





BUSHWALKING AND ACTIVITIES PROGRAM SPRING 2017

In this Spring 2017 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 (christinec@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 www.updates.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:

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

* Available from the VNPA Office.

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 vnpabwag.convener@gmail.com

Program: Gayle Davey (9572 5681) and Ellen Finlay (0425 705 353)

vnpabwag.program@gmail.com **Treasurer/Trip reports:** Rob Argent

0417 502 191 vnpabwag.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/page/useful-information/insurance

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.

Spring 2017

Forests Forever Easter Ecology Camp, 2017. Photo by Euan Moore.

EMERGENCY CONTACTS

COORDINATOR

Sue Catterall Emergency Contacts Coordinator 0417 526 519 / vnpabwag.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.

2017 EMERGENCY CONTACTS

16-17 September 23-24 September 30-1 October	Sue Parkhill Christine Longman	0432 413 442 / 9510 4316 0411 483 571 / 9397 5712 0418 398 580 / 9801 4346
7-8 October	Helen Buckley Kate Parker	0409 231 746
14-15 October		0418 398 580 / 0439 067 798
	Adrianna Koutsofrigas	
21-22 October	Kyle & Elizabeth Matheson	0429 906 094 / 9890 6094
28-29 October	Pat Witt	0407 360 650 / 9802 8914
4-5 November	Ann Turner	0425 732 384 / 9878 3297
11-12 November	Rob Argent	0417 502 191
18-19 November	Russell Bowey	0417 328 651 / 9397 7470
25-26 November	Christine Longman	0411 483 571 / 9397 5712
2-3 December	Adrianna Koutsofrigas	0439 067 798 / 0418 398 580
9-10 December	Helen Buckley	0418 398 580 / 9801 4346
16-17 December	Ann Turner	0425 732 384 / 9878 3297
23-24 December	Robyn Desnoy	9528 2390
30-31 December	Pat Witt	0407 360 650 / 9802 8914

ACTIVITY DESCRIPTIONS

GRADE	EASY	MEDIUM – May involve:	HARD – May involve:
Walk	on formed tracksterrain level or undulatingpace relaxed	some rough terrain, forest or road walkinglonger ascents or descentsup to 6 hours walking in a day	rough terrain 8 hrs or more each day rock scrambling thick scrub steep sustained ascents or descents
Excursion	Bus trips to places of interest to members, including the option of an easy or medium grade walk (see 'easy walk' above)	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	Park visits/guided walks, with frequent stops for observation of significant features or ecology.	N/A	N/A
Easy Going Amble	Slow-as-you go strolls with rests along the way still enjoying the great outdoors	N/A	N/A
Canoe Kayaking	slow-flowing rivers small rapids a good command of basic strokes required 'beginner' trips assume no experience	moderately flowing riverssmall rapids requiring some manoeuvringroute generally easy to recognise	Level 1 rapids longer days, sustained paddling required manoeuvering in faster flowing water
Cycle	up to 40km/dayfew hillsno steep grades	 up to 50km/day in hilly country or 70km/day in flat country short stretches of dirt road 	sustained stretches on dirt roads up to 60km/day in hilly country hilly terrain or 80km/day on the flat
Ski Snowshoe (day)	up to 5hr/daymainly groomed trailslimited experience is assumed	up to 7hr/dayability to snow plough and stopmoderate slopes and off-trail	7hr/day or more • good skating skills off trail, steep slopes, all snow conditions competent in poor weather
Ski Snowshoe (overnight)	able to snow plough and stop with a daypack overnight backpack camping experience	ability to ski gentle slopes with a full pack snowcamping experience desirable	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



Easy Going Amble



Excursion



Ski/Snowshoe



Bushwalk



Overnight/ Multi-day



Public Transport





Kayak/Canoe



Walk, Talk & Gawk



Conservation Activity or Event/Training



U35



Cycling



Urban Walk/Activity



Social/Presentation



Family





24 Sep (Sun)

WT&G: Wildflowers at Baluk Willam Nature Conservation Reserve, Belgrave South





Despite its small size, over 250 flora species have been recorded in this 68 hectare reserve. Significantly, this includes over 90 orchid species, which makes up roughly 1/3 of all Victoria's orchid species. Spring is a perfect time to see many of these flora species, so bring along a keen eye and a good camera!

Easy 6km | Limit 15 | 50km SE Melb Julia Pickwick 0433 977 396 j.pickwick@gmail.com

25 Sep (Mon) Bayswater Boronia

Easy 8km | Limit 20 | 25km E Melb Sue Parkhill 9510 4316





Meet 11am at the new and improved Bayswater Station. This walk will take us up and back along part of the Dandenong Creek. BYO lunch at the half way point, and coffee at the finish.

27 Sep (Wed)

U35 Social Night

Michael Castaldo mnc808@hotmail.com U35 Social vnpau35@gmail.com







Come along to this month's social night and meet some new or familiar faces. Friends and family most welcome. To find out more about this month's event, keep posted to the U35 e-group and/or Facebook Group for updates or contact the host. RSVP essential.

28 Sep (Thu)

Wild Families bird detectives activity

Limit 25 | 29km NW Melbourne VNPA office 9341 6500 vnpa@vnpa.org.au



Bring the family along to Organ Pipes National Park to learn all about bird watching from VNPA bird enthusiasts Euan Moore and Jenny Rolland. This activity is tailored to families with children 0-12. Children must attend with an adult responsible for their supervision. Registration essential. Cost: VNPA members free, non-members adults \$9, children \$3, family \$20.

29 Sep - 1 Oct (long)

U35 Brisbane Ranges long-weekend walk (EC)

Medium/hard 38km | Limit 10 | 90km W Melb Jess Noske-Turner 0430 237 500 j.nosketurner@gmail.com





The Burchell Trail is a three day walk near the historic township of Steiglitz. The Brisbane Ranges are deceptively rugged with narrow gullies, rocky hills and are a hotspot for wildflowers. Campsites are walk-in only, a real treat so close to Melbourne. So to avoid footyfever-madness, join me for a rejuvenating weekend in the bush. Campsites must be booked in advance, so book early.

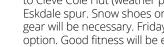
30 Sep - 1 Oct (w/e)

Alpine National Park -

Hard 30km | Limit 6 | 350km NE Melb







Mt Bogong snow shoe (EC)

Taariq Hassan taariq.music@gmail.com



A late white season overnight hike. Mt Bogong via the Staircase spur to Cleve Cole Hut (weather permitting) and return on Sunday via the Eskdale spur. Snow shoes or micro spikes, poles and snow camping gear will be necessary. Friday night camping at Mountain Creek is an option. Good fitness will be essential.

30 Sep (Sat)

Coliban River forest public transport walk

Medium 16km | Limit 15 | 120km NW Melb Mark Learmonth 9807 7506 (H)





There is a special feel about walking in the 'Wombat'. We walk through designated powerful owl habitat, between Trentham and Lyonville, calling in at a mineral spring along the way.

1 Oct (Sun)

U35 Surf Coast walk - Jan Juc to Anglesea

Medium 18km | Limit 10 | 110km SW Melb Eva Klusacek 0423 053 318 eklusacek@hotmail.com





Let's enjoy the first day of daylight savings with a car-shuffle walk along the surf coast. We follow the Surf Coast trail, seeing varied vegetation along the way; perhaps even springtime wildflowers if we're lucky. Some beach walking included.

7-8 Oct (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.

Spring 2017

Mt Clear, Alpine National Park. Photo courtesy of Tim Forcey.

7 Oct (Sat)

Werribee River and mansion walk

Easy 12km | Limit 16 | 35km W Melb Cheryl Mioch 9397 7470 / 0412 743 866 cherylmioch@bigpond.com





Starting at Werribee and walking to the Werribee Mansion. Lunch in the gardens. Those who wish to can then join us on a tour of the mansion (there is a charge for entry).

7 Oct (Sat)

NatureWatch monitoring at Bunyip State Park

Easy | Limit 10 | 66 km E Melb Christine Connelly, NatureWatch Coordinator christinec@vnpa.org.au 9341 6510



9.30am-4pm (approx. finish). Meet at Gembrook. Assist NatureWatch and the Friends of Bunyip State Park to carry out wildlife monitoring using motion-sensing cameras and sound recorders. Full day activity involving retrieving monitoring equipment and setting it up at new locations in the park. Some driving on dirt tracks. Registration required.

9 Oct (Mon)

Seniors Week free trip to Anglesea

Easy/medium 10km | Limit 20 | 114km SW Melb Ruth Stirling 9699 7225





Train to Geelong, then coach along the Great Ocean Road to Anglesea. The walk includes heath land, kangaroos on the golf course, coastal views, surf beach and the peaceful riverside. Time to look around the shops. Transport times later.

9 Oct (Mon)

WT&G: St Kilda architecture

Easy 5km | Limit 12 | 7km S Melb Julie Hunt 9568 7515 hunt.jm@bigpond.com







St Kilda has a colourful past and present as visible in its buildings and reserves. This walk will be mostly new material from the previous Secrets of St Kilda WT&G.

10 Oct (Tue)

VNPA Annual General Meeting

60 Leicester St, Carlton VNPA 9341 6500 vnpa@vnpa.org.au





Join fellow VNPA members to help elect a new Committee, review the year's BWAG activities, hear about VNPA conservation projects and enjoy a special guest presentation. Nibbles and drinks provided. Doors open at 6.30pm and meeting starts at 7pm. RSVP essential by Thursday 5 October.

14-15 Oct (w/e)

The Crinoline and Long Hill (EC)

Hard 24km | Limit 10 | 280km E Melb James Shannon 9754 4951 / 0407 346 467 jmshannon1962@hotmail.com





A spectacular walk with good views. We traverse narrow ridges in the Alpine National Park near Licola. The creek on Long Hill (campsite) was dry in April, hence this walk was rescheduled for spring.

14 Oct (Sat)

Easy Going Amble: Elsternwick Park & The Block

Easy 5km | Limit 15 | 10km SE Melb Geoff Durham 9523 5559





Something very different. We combine a visit to Elsternwick Park with an inspection of the 2017 'The Block' reality TV show site, followed by coffee/lunch in Glenhuntly Road for those interested.

14 Oct (Sat)

WT&G: Point Nepean

Easy 10km | Limit 10 | 90km SE Melb Terese Dalman 0413 234 130 teresedalman@gmail.com





Explore historical Point Nepean from the Quarantine Station to the fortifications at the Point.

21-22 Oct (w/e)

Beeripmo walk (EC)

Medium 22km | Limit 8 | 140km W Melb John Van Leeuwen 0418 996 048 van.irrigate@gmail.com





Moderate overnight track walk with good camping sites – an 11 kilometre walk on both days. Some uphill accents, good views, possible fire on the Saturday night and Sunday afternoon drive back to Melbourne.



21 Oct (Sat)

Trawalla Bush (near Beaufort) public transport walk





The open forests near Beaufort are not all that well known, but offer fairly easy walking in former goldmining country. This walk will have a rambling feel, and involves a scenic train trip from and to Melbourne.

Medium 17km | Limit 15 | 160km W Melb Mark Learmonth 9807 7506 (H)

21 Oct (Sat)

Fryerstown to Castlemaine (EC)



Easy/medium 12km | Limit 12 | 110km NW Melb Doug Palmer 9399 4494 dpalmer@iimetro.com.au This walk route starts at historic Fryerstown, and then through tracked light bush areas on Dry Diggings track, via The Monk (hill) with area views. To finish the walk we follow an old gold-era aqueduct in to Castlemaine outskirts. Car shuttle required.

Mornington Peninsula is renowned for its historic features, scenic headlands and sandy beaches. On this trip, our main focus will be

Flinders, a charming village with magnificent sea views. There will be a

stop at the Boneo market. Lunch will be at the Pines picnic grounds,

21 Oct (Sat)

Excursion by coach: Flinders



Easy 5km | Limit 57 | 90km S Melb Bookings: Larysa Kucan 9347 3733 / Jan Lacey 9329 8187 Leader: Larysa Kucan

22 Oct (Sun)

Ocean Grove Nature Reserve



A visit to the last significant example of original woodland on the Bellarine Peninsula.

followed by a woodland walk to lookouts over Bass Strait.

Easy 10km | Limit 12 | 105km SW Melb Dale Stephenson 9885 0331 (H)

22 Oct (Sun)

WT&G: Wildflowers at Ted Errey Nature Circuit, Brisbane Ranges National Park





The Brisbane Ranges is home to over 600 native plant species including rare orchids and the endemic Brisbane Ranges grevillea. Many of these plants will be in full bloom along this circuit walk that takes in several different vegetation types, spectacular views and a couple of steep sections.

Easy 10km | Limit 15 | 80km W Melb Julia Pickwick 0433 977 396 j.pickwick@gmail.com

22 Oct (Sun)

U35 Mt Elephant and Mt Leura (EC)





Did you know that Victoria has the third-largest volcanic plain in the world? This trip will involve some short but steep walks, exploring western Victoria's volcanos and views over basalt plains from the top.

Easy/medium 5km | Limit 10 | 180km W Melb Eva Klusacek 0423 053 318 eklusacek@hotmail.com

23 Oct (Mon)

Coolaroo to Broadmeadows

Easy 8km | Limit 20 | 15km N Melb Sue Parkhill 9510 4316





Meet 11am Coolaroo Station. From the station, we will walk through the Broadmeadows Valley Park to the Moonee Ponds Creek. BYO lunch in the park.

24 Oct (Tue)

William Angliss buffet dinner

Limit 16 | CBD Cheryl Mioch 9397 7470 / 0412 743 866 cherylmioch@bigpond.com





A training school with fine dining – great value \$35 for all you can eat and the food is fantastic. Booking essential. Close to public transport in the city.

28 Oct (Sat)

NatureWatch monitoring at Bunyip State Park

Easy | Limit 10 | 66 km E Melb Christine Connelly, NatureWatch Coordinator christinec@vnpa.org.au 9341 6510



9.30am-4pm (approx. finish). Meet at Gembrook. Assist NatureWatch and the Friends of Bunyip State Park to carry out wildlife monitoring using motion-sensing cameras and sound recorders. Full day activity involving retrieving monitoring equipment and setting it up at new locations in the park. Some driving on dirt tracks. Registration required.

Spring 2017

Starfish Fungus (Aseroe rubra), Errinundra Plateau. Photo by Euan Moore.

28 Oct (Sat)

U35 Social Night

Aleks Svazas aleks.svazas@gmail.com U35 Social vnpau35@gmail.com





Come along to our social night and meet some new or familiar faces. This time we'll head out to the incredible Mt Rothwell Conservation and Research Centre. Date subject to change, so RSVP early. Follow updates via the U35 e-group and/or Facebook group or contact the host.

28 Oct (Sat)

Emerald

Medium 16km | Limit 16 | 45km E Melb Glenn King 0448 816 504





From Belgrave Station, catch the 695 Bus to Emerald for a circuit walk to the Emerald Lake, Wright Forest and the Cockatoo township before setting back. Puffing Billy option back to Belgrave.

29 Oct (Sun)

Heidelberg School Artists Trail

Easy 10km | Limit 15 | 12km NE Melb Alison Thomas 0400 172 767 (6-9pm week days) alithomas@iinet.net.au



Take a walk along the Yarra River between Heidelberg and Ivanhoe while admiring paintings of the area from the perspective of well known 19th century artists such as Streeton and Roberts. Some great views can be had of the Dandenong Ranges early in the walk.

4-7 Nov (long)

Mt Jagungal and the upper Geehi River (EC)

Hard 50km | Limit 10 | 490km NE Melb lames Shannon 9754 4951 / 0407 346 467 jmshannon1962@hotmail.com





A really great area of the Kosciuszko National Park. We will start at Round Mountain, visit Mt Jagungal and explore the surrounding extensive alpine and subalpine plains. Jagungal is the northern most of the peaks in the park that exceed 2000 metres.

4-7 Nov (long)

Viking Circuit, Victorian Alps (EC)

Hard 40km | Limit 8 | 350 km (7 hrs) NE Melb John Van Leeuwen 0418 996 048 van.irrigate@gmail.com





Walk starts from Howitt Plains car park to Macalister springs, Mt Speculation, Mt Despair, the Vikings, Wonnangatta River, and up from the river via a steep spur back to the start. A hard walk with spectacular views, possibly the best in the Vic Alps, and an incredible sunrise above the Wonnangatta valley.

4-7 Nov (long)

Alpine National Park - King River Hut to Bindaree Falls via The Crosscut Saw (EC)

Hard/exploratory 50km | Limit 6 | 300km NE Melb





A pack-carry hike over the Cup weekend, meeting Friday night. Saturday carpool to King River Hut, leaving a car at Bindaree Falls. Walk route will include Muesli Spur Mt Speculation, Macalister Springs, the Crosscut Saw, Stanley Name Spur, Upper Howqua campsite and finishing at Bindaree Falls on Tuesday. Car shuttle and drive out via Mansfield. Good fitness, gear and experience are required.

Taariq Hassan taariq.music@gmail.com

8 Nov (Wed) Borneo and Sumatra with Lisa Sulinski and Garry and Wilma van Dijk

60 Leicester St, Carlton VNPA 9341 6500 vnpabwag.social@gmail.com





Two Asian adventures. Lisa Sulinski and Garry and Wilma van Dijk will entertain and inform us with their travel experiences in Borneo and Sumatra respectively. 60 Leicester St Carlton, doors will open at 6.30pm for a 7.30pm start. Entry \$2. Tea, coffee, wine and biscuits provided.

11-12 Nov (w/e)

Friends of the Prom working bee

Easy | 235km SE Melb Deb Henry 0409 338 182 info@friendsoftheprom.org.au





Come and help this 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.

11-12 Nov (w/e) Mt Buffalo (EC)







Camping next to Lake Catani we'll do various walks as the mood takes us. Camp ground fees payable, hot showers supplied.



11 Nov (Sat)

Easy Going Amble: Tarralla Creek, Croydon

Easy 5km | Limit 15 | 25km E Melb Geoff Durham 9523 5559



Liberate your limbs and refresh your lungs in the open-air. A return flat walk down one side and up the other side of Tarralla Creek (which was once called the Croydon Main Drain), incorporating a bit of bush, an animal extravaganza and an oak tree extraordinaire.

11 Nov (Sat)

Mt Dom Dom circuit, Black Spur

Easy/medium 12km | Limit 14 | 95km E Melb Doug Palmer 9399 4494 dpalmer@iimetro.com.au



Enjoy the lovely dense forest near Black Spur; from Dom Dom saddle we go downhill first, then circuit clockwise around Mt Dom Dom and back to our start. May be potential for a summit side trip, time and track permitting. Easy access from Melbourne.

11 November (Sat)

5 years of Caught on Camera in Wombat State Forest Easy | Limit 50 | 100 km NW Melb

Christine Connelly, NatureWatch Coordinator 9341 6510 christinec@vnpa.org.au



1.30-3.30pm. Join NatureWatch and Wombat Forestcare to celebrate our wildlife monitoring projects in Wombat State Forest. We're excited to share our project findings and talk about what species we have documented. An afternoon of presentations at Trentham Neighbourhood Centre. Expect lots of photos of cute critters! Refreshments provided and registration required via Eventbrite: caughtoncamerawombat.eventbrite.com.au

12 Nov (Sun)

Wild Families bushwalk and wild science activity

Limit 25 | 21kms NE Melbourne Caitlin Griffith 93416508 caitling@vnpa.org.au





10am-1pm at Westerfolds Park, Fitzsimmons Lane, Templestowe. Join this VNPA Wild Families bushwalk and some wild science activities, including trying out a motion sensing camera. Children must attend with a supervising adult. Led bushwalks will leave at 10:30am and 12 noon. Registration essential. Cost: VNPA members free, non-members adults \$9, children \$3, family \$20.

12 Nov (Sun)

WT&G: McClelland Gallery & Sculpture Park / Langwarrin Flora and Fauna Reserve





A little touch of culture perusing over 100 sculptures at McClelland in the morning, before heading down to the beautiful Langwarrin Flora and Fauna Reserve for a stint of wildflower spotting after lunch.

Easy 10km | Limit 15 | 50km SE Melb Julia Pickwick 0433 977 396 j.pickwick@gmail.com

13 Nov (Mon) Maribyrnong River, Avondale Heights

Easy 6km | Limit 20 | 10km NW Melb Ruth Stirling 9699 7225





At 11am meet in Elizabeth St by the old GPO to catch tram 57. Travel 40 minutes to the last stop near the river. BYO lunch. Lunch and toilets in Canning Reserve. Parking available if you arrive by car. A circuit walk, with a few steep hills. We could have afternoon tea at High Point.

18 Nov (Sat)

George Bass Coastal Walk

Medium 11km | Limit 10 | 124km SE Melb Evelyn Feller 5962 5227 evefeller@gmail.com



This is a beautiful coastal walk along beaches and headlands. Great views of the ocean and some historic sites.

18 Nov (Sat)

Jells Park to Churchill National Park

Medium 18km | Limit 16 | 25km SE Melb Louise Prendergast 9826 0037 lprendergast2009@hotmail.com



A circular walk taking in tracks through Churchill and Lysterfield parks, lunch next to the lake, before returning to Churchill. Churchill Park is an example of remnant bush with plenty of wildlife to be seen, including kangaroos, wallabies and a variety of birdlife.

18 Nov (Sat)

Excursion by coach: Wilsons Prom - Tidal River

Easy/medium 6km | Limit 57 | 207km SE Melb Bookings: Larysa Kucan 9347 3733 / Jan Lacey 9329 8187

Leader: Glenn King



After a short stop at Cardinia, enjoy morning tea in Leongatha. At the Prom the main walk will be the easy/med 6km Three Bays Walk. There will also be a choice of a shorter 2.5km easy walk. An opportunity to experience the Prom for a day.

Spring 2017

Kooyoorya State Park. Photo by Philip Ingamells.

18 Nov - 17 Dec Great Victorian Fish Count







Now in its thirteenth year, the Great Victorian Fish Count brings together over 400 divers and snorkelers to record the abundance of 25 key Victorian fish species. This year several species of friendly sharks and rays have also been added. There are great opportunities to get the whole family involved this year. To register your interest join the ReefWatch mailing list at vnpa.org.au/programs/reefwatch

18 Nov (Sat)

Wild Families at the **Great Victorian Fish Count**

Limit 30 | 100km SE Melbourne AJ Morton, Dive2U, 0409 411 299





Dive2U will lead your family on a morning snorkel at Rye Pier to count fish. All snorkelling equipment and training provided. Snorkel is supervised. Bring your own wetsuit if you can. This activity is for families to participate in together. Children must be at least eight and must attend with an adult responsible for their supervision. Registration essential. Cost: VNPA members free, non-members adults \$9, children \$3, family \$20.

18 Nov (Sat)

NatureWatch monitoring at Bunyip State Park Easy | Limit 10 | 66 km E Melb Christine Connelly, NatureWatch Coordinator

christinec@vnpa.org.au 9341 6510



9.30am-4pm (approx. finish). Meet at Gembrook. Assist NatureWatch and the Friends of Bunyip State Park to carry out wildlife monitoring using motion-sensing cameras and sound recorders. Full day activity involving retrieving monitoring equipment and setting it up at new locations in the park. Some driving on dirt tracks. Registration required.

19 Nov (Sun)

Mt Mcleod, at Mt Buffalo National Park (EC)

Medium/hard 18km | Limit 10 | 340km N Melb Doug Palmer 9399 4494 dpalmer@iimetro.com.au



A longish day walk to a remote northern section of Buffalo plateau. Enjoy mountain forests and scenery with views in a lesser-visited section. Book in if you are OK for 18km and 300metres uphill. Best if you stay in the area on Saturday night.

26 Nov (Sun)

Jan Juc to Anglesea Coast Walk

Medium 19km | Limit 16 | 103km SW Melb David Moore 0448 555 666 david@alexanderschool.edu.au



The walk will go from Jan Juc via Bells Beach to Point Addis and then on to Anglesea. We will do a car shuffle.

27 Nov (Mon)

Diamond Creek to Montmorency

Easy 8km | Limit 20 | 22km NE Melb Sue Parkhill 9510 4316





Meet 1pm at Diamond Creek Station. The walk will take us down the Diamond Creek as far as Montmorency.

30 Nov (Thu)

U35 Social Night

Zen Zeng zenaustralia@gmail.com U35 Social vnpau35@gmail.com

Mark Learmonth 9807 7506 (H)







Come along to this month's social night and meet some new or familiar faces. Friends and family most welcome. To find out more about this month's event, keep posted to the U35 e-group and/or Facebook group for updates or contact the host. RSVP essential.

30 Nov (Thu)

Barwon Heads public transport walk





The Otway Coast is very scenic, and this walk includes some walking along the Barwon River, Point Flinders (The Bluff) and some beach walking along the spit to Ocean Grove. We will be looking for seabirds as we walk.

2 Dec (Sat)

Cherokee – Lions Head



Easy/medium 14km | Limit 15 | 70km NW Melb Darren McClelland 0449 167 776 darrenlmcclelland@gmail.com

Easy/medium 14km | Limit 15 | 100km SW Melb

This walk takes in the eastern end of the Macedon Ranges. We commence the walk in the guiet hamlet of Cherokee then ascend the range on a quiet 4WD track, reaching Lions Head, the eastern summit.



3 Dec (Sun) Queenscliff walk

Medium 16km | Limit 16 | 103km SW Melb Cheryl Mioch 9397 7470 / 0412 743 866 cherylmioch@bigpond.com



Walk around the beaches, by walkways and tracks around Queenscliff and the coastal paths to Point Lonsdale.

8 Dec (Fri) BWAG Christmas Dinner

RSVP Deb Henry 0409 338 182 vnpabwag.social@gmail.com



Celebrate another great VNPA year and catch up with friends for Christmas drinks, dinner and the annual BWAG Quiz at the Glenferrie Hotel, Hawthorn. RSVP by Friday 1 December to vnpabwag.social@gmail.com or Deb Henry 0409 338 182.

9-11 Dec (long)

Alpine NP – Mt Loch/Machinery Spur/ Diamantina Spur/Razorback circuit (EC)







An Alpine pack carry long weekend, including Monday, with an ascent of the Diamantina Spur. Friday option to camp near Freeburgh. The walk route includes Mt Loch, Machinery Spur, Blair's Hut and Diamantina Spur to High Knob or Federation Hut. On Monday a possible visit to Mt Feathertop summit and return to cars via The Razorback. You will need to be fit and well equipped.

9 Dec (Sat)

Easy Going Amble: Truganina Swamp and The 100 Steps To Federation

Easy 5km | Limit 15 | 10km N Melb Geoff Durham 9523 5559







Retain your mobility by getting out and about. Apart from the 100 steps up (and down) at Federation Lookout this is a reasonably flat walk ending with optional coffee/lunch.

9 Dec (Sat)

Royal Park and Carlton

Medium 16km | Limit 16 | 2km W Melb Louise Prendergast 9826 0037 Iprendergast2009@hotmail.com





An urban walk exploring the green areas of the city. Starting at the front gate of the zoo we walk around the perimeter of Royal Park and check out the new gardens at the back of the Royal Children's Hospital. We continue through Carlton and Princes Park and explore sections of the Capitol trail through Brunswick, before returning to the zoo.

10 Dec (Sun)

WT&G: Coolart Wetlands and Homestead, Somers

Easy 7km | Limit 15 | 85km SE Melb Julia Pickwick 0433 977 396 j.pickwick@gmail.com





A nature lover's paradise with wetlands, bushland and beach access, this National Trust classified property also features a historic homestead, outbuildings and a farm machinery collection.

10 Dec (Sun)

NatureWatch 10 year celebration at Brisbane Ranges National Park Easy | Limit 50 | 80 km W Melb Christine Connelly, NatureWatch Coordinator christinec@vnpa.org,au 9341 6510



Join NatureWatch and the Friends of Brisbane Ranges to celebrate 10 years of our grass-tree monitoring project in the Brisbane Ranges National Park, and to remember where NatureWatch began 10 years ago. Listen to presentations reporting back on what we've discovered and enjoy a bushwalk and yummy refreshments. A family-friendly activity. Registration required, via Eventbrite: naturewatchtenyears.eventbrite.com.au

11 Dec (Mon) Riddells Creek

Easy 8km | Limit 20 | 61km N Melb Ruth Stirling 9699 7225





Catch the 10.14am train from Southern Cross (Bendigo Line) and travel 50 minutes to Riddells Creek. A look around the town sights. The train came through in the 1850s. Walk west along Wheelwrights Rd, to the Conglomerate Flora and Fauna Reserve for picnic lunch. Homeward train 3.45pm (note, no other train choice). Coffee back in the city.

16 Dec (Sat)

Wild Families at the Great Victorian Fish Count





Limit 10 | 104kms S Melbourne Jarrod Boord 0423 258 510 bellarinesnorkeltours@gmail.com Bellarine Snorkel Tours will lead families on a morning snorkel under St Leonards Pier to count fish. Snorkelling equipment/training provided. Children must be at least six and attend with a responsible adult. Children under nine require one supervising adult in the water per child. Registration essential. Cost: VNPA members free, non-members adults \$9, children \$3, family \$20.

Spring 2017

Hattah-Kulkune National Park. Photo by Paul Sinclair.

17-19 Dec (long)

Wilsons Prom National Park the complete southern circuit







The entire southern circuit of the Prom is best done in three nights and four days in early summer before the school holidays start. This walk will be Sunday to Wednesday. Day 1: Telegraph Saddle to Sealers Cove. Day 2: walk to Little Waterloo Bay. Day 3: walk to Roaring Meg. Day 4: walk out Tidal River via Oberon Bay. Good fitness and gear are required.

18 Dec (Mon)

Hawthorn – Kew

Easy 8km | Limit 20 | 7km E Melb Sue Parkhill 9510 4316





Meet 1pm at Hawthorn Station. The last of the Monday walks for the year will be through some of the lovely eastern suburbs and the Outer Circle Trail to Kew for a Christmas coffee and cake.

26 Dec - 1 Jan (long)

Bogong High Plains base camp (EC)

Medium 100km | Limit 10 | 400km NE Melb Lesley Gillespie 9386 9077 lesley_gillespie999@hotmail.com





From our bush base camp at Buckety Plain we will explore walking trails on the High Plains during five day walks including aqueducts, huts and peaks. Early interest welcome.

27-31 Dec (long)

Alpine National Park -Bogong High Plains circuit (EC)

Hard/exploratory 60km | Limit 6 | 350km NE Melb Taariq Hassan taariq.music@gmail.com





Come and walk the challenging loop around Mt Bogong and the High Plains. We will carpool from Mt Beauty. Walk route includes Ropers Hut, Grey Hills, Bogong Creek Saddle, the Quartz Ridge, Mt Bogong summit, Cleve Cole Hut, the T Spur, Duane Spur and back to the cars at Watchbed Creek. Excellent fitness, experience and gear are necessary.

Late Jan (w/e)

Advance Notice: base camp walk Bluff Hut (EC)







Camp at Sheepyard Flat on Friday night, drive to Eight Mile Gap on Saturday morning and walk to Eagle Peaks. From there, drive to Bluff Hut by 4WD, camp at the hut and walk out to the Bluff and back on Sunday. Steep climbs with exceptional views.

Great Victorian Fish Count

18 November – 17 December

Now in its thirteenth year, the Great Victorian Fish Count brings together over 400 divers and snorkelers to record the abundance of 25 key Victorian fish species.

This year several species of friendly sharks and rays have also been added. There are great opportunities to get the whole family involved this year on 18 November and 16 December (more details in this program).

To register your interest join the ReefWatch mailing list at vnpa.org.au/programs/reefwatch.



INDEX



Dalman, Terese 0413 234 130

WT&G: Point Nepean

Durham, Geoff 9523 5559

- 5 Easy Going Amble - Elsternwick Park & The Block
- Easy Going Amble Tarralla Creek, Croydon
- Easy Going Amble Truganina Swamp & The 100 Steps to Federation



Feller, Evelyn 5962 5227

George Bass Coastal Walk



Gillespie, Lesley 9386 9077

- Cycling and cake on the Great Victorian Rail Trail (EC)
- Bogong High Plains base camp (EC)



Hassan, Taariq

- Alpine NP Mt Bogong snow shoe (EC)
- Alpine NP King River Hut to Bindaree Falls via The Cross Cut Saw (EC)
- 10 Alpine NP - Mt Loch/Machinery Spur/ Diamantina Spur/Razorback circuit (EC)
- Wilsons Prom NP The Complete Southern Circuit (EC) 11
- Alpine NP Bogong High Plains circuit (EC)

Henry, Deb 0409 338 182

7 Friends of the Prom working bee

Hunt, Julie 9568 7515

5 WT&G: St Kilda architecture



King, Glenn 0448 816 504

Emerald

Klusacek, Eva 0423 053 318

- 4 U35 Surf Coast Walk - Jan Juc to Anglesea
- U35 Mt Elephant and Mt Leura (EC) 6

Kucan, Larysa 93473733

- Excursion by Coach: Flinders 6
- Excursion by Coach: Wilsons Prom Tidal River



Learmonth, Mark 9807 7506 (H)

- Coliban River Forest
- Trawalla Bush (near Beaufort)
- Barwon Heads



McClelland, Darren 0449 167 776

9 Cherokee - Lions Head

Mioch, Cheryl 9397 7470 / 0412 743 866

- 5 Werribee River and mansion walk
- William Angliss buffet dinner 6
- 10 Queenscliff walk

Moore, David 0448 555 666

9 Jan Juc to Anglesea Coast Walk



Noske-Turner, Jess 0430 237 500

U35 Brisbane Ranges long-weekend walk (EC)

Spring 2017

Brisbane Ranges. Photo by Julia Pickwick.



Palmer, Doug 9399 4494

- Fryerstown to Castlemaine (EC)
- Mt Dom Dom circuit, Black Spur
- 9 Mt Mcleod, at Mt Buffalo NP

Parkhill, Sue 9510 4316

- 4 Bayswater Boronia
- 6 Coolaroo to Broadmeadows
- Diamond Creek to Montmorency
- 11 Hawthorn - Kew

Pickwick, Julia 0433 977 396

- 4 WT&G: Wildflowers at Baluk Willam Nature Conservation Reserve, Belgrave South
- WT&G: Wildflowers at Ted Errey Nature Circuit, Brisbane Ranges NP
- WT&G: McClelland Gallery and Sculpture Park / 8 Langwarrin Flora and Fauna Reserve
- 10 WT&G: Coolart Wetlands and Homestead, Somers

Prendergast, Louise 9826 0037

- Jells Park to Churchill NP
- Royal Park and Carlton



Shannon, James 9754 4951 / 0407 346 467

- The Crinoline and Long Hill (EC)
- Mt Jagungal and the upper Geehi River (EC)

Stephenson, Dale 9885 0331 (H)

6 Ocean Grove Nature Reserve

Stirling, Ruth 9699 7225

- 5 Seniors Week free trip to Anglesea
- Maribyrnong River, Avondale Heights
- Riddells Creek



Tagg, Richard 0404 808 242

Mt Buffalo (EC)

Thomas, Alison 0400 172 767 (6-9pm week days)

7 Heidelberg School Artists Trail



U35

- U35 Social Night
- U35 Brisbane Ranges long-weekend walk (EC)
- U35 Surf Coast Walk Jan Juc to Anglesea
- U35 Mt Elephant and Mt Leura
- U35 Social Night
- U35 Social Night



Van Leeuwen, John 0418 996 048

- Beeripmo walk (EC)
- Viking Circuit Victorian Alps (EC)
- 11 Advance Notice: Base camp walk Bluff Hut (EC)

VNPA, 9341 6500

- 4 Wild Families bird detectives' activity
- 5 NatureWatch monitoring at Bunyip State Park
- VNPA Annual General Meeting
- NatureWatch monitoring at Bunyip State Park
- Borneo and Sumatra: BWAG Social Night
- 5 years of Caught on Camera at Wombat State Forest
- Wild Families bushwalk and wild science activity
- Great Victorian Fish Count
- Wild Families at the Great Victorian Fish Count
- NatureWatch monitoring at Bunyip State Park
- 10 **BWAG Christmas Dinner**
- NatureWatch 10 year celebration
- Wild Families at the Great Victorian Fish Count



Walk, Talk & Gawk

- WT&G: Wildflowers at Baluk Willam
 - Nature Conservation Reserve, Belgrave South
- WT&G: St Kilda architecture
- WT&G: Point Nepean
- WT&G: Wildflowers at Ted Errey Nature Circuit, Brisbane Ranges NP
- WT&G: McClelland Gallery and Sculpture Park / Langwarrin Flora and Fauna Reserve
- WT&G: Coolart Wetlands and Homestead, Somers





Emergency Contact System

To help keep our day, overnight and extended activities safe outside the metropolitan area, we have an Emergency Contact System in place for these type of BWAG activities. You will see these activities signified by the letters EC in the program.

The leader of an EC activity collects more details than usual from you: your emergency contact person's details, name and phone number. These details, plus your activity details and leaders details are forwarded onto the EC person for that week.

An EC activity is determined by the Walks Coordinator. The system allows us to know where and who the group are on the EC activity in case of delay or an emergency, and a contact system would fall into place should the need arise. It also ensures we know when the group has returned back – very important.

EC Volunteers

Ann Turner is one of our EC volunteers, signing up after getting involved in BWAG activities.

"I joined BWAG and met many nice people and had wonderful walks – I still see many of these friends.

"I signed up to be an EC volunteer as I was able to do that from home and still feel involved. I enjoy talking to the leaders and following the maps and areas of their walks. I would encourage other members to sign up to be EC volunteers too

"The EC system is important so that the leaders and participants know that if they do have any misfortune they can ring the EC person and know they will get help as soon as possible.

"People can stay safe when enjoying Victoria's natural places by always leaving details of their area at home and with the ECs, and being prepared with the correct clothing, footwear, equipment, food etc."

We have a group of dedicated EC volunteers who are rostered on each week to be contacted by the leader and swing into action in case a delay or emergency occurs.

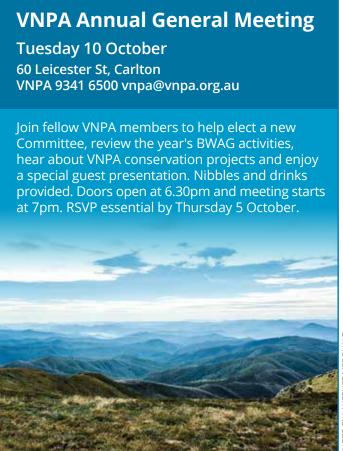
If you are interested in becoming an EC volunteer please contact Sue Catterall for more details at suecatterall203@hotmail.com

Spring 2017

Male Weedy Seadragon off Flinders Pier. Photo courtesy Richard Wylie.









$\overline{\checkmark}$	

I'd like to become a Member of the Victorian National Parks Association

			ational parks and natural areas, wh s on the benefits of Membership, v	
Individual	1 year \$65	2 years \$130		
Concession (Pensioner/Student)	1 year \$40 [2 years \$80		
Household/Family	1 year \$90 [2 years \$180		
Small organisation	1 year \$65	2 years \$130		
(Not-for-profit with less than 10 Large organisation	1 year \$100	2 years \$200		
	pers or commercial organisations)			
Please AUTOMATION	CALLY RENEW my Membershi	p each year (through my	credit card as provided).	
Donation I'd	like to amplify my impact by a	adding a tax-deductible do	onation	
		\$100 \$500		
	Please make this a monthly		My choice	
	Please make this a monthly	donation by credit card*		
Total \$	_			
My contact det	ails			
Dr/Mr/Mrs/Ms/Other _	First name		Surname	
(for Organisational Members	nip only)			
Suburb/Town		State _	Postcode	Gender
Phone	Email		Date of birth _	//
Names of others inclu	ded in my Household/Family	Membership		
l'd like to receive a	Wild Families' activities pack	designed for families wit	h children under 12.	
Payment meth	od			
Cheque/money ord	er payable to 'Victorian Natio	nal Parks Association' is	enclosed.	
Credit card	Visa Master	Card		
Card no	//	/	Expiry Date	_ /
Cardholder name			Signature	

Please post with payment to Victorian National Parks Association, Level 3, 60 Leicester St, Carlton VIC 3053 or call us on (03) 9341 6500



^{*} Donations will be automatically deducted from your credit card on the 28th day of each month. You will receive a tax receipt at the end of each financial year, and you can alter your donations at any time. Minimum gift is \$15/month. All donations over \$2 are tax-deductible. ABN 34 217 717 593