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# JUNE WALKS

Sunday Monday Wednesday Wednesday Sunday Monday 3rd Wed Sunday Monday	3 Jun 5 Jun 12 Jun 16 Jun 17 Jun 19 Jun 23 Jun 24 Jun	Olinda Valley – Olinda Seawinds – Waterfall Gully Darebin – Macleod B'meadows – Pascoe Vale Bushranger Bay Castlemaine Hampton Lerderderg Gorge Easy Metro: Victoria Park Berwick – Beaconsfield	David Adams Denis Phillips John Rankin Oliver Lucas Jill Morison Alex Hordijenko Jim Cone Richard Jasek Gordon Proudfoot
Wednesday		Berwick – Beaconsfield	Oliver Lucas

### Copy for July to: John Rankin - Phone: 0408 373 148 email: wjrankin@outlook.com

by the 1st Wednesday in the month, 5th June.

### **Charles Dickens Tavern Lunch A Great Success**

The lunch held on Tuesday April 9th was a great success. 13 members and 1 visitor attended, and the food, drink and chatter all received unanimous approval.

These lunches are held on the 2nd Tuesday of each month (except January), in the Pickwick Room of the *Charles Dickens Tavern Bistro*, in the basement of 290 Collins Street Melbourne, at 12:00 noon.

### Laughter Is The Best Medicine

To steal ideas from one person is plagiarism; to steal from many is research.

### New Members

Seven new Members have joined the Club since December last year. They are Neesha Shimmen, Ines Ros, Daniel Dewhirst, Somnath Ghosh, Souravi Ghosh, Jeremy Vile and Richard Kohinga. We welcome these Members to the Club and wish them many happy years of walking and participating in Club activities.

#### John Rankin – Membership Officer



On our Facebook Page we post pictures from weekly walks, upcoming events for your diary, invites to potential members to come along as a



visitor, Mt Buller and Donna Buang news, and so much more! *Please have a look – and Join NOW!!!* 



Charlie Freedman. &

Terry Simpson

# Office Bearers 2023-2024

#### Club Executive

President: Kim Rosen Secretary: Neale Oxley Treasurer: Arthur Robertson Activities Officer: Vacant Membership Officer: John Rankin Immediate Past President: Trevor Rosen

#### Sub-Committee Convenors

Mt Buller Lodge: John Gates Walter Briggs Hut: Trevor Rosen Activities: Vacant Membership: John Rankin Marketing: Terry Simpson

### Walk Coordinators

Metro Walks: David Watkins, & Doug Swinbourne 3rd Wed Walks: Graeme Barker Bike Rides: John Rankin

### Other Officers

Website Administrator: Charlie Freedman Circular Editor: Charlie Freedman

General Committee: John Gates

Sunday Walks: Terry Simpson (Temporary) Easy Metro Walks: Gordon Proudfoot Peninsula Walks: Ron Anderson Sunday Peninsula Walks: Colleen Simpson

Generic email addresses to contact appropriate Club Members:

president@melbournewalkingclub.org secretary@melbournewalkingclub.org treasurer@melbournewalkingclub.org info@melbournewalkingclub.org bullerlodge@melbournewalkingclub.org membership@melbournewalkingclub.org editor@melbournewalkingclub.org webmaster@melbournewalkingclub.org walterbriggshut@melbournewalkingclub.org activities@melbournewalkingclub.org

# MT BULLER LODGE

Winter

Season



You're welcome to invite family or friends:

- Member only Bookings open April 1st.
- Guest Bookings open May 1st.

June - September

Individual Bookings Only

### Plan and book early to secure your preferred dates!



Come on up and stay for skiing, or a winter wonderland holiday in the club's Mt Buller Lodge.

Ski Room, Sports Room, Drying Room, Central Heating and more ... The Lodge is located right at the village centre. It sleeps up to 16 5 bedrooms (3 x 4 bed / 2 x 2 bed) - each bedroom has its own en-suite bathroom.

Fully equipped kitchen and dining room, lounge, TV and table tennis rooms, deck and barbeque. A small supermarket is close by.

Winter Weekend Bookings: Members & Dependants -High Winter - \$119 / night Low Winter - \$112 / night Visitors -

High Winter - \$184 / night Low Winter - \$177 / night

Winter Midweek Bookings: Members & Dependants -High Winter - \$107 / night Low Winter - \$101 / night

Visitors -

High Winter - \$165 / night Low Winter - \$158 / night

To book simply visit the Club Website, click on Mount Buller and open the Mount Buller Booking page

An Unmissable MWC Member Privilege

# JUNE WALKS

### Sun 2 Jun Olinda Valley – Olinda

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

Leader: David Adams

Phone: 0419 342 633

Rendezvous: 9.30 am at Woolrich Lookout. Toilets available here.

Map: Melway Map 122 A9 (or Satnav).

Grading: Medium/Hard

Distance: 13 km.

<u>Transport</u>: Private car. Drive to Olinda. Leave Olinda on the Olinda Monbulk Rd. After 800 metres turn left into Chalet Rd. This is a gravel road. After about 800 metres you will find the Woolrich Lookout car park to your left.

<u>Walk Details</u>: This is a very beautiful walk through mountain ash forest and ferny mountain vegetation. As it starts at a lookout and descends to the valley floor and then climbs 500 metres back up to our starting point, it involves some quite demanding hill climbs and descents. Good footwear is required and long trousers are recommended. Lunch will be at Eagles Nest Picnic Ground (no toilets) about 8.5 km from the start. This is a walk that really does provide "reward for effort".

Afternoon Tea: Olinda Café for those interested.

### Mon 3 Jun Seawinds – Waterfall Gully

Leader: Denis Phillips

Phone: 0455 300 011

<u>Rendezvous & Morning Tea</u>: 9:45am at Seawinds, Melway 159 D12. Look for the carpark near the toilet block.

<u>Maps</u>: Melway 159, 170 & 171.

Grading: Strenuous

Distance: 11 km.

Transport: Private car.

<u>Walk Details</u>: We start at Seawinds picnic area and walk the 2 Bays Track to Kings Falls, there are some nice views along this section, then along Waterfall Gully Rd to McLaren's Dam where we re-enter the park for lunch, then continue back to the Picnic ground in Seawinds. There is a toilet at the start and finish.

This is a hilly walk along bush tracks and country roads with a very steep climb after lunch.

### Wed 5 Jun Darebin – La Trobe University – Macleod

Leader: John Rankin

Phone: 0408 373 148

Rendezvous: 9.35 am, Darebin station, outbound side.

<u>Maps</u>: Melway 19, 20 & 31

Distance: 12 km.

Grading: Easy (some initial steep sections).

<u>Transport</u>: 8.59 am Hurstbridge train from Flinders St station arriving 9.29 am.

Morning Tea: Darebin Parklands (Melway 31 C9); shelter and toilets.

<u>Walk Details</u>: This is a very pleasant and scenic walk along the Darebin Creek and through the La Trobe University campus to Macleod station. We start by walking though Rockbeare Park to morning tea. This section is along gravel tracks and involves some steep sections. From morning tea onwards we are on mainly flat, made trails. Lunch will be at La Trobe Uni (toilets). Trains depart Macleod station to the city every 20 minutes (2.15, 2.35, 2.55 ...). Toilets at morning tea, lunch and Macleod station.

<u>Escapes</u>: At Bell St (to Glenroy station); at Murray Rd/Southern Rd to Northland; at La Trobe Uni.

## Wed 12 Jun Broadmeadows – Moonee Ponds Ck – Pascoe Vale

Leader: Oliver Lucas

Phone: 0451 957 821

Rendezvous: Broadmeadows Station at 9:33am.

Maps: Melway 6 & 16 Grading: Easy Distance: 11 km.

<u>Transport</u>: Train from Flinders Street at 9:00 am, arriving Broadmeadows at 9:33.

Morning Tea: At Broadmeadows Town Hall (seating).

<u>Walk Details</u>: Very pleasant walk, mainly along Moonee Ponds Creek. Escape possible at approx 6 km to Glenroy Station.

## Sun 16 Jun Greens Bush – Bushranger Bay – Cape Schanck

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

Leader: Jill Morison

Phone: 0401 070 845 jillchrisphillips@bigpond.com

Rendezvous: 9am at Cape Schanck Lighthouse Car Park.

<u>Map</u>: Melway 257 F11 <u>Distance</u>: 15.5 km (approx 4 hrs walking time).

Grading: Easy. Mostly flat/undulating. Well-made track. Some eroded

steps in last section near Cape Schanck.

<u>Transport</u>: Private car. From Cape Schanck Lighthouse a car shuffle is required to convey all walkers to the start of the walk at Baldry's Crossing Picnic Area (Melway 254 G6, on Baldry's Rd, 17 km from the rendezvous point at Cape Schanck Lighthouse) with sufficient vehicles left at Cape Schanck to take all walkers back to Baldry's Crossing at the conclusion of the walk.

Morning Tea: Lightwood Creek Camp at the 5 km mark. Platform seating and toilet.

Lunch: Bushranger Bay Picnic area (on Borneo Rd). Tables, no toilet.

<u>Walk Details</u>: The walk commences after a car shuffle at Baldry's Crossing Picnic Area. The first kilometre follows Main Creek along Baldry's Circuit to meet the Two Bays Walking Track. We then follow Two Bays Walking Track to Bushranger Bay, and on to the Bushrangers Bay Walking Track to Cape Schanck Lighthouse.

The first 9 km of the walk is notable as it passes through Greens Bush, the largest remnant of native bushland on the peninsula. Look out for the fern gullies and grass trees. Views of adjacent farmland, Bushrangers Bay and coastal scenery in the second half of the walk.

<u>Escapes</u>: Via Baldry's Circuit after the first kilometre (2.4 km in total) to return to the start, or via Borneo Rd at the lunch stop 10 km from the start. This would require prearranged transport.

<u>Toilets</u>: At lighthouse at initial rendezvous and at morning tea 5 km mark (Lightwood Creek Camp) only.

<u>Afternoon Tea</u>: If time allows at the Cape Schanck RACV Club (short car trip) or the cafe at the lighthouse.

### Mon 17 Jun Castlemaine Historical Town & Bushland

Leader: Alex Hordijenko

Phone: 0497 699 507

<u>Rendezvous</u>: 8:45am at Southern Cross station clock (near main ticket office).

Maps: Mt Alexander Shire Historic Walk Brochure.

Grading: Medium

Distance: 9 km.

<u>Transport</u>: V-Line Bendigo Train departing Southern Cross 9.05am, Footscray 9.13am or by car to meet train at Castlemaine Station at 10.33am.

Morning Tea: On the Train.

<u>Walk Details</u>: An interesting circular walk with some moderate hills, initially walking through the town centre past a number of its historic buildings then East to the Burke & Wills memorial. From the memorial we walk through the extensive Kalimna bushlands, looping around the top of the town and golf course to arrive at the Botanic Gardens and then finish at the station. Limited toilets on walk, only at station, in town and Botanic Gardens. Return trains at 1.49pm; 2.49pm; 3;49pm. Travel time approximately 1.5hrs.

### 3rd Wed 19 Jun Hampton

Leader: Jim Cone

### Phone: 9560 8175

<u>Rendezvous</u>: Hampton Railway Station, east platform, at 10.04am. Leader will meet this train.

<u>Transport</u>: 9.36am Sandringham train from Flinders Street arriving at Hampton at 10.04am.

Map: Melway 76

Grading: Easy

Distance: 5km am, 2km pm (optional).

<u>Morning Tea & Lunch</u>: At shelter shed on cliff top opposite traffic lights at Small Street. Melway 76 F6.

<u>Walk Details</u>: **a.m.** Walk north towards Brighton along cliff top through light bush with great bay views. Return along this track for lunch.

**p.m.** Walk through cliff top bush to Sandringham to catch return train.

<u>Escapes</u>: Escape possible at Brighton Station in morning or at Hampton Station after lunch.

<u>Note</u>: Plenty of coffee shops at Hampton and Sandringham. No toilets at Hampton station but one soon after morning tea.

This walk replaces the mid year lunch so BYO morning tea and lunch.

### Sun 23 Jun Lerderderg Scenic Rim Winter Solstice Walk

NB. Please contact the leader by text (SMS) to the mobile 0408 438 632 at least 48 hours prior to the start of the walk if you wish to do the walk.

Leader: Richard Jasek

Phone: 0408 438 632

<u>Rendezvous</u>: MacKenzie Flat Picnic Area (car park and toilets available) at 8:30am.

Maps: Lerderderg & Werribee Gorges, Meridian Maps.

Grading: Medium to hard

Distance: 16.5km.

<u>Transport</u>: Private car; M8, take the C704 exit (Bacchus Marsh - Gisborne), head north for 1.8km then turn left into Lerderderg Gorge Rd and follow it for 5.4km, arriving at MacKenzie Flat Picnic Area (recognized on Google Maps by its name).

Morning Tea: En-route after 9:00am departure.

<u>Walk Details</u>: Defined tracks include gentle valley sections with stepping stone river crossings, two steep rocky climbs, closed vehicular tracks and one steep one kilometre descent where boots with good tread and walking poles are essential.

<u>Escapes</u>: Early return of 5 gentle kilometres or a shorter circuit of 9km which involves the most difficult section discussed above.

Note: If the river is in flood, this walk will not go ahead.

# <u>Mon 24 Jun Easy Metro: Victoria Park – Dights Falls – Royal Park – Flemington Bridge</u>

Leader: Gordon Proudfoot

Phone: 9717 0909 0405 083 074

<u>Rendezvous</u>: 9.30am at Victoria Park Railway Station, east side (Melway 44 E4).

<u>Morning Tea</u>: Dights Falls (Melway 44 F3). There is shelter, seating and toilets.

Maps: Melway 44, 30, 29 & 43.

Grading: Easy; only two hills

Distance: 9km.

<u>Transport</u>: 9.11am Mernda train ex Flinders Street arriving Victoria Park at 9.29 am. Return trains from Flemington Bridge station.

<u>Walk Details</u>: On walking paths, and quiet suburban streets. Need care crossing Trennery Crescent. Lunch will be at Poplar Reserve (Melway 29 F11), where there is seating and shelter but no toilets. There are toilets on the other side of Old Poplar Avenue in the Royal Park Golf Course Clubhouse.

<u>Escapes</u>: There are numerous escapes by bus or tram into the city or by train from Rushall Station.

### Wed 26 Jun Berwick – Wilson Botanic Park – Beaconsfield

Leader: Oliver Lucas

Phone: 0451 957 821

Rendezvous: At reserve side of Berwick Railway Station at 9:45 am.

Maps: Melway 111 Grading: Medium Distance: 10.5 km.

<u>Transport</u>: Pakenham train from Flinders St at 8:47 am, arriving at 9:25. Return from Beaconsfield 3:35 & 3:54 pm & plenty of trains.

Morning Tea: Wilson Botanic Park.

<u>Walk Details</u>: From station to Wilson Botanic Park for morning tea. Lunch at 7 km, corner Brisbane St & Howell Drive. Pleasant walk through reserves & streets.

# JULY PROGRAM

### Mon 1 Jul TBA

Leader: Les Littlejohn

Phone: 0409 400 302

### Wed 3 Jul Alphington – Darebin Ck – McLeod

Leader: Charlie Freedman

Phone: 0415 558 249

Rendezvous: 9:30am at Alphington Station (north side).

<u>Maps</u>: Melway 31, 19 & 20 <u>Grading</u>: Easy <u>Distance</u>: 11 km.

<u>Transport</u>: 8:59am Macleod train ex Flinders St, arriving Alphington at 9:28am.

<u>Morning Tea</u>: In Darebin Parklands, about 15 minutes walk from Alphington Station (Melway 31 C9). Toilets, seating and shelter available.

<u>Walk Details</u>: A relatively flat, pleasant walk from Alphington Station, alongside the Darebin Ck, through La Trobe University, to Macleod Station. Walking is on paved paths. Lunch will be at La Trobe University (seating but no shelter). Toilets at morning tea and Macleod Station.

<u>Escapes</u>: Buses at Bell St, Southern Rd (Northland Shopping Centre), and La Trobe University.

### Sun 7 Jul Mt Donna Buang – Boobyalla Track

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

Leader: Trevor Rosen

Phone: 0412 136 124

### <u>Wed 10 Jul Olinda – Silvan Rd – Kalorama</u>

Leader: Jenny Hosking

Phone: 0423 627 232

### Sun 14 Jul Cranbourne Botanic Gardens

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

Leader: John Gates

Phone: 0428 761 644

### Mon 15 Jul Drouin town and tree walk

Leader: Richard Simpson

Phone: 0419 528 130

### 3rd Wed 17 Jul Eley Park, Burwood

Leader: Bruce Armstrong

Phone: 0416 758 204

### Sun 21 Jul 16th Beach Circuit, Rye

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

Leader: John Rankin

Phone: 0408 373 148

<u>Rendezvous & Morning Tea</u>: 9.30 am, Sixteen Beach General Store, Cnr Tasman Drive and Marcia Ave, Rye (Melway 167 J9). Excellent coffee! There are no toilets but a toilet will be available early in the walk (at the Leader's house). We'll begin the walk at 9.45 am from the Tasman Drive carpark.

Maps: Melway 167 & 157 Grading: Easy Distance: 11 km.

<u>Transport</u>: Private car. If coming from Melbourne, at the end of the Mornington Peninsula freeway, at the second roundabout, turn left into Boneo Rd and follow it to Browns Rd. Turn right and follow Browns Rd (there is a dogleg at Truemans Rd) until it becomes Tasman Drive. Park in the Sixteen Beach parking area off Tasman Drive (not outside the General Store).

<u>Walk Details</u>: This is a very pleasant and scenic walk but some of it is exposed and, depending on the weather, can be windy and cold, so dress accordingly. From Sixteen Beach parking area we join the Morning Peninsula National Park trail and follow it to the St Johns Wood Road exit. We then follow the track beside St John Wood Rd to the bay side of the Peninsula to Blairgowrie (toilet). We then walk along the front to Rye, where we will have lunch (toilet). From there we follow the path beside Canterbury Jetty Rd to rejoin the National Park trail and return to Sixteen Beach Car Park.

### Mon 22 Jul Easy Metro: Glen Waverley – Jells Park – Glen Waverley

Leader: Oliver Lucas

Phone: 9571 6865

### Wed 24 Jul S Geelong – Waurn Pond Creek – W.P.

Leader: Miles Pearce

Phone: 0429 359 832

## Wed 31 Jul East Camberwell – Clifton Hill

Leader: Graeme Barker

Phone: 0437 006 938

### Federation Walks 2024

Bayside Bushwalking Club will be hosting Bushwalking Victoria's annual FedWalks event to be held at Wilson Promontory on 11-13 October.

On offer to members will be 20 unique walks ranging from easy to medium to hard (available over two days), with different styles of accommodation ranging from camping to glamping, plus dinner and entertainment on Saturday evening October 12.

### MORE DETAILS: https://fedwalks.org.au

### Wanted: Archivist For The Melbourne Walking Club

The Melbourne Walking Club has a long history going back to 1894. Over the years many historical records, maps and books have been accumulated by the club. Most of these are now in the possession of the State Library of Victoria. We regularly receive offers of donations of material from members and their relatives. Some of this is now kept at the Mt Buller Lodge.

For many years the club had an Archives Officer who collated this material. If you have an interest in the history of the club and would like to assist as an archivist we would like to hear from you. It would not be an onerous position and you would not need to join any committee.

If you would like more information please contact Trevor Rosen on 0412 136 124.

### The 4 Peaks Challenge 2024 Completed

I thought it may interest members that I completed the 4 Peaks Challenge as promoted in a Melbourne Walking Club email from January 2024. The event is an annual event in the Camperdown area and is well run by the Friends of Mt Leura. This year about 100 walkers took part on a perfect autumn day. It involved climbing four volcanic peaks: Mt Leura and Mt Sugarloaf near Camperdown, Mt Noorat half an hour's drive away and Mt Elephant a further hour's drive away. The walks are reasonably strenuous, but the tracks are all in good condition and the scenery is absolutely superb. You are able to simply complete the walks at your own pace. We started at 9 30 am and finished at 4 pm. After completing the 4 Peaks you can go onto the Mt Leura website and print out your own achievement certificate! It was a brilliant day's bushwalking and as it is an annual event held in Autumn I would thoroughly recommend it to MWC members.

### Colin Crook



### **Boobyalla Track Clearing Project**

Thanks to the efforts of Kim Rosen, the President of the Melbourne Walking Club, we will soon have a new track to add to our walks programmes. We've all seen lots of tracks marked on maps, but when we try to walk them, it's impossible because they are so overgrown. Most leaders just give up at that point and put on a different walk elsewhere. Not Kim however. She contacted ParksVic and eventually got this joint project up and running.



Volunteers from the Melbourne Walking Club (the lead club for this effort), Boroondara Bushwalkers and the Melbourne Women's Walking Club have participated. 19 participants overall gave a total of 59 volunteer working days. We usually had 3 ParksVic rangers managing the work each day.

We met the rangers at either the Mt Donna Buang car park or the Rainforest Gallery car park. They have the gate keys so we were able to drive to the start of the walking track, reducing the distance we had to carry all the heavy gear each day. The day began with a thorough safety briefing, training in the use of the brush cutters when required, collecting other gear such as loppers and rakehoes, then

heading off to the target section of the track for that day. The rangers used the mini chain saws – surprisingly powerful for their size. The first 4 days we worked up hill from the Road 2 junction. It took us 4 days to clear up to the summit of Mt Boobyalla. We then began work from the other side via the reopened Acheron Way and Road 4.



Even with this number of people, we only managed to clear about 350 to 550 metres per day. We cleared about 2 metres in width. Once we got to our target section of track, the rangers and the brush cutter team headed off; chain sawing and slashing all the scrub. There is guite a range of plants; bitter pea, olearia, flax lilies, wattles, beech myrtle (which we leave) and lots of others we couldn't identify. Following the brush cutters were the groomers. With the rakehoes - those heavy-duty tools you see fire fighters using to rake over smouldering embers we raked up and cleared all the cut material and tossed it off to the side of the

track. That exposed the remnants left behind by the brush cutters – the 5 to 10 cm of the base of the saplings that the brush cutters couldn't always get. The final task was to use the loppers to cut as low to the ground as we could to eliminate those nasty trip hazards and those higher branches waiting to poke us in the eye. Some things we couldn't clear. Storms dropped some quite large trees on the track which we had to detour around to continue our work. The rangers were able to call on the "firies" to cut through these obstacles.

Although this work has been mostly over summer, it has not been too hot to work as the temperature is much cooler up higher. The rangers are very safety conscious and have cut work short when the wind got too strong one day, and when the humidity was really high and we had some sort of pollen or spores in the air sending us all into coughing fits. The odd leech or two made their appearance.

The track is now clear and ready for you to walk. You would need to organise a car shuttle to make a 12 km one way walk. From Mt Donna Buang car park, you can walk down to the start of Road 2. The newly cleared Mt Boobyalla track branches off to the right after about 1.5 km. This continues up and over the top of Mt Boobyalla, for about 3.5 km to join with Road 4 where you turn right again and head down Road 4 to the junction with the Acheron way.

The track needs lots of walkers to prevent it growing over again. Do it soon; it's a great walk.

### Fran Callinan, Boroondara Bushwalkers

### Stalwart Walkers of Our Earlier Days - Ray Whitford

Ray joined the Club in 1932 and during his more than fifty years of membership, he is remembered as a quietly spoken, highly competent and well liked gentleman.

He was appointed Secretary, 1954-59, Tours Officer, 1959-61, served on the Magazine Committee, was elected President for 1961-64 and was honoured with Life Membership in 1965.

Ray was a prolific and very capable bushwalker and his writings and tape recordings that survive covering more than twenty extended trips were a feature of many issues of "The Melbourne Walker". He walked in good company, accompanying Harry Wright and Alan Budge when their duties took them to survey routes for walks that were to be led by others. His other regular companions included Bill Waters, Clyde Grant, Joe Matthews, Don Smart and others in the top echelon of the Club's walkers.

Ray could truly be referred to as an explorer-bushwalker, venturing into some of the state's more inaccessible regions of his time. He visited New Zealand and wrote of his experiences on the Routeburn Track and other areas in the 'Land of the Long White Cloud'. Ray was a cross-country skier in the early thirties and accompanied Bill Waters and Rover Scouts on their forays across the Bogong High Plains. An innovator, Ray made much of his gear, saying "I knew what I wanted and found the best way was to make it myself".

The victim of a fatal car accident in 1986, the Club lost one of its finest members.

### The Birth of Bushwalking in Victoria

The exploration of inland Victoria began in 1824, when Hume and Hovell blazed a trail from present-day Albury to Port Phillip. While avoiding the snow-covered highlands, which they called the South Australian Alps, they saw a mountain that reminded them of a resting buffalo: thus a notable Victorian peak was named.

Twelve years later, Major Mitchell travelled across Western Victoria, followed by McMillan (1839), Strzelecki (1840) and Tyers (1840) who each traversed some of the remaining unknown area.

After migrating to Australia in the late 1840's, the botanist Baron von Mueller embarked upon four extended expeditions around Victoria. Von Mueller was a definitive outdoorsman. During his journeys of discovery, he covered hundreds of kilometres on foot; he explored remote and scenic wilderness areas, including the alps from Mount Hotham to Mount Kosciusko. It has been suggested that, if Victorian bushwalkers were to seek a patron from history, von Mueller would be the likeliest contender.

In the mid-19th century, settlers gradually moved into the region surrounding Mt Buffalo; their enthusiastic descriptions of the mountain's steep spurs and dense forest sparked the interest of others. Locals began to act as guides, leading individuals and small groups.

In June 1894, a group of men met in Melbourne to form Australia's first walking fraternity. The all-male Wallaby Club was established as "...an assembly of good fellows, fond of walking – not in the athletic sense, but as a means of reasonable outdoors enjoyment that would be conducive to health, conversation and good companionship."

In June 1894, a group of men met in Melbourne to form Australia's first walking fraternity – the all-male Wallaby Club.

The Melbourne Amateur Walking and Touring Club (now the Melbourne Walking Club and the longest standing member of BWV) was formed just four months later and the rest, as they say, is history.

Parts of this are an extract from:

'The Scroggin Eaters: A History of Bushwalking in Victoria', Graeme Wheeler (1991).

2024/25 Subscriptions are due by 30 June 2024, and are set out below with discounts available to members who wish to take them when paying.		
2024/25 rates Within Victoria and aged under 80 years \$65 Outside Victoria or aged 80 years and over \$60		
The following discounts apply: Prompt Payment: \$5 (for payment by 30 June 2024). Emailed Circular (not by post): \$10 (for 12 months).		
<u>Note</u> : Life Members and those who have been members for 50 years or more are not required to pay annual subscriptions.		
Please send a cheque payable "Melbourne Walking Club Inc" to: Mr A Robertson, 45 Albany Cres, Aspendale, Vic, 3195. Or		
By bank transfer to the Club's general account:		
Account Name: Melbourne Walking Club Inc.		
BSB: 063-000, Account No: 1078 3218.		
Please ensure that you clearly state your name on the transfer.		
Arthur Robertson, Treasurer, MWC.		



**Today's Challenge** 

If undeliverable, return to: Melbourne Walking Club Inc.

> Box 2446 GPO MELBOURNE VIC 3001

Melbourne Walking Club Circular

Place Stamp Here

