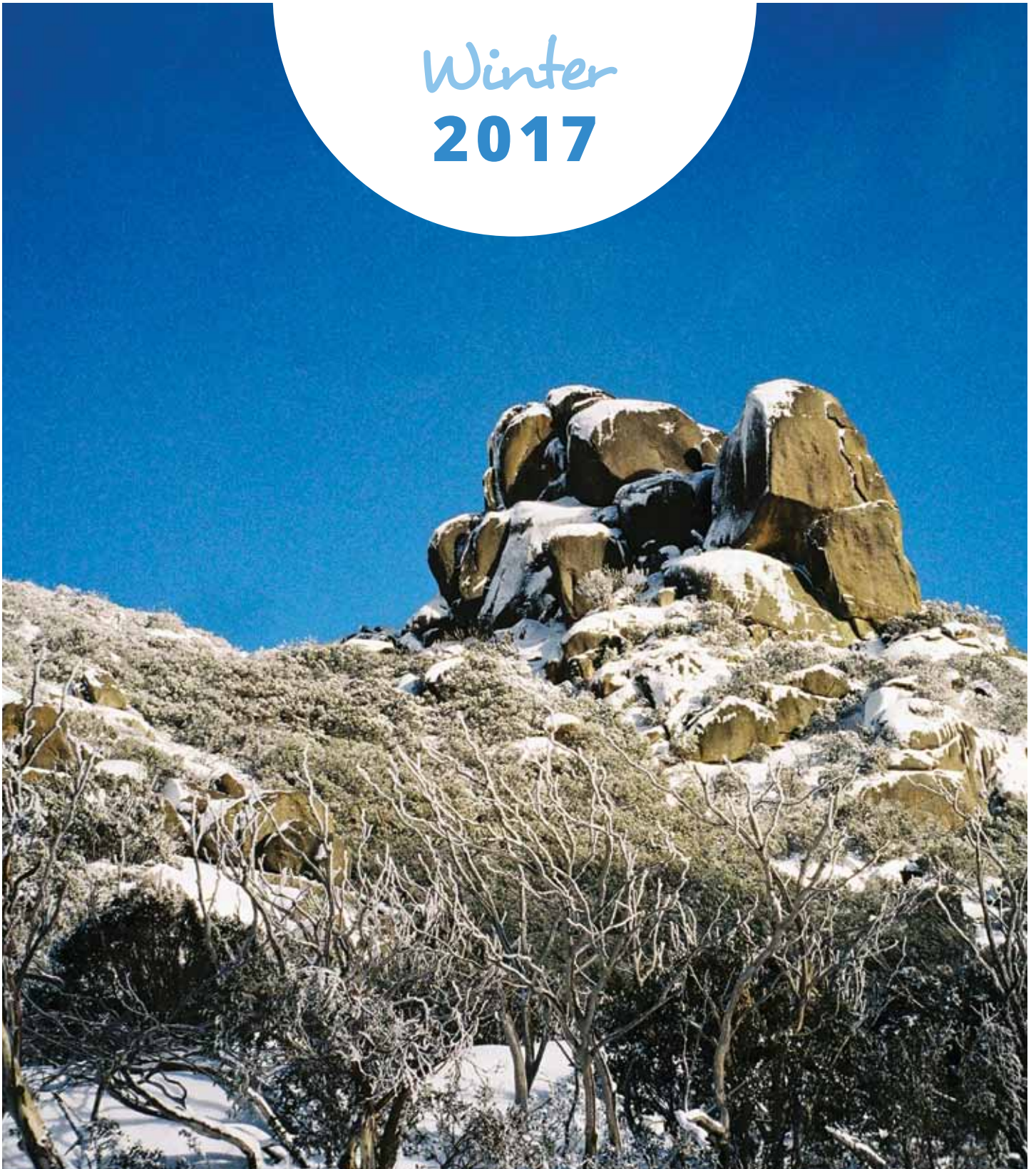




VNPA BUSHWALKING & ACTIVITIES PROGRAM

Winter
2017





BUSHWALKING AND ACTIVITIES PROGRAM WINTER 2017

In this Winter 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:

	Adult	Child (U16)	Family
Member	\$5	\$2	\$10
Visitor	\$9	\$3	\$20
Annual Pass*	\$50	\$20	\$100
NatureWatch	Free	Free	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 vnabwag.convener@gmail.com

Treasurer/Trip reports: *Rob Argent*

0417 502 191 vnabwag.treasurer@gmail.com

Program: *Gayle Davey*

9572 5681 vnabwag.program@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.

Photo by Euan Moore.

EMERGENCY CONTACTS

COORDINATOR

Sue Catterall Emergency Contacts Coordinator
0417 526 519 / 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.

2017 EMERGENCY CONTACTS

3-4 June	Pat Witt	0407 360 650 / 9802 8914
10-11 June	Christine Longman	0411 483 571 / 9397 5712
17-18 June	Ann Turner	0425 732 384 / 9878 3297
24-25 June	Fred Gerardson	0411 533 415 / 9434 3078
1-2 July	Russ Bowey	0417 328 651
8-9 July	Cheryl Mioch	0412 743 866 / 9397 7470
15-16 July	Fred Gerardson	0411 533 415 / 9434 3078
22-23 July	Lisa Sulinski	0408 308 208 / 9383 2321
29-30 July	Kate Parker	0409 231 746
5-6 August	Kyle & Elizabeth Matheson	0429 906 094 / 98906094
12-13 August	Robyn Desnoy	9528 2390
19-20 August	Fred Gerardson	0411 533 415 / 9434 3078
26-27 August	Pat Witt	0407 360 650 / 9802 8914

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 8 hrs or more each day thick scrub
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
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 hilly terrain
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 good skating skills
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



Easy Going Amble



Excursion



U35



Cycling



Walk, Talk & Gawk

Overnight/
Multi-day

Public Transport



Family



4WD



Urban Walk/Activity

Conservation Activity
or Event/TrainingSocial/
Presentation



1 June (Thu)

William Angliss buffet dinner

Limit 15 | CBD
Cheryl Mioch 9397 7470 / 0412 743 866
cherylmioch@bigpond.com



Enjoy a meal with other nature lovers. Get first class service and superb food at this training restaurant. This is a full buffet, great value for money. Starts at 7pm.

3 June (Sat)

Easy Going Amble: Merri Creek from Bell Street to CERES

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



Merri is the Aboriginal word for stony, but our walk will be on flat paths beside the creek. Ceres is the Roman goddess of agriculture, and also the name of the Community Environment Park in East Brunswick, where we will end our stroll at its cafe.

4 June (Sun)

Altona to Newport public transport walk

Easy/medium 16km | Limit 15 | 20km S Melb
Cheryl Mioch 9397 7470 / 0412 743 866
cherylmioch@bigpond.com



We will start at Altona Station and walk along the beach front and bird wildlife areas of Williamstown. Stopping at Williamstown for lunch or an ice cream, then continuing along the beach onto the Newport Station.

4 June (Sun)

NGV Festival of Photography

Easy | Limit 15 | 0.5km S Melb
Alison Thomas 0400 172 767 (6-9pm week days)
alithomas@iinet.net.au



An alternative to walking tracks, we are going to the NGV Festival of Photography. NGV presents from March to August 2017 photography exhibitions from various well-known photographers including William Eggleston, Bill Henson, Patrick Pound, Zoë Croggon and Ross Coulter. Entry to the exhibition will be free. Afterwards, an optional short walk through the nearby gardens for a drink at the Observatory Cafe in the Botanic Gardens.

9-12 June (long)

Hattah weed mapping

Medium 30km | Limit 25 | 450km NW Melb
Euan Moore 5472 1572
calamanthus5@bigpond.com



This is a volunteer activity where we will be mapping the presence of high-priority weeds in the Hattah-Kulkyne National Park to aid efficient control operations. There will be two days of off-track walking following set routes using a GPS (training and GPS provided). Monday morning will be a short walk. Travel from Melbourne on Friday. Camping at either Lake Mournpall or Lake Hattah.

10-11 June (w/e)

Berripmo Walk

Medium 22km | Limit 10 | 140km NW Melb
Peter Whelan 9689 0606
Peter.Whelehan@melbourne.vic.gov.au



A moderate overnight walk with good camping sites, 11km walk on both days. Warm fire on the Saturday night with marshmallows and mulled wine. Sunday afternoon drive back to Melbourne.

10-12 June (long)

The Grampians National Park – Briggs Bluff and Mt Rosea (EC)

Hard/exploratory 25km | Limit 6 | 300km W Melb
Taariq Hassan taariq.music@gmail.com



Meeting on Friday night in Halls Gap, we'll do two long, hard day walks in the Grampians: Briggs Bluff and Mt Rosea. Accommodation at the Halls Gap YHA Eco Hostel, with booking to be completed in advance by participants. Return to Melbourne on Monday.

10 June (Sat)

Braeside Park

Medium 18km | Limit 15 | 25km S Melb
Glenn King 0448 816 504



Catch the 709 bus from Mordialloc for a circuit walk around Braeside Park, and we will continue after into Mordialloc along various streams and lakes.

10 June (Sat)

Caught on Camera at Wombat State Forest

Easy/medium | Limit 10 | 100 km NW Melb
Christine Connelly, NatureWatch Coordinator
9341 6510 christinec@vnpa.org.au



9.30am-4pm (approx. finish). Meet at Trentham to travel into Wombat State Forest. Assist NatureWatch to carry out wildlife monitoring using motion-sensing cameras. Full day activity involving retrieving monitoring equipment and setting it up at new locations in the forest. Some driving on dirt tracks. Registration required.

Feathertop's wild eastern side from Diamantina Spur, not far from the proposed luxury huts for the Falls to Hotham Track. Photo by Mark Darragh.

12 June (Mon)

Toolern Creek Regional Park

Easy | Limit 20 | 40km NW Melb
Ruth Stirling 9699 7225



In April 2016, we arrived at the entrance to the park to a 'NO ENTRY' sign. The housing estate developers were creating a wetland. We want to see the result of their work and reluctantly observe the growing urban sprawl. Southern Cross train about 10am.

14 June (Wed)

Friends of the Prom Nursery – 23 years

1km N Melb
VNPA 9341 6500
vnpabwag.social@gmail.com



Come and hear about the successful Friends of the Prom nursery program implemented in 1994. 60 Leicester St Carlton, doors will open at 6.30pm for a 7.30pm start. Entry \$2. Tea, coffee, wine and biscuits provided.

17 June (Sat)

Blackwood walk (EC)

Medium 15km | Limit 16 | 30km NW Melb
Cheryl Mioch 9397 7470 / 0412 743 866
cherylmioch@bigpond.com



Starting at Blackwood this round trip is a wonderful walk through the Wombat State Forest down to Tunnel Point. Some hills along the route.

17 June (Sat)

Excursion by coach: Mirboo North – Boolarra Rail Trail

Easy 5km | Limit 57 | 155km E Melb
Larysa Kucan 9347 3733 Jan Lacey 9329 8187
Leader: Sue Parkhill



This excursion will be a continuation of the June 2016 trip. We will be walking the other half of the Mirboo North-Boolarra Rail Trail, Boolarra to Darlemude. Morning tea will be in Warrigal with a short walk in the local park.

18 June (Sun)

WT&G: Parliament to Royal Park

Easy 8km | Limit 15 | 1km N Melb
Eve Recht 0425 776 494 / 9497 1332



We'll park-hop from Parliament Station to Royal Park, via Melbourne Uni, to explore history (old and newer), landscape, ecological change, and Melbourne's award-winning new nature playground (for kids of all ages).

19 June (Mon)

WT&G: Warburton in winter

Easy 5-8km | Limit 15 | 80km E Melb
Julie Hunt 9568 7515
hunt.jm@bigpond.com



A river walk with the option of a couple of short walks after lunch with café/pub options. The river will be roaring!

24 June (Sat)

Jells Park to Churchill National Park

Hard 25km | Limit 15 | 25km SE Melb
Louise Prendergast 9826 0037
lprendergast2009@hotmail.com



Leaving from Jells Park we will walk past the lake and follow the Diamond Creek Trail through suburbia. We will stop for morning tea at Police Paddocks Reserve and lunch at Churchill National Park before returning the same way. Churchill National Park is an example of remnant bush with plenty of wildlife to be seen. A long walk but not too challenging, the trail is mostly sealed and flat.

26 June (Mon)

Footscray to Kensington

Easy 10km | Limit 20 | 4km W Melb
Sue Parkhill 9510 4316



Meet at 1pm at Footscray Station, on the Market side. We will walk down to the Maribyrnong River through the new building development, before crossing the river near the wetlands and finishing in Kensington.

27 June (Tues)

New Leaders Introduction Briefing

Limit 10 | 60 Leicester St Carlton
vnpabwag.secretary@gmail.com
vnpu35@gmail.com



This is an opportunity for anyone wanting to know more about becoming a BWAG Leader. Apart from helping to support the club, leading offers a range of benefits to the individuals involved. The briefing outlines the process that the VNPA and BWAG Committee have in place to ensure our leaders are well trained, prepared and supported. RSVP required to vnpabwag.secretary@gmail.com or vnpu35@gmail.com



28 June (Wed)
U35 Social Night

U35 Social vnpu35@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 for the host will be posted to the U35 email and Meetup list. RSVP essential.

1 July (School holidays)
Wild Families—choose your own adventure

Anywhere!
Caitlin Griffith caitling@vnpa.org.au
Manager Community Engagement and Learning



These school holidays download a Wild Families activity sheet from www.vnpa.org.au/wild-families and try a new way of discovering nature with your family. Try the Wild Families 'Alphabet Walk' or 'Bird Detectives' in your local area. Check out the Wild Families activity sheets for ideas for fun day trips such as Jawbone Flora and Fauna Reserve near Williamstown or Mt Macedon.

1 July (Sat)
Caught on Camera at Wombat State Forest

Easy/medium | Limit 10 | 100 km NW Melb
Christine Connelly, NatureWatch Coordinator
9341 6510 christinec@vnpa.org.au



9.30am-4pm (approx. finish). Meet at Trentham to travel into Wombat State Forest. Assist NatureWatch to carry out wildlife monitoring using motion-sensing cameras. Full day activity involving retrieving monitoring equipment and setting it up at new locations in the forest. Some driving on dirt tracks. Registration required.

8 July (Sat)
Templestowe

Medium 16km | Limit 16 | 20km E Melb
Glenn King 0448 816 504



Catch the 273 bus from Nunawading to the Mullum Mullum Creek Trail and around Currawong Bush Park. Continue to Westerfords Park where there are various bus options to Nunawading, City, Greensborough and Box Hill.

8 July (Sat)
Ripponlea fashion exhibition
1920 and 1930s with walk around garden

Easy 5km | Limit 15 | 20km E Melb
Cheryl Mioch 9397 7470 / 0412 743 866
cherylmioch@bigpond.com



Come along to historic Ripponlea and see the fashion exhibition for the 20s and 30s. There is a charge to enter the exhibition. After lunch we will take a walk around the gardens.

8 July (Sat)
Easy Going Amble: Yarra Bend Park

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



Stimulate your senses in this bushland park in the city. An EGA with more ups and downs than usual, but we will take it slowly to Dights Falls and the Pioneers Memorial Cairn, ending with optional coffee/lunch on the Yarra at Studley Park Boathouse.

9 July (Sun)
Mud Islands

Medium 5km | Limit 15 | 100km S Melb
Euan Moore 5472 1572
calamanthus5@bigpond.com



This trip is in conjunction with the Friends of Mud Islands. The boat departs from Queenscliff. Mainly beach walking, but also some salt marsh scrub and shallow wading. These islands are an important bird breeding area and a feeding and roosting area for migratory waders from the Arctic. Trip may also include seeing fur seal and gannet colonies. Bookings open 9 June. No early bookings accepted.

15 July (Sat)
Excursion by coach:
Great Southern Rail Trail

Easy 6km | Limit 57 | 170km SE Melb
Larysa Kucan 93473733 / Jan Lacey 93298187
Leader: Ruth Stirling



For this mid-winter trip our morning tea stop will be Leongatha, with time to explore the town. The main attraction for this day is the Great Southern Rail Trail (Google it). The towns are Koonwarra, Meeniyan, Fish Creek and Foster. We will aim for two walks on the trail and hope we can pick up the section that promises magnificent views of Wilsons Promontory and Corner Inlet.

21 July (Fri)
Mt Macedon circuit

Easy 8km | Limit 12 | 60km N Melb
Peter Whelan 9689 0606
Peter.Whelan@melbourne.vic.gov.au



Meeting under the cross at Mt Macedon for a circuit walk, finishing mid-afternoon to be followed by afternoon tea in the Mt Macedon township.

Photo by Euan Moore.

22-23 July (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 Friends of the Prom undertake for Parks Victoria.

22 July (Sat)

WT&G: Between Darebin and Alphington railway stations

Easy 6km | Limit 15 | 8km NE Melb
Eve Recht 0425 776 494 / 9497 1332



These adjacent stations are two minutes apart by train, or about seven minutes by direct walking, but we will take a few hours to explore changes in land formation and use in both geological and historical time, including in and around my 'fave' bushland in suburbia: the Darebin Parklands.

24 July (Mon)

Hughesdale to Oakleigh

Easy 8km | Limit 20 | 10km SE MELb
Sue Parkhill 9510 4316



Meet at 1pm Hughesdale Station. An interesting walk along various linear parks to Oakleigh Central and Oakleigh Station.

27 July (Thu)

U35 Social Night

Host: Eva Klusacek eklusacek@hotmail.com
U35 Social vnpu35@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.

29-30 July (w/e)

Phillip Island and George Bass Coastal Walk

Easy/medium 20km | Limit 10 | 130km SE Melb
Richard Tagg 0404 808 242
richard.tagg@oceanfree.net



A winter weekend away staying in a centrally located holiday-house rental. We shall venture out for invigorating walks and explorations as the weather dictates. Pub meal on Saturday night.

29-30 July (w/e)

Mt Stirling Alpine Resort snow shoe (EC)

Medium 20km | Limit 6 | 270km NE Melb
Taariq Hassan taariq.music@gmail.com



The annual Mt Stirling snow camping trip is on again. Friday night camp at Carter's Road campsite and Saturday carpool to Telephone Box Junction (TBJ). Snow shoe up to Bluff Spur Hut and set up a snow camp. Possible summit visit (1759 metres). Sunday return to TBJ via King Spur Hut. Beginner snow campers are welcome if they have the necessary gear. Snow shoes and poles can be hired at TBJ. If you can walk then you can snow shoe.

30 July (Sun)

WT&G: Sherbrooke Falls, William Ricketts Sanctuary and Dandenongs lookouts

Easy 7km | Limit 15 | 50km E Melb
Julia Pickwick 0433 977 396 j.pickwick@gmail.com



A magical day of tall trees, fern gullies, stunning sculptures and spectacular views. We will walk to Sherbrooke Falls and then drive up to a couple of lookouts with fantastic views across the Yarra Ranges and Melbourne, before ending the day discovering the beautiful sculptures in William Ricketts Sanctuary. Plenty of cafes along the way to grab a hot chocolate too!

5 August (Sat)

Williamstown

Easy/medium 16km | Limit 16 | 10km SW Melb
Glenn King 0448 816 504



From Altona Station follow the coastal reserves through to Williamstown and finish at North Williamstown Station.

5 August (Sat)

NatureWatch community day at Bunyip State Park

Easy/medium | Limit 50 | 66 km E Melb
Christine Connelly, NatureWatch Coordinator
9341 6510 christinec@vnpa.org.au



10am-3pm. Join NatureWatch and the Friends of Bunyip State Park for our annual community day which kicks off the monitoring season each year. Includes a presentation about NatureWatch, then we head out into the forest for hands-on training in how to use motion-sensing cameras. Meet in Gembrook, full details on registration. Some driving on dirt tracks (car-pooling encouraged). Morning tea and lunch provided. Registration required.



6 August (Sun)

Tanglefoot Walking Track

Medium 16.5km | Limit 12 | 84km NE Melb
David Moore 0448 555 666
david@alexanderschool.edu.au



This walk traverses the western side of Mt Tanglefoot, passing through moist gullies that form the headwaters of Sylvia Creek. If the weather is good we will do a side trip to the top of Mt St Leonard, which has panoramic views of the upper Yarra Valley and Melbourne.

9 August (Wed)

VNPA Social Night: dinner and movie

vnpabwag.social@gmail.com



Dinner and a movie option for our August social night. Further details will be provided in the August e-bulletin, or email for details.



12-13 August (w/e)

Alpine National Park – Mt Feathertop snow shoe (EC)

Hard 24km | Limit 6 | 350km NE Melb
Taariq Hassan taariq.music@gmail.com



A winter weekend away with snow shoes, slogging it up the Bungalow Spur to Federation Hut, where we will snow camp. If the weather permits, we will attempt to reach the summit of Mt. Feathertop (1922 metres). Friday night option to camp near Freeburgh and meet in Harrietville on Saturday morning. Sunday return and drive home. This trip is suitable for fit, well equipped and experienced snow and ice trekkers/snow campers.

12 August (Sat)

Blue Tongue Bend, Warrandyte public transport walk

Medium 13km | Limit 15 | 20km NE Melb
Mark Learmonth 9807 7506 (H)



Walking partly beside the Yarra River and partly through bushland, this walk in Warrandyte State Park shows us how attractive this historic area can be. There are some rocky tracks, but mostly the walking is very pleasant.

12 August (Sat)

Walk from Lilydale to Seville

Medium 16km | Limit 15 | 45km E Melb
Cheryl Mioch 9397 7470 / 0412 743 866
cherylmioch@bigpond.com



Walk the rail trail from Lilydale to Seville through some lovely local countryside.

12 August (Sat)

WT&G: Ballarat central heritage walk

Easy/medium 12km | Limit 15 | 110km NW Melb
Andrew Arnold 5334 2289



Starting at the Ballarat Station this walk will go through the central and south areas of Ballarat, viewing many of the Victorian-era bluestone buildings and other built features including statues. We will explore some hidden gardens and observe some geological and physiographical features resulting from Ballarat's volcanic past.

12 August (Sat)

Easy Going Amble: The Jawbone Conservation Reserve, Williamstown

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



Don't succumb to winter hibernation! The old Williamstown Rifle Range has been transformed into 'McMansion' style housing and the Jawbone Conservation Reserve with wetlands and mangroves.

12 August (Sat)

WT&G: Eaglemont and Heidelberg parks

Easy 7km | Limit 15 | 10km E Melb
Eve Recht 0425 776 494 / 9497 1332



This didn't happen last program, so here it is again. We will walk around Eaglemont and Heidelberg, and cross the river into Bulleen to explore parks and gardens large and small, private and public. Heidelberg school painters, Walter Burley Griffin designs, and lots of birds and other wildlife.

14 August (Mon)

Sth Melb, Albert Park, Port Melb, old & new

Easy 5km | Limit 20 | 5km SE Melb
Ruth Stirling 9699 7225



Meet at 1pm at Melbourne Sports and Aquatic Centre, Stop 129, Tram 96. Zig zag through this old area taking in the See Yup Temple, Town Hall, portable Iron Houses etc. Finish at Station Pier. Tram 109 is close.

Mt Bogong. Photo by Taariq Hassan.

19 August (Sat) Malcolm Creek

Easy 16km | Limit 15 | 40km N Melb
Darren McClelland 0449 167 776
darrenlmcclelland@gmail.com



This is a surprisingly pleasant suburban walk in Craigieburn. For much of the walk we follow the Malcolm Creek Reserve, where there are reportedly 366 red gums - one for every day of a leap year! Mostly walking on concrete paths but with some possible walking along grassy reserves. Meet at Craigieburn Railway Station at 9.30am. BYO lunch and water. Afternoon tea towards the end of the walk at a local cafe.

19 August (Sat) Excursion by coach: Cressy District

Easy 6km | Limit 57 | 150km W Melb
Larysa Kucan 93473733 Jan Lacey 93298187
Leader: Glenn King



This excursion will include a stop at Bannockburn for morning tea and a stroll, followed by a longer walk around the outskirts of Teesdale. We will travel through the townships of Shelford and Rokewood and lunch will be in Beeac. In the afternoon we will visit Alvie and Red Rock Lookout, which provides panoramic views of Corangamite district. A stop at Birregurra on the return journey.

26 August (Sat) NatureWatch at Bunyip State Park

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



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.

27 August (Sun) WT&G: The Briars and Balcombe Estuary, Mt Martha

Easy 9km | Limit 15 | 80km SE Melb
Julia Pickwick 0433 977 396 j.pickwick@gmail.com



Known to the Boon wurrung and Bunurong people as Tjijtjin'garook, or the voice of frogs. The environmentally and culturally significant Balcombe Estuary is listed as a site of regional significance as the only major estuary on the eastern side of Port Phillip Bay that retains any major geomorphological values. We'll walk to Balcombe Estuary in the morning and explore the wildlife reserve and historic buildings at the Briars in the afternoon.

28 August (Mon) Chelsea to Mordialloc

Easy 8km | Limit 20 | 30km SE Melb
Sue Parkhill 9510 4316



Meet 1pm at Chelsea Station. We will start walking along the beach towards Aspendale then head inland to the Aspendale Gardens and the Mordialloc Creek. Coffee in Mordialloc before catching the train homeward.

30 August (Wed) U35 Social Night

Host: Jessica Noske-Turner
j.nosketurner@gmail.com
U35 Social vnpu35@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.

2-3 September (w/e) Alpine National Park – Falls Creek to Fitzgerald's Hut snow shoe (EC)

Hard 24km | Limit 6 | 350km NE Melb
Taariq Hassan taariq.music@gmail.com



An early spring weekend away snow shoe trekking from Windy Vornier at Falls Creek to Fitzgerald's Hut where we will snow camp. Friday night camping at Mountain Creek (Tawonga) is an option. Saturday carpool at Mt Beauty, drive up to Falls Creek and head out along the pole lines to Fitzgerald's Hut. Sunday return by Heathy Spur if the weather permits. Good fitness, gear and snow/ice camping experience are all necessary.

2 September (Sat) U35 Werribee Gorge

Medium 11km | Limit 10 | 45km NW Melb
Eva Klusacek 0423 053 318
eklusacek@hotmail.com



Explore the beauty and changing landscape of this circuit walk. Some rock scrambling and uphill walking involved. With any luck we may see the wattles that flower here at this time of year.

2 September (Sat) NatureWatch at Bunyip State Park

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



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 September (Sat)

Sailors Gully and Welsh Village

Medium 15km | Limit 12 | 120km NW Melb
Euan Moore 5472 1572
calamanthus5@bigpond.com



Explore part of the Castlemaine Diggings National Heritage Park including the site of the Garfield water wheel and the mining area of Welsh Village. On the way we'll pass the Burke and Wills monument and Pennyweight Flat Childrens Cemetery. This should also be a good time of year for wildflowers. The start and end of the walk can be reached by train for those who don't wish to drive.

9 September (Sat)

Easy Going Amble: Warringal Parklands, Heidelberg

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



Spring is here—enjoy its sights, sounds and scents. If we have timed it right, the wattles should be flowering, and the flats are exceptionally rich in bird life.

11 September (Mon)

Alphington to Kew and back

Easy 8km | Limit 20 | 10km E Melb
Ruth Stirling 9699 7225



Meet at 12 noon at Alphington Station. Plenty of parks and golf courses, as we make our way over the Yarra to Kew, on to Ivanhoe Golf Course for afternoon tea and return to Alphington. BYO lunch.

13 September (Wed)

Social Night: Travelling Canada with Basia Dziedzik

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



Basia will tell of her experiences travelling in a 1971 Chevy van with her son through 'outback' Canada. 60 Leicester St Carlton, doors will open at 6.30pm for a 7.30pm start. Entry \$2. Tea, coffee, wine and biscuits provided.

16-17 September (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 Friends of the Prom undertake for Parks Victoria.

16 September (Sat)

Excursion by coach: Noojee

Easy 6km | Limit 57 | 130km E Melb
Larysa Kucan 9347 3733 / Jan Lacey 9329 8187
Leaders: Lorraine Benn and Larysa Kucan



Wilson Botanic Gardens, a converted quarry and now a sanctuary for native animals and birds, will be our first stop for morning tea and a walk. We will then travel to Tarago Reservoir Park for lunch. A visit to the restored Noojee Trestle Bridge will be followed by a walk along the old rail trail into Noojee, and a visit to the historic Noojee Hotel for afternoon tea.

24 September (Sun)

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

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



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 one third of all Victoria's orchid species. Spring is a perfect time to see many of these species so bring along a keen eye and a good camera!

25 September (Mon)

Bayswater to Boronia

Easy 8km | Limit 20 | 30km 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 for at the half way point and coffee at the finish.

27 September (Wed)

U35 Social Night

U35 Social vnpau35@gmail.com



It's social night time again, but this time with a twist! Come along with your walks books and walking ambitions. We'll chat about any walks you've been itching to do, the kinds of walks you prefer, and other kinds of activities you're keen to try. Current and potential leaders are especially encouraged to come, and friends and family are, as always, most welcome. To find out more, watch for updates via the U35 e-group. RSVP essential.

Yarra Bend Park. Photo by Geoff Durham.

29 September–1 October (long)

U35 Brisbane Ranges (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 and rocky hills. It is also regarded as one of Victoria's hotspots for wildflowers. Campsites are walk-in only, a real treat so close to Melbourne. So if you are looking to avoid footy-fever-madness join me for a rejuvenating weekend in the bush. Campsites must be booked in advance so book early.

30 September–1 October (w/e)

Alpine National Park – Mt Bogong snow shoe

Hard 30km | Limit 6 | 350km NE Melb
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 September (Sat)

Leitches Creek 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. On this walk, we will start with farmland and extensive views, then move into the forest with at least two mineral springs to taste. We walk from Musk to Lyonville.

Upcoming events in the Bushwalking and Activities Program Spring 2017

9 Oct (Mon)

WT&G: St Kilda architecture

Easy 5km | Julie Hunt

14-15 Oct (w/e)

The Crinoline and Long Hill (EC)

Hard 24km | James Shannon

14 Oct (Sat)

Easy Going Amble: Elsternwick Park and The Block

Easy 5km | Geoff Durham

14 Oct (Sat)

Seniors Week free trip to Anglesea

Easy/medium 10km | Ruth Stirling

21 Oct (Sat)

Trawalla Bush near Beaufort public transport walk

Medium 17km | Mark Learmonth

22 Oct (Sun)

Ocean Grove Nature Reserve

Easy 10km | Dale Stephenson

22 Oct (Sun)

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

Easy 10km | Julia Pickwick

23 Oct (Mon)

Williams Angliss buffet dinner

Limit 15 | Cheryl Mioch

23 Oct (Mon)

Coolaroo to Broadmeadows

Easy 8km | Sue Parkhill

28 Oct (Sat)

Emerald

Medium 16km | Glenn King

29 Oct (Sun)

Heidelberg School Artists Trail

Easy 10km | Alison Thomas

4-7 Nov (long)

Mt Jagungal and the upper Geehi River (EC)

Hard 50km | James Shannon

11-12 Nov (w/e)

Friends of the Prom working bee

Easy | Deb

11 Nov (Sat)

Easy Going Amble: Tarralla Creek, Croydon

Easy 5km | Geoff Durham

12 Nov (Sun)

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

Easy 10km | Julia Pickwick

13 Nov (Mon)

Maribyrnong River, Avondale Heights

Easy 6km | Ruth Stirling

26 Nov (Sun)

Jan Juc to Anglesea Coast Walk

Medium 19km | David Moore

27 Nov (Mon)

Diamond Creek to Montmorency

Easy 8km | Sue Parkhill

30 Nov (Thu)

Barwon Heads public transport walk

Easy/medium 14km | Mark

9 Dec (Sat)

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

Easy 5km | Geoff Durham

10 Dec (Sun)

WT&G: Coolart Wetlands and Homestead, Somers

Easy 7km | Julia Pickwick

11 Dec (Mon)

Riddells Creek

Easy 8km | Ruth Stirling

18 Dec (Mon)

Hawthorn to Kew

Easy 8km | Sue Parkhill

Please put these future events into your calendar, but please note bookings will only open one month before the activity dates. More details to come in the next Spring 2017 program.



INDEX



Arnold, Andrew 5334 2289

- 8 WT&G: Ballarat central heritage walk



Connelly, Christine 9341 6510

- 4 Caught on Camera at Wombat State Forest
- 6 Caught on Camera at Wombat State Forest
- 7 NatureWatch community day at Bunyip State Park
- 9 NatureWatch at Bunyip State Park
- 10 NatureWatch at Bunyip State Park



Durham, Geoff 9523 5559

- 4 Easy Going Amble – Merri Creek from Bell St to CERES
- 6 Easy Going Amble – Yarra Bend Park
- 8 Easy Going Amble – The Jawbones Conservation Reserve, Williamstown
- 10 Easy Going Amble – Warringal Parklands, Heidelberg



Hassan, Taariq

- 4 The Grampians National Park – Briggs Bluff and Mt Rosea (EC)
- 7 Mt Stirling alpine resort snow shoe (EC)
- 8 Alpine National Park – Mt Feathertop snow shoe (EC)
- 9 Alpine National Park – Falls Creek to Fitzgerald's Hut snow shoe (EC)
- 11 Alpine National Park – Mt Bogong snow shoe

Henry, Deb 0409 338 182

- 7 Friends of the Prom working bee
- 10 Friends of the Prom working bee



King, Glenn 0448 816 504

- 4 Braeside
- 6 Templestowe
- 7 Williamstown

Klusacek, Eva 0423 053 318

- 9 U35 Werribee Gorge

Kucan, Larysa

- 5 Excursion by coach: Mirboo North – Boolarra Rail Trail
- 6 Excursion by coach: Great Southern Rail Trail
- 9 Excursion by coach: Cressy District
- 10 Excursion by coach: Noojee



Learmonth, Mark 9807 7506 (H)

- 8 Blue Tongue Bend, Warrandyte public transport walk
- 11 Leitches Creek public transport walk



McClelland, Darren 0449 167 776

- 9 Malcolm Creek

Mioch, Cheryl 9397 7470 / 0412 743 866

- 4 William Angliss buffet dinner
- 4 Altona to Newport public transport walk
- 5 Blackwood walk (EC)
- 6 Ripponlea fashion exhibition 1920 and 1930s with walk around garden
- 8 Walk from Lilydale to Seville

Moore, David 0448 555 666

- 8 Tanglefoot Walking Track

Moore, Euan 5472 1572

- 4 Hattah weed mapping
- 6 Mud Islands
- 10 Sailors Gully and Welsh Village



Noske-Turner, Jess 0430 237 500

- 11 U35 Brisbane Ranges long-weekend walk (EC)



Parkhill, Sue 9510 4316

- 5 Footscray to Kensington
- 7 Hughesdale to Oakleigh
- 9 Chelsea to Mordialloc
- 10 Bayswater to Boronia

Pickwick, Julia 0433 977 396

- 7 WT&G: Sherbrooke Falls, William Ricketts Sanctuary and Dandenongs lookouts
- 9 WT&G: The Brians and Balcombe Estuary, Mt Martha

Prendergast, Louise 9826 0037

- 5 Jells Park to Churchill National Park

Mt Stirling. Photo by Taariq Hassan.



Recht, Eve 0425 776 494 / 9497 1332

- 5 WT&G: Parliament to Royal Park
- 7 WT&G: Between Darebin and Alphington railway stations
- 8 WT&G: Eaglemont and Heidelberg parks



Stirling, Ruth 9699 7225

- 5 Maribyrnong River, Avondale Heights
- 5 Toolern Creek Regional Park
- 10 Alphington to Kew and back
- 8 Sth Melb, Albert Park, Port Melb, old & new



Tagg, Richard 0404 808 242

- 7 Phillip Island and George Bass Coastal Walk

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

- 4 NGV Festival of Photography



U35

- 6 Social Night
- 7 Social Night
- 9 Social Night
- 9 Werribee Gorge
- 10 Social Night
- 11 Brisbane Ranges long-weekend walk (EC)



VNPA 9341 6500

- 5 Friends of the Prom Nursery – 23 years
- 5 New Leaders Introduction Briefing
- 6 Wild Families—choose your own adventure
- 8 VNPA Social Night – dinner and movie
- 10 Travelling Canada with Basia Dziedzic



Walk, Talk & Gawk

- 5 WT&G: Parliament to Royal Park
- 7 WT&G: Sherbrooke Falls, William Ricketts Sanctuary and Dandenongs lookouts
- 7 WT&G: Between Darebin and Alphington railway stations
- 8 WT&G: Ballarat central heritage walk
- 8 WT&G: Eaglemont and Heidelberg parks
- 9 WT&G: The Briars and Balcombe Estuary, Mt Martha

Whelan, Peter 96890606

- 4 Berripmo Walk
- 6 Mt Macedon circuit



Q&A

WITH

EVELYN FELLER

BWAG LEADER

Tell us a little about how you came to love being out in nature?

My family did day walks in places like the Grampians and we spent a lot of time in the outdoors. When I went to university I joined the Melbourne University Mountaineering Club. Since then I have been climbing, ski mountaineering and paddling in many places around the world, particularly in British Columbia, Canada. I am a retired teacher and lead many student hikes and field trips.

Why did you become a BWAG Leader?

I feel that if I participate on other's trips I should also offer to lead trips and contribute to a good program for BWAG.

What do you like most about being a BWAG leader?

I enjoy introducing people to new areas. I also enjoy using some of the strategies we have tried in 'skill up for nature' to help them get a better understanding and appreciation of the area we are hiking in.

Which activity was/is your favourite as a leader, and why?

I really enjoyed leading ski mountaineering trips up the volcanoes in British Columbia and Washington. The views were always incredible and under good conditions, the skiing exceptional. One recent favourite trip here was the Southern Circuit in the Cathedral Range. The route has some scrambling, which challenges people a bit and can promote good team building as they help each other over steeper places.

Why would you encourage someone to come join an activity?

The BWAG program is a really good way to get to know many beautiful areas of our state, and also to gain an appreciation of how best to protect them. It is a great way of meeting people with similar interests.

Why would you encourage someone to become a BWAG leader?

Again, it is important to give back to BWAG by contributing to the program. Through BWAG you also develop skills to become a better leader, such as first aid, navigation and even nature interpretation.

What words of advice would you give other potential BWAG leader?

Don't be intimidated by the idea of leading a trip. Start with something easy and work up to leading harder trips. You have a mentor along on your first trips and they can be a great source of advice and support.

And lastly, what should you never take on an overnight pack-carry?

A whole zucchini chocolate cake! Actually it was a week-long trip, but those were the bad old days when we carried tins of fruit and even fresh fruit.

Photo by Euan Moore.



Forests Forever Easter Ecology Camp. Photo by Euan Moore.

The BWAG Committee Needs YOU



PHOTO: GEOFF GATES

Benefits of joining the BWAG Committee:

- No prior experience required, just a willingness to make a contribution in another way to VNPA's 'be part of nature' philosophy.
- Just 6 meetings a year and the option to tele-conference.
- An opportunity to acquire new skills or apply skills you already have.
- Many hands make light work and the BWAG Committee could really use a couple more pairs of hands so we have our full quota of Committee members.

For further information, contact any of the existing Committee (details page 2 or index page12):

Terese Dalman (Convenor), Rob Argent, Gayle Davey, Deb Henry, David Moore or Lisa Sulinski.

OR email: vnpabwag.convenor@gmail.com
vnpabwag.program@gmail.com



Snow shoe trip at Mt Torbreck.
Photo by Taariq Hassan.

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

Membership gives you the opportunity to actively enjoy Victoria's magnificent national parks and natural areas, while also providing support for important nature conservation activities across the state. For specific details on the benefits of Membership, visit www.vnpa.org.au

Individual ☐ 1 year \$65 ☐ 2 years \$130

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Small organisation ☐ 1 year \$65 ☐ 2 years \$130
(Not-for-profit with less than 100 Members)

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(Not-for-profit with 100+ Members or commercial organisations)

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