

Melbourne Walking Club Inc.

2021 Annual Report



Founded 1894

***For the promotion and encouragement
of recreational walking in congenial
company and to foster the
conservation
of our natural heritage***

President's Report - 2020 / 2021

As we all know the last year has been challenging and difficult for everyone because of the ongoing Covid 19 pandemic. The lockdowns and restrictions have meant that many Club walks were either postponed or cancelled during the year. This included both weekday and Sunday walks. The ski season at Mt Buller was also severely disrupted and most winter bookings at the lodge were unfortunately cancelled. This follows on from a similarly disrupted ski season in the previous year. Visits to the Walter Briggs Hut at Mt Donna Buang were also limited by the restrictions. We all look forward to the return of our normal walks program and activities as the restrictions gradually ease.

Despite all of the above the good news is that there were still many occasions during the year when members were able to walk together and to enjoy each other's company. Apart from the regular walks some of the highlights have included a Club trip to the Mt Buller lodge in March, a record attendance at the Open Day at the Walter Briggs Hut in April, the very successful combined walk with the Melbourne Women's Walking Club in May, the Skier's Walk in May and the completion of the initial series of one day walks along the Goldfields Track in Central Victoria between March and June.

I also note the participation of a small group of members in a Remote Area First Aid course in March which was made possible by a successful grant application to the Victorian government. Another development during the year has been the implementation of a new online booking system for the ski lodge thanks to the efforts of the Mt Buller Lodge Subcommittee.

The other good news is that the overall membership of the Club has remained fairly constant at about 270 and pleasingly the number of women members continues to increase. We now have about 40 female members of the Club with two currently on the Executive Committee.

The major achievement during the past year has been the successful completion of the strategic review of the Club's operations and activities and the implementation of its recommendations by the Executive Committee. A new subcommittee was set up for the purpose of conducting the review. The aim was to consider ways to reform the Club by increasing member participation in Club activities and also to attract new members to join the Club.

Members will be aware that a questionnaire was sent to all members last year and the feedback was carefully considered and analysed. The main recommendation was to change the structure of the administration of the Club by forming two new subcommittees; an Activities Subcommittee and a Marketing Subcommittee. Both of these have now been established and are working to achieve our goals. The Club now has a Facebook page, an updated Circular and a refreshed website thanks to the Marketing Subcommittee.

One important initiative emerging from the strategic review is a new scheme to encourage more people to stay at the Mt Buller lodge during the summer. Given the winter lockdowns and subsequent loss of revenue it is extremely important that more use is made of the lodge during the summer months. The “exclusive use” initiative for members and their families and friends makes staying at the lodge an even more attractive proposition and I encourage all members to consider the lodge as a summer holiday destination. The lodge is a wonderful asset for the club and it is there to be used and enjoyed by all members throughout the year. Details and booking arrangements for the new initiative appear in the Circular.

Throughout the entire year the Club’s Executive Committee has continued to meet every two months with much use made of video conferencing. This has worked well and at every meeting many different issues are discussed covering all aspects of the Club’s operations and activities. The members of the Committee also stay in regular email and telephone contact and we always welcome comments and questions from members.

I thank all of the members of the Executive Committee for their contribution to the Club during the year. They consist of Charlie Freedman (Senior Vice President, Circular Editor and Website Administrator), Terry Simpson (Treasurer), Jenny Hosking (Activities Officer), John Rankin (Membership Officer), Michael Corrigan (Secretary), David Jones (Convenor of the Mt Buller Lodge), my wife Kim Rosen (Convenor of the Walter Briggs Hut and the Sunday Walks Co-Ordinator) and Richard Simpson (General Committee Member and Convenor of the Marketing Subcommittee).

I also thank all the other people who have served on sub-committees during the year especially the Mt Buller Lodge Sub-Committee, and the Mt Donna Buang Hut Sub-Committee. I particularly thank the three other members of the Strategic Review Subcommittee, David Watkins, Terry Simpson and Richard Simpson for all the work they did and the assistance which they provided over many months to complete the Strategic Review. Finally, I thank all of the members who have acted as walk leaders during the year on both the metropolitan and country walks and those members who have acted as leaders at the ski lodge. Many other members of the Club have also helped organize walks during the week and their assistance is also most appreciated

Trevor Rosen
President
Melbourne Walking Club

Activities Officer Report – 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021

Refer to table on **Page 5**.

During the year 68 events were held.

- Number attending at least one event 115
- Number participating in 5 or more events 38
- Number participating in 10 or more events 23
- Number participating in 20 or more events 11

Member participation for the year was 42.3%. The statistics reflect an increase in member participation in the past year of approx. 5%, despite many walks being cancelled or limited participation due to government covid-19 restrictions in July to October 2020, March 2021 and May to June 2021. Two events attracted substantial participation by members. Firstly, 35 members and visitors attended the naming of the Lance Cranage Woodshed at Walter Briggs Hut. Secondly, 40 members and visitors attended the combined walk with the Melbourne Women's Walking Club at Seawinds, Arthurs Seat. A successful base undercover at Mt Buller was held over the Labour Day long weekend and an attempt to walk the 210km Goldfields Track was impacted by severe storms and covid-19 travel restrictions.

Once again huge thanks to David Watkins and Oliver Lucas for the Wednesday Metro walks, Ron Anderson for the Peninsula walks, Graeme Barker for the 3rd Wednesday walks, Gordon Proudfoot for the Easy Metro walks and Kim Rosen for the Sunday walks. Special thanks to David Watkins for collecting and preparing all the statistics relating to walk program and included with this report.

Another huge thanks to MWC members who have led walks in the past year; Ron Anderson, Bruce Armstrong, Doug Connell, Gordon Proudfoot, Keith Tupper, David Watkins, Alan Manzoori, Arthur Robertson, Jim Cone, Marsha Rankin, Oliver Lucas, David Blackwell, Gordon de Navi, Trevor Rosen, Kim Rosen, Jim Smith, Richard Bowen, Terry Simpson, Stewart Stanlake, Alex Hordijenko, Peter O'Donoghue, Stuart Galloway, Colin Crook, Don Ziino, John Rankin, Les Littlejohn, Wayne Hansen, Travis Clark, Charlie Freedman, Michael Corrigan, Ian Tregear, John Ackerman, Brett Hayton, Tony Cagney, Richard Simpson, Miles Pierce, David Jones and myself.

At the time of writing this report, Metro Melbourne is still in lockdown. The Roadmap to Recovery indicates that MWC should be able to resume its Activity Program unrestricted by 5 November when 80% of the Victorian population aged 16+ are vaccinated.

Hope to see you on the trails soon.

Jenny Hosking - Activities Officer

Annual Statistics Report

1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021

		Total Attendances		Averages					
Activity	Total Events	Members	Visitors	20/21	19/20	18/19	17/18	16/17	15/16
Wed Metro	29	325	31	12	12	15	17	16	17
Wed Pres Walk	canc	-	-	-	30	36	31	37	47
Wed 3 rd	7	59	6	9	14	16	16	18	18
Mon Peninsula	6	50	6	9	10	10	10	10	12
Mon Metro	6	69	8	13	10	9	11	15	11
Mon Easy	4	50	5	14	10	14	13	15	15
Sunday Country	12	103	31	11	13	16	13	11	14
Combined MWWC	1	25	15	40	-	11	17	32	27
Walter Briggs	2	31	10	21	6	5	4	6	11
Bike Ride	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	7
O/Night Pack	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	-	-
Base Tents	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Base Undercover	1	8	4	12	-	13	13	9	6
Extended Mixed Tour	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
TOTAL	68	720	116						

Treasurer's Report

Melbourne Walking Club Inc (Not For Profit Reporting) **June 2021 Annual Financial Statements**

Executive Committee Report for the Year Ended 30 June 2021

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the mandatory Australian Accounting Standards applicable to entities reporting under the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 and the significant accounting policies disclosed below.

Your MWC Executive present this report for the financial year ended 30 June 2021.

Executive Committee

The names of each person who has been a office holder during the year and to the date of this report are:

- President: Trevor Rosen
- Secretary: Michael Corrigan
- Vice President Charlie Freedman
- Treasurer: Terry Simpson
- Activities Officer Jenny Hosking
- Membership Officer John Rankin
- General Committee Members: David Jones, Kim Rosen, Jenny Hosking and Richard Simpson (February 2021)

Principal Activities

The principal activity of the club during the financial year was the promotion and encouragement of recreational walking and other activities in congenial company and to foster the conservation of our natural heritage.

Review of Operations

During the year, the club continued to engage in its principal activity, the results of which are disclosed in the attached Financial Statements.

The net current year deficit of the club for the financial year ended 30 June 2021 amounted to \$13,325.

Short-term and Long-term Objectives

1. The clubs short-term objectives are:

Promotion and encouragement of recreational walking and other activities and conservation.

Promote and encourage the use of the Mt Buller Lodge and The Walter Briggs hut for recreational activities.

2. The company's long-term objectives are:

Continuing promotion of the Clubs Activities with the recognition of changing demographics of membership.

Continue to be sustainable and strive for continuous improvement for membership experience.

3. To achieve its stated objectives, the club has adopted the following strategies:

The club strives to attract and retain members and recruit volunteers to work on the various club committees.

The committee members and leaders are essential for the club to continue providing the services that it does, and critical to it achieving all of its short-term and long-term objectives.

The Club establishes and fosters working partnerships with a range of community stakeholders.

MWC Incorporated Profit and Loss Account for the year ended 30 June 2021

<u>1. Mount Buller Account</u>	<i>Notes</i>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
Income		\$	\$
- Tariffs Winter		6,500	40,552
- Tariffs Summer		10,800	2,960
- Locker fees		0	70
- Interest and donations		<u>20</u>	<u>445</u>
Total Income		<u>17,320</u>	<u>44,027</u>
Expenditure			
Fixed costs			
- Site rental and service charge		18,683	12,715
- Insurance		<u>9,918</u>	<u>6,754</u>
		28,601	19,469
Variable costs			
- Utilities, gas, electricity, telephone		4,335	8,534
- Repairs and maintenance		819	690
- Sundry		<u>574</u>	<u>405</u>
		<u>5,728</u>	<u>9,629</u>
Total expenses		<u>34,329</u>	<u>29,098</u>
Net Surplus (deficit)		<u>-17,009</u>	<u>14,929</u>
<u>2. MWC general account</u>		<u>2,021</u>	<u>2020</u>
Income			
Subscriptions		14,075	14,105
Donations and bequests	1	695	706
Visitor fees		331	195
Government grant		2,000	0
Sundry		<u>206</u>	<u>1349</u>
Total income		<u>17,307</u>	<u>16,355</u>
Expenditure			
Affiliation fees		2,834	5,036
Circular printing & postage		2,852	2,537
Insurance		2,400	3,002
Walk/tours expenses		216	400
Walter Briggs Hut	2	1,999	742
Training emergency first aid		2,000	0
Sundry		<u>1,322</u>	<u>3,402</u>
Total expenses		<u>13,623</u>	<u>15,119</u>
Net Surplus (Deficit)		<u>3,684</u>	<u>1236</u>
TOTAL SURPLUS (DEFICIT) for the year.....		<u>-13,325</u>	<u>16,165</u>

MWC Incorporated Balance Sheet for the year ended 30 June 2021

		<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
		\$	\$
Current Assets	<u>Notes</u>		
<u>Cash and cash equivalents</u>			
MWC general bank a/c & fixed deposit		38,410	37,498
Mt Buller general & saver a/c		<u>48,619</u>	<u>71,575</u>
		87,029	109,073
<u>Debtors & stocks</u>			
General debtors, badges		500	3,686
Prepayments- Insurance		10,844	7,612
Paypal deposits prepaid booking		<u>23,498</u>	<u>0</u>
Total current Assets		<u>121,871</u>	<u>120,372</u>
Current Liabilities			
Advance tariffs- Mt Buller		23,498	0
Advance subscriptions MWC		4,915	8,038
Creditors and expense accruals		<u>0</u>	<u>5,550</u>
Total Current Liabilities		<u>28,413</u>	<u>13,588</u>
Net Current Assets		93,458	106,784
Fixed Assets			
Mt Buller Lodge- at cost	3	<u>439,210</u>	<u>439,210</u>
Total Fixed Assets		<u>439,210</u>	<u>439,210</u>
Total Net Assets		532,668	545,994
Equity			
Accumulated Funds - General		67,764	64,082
Accumulated Funds - Mt Buller		<u>464,904</u>	<u>481,912</u>
Total Equity		532,668	545,994

Notes to the Accounts

<u>Note 1</u>	<u>2021</u> \$	<u>2020</u> \$
2021 includes a donation of \$500 from Robert Bleakly 2020 includes a bequest of \$500 from David Bleakly.	695	706

Note 2 Walter Briggs Hut

The increased focus in 2019 on the Walter Briggs Hut was part of a strategy of improving this iconic hut, the providing members with a special walking experience. Spending has continued through to 2021.

2019	\$6,214
2020	\$742
2021	\$1,999

Note 3 Mt Buller lodge

	\$	\$
Mt Buller lodge cost	263,720	263,720
Mt Buller lodge extensions cost	175,490	178,490
Mt Buller Lodge furniture and fittings at cost	55,516	55,516
Less accumulated depreciation	<u>(55,516)</u>	<u>(55,516)</u>
Net carrying amount	439,210	439,210

Fair Market Value

Mt Buller Lodge Fair Value as at 30 June 2021

- The Mt Buller Sub Committee & The MWC Executive Committee are of the view that current Fair Market Value "FMV" of the Mt Buller Lodge is in excess of \$2m. Based on current market assessments.
- As at the 30th June 2020, as a result of the uncertainty caused by the Covid outbreak, no view was taken as to the "FMV".
- As at 30 June 2019 a value of \$1.1M was provided by the Mt Buller Sub Committee.

Depreciation was previously not charged against cost of the lodge. Changes to New accounting standards AASB 1053 allow 'not for profit entities' to apply Reduced Disclosure Requirements from 1 January 2018. This means Mt Buller Lodge need not be depreciated, but the Fair Value of the Lodge must be noted in the Accounts.

Financial Statements

The Financial Statements cover the Melbourne Walking Club Inc. Not For Profit (ACNC Non-reporting) as an individual entity incorporated and domiciled in Australia.

The Financial Statements were authorised for issue on 23 September 2021 by the Executive Committee of the Club.

T. Simpson

Treasurer

Date 23 September 2021

T. Rosen

President

1 Summary of significant accounting policies

Financial Reporting Framework The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the mandatory Australian Accounting Standards applicable to entities reporting under the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 and the significant accounting policies disclosed below, which the directors have determined are appropriate to meet the needs of members. Such accounting policies are consistent with those of previous periods unless stated otherwise.

AASB 1053 Application of Tiers of Australian Accounting Standards establishes a differential reporting framework consisting of two tiers of reporting requirements for preparing general purpose financial statements:

- (a) Tier 1: Australian Accounting Standards; and
- (b) Tier 2: Australian Accounting Standards Reduced Disclosure Requirements. Reduced Disclosure Requirements include a Reporting Entity that does not have public accountability. The Melbourne Walking Club inc is considered to be a Tier 2 Entity.

Basis of Preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on an accrual basis and are based on historical costs unless otherwise stated in the notes.

Revenue

- Donations and bequests are recognised as revenue when received unless specific requests require a different treatment.
- Interest revenue is recognised as it accrues.
- Club Membership Subscriptions are payable annually in advance. There is no accrual. Subscriptions paid are either recorded as in advance or as subscriptions received.

Property, Plant and Equipment

Plant and equipment

Plant and equipment are measured on the cost basis less depreciation and any impairment losses.

1. Buildings

- No depreciation has been applied to buildings or operating leases.
- Changes to New accounting standards AASB 1053 allow not for profit entities to apply Reduced Disclosure Requirements from 1 January 2018.

Tier 2: Australian Accounting Standards Reduced Disclosure Requirements for a Reporting Entity that does not have public accountability. The Melbourne Walking Club inc is considered to be a Tier2 Entity. We have, therefore, merely reported the fair value of buildings.

2. Leases

- Lease payments for operating leases, where substantially all the risks and benefits remain with the lessor, are charged as expenses on a monthly basis.
- AASB 16 changes the financial reporting landscape for how lessees account for operating leases. Given MWC Inc is a Tier2 entity we propose to merely note the terms of our lease liability for the Mt Buller Lodge land
- Details of lease over The Melbourne Walking Club Inc Mt Buller ski lodge.
 - ◊ Land description-Lot A site 8 within the Mt Buller Alpine resort.
 - ◊ Lease between the Alpine resorts Commission and Melbourne Walking Club incorporated for a period of 35 years.
 - ◊ Expiry date 31 May 2027.

Income Tax

No provision for income tax has been raised as the entity is exempt from income tax under Div 50 of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997.

Economic Dependence

The Melbourne Walking Club Not For Profit (ACNC Non-reporting) Limited is dependent on the club members subscriptions for the majority of its revenue used to operate the business. This also includes accommodation fees from members and guests at the Mt Buller Lodge. At the date of this report the Executive has no reason to believe the Club will not continue to receive support from its members and guests.

TREASURERS REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 June 2021

The overall result for the year to 30 June 2021 was a \$13,325 deficit as detailed in the following summary and commentary.

	2021	2020	2019	2018
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Surplus/ (Deficit) - MWC General Account	3,684	1,236	(3750)	799
-Mt. Buller Lodge Account	<u>(17,009)</u>	<u>14,929</u>	<u>14,617</u>	<u>967</u>
TOTAL MWC Surplus/(Deficit)	<u>(13,325)</u>	<u>16,165</u>	<u>10,867</u>	<u>1,766</u>

Melbourne Walking Club

A surplus of \$3,684 for the year, compared to the previous year of a surplus of \$1,236 was due largely to a Covid rebate from Bushwalking Victoria.

Mt Buller Lodge

A deficit for the year of \$17,009 was recorded. Income for the year 2020/2021 was severely affected by the Covid-19 Virus as there are no winter bookings due to the Mt. Buller closure. The 2021/22 year will also be badly affected by the Covid 19 Virus.

In our opinion, however, The Mt Buller Lodge has sufficient cash reserves for the coming year. Strategies are in place to increase the income of the Lodge. But the Covid-19 impact remains a serious risk to the Lodge.

T. Simpson - Treasurer.

REVIEWERS REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 June 2021

I have examined the Accounts of the Melbourne Walking Club Incorporated. From the information available and the explanations received I am of the opinion that the accompanying Financial Statements are properly drawn up so as to present a fair view of the operations of the Club for the year ended 30 June 2021 and the financial position at that date.

C R Denovan - Honorary Reviewer.

Annual Report on the Mount Buller Lodge for 2021

The 2021 Season: The winter season of 2021 was exceptional ... apparently! Unfortunately not so exceptional for bookings and income for the club as the lockdown induced by the COVID-19 pandemic robbed us and every other club in the alpine areas desperately needed funding. To be down in funding two years in a row is considered almost a disaster. Should next year be a bad snow year or suffering another lockdown like the last two years will see the Mt Buller Lodge struggle severely to be financially positive.

Summer use for this coming season is desperately needed in order to make up for the winter shortfall.

Summer use: So, we have devised a way to assist members and guests to book the lodge for a holiday where a member and family and any friend or guest can take over the lodge exclusively for a short period. The cost is reasonable especially if the number of people using the lodge is more than 6.

Winter Tariffs (2021 season) were unchanged from the previous year, summer tariffs have remained the same for winter 2021. Next year the tariffs will rise due to the recent rate valuation increase. The bi-annual end of season sub-committee meeting is in October. It is here we will discuss the tariff increase necessary to cover the rental and insurance increases.

Insurances: Insurance was due in April 2021. As a result we were forced to change insurance providers to find the best possible premium in the market. Even so, a substantial increase has hit the club which had to pay an annual premium of \$13,150. Compare this to Lodge Insurance paid in April 2019 = \$8,396. This before the terrible bush fires in December of 2019.

Site Rental: The cost for this year (2021) was \$8,533, but a rental relief payment was received at \$2,834 effectively halving one of our larger out-goings. The other larger payment was the Mt Buller service Charge at \$10,149.

On-Line Booking: The on-line booking system was a great success this year with many people managing to use the system without too much effort, but then to find the whole ski season was almost fully abandoned (except at the early in June and mid-July). Bookings paid for on line after that had to be refunded.

Financially we are way down on what it would have been if the season was not blocked by the lockdown. Cash in hand is \$41,260. In 2019 at the same time of the year the cash status was around \$82,370.

Unfortunately, total Lockdown refunds came to \$38,200. It is likely that had there been no lockdown due to the pandemic, more bookings would have evolved as the winter season progressed to become one of the best for many years and our financial status would have been very healthy. (Cash in hand \$41,260 + Refunds \$38,200 + bookings as mentioned another \$6,000).

Usage of the Lodge: We would like Club Members and their guests to use the facility, and we strongly encourage this. As a walking club, there should be more patronage since there are so many beautiful walking areas around the Buller / Stirling Mountains in summer periods. This lodge is not for the exclusive use of skiers, but available for every member of the Melbourne Walking Club.

Now that exclusive use is possible at very fair rates we would hope this will be taken up by members. See the Circular for additional details.

Report compiled by David Jones Sub-committee representative to the MWC Executive.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "David Jones", with a horizontal line underneath it.

5th October 2021

David Jones - Convenor

Walter Briggs Hut Annual Report 2021

The following report covers the period 1st July 2020 to 30th June 2021.

The year 2020-2021 was again severely disrupted by the changing Covid 19 restrictions, by a number of lockdowns, as well as by the road closure of the Mount Donna Buang Road for 3 weeks following the severe storms of 9 June. At the time of writing Melbourne is locked down again and it is unlikely that we will be able to visit the hut until after 5 November. The last visit to the hut by the subcommittee was on Sunday 4 July 2021.

SUBCOMMITTEE

The current members of the Walter Briggs Hut subcommittee are: Kim Rosen (Convenor), Trevor Rosen, Denis Ward, Michael Blackett, Tony Cagney, Barry Revill, Colleen Simpson, Terry Simpson and new members Marie Revill, Keith Davidson and John Gates.

We were able to hold Subcommittee Meetings on 9 November 2020 and on 23 March 2021 at the Walter Briggs Hut. (The last meeting was on 12 July 2021 at the Sandbelt Hotel).

Sadly, in March, we lost our valued subcommittee member and friend, Lance Cranage, a legend in the club, a Life Member and a dedicated supporter of the Walter Briggs Hut over many years. This included 11 years as the Chairman of the Hut Subcommittee from 1982-1993. Lance is greatly missed by us all.

ACTIVITIES and EVENTS

Type of Activity	Total number of events	Total number of attendees	Average number of attendees
Open Day – advertised in circular	1	34	34
Subcommittee meetings (at WBH)	2	14	7
Working Bee – advertised in circular	1	6	6
Working Bee – subcommittee & friends of hut	9	44	5
Other visits	4	25	6
Walk including a hut visit	1	12	12
Total Numbers	18	135	

An important event was the Open Day on 18 April 2021. A special feature was the Official Opening of Lance's Woodshed by his daughter and son. Thirty-four people attended to remember Lance and to celebrate the opening of the new woodshed. A gourmet sausage sizzle was provided and some people enjoyed a walk to the summit from the hut.

Lance's extended family and several invited members also attended the hut on 8 May to bury his ashes near the hut as he had requested. This was followed by a celebratory afternoon tea in front of the open fire in the hut.

MAINTENANCE

Last summer saw the completion of the painting of the exterior of the hut and the new woodshed. Member and plumber Bruce Whorlton attended the hut in March to replace the guttering and downpipe to the internal water tank. He also removed a pile of scrap metal from the site.

The only exterior painting left to complete this summer is that of the outside toilet. We are planning to complete the marking of a track from the hut to the Ben Cairn Road.

EXPENDITURE

Spend	Amount	Comment
Materials for construction of woodshed	\$129.52	Reimbursement to Lance Cranage
Weed killer	\$31.86	
Rent	\$0.00	Nil rent charged
Insurance excess reduction fee	\$0.00	Reduces the excess to be paid on a claim from \$25,000 to \$500.
Catering – Open Day 18/4/21	\$125.98	
ABC Plumbing & Gasfitting 19/3/21	\$1276.00	Colorbond guttering, downpipe, roof repairs & removal of scrap metal
Paint	\$366.05	Paint for exterior of hut
Wooden sign	\$70.00	Sign for woodshed
Total	\$1999.41	

FUTURE EVENTS

Another special Open Day and lunch will be held at the hut on Sunday 5th December. This will be a club Christmas celebration as well as the 80th Anniversary of the Opening of the “new” Walter Briggs Hut in November 1941. An OBE presentation will take place.

THANK YOU

Thank you to the enthusiastic members of the subcommittee and to all the other members of the club who have visited the hut over the last twelve months. The Walter Briggs Hut is always a very special place to visit in its pristine setting.

Kim Rosen - Convenor

Membership Report

Membership was slightly down for the year with a total of 267 at 30 June. Trends for the last six years are shown in the table below:

2020/21	2019/20	2018/19	2017/18	2016/17	2015/16
267	282	280	277	273	270

As at 30 September, Membership was 269, which includes 39 women Members and 16 Life Members. The median age of Members is 65 years, which means that half our Members are under 65.

Since 30 June 2020, we have had 9 new Members and 20 resignations. Four Members have passed away. New Members are down from previous years because of the continued lockdown restrictions and the lack of opportunity for Visitors to walk. Details of membership changes are as follows:

New Members (1/7/20 – 30/9/21): Gabrielle Vecchio, Genevieve Webb, Tony Green, Neale Oxley, Lauris Hergt, Karen Stewart, Ingrid Green, Rebecca Verkes, Robbie Verkes.

Resignations (1/7/20 – 30/9/21): Charles Anderson (2005), Lisa Apfel (2017), James Jamieson (1993), John Hall (2011), Frank Johns (2014), Liam Jukes (2015), Daniel Waffler (2018), Bruce Heath (2005), Nigel Smart (2003), Gordon Young (1992), Ted Porter (2005), Brian Dawes (1992), Helen Tucker (2018), Richard Edmund (2010), Carl Nielsen (1980), Tony Roberts (1993), Ken Launder (2006), Nicole Kemp (2016), Ian Kemp (2012).

Deceased (1/7/20 – 30/9/21): Keith Holmes (1973), Peter Schulz (2001), Garth Lamey (1991), Lance Cranage (LM, 1976).

I would like to again thank all Leaders for sending me their Blue Sheets promptly, or handing them to me on walks. It is from the Visitors list on the Blue sheet that we identify potential new members to whom I send information about the Club and, after four walks, an invitation to apply to join the Club.

John Rankin - Membership Officer

Website Report

The Club's website continues to attract interest from both Club members and non-members. Last year, on average each month about 65 different people viewed the website, with 75% of them being new visitors (i.e. ones who hadn't visited our website before). Each individual on average viewed about 3½ different pages per visit.

Eagle-eyed website visitors may have noticed that there is a new banner on the website's home page. Our thanks go to the new Marketing Subcommittee for the design.

The webmaster is currently scanning all old copies of ***The Melbourne Walker***, the Club's annual magazine, which was published annually from 1929 to 1991. The editions scanned so far are available for viewing or download on the Club's website at:

www.melbournewalkingclub.org/photo-gallery/the-melbourne-walker

More editions will be added in due course.

The Walks Status page has a listing of all walks for the following few months, with contact details and the status of the walk:

<http://www.melbournewalkingclub.org/activities/walk-status>

This page will continue to be updated at regular intervals or whenever walks are cancelled or amended. Please refer to it during Covid lockdowns.

The monthly circulars and activities programs are available on the website as soon as they are published. Back issues are kept online for one year.

There are links to photos, videos etc. from the Clubs website at:

<http://www.melbournewalkingclub.org/photo-gallery/archives>

Thank you to all those members who sent photos and videos for me to add. Any more members with photos, videos or other items related to the Club or bushwalking in general (in digital format, e.g. JPG, MP3, DVD or MP4), who are willing to share them with other Club members, are urged to contact Charlie Freedman:

Phone **0415 558 249**

or email: webmaster@melbournewalkingclub.org

Charlie Freedman - Webmaster

MWC Marketing Sub Committee Report

2020/2021

It is with pleasure that I prepare this report on behalf of the clubs new Marketing Sub-committee. The need to promote and market the club and its activities to both our members and to the wider community came out the strategic plan recommendations undertaken in 2019/2020 , and the survey of our members.

Early on the sub committee identified our objectives for the marketing team would be to add to our existing promotional materials without losing any of the current offerings. We also sought to modernise and tweak our publications, and to add some new social media opportunities to contact members , and for potential members to contact us.

So, we have created a fresh new banner head for all promotional materials, we have created a Facebook page where members can update photos of walks, promote future activities, and further publish matters of interest to members!

We have worked closely with our editor on some small changes to The Circular which give it a fresh look! We also intend to provide more stories for publication!

We have also cooperated closely with the Mt.Buller team to devise new ways for members and friends to stay at the lodge more along the lines of private accomodation to increase patronage and hence income (much needed due to the unforeseen Covid closures so heavily and unexpectedly impacting the bottom \$ line).

We intend in the coming year to look at further opportunities to promote the club to potential mid week and weekend walkers. Its been a good start - lets hope we can get back on the track soon and promote our upcoming activities..!

Richard Simpson

Marketing subcommittee convenor

Melbourne Walking Club Inc.

2021 Annual Report

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