



WARBY RANGE BUSHWALKERS Inc. **WALKS PROGRAM**

JANUARY – MARCH 2015

If leader(s) cannot be contacted to book a walk, ring Karen Davis, 5722 2540, or Jeanette Farquhar on 5721 6514.

If a walk needs to be cancelled (for example, due to weather) an alternative walk will be offered where possible.

Saturday 3 rd January	New Year – Full Moon Walk New Warby Heritage Loop Track, to Booths, and return	Easy/Medium Karen Davis, 5722 2540 or 0409 215 286
Sunday 18 th January	Nine Mile Spur Track on Mount Buffalo	Medium Bob Shaw, 5766 2773
Tuesday 20 th January	Sunrise Track for the Sunrise, followed by breakfast.	Easy/Medium Judy Shaw, 5766 2773
Friday 30 th January – Sunday 1 st February	Weekend at Mount St Bernard Ski Lodge (If bathroom renovations have begun, the alternative will be a camp at Harrierville)	Easy/Medium/Hard options Book with Adrian Twitt on 5721 5327, by Friday, 23 January
Saturday 14 th February	Wagirra Trail – Murray River at Albury	Easy/Medium Chris McLaughlin, 5722 4876
Monday 16 th February	Committee meeting and Walks Planning	At Karen's 154 Rowan Street, 7pm. 5722 2540
Friday 20 th February	Early morning walk on Wangaratta Waterways	Easy Andy Kimber, 5721 7922
Friday 27 th Feb – Sunday 1 st March	Weekend at Falls Creek Myrtleford Ski Lodge 'Alpine Huts Extravaganza'	Easy/Medium/Hard options Book with Kerri Davenport, on 5725 1480, by 16 th February
Saturday 7 th – Wednesday 11 th March	Australian Alps Walking Track Cowombat Flat Car park to Taylors Crossing	For more information, and to book, contact Adele Ritchie, 5727 9501
Sunday 15 th March	Robertsons Bend – Warby Ovens National Park	Easy Chris McLaughlin, 5722 4876
Monday 16 th March	Annual Dinner and AGM at Vine Hotel	Bookings to Glenda Hall 5721 5114 by Friday, 13th March
Friday March 20th	Friends Track, Warby Ranges	Easy/Medium Adrian Twitt, 5721 5327
Saturday 28 th March	The Big Walk Mount Buffalo – Up or Down Option	Medium/Hard JeanetteFarquhar, 5721 6514
Keep in Mind Easter 3 rd - 7 th April	Next section of AAWT Taylors Crossing to Cope Saddle	See next Walks Program, or contact Adele, 5727 9501
Keep in Mind July, Aug, Sept & Oct	Series of walks completing the Hume and Hovell Walking Track	See next Walks Program, or contact Adele, 5727 9501

Saturday 3rd January – New Year Full Moon Walk – An easy/moderate loop walk of 8km to get us going for 2015. Using the newly constructed Warby Heritage Track from Booths Road, just past Wenhams, down to Booths Winery, we will follow the path down the scenic creek, past cascades, and the now well signed heritage features in the fading daylight.

After a picnic tea (and possibly a cold beer or wine) we will return via Cellar and Spot Mill Tracks in the moonlight to a cuppa before home. A suitable adventure for any visiting grandchildren.

Sunday 18th January- 9 Mile Spur Track – Mount Buffalo – A medium 16km walk, mostly downhill on 4wd tracks. Magnificent views over the Ovens Valley, as we make our way down the ridge through several forest types, finally crossing the Ovens River to emerge at Ovens. This walk has been postponed twice due to extreme weather conditions. Refreshments available at the Ovens Hotel, while the cars are collected.

Tuesday 20th January – Sunrise Track for Sunrise – An early start for an easy /moderate walk on some of the Loop Tracks in the Sunrise area of the Warby Ranges. Both the distance and the starting time will be finalised when the expected temperature for that day is known.

The walk will be on bush tracks, with some undulations. Great views over the plains and distant high country. Enjoy a latish breakfast together at the completion of the walk.

Friday 30th January – Sunday 1st February – Weekend at Mount St Bernard Ski Lodge.

Saturday: Blue Rag Range – accessed from the Dargo High Plains Road. This 18km medium/hard return walk is through snow gum and alpine meadowland.

At its highest point Mount Blue Rag at 1718 m, participants will have the opportunity of returning, making an easy to moderate 9km walk, or continuing on to an 1192m point overlooking the majestic Wongungarra Wilderness. The final 5kms requires a descent and ascent on return.

A rewarding walk with some great views over the Alps and Barry Mountains. Participants need to have suitable alpine clothing, and be prepared for an early start. A lower altitude alternative will be offered in the event of bad weather.

Sunday: An easy/medium walk to The Twins area near the Lodge.

If the scheduled bathroom renovations have already started, Plan B is for a weekend camp at Harrierville, with a walk 'up top' on the Saturday, and a shorter walk around Harrierville on the Sunday.

The cost of lodge accommodation is \$25/night /person. More details on booking

Saturday 14th February – Wagirra Trail – Albury – This is an easy / medium 16km walk, downstream from Norieul Park to Horseshoe Lagoon, with some local loops to add variety. There are some excellent wetlands along the way. Walking on bush tracks, shaded by river red gums. Another little gem from Chris, providing pleasant walking on a summer's day, that happens to be Valentine's Day.

Monday 16th February – Committee Meeting and Walks Planning - All members are welcome to participate. Suggestions for future walks are also encouraged – contact Karen beforehand, or come to the meeting.

Friday 20th February – Early Morning Walk on Wangaratta's Waterways. - An easy morning walk of about 8 – 10kms along the shaded and scenic pathways on the Ovens and King Rivers. Come along, beat the heat, and explore this beautiful environment within town boundaries.

Friday 27th Feb – Sunday 1st Mar – Falls Creek Weekend – staying at the very comfortable Myrtleford Ski Lodge; a weekend in our cool alpine area, to farewell summer!

Saturday: From Pretty Valley Dam

i) Hard walk to Youngs Hut – 20km return

ii) Medium walk to Westons Hut – 14km return

iii) Easy walk to Tawonga Huts – 8km return. Westons Hut, and more recently Youngs Hut, have received a "make over" from the wonderful Alpine Huts Restoration team, of which Trevor Turnbull is a member.

A quick visit to Mount McKay is planned to allow completion of the *Victoria's 10 Highest Peaks Challenge* by some walkers.

Sunday: An easy/ moderate walk of 10km return, to visit Fitzgerald and Kelly Huts. Those with excess energy could arrange to add another 5km by walking back via Heathy Spur. It is of course possible to just relax at the lodge or around the village.

Cost of accommodation is \$36 per night per person. More details on booking.

Saturday 7th March – Wednesday 11th March – Next stage of AAWT Cowombat Flat Car park – Taylors Crossing

Day packs with driver support or car shuffling – a bit easier this time. Walk days will vary from 9km to 19km. Is there anyone out there that would love to see the area, but doesn't want to hike? If so, the group would love you to be a support driver. Please contact Adele to discuss this further.

Sunday 15th March – Robertsons Bend – Warby / Ovens National Park – This easy walk of 12km is on the Ovens River, not far north of Boorhaman. It is a shaded, half day, river, and wetland option close to Wangaratta using forestry tracks. It features some beautiful wetlands / lagoons, with nice loop tracks alongside the River.

Monday 16th March – Annual Dinner and AGM – Vine Hotel. Family and friends are welcome to join Club Members for this meeting. Dinner to commence at 6.30pm; after dinner, and a brief AGM, there will be a talk by Ruth Rampling, an adventure tourist from Beechworth, involved in the No Roads Expedition Foundation.

Also an update from Lesley Finedon on our planned Week Away, in August 2015, to the Central Coast of NSW.

Friday 20th March – Friends Track – An easy / medium walk of 8km with a visit to Kwat Kwat Lookout, and Mount Warby. Mainly on bush paths – some rocky sections and gentle undulations. Highlights are seasonal streams, native vegetation and rock formations. A good walk for bird life, and encountering kangaroos. An extra loop of about 4km may be possible for those with excess energy.

Saturday 28th March – The Big Walk – Mount Buffalo – This is a walk of 11.5km, from the entrance gate of the National Park, to the Chalet visitor area. Graded Hard for those taking the "up" option, and Medium for those taking the "down" option.

It would be possible for the two groups to meet up for lunch, and the "up" walkers drive the "down" walkers cars back to the entrance station on completion of the day. Spectacular views and waterfalls along the way, with changing vegetation matching the change in altitude. A delightful, iconic mountain walk.