

# GO BUSH



## Bendigo Bushwalking and Outdoor Club Inc. February 2024

### President's Report

The new year awaits us, and the Calendar has numerous activities awaiting including an overnight pack carry walk on the Bogong High Plains lead by the experienced leader David Crocker and our twilight walks are ongoing from Crusoe Rd carpark. The final two summer daylight saving walks in March are going to be in the same area.

Also on the March Labour Day weekend, the Club is presenting two activities that are miles apart – one is a series of day walks in the Grampians and a Rail Trail Bike ride from the Murray River to the mountains. Ring the leaders involved.

February's Club Meeting was going to feature a talk by Peter Holmes an adventurer who undertakes guided walking tours in Norway but he's had a better (paying) offer in the Grampians, so his talk has been postponed until another month.

The new calendar has an increased focus on overnight walks, base camps and bike rides while retaining the ever-popular evening and day walks. So, until the day on a bush track somewhere, we meet again – until that day - keep yourselves safe and enjoy 2024.



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## Trip Reports

### **Mt Alexander Day Walk – Sunday February 4<sup>th</sup>**

Despite the Sunday forecast being one of the warmest days of the summer so far, six willing walkers venture to the exquisite features of the 750 metre high Mt Alexander walk conducted by Ian. A great time was had by all. According to one of the walkers, *'Great company, and was heat wasn't an issue surprisingly. That hill at the start though, that was a different story, but we did it'*.



## Upcoming Activities

### **Crusoe Reservoir Twilight Walks**

The Tuesday twilight walks around Crusoe Reservoir and the surrounding bushland have been going well with attendees on every walk and the flies and mosquitos haven't been keeping us company which is always nice. There are two more walks on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday in March starting at 6pm.

### **Bendigo Bushwalking and Outdoor Club monthly Meeting**

Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 7.30pm in Forest Street  
Calendar Night - where we organise our activities program for the next 3-6 months.  
Including day walks and bike rides - or just come along for a chat and a cuppa.

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## The Huts Tour Part 3 – Bogong High Plains Saturday 24th – Sunday 25th February

Type: Overnight Walk Grade: Easy/Medium

Distance: Sat: no packs 7.3km, with packs 7.5km Sun: no packs 6.6km, with packs 7.6km

### DESCRIPTION:

An alpine walk with mountains views but no climbing of mountains.

Friday: Departure to drive to the Bogong High Plains and set up camp at Bucketty Plains Campground.

Saturday morning will involve day walking without packs to visit 5 huts on the Bogong High Plains, some of which you haven't been to before. After lunch at Wallace's Hut, we set off with packs to walk along the Langford East Aqueduct to Fitzgerald's Hut where we will camp for the night.

On Sunday morning we continue with a pack carry part of the walk for short distance to get to the Alpine Walking Track. Then another section of day walking without packs to visit 2 more huts (Edmondson and Johnstons). Returning to collect our packs and then walk down the Heathy Spur Track back to the cars at Rocky Valley Dam

Afternoon tea/coffee & cake at the Mount Beauty Bakery before returning to Bendigo.

COST: Transport to and from Bogong High Plains ZONE 5: \$75/passenger.

Contact: David Crocker ph 0409 425 604 email: dcrocker46@gmail.com

## Grampians Peak Trail Base camp/day walks

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> to Monday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2024

Labour Day long weekend

Base camp at Jimmy Creek campground south of Halls gap nights. Jimmy Creek is accessible by car.

3 single day walks:

Saturday 9/3	Jimmy Ck to Yarram Gap Rd	13 km moderate
Sunday 10/3	Yarram Gap Rd to Griffin Trail Head	12 km easy
Monday 11/3	Griffin Trail Head to Cassidy Gap	12 km moderate

Cost - minimal - perhaps \$5 per night (each site is \$16.40 per night, up to 6 people per site) plus transport. Bendigo - Jimmy Creek is 237 km. Car shuffles each day at the Grampians.

Rationale. Grampians Peak Trail (GPT) overnight camping is super dear - \$49 per night per tent site. Base camping is very cheap! Suitable for "day walkers" seeking something more adventurous as well as old hands who want to try the GPT but think the fees are ridiculous! (Or prefer a day pack to something heavier!) No requirement to do all three days. Ring or text Andrew M 0418 135 934

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## Murray to Mountains Rail Trail Saturday 9th to Monday 11th March

Type: Base Camp with Day Bike Rides

Grade: Medium/Easy Distance: Saturday 66km, Sunday 64km, Monday 44km

Fri: Departing Bendigo Friday afternoon/evening to Myrtleford CP, 250km.

Sat: Drive to Harrierville and ride on the new (sealed) Great Valley Trail from Harrierville to Bright (25km) (morning coffee) and then on to Wandiligong on Bennetts Trail (5.5km) and return to Bright (5.5km) (lunch). After lunch ride from Bright back to Myrtleford (30km). Car shuffle to collect car from Harrierville.

Sun: Drive to Yackandandah to leave a car here. Drive on to Beechworth. Ride downhill from Beechworth to Yackandandah (22km) on the new Rail Trail/Bike path (morning coffee). Drive to Beechworth. Car shuffle to leave a car at Myrtleford. Ride from Beechworth to Everton (16km) (lunch).

Ride from Everton to Myrtleford (26km). Car shuffle to collect car from Beechworth.

Mon: Drive to Everton. Do car shuffle to leave a car at Milawa. Ride from Everton to Wangaratta (26km) (morning coffee). Ride from Wangaratta to Oxley (9km) (lunch).

Ride from Oxley to Milawa (9km). Car shuffle to collect car from Everton. Afternoon tea/coffee at Milawa Bakery Café, then drive home to Bendigo

COST:

Transport to and from Myrtleford + a number of car shuffles. ZONE 5 \$75 + \$10 (car shuffles)

Accommodation costs for camping at Myrtleford Holiday Park for three nights, \$45.

Contact: David Crocker ph 0409 425 604 email: dcrocker46@gmail.com

## Mt Feathertop Overnight Walk (via North West Spur)

Fri 5th - Sun 7th April 2024

It is proposed to travel Friday afternoon (2-3pm) to Smoko Campground adjacent to the Great Alpine Road, where we will camp the night ready to commence our walk to Mt Feathertop in the early morning. Smoko Campground is a large free camp with toilets.

Saturday morning, we pack up and drive a short distance to the start of the walk near the Trout Farm. Mt Feathertop is the second highest mountain in Victoria and probably the most appealing. It certainly has 360 degree views on a clear day.

North West Spur is a Grade 5 Walk, meaning that it is both very steep, in places, and rough. It is the less frequently used route to Mt Feathertop. After 7km of ascent we reach the MUMC Hut. From here it is 2km to the summit. We will come off the summit and camp near Federation Hut at the top of Bungalow Spur. There is a toilet facility and spring water nearby.

Sunday morning, we break camp early and return to the cars via North West Spur. The total 2 day distance is 22.2km with a 1728m ascent/descent,

Then its home to Bendigo by 4:30pm, with a stop at Myrtleford and maybe Murchison.

Please Note: Participants must contact the walk leader at least 5 days prior to the start to assist with the planning of the logistics (car share, convoy, and meeting time on the Saturday). If you don't contact the Leader: Ian Barry (0457940564) then you won't be part of the club group. Travel Share cost: Zone 5 \$75.

## Kamarooka Bike Ride

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Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> March

Bendigo is surrounded by the Greater Bendigo National Park and within the northern section is Kamarooka, to the north of Huntly. This bike ride along mostly gravel roads is in undulating forest country and passes historic charcoal burners as well as following surprisingly resilient creek valleys, given that the ride is being conducted in Autumn. The distance is approximately 30 kms and the Club meeting rooms in Forest Street is the initial point of contact on the day. We will be driving from here to the start point of the loop ride. Afterwards we'll recuperate with a cuppa and a cake in Huntly. For more information ring Buzza on 0438437680.

## Join the Nature Walk Challenge 2024

For the **month of March**, join thousands of Australians across the country, as they walk to protect Australian wildlife and the places they call home. **Register for free and select your walking distance. Set your fundraising target and ask your friends, family and work colleagues to support you. With every step you'll be helping protect endangered species and their homes, all while enjoying the benefits of getting active and spending time outdoors.**

The Nature Walk Challenge is designed with everyone in mind. Whether you're an advanced hiker or a leisurely stroller, you set the distance and the pace. You can choose from a 50km, 70km or 100km challenge. Or you can choose your own distance, whether that's 5km or 500! It's up to you. Whatever you decide, the most important goal is to get outside and enjoy reconnecting with nature.

**Australia is losing precious biodiversity at a staggering rate, with 563 animals currently threatened with extinction. We are also leading the world in mammal extinction, with a total of 39 species already lost. That's 5 more extinctions and 69 more threatened with it, in the last 12 months since Nature Walk Challenge 2023.**

Funds raised from the Nature Walk Challenge will support Wilderness Society's ongoing work to protect the habitats of endangered wildlife across Australia. We do so by:

- Advocating for new laws that support the life our lives depend on.
- Monitoring satellite imagery and recording suspicious land clearing via Watch On Nature.
- Funding well researched and credible reports to protect Australia's wildlife.
- Stopping risky proposals before they start.

The Nature Walk Challenge is sponsored by like-minded, environmentally friendly organisations including Patagonia and Zorali. They have provided **generous prizes to be won throughout the challenge, including vouchers and gift packs.** There are also rewards up for grabs, including limited edition Nature Walk Challenge t-shirts, bags, drink bottles and hoodies.

So, grab your hiking boots, step up and step out, while protecting Australia's precious wildlife—now and for generations to come. For further comment contact Renee Mason on [renee.mason@wilderness.org.au](mailto:renee.mason@wilderness.org.au)

**Mt Greenoch & Mt Beckworth - Saturday 20th April**

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Synopsis: We will travel over in convoy & firstly climb Greenoch 'in the footsteps of the Major.' Then proceed to the Beckworth Scenic reserve for a solid climb to the famed "Lollipop Tree". More about this later. Classic central Victorian scenery to be had from both climbs. A stop in Clunes afterwards. Rating - Easy /Medium Fuel Levy: \$25 BYO your everything ie drinks, nibbles & lunch. Meet K/Flat Sports Club car Park (enter via Mackenzie St West) at 8.40am.-sharp.

Contact : Ray Wilson 54478862 if you want to come or to learn more .

## The 4 Peaks Challenge' - Sunday April 21st, 2024

Think you can rise to the challenge of 'summitting' Mt Leura, Mt Sugarloaf, Mt Elephant and Mt Noorat on the same day? Then this Friends of Mt Leura Inc. activity, in partnership with Mt Leura & Mt Sugarloaf Management Committee, is a must do for you and your family or friends.

Where: Meet/start @ Volcanic Education Centre (Mt Leura Road, Camperdown) at base of Mt Leura at 9.30am. Coffee van onsite.

BYO: Morning tea, lunch, snacks and plenty to drink; sunscreen, day pack plus camera and/or binoculars for the terrific views. Wear: Sturdy footwear and clothing suitable for the weather. Transport: BYO vehicle. All welcome and bring the kids ... but please note that some steep and rough terrain will be encountered so a degree of physical fitness is required.

For more information contact: John Fallon on 0487 341 337

## Beeripmo Overnight Walk

Saturday 4th- Sunday 5th May 2024

It is proposed to travel to Richards Campground arriving around 10am, where after a short break we will commence the Beeripmo Walk (20.6km) in an anti-clockwise direction. The overnight camp is located at Mugwamp, just off the Mugwamp Track, about 6km from the start but the initial walking involves a steady ascent. We will set up camp and then walk out to Mt Buangor and back (approx. 3km optional). Drop toilet and a rainwater tank are provided at this camp site.

Sunday morning we pack up early and commence walking by 8am with a 12km, mostly downhill walk, back to Richards Campground. The last couple of kilometres descends steeply. After lunch we will drive back to Bendigo (1h 40m) via Avoca. Returning home after 3pm,

The walking track is Grade 4. And the walk will suit someone who is reasonably fit and wants the challenge of an overnight pack-carrying walk. You must be prepared for all weather conditions and able to carry all your gear, food and water.

Google Beeripmo Walk for more information, map and elevation details.

Please Note: Participants must contact the walk leader at least 5 days prior to the start to assist with the planning of the logistics (car share, convoy, and meeting time on the Saturday). If you don't contact the Leader: Ian Barry (0457940564) then you won't be part of the club group. Travel Share cost: Zone 3 \$45.

## Membership

Fees are \$60 for a family and \$40 for single members. Payable each financial year.

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A Membership Form can be found on the website at [www.gobush.org.au](http://www.gobush.org.au).  
Remember you must sign the Acknowledgment of Risk at the bottom of the membership application otherwise you are not covered by the Club insurance.  
You are welcome to try a trip or two at the nominal cost of \$2 per trip.

## Membership Benefits

Insurance coverage on member's trips.  
Your Bushwalking Victoria membership card enables you to obtain discounts at a number of retailers. Note that Bushwalking Victoria membership cards need to be presented prior to processing of sale.  
<http://bushwalkingvictoria.org.au/bwv-membership-card-benefits/bwv-membership-card-benefits>  
Note: RRP = Regular Retail Price-does not include sale or consignment items or hire gear.

## Reminder to Walk Leaders

Under our insurance policy organised through Bushwalking Australia, it is required that we obtain the name & address of any temporary members who come on walks and that they sign an Acknowledgement of Risk Form before participating in an activity. These details should be collected by the walk leader via the appropriate form, together with the fee (\$2), and passed on to the treasurer.

**Any serious incident** occurring on a walk must be reported to the leader and the committee to enable the correct procedure to be followed.

**All Activity Leaders** are reminded that they need to have forms on hand for activities – Activity Registration Form, Incident Forms, Emergency Forms. Completed forms are to be sent to the secretary either with a scan to the Club's address or a photo/scan to 0466 004 610.

**Notice to Members and Visitors:** Members and Visitors (temporary members) should always have their personal emergency information on their person for all activities – Participant's Emergency Contact and Medical Form.

**Members and Visitors** should note they are responsible to inform any person taking photos, or the Activity Leader, if they do not wish to be included in photos that can be used for club purposes.

Adele is doing the newsletter and so any email content should be sent to [enquiries@gobush.org.au](mailto:enquiries@gobush.org.au) by the Tuesday before the Club Meeting to be included in the newsletter.

**BENDIGO BUSHWALKING AND OUTDOOR CLUB INCORPORATED MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM**

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New and renewing members alike MUST sign the Acknowledgment of Risk. Membership fees are due from the first of July. Adults \$40, Family \$60. Payment as follows: • Post a cheque together with this form to The Treasurer, Bendigo Bushwalking and Outdoor Club, PO Box 989, Bendigo 3552 • Bring cheque or cash to the monthly meeting: 4th Tuesday of the month, 730 pm, Presbyterian Church Hall, Forest Street • or pay by Direct Debit BSB – 633000 Account No – 134109016 Reference – your name. Please notify the Treasurer and provide a signed Acknowledgment of Risk at the earliest opportunity. Please complete all the following sections

1. PERSONAL DETAILS Adults 1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_  
Children 1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_
2. Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Postcode \_\_\_\_\_
3. 📞 Mobile \_\_\_\_\_ 📞 Home \_\_\_\_\_
4. Email \_\_\_\_\_
5. Next of Kin/Nominated person to contact in an emergency Name \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ 📞 \_\_\_\_\_
6. Address \_\_\_\_\_

## ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF RISK AND OBLIGATIONS OF MEMBERS

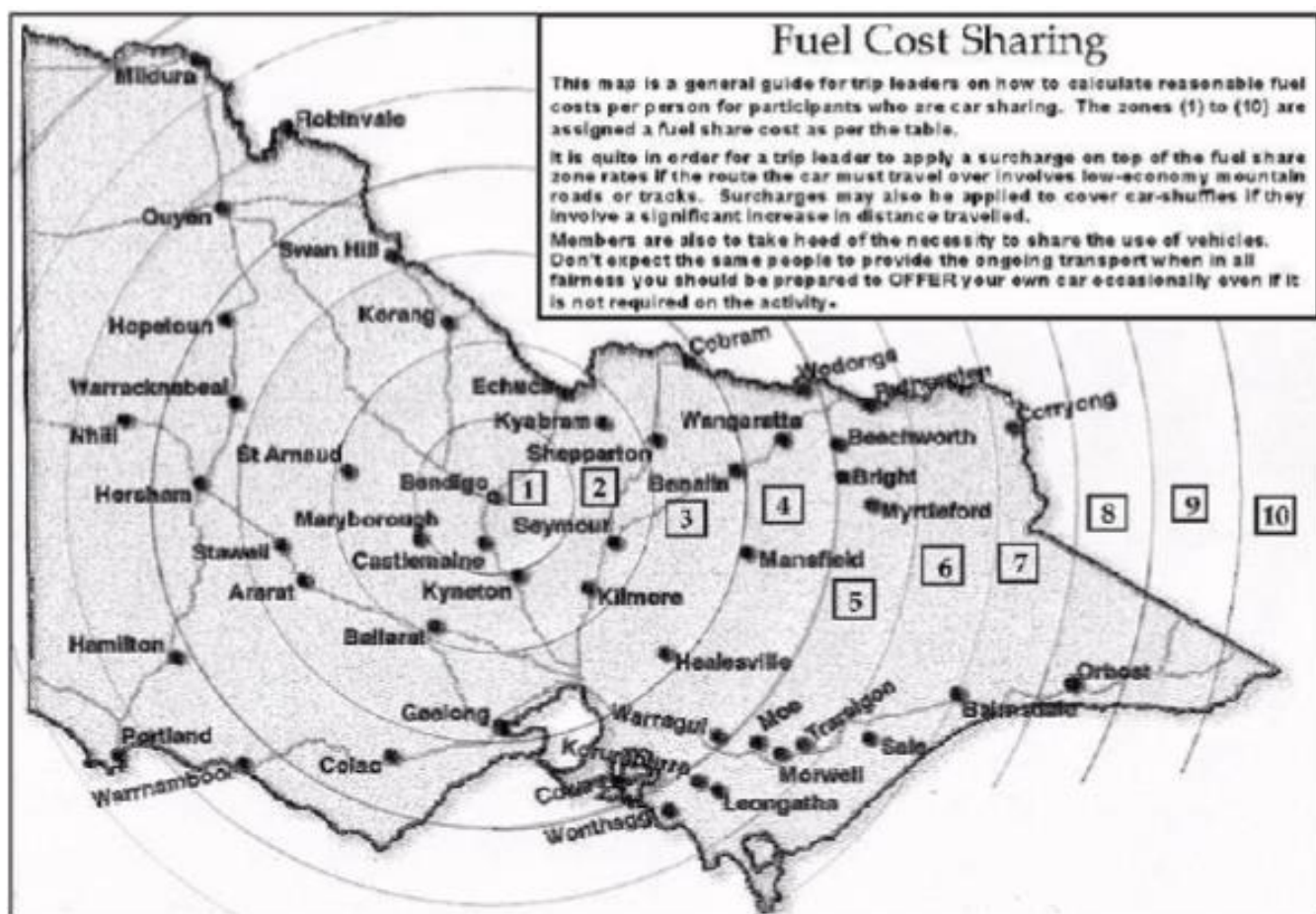
This acknowledgment of risk applies to all club activities I may undertake as a member of the Bendigo Bushwalking and Outdoor Club Inc. In voluntarily participating in activities of the club which are described to me by the activity leaders, I am aware that my participation in the activities may expose me to hazards and risks that could lead to injury, illness or death, or to loss of or damage to my property, I also acknowledge that I may encounter weather conditions that could lead to hypothermia and being in locations where evacuation for medical treatment may take hours or days. In particular when participating in abseiling or above the snowline activities I am aware that these activities could expose me to additional hazards and risks described to me by the activity leader. To minimise risks I will endeavour to ensure that:

Each activity is within my capabilities. I am carrying food, water and equipment appropriate for the activity. In addition: I will advise the activity leader if I am taking any medication or have any physical or other limitation that might affect my participation in the activity. I will make every effort to remain with the rest of the party during the activity. I will advise the leader of any concerns I am having. I will comply with all reasonable instructions of club officers and the activity leader. I have read and understand the above requirements. I have considered the risks before choosing to sign this acknowledgement of risk. I still wish to join the activities of the club. I acknowledge that I will take Responsibility for my own actions and that signing this form, or the payment of my subscription will be deemed as full acceptance and understanding of the above conditions,

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_



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## Zone & Fuel Cost

① \$10-\$15   ② \$30   ③ \$45   ④ \$60   ⑤ \$75   ⑥ \$90   ⑦ \$105   ⑧ \$120   ⑨ \$135   ⑩ \$150

## Activity Leaders Required

The Club also needs additional trip leaders because at the moment we are relying on about five or six members to fulfil these roles. It isn't a difficult job and with the number of experienced trip leaders who are participating on walks, assistance is available. There are plenty of walks or mountain bike tracks locally on the Bendigo Bushland Trail or in the Whipstick, Crusoe, Mandurang, One Tree Hill or Wellsford Forests and for starters maybe lead a half day walk on a Sunday morning starting at 8.30 am and finish around 12.30 pm giving you the rest of the day off. Just look on the trip calendar and ask one of the trip leaders – they will help you through the process and go on the walk if you need assistance on the day.

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## PARTICIPANT'S EMERGENCY CONTACT & MEDICAL INFORMATION

This information is for emergency use only and is to be carried in your pack at all times in a sealed plastic envelope. It is your responsibility to update this information if there is a change in details.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Post Code \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: Home: \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile: \_\_\_\_\_

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### Medical Information:

Medical Condition: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Current Medications: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Allergies: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Do you have current immunisation against: Tetanus Y/N HepA Y/N HepB Y/N

Medicare Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Private Health Insurance Fund (name): \_\_\_\_\_

Ambulance subscriber Y/N

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### Emergency Contact:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Post Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: Home \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

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### Privacy Statement:

The information contained in this form is for emergency use only and will be used if you are ill or injured whilst participating in an activity of your bushwalking club. The information will only be accessed by the walk leader or their delegate and given to the relevant medical and/or emergency services personnel.

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## Bushwalking Calendar Gradings

Easy  
Easy / Medium  
Medium  
Medium / Hard

Gently undulating terrain, mostly on formed tracks.  
Gently undulating terrain with some short climbs  
Both on & off formed tracks with some sustained climbs.  
Medium walks but may also include rougher terrain, heavy scrub, rock scrambling, longer climbs & descents, or exposure to bad weather.



The mid-morning sun glistening on Rainbow Falls on the Great Ocean Walk

### **Bendigo Bushwalking Club Committee 2023-2024**

President	Graham Borrell	0438437680
Vice President	Hans Trackdorf	
Secretary	Donna Guille	0466 004 610
Treasurer	Greg Doubleday	
Committee Members		
	Ian Barry	
	Peter O'Meara	
Trip Coordinator	Buzza	
Webmasters	Donna Guille & Ian Barry	
Newsletter	Adele	

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## Bendigo Bushwalking Activities Calendar

Date	Description	Rating	Comments	Contact
<b>January</b>				
Tues 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Crusoe Reservoir 6 pm	Easy	2-hour 6km Evening Walk	Buzza 0438 437 680
Tues 16th	Crusoe Reservoir 6 pm	Easy	2-hour 6km Evening Walk	Buzza 0438 437 680
Tues 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Monthly Club Meeting	7.30pm	Presbyterian Church Hall	35-41 Forest St Bendigo
<b>February</b>				
Sunday 4 <sup>th</sup>	Mt Alexander Day Walk	Easy/Med	Meet Rebel Sports 8.25am	Ian B 0457 940 564
Tuesday 6th	Crusoe Reservoir 6pm	Easy	2-hour 6km Evening Walk	Buzza 0438 437 680
Sunday 18th	St George Lake Day Walk	Easy	Meet Rebel Sports 8.25am	Hans T 0400 049 891
Tuesday 20th	Crusoe Reservoir 6pm	Easy	2-hour 6km Evening Walk	Buzza 0438 437 680
Saturday 24 <sup>th</sup> Sunday 25th	Bogong High Plains	Medium	Overnight Pack carry Walk	David 0409 425 604
<b>Tues 27<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Monthly Club Meeting</b>	<b>7.30pm</b>	<b>Presbyterian Church Hall</b>	<b>35-41 Forest St Bendigo</b>
<b>March</b>				
Tuesday 5th	Crusoe Reservoir 6 pm	Easy	2-hour 6km Evening Walk	Buzza 0438 437 680
March 8-11th	Grampians Base Camp	Easy/Med	3 single Day Walks	Andrew 0418 135 934
March 8-11th	Murray to Mountains	Easy/Med	Bike Ride	David 0409 425 604
Tuesday 19th	Crusoe Reservoir 6 pm	Easy	2-hour 6km Evening Walk	Buzza 0438 437 680
Sunday 24th	Kamarooka Bike Ride	Easy	Mountain & E Bikes	Buzza 0438 437 680
<b>Tuesday 26th</b>	<b>Monthly Club Meeting</b>	<b>Easy</b>	<b>Presbyterian Church Hall</b>	<b>Visitors Welcome</b>
Fri 29 to Mon	Easter			

