



VNPA BUSHWALKING & ACTIVITIES PROGRAM

Autumn
2019





BUSHWALKING AND ACTIVITIES PROGRAM AUTUMN 2019

In this Autumn 2019 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.
- **Keep updated with activity changes by regularly checking www.vnpa.org.au/adventures and subscribing to the VNPA monthly email update at www.vnpa.org.au/sign-up**

FEES

The activities leader will collect fees, with the money used to pay for general BWAG expenses. Attendance fees are:

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

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

For Annual Pass info, visit www.vnpa.org.au/program

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: *Gayle Davey*
9572 5681 vnabwag.convener@gmail.com

Program: *Ellen Finlay*
0425 705 353 vnabwag.program@gmail.com

Treasurer/Trip reports: *Rob Argent*
0417 502 191 vnabwag.treasurer@gmail.com

Victorian National Parks Association
Level 3, 60 Leicester St, Carlton VIC 3053
Ph: (03) 9341 6500, Fax: (03) 9347 5199
Email: vnpa@vnpa.org.au
Web: www.vnpa.org.au ABN 34 217 717 593



TRANSPORT

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

INSURANCE

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

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

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

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

Great Ocean Road. Photo by Wilhelrn Fyles, Flickr CC.

EMERGENCY CONTACTS

COORDINATOR

Adrianna Koutsofrigas
Emergency Contacts Coordinator
0439 067 798 / 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. If the activity is midweek, use the contact for the previous weekend.

2019 EMERGENCY CONTACTS

22-24 March	Pat Witt	9802 8914 / 0407 360 650
29-31 March	Kate Parker	0409 231 746
5-7 April	Robyn Desnoy	9528 2390
12-14 April	Adrianna Koutsofrigas	0439 067 798
19-21 April	Christine Longman	0411 483 571
26-28 April	Robert Argent	0417 502 191
3-5 May	Russell Bowey	0417 328 651
10-12 May	Fred Gerardson	9434 3078 / 0411 533 415
17-19 May	Pat Witt	9802 8914 / 0407 360 650
24-26 May	Terese Dalman	0413 234 130
31 May - 2 June	Christine Longman	0411 483 571
7-9 June	Fred Gerardson	9434 3078 / 0411 533 415
14-16 June	Robert Argent	0417 502 191
21-23 June	Ann Turner	9878 3297 / 0425 732 384
28-30 June	Christine Longman	0411 483 571

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 8 hrs or more each day rock scrambling thick scrub steep sustained ascents or descents
Excursion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bus trips to places of interest to members, including the option of an easy or medium grade walk (see 'easy walk' above) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bus trips to places of interest to members, including the option of an easy or medium grade walk (see 'medium walk' above) 	N/A
Walk, Talk & Gawk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Park visits/guided walks, with frequent stops for observation of significant features or ecology. 	N/A	N/A
Easy Going Amble	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Slow-as-you go strolls with rests along the way still enjoying the great outdoors 	N/A	N/A
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 hilly terrain or 80km/day on the flat
Snowshoe (day)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> up to 5hr/day mainly trails limited experience is assumed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> up to 7hr/day 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
Snowshoe (overnight)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> able to snowshoe with a daypack overnight backpack camping experience 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ability to snowshoe 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	 Snowshoe
 Walk, Talk & Gawk	 Overnight/ Multi-day	 Public Transport	 Cycling
 Urban Walk/Activity	 Conservation Activity or Event/Training	 U35	 4WD
		 Family	 Social/Presentation



23 Mar (Sat)

Starlings Gap to Ada No 2 Mill and New Ada Mill site (EC)

Medium 13km | Limit 10 | 90km E Melb
John Van Leeuwen 0418 996 048 van.irrigate@gmail.com



Starting at Starlings Gap east of Powelltown, walk east on a walking track passing several old sawmill sites with historic relics from the 1930s. Lunch at Ada No 2 Mill site before heading north past New Ada Mill site and up to Big Creek Road and back to Starlings Gap.

23 Mar (Sat)

Easy Going Amble: Edithvale – Seaford Wetlands – Southern Loop

Easy 5km | Limit 15 | 35km S Melb
Geoff Durham 9523 5559



Rescheduled from 9 March. Last September we did the northern loop walk. This time we will do the southern loop. Listed under the Ramsar Convention in recognition of their international importance, the wetlands are the last remaining examples of the once extensive Carrum Carrum Swamp. Optional lunch/coffee.

24 Mar (Sun)

Spring Gully, goldfields area

Easy 11km | Limit 14 | 130km NW Melb
Doug Palmer 9399 4494
dpalmer@iimetro.com.au



See the scenery of historic Fryerstown and surrounding area, and enjoy relaxed walking in a previous gold-mining area. Circuit walk in box-ironbark habitat, and partly on the Goldfields Track. It's likely there will be time for a Castlemaine visit post-walk also.

25 Mar (Mon)

Box Hill to Maranoa Gardens

Easy 7km | Limit 20
Sue Parkhill 0432 413 442 / 9510 4316



Meet at 1pm on the corner of Station and Banks Streets, near Box Hill station. We will be walking through small parks and the lovely streets of Box Hill and Balwyn.

30 Mar (Sat)

Mornington Peninsula coastal walk

Medium 16km | Limit 15 | 100km S Melb
Louise Prendergast 9826 0037
lprendergast2009@hotmail.com



From 16th Beach we head towards Rye Ocean Beach. Some beach and cliff top walking with great coastal views.

30-31 Mar (w/e)

Friends of the Prom working bee

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



Restore hooded plover habitat at Squeaky Beach by removal of sea spurge.

31 Mar (Sun)

Surf Coast: Anglesea to Aireys Inlet (EC)

Easy/Medium 15km | Limit 12 | 115km SW Melb
Lesley Gillespie 9386 9077
lesley_gillespie999@hotmail.com



Our walk will take in coastal forest, heathland and beach, with great views of the coast. There will be time for coffee at the end.

6 Apr (Sat)

Powerful owl walk (Wombat State Forest)

Easy/Medium 14km | Limit 15 | 120km NW Melb
Mark Learmonth 9807 7506 (H)



There is something special about walking in the Wombat State Forest. This walk is not as hilly as usually expected in this area. The area is a known powerful owl habitat, but they are very elusive birds. We will see other birds on the walk. We also visit one mineral spring and walk along a scenic rail trail. This is a public transport walk.

8 Apr (Mon)

Gisborne

Easy 8km | Limit 20 | 54km NW Melb
Ruth Stirling 9699 7225 / 0418 245 151



V/Line train from Southern Cross at 10.15am. BYO lunch. The walk from Gisborne station into town, and the leafy tracks in the town parks, should show us autumn colour in the many deciduous trees. And there are coffee shops.

Fungus, Apollo Bay. Photo by Steve, Flickr CC

10 Apr (Wed)

Social night: Trekking the Gobi Desert – Mongolia

VNPA 9341 6500
vnabwag.social@gmail.com



Join Wilma and Gary Van Dijk as they chronicle their adventures traversing the Gobi Desert. 60 Leicester St Carlton. Doors will open at 6:30pm for a 7:30pm start. Entry \$2. Tea, coffee, wine and biscuits provided.

11 Apr (Thu)

New Leaders Briefing

VNPA / Lisa Sulinsky
vnabwag.secretary@gmail.com



If you love exploring the natural environment, have experience, and want to motivate others to do the same, consider becoming an Activity Leader for the Bushwalking and Activities Group. To find out more about what's involved, and how to get there, come along for a casual evening discussion and workshop at the VNPA office. Please email vnabwag.secretary@gmail.com to register your interest.

13 Apr (Sat)

Easy Going Amble: Valley Reserve, Mount Waverley

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



Valley Reserve is a 15 hectare bushland reserve providing vital habitat for a wide range of fauna, and has remained intact as an insight into how Mount Waverley looked before urban development. Public transport option (Mount Waverley station). Optional lunch/coffee.

13 Apr (Sat)

U35 Macedon Ranges

Medium/Hard 17km | Limit 10 | 70km NW Melb
Eva Klusacek 0423 053 318
eklusacek@hotmail.com



Circuit walk in the undulating Macedon Ranges. The walk takes us to the Memorial Cross, the peaks of Camels Hump and Mount Towrong. As the area has a mix of indigenous and exotic tree species, we may see some autumn colour along the way.

13 Apr (Sat)

NatureWatch Caught on Camera in Wombat State Forest

Easy/Medium | ~100km NW of Melbourne
Sera Blair, NatureWatch Coordinator
sera@vnpa.org.au 9341 6510



Help us monitor local wildlife and assist with local conservation efforts! Join our field sessions to set up motion sensor cameras in the forest. No experience necessary. Must be able to walk 1-2km on forest paths. Meet in Trentham or Blackwood. Community partner: Wombat Forestcare Inc.

14 Apr (Sun)

Lara circuit walk featuring Serendip Sanctuary

Easy 15km | Limit 12 | 60km SW Melb
Darren McClelland 0449 167 776
darrenmcclelland@gmail.com



This walk commences at Lara station and takes in the Serendip Sanctuary, a wonderful place for spotting birdlife and observing fauna. The walk will also visit the Lakelands Reserve. Most of the walking is on footpaths or tracks, but there are some short sections along the sides of road reserves.

14 Apr (Sun)

Warburton to Noojee – a day in the bush

Easy 60km | Limit 12 | 80km E Melb
John & Prue Hasler 5975 7350 AH / 0439 890 688
p.thwait@bigpond.net.au



Meeting at Warburton we will drive through the forest on easy tracks (suitable for AWD vehicles), with many stops to explore and take short walks to natural and historic sites: the enormous Ada Tree, the Noojee Trestle Bridge and Starlings Gap. We will also examine some logging sites and discuss various aspects of land management practices. Picnic lunch in the bush. Run in conjunction with the Land Rover Owners Club of Victoria.

15 Apr (Mon)

Koornong, North Warrandyte walk

Medium 7km | Limit 12 | 25km NE Melb
Ken Crook 9844 0106



The walk will commence after viewing a short film of the Koornong School's alternative education program (1939-1946). Warrandyte artists as well as Professor Osborne MD and Botanist Baron von Mueller will be featured during the walk. We will visit the Osborne Peninsula Landcare Group's nursery. The walk will be followed by coffee at Warran Glen Cafe.

18-22 Apr (long)

Up (or down) Lady Northcote, Kosciuszko NP (EC)

Hard/Exploratory 30-40km | Limit 7 | 470km NE Melb
Paul Simpson pgs.100@hotmail.com



This trip is one of the more adventurous in Kossie, challenging and intrepid. Has some notoriety in VNPA circles from 'back in the day'. Final route yet to be decided but will include a visit to the Opera House Hut, cresting the main range, perhaps some streams and rivers. We could start low and walk up then down, or vice versa. Splendid views abound. It's an adventure. Suitable only for fit and capable walkers used to off track.



19-22 Apr (long)

Kosciuszko NP/ Hannel's Spur walking track/ The Easter Challenge! (EC)

Hard/Exploratory 30km | Limit 5 | 600km NE Melb
Taariq Hassan taariq.music@gmail.com



Australia's highest vertical ascent starts at Geehi Flats and ascends 1800m to near Mount Townsend (2200m+). The track has been tagged and partially recut during 2018. Day 1/Good Friday: meet at Geehi at 11am. Hike up to Moira's Flat. Day 2: Moira's Flat to Byatt's Camp, above the treeline. Day 3: return to Geehi. Day 4: drive home. You need to be very mentally/physically fit and well prepared for overgrown tracks and extreme alpine weather.

20 Apr (Sat)

Excursion by coach: Steiglitz Historic Park

Easy 5km | Limit 57 | 80km W Melb
Bookings: Larysa Kucan 93473733
Leader: Larysa Kucan



Steiglitz, an old gold mining town, situated in the Brisbane Ranges, was at its height during the 1860s gold rush. Walking around the township many traces of the golden years are still visible, including the court house and cemetery. On our journey to Steiglitz there will be a stop at Lara for morning tea and a walk at Serendip Sanctuary - a haven for Australian wildlife.

22 Apr (Mon)

Clifton Hill

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



Meet at 1pm at Clifton Hill station. The walk starts by following the Merri Creek towards Rushall, following the Capital City Trail. We will finish the walk with coffee in Fitzroy.

25-28 Apr (long)

Little Desert NP base camp (EC)

Easy/Medium 30km | Limit 12 | 375km NW Melb
Lesley Gillespie 9386 9077
lesley_gillespie999@hotmail.com



Visit this often overlooked area for a relaxed extended base camp to explore the local area. We will camp in the national park with only basic facilities, and visit different areas of the park as well as local reserves. This trip will particularly appeal to bird watchers, so bring your field glasses.

27 Apr (Sat)

Mernda – Yan Yean Reservoir

Easy/Medium 15km | Limit 15 | 30km N Melb
Glenn King 0448 816 504



From Mernda station, catch the 381 bus to Laurimar. From there we walk to Yan Yean Reservoir and return to Mernda station.

28 Apr (Sun)

Gembrook to Narbethong – a day in the bush

Easy 140km | Limit 12 | 66km E Melb
John & Prue Hasler 5975 7350 AH / 0439 890 688
p.thwait@bigpond.net.au



Meeting at Gembrook we will drive along easy forest tracks (suitable for AWD vehicles) and take short walks to various natural and historic sites: the Kurth Kiln Regional Park, historic tram lines, Mount Donna Buang, the Rainforest Gallery and Acheron Way. See evidence of current and past logging practices and have time to discuss aspects of land management. Picnic lunch in the bush. Run in conjunction with the Land Rover Owners Club of Victoria.

4 May (Sat)

Eltham walk

Easy 6km | Limit 12 | 23km NE Melb
Julie Hunt 9568 7515
hunt.jm@bigpond.com



A pleasant stroll on the Diamond Creek Trail, then on to Montsalvat for a late morning tea.

5 May (Sun)

Mount St Leonard (EC)

Hard 16km | Limit 12 | 85km NE Melb
David Moore 0448 555 666
david@alexanderschool.edu.au



It may only be a 16km walk but this is one for those who are fit. The first 9km are straight up from Donnelley's Weir to the top of Mount St Leonard. We will have lunch there and continue onto the Tanglefoot Track, finishing at the Wirrawilla Car Park. Car shuttle required, so some of us may drive to Wirrawilla and others to Donnelley's Weir.

8 May (Wed)

Social night: VNPA NatureWatch with Sera Blair

VNPA 9341 6500
vnpabwg.social@gmail.com



Introducing Sera Blair, VNPA's new NatureWatch Coordinator. Learn about NatureWatch activities and how you can be involved. 60 Leicester St Carlton. Doors will open at 6:30pm for a 7:30pm start. Entry \$2. Tea, coffee, wine and biscuits provided.

Photo by Unsplash/Jens Johnsson.

11 May (Sat)

Easy Going Amble: Central Park at Docklands

Easy 5km | Limit 15
Geoff Durham 9523 5559



Central Park is a new park in New Quay, Docklands. It is the biggest park to open in the inner city since Birrarung Marr. We will explore this new park and visit Icehouse and the Southern Star Observation Wheel. Optional lunch/coffee.

12 May (Sun)

Geelong coastal bike ride

Easy/Medium 35km | Limit 9 | 60km SW Melb
Philip Sharp 0448 838 055
sharpstick2011@hotmail.com



Starting at Lara station we shall explore Lime Burners Cove, Geelong Waterfront, and the Barwon River, before finishing at South Geelong station and catching the train home. Fairly flat and mostly on bike paths.

13 May (Mon)

Kyneton

Easy 6km | Limit 20 | 84km NW Melb
Ruth Stirling 9699 7225 / 0418 245 151



Vline train from Southern Cross Station at 10.15am, with BYO lunch. Enjoy the Botanic Gardens, the Campaspe River Walk and the fine old buildings in the town. Possibly late autumn colour. Find a coffee shop before the train home at about 3.30pm.

18 May (Sat)

Excursion by coach: Mount Worth State Park

Easy 7km | Limit 57 | 125km SE Melb
Bookings: Larysa Kucan 93473733
Leader: Geoff Durham



Mount Worth State Park, situated south east of Melbourne, protects 1000 hectares of natural forest, regenerating native bush and cleared pastures in the Western Strzelecki Ranges. The park protects a rich variety of native flora and wildlife. There will be easy walks through the forest. On our way to the park there will be a stop at Drouin for a visit to the farmers' market and a stop at Yarragon on our return journey.

18 May (Sat)

Malmsbury

Easy/Medium 13km | Limit 15 | 130km NW Melb
Mark Learmonth 9807 7506 (H)



Malmsbury is a special town. It has history galore, a waterfall, a very attractive reservoir, a great view from the Botanic Gardens and a scenic rail journey to and from Melbourne. This walk will try to visit all these features, as well as a short stop in its famous bakery.

19 May (Sun)

U35 Cranbourne Botanic Gardens

Easy 8km | Limit 10 | 55km SE Melb
Eva Klusacek 0423 053 318
eklusacek@hotmail.com



Walk through the Australian Garden, Woodlands and Wetlands Area. The garden is a significant area for biodiversity conservation, with many species of native plants. If we're lucky, we may even see or hear some of its mammal or amphibian residents.

25 May (Sat)

Birdwatching for beginners at Organ Pipes National Park

Easy 2-3kms | Limit 25 | 30kms NW Melb
Caitlin Griffith 9341 6508
caitlin@vnpa.org.au



10am-1pm. Birding is a wonderful way to bring new excitement to your adventures in nature. Come and learn tricks and tips on bird watching from bird enthusiasts. You'll learn about bird features, spotting and hearing birds, resources for identifying birds and we can practice our skills on the birds of the Organ Pipes. Suitable for all ages. Family friendly.

25 May (Sat)

Belgrave – Upper Ferntree Gully

Medium 17km | Limit 15 | 35km E Melb
Glenn King 0448 816 504



From Belgrave station we walk to Kallista and Sherbrooke. We continue to Ferny Creek and One Tree Hill, before heading to Upper Ferntree Gully station.

25 May (Sat)

Dandenongs autumnal walk

Medium 16km | Limit 15 | 48km E Melb
Louise Prendergast 9826 0037
lprendergast2009@hotmail.com



An autumnal walk exploring trails around the Dandenongs, to experience the colours of the autumn leaves, including the Pirianda Gardens and the Dandenong Botanical Gardens.



25 May (Sat)

NatureWatch Caught on Camera in Wombat State Forest

Easy | ~100km NW of Melbourne
Sera Blair, NatureWatch Coordinator
sera@vnpa.org.au 9341 6510



Help us monitor local wildlife and assist with local conservation efforts! Join our field sessions to set up motion sensor cameras in the forest. No experience necessary. Must be able to walk 1-2km on forest paths. Meeting in Trentham or Blackwood. Community partner: Wombat Forestcare Inc.

25-26 May (w/e)

Friends of the Prom working bee

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



Tree planting for koala habitat restoration.

25-26 May (w/e)

Bryces Gorge and plains (EC)

Medium 20km | Limit 10 | 320km NE Melb
James Shannon 9754 4951 / 0407 346 467
jmshannon1962@hotmail.com



A pleasant late autumn ramble around the Bryces Gorge area in the Alpine NP. Impressive waterfalls and attractive treeless subalpine plains are a feature of this area.

27 May (Mon)

Werribee South Beach

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



Meet at Werribee train station by 11 am. We will be catching the 439 bus to Werribee South Beach, so it is important to arrive on time. Werribee South is developing fast; town houses, a marina and coffee shops. BYO lunch.

30 May (Thu)

U35 Social Night

Eva Klusacek 0423 053 318
eklusacek@hotmail.com



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

1 Jun (Sat)

Easy Going Amble: Elster Creek and Elsternwick Park

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



The Elsternwick Golf Course, through which Elster Creek runs, has closed and is now open parkland adjoining the old Elsternwick Park on the other side of the creek. We will follow the creek downstream from Gardenvale station. Optional lunch/coffee.

1 Jun (Sat)

Cathedral Ranges Northern Circuit

Medium 13km | Limit 12 | 116km E Melb
Evelyn Feller 5962 5227 evelynfeller@gmail.com



This walk will start and finish at Ned's Gully, climbing Cathedral Peak en route, and then continuing along the ridge to the Farmyard saddle before descending to the trail back to Ned's Gully. Great views along the ridge.

2 Jun (Sun)

U35 Toorongo Waterfall and Noojee Trestle Bridge

Easy/Medium 9km | Limit 10 | 105km E Melb
Eva Klusacek 0423 053 318
eklusacek@hotmail.com



Explore the beauty of Gippsland's rainforest area in these two shorter walks. Discover Victoria's highest historic trestle timber bridge, as we follow the old rail trail to Noojee Bridge. At Toorongo Falls Reserve, we will also see Amphitheatre Falls from spectacular viewing platforms.

8-10 Jun (long)

Grampians NP day walks / bush camping (EC)

Medium/Hard/Exploratory 30km
Limit 6 | 350km W Melb
Taariq Hassan taariq.music@gmail.com



Day walks in the Grampians. Possibly a day walk to The Asses Ears, Mount Thackeray, Mount William via Sheep Hills track, Major Mitchell Plateau via Jimmy Creek track and/or other places of interest. Bush camping near Halls Gap on the Mt Zero Road. Being fit and well equipped is essential.

Photo by Unsplash/Habiburrahmansyah.

8-10 Jun (long)

Hattah NP volunteer activity (EC)

Medium 20km | | 450km NW Melb
Euan Moore 5472 1572 / 0407 519 091
calamanthus5@bigpond.com



We will be doing volunteer work to assist the rangers at Hattah NP. Possible jobs include weed removal and cleaning up an old revegetation site, but this may change depending on the ranger's priorities. Friday departure to camp at Lake Mournpall. There will be an opportunity for a short walk in the area on Monday morning prior to returning home.

9-12 Jun (long)

Melbourne Sea Slug Census

Easy | Port Phillip Bay & Western Port Bay
Nicole Mertens, ReefWatch Project Officer
nicole@vnpa.org.au



The water may be chilly, but if you're out and about along the coast near Melbourne over these days, consider taking images for the Sea Slug Census. Sea Slugs (also called nudibranchs) come in every colour and pattern and can be found in rockpools right through to the bottom of the sea. To find out more about these amazing creatures, and how to send in any photos you take visit www.vnpa.org.au/sea-slug-census.

10 Jun (Mon)

High St, Kew to Hays Paddock

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



Catch a tram to Kew Cricket Ground, near the cemetery. Meet by 1pm. Option to arrive earlier to eat your BYO lunch. We walk part of the Outer Circle Trail, Stradbroke Park and on to Hays Paddock. Return to High Street for coffee.

12 June (Wed)

Social night: Yarra River Stories

VNPA 9341 6500
vnabwag.social@gmail.com



Andrew Kelly, Yarra River Keeper will tell the river's stories, highlighting its heritage and wonders as well as its challenges. 60 Leicester St Carlton. Doors will open at 6:30pm for a 7:30pm start. Entry \$2. Tea, coffee, wine and biscuits provided.

15 Jun (Sat)

Excursion by coach: Anakie Gorge

Easy 5km | Limit 57 | 80km W Melb
Bookings: Larysa Kucan 93473733
Leader: Ruth Stirling



On the journey to the Brisbane Ranges NP there will be a stop in Werribee for morning tea and a walk along the river. On arrival at the Brisbane Ranges there will be a 4.5km walk along the Anakie Gorge Walking Track. Prizes for koala spotting. Lunch will be at the Anakie Gorge Picnic Area. On our return journey there will be a stop in Bacchus Marsh for afternoon tea and a visit to the fruit and vegetable stalls.

15 Jun (Sat)

Serendip

Medium 16km | Limit 15 | 70km SW Melb
Mark Learmonth 9807 7506 (H)



This walk is very close to being completely level, but it can be tiring because of several sections walking along firm surfaces. Views of Corio Bay, Hovells Creek, and, of course, Serendip Sanctuary, are highlights.

16 Jun (Sun)

Kinglake NP – Captain's Creek circuit

Easy/Medium 16km | Limit 12 | 80km NE Melb
Darren McClelland 0449 167 776
darrenmcclelland@gmail.com



This walk takes in the northern extremes of the Kinglake NP. It is all on 4WD tracks. A few steep ups and downs.

16 Jun (Sun)

NatureWatch Caught on Camera in Wombat State Forest – Family Day

Easy | ~100km NW of Melbourne
Sera Blair, NatureWatch Coordinator
sera@vnpa.org.au 9341 6510



Family fun! Bring the kids and learn more about monitoring local wildlife using motion sensor cameras. Fun activities at Lyonville Mineral Springs Reserve followed by a chance to help set up cameras in the forest. All children must be accompanied by an adult. Starts 10am, ending approx. 2pm.

22 Jun (Sat)

Edithvale, Carrum and Patersons Lakes

Medium 16 –18km | Limit 15 | 45km S Melb
Louise Prendergast 9826 0037
lprendergast2009@hotmail.com



Starting at Edithvale we walk along the beach to Carrum. We will explore parts of the Paterson Lakes, before linking up trails through the wetlands back to Edithvale.



23 Jun (Sun)

**Public Transport Walk:
Dandenongs National Park**

Easy/Medium 13km | Limit 12 | 30km E Melb
Philip Sharp 0448 838 055
sharpstick2011@hotmail.com



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

24 Jun (Mon)

Darebin Creek Trail

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



Meet at 1pm at Alphington station. The walk is through Darebin Park and along the Darebin Creek to Northland Shopping Centre. Coffee at the shopping centre before catching a bus home. The walk will be led by Ruth Stirling. If you want to book during June please ring Ruth, 9699 7225.

29 Jun (Sat)

Diamond Creek – Eltham

Easy/Medium 14km | Limit 15 | 25km NE Melb
Glenn King 0448 816 504



At Diamond station we follow Diamond Creek and Maroondah Aqueduct trail to Research Park. From there we walk on some local trails to Eltham station.

30 Jun (Sun)

City of Melbourne to City of Port Phillip

Easy 8km | Limit 20
Ruth Stirling 9699 7225 / 0418 245 151



Meet at 11am downstairs at Fed Square, near the entrance to the Ian Potter Centre: NGV. After coffee, we will walk along the river bank, Birrarung Marr, to the Morell Bridge. Cross over to the Botanic Gardens and wind our way to the Shrine. Take in Albert Park Lake, the See Yup Temple, and Emerald Hill, on our way to finish at the vibrant South Melbourne Market. Plenty of food for lunch! Tram 96 will take you back to the city.

New Leaders Briefing

THURSDAY 11 APRIL 2019

If you love exploring the natural environment, have experience, and want to motivate others to do the same, consider becoming an Activity Leader for the Bushwalking and Activities Group.

To find out more about what's involved, and how to get there, come along for a casual evening discussion and workshop at the VNPA office.

Please email Lisa Sulinsky at vnabwg.secretary@gmail.com to register your interest.



PHOTO BY UNSPLASH/RAWPIXEL

Sealers Cove walking track, Wilsons Promontory National Park. Photo by Daniel Walker, Flickr CC.

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Upcoming events ...

- 6 Jul (Sat)**
Lysterfield Park
Medium 16km | Louise Prendergast
- 13 Jul (Sat)**
Easy Going Amble: Newmarket and the Maribyrnong River
Easy 5km | Geoff Durham
- 20 July (Sat)**
Excursion: Bendigo area
Easy 5 km | Larysa Kucan
- 15 Aug (Thu)**
Warrandyte State Park Nursery and Pound Bend
Medium 6km | Ken Crook
- 17 Aug (Sat)**
Excursion: Langi Ghiran State Park
Easy 5 km | Larysa Kucan
- 24 Aug (Sat)**
Exploring two botanical gardens
Medium 16km | Louise Prendergast
- 21 Sept (Sat)**
Excursion: Anglesea Wildflower Show
Easy 5 km | Larysa Kucan
- 21 Sep (Sat)**
Dandenongs walk
Medium 16km | Louise Prendergast
- 23 Sep (Mon)**
Kangaroo Ground – Pantom Hills wildflower walk
Medium 5km | Ken Crook
- 4 Oct (Fri)**
Royal Botanic Gardens
Easy 4km | Ken Crook
- 19-20 Oct (w/e)**
Bushwalking Victoria Federation Walks weekend: Lorne area
Anna van Tatenhove
www.bushwalkingvictoria.org.au
To be held in the Lorne area with walks spanning from Anglesea to Apollo Bay. Hosted by Geelong Bushwalking Club. Full program will be released on 1 May. Bookings open on 1 July and close on 1 September. Day and weekend packages available. Further information can be found at: www.fedwalks.org.au
- 19 Oct (Sat)**
Excursion: Walhalla
Easy 5 km | Larysa Kucan
- 16 Nov (Sat)**
Excursion: Pt Nepean
Easy 5 km | Larysa Kucan

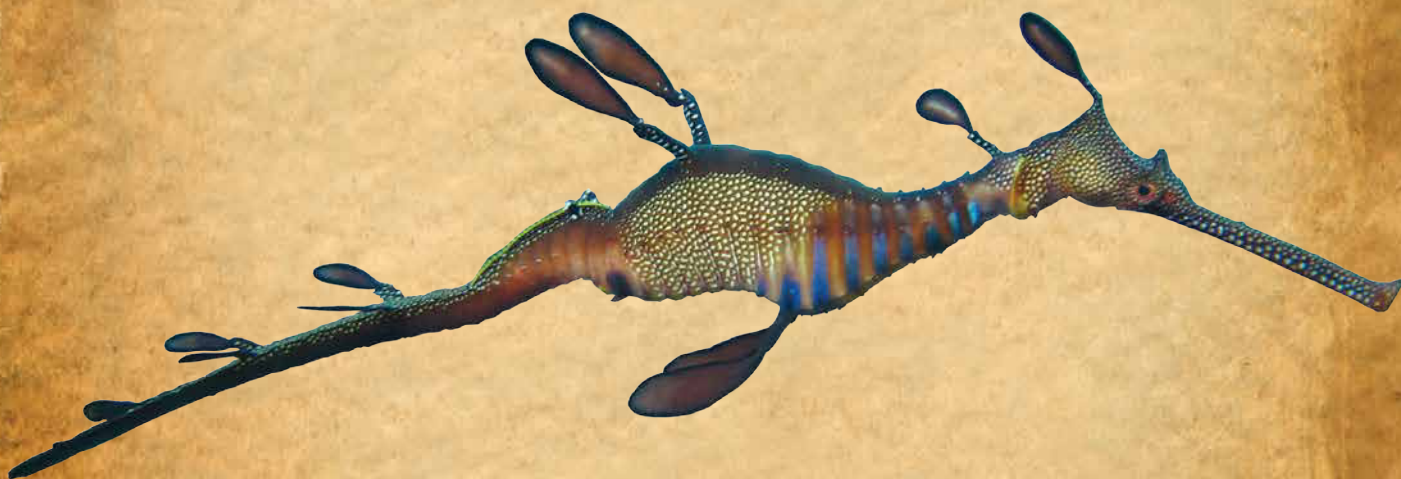
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WANTED

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REWARD OFFERED FOR
clear side profile shots of Dragons seen in the
vicinity of Port Phillip and Westernport bay.

The creature is often seen moving slowly close to the seabed making it easy to photograph. With your image we can use the unique markings on the side of each weedy seadragon to identify individuals. This is the first step to knowing how many exist locally.



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P.S. The reward is having a Dragon named after you if you are the first to find it.

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EMAIL IMAGES TO REEFWATCH: kade@vnpa.org.au
FOR MORE INFORMATION: www.vnpa.org.au/dragon-quest