

# *Benalla Bushwalking Club*

*Newsletter*

*Issue 2 May - Jul 2022*



*Murrumbidgee River A.C.T*

***Welcome to new members:***

Melanie Ball      Kylie Dennis  
Paul Ryan         Michael Schulz  
                         Jukka Ilpola

**President: Helen Nicholas 0428 784 495      Secretary: Gill Sydes 0419 585 996**

**Walks Co-ordinator: Brian Watson 0407 300 922**

## Your Committee for 2022

**President:** Helen Nicholas 0428 784 495  
**Vice-President:** Doug Kneen 5721 2892  
**Secretary:** Gill Sydes 0419 585 996  
**Treasurer:** Brian Watson 0407 300 922

### Committee members:

Trevor Smith 0417 598 346 Wendy Baker 0429 780 179  
Don Allen 0428 270 334 James Flynn 0413 945 671  
Fe Tuck 0458 060 143

### Committee Responsibilities

**Walks Program:** Brian Watson Gill Sydes Doug Kneen  
**Guest speakers:** Brian Watson Wendy Baker  
**Maps & Gear loan:** Gill Sydes  
**Public Officer:** Gill Sydes  
**Registrar:** Gill Sydes  
**Publicity:** Don Allen  
**Library/Archivist:** Doug Kneen  
**Newsletter:** Trevor Smith Don Allen  
**Webmaster:** Trevor Smith  
**Mid-week walks** Wendy Baker

# Reminders

## Total Fire Ban Days

Members are reminded the club policy is that on days of total fire ban during the declared fire season all walk activities are **cancelled**.

## Acknowledgement of Risks and Responsibilities Form

This form is now part of the membership application form. **All Members** must complete this form when renewing membership. This form alleviates the need for members to sign a form before each walk. Non-members on walks must sign the agreement before each walk. For this purpose copies of the form can be downloaded from the Leaders Information page in the Members Only section of the club website or a membership application form containing the agreement can be found at the rear of the newsletter.

## Travel Costs

The club has a policy of passengers on walks paying drivers for their generosity in providing transport. Currently the rate is 30c per kilometre per car (**However, due to rising costs in general, committee are considering increasing this to 40c per Km**). Members can assist the drivers by doing their own calculations based on **\$30.00 per 100km**, divided by number of people in the vehicle.

Example: Round trip distance = 180Km  
No. of people in car = 4  
Cost per person =  $180/100 \times 30/4 = \$13.50$

**A reminder that this rate is club policy and all members are expected to pay for transport at this rate regardless of the number in the vehicle. No pay, no lift.**

## Staying Together

With larger groups or groups containing walkers of varying abilities it is inevitable that the group will tend to become strung out at times. To avoid this happening or at least becoming a problem if it does happen the following actions **must** be adhered to.

1. If you have to leave the track for a toilet stop advise the walker ahead or behind you of your intention and leave your pack in the middle of the track.
2. At a track intersection walkers **must** stop and wait for the rest of the party to catch up before proceeding.
3. If a small group wish to leave the main group to visit a nearby off route attraction they **must** advise the leader of their intention before doing so. The leader, if he agrees to the request, will decide whether the whole group goes or waits on the track for their return.
4. Each walker should at all times be able to see the walker ahead and the walker behind, especially in more dense vegetation conditions. If not, the message should be sent up the line to slow up and allow them to catch up. With larger groups it is advisable to appoint an experienced walker as whip or "tail-end charlie" to keep track of the slower party members.
5. Should the party become disoriented, which can happen to the best of us, it must be remembered that the leader has sole responsibility for the final decision on what to do. The last thing that is needed is for individuals to be 'doing their own thing' in an attempt to rectify the situation.

The above common sense rules, if followed, will help to keep groups together and safe and avoid the trauma and expense of searches for lost walkers.

## Club Website

[www.benallabushwalkingclub.org.au](http://www.benallabushwalkingclub.org.au)

## Club E-mail address

[benallabushwalkingclub@gmail.com](mailto:benallabushwalkingclub@gmail.com)

## For Sale

Club Mugs (\$10.00) Cloth Badges (\$7.00) and Hat Badges (\$10.00) are ready and waiting for you to buy. See Brian at the Meeting or phone to place your order.

## General Meetings

Meetings are held in the Uniting Church Parish Centre, Carrier Street Benalla (opposite Coles) on the first Tuesday of each month at 7.30pm. A short meeting followed by a guest speaker, then supper. Everyone is welcome.

## Newsletter Deadlines

Members wishing to suggest or lead a walk are asked to send details to the walks program coordinator, Brian Watson on email [brian\\_gayle@bigpond.com](mailto:brian_gayle@bigpond.com) prior to a committee meeting.

Walk reports should be sent to Trevor Smith in the week following the walk. Photos are always welcome. A walk participant may be asked to write a report. Trevor's email is [trevsm42@bigpond.com](mailto:trevsm42@bigpond.com)

## Club UHF Communication

When using hand held or in vehicle UHF transceivers on club outings, the preferred channel to use is channel 9.

# Walks Program

Members wishing to go on a walk should contact the leader:

- Three days prior to the walk for day walks.
- Five days prior to the walk for overnight, extended walks or car camps.  
People calling in late may be considered at the leader's discretion.

**Common sense walks etiquette:** If you are booked in for a walk and find you are unable to attend please inform leader before advertised departure time to prevent unnecessary delays.

## Risk Acknowledgment Form

Just a reminder that walk leaders need to have **all non-member participants** fill in the Risk Acknowledgment Form prior to each walk. A copy of the form can be found in this newsletter or can be downloaded from the club website by navigating to the Leaders Information page in the Members Only section where you will find a link which, when clicked, will download the form in PDF format which can then be printed out.

**TOTAL FIRE BAN DAYS** On days of Total Fire Ban, any walks/activities in that district will be cancelled.

**When engaging in BBWC activities, a COVID vaccination certificate is applicable. Please produce your certificate upon the request of the Leader.**

## Walk Gradings

Distance in one day	Difficulty	Track
<b>S</b> - Short, under 10Kms.	<b>1 - 3</b> Easy, suitable for beginners.	<b>1 - 3</b> Grade, open terrain, well formed tracks or paths.
<b>M</b> - Medium, between 10 and 15Kms	<b>4 - 7</b> Medium fitness required.	<b>4 - 7</b> Bush, minor scrub, some rock hopping or scrambling.
<b>L</b> - Long, between 15 and 20Kms.	<b>8 - 10</b> Hard, strenuous, fit walkers only.	<b>8 - 10</b> Bush, thick scrub, major rock and creek crossings, rock hopping.
<b>X</b> - extra long, over 20Kms.		

**Example: S - 4 - 3 = Under 10Kms, medium fitness required, well formed track.**

### School Terms 2022

Term 1	31 Jan - 8 Apr
Term 2	26 Apr - 24 Jun
Term 3	11 Jul - 16 Sep
Term 4	3 Oct - 20 Dec

### Easter 2022

Good Friday	2 Apr
Easter Monday	5 Apr

## Notes for New/Potential Walks Coordinators

Benalla Bush Walking Club has been around for over 30 years. Many members have 10-20 years of experience with the Club, so there is always a wealth of knowledge beside you on the walks. What this means is you don't have to know everything.

What you will need is:

- A plan for the day
- A starting point
- A starting time, both for the activity, and to leave Benalla
- A map of where the group is going
- A finishing point
- An approximate finishing time.

Now, a walk report sheet will have a number of these points laid out, so have one before and during the walk. Afterwards, complete it and hand it on to Doug Kneen, or any Committee member.

Any problems, before, during or after the walk, ask one or two of the more experienced ones their thoughts.

That you have a walk put into the program means that the Walks Committee have confidence in your skills and abilities. Take it as a compliment!

An excellent source of relevant information, produced by Bushwalking Victoria, is the **Walksafe Booklet**, a link to which can be found [here](#). This publication should be read by all club members, whether beginner or experienced walker.

# Walks Program

## May

Tue 3	General Meeting	Parish Centre 7:30pm
Fri/Sun 6-8	Murray River Camp Cookout	Doug Kneen/Brian Watson
Wed 11	Wahgunyah River Track	Kaye Johnson
Fri/Sun 13-15	Barmah Forest	Helen Nicholas
Fri 20	Mooroopna Progressive Dinner	Gary Mac & Marion
Sat 21	Mt Samaria	Brian Watson
Sun 22	Murrundindi Cascades	Trevor Smith
Sat 28	Mt Torbreck Summit Walk	Gary Mac
Sun 29	Delatite River Walk	John Boehm

## June

Sat 4	Tallangalook Walk	Jean Lightfoot
Sun 5	Chiltern Out & About	Wendy Baker
Tue 7	General Meeting	Parish Centre 7.30pm
Wed 8	Sunrise Track	Helen Spinks
Sat 11	Mt Piper	Gill Sydes
Sat/Mon 11-13	A Weekend at Heathcote	Helen Nicholas
Sun 19	Keppels L/out & Stevensons Falls	Trevor Smith
Sun 26	Dookie Environs	James Flynn & Helen Spinks

## July

Sat 2	Mahers Hill - Wodonga	Mitch
Tue 5	General Meeting	Parish Centre 7.30pm
Fri/Sun 8-10	Cocopara Ranges	Gill Sydes
Wed 13	Chick Hill	Helen Spinks
Sun 17	Eldorado Waterfalls & Dredge	John Boehm
Sun 24	Pine Gully	Wendy Baker

**When engaging in BBWC activities, a COVID vaccination certificate is applicable. Please produce your certificate upon the request of the Leader.**

**Fri/Sun May 6-8      MURRAY RIVER CAMP COOKOUT**

A pleasant weekend on the banks of the mighty Murray River. Scrumptious tea cooked in camp ovens. Great social event. Fishing, swimming, canoeing, wine appreciation?

**Contact:** Doug Kneen 0409 347 273 Brian Watson 0407300 922

**Wed May 11      WAHGUNYAH RIVER TRACK**

A short walk through beautiful old river gums, local vineyards and historic spots. This 7 km circuit includes a visit to the historic John Foord Pioneer Cemetery and a walk along the river.

**Rating:** S - 3 - 3 (Easy)

**Contact:** Kaye Johnson 0427 571 478

**Sat/Sun May 14-15      BARMAH FOREST**

A leisurely weekend based on a private block of land near Barmah township. A couple of walks, drives, and a little bit of sitting around the redgum fueled campfire. Maybe with a glass of red.

**Rating:** S - 3 - 3

**Contact:** Helen Nicholas 0428 784 495

**Fri May 20      MOOROOPNA PROGRESSIVE DINNER**

It's been a couple of years since this night was last held, so to start it off again it was suggested we might try it over in the Goulburn Valley, or to be more precise "Fruit Salad City" Mooroopna.

The format will be a little different, in that participants will drive to the main course venue, park their cars and deliver their main course offerings. They will then undertake a 5 min. walk, with drinks/nibbles/entrees etc, to the first round venue. Once the first round is completed it will be the same 5 min walk back to the main course venue to complete the evening. Times are still to be finalised, but it is envisaged the arrival time will be around the 6.00pm mark, and, yes, it will be held only over two venues not three.

Please note numbers will be capped at around 22 persons.

**Contact:** Gary MacDonald 0421 052 367

**Sat May 21      MT SAMARIA**

An interesting loop from the historic wood kilns, along the Wileman walking track to the Back Creek Falls, and return. Through majestic eucalypt forest, mountain gullies and a soggy swampy bit. On walking tracks, 4wd tracks, and bit of bush bashing where there is no track. Around 12 k.

**Rating:** S - 4 - 3

**Contact:** Brian Watson 0407 300 922 No texts please.

**Sun May 22      MURRINDINDI CASCADES & RIVER WALK**

Starting at the Murrindindi Cascades easy walking extends for 13Km travelling to and from the Murrindindi River through a variety of bush from tall open forest to deep ferny gullies.

For those with energy to spare at the end, and if time permits, a climb to Wilhelmina Falls is worth the effort.

**Rating:** M - 3 - 3

**Contact:** Trevor Smith 0417 598 346

**Sat May 28      MT TORBREK SUMMIT WALK**

The walk will start from the Barnewall Plains Picnic Area and it is a 4.2km return walk to the summit of Mount Torbreck that rises to an altitude of 1516m. The walk is steep and rocky in places but is easy to follow as you ascend up the mountain then walk across the ridge to the summit.

The summit is marked by a very large rock cairn and offers breathtaking and impressive views of the ranges covered in ash forests in all directions, including nearby Lake Eildon and the higher ranges near Mt Buller.

Subject to available time we may have the chance to walk into the memorial site for the Avro Anson that crashed on the mountain in 1940.

**Rating:** S - 4 - 3 (Medium)

**Contact:** Gary MacDonald 0421 052 367

**Sun May 29**

**DELATITE RIVER WALK**

An easy walk along the Delatite River starting at Mirimbah park, returning the same way.

Meet at the Tennis Courts behind Aldi, Barkly St

Meet 8.45am Depart 9.00am

**Rating:** S - 3 - 3 (Easy)

**Contact:** John Boehm 0428 254 801

**Sat Jun 4**

**TALLANGALOOK WALK**

Explore the old mining area of Tallangalook in the Strathbogie forest. Lots of big holes in the ground and a short tunnel to look at. We went last year when there was drilling being done, so we could not look at it properly.

**Rating:** S - 3 - 3 (Easy)

**Contact:** Jean Lightfoot 0407 908 352

**Sun Jun 5**

**CHILTERN OUT & ABOUT**

A leisurely stroll around the Chiltern area and the adjacent Box Ironbark forest.

**Rating:** S - 3 - 3 (Easy)

**Contact:** Wendy Baker 0429 780 179

**Wed Jun 8**

**SUNRISE TRACK**

This walk at the end of Deloro Road on the Wangaratta side of the Warbys is renowned for the abundance of wild flowers (maybe not at this time of year) and birdlife. Also a lookout point with great views of the mountains plus an old quarry where rock for the cathedral in Wangaratta was sourced.

**Rating:** S - 3 - 3 (Easy)

**Contact:** Helen Spinks 0488 013 059

**Sat Jun 11**

**MT PIPER**

Mt Piper is a pinnacle (steeply rising from 230m to 456m) visible from the Hume Freeway near Seymour. It is surrounded by mostly cleared farm land and forms an isolated refuge for a number of plant and animal species. The summit area is an important habitat, especially as a breeding area, for eight butterfly species. There is a zig-zag track to the top, where there are great views of the surrounding area and also a circuit track around the base. We may also visit Yea Wetlands. Hopefully the weather will not prevent us walking this time!

**Rating:** S - 3 - 3 (Easy)

**Contact:** Gill Sydes 0419 585 996

**Sat/Mon Jun 11-13**

**A WEEKEND AT HEATHCOTE**

Arrive Saturday and enjoy a shared camp/bunkhouse/swags inside simple style accommodation on the long weekend.

Activities: Walk Mt Ida, enjoy Heathcote on show (artisan winemakers, chefs, brewers and musicians).

Simple cooking facilities available and fireside. Shower and toilet access. Bring own bedding.

Sunday: drive to visit Pink Cliffs and Graytown remains of a POW camp.

**Rating:** Great & Easy

**Contact:** Helen Nicholas 0428 784 495

**Sun Jun 19**

**KEPPELS LOOKOUT & STEVENSONS FALLS**

A fairly easy climb through eucalypt forest to the lookout for sweeping views across Marysville and north across the Buxton Valley to the Cathedral before descending to Stevenson Falls and a gentle stroll along the river to return to the cars.

**Rating:** M - 4 - 3 (Medium)

**Contact:** Trevor Smith 0417 598 346

**Sun Jun 26**

**DOOKIE ENVIRONS**

An interesting day exploring the bits of Dookie. A little country town we don't really think much about is full of fascinating snippets. A leisurely lunch after walking Gentle Annie Hill.

**Rating:** S - 3 - 3 (Easy)

**Contact:** James Flynn & Helen Nicholas 0428 784 495

**Sat Jul 2**

**MAHERS HILL - WODONGA**

A short hilly walk just out of Wodonga, with fantastic views of Lake Hume, Mountains from Kosciuszko to Bogong and well into NSW. A lovely day not to be missed.

**Rating:** S - 3 - 3 (Easy)

**Contact:** Mitch Watson 0413 199 520

**Fri/Sun Jul 8-10**

**COCOPARRA RANGES**

Cocoparra National Park is in the Riverina, 25 km north east from Griffith. The name of the park comes from the Aboriginal "*cocupara*", or *kookaburra*. The climate is semi arid with wattle, orchids, ironbark and cypress pines. There are three easy walks, waterfalls and a more strenuous hike. Birdwatching should be good. We will camp at Woolshed Flat campground. Six sites have been booked.

**Rating:** Varied (Easy-Medium)

**Contact:** Gill Sydes 0419 585 996

**Wed Jul 13**

**CHICK HILL**

A circuit walk of about 9km starting on the eastern side of the range to Chick hill, along the top track then back down via Nason track and road to the start. Very pleasant with some stunning views across the Ovens Valley and up to the high country.

**Rating:** S - 4 - 3 (Easy - Medium)

**Contact:** Helen Spinks 0488 013 059

**Sun Jul 17**

**BARRY FALLS & DREDGE**

A short but interesting walk to the falls exploring what nature has to offer. We take a track to the creek and walk up to the falls and return. We need to do some bush bashing in reasonable terrain. We can then do a further walk to the top cut dam near Eldorado before traveling to look at the dredge.

Meet at car park behind Aldi 9.00 am Leave Benalla 9.15 am

**Rating:** S - 4 - 5 (Medium)

**Contact:** John Boehm 0428 254 801

**Sun Jul 24**

**PINE GULLY**

An interesting short walk delivering an appreciation of the Warby's natural values. Rocky in places requiring good footwear.

**Rating:** S - 4 - 3 (Easy)

**Contact:** Wendy Baker 0429 780 179

# Walk Reports

## Lower Glenelg Camp & Canoe Mar 3-7

Car based camping on the Glenelg River at Pritchards Campground. Attended by 7 campers.

There was an abundance of birdlife near our camp. Overhead there were gang gangs, honey eaters, a tawny frog mouthed owl, kookaburras and blue wrens. Also spotted nearby were many koalas, kangaroos, wallabies, emus, an echidna and a bearded dragon. I'm sure there were some fish in the river, but alas none made it on to Chris's fishing line.

We were lucky that we were the only ones in our section of the campground with the exception of some paddlers and walkers on their way through.



### Day 1

A beautiful warm sunny day. Some of us did a small walk along a section of the Great South Coast track via the Inkpot (a black coloured dam) to Moleside Camp. And after a refreshing swim around the dock at our camp.

### Day 2

Dropped the kayaks in the river at Moleside Camp and paddled downstream back to our camp. It was about 10km, along the way we spied many more koalas, ducks, cormorants, and some herons. There were a few dead trees along the way, we think the many koalas may have been responsible for this. Towards the end of our paddle the rain began and we did get a little wet.

### Day 3

It was a wet day but we did catch a break in the weather and went for a drive to the Mt Richmond National Park. We did two walks, Ben Werrin Nature Walk and Ocean View walk. Lots of koalas, ha-ha we even saw one peeing, lucky we were not standing underneath! We all had some leeches to remove after these walks and we were all very brave.



In the afternoon some of us went kayaking from our campsite, while Brian and Gayle visited Portland.

### Day 4

We drove to Dry Creek camp (near Princess Margaret Rose Caves) and launched the kayaks. Headed upstream through spectacular limestone gorge with some interesting formations. The wind challenged us and we rose to the occasion. Back to Nelson for lunch/afternoon tea, where we ran into Mary who was having lunch with her niece.

Thank you to all for coming along and for your lovely company. And a big thankyou to Brian for your extra driving and help.

**Lynne Cornall**

## Yarck to Alexandra Bike Ride Mar 12



## Reef Hills Bike Ride Mar 20

Rob Caldwell and Annie Gibbs took a small group of us along various tracks and roads in the Reef Hills Park, where they do lots of riding on their mountain bikes. Rob and Annie had planned it well, in that we left our vehicles at the gazebo/picnic table area before heading off on a circuit ride which brought us back to the gazebo where we had our lunch before heading off on another circuit. While doing their mountain-bike riding they have come across numerous gold mining shafts, now partially filled in and Brian recalled how, as a teenager he had actually worked on earth-moving machinery, doing some of that filling in. As well as the shafts, numerous areas of open-cut diggings were inspected. And a pond of evil-looking black water. As well as the formed roads, Rob took us along a couple of the trails with the jumps, obstacles and tight turns that they use when riding their mountain bikes. Us older riders on our e-bikes carefully rode around the jumps and obstacles! Ah, to be young again!



Was a good outing. Thanks Rob and Annie.

## Don Allen

### Scenic Huts Walk Mar 29 - Apr 1

Willy, Gill, Fiona and I walked up Heathy Spur in warm, calm, sunny conditions. It was a perfect Alpine day. Along the way five small snakes slithered into the shrubs. They were warming themselves on the sunny narrow track.

We arrived at the turn off to Johnson's Hut just as a group of school kids appeared: they were heading to Edmondson's Hut. We set up camp at Johnson's Hut and then relaxed, listening to young Crimson Rosellas cracking gum nuts above our tents. A group of girls arrived to set up their camp. They came from Sydney. The evening was perfect: calm, peaceful and balmy.

Next morning we hiked to Roper's Hut, meeting two more school groups and a couple walking the Australian Alps Walking Track. Willy was bitten by a large, grey, jumping spider. Fortunately the bite was only minor.

We arrived at Roper's Hut, set up camp and watched the weather change. Clouds swept up out of the Bogong Valley and fog misted the trees. Gary and Lynne arrived to join us for the night. Another school group set up their camp.



During the night wind tore through the tree tops and light rain fell. It became colder.

Next morning we began our return journey, planning to stay at Edmondson's Hut but the 50km winds and horizontal rain persuaded us to walk out to the cars and then enjoy a warm shower and lunch at Falls Creek.

## Helen Spinks



### Golden Mount Walk April 3

I led Stan, Wendy and Marion from the crystal mine steeply up to the top of the Golden Mount. We stopped to look at the view towards lake Eildon and the Paps while we had a drink. Then up the other side for a view towards Strathbogie..We then walked down Clear Creek track, while admiring the big rocks and trees. Lunch was at the hippie camp, a nice clearing. We could not walk to the dugout as it is now covered with blackberries. A controlled burn had been conducted on both sides of the track up to Mount Strathbogie but we still went to the 2 towers. Then it was an easy walk along Ferraris road back to the crystal mine. Afternoon tea was at our place to finish a pleasant day with good company.

**Jean Lightfoot**

### Kids Overnight Easy Hike Apr 9-10

Tawonga Huts Kids Overnight Hike and members wishing to experience hiking in the High Country was a lot of fun. Mitchell was the youngest hiker who turns 13 in July, myself (new to hiking) and 4 other experienced hikers started our hike on Saturday.

Mitchell had a keen eye and spotted all the little critters along the path – mostly high country grasshoppers. His young legs sped up and down the mountain without any concerns. Mitchell carried his own pack and slept in his tent, lit the fire, learnt about the importance of staying dry and played a few tricks on Pop.



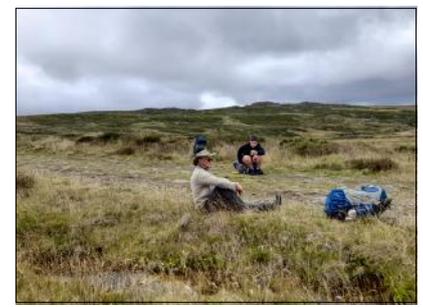
Tawonga Huts was my first overnight hike and I have been moved by the beauty of the mountains, the challenge of endurance, reading the landscape, observing the clouds, and beginning my journey of being accountable in the wilderness.

The campfire at night was a treat and we all had fun.



If any member feels nervous or unsure about hiking – you need to do this one night hike and walk into the mountains with your experienced member hikers who will look out for you. Hire some gear from the club to reduce upfront costs. By going, I trust you will feel the power of the mountain, and the comfort of the unspoken word of adventure.

**Helen Nicholas**



### Mt. Stirling Walk, Apr 10

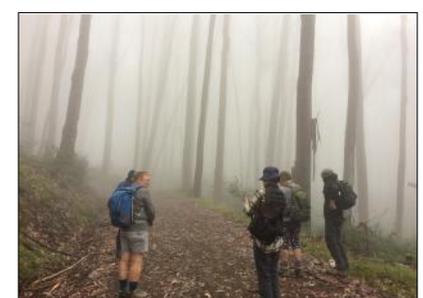
Six walkers and our intrepid leader, Wendy Baker, made an early start and took the Stirling Road from Mirimbah for King Saddle hut.



Here we started our trek to the Machinery Shed shelter, the still, misty atmosphere enhancing foliage and bark colours while the going was easy.

We joined the Summit Loop to King Spur Hut, and as we neared the Summit around midday, a light wind sprang up and a fine drizzle set in.

A decision was made to have lunch inside the GGS hut and while five optimistic



photographers climbed to the summit, two stayed behind to light a welcome-back fire in the School's iron stove.

On the return via the Summit Loop and Cricket Pitch Hut, evidence of horse riding groups and cyclists. Under snow, these wide trails are ideal for safe practising of cross country skiing and learner snowboarding.

Returning to the cars by mid afternoon, we had covered just over 12 kms and, despite the easy going, we were ready for that afternoon tea before the drive back to Mansfield and home.

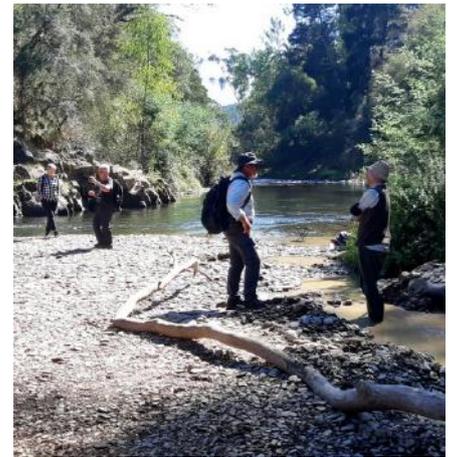
Thanks, Wendy, you did a 'Sterling' job!

**Anne Cresswell**



**Cherry Tree & Canyon Walk Apr 13**

On a perfect warm Autumn day I led the Club Mid-Week Walk in Bright – two walks just over 11kms in total ...a bit longer than I anticipated. There were nine walkers, including new member, Julie, recently graduated from the U3A Easy Walkers. Welcome Julie, we hope to see you again very soon. (\*Of course, it wouldn't have been a bushwalk without someone? losing their sunglasses) **Bev Thornell**



While the trees were starting to turn, we were a week or two early for the best of the autumn colours which Bright is known for. First walk was the Canyon Walk, about 6kms return walk along the Ovens River, with evidence of the gold mining days all along the river. After lunch was the Cherry Walk, about 5kms, (*quite overgrown along one bank*), named after the first Cherry family in the area, who had a tragic history (\*See pic below). Thank you to Bev for leading us on a great walk.

**Kay Johnson**

CHERRY'S BRIDGE	
<p>The first member of Bright's Cherry family, William, arrived in Australia from Ireland in 1855. He married Harriet Collins in the same year, and they eventually made their way to Freeburgh.</p> <p>In 1871 tragedy struck, when six of their fifteen children died within 17 days in the great diphtheria epidemic. Four more died between 1872 and 1881 at very young ages. William's son William, one of the survivors, moved his family to Morgans Creek on a property of 150 acres in Back Germantown Road, just north of this spot, where they ran cattle and grew potatoes, oats and vegetables. He also worked in the mining industry, supplying wood to dredges at Wandiligong and Bright.</p> <p>Cherry's Bridge was built for the timber workers who toiled at the mill which once existed 800 metres upstream towards Germantown. The track behind you leads to the site of the original Cherry cottage, no longer standing. It is said that Mrs. Cherry walked along the river to Bright every day.</p> <p>William and Harriet Cherry are buried with twelve of their fifteen children in a communal grave in Bright Cemetery.</p>	 <p><i>William (son of the original William) and his wife Catherine Cherry with seven of their eight children and three of their grandchildren.</i></p> <p><i>Four of this last generation - Ron, Lillian, Max and Shane - remain active members of the Bright community (2004).</i></p>

**Mitta Weekend Apr 23-24**



# Benalla Bushwalking Club Inc.



## Acknowledgement of Risks and Responsibilities of Participants on Club Activities

To be completed by all non-members and non-financial members participating in this activity.

Leader: ..... Date: .....

Activity: .....

In voluntarily participating in the above activity of this club, I am aware that my participation in this activity may expose me to risks that could lead to injury, illness or death or to loss of or damage to my property. Those risks include, but are not limited to, slippery and/or uneven ground, falling rocks, cliffs, exposure to weather, white-out conditions, hyperthermia, hypothermia, swimming, diving, submerged logs and rocks, creek crossings, shallow and/or cloudy water, and strong currents, snake/spider/insect bites.

To minimize these risks I have endeavoured to ensure that

1. This activity is within my capabilities.
2. I am carrying food, water and equipment appropriate for the activity.
3. I have advised 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 and accept the instructions of the leader of the activity.

I have read and understand these requirements. I have considered the risks before choosing to sign this acknowledgement of risk. I still wish to join this activity. I accept that in signing this form I will take responsibility for my own actions.

### Members:

Name	Emergency Contact

### Non Members - \$5.00

Name	Address	Signature	Emergency Contact



Name of Walk:

Participant Nos.:

Leader:

Date:

Distance:

Weather:

Rating:

Location of Starting Point:

Walk Description:

Location of Finishing Point:

Problems?

Comments for next time:

## BENALLA BUSHWALKING CLUB MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION (2022)

The annual membership fee is \$45 per person (\$40 (incl. \$5 discount) if paid prior to March 31). Full time students, if accompanied on walks by their paid up parent(s), are covered by the parent(s) membership.

No. of individuals included in application: ..... Amount Enclosed \$ .....

Payment Method:  Cash / Cheque  Online Deposit

For online payments **BSB 803078 Acc. No. 137269. Please use name as reference.**

Membership Renewal  New Member

Name/s.....

Postal Address.....

Town.....Postcode.....

Email Address.....Phone.....

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RISKS AND OBLIGATIONS OF MEMBERS PARTICIPATING IN BENALLA BUSHWALKING CLUB ACTIVITIES

#### NB. To be completed by all new and renewing members

In voluntarily participating in the above activity of this club, I am aware that my participation in this activity may expose me to risks that could lead to injury, illness or death or to loss of or damage to my property. Those risks include, but are not limited to, slippery and/or uneven ground, falling rocks, cliffs, exposure to weather, white-out conditions, hyperthermia, hypothermia, swimming, diving, submerged logs and rocks, creek crossings, shallow and/or cloudy water, and strong currents, snake/spider/insect bites.

To minimize these risks I will endeavour to ensure that-

- (1) any activity in which I participate is within my capabilities, and
- (2) I am carrying food, water and equipment appropriate for the activity.
- (3) I agree to advise the activity leader if I am taking any medication or have any physical or any other limitation that might affect my participation in the activity.

I will make every effort to remain with the rest of the party during any activity and accept the instructions of the leader of the activity.

I accept that I also have an obligation to read and understand the risk management strategy guidelines that the club distributes or makes available in its newsletter or web page from time to time providing guidance and instruction on how to minimise any risks of its activities.

**By signing this form and/or payment of my subscription** I acknowledge I will be responsible for my actions and fully understand and accept the above conditions.

NAME(1)\_\_\_\_\_ NAME(2)\_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE(1)\_\_\_\_\_ (2)\_\_\_\_\_

DATE\_\_\_\_\_

AS AT APRIL 2022

### EMERGENCY CONTACT

NAME.....

HOME ADDRESS.....

TELEPHONE HOME.....MOBILE.....

RELATIONSHIP.....

Return completed form to: The Treasurer, Benalla Bushwalking Club, Box 210 Benalla. 3672