach: Castlemaine

Easy 5km | Limit 57 | 122km NW Melb
Bookings: Larysa Kucan 9347 3733
Leader: Geoff Durham



Castlemaine is a heritage smorgasbord with many listed buildings including the Market Hall, Castlemaine Art Museum and the botanical gardens established in 1860. We will sample the Castlemaine Diggings National Heritage Park, the impressive Garfield Water Wheel and the Forest Hill Historic Gold Diggings. We will also call in on the Wesley Hill Market. Morning tea in Malmsbury and afternoon tea at Daylesford.



19 May (Sat)

Mt Macedon circuit walk

Medium/Hard 18km | Limit 18 | 65km NW Melb
Anna van Tatenhove 0433 842 410
annavt62@gmail.com



Starting at Mt Macedon township, this circuit walk takes in all of the Mt Macedon area's highlights. We climb up to the Memorial Cross before walking around to Camel's Hump, and then back to the township via Sanatorium Lake and Mt Towrong. Some short steep sections, but well worth the effort.

20 May (Sun)

Domino Rail Trail (EC)

Easy 14km | Limit 14 | 95km NW Melb
Lesley Gillespie 9386 9077
lesley_gillespie999@hotmail.com



A lovely wooded walk with a chance to take in some historic features around Trentham and Lyonville. This is a great location to see some colourful and unusual fungi in autumn. There will also be an opportunity for cake and coffee for those who are interested.

24 May (Thu)

William Angliss buffet dinner

Limit 14
Cheryl Mioch 9397 7470 / 0412 743 866
cherylmioch@bigpond.com



William Angliss is a training school with fine dining. Great value at \$35 for all you can eat and the food is fantastic. Booking essential. Close to public transport in the city.

26 May (Sat)

Peninsula coastal walk

Medium 17km | Limit 16 | 100km S Melb
Louise Prendergast 9826 0037
lprendergast2009@hotmail.com



If you love walking beside the ocean, then this is a walk for you. The Mornington Peninsula walk is 100kms long with lots of peaceful bays, ocean coastline and bush walking. Commencing at Rye we will explore a section from 16th Beach, Pearce's Beach to Diamond Bay.

26-27 May (w/e)

Friends of the Prom weekend working bee

Easy 5km | | 235km SE Melb
Deb Henry 0409 338 182
debhenry@debsta.net.au



Come and help the busy friends group on a working bee weekend in one of Victoria's most iconic national parks. You may find yourself planting trees, surveying animal habitat, track clearing or other volunteer activities which we undertake for Parks Victoria.

27 May (Sun)

Bunyip State Park – Black Snake Loop (EC)

Easy/Medium 14km | Limit 15 | 60km E Melb
Darren McClelland 0449 167 776
darrenmcclelland@gmail.com



Bunyip State Park is located on the eastern side of the Dandenongs. Parks Victoria are doing an outstanding job of controlling the trail bikes, thereby opening up many opportunities for walking in this beautiful park. This loop walk is in the vicinity of Black Snake Road, taking in Russells Track and a number of 4WD tracks.

27 May (Sun)

Waurin Ponds to Marshall

Easy/Medium 15km | Limit 16 | 75km W Melb
Glenn King 0448 816 504



Leaving from Waurin Ponds Railway Station, we follow Waurin Ponds Creek to Marshall Station. The walk will also visit the local University.

28 May (Mon)

Maribyrnong River

Easy 7km | Limit 20 | 12km NW Melb
Ruth Stirling 9699 7225 / 0418 245 151



Meet at Canning Reserve Avondale Heights at 1pm, to walk downstream to Aberfeldie and a café.

30 May (Wed)

U35 Social Night

Contact: Kathleen Ryan
U35 Social vnpau35@gmail.com



Hear about our recent walks, catch up with those you've walked with before, or make new friends to walk with in the future! Dinners are a very informal way to meet others under 35 (more or less) who are interested in bushwalking. Details and contact information for the host will be posted to the U35 email and Meetup list. RSVP essential.

Tongue Point, Wilsons Promontory. Photo by Robyn Cox, Flickr CC.

2-3 Jun (w/e)**U35 Wilsons Prom base camp (EC)**

Medium 30km | Limit 8 | 225km SE Melb
Eva Klusacek 0423 053 318
eklusacek@hotmail.com



Leaving Melbourne on Friday night, we will base camp at Tidal River. The weekend will involve exploring the beauty of this coastal national park via a couple of day walks.

2 Jun (Sat)**Easy Going Amble:
Wyndham Harbour (revised date)**

Easy 5km | Limit 15 | 40km SW Melb
Geoff Durham 9523 5559



Discover something new. We will walk along the coast from the mouth of the Werribee River at Werribee South, east to Wyndham Harbour, a big marina and housing development. Private car, or bus from Werribee Station.

2 Jun (Sat)**The Gurdies public transport walk**

Easy/Medium 12km | Limit 15 | 80km SE Melb
Mark Learmonth 9807 7506 (H)



The Gurdies Nature Conservation Reserve is a small reserve protecting one of the largest remaining areas of native vegetation on the eastern shore of Westernport Bay. The rest is used for farmland, sand extraction or housing development. We circuit around the whole 260 hectares, then walk along the foreshore to finish at Grantville Jetty. Mangroves are also an important feature of this foreshore.

2 Jun (Sat)**NatureWatch grassland monitoring:
spiny rice-flower**

Easy | Limit 10 | 21 km NW Melb
VNPA NatureWatch
naturewatch@vnpa.org.au 9341 6500



10am-3pm (approx. finish). Join NatureWatch and Victoria University researcher Dr Megan O'Shea to monitor spiny rice-flower (*Pimelea spinescens*), a threatened grassland species, at a reserve in the Brimbank City Council area. Registration required.

3 Jun (Sun)**Dandenongs National Park
public transport walk**

Easy/Medium 14km | Limit 12 | 30km E Melb
Richard Tagg 0404 808 242
richard.tagg1@hotmail.com



Leaving the cars at home, we shall catch the train to Upper Ferntree Gully Station. The walk will take in spectacular mountain ash trees, fern gullies and native birdlife. Some steepish, but friendly, hills involved.

9-11 Jun (long)**Grampians National Park,
Mt Thackeray and the Fortress (EC)**

Medium/Hard/Exploratory 27km
Limit 6 | 275km NW Melb
Taariq Hassan taariq.music@gmail.com



Winter pack carry hike to the remote Fortress and Mt Thackeray area and the Manja Cave of Hands. Friday night: meet at Hall's Gap YHA. Saturday: carpool AWD/4WD to trailhead at Buandik campground, hike to Fortress hiker campsite. Sunday: Hike to Mt Thackeray campsite. Monday: Hike to Buandik campsite, drive home. Rock scrambling, creek crossing: good winter gear and fitness required. Advance YHA and campsite bookings necessary.

9-11 Jun (long)**Hattah weed mapping (EC)**

Medium | Limit 25 | 450km NW Melb
Euan Moore 5472 1572 / 0407 519 091
calamanthus5@bigpond.com



Volunteer activity working with Mallee CMA and PV rangers mapping high priority weeds in the Hattah-Kulkyne NP. There will be two days of off-track walking, following set routes using a GPS (training provided). Monday morning we will do a short walk to enjoy this great national park. Travel from Melbourne on Friday. Camping at Lake Mournpall.

9-11 Jun (long)**Queen's Birthday Prom circuit (EC)**

Medium 42km | Limit 6 | 235km SE Melb
Deb Henry 0409 338 182
debhenry@debsta.net.au



The snow never arrives on the Queen's Birthday long weekend, so come walking at the Prom instead. We will do the southern circuit. If you would like to step up to multiple nights out, then this could be the trip for you to go further than one night out under the stars.

11 Jun (Mon)**West Gate Park**

Easy 6km | Limit 20
Ruth Stirling 9699 7225 / 0418 245 151



The Friends of West Gate Park have done extensive planting in a new area downstream. Meet at The Age building, corner Collins and Spencer Street at 11am. We will take the bus to WGP. BYO lunch. Finish at Station Pier and Tram 109.



13 Jun (Wed)

Social Night: Shore birds of Victoria with Jonathon Stevenson

VNPA 9341 6500
vnpabwag.social@gmail.com



Parks Victoria ranger, Jonathon Stevenson, will put on his bird nerd hat and speak about the wonderful variety of coastal birdlife in Victoria. From Hooded Plovers to Oyster Catchers, Jono will share his enthusiasm for all things feathered. Do you know your coastal birds? Come and let Jonathon expand your horizons. 60 Leicester St Carlton. Doors will open at 6:30pm for a 7:30pm start. Entry \$2. Tea, coffee, wine and biscuits provided.

14 Jun (Thu)

NatureWatch grassland monitoring: spiny rice-flower

Easy | Limit 10 | 21 km NW Melb
VNPA NatureWatch
naturewatch@vnpa.org.au 9341 6500



10am-3pm (approx. finish). Join NatureWatch and Victoria University researcher Dr Megan O'Shea to monitor spiny rice-flower (*Pimelea spinescens*), a threatened grassland species, at a reserve in the Brimbank City Council area. Registration required.

16 Jun (Sat)

Excursion by coach: Euroa

Easy 7km | Limit 57 | 148km NE Melb
Bookings: Larysa Kucan 93473733
Leader: Sue Parkhill



This excursion will centre on Euroa, north east of Melbourne in the Strathbogie municipality, half way between Benalla and Seymour. After a morning tea stop, we will explore the town which has a colourful history, including a bank that was robbed by Ned Kelly, the famous bush ranger. We will also walk the Sevens Creeks Trail.

16 Jun (Sat)

Seville to Lilydale

Easy/Medium 14km | Limit 16 | 45km E Melb
Cheryl Mioch 9397 7470 / 0412 743 866
cherylmioch@bigpond.com



Train or car to Lilydale, then bus to Seville. Then walking the gentle, winding tree-lined track back to Lilydale.

17 Jun (Sun)

NatureWatch grassland monitoring: spiny rice-flower

Easy | Limit 10 | 21 km NW Melb
VNPA NatureWatch
naturewatch@vnpa.org.au 9341 6500



10am-3pm (approx. finish). Join NatureWatch and Victoria University researcher Dr Megan O'Shea to monitor spiny rice-flower (*Pimelea spinescens*), a threatened grassland species, at a reserve in the Brimbank City Council area. Registration required.

23 Jun (Sat)

Doncaster to East Kew

Easy/Medium 14km | Limit 16 | 10km E Melb
Glenn King 0448 816 504



We will start from Doncaster Shopping Centre (various buses available) and walk to East Kew, loosely following the proposed rail line (100 years ago) through local parks and reserves.

25 Jun (Mon)

Caulfield Racecourse Reserve

Easy 6km | Limit 20 | 13km SE Melb
Sue Parkhill 0432 413 442 / 9510 4316



Meet at 1pm on the racecourse side of Caulfield Station. The Caulfield Racecourse Reserve is exactly that – a lovely public park with all the usual facilities. BBQ and picnic area, small sports ground, walking track, fishing lake and boardwalk – right smack in the middle of Caulfield Racecourse.

28 Jun (Thu)

U35 Social Night

Contact: Eva Klusacek
U35 Social vnpau35@gmail.com



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30 Jun (Sat)

Gunamatta to Cape Schanck (EC)

Medium 16km | Limit 16 | 100km S Melb
Louise Prendergast 9826 0037
lprendergast2009@hotmail.com



A winter coastal walk that has it all – beach walking, sand dunes, rock pools and a lighthouse. This walk includes a cardiac workout – over 400 steps each way to Fingal Beach for morning tea. Lunch at Cape Schanck.

Cape Schanck lighthouse. Photo by Peter Kinowski, Flickr CC.

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Social, U35 vnpu35@gmail.com

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**Is your membership
up to date?**

Leaders are reminded to ensure that their VNPA membership is current.

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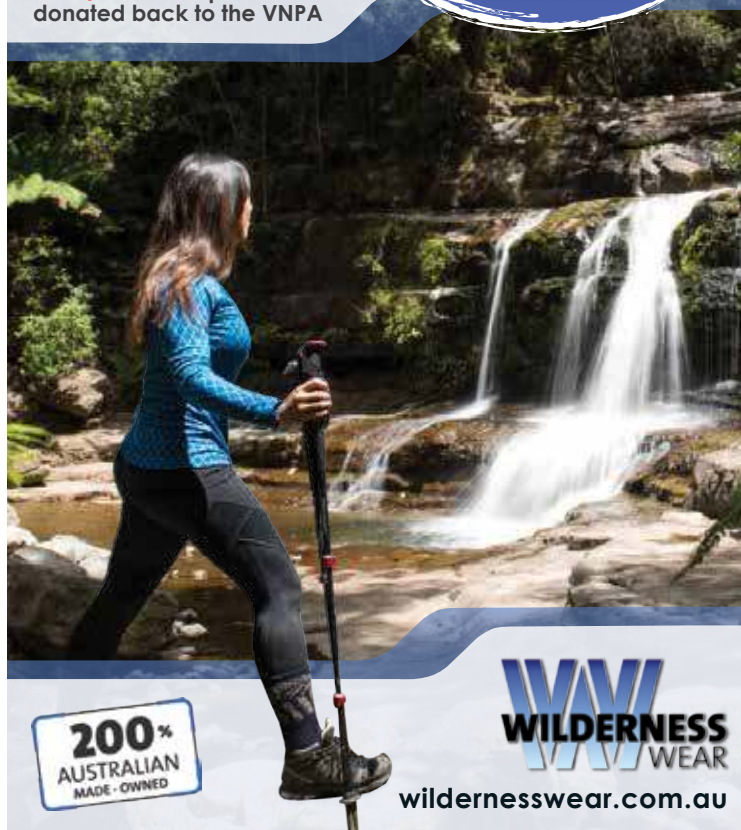


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