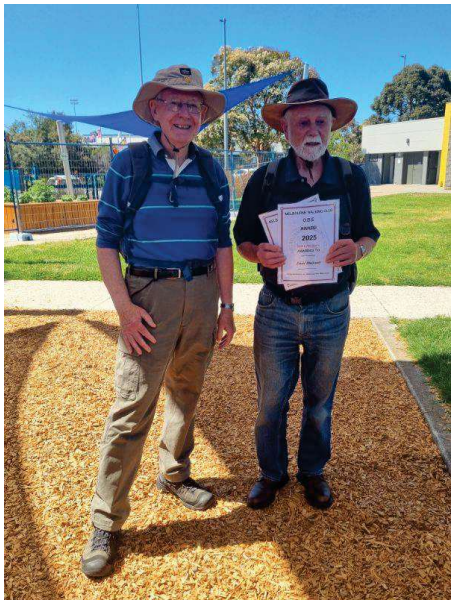

David Blackwell receiving his OBE

If undeliverable, return to:
Melbourne Walking Club Inc.

Box 2446 GPO
MELBOURNE VIC 3001

Melbourne Walking Club Circular

Place Stamp Here

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MARCH ACTIVITIES

Sunday	1 Mar	Pt Roadknight – Airey's Inlet	Glen McIntyre
Monday	2 Mar	Flinders Hinterland	Ian Tregear
Wednesday	4 Mar	Werribee – Werribee	Terry Keating
Sunday	8 Mar	Coburg Lake Reserve	Alex Hordijenko
Tuesday	10 Mar	Lunch: Charles Dickens Tavern	Charlie Freedman
Wednesday	11 Mar	Healesville Loop	Miles Pierce
Sunday	15 Mar	Red Hill South – Punty Lane	Stephen Pfundt
Wednesday	18 Mar	Victoria Park – Clifton Hill	Cynthia Lui
Sunday	22 Mar	Mt Buninyong – Ballarat	Kim Rosen
Monday	23 Mar	Easy Metro: South Melbourne	David Watkins
Wednesday	25 Mar	Mt. Waverley – Nunawading	Doug Swinbourne
Thu-Sun	26-29 Mar	Base U'cover: Falls Creek	Ann Lewis
Sunday	29 Mar	Working Bee – W. B. Hut	Trevor Rosen

Copy for April to: Charlie Freedman – Phone: 0415 558 249
email: charliefreedman@yahoo.com
by the 1st Wednesday in the month, 4th March.

Laughter Is The Best Medicine

Hiking Terminology (Experienced MWC Edition):

- It's not a coffee stop – it's active morale recovery.
- It's not slowing down – it's sustainable pace strategy.
- It's not sitting on a rock – it's field-based physiotherapy.
- It's not lagging behind – it's helping the whip.

Note: On days of total fire ban, walks are automatically cancelled.

Office Bearers 2025-2026

Club Executive
President: Kim Rosen
Secretary: Alison Anthony
Treasurer: Arthur Robertson
Activities Officer: Susan Cranage
Membership Officer: John Rankin
Immediate Past President: Trevor Rosen

General Committee
Charlie Freedman
Julie Paris &
Dean Howe

Sub-Committee Convenors
Mt Buller Lodge: Julie Paris
Walter Briggs Hut: Trevor Rosen
Activities: Susan Cranage

Other Officers
Website Administrator: Charlie Freedman
Circular Editor: Charlie Freedman

Non-Executive Officer
MWC Fundraising: Nicole Smyth

Walk Coordinators
Mid-week Walks: Doug Swinbourne
Easy Metro Walks: Alan Manzoori
Metro Monday: Graeme Barker
Bike Rides: John Rankin
Sunday Walks East: Trevor Rosen
Sunday Walks West: Susan & Colin Crook
Sunday Peninsula Walks: Colleen Simpson
Peninsula Walks: Ron Anderson

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
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webmaster@melbournewalkingclub.org
walterbriggshut@melbournewalkingclub.org
activities@melbournewalkingclub.org

For any queries or further information, contact us directly via email at **healthycommunities@parks.vic.gov.au**.

If you need to contact us about a booking during the weekend please contact our Info Centre on 13 19 63, email **info@parks.vic.gov.au**, or visit **https://www.parks.vic.gov.au/healthy-parks-healthy-people/park-walks**.

Interested in leading walks as a volunteer? Opportunities are available across the state.

Visit **https://www.parkconnect.vic.gov.au/Volunteer** for further details.

All Park Walk events are managed in alignment with the Victorian government guidelines for coronavirus (COVID-19). For up-to-date health information visit **www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au**.

Walking by the Yarra

Your Walks. Your Club. Your Legacy.

Many of us have enjoyed years of walks, friendships and good times through the Melbourne Walking Club. If you've ever felt the Club has given you a lot, you might consider giving a little back to help future members enjoy the same experience.

Members are welcome to leave a bequest in their Will or make a voluntary contribution to support the ongoing costs of running the Club – from walk programs and safety equipment to maintenance of the lodge, the hut and other facilities.

Contributions can be made at any time:

Melbourne Walking Club Inc.
BSB 063-000
Account 1078 3218
Reference: Legacy Fund

Every bit helps keep the Club strong for the next generation of walkers.

Bushwalking News Victoria (BNV)

The Melbourne Walking Club is affiliated with Bushwalking Victoria which publishes **"Bushwalking News"** monthly. The Current and past issues can be read on the Bushwalking Victoria website:

https://bushwalkingvictoria.org.au/bushwalking-newsletter

Join a Park Walk

Join Parks Victoria volunteers to learn about the ecology and heritage of parks across Victoria.

Park Walks are free, don't require any equipment beyond comfortable walking shoes and they're suitable for all ages. Through their discovery tours you can also learn in detail from trained volunteer guides about the heritage and natural features of a site.

Park Walks are group walks led by one of Parks Victoria's trained Volunteer Park Walk Leaders that suit a range of different walking styles. Parks Victoria is committed to supporting the community to receive the health benefits of getting active in parks.

Our friendly volunteers lead:

- **Park Walks**: regular walks for your health and wellbeing.
- **Mindfulness Walks**: enjoy a relaxing guided walk through beautiful bushland, using the concept of mindfulness.

The Goldfields Track: Mt Buninyong to Bendigo

Fourteen One Day Walks

Stage 1 Sunday 22 March 2026: Mt Buninyong to Ballarat

Leader: Kim Rosen

It's on again - don't miss out on the opportunity to do this iconic walk!

The Goldfields Track is a continuous walking track starting from Mt Buninyong and passing through Ballarat, Creswick, Daylesford, Castlemaine and ending in Bendigo. In total it is 210km long. The walk will be completed as a series of one day Sunday walks with a possibility of 2 or 3 Base Undercovers at Hepburn Springs, Castlemaine or Bendigo in the latter half of the walk.

The MWC last did this walk in 2021 & 2022. This time the walk will be structured differently. Members have the option of doing all the walks or just picking out sections that interest them or that fit into their calendars.

There will be a maximum of 16 walkers on any one day. The whole track will be completed over an indeterminate period of time, generally from March to September, avoiding the hotter months. Last time the walk was interrupted by Covid and the huge storm which closed the Wombat State Forest for 12 months. If you were one of the lucky ones to do the walk in 2021-2022 you are welcome to come along again. Our team developed a great sense of camaraderie and it was wonderful to experience the whole track from Mt Buninyong to Bendigo. The walks are generally classified as Medium with distances generally varying from ~14 to 18km. The walks will be advertised in the Circular.

Base Undercover Activity – Hiking Adventure
Blue Mountains Katoomba and Leura
Monday 20th – Friday 24th April 2026

An opportunity to explore the stunning Blue Mountains in autumn. This walk follows the newly opened Grand Clifftop Trails for two days and the Grand Canyon and Cliff route near Blackheath. Enjoy spectacular World Heritage lookouts, panoramic clifftops, and several optional excursions. The 3 single day hikes include iconic views like the Three Sisters at Echo Point, stunning waterfalls (Wentworth Falls), deep canyons (Grand Canyon Track), and Aboriginal cultural sites.

Leaders: Robert Ivory, 0434 532 901, **riv53758@bigpond.net.au**
Eileen O'Callaghan, 0402 209 840, **eocallaghan2000@gmail.com**

Rendezvous: Monday, 20th April 2026 at 6.00pm for a group dinner. Venue TBD.

Transport: Car (10 hours from Melbourne) or public transport (fly to Sydney and 1 hour train to Leura). All walks are accessible by public transport and loop buses from Katoomba, Leura and Blackheath.

Accommodation: Our base will be in the township of Leura. Participants are responsible for booking their own accommodation for a 4-night stay from Monday, 20th – Friday 24th April.

Day One: Tuesday 21st April: Wentworth Falls village – Gordon Falls picnic ground. **Distance**: 11 kms. **Grading**: Moderate – High. Approx. 5- 7 hours. Vertical climb 400m.

Day Two: Wednesday 22nd April – Gordon Falls picnic ground – Scenic World. Optional visit to Scenic World: cable car, gondola and funicular train to view the Blue Mountains. Cost is ~$60. **Distance**: approximately 8km + side trips to lookouts. **Grading**: Moderate – High. Vertical 350m.

Day Three: Thursday 23rd April – Blackheath. Grand Canyon and cliff walk: from Evans Lookout to Govetts Leap lookout. **Distance**: approximately 13km. **Grading**: High. Vertical 590m.

For further information and queries, please contact the leaders.

Please note: You must contact the leaders if you want to attend this activity. Places are limited to a total of 10 participants. All walkers must have good vertical assent fitness. Lots of steps.

MARCH ACTIVITIES

Sun 1 Mar Point Roadknight (outskirts of Anglesea) – Airey's Inlet

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

Leader: Glen McIntyre Phone: 0468 971 450
glenmmcintyre@gmail.com

Rendezvous: 10:00am at Point Roadknight Beach Carpark (NOT Point Roadknight Bridge).

Grading: Easy Distance: 12-13 km.

Transport: Private car. Drive over the Westgate Bridge in the direction of Geelong. Take the Geelong Bypass and follow signs to Great Ocean Rd towards Anglesea on the B100. Drive through Anglesea to the outskirts until you see a sign on the left that says Point Roadknight Beach. Go down Third Avenue through a number of roundabouts to the carpark and park near the toilets which is the meeting point.

For the car shuffle some of us will take cars to the Airey's Inlet Lighthouse carpark while others have morning tea. At Airey's Inlet turn left into Inlet Rd just before a brown sign for Spit Point Lighthouse precinct. Continue up the top of the hill to the Lighthouse carpark.

Walk Details: Be the sea wild or calm this is a wonderful walk to contemplate its power. The walk is 50% along the beach then along the Surf Coast Path up a ridge leading to the Lighthouse. The beach is unspoilt and is the nesting home of the hooded plover which nests from August to March.

Wed 15 Apr Sassafras – Upper Ferntree Gully

Leader: Jenny Hosking Phone: 0423 627 232

Rendezvous: By Train, 8.56am Belgrave train ex Flinders St Station arriving Upper Ferntree Gully station at 9.48am to connect with 10.10am #688 bus to Miss Marples Tea Rooms, Sassafras.

Morning Tea: 3km into the walk at Alfred Nicholas Gardens (Toilets available).

Lunch: One Tree Hill Picnic Ground (Toilets available).

Maps: Melway 66, 74 & 75, and/or Google Distance: 14km approx.

Grading: Medium (undulating walk with loose gravel descent). Poles recommended.

Walk Details: Escaping to the Dandenongs this week for a glorious walk amongst nature. Beginning at Sassafras, we follow the ferny, sheltered Sassafras Creek trail to morning tea at the Alfred Nicholas Gardens. These gardens were part of the historic Burnham Beeches Estate established in the 1930s, by the Nicholas family (developers of Aspro, an aspirin pain killer). After departing the gardens, we proceed along Lloyds Track to One Tree Hill Road and the One Tree Hill Picnic ground for lunch. This area honours the ANZACs and memorabilia is present. We then head downhill to the Station, passing by the finish of the 1000 steps (Kokoda track memorial walk) and learning about the seven season climate conditions.

Escapes: Possible escape outside Conifer Gardens Nursey #688 bus to Upper Ferntree Gully station. Care must be taken waiting here as Mount Dandenong Tourist Road is a very busy road. There are no other escape points.

Sun 19 Apr Greens Bush – Boneo Road

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

Leader: Glenys Harrison Phone: 0415 934 978

Wed 22 Apr Wheelers Hill – Dandenong

Leader: David Watkins Phone: 0414 547 190

Sun 26 Apr Murrundindi

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

Leader: Kim Rosen Phone: 0422 804 816

Mon 27 Apr Alphington – Two Creeks – Darebin

Leader: Ingrid David Phone: 0478 858 156

Wed 29 Apr Heatherdale – Heatherdale

Leader: Doug Swinbourne Phone: 0438 881 176

Map: Melway 76 G9 Distance: 10km approx. return.

Grading: Easy. Mostly flat gravel or bitumen paths with some slight hills.

Transport: Private car or train to Sandringham railway station. If coming by car, parking is available on the east side of the station off Hartson Street. Train departs Flinders Street station platform 13 at 8.17 am to arrive at Sandringham at 8.47 am. Public toilets on Sandringham station.

Morning Tea: At the quirky Alister MacAlister Café in South Road Brighton Beach. If closed, at the Brighton Beach hotel.

Walk Details: Start walk at 9.30 am from the Sandringham Railway Station. The walk will take us along the lower bay trail travelling North towards Brighton Beach Station. The paths are fairly flat, with a few short hills and are constructed of gravel or bitumen. The major landmarks along the Bayside Coastal Trail between Sandringham and Brighton Beach, are as follows:

1. Sandringham Beach: A scenic beach area with bathing boxes and coastal vegetation.
2. Sandringham Rotunda: A historical structure located near Sandringham Beach.
3. The Sandringham yacht club rock wall which provides stunning views of the city and bay.
4. If time permits, we may visit the Green Point lookout in the Brighton Beach Gardens.

We will return to Sandringham via the shorter upper Bay Trail to finish our walk around 12.30.

Escape: Catch a train back to Sandringham from Brighton.

Note: Be sure to bring a hat, water, sunscreen and a jacket in case of chilly winds off the bay.

Mon 13 Apr Jells Park

Leader: Graeme Barker Phone: 0437 006 938

Tue 14 Apr Lunch – Charles Dickens Tavern

NB. Please let the leader know if you are going to attend this activity.

Leader: Barry Revill Phone: 9555 1114

Our regular monthly social lunch occurs on the 2nd Tuesday of each month (except January) at the Charles Dickens Tavern in the basement of 290 Collins Street Melbourne at 12 noon. All welcome.

At the half way mark, Urquhart Bluff, there are toilets and tables. Depending on numbers it would be nicer to walk a few hundred metres up the ridge where there are a table and couple of benches. The Lighthouse Tearooms, situated in this historic precinct, provide the perfect spot for a well-deserved afternoon tea at the end of the walk.

Participants must contact the leader as this walk requires a car shuffle

Mon 2 Mar Flinders Hinterland

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

Leader: Ian Tregear Phone: 0478 624 763

Rendezvous & Morning Tea: 9:45am at Flinders Memorial, Melway 262 A9.

Maps: Melway 261 & 262 Grading: Medium Distance: 12km.

Transport: Private car. Park in the car park off The Esplanade just south of the Cook Street corner.

Walk Details: We take the steps to the beach and then along the sand to Spindrift Av, across Frankston-Flinders Rd to Boyds Rd, then Mornington-Flinders Rd. We then return along the cliffs and Golf links to Flinders jetty. There is little in the way of hills, mostly country road walking with some good sea views.

Wed 4 Mar Werribee Historical Park – Werribee

Leader: Terry Keating Phone: 0418 149 032

Rendezvous: 9:38am Southern entrance to Werribee Railway Station.

Map: Melway 205 Grading: Easy Distance: 11 km.

Transport: 8:59am Werribee train from Flinders Street, arriving at Werribee Station at 9:38am.

Walk Details: Werribee River trail, south to Werribee Street. Cross bridge and proceed to Chernside Park for morning tea. Continue north on left hand side of river to the river bend. Lunch at Riverbend Historical Park.

Escapes: Bus 166 at Heaths Road.

Sun 8 Mar Sunday Metro: Jones Park – Coburg Lake Reserve

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

Leader: Alex Hordijenko Phone: 0497 699 507

Rendezvous: 9.30am outside the Russian Orthodox Church at the end of Albion Street Brunswick (Melway 30 B6).

Maps: Melway 30, 18 & 17 Grading: Easy Distance: 10 km.

Transport: Private car or tram. There is ample free parking in Albion Street and surrounding streets near the church.

From the city by Trams 1 and 6 that run along Swanston and Lygon Streets and alighting at Albion Street (Stop 127). Crossing at the lights, it is then a short half km walk along Albion Street to the rendezvous.

Morning Tea: At the Cielo Gelateria within the grounds of the redeveloped historic Pentridge Prison site. Coffee, cakes and gelato can be purchased at quite reasonable prices (or BYO).

Walk Details: An attractive and interesting walk along the Merri Creek trail to Coburg Lake Reserve. The walk is easy and generally flat on mainly sealed pedestrian/bike paths. At Bell Street we leave the trail and head to Cielo Gelateria at the redeveloped Pentridge Prison site for the morning tea break. After morning tea we rejoin the Merri Creek trail at Coburg Lake Reserve and head back to our rendezvous spot. We expect to finish no later than 12.30 pm.

Note: Toilets at morning tea and Coburg Lake Reserve.

Tue 10 Mar Lunch – Charles Dickens Tavern

NB. Please let the leader know if you are going to attend this activity.

Leader: Charlie Freedman Phone: 0415 558 249

Our regular monthly social lunch occurs on the 2nd Tuesday of each month (except January) at the Charles Dickens Tavern in the basement of 290 Collins Street Melbourne at 12 noon. All welcome.

Wed 11 Mar Healesville – Maroondah Reservoir – Healesville

Leader: Miles Pierce Phone: 9890 8319
0429 359 832

Rendezvous: Bus stop, Green St/Maroondah Hwy, Healesville, to meet #685 bus - scheduled arrival from Lilydale at 10:08 am.

Morning Tea: Queens Park Picnic Area (Melway 270 D12).

Maps: Melway 270 & 278.

Grading: Easy/Medium Distance: 11 km (or 12.5 km).

Transport: Via public transport: Lilydale train ex Flinders St at 8:15 am, arr. Lilydale 9:10 am then bus no. 685 to Healesville at 9:32 am from bus Bay 'E', (William St West), sched. arrival in Green St immediately south of Maroondah Hwy, at 10:08 am.

Via Car: Suggest parking in River St adjacent to Coronation Park (Melway 270 C12) then a short walk down Green St to rendezvous at the bus stop. (Leader will travel via public transport.)

Return Buses: Route no. 685 buses depart from the Maroondah Hwy / Green St bus stop to Lilydale station at 2:02; 2:46; 3:26; 4:06 pm. (About 24 min journey time.)

Transport: Private car. After morning tea we will drive up the mountain, a 30 minute drive, and park near the hut.

Activity Details: Depending on the numbers attending we plan to finish clearing the track from the hut to the Healesville Rd. Some of this track has already been partly cleared but there is a final section to complete. When the track is open it allows access from the hut to the walk along the dirt road to the Ben Cairn rock formation. Other work involves cleaning the hut, clearing the main access track, cleaning the gutter and the water filter.

Bring your own lunch, drinking water and a thermos for hot drinks. Gardening gloves, rubber gloves (for cleaning), shears, secateurs, loppers and any other tools you think would be useful should also be brought. Long pants and gaiters are recommended if track clearing.

Whether you have been to the hut before or not it is always enjoyable to visit the hut and to explore the surrounding forest areas in the beautiful Yarra Ranges National Park.

APRIL PROGRAM

Wed 1 Apr Tooronga – Caulfield

Leader: Oliver Lucas Phone: 9571 6865

Mon 6 Apr Fingal – Gunnamatta

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

Leader: Doug Connell Phone: 0419 527 653

Rendezvous & Morning Tea: 9:45am Fingal picnic area, Melway 259 B9.

Map: Melway 259 Grading: Medium Distance: 12 km.

Transport: Private car.

Walk Details: From Fingal picnic area we descend the steps to the beach then walk to the Gunnamatta Surf Club for lunch, then return along the beach till we pick up the coastal walking track back to the car park.

The track can be a little difficult in the sand dunes for a short time but well worth it for the views.

Wed 8 Apr East Camberwell – Kew

Leader: Stuart Galloway Phone: 0421 560 031

Sun 12 Apr Sandringham Station – Brighton Beach Station – Return

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

Leader: Ann Lewis Phone: 0411 364 001

Rendezvous: Sandringham Railway Station at 9.00 am.

Walk Details: The walk goes south-east to Valley Reserve bushland park for morning tea, then north-east to Syndal Station. It then joins the pipeline track, only leaving it to have lunch at East Burwood Reserve. We have to cross the busy Springvale Rd./Canterbury Rd. intersection to rejoin the pipeline track, only leaving it again at Mt.Pleasant Rd. to head directly to Nunawading Station. The walk is mostly flat, with some gentle uphill sections.

Escapes: At Highbury Rd. (#736 bus to Glen Waverley or Blackburn), at Burwood Hwy (#732 bus to Box Hill or #75 tram to Flinders St.) and Springvale Rd. (#902 bus to Glen Waverley or Nunawading).

Thu-Sun 26-29 Mar Base Undercover Activity: Falls Creek, Victoria

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

Leaders: Ann Lewis Phone: 0411 364 001
Sue Cranage 0414 669 948

Rendezvous: Thursday 26th March arrive after 3pm at the Aurora (CSIR) Ski Lodge in Falls Creek Village with a 6pm group dinner at the Frying Pan Inn.

Transport: Private car. Falls Creek Village is approx. 400km from Melbourne.

Accommodation: 3 nights at the Aurora (CSIR) Ski Lodge, 1 Schuss Street, Falls Creek Village: **www.csirski.asn.au**.

Walk Details: There will be a variety of day walks organised such as:

1. The Wallace Heritage Trail - 8km.
2. Healthy Spur Track - 8km.
3. Mount Nelse Summit - 11km.

Estimated Costs: Cost of 3 nights' accommodation at the CSIR Ski Lodge will be $165 ($55 per person per night). A deposit of $100 per person will be required at the time of registration towards accommodation.

For further information including a more detailed itinerary, please contact: Ann Lewis (Mobile: 0411 364 001, Email: **annveronicalewis@gmail.com**) or Sue Cranage (Mobile: 0414 669 948, Email: **smcranage@optusnet.com.au**).

Please Note: Places are limited to a maximum of 8 participants. Registration closing date is 31st January 2026. A wait list will be maintained in case of cancellations.

Sun 29 Mar Walter Briggs Hut Working Bee, Mt Donna Buang

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

Leader: Trevor Rosen Phone: 0412 136 124

Rendezvous & Morning Tea: 9.30am at the Warburton Bakery on the corner of the Warburton Highway and Thomas Avenue, Melway 290 B4. Warburton is only 75km from the Melbourne CBD.

Distance: 300m walk into the hut from a car park Grading: Easy.

Walk Outline: The majority of this loop walk is along residential streets and rural roads, along with public and MVO roads within the Maroondah Reservoir reserve. For the most part formal footpaths are not present and single-file walking will be necessary/warranted for some sections.

From the morning tea spot in Queens Park – seating and toilets – the walk proceeds via Don Road, Farnham Rd and Wallace Pde to reach the Maroondah Highway east of Healesville. The latter moderately busy road is then followed for about half a kilometre to McKenzie Rd and via it down to the main car park in the Maroondah Reservoir Park. Lunch will be had in one of the adjoining picnic areas – in a rotunda if not otherwise occupied. Formal toilets facilities also available here.

After lunch the route follows a bush trail up to a lookout point above the dam wall. From here, Melbourne Water MVO Road 15 is followed to the downstream end of 'Echo Tunnel' that conveys water from the Reservoir outlet tower to the first open channel section of the Maroondah Aqueduct. From this locale, Road 17 can be followed south-west to reach Donnellys Weir Road or alternatively Road 15 can continue to be traversed beside the open channel aqueduct to reach the former road further to the north. This adds around 1.3 km to the walk and may also entail getting boots wet at a ford on Donnellys Weir Road.

To complete the walk, Donnellys Weir Road is followed to where it joins Myers Creek Rd and thence via it and several Healesville streets back to Coronation Park and the bus stop.

Escapes: There are no escapes after leaving the Maroondah Hwy prior to lunch, (about 3 km from start) unless an impromptu car shuffle is arranged by participants who choose to drive to and from Healesville.

Sun 15 Mar Red Hill South – Punty Lane Circuit

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

Leader: Stephen Pfundt Phone: 0434 199 736

Rendezvous & Morning Tea: 9:00am at Bushland Reserve car park, corner Pt Leo Rd. and Callanans Rd.

Maps: Melway 191 A7 Grading: Medium Distance: 15km.

Transport: Private car.

Walk Details: From the reserve, this hilly walk traverses picturesque farmlands and vineyards. Majestic old pine trees line Punty Lane. There is an off-track section in Punty Lane, gaiters are recommended for snake protection for this short creek crossing (there is a rustic log bridge). Walk detours through Montalto sculpture park before returning to the Bushland Reserve starting point.

Notes: This is a circuit walk with no escapes. There are toilets at the rendezvous point and Montalto Winery which is 3km from the end of the walk.

Wed 18 Mar Victoria Park – Yarra Bend Park – Clifton Hill

Leader: Cynthia Lui Phone: 0415 038 776
cynthialui@mac.com

Rendezvous: 9.45 am at Victoria Park station. Meet at the bottom of the ramp under the overpass on Johnston Street (next to Dr Morse café).

Maps: Melway 2C & 2D Grading: Medium Distance: approx. 11.5-12 km.

Public Transport: 9.21 am Mernda train from Flinders Street Station, arriving at Victoria Park at 9.42 am.

Morning Tea: Outside Convent Bakery (Abbotsford Convent precinct). Seating, shade and toilets. Coffee and baked goods available!

Lunch: Fairfield Park Boathouse – seating and toilets available.

Walk Details: We walk past Victoria Park and head towards the Abbotsford Convent precinct for morning tea. After morning tea we explore the historic grounds of the convent and join the Main Yarra Trail towards Dights Falls and Yarra Bend Park. We walk past the Kew Boathouse and cross the Eastern Freeway to then rejoin the trail along the Yarra River to the Fairfield Boathouse. After lunch we join the Merri Creek Trail to our destination at Clifton Hill train station.

Escape: At Fairfield Boathouse (8 km), Heidelberg Road bus to Clifton Hill station.

Finish at Clifton Hill station: trains regularly depart for Flinders Street every 10 - 15 minutes.

Sun 22 Mar Goldfields Track - Stage 1: Mt Buninyong – Ballarat

NB. You must contact the leader if you intend coming on this walk.

Leader: Kim Rosen Phone: 0422 804 816

Maximum number on this walk: 16.

Rendezvous: 9.30am at Ebden St. Reserve, Ballarat. Meet in the large carpark between Scott Parade and Ebden St., just south-west of the Eastern Oval. We will leave half the cars here and drive the others to the picnic ground at the top of Mt Buninyong.

Morning Tea: At the picnic ground on the summit of Mt Buninyong where there are picnic tables, a rotunda for shelter and toilets. There will be an opportunity to climb the lookout tower which has wonderful 360 degree views.

Map: Melway X911 A1 & Google Maps Grading: Medium Distance: 18km.

Transport: Private car. Approx. 1.5 hour drive from the eastern suburbs of Melbourne via Westgate Bridge and Western Highway to Ballarat.

Walk Details: The Goldfields Track starts at the summit of Mt Buninyong and heads downhill past a crater, eucalypts, dry stone walls and the von Mueller designed Botanical Gardens to the historical town of Buninyong which was first settled in 1841. After a rest stop in De Soza Park the route takes us on a shared path parallel with the Geelong Road until a turn off at Olympic Ave. The track then follows the pretty Canadian Creek Trail into Ballarat and back to Ebden Reserve via Peel Street. There is minimal climbing on this stage of the Goldfields track. The car shuttle is completed when we take the cars back to Mt Buninyong. Bring a packed lunch to have along the track and plenty of water. Maximum of 16 people - preference to members.

Mon 23 Mar Easy Metro: South Melbourne – West Gate Bridge

Leader: David Watkins Phone: 0414 547 190
david39mwc@gmail.com

Rendezvous: 9.55am at Montague Street tram Stop 126 on route #109 to Station Pier.

Maps: Melway 43 & 42 Grading: Easy Distance: 8km.

Transport: Catch 9.35am Station Pier tram #109 at Stop #1 corner of Collins and Spencer Streets. Alight at stop #126 Montague Street at 9.53am.

Morning Tea: Near Bicentennial Memorial Beach Road. Seating, cover, toilets (Melway 2J B7).

Lunch: Westgate Park, Seating, Cover, Toilets (Melway 42 F1).

Walk Details: A flat easy walk, no hills, with park land, beachside, and bushland walking to finish at Albora Marinas on Lorimer Street, where there is an excellent café/restaurant for those interested. Frequent buses from finish to Southern Cross.

Toilets: At Morning tea (2km), Sandridge beach (4km) & Lunch at Westgate Park (5.3km).

Escapes: There are bus escapes at 3km, 5km & 7km.

Wed 25 Mar Mt. Waverley – Nunawading

Leader: Doug Swinbourne Phone: 0438 881 176

Rendezvous: South side of Mt. Waverley Station (Platform 1 side) at 10:05am. Toilets at station.

Morning Tea: Valley Reserve (toilets and seating).

Lunch: East Burwood Reserve (toilets and seating).

Maps: Melway 70, 61, 62 & 48 Grading: Easy Distance: 11km.

Transport: 9:33am Glen Waverley train ex Flinders St, arrives at Mt.Waverley Station at 10:03am.