



# WARBY RANGE BUSHWALKERS Inc.

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warbybushwalkers.org.au

NEWSLETTER : March, 2025

Those colourful autumn days are nearly upon us, and there is a wide variety of walks to choose from - see the Walks Program for details. Some of the planned walks from the previous program (that is, during December), had to be cancelled (because of adverse weather conditions) so we are hoping for more stable weather in the months ahead.

## Christmas Gathering : December 20

The Warby Walkers are well renowned for being a very social group, and true to form, they turned out in their numbers for the club's annual Christmas gathering which was held on Friday, December 20th at Bowman's-Murmungee Hall.

It was a great occasion for members to catch up, and judging by the noise level, there was plenty of that happening!

The BYO BBQ was accompanied by a large variety of delicious fresh salads and sweets, provided by members.

Many thanks to all of those members involved in organising this event.

## Annual General Meeting

Looking ahead, it's the time of year for our AGM, so please save the date: Monday, 17th March, when our 'AGM and Social Catch up Gathering' will be held at the Wangaratta Club; dinner is from 6pm, followed by the AGM at 7pm.

Orders for meals to be made off the menu on arrival, drinks at bar prices. There are seniors options.

The AGM will cover the Committee nomination process, Office bearers election process and reports due (president, walks, treasurer).

If you are thinking of joining the Committee, then the nomination form can be found under "General Information" on our website.

Please book in with Marita: 0427 521 122 (warby.ranges@gmail.com)

The Guest Speaker will be Darren Sutton from Beechworth. Darren is a local small scale miner, prospector, and jewellery maker with knowledge on the history of the local area. He will present a social history talk with a focus on the people who lived and worked on the goldfields, where they came from, how they lived, etc.

There will also be a presentation from our webmaster, regarding a proposed new website template for warbybushwalkers.org.au. Please remember that subscriptions fall due at the AGM; see our website for details.



Autumn colours from Reform Hill,  
Myrtleford



### Parks Victoria Interview

Parks Victoria recently requested an interview with members of several bushwalking clubs so as to profile the many different ways people get out into nature, and enjoy our National Parks.

Our volunteer for this project was our Walks Co-ordinator, Jeanette.

See the following address for the text, and photos, from the interview.

<https://www.parks.vic.gov.au/things-to-do/hiking-and-bushwalking/why-you-should-join-your-local-bushwalking-group>

### WEEK AWAY 2025

Our next week away will be from Saturday 29/3/25 - Saturday 5/4/25, and will be based at the Anglesea Family Caravan Park, 35 Cameron Road, Anglesea.

We have booked four, self-contained, three bedroom cabins, which sleep six adults in each. There are many other configurations for accommodation and camping on site, and it is suggested that interested folk should consider retaining a site now, to suit their needs/preferences. See our website for more details.

### Lake Sambell to Lake Kerferd : January 2

Today's walk from Lake Sambell to Lake Kerferd was attended by 16 walkers, two of whom were casuals who initially attended a walk with our club via Try Bushwalking Month in November last year.

The walk began at Lake Sambell, and we followed the track alongside it to the Lake Sambell Caravan Park, crossing a footbridge over Silver Creek, to begin the shared walk/bike track to Lake Kerferd.

After crossing another bridge over Silver Creek, we entered a cool forest area with covered mine shafts, and then reached the Beechworth Holiday Park.

Continuing on the shared trail, we then reached the Heaven and Hell Tunnels, and continued on Pipeline Track to Lake Kerferd.

Morning tea was held at Lake Kerferd, in the shade of some majestic gum trees, before we returned along the shared trail to Lake Sambell. Lunch was then enjoyed beside Lake Sambell, at a high point overlooking the lake.

Today's walk was rescheduled to avoid the hot weather forecast for Saturday. The temperature at Beechworth was about 27C on our return for lunch. [Jeanette]

### Moonlight Walk : January 10

This walk was scheduled to take place in Yackandandah, but was moved to the Winton Wetlands, because of track problems at the original venue. Twelve walkers started the circular Lunette walk in the cool of the evening, after driving through the Wetlands, dodging kangaroos. Luckily we didn't score a hit.

We set off across a paddock, and along the dune, weaving between the trees along an indistinct path. Lovely views started to emerge across the main Winton Swamp, which still had plenty of water.

Flocks of waterbirds were taking to the trees, and the air, and a few rabbits were scurrying around. No sign of snakes, or the mossies, we were warned about.

We were treated to a spectacular sunset thanks to some clouds on the horizon, turning the sky and water red. Lots of photo stops were necessary.



After reading the history boards, and checking out the Yorta Yorta totum, we hurried on to the Lunette Lookout, just as dusk fell. As we were a couple of days before the full moon, the moon had already risen, and shone down on us between gaps in the cloud.

After lazing about admiring the scenery, a snack and Moon/Winton quiz, we started back, using the old vehicle track which was more secure under foot. Unfortunately the mossies made a late and vigorous attack, and didn't seem put off by clouds of repellent. The Walk Leader is still scratching!

Apart from this challenge, it was a pleasant amble in the moonlight. As it was already 10.30pm when we reached our vehicles, we decided to skip the cuppa, and drove slowly back, avoiding the wildlife. [Karen]

### Myrtleford Trails : January 19

On Sunday, January 19, a small group of hikers met in Myrtleford looking forward to some interesting walks.

The first walk, a 6km loop walk, started from Myrtleford's Rotary Park.

With a sunny, and cool, 17 degrees, we walked along the Rail Trail to Monroe lane, along the lane, and on to the old Ovens Highway.

We then made our leisurely way back to Rotary Park for morning tea, then set off on the 4km return Mosaic Trail.



Lots of bird song, plenty of mosaics to see, and when we reached Apex Park we saw a tawny frogmouth high in a tree; Good spotting Ann.

Back at Rotary Park we had lunch, then off to Red Rama for coffee, and a spot of shopping before heading home.

[Erin]

### The Four Peaks Challenge – Western Victoria

It's The 4 Peaks Challenge again; April 13, 2025 . . .

The walk starts at the base of Mt Leura in Camperdown at 9.30am. At your own pace we walk to the saddle between Mt Leura and Mt Sugarloaf, where people can make the choice to take the Panorama trail to the trig point on Mt Leura, and loop back to the saddle to then take the Sugarloaf trail to its summit.

We then return to the start point, and our cars for the 30 min drive to Mt Elephant, near the town of Derrinalum, which has toilets and a lunchroom.

After doing the summit and loop walk it is back to the cars for the 35 min drive to Mt Noorat, where again we complete the walk to the summit, and around the crater rim. Most people have completed the 4 peaks by 4pm, and many well before that. All the peaks have well maintained walking tracks but obviously have some steep sections.

Mt Leura Circuit 2kms, prominence 130m; Mt Sugarloaf 1km, prominence 130m; Mt Elephant 3.4kms, prominence 170m; Mt Noorat 2.7kms, prominence 120m; Approx Total distance is 10kms.

Also, no cost !! and at the end a great deal of satisfaction about summiting the four best volcanic peaks and craters in South West Victoria. See mtleura.org.au for more details.

### Mount St Bernard weekend : February 7-9

There were 29 participants on the Mount St Bernard weekend, staying in the ski lodge at Mount St Bernard.

Adrian was to have led a walk to the nearby Mount Smythe for the early arrivals on Friday, but this didn't go ahead as it was raining.

Saturday's walks all started at the Mount Loch carpark and all three walks headed to Derrick Hut for morning tea.

The easy walk was the 8.5k return walk to the hut, with many wildflowers out under the over-cast sky, and lunch was enjoyed along the track overlooking the Mount Hotham village.





The medium walk (10k) continued on to Mount Loch (1,865m) taking photos alongside the stone cairn, and checking out the terrific view, and enjoying lunch along the return to the start.

After morning tea, the hard walk participants continued along an old mining track to Spargo's Hut, which is located in a grassy clearing, and then descended along Golden Point Spur, through the forest to the bridge over Swindler's Creek.

This was followed by a steep zig-zag climb up to the Cobungra Ditch walking track, where we took a rest and enjoyed our lunch.

Following lunch, we headed along the Cobungra Ditch Track to the Davenport Access Track, and followed this downhill to the Silver Brumby Hut. A well earned rest was enjoyed here, before the three kilometre long ascent to the southern end of the Huts Walk.

A couple of black snakes were encountered along the route, which was about 15k.

A dinner of lasagne and salad, followed by chocolate brownies and lemon tarts, was enjoyed back at the lodge.

Sunday's weather put an end to the walks program for that day, so the Dinner Plain walks await our next visit to this area.

However, many of the participants enjoyed a coffee, and snack break, in gorgeous Harrietteville on the return trip home. [Jeanette]



**Great Walks**

The full colour Great Walks magazine is published six times a year, and is regarded as Australia's leading bushwalking magazine, with many interesting articles from all over our the continent.

Subscriptions are available, but many newsagents stock the magazine.

See [www.greatwalks.com.au](http://www.greatwalks.com.au) for more details.

**Ovens River and One Mile Creek : February 26**

A small group, plus Angus the Scotland born Border Collie, walked for about six kilometres alongside the Ovens River for this urban adventure.



In warm conditions, we set off from near the Wangaratta CBD, and took in Sydney Beach, the Bullawah Trail, Northern Beaches and the delightful Mullinmur Billabong facility, before returning back to Wangaratta Central. [Andy]

**The Bundian Way**

When complete, the Bundian Way will lead all the way from the Tasman Sea to the Snowy Mountains; a 365km pathway of shared Aboriginal and European history that leads between Turemulerrer (Twofold Bay) and Targangal (Mount Kosciuszko).

The Bundian Way is a walking track that celebrates Aboriginal heritage; some sections are already accessible, with new segments to be constructed over the next few years.

See [bundianway.com.au](http://bundianway.com.au) for more details.

