



Federation of Victorian Walking Clubs (VicWalk) Inc.  
A0002548Y

# ANNUAL REPORT 2005

*VISION FOR THE FUTURE*



*WALKING - DO IT ANYWHERE, ANYTIME*

The Federation of Victorian Walking Clubs (VicWalk) Inc was founded by eight clubs in 1934. Today it represents 82 clubs and an estimated 10,000 bushwalkers.

It provides a range of services to member clubs ,the general community and bushwalkers including Search and Rescue service, affordable insurance, a staffed office, and representation to government and other organizations.

Proposed changes to be voted on at our AGM

### **RULES AND STATEMENT OF PURPOSES**

*The Objectives of the Federation are to:*

- unite all Victorian bushwalking clubs and co-operate with other organisations having like interests, for the protection and advancement of mutual interests;
- promote the pastime of recreational bushwalking *and its benefits to the community*;
- encourage good fellowship and co-operation amongst bushwalking clubs *to maximise the resources available for the achievement of these objectives*;
- maintain, *for the benefit of the community as a whole*, a volunteer Search and Rescue Section to assist in searches for persons lost in bush and mountain areas of Victoria;
- *assist with and* promote the maintenance of walking tracks so as to enhance their *recreational and bushwalking value to the community*;
- gather and distribute information regarding safety, walking routes, maps and other subjects of interest to *the bushwalking community*;
- promote *and actively work for* the conservation *and the appropriate management of* national parks, wilderness, world heritage areas, and other land areas, so as to enhance their bushwalking value *to the community*;
- **\*new.** *publish information and promote safe bushwalking to the community*;

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## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

This is my last annual report as President. We are beginning to examine our future direction and I hope that you will all take part. Issues such as the Adventure Activity Standards, the Working with Children legislation and ongoing conservation issues show why bushwalkers continue to need a state based bushwalking organization. I hope that all walkers can have input to the review of VicWalk's Future directions.

When I became President I said that I wanted to focus on assistance with Park maintenance activities. Events such as the insurance crisis and the Adventure Activity Standards have meant that these have been placed on the 'back burner'. Hopefully we'll be able to achieve something in the area of Park maintenance with the new VicWalk track maintenance group.

The insurance situation finally improved somewhat, in particular with coverage of above the snow line walking (but not skiing). David Gordon from the Border Bushwalking Club in Albury Wodonga has taken over as Insurance Convener.

A very successful Federation weekend was run in Rawson by 3 clubs, Ben Cruachan, Melbourne Bushwalkers and Strezlecki. I would like to thank them again. Essendon will be running the 2005 Federation Day Walk in October and Border, Benalla and Wangaratta Out and About club plan to run the 2006 Federation weekend in the Bright area.

I would like to thank all the people who have assisted VicWalk, particularly the conveners, the Executive and the Newsletter team. In the last year the Executive has been inviting Conveners to attend Executive meetings, to allow more in depth discussion of how the committees are going, and I hope that the conveners have gained from this. Finally I have to thank our Administrative Officer, Jenny Sykes.

*Jim Harker*  
President

## **VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

I joined the executive team in June last year and immediately found myself "in the deep end", needing to come to grips with many of the issues referred to in the President's report. It has been a busy year and progress has been made.

The AAS-Bushwalking is now a much better document than the one first presented to us. Many of our concerns have been addressed. Thanks are due to all those who spent many hours on this project. We are committed to working with ORC to resolve problems with AAS because we still have a responsibility to ensure as far as possible that AAS is suitable for use by our members even though council has decided not to endorse it.

The review of VicWalks future shape and direction has occupied a lot of executive time and is now involving our wider membership as we work to prepare VicWalk to effectively represent walkers in the future.

The first consultative workshop has been held. Good input was received and other workshops will be held in the coming months. This will provide the opportunity for all our members to contribute.

The secretary and I have commenced visits to other community organisations and peak bodies. The purpose is to establish how the successful ones operate and how they are structured. To date we have been to The Bird Observers Club of Australia, Bicycle Victoria and Canoeing Victoria.

All these organisations are professional, business like groups and very proactive in their operations. There is much for us to learn from looking at these groups. In the near future, we will be visiting others including Australian Mountain Bike Association and Baseball Association.

We are also reviewing our strategic relationships with a view to expanding them and making existing ones stronger. We have visited Sport and Recreation Vic (SRV) to establish funding opportunities and Outdoor Recreation Centre (ORC) to discuss support services. Since that visit we have taken up a seat on the ORC Board of Management. Other strategic relationships to be discussed include Parks Vic, DSE, and producers of outdoor publications.

During the 2005/2006 year there will be challenges to face, some of these are detailed elsewhere in the annual report. I believe if we are attuned to our business environment, proactive, professional in our approach and have encouragement and support from our members then our executive and conveners working as a team can successfully meet those challenges.

I have enjoyed contributing to the work of VicWalk which has such an important role in representing bushwalkers. Finally thank you to my colleagues for helping the "new member" climb the steep and slippery learning slope.

*David Reid*  
Vice President

## **SECRETARY'S REPORT**

### THE YEAR IN REVIEW

JUNE 2004	Federation executive meet with consultant to define Vic Walks strategic direction and " Vision for the Future "
JULY	First aid subsidy of \$40 per member for completion of a recognized first aid course. Adventure Activity Standard for Bushwalking under intense discussion. "The Wrong's Act" released protecting Leaders & Committee members. Risk Management—clubs urged to review their own risk management procedures
AUGUST Doricott	BWA now handling insurance with broker "Marsh" as Mal finishes as insurance convener.
SEPTEMBER	Skills convener Jim McLaughlin researches 1 <sup>st</sup> Aid Courses. Bill Metzenthon steps down as VicWalks delegate to Bushwalking Australia.
OCTOBER	BSAR success at Mt Bogong assisting 3 skiers. Justin Madden responds to our concern on AAS. Rule change on voting numbers at AGM. Clubs urged to create Temporary members not guests. Very successful Federation Weekend at Walhalla- run by Melbourne Bushies, Strzelecki & Ben Cruachan Clubs- 225 walkers from 21 clubs.
NOVEMBER	David Gordon of Border Bushwalking accepts Insurance Conveners role. And Jim Ray of Waverley BC accepts Publicity Conveners role.
DECEMBER	Council votes in favour of not endorsing AAS. Vice President defines the future shape of VicWalk.
JANUARY 2005 FEBRUARY	Rebuilding of Federation and Michell Huts.
MARCH .	Resignation of Skills Convener after 2 years of input. BSAR success in Grampians search.
APRIL	Launch of VicWalk's "Vision for the Future" workshops. Bacchus Marsh joins the Great Dividing Trail network. Essendon club announce they are hosting in October this years Federation day walk at Blackwood.
MAY	On going discussions with BMTAB re: joining VicWalk.

*Wayne Rice*  
Secretary

**TREASURER'S REPORT****COMMENTS ON 2004/05 ANNUAL ACCOUNTS****SPECIFIC POINTS**

1. The Federation made a surplus of \$15,837.
2. The Executive has discussed membership fees, and we do not recommend an increase. Although it appears that we have made a substantial surplus this year, one should consider the accounts show an amount of \$7500 from the Department of Sport and Recreation that should have been received in the previous year. Another large single expense such as printing a brochure would see the surplus reduced, possibly to a deficit. Nevertheless we have generally been making a surplus over a number of years, and we feel that our financial position does not warrant a fee increase.

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS AS AT MARCH 31, 2005**

1. The depreciation of equipment has been calculated on a straight line at rates to match the cost of each item of equipment over its economic life.

**Equipment List**

	<b>Cost</b>	<b>Book Value</b>
	\$	\$
Audio visual equipment	870	
<b>Search and Rescue Equipment</b>		
Snow shoes	2,400	1,900
Ski bindings	1,188	950
Filing cabinets, 2	281	
Rescue sled	840	
Ice axes and crampons	750	
Sked stretchers	1,930	
Bushwacker skis, 11 pairs	4,097	
Radio harnesses, 12	340	
Pack covers	4,490	
Arm bands	1,557	
2 door cabinet	180	
Lockable cupboard	180	
GPSunits	3,827	
Holders for GPSunits	460	
Storage boxes for GPS's	75	
Software for GPS's	125	
<b>Office equipment</b>		
Answering machine	99	33
Filing cabinet		
Office furniture, various		
Samsung fax machine		
Personal computer	1435	479
Hewlett Packard printer	270	
PC software	568	
Vacuum cleaner		
Scanner		
MYOB Accounting plus, V.13	269	89
		3,442

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I have not subtotalled the cost of equipment purchased because the list is out of date. Many of the items listed previously are no longer in our possession and some items have been added.

2. The Federation of Victorian Walking Clubs (VicWalk) was incorporated on October 5, 1984 under the provisions of the Associations Incorporations Act 1981.
3. The financial report has been prepared for use by the members of the Federation and is a special purpose financial report. It has been prepared in order to satisfy the financial reporting requirements of the Associations Incorporations Act 1981. The Executive has determined that the Federation is not a reporting entity. The report is prepared on an accruals basis and is based on historical costs.
4. Interest received has been apportioned according to the average of opening and closing balances in each respective account.
5. This was all for a first aid training subsidy of \$40 per person who complete a first aid course.
6. The three largest items were a \$1000 donation to the VNPA, \$275 for Vicsport affiliation and a \$250 donation to the Grampians Walking Tracks Support Group.
7. Of this amount \$3,305 is subscription fees and the remainder is expenses associated with BWA.
8. Sundry Creditors: PAYGLiability \$742 and superannuation liability of \$490.
9. Provisions:

Provision for Holiday Pay	\$2,720
Provision for Sick Leave	\$5,071
Provision for Long Service Leave	\$4,042

### 10. Membership Funds

	2005
	\$
Retained Profits at beginning of year	100,385
Plus Net Surplus attributable to members of the Federation	15,837
Retained profits at the end of the financial year	<u>116,222</u>

(There is a slight variation in totals due to rounding.)

*Greg Weston*  
Treasurer.

## INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2005

	Notes	2005 \$	2004 \$
<b>GENERAL FUND</b>			
<b>Income</b>			
Membership fees		45,436	
42,849			
Interest	4	2,397	
1,774			
Donations and grants		11,390	
3,772			
Newsletter subscriptions		555 555	
Advertising		264 695	
Sundry income		<u>1,309</u>	
1,035			
<u>61,351</u>		<u>50,680</u>	
<b>Expenditure</b>			
Training	5	3,395	0
Newsletter		3,366	
2,215			
General administration		15,169	
14,841			
Promotions		71	
9,023			
Affiliations	6	1,720 460	
BWA	7	3,865	0
Conservation		597	
2,714			
Depreciation	1	600 360	
Salary and on costs		<u>25,109</u>	
<u>31,845</u>			
<u>53,892</u>			
			<u>61,458</u>
Surplus/(deficit) for the year		7,459	
(10,778)			
Add opening balance April 1, 2004		<u>56,606</u>	
<u>67,384</u>			
Closing balance March 31, 2005		<u>64,065</u>	
<u>56,606</u>			
<b>SEARCH AND RESCUE FUND</b>			
<b>Income</b>			
Interest	4	703 381	
Donations, grants and equipment sales		<u>13,178</u>	
3,750			
<u>13,881</u>			<u>4,131</u>
<b>Expenditure</b>			
General administration (including travel)		4,003	
4,334			
Depreciation	1	<u>1,868</u>	
<u>1,122</u>			
<u>5,871</u>			<u>5,466</u>

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Surplus/(deficit) for the year (1,397)	8,010
Add opening balance April 1, 2004 <u>14,473</u>	<u>13,138</u>
Closing balance March 31, 2005 <u>13,138</u>	<u>21,148</u>

*The accompanying notes form an integral part of this report.*

**INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2005**

	Notes	2005 \$	2004 \$
<b>INSURANCE FUND</b>			
<b>Income</b>			
Insurance contributions		63,420	
52,758			
Interest	4	<u>1,233 717</u>	
<u>64,653</u>	<u>53,475</u>		
<b>Expenditure</b>			
Insurance payments		64,029	
49,844			
General administration		<u>260 240</u>	
<u>64,289</u>	<u>50,084</u>		
Surplus/(deficit) for the year		364	
3,391			
Add opening balance April 1, 2004		<u>30,642</u>	
<u>27,251</u>			
Closing balance March 31, 2005		<u>31,006</u>	
<u>30,642</u>			

*The accompanying notes form an integral part of this report.*

**BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 MARCH, 2005**

	Notes	2005 \$	2004 \$
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Cheque account - Commonwealth Bank		5,001	
8,725			
Deposit account - Commonwealth Bank		42,562	
41,162			
Deposit account - ANZ V2 Plus		<u>77,680</u>	
58,870			
<u>125,243</u>	<u>108,757</u>		
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Sundry creditors	8	1,232 603	
Other liabilities	9	<u>11,833</u>	
10,693			
<u>13,065</u>	<u>11,296</u>		
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<u>112,178</u>	
<u>97,461</u>			
<b>NON CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Equipment		32,530	
28,942			
Less provision for depreciation		(28,486)	
(26,018)			
<b>TOTAL NET ASSETS</b>		<u>116,222</u>	
<u>100,385</u>			
<b>MEMBERSHIP FUNDS</b>			
General fund		64,066	
56,606			
Search and Rescue fund		21,149	
13,138			
Insurance fund		<u>31,007</u>	
30,641			
<u>116,222</u>	<u>100,385</u>		
<u>100,385</u>		<u>116,222</u>	

*The accompanying notes form an integral part of this report.*

**FEDERATION OF VICTORIAN WALKING CLUBS (VICWALK) INC**  
**EXECUTIVE'S REPORT**  
**STATEMENT BY MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE**

The Executive has determined that the Federation is not a reporting entity and that this special purpose financial report should be prepared in accordance with the accounting policies outlined in Note 1 of the financial statements.

In the opinion of the executive the financial report as set out on the above pages:

1. Presents a true and fair view of the financial position of the Federation of Victorian Walking Clubs as at 31 March 2005 and its performance for the year ended on that date.
2. At the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Federation of Victorian Walking Clubs will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

This statement is made in accordance with a resolution of the Executive and is signed on behalf of the Executive by:

President .....

Treasurer.....

Dated this .....

**AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE FEDERATION OF VICTORIAN CLUBS (VICWALK) INC**

I have audited the financial report, being a special purpose financial report, of the Federation of Victorian Walking Clubs (VicWalk) Inc for the year ended 31 March 2005 as set out in the above pages.

The financial report has been prepared for the purpose of fulfilling the requirements of the Associations Incorporations Act (Victoria).

In my opinion the financial report presents a true and fair view of the financial position of the Federation as at March 31 2005 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year ended in accordance with the accounting policies described in the Notes to the financial statements.

Joanna OBrien, BBus (Accounting), TSTC  
17 May 2005  
Melbourne

## **BUSHWALKERS SEARCH AND RESCUE CONVENER'S REPORT**



Bushwalkers Search and Rescue (BSAR) had an active year with some significant searches and numerous practice activities. The organisation saw the retirement of long-serving member, Phil Waring, after 45 years of service. Phil had been a Field Organiser for eight years and Police Liaison Officer for 21 years. Phil was thanked for his commitment and support with the award of a BSAR Certificate of Appreciation and a plaque from Victoria Police.

At the May 2004 meeting David Kneen was appointed to the Field Organiser list. David had been involved through MUMC for a number of years and had been Assistant FO on practices.

In recognition of the assistance and support it provided over many years, the Victorian Scout Association was awarded a BSAR Certificate of Appreciation. BSAR had held regular committee meetings at Scout Headquarters in Carlton, but due to the relocation of Scouts, BSAR had to find an alternative venue. BSAR now meets in the Community Room, Powlett Reserve, East Melbourne.

Undoubtedly, the year's toughest and most dangerous search and rescue was for three men suffering hypothermia in blizzard conditions on Mt Bogong. A local call out of Birkebiener Nordic Ski Club members occurred close to midnight on 10<sup>th</sup> September 2004. BNSC were requested to assist local police with an emergency on Mt Bogong where three skiers, unable to continue due to very bad weather, had dug snow holes for shelter. At 4.30am, equipped with ice axes and crampons, Jim Gargan, Paul Grusovin, Rob Boland, Jarrod Paine and David Panozzo headed up Mt Bogong accompanied by Gordon Guest-Smith, a member of the Mt Hotham ski patrol. BNSC sent a strong, experienced team to the summit and in doing so saved the lives of the three men.

A call out was conducted on 15<sup>th</sup> May 2004 to search for a missing walker at Mount Buffalo Gorge. Mr Folino had parked his car at The Gorge car park on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> May and appeared to have gone walking. Police Search and Rescue, SES and some climbers conducted initial searching prior to the arrival of 29 BSAR searchers. Field Organiser (FO) Peter Campbell, assisted by FO Karl Hradsky, coordinated seven BSAR search groups with the SES providing transport. BSAR's involvement was restricted to one day, as the absence of any clues or additional data would have made productive search deployment for the next day problematic. Mr Folino's body has since been located.

On 17<sup>th</sup> January 2005, 25 BSAR members were involved in the search for Marianne Wang, an overnight walker missing on the Major Mitchell Plateau in the Grampians. Notably BSAR were the only cross-country searchers on foot and she was found by a BSAR group. While BSAR members had the option of returning to base for the night, they agreed to continue for a while longer. This decision resulted in the woman being found about 6pm and not having to spend another night out. The BSAR group that located her then escorted her and carried her gear out. She was in good condition despite having been out for two days in First Wannan Creek.

Extremely generous donations of \$1000 and \$500 were received from Marian Wang on behalf of the Wang family and G Chen, Marian's friend, respectively, to mark their appreciation for the efforts of searchers. As always donations are gratefully received and these will be put towards Peer Support Training.

The annual practice was held in the Wombat State Forest on 1<sup>st</sup> – 2<sup>nd</sup> May and provided the opportunity for intensive navigation through participation in a VRA 12-hour rogaine on Saturday. The weather contributed rain, hail, light snow showers, wind and cold temperatures during the day, but fined up to a relatively mild and moonlit night providing an ideal opportunity for night navigation. Sunday consisted of sessions for

the more experienced on the role of group leaders and for newcomers a session about BSAR and basic searching strategies. Groups then undertook feature searching. Fifty-seven people took part in the practice with approximately half being new to BSAR and it was encouraging to see many younger participants. The Victoria Police Search and Rescue Squad, Transport Branch and Force Response Unit are thanked for contributing to the training. Special thanks to the VRA for accommodating BSAR in the event and also to the Practice Organisers, Merv Trease, Duncan Brookes, Jim Grelis and Shirley McInnes for their work in making it all run smoothly.

BSAR's second successful ski skills day was held on a very wet 25<sup>th</sup> July. Twenty-one BSAR members plus 11 Ski patrol members took part in downhill and uphill technique progressions with an emphasis on control under all snow conditions. An opportunity to try the new snowshoes was offered. Afternoon activities consisted of touring up to the King Saddle, including some off track skills application manoeuvring through the trees and scrub. Greg Paul (Police SAR), Merv Trease and Peter Campbell provided instruction.

It was also the year for the biennial Steep Snow and Ice (SSI) practice held at Mt Buller. Police Search and Rescue and Mt Buller Ski Patrol, plus a ski patroller from Mt Hotham, participated with 10 BSAR members in this successful exercise. Practice organisers Peter Campbell (BSAR) and Tim James (Police SAR) are thanked for their work in running this joint training exercise to sharpen rescue techniques and procedures in this more difficult terrain. It is proposed to run an SSI activity annually and broaden participation.

Sport and Recreation Victoria (SRV) continued to provide funding to the Federation for BSAR administration and training. The department's continued financial support is greatly appreciated.

BSAR became an associate member of the Australian Ski Patrol Association allowing BSAR members access to the ASPA Advanced Emergency Care course.

BSAR reviewed its first aid subsidy in light of a number of members undertaking more advanced remote area courses and to encourage more members to undertake courses. The subsidy for a course (min. 14 hrs) was increased to \$80 and for remote area training (min. 24 hrs) a new subsidy was set at \$160.

Twenty-six clubs contribute 232 searchers (slightly up on last year) and 68 club contacts to maintain this specialised community service. These people are the core of our unique organisation and they are especially thanked for their contributions.

*Behind the Log* (BTL) continues to provide valuable information for members and clubs. Ren Millsom capably produced the two issues of BTL during the year. Distribution of BTL was efficiently carried out by Ann Wetherall. Thanks Ren and Ann for the many hours you contribute to ensure BTL reaches its readers. BSAR is very grateful to Ann Wetherall for all her hard work managing the vital task of keeping the call-out list up to date. It is imperative that the list is as current as possible to ensure that PLOs, FOs and Club Contacts have accurate information so that callouts are efficiently and effectively undertaken.

Thanks also to Neil Weatherill for his ongoing support in minuting the BSAR Committee meetings and to Chris Jarvis for ensuring BSAR equipment is maintained appropriately and audited annually. Thanks also to Rik Head who efficiently maintains the BSAR website.

The Police SAR Squad continues to have regular representation at Committee meetings and our November meeting was held at their premises in Williamstown. The involvement of members of Police SAR at meetings and practices greatly contributes to the good working relationships between the organisations and we look forward to this continuing collaboration.

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I thank the BSAR Committee who contribute a great deal to the running of our volunteer emergency service group. Thanks to the searchers who willingly respond to call outs, and Club Contacts, PLOs and FOs who assist to get searchers into the field and the Delegates who maintain a link to BSAR members.

I am proud of the contribution of all our dedicated volunteers have made over the past year.

*Monica Chapman*  
Bushwalkers Search and Rescue

## **BUSHWALKING & MOUNTAINCRAFT TRAINING ADVISORY BOARD BMTAB) CONVENER'S REPORT**

Intentions by the Board to once again offer training (through a Remote Area First Aid Course) and exploring marketing ideas to stimulate an increase in sales of the leadership manual came to nought due to:

The Adventure Activity Standards for bushwalking. A working party was set up to review the proposed standard, and after certain developments, subsequently were endorsed by the Board.

The Board's office was moved out of the Outdoor Recreation Centre and into the Executive Officer, Colin Abbott's house to reduce costs. There are still storage issues and costs for the remainder of the manuals and the map collection. The manual itself is now entirely stored by the distributor, Macstyle Media.

A huge seachange was signalled in February though. A meeting was set up between the Board and VicWalk's own Vice President and Secretary. The BMTAB was invited to come in under VicWalk's umbrella, and it is envisaged that the Board would conduct training and operate in a similar way to BSAR's setup within VicWalk. A Memorandum of Understanding was finally arrived at with the Executive of VicWalk and the Board. The issues therein will have to be dealt with by the incoming executive. I personally welcome these two bushwalking organizations coming together.

*Peter Conroy*  
BMTAB Convener

## **BUSHWALKING AUSTRALIA DELEGATE'S REPORT**

BWA completed its first year of operation on 30<sup>th</sup> September 2004. The first Annual General meeting was held in November 2004.

An annual capitation fee of 50 cents was approved, but with allowance for the BWA council to adjust based on a States individual circumstance.

The main challenge facing BWA for the coming year is to look at what value it can give the individual state members in addition to providing the Insurance scheme and a website. A business plan is being developed.

One area that is becoming a common issue for all states and may require a national approach from the Bushwalking community is the development by other state bodies of "Standards for Bushwalking leaders". Victoria is ahead of the other states in having to deal with this and so David Reid (VicWalk Vice President) and Wayne Rice (VicWalk Secretary) have agreed to act as coordinators for BWA on this issue.

Even with electronic communication, the "tyranny of distance" plus coordinating communication with the delegates and then to the state bodies is a barrier to quick decisions and actions. It is hoped to have the first "face to face" meeting this year.

*Marianne Watt*  
Bushwalking Australia Victorian Delegate

## **CONSERVATION CONVENER'S REPORT**

The Conservation Committee's activities have, as usual, been across a wide range of issues related to conservation of our natural areas for bushwalking.

The committee meetings are held every month except December and are well attended and an excellent forum for discussion.

The following are the major issues addressed by the committee during the past year.

**Alpine:** During the year members of the conservation committee have participated in meetings and correspondence with relevant government departments on issues. These included the re-building of huts after the bush fires, cattle grazing, Alpine Walking Track and removal of illegal hut in the Lake Cobbler area.

**Bunyip State Park:** The main focus has been the review of the Bunyip State management plan. This involved the continuing to campaign for restrictions on Trail Bikes and 4WD vehicles and the development of an improved walking track network.

**Otway Ranges:** During the year members of the conservation committee attended many meetings and sent correspondence in regards to the State Government proposed creation of a Otway National Park and the development of a Trans Otway long distance Walking Track.

**Mornington Peninsula:** The Conservation Committee has sent much correspondence campaigning for a Point Nepean National Park under State Government control, plus the development of the Devilsbend Reservoir area.

**Grampians:** The Conservation Committee has given support to the maintaining of walking tracks through the "Grampians Walking Track Support Group" this includes financial help.

**Walking Track Maintenance:** The Conservation Committee has continued to coordinate the many track clearing efforts done by walking clubs. We have also started making efforts in forming a VicWalk Track Maintenance Group.

**Committees:** VicWalk through the Conservation Committee has/had representatives on many Conservation advisory groups through out the state.

**VicWalk Conservation Policy:** During this year the Conservation Committee has completed the process of reviewing the VicWalk Conservation Policy and Conservation Manual.

**New Members:** A number of new members have joined the Conservation Committee from clubs such as Bunarong, MUMC, MWWC, MUMC, Melbourne BWC, VNPA-BWAG and VMTC. The Conservation Committee would welcome new members from clubs who still don't have a representative. Propriety next year will be the recruitment of Project Officers to cover areas, which have no representative now.

*Geoff Kelly*  
Conservation Convener

## **INSURANCE CONVENER'S REPORT**

I had the pleasure of taking on the role of Insurance Convener approximately half way through the year. This makes it a little difficult to be able to report on the entire year. I would like to start by complimenting my predecessor, Mal Dorricott, for the excellent job he did in his time as Insurance Convener. Mal has made the position a lot easier for those that follow.

Doing the job of Insurance Convener remotely has also presented challenges to both myself and the committee, but I am sure there is nothing that can not be overcome with effort from both parties.

### **Bushwalking Australia**

This has been our first year under the mantle of Bushwalking Australia and there is no doubt that this relationship has thus been a successful one. The advantages for VicWalk thus far has been the reduction in administration of the insurance function and the benefit that numbers give us as a bargaining tool with the insurers.

The true success of this relationship will be tested in the coming years when the softening insurance market in general is reflected in more reasonable pricing to our member clubs and also the restoration of excluded activities such as cross country skiing.

I also think that the realisation that our liability policy carries a \$2,000 excess is starting to hit home with many clubs and that this is also something that clubs of Australia, under the umbrella of Bushwalking Australia, can start to negotiate a less cost prohibitive excess.

Recently Bushwalking Australia have conducted a survey of all clubs in Australia to ascertain levels risk management within clubs. This will hopefully supply a useful profile for the insurers and thus assist them in being able to accurately assess bushwalking as an activity when done via a club and rate accordingly.

### **P&PL Insurance**

Little change was seen in the actual product offered by the insurers for the public and products liability contract, except that we do have a new insurer underwriting our liability. That being Liberty International Underwriters.

We have seen some easement in the above the snowline activities exclusion with an understanding that this exclusion doesn't apply to simply walking above the snowline.

The total annual cost of P&PL cover, including the insurer's premium, GST, stamp duty and the broker's fees for managing the policy worked out at \$5.85 per member, up from \$5.50 for 2003-04. 6,856 Victorian members are covered under the national policy.

### **Temporary Membership**

When I took on the job of Insurance Convener my timing could not have been more perfect. I landed into an all out battle all to do with the inclusion of visitors or temporary members walking with the clubs into our liability coverage.

The main argument seemed to be that Bushwalking Australia wanted, for all these new class of members, that they should sign a waiver of the right to sue prior to walking with a club.

With a lot of correspondence on this point and some heated debate, it was finally agreed that it would be sufficient for clubs to get an acknowledgement of risk form signed. This form has now been designed and circulated to all VicWalk clubs for use.

**PA Cover**

Little change was seen in the actual product offered by the insurers for the Personal Accident contract, except that we do have a new insurer underwriting our liability. That being Accident & Health International Underwriting Pty Ltd.

The total annual cost of PA cover, including the insurer's premium, GST, stamp duty and the broker's commission for managing claims worked out at \$3.80 per member, up from \$3.00 for 2003-04. 6,588 Victorian members are covered under the national policy.

**Property cover**

Our Business Pack insurance covering Vicwalk property at various locations was renewed at a similar cost to last year. This policy also covers property owned by the Bendigo Outdoor Club as well as interstate federations and clubs. Vicwalk's share of the premium was \$574.

**Claims 2004- 05**

P&PL - No claims notified so far.

PA - Of the estimated total claim cost of \$12,826 so far this year on the 12 claims Australia wide, \$2125 will be paid to the 4 from Victoria.

Property - No claims notified so far.

*David Gordon*  
Insurance Convener

**PUBLICITY CONVENER'S REPORT**

Since taking over this responsibility in November 2004 I have received excellent support and encouragement from members of the Executive of VicWalk.

To this stage I have concentrated on making contact with as many media organizations as possible including , Radio , Daily and Suburban newspapers, Ethnic community newspapers and various Magazines including some produced by individual companies.

Contact has been made with all of the above, so now I am in the hands of individual clubs. To publicize VicWalk I need to have stories to pass on to the media people.

If your group is involved in an activity that could be newsworthy then please let me know and I will try to get as much coverage as possible.

If you would like to advertise your group to increase membership, and to have a display in your local Library or Shopping Centre, let me know.

I am looking forward to the oncoming year and to your support.

*Jim Ray*  
Publicity Convener

## **PUBLICATIONS CONVENER'S REPORT**

Once again we are surprised but happy to report that we have underestimated the sustained demand for VicWalk 's safety booklet *Walksafe*. The publications committee is now preparing for a third reprint and has called for feedback with the view to producing a revised edition. We do not anticipate any major changes and therefore intend to retain the familiar blue cover to forestall unnecessary requests for new copies.

The application for funding from the Victorian Multicultural Commission to publish a VicWalk brochure encouraging Victorians with a migrant background to consider joining bushwalking clubs was not successful. As with previous application to VicHealth for funding, the brochure medium was not considered the most effective way to reach our target audience, and so the "means" but not the "ends" have gone back to the drawing board. Similarly, we still have on our agenda the desire to encourage young walkers to become active members of bushwalking clubs but we are awaiting inspiration. However, it is encouraging that many copies of *WalkSafe* have been distributed to youth in educational and scouting organisations. A stronger emphasis on the VicWalk message to "join a club" will be incorporated in the revised edition.

We look forward to another year's opportunity to provide VicWalk information for the benefit of members, both current and potential.

*Claire Garrett*  
Publications Convener

## **RISK MANAGEMENT CONVENER'S REPORT**

We released VicWalks Risk Management Guidelines for Bushwalking Clubs in March 2004 at our Information and Discussion Night held in East Melbourne.

Since that time your VicWalk executive have been urging all clubs to take stock of their clubs operating procedures and to examine and introduce risk management strategies as appropriate to the club. The executive is aware that many clubs have responded ,and put in place RM practices, but likewise that a few clubs have ignored the call and have not taken time to implement even the most basic of RM procedures. We urge all clubs to take up the challenge –as it could be, in the not to distant future - - - a requirement for clubs to obtain insurance. Already we have seen with our N S Wales Confederation colleagues more demands and procedures being imposed on clubs due to different state regulations.

Due to the lack of comment to our existing RM document [ as 1<sup>st</sup> Release March 2004 ] it has been hard to implement a review process—as it is only by sound and practical application , that suggestions, additions and corrections can be addressed.

Possibly the lack of club comment has stemmed from the changing nature of their activities, but never the less the RM committee needs input from clubs.

Are the existing guidelines :- -

- not applicable.
- too hard to implement.
- not relevant..

Finally remember to minimize the Risks of Lawsuits and for the good governance of your club and the protection of your club members who participate in your activities it is strongly recommended that the risk management processes be implemented as soon as possible.

*Wayne Rice*  
Risk Management Convener

### **SKILLS CONVENER'S REPORT**

This report covers until February at which time I resigned after two years at the post.

For the benefit of the project currently running, to determine "the way ahead", I'll intersperse the report with a few personal comments.

In the Skills Convener role, I operated as a sole convener, that is without its own subcommittee, although I spent a lot of time on other subcommittees (eg Risk Management Guide and Activity Standards).

The major course interest was in First Aid Courses, greatly encouraged by the VicWalk Subsidy. A course was run last November attracting over 30 participants from eight clubs. First Aid skills are being generally encouraged in the community on several fronts - the Activity Standards, and of course by the duty of care argument. VicWalk centrally organized courses, overcome the inability to get economic numbers, particularly by small clubs and also ensures a bushwalking focus.

I also compiled a Guide to First Aid on Club Trips and put on the Website late 2004. This will in the long term allow clubs to better manage first aid matters.

Skills education is currently pretty low on the agenda.

- The BMTAB has ceased running courses, without any obvious demand or indications of restarting in the near future. If this situation continues VicWalk needs to capture this expertise before it dissipates irreversibly.
- From my 2003 survey there was a general feeling that clubs then were struggling to get enough leaders, and I doubt if much has changed in the last two years.
- Notwithstanding the previous statement, there was no real push by the clubs to get VicWalk to run courses, apart from first aid, or to coordinate interclub cooperation.
- One could deduce that there are currently enough people in the system at the bigger clubs at least to run the trips that need serious advanced skills, and the day walk leaders don't see any need for any education above what they already have, as little as that may be in many cases. Given the temperate climate and the propensity of sealed roads to most day walk destinations the indifference of day walk leaders is not surprising. Also clubs probably run walks that leaders can cope with – a self limiting process!

- The Maroondah Club has been very active in running its own courses and Paul Chaming should be applauded for his efforts. Looking through other club programs some Clubs do run their own courses. This suggests that active clubs consider it more appropriate to run their own courses.
- It is unlikely that country clubs would come to the city to attend courses.

So where does this lead us.

I don't believe it is particularly productive to have a skills convener until the issue of the role of "BMTAB" type education is clarified, the practice of Risk Management and the actual role of the Activity Standards are bedded in. Until these things happen, skills education is in a "never never land". For this to change clubs must feel sufficiently enthused to either drive skills education themselves (particularly the bigger clubs) or scream at VicWalk to run/organize courses.

Until the above happens the skills convener person could be better utilized elsewhere, for example in dealings with the ORC or Risk Management promotion.

*Jim McLaughlin*  
Skills Convener

## **ADMINISTRATION OFFICER'S REPORT**

Timely communication with clubs is an ongoing issue for VicWalk. One of the ways that we've tried to address this is by using email where possible to impart information. We are now emailing, to those clubs that are able to receive them, the minutes of the Council meetings and VicWalk News. Clubs are also using email to send their newsletters to the office.

The constant stream of material or requests for information on issues that are relevant, of a peripheral nature or not relevant at all requires much time to sort out as with the follow up required when clubs are tardy in their responses to important queries. I am fully appreciative of the cooperation and willingness of the executive and conveners to attend to the issues at hand, which are many and diverse.

I would like to express my thanks to the editorial staff and mailout team who have ensured that the monthly mailout of VicWalk News has gone out on time.

Copies of Walksafe have been a popular request to the office from schools for their outdoor education programs and to Scouts and Guides, as well as to VicWalk clubs. The packliners are not in such demand but this however may be because they are so good that purchasers don't need to resupply in a hurry.

An improvement in the physical working environment of the office was attended to with the purchase of some furniture. At present the office we rent is at the Outdoor Recreation Centre (ORC) which is situated in Viewbank. This will change in the latter half of 2006 when "Recreation House" is built at Westerfolds Park for Parks Victoria staff as well as staff from the various recreational groups using the ORC.

*Jenny Sykes*  
VicWalk Administrative Officer

## **FEDERATION ORGANISATION**

The membership of the Federation is exclusively clubs. The Federation has two grades of membership:

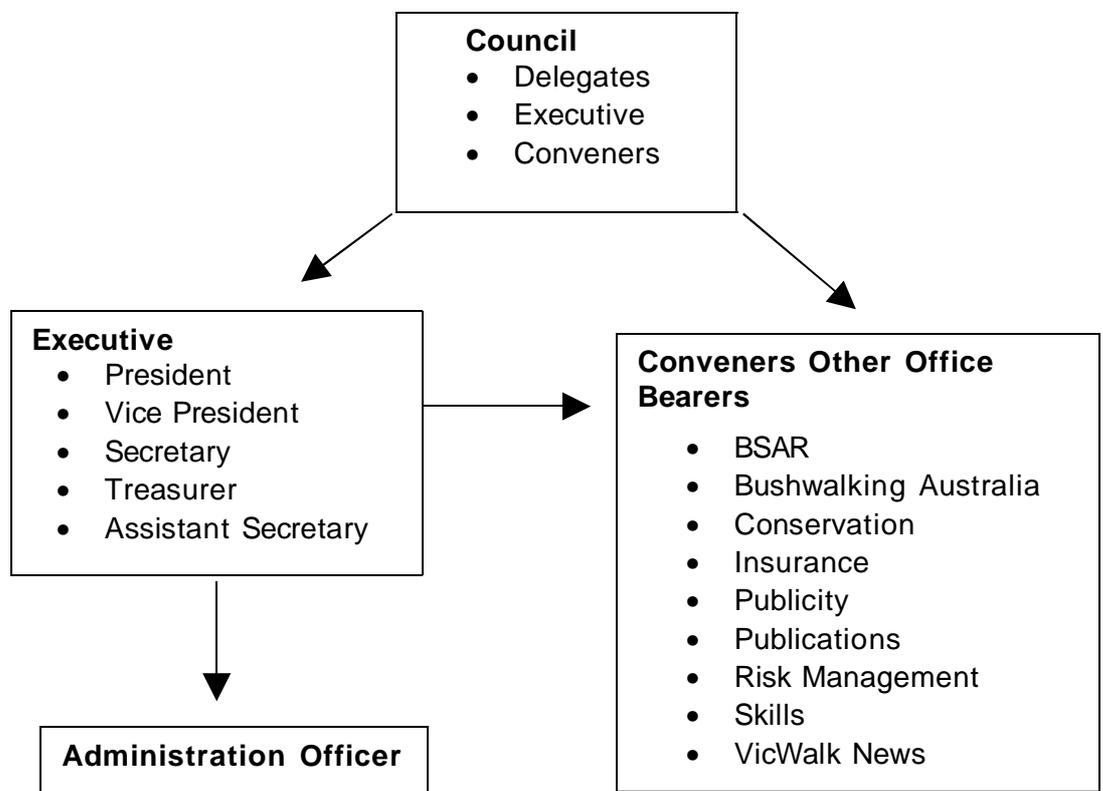
**Affiliate members** have, in the opinion of the Federation's Council, bushwalking as their major activity. They have full voting rights and access to all of the services offered by the Federation.

**Associate members** do not have voting rights and do not have access to some of the services offered by the Federation, such as insurance. They contribute smaller membership fees. Many of these clubs contribute to the Federation's Search and Rescue activities and other Federation com-mittees.

**Federation Council** comprises Delegates from Affiliated Member Clubs. The Executive and Conveners of various committees are also Council Members. The Council meets once per month to review the activities of the Federation, make key decisions, discuss and approve proposals presented by the Executive.

The Executive and Conveners run the Federation between Council meetings under the powers specified in the Rules & By-Laws of the Federation or delegated by Council.

The Administration Officer performs administrative tasks under the direction of the Executive and the list of duties specified in the duty statement of the position.



**OFFICE BEARERS**

**Executive**

President	Jim Harker	VMTC
Vice President	David Reid	Waverley BWC
Secretary	Wayne Rice	Koonung BWC
Treasurer	Greg Weston	VMTC
Asst Secretary	Barbara Geurin	Locksley BWC

**Conveners**

BMTAB	Peter Conroy	VMTC
BSAR	Monica Chapman	Maroondah
Bushwalking Australia	Marianne Watt	VMTC
Conservation	Geoff Kelly	VMTC
Insurance	David Gordon	Border BWC
Newsletter Editor	Phil Brotchie	WCV
Publicity	Jim Ray	Waverley BWC
Publications	Claire Garrett	VMTC
Risk management	Wayne Rice	Koonung
Skills	Jim McLaughlin	Boroondara

**Other Office Bearers**

Alpine Advisory Ctee	Claire Garrett	VMTC
Auditor	Jo O'Brien	VNPA
Public Officer	Wayne Rice	Koonung
Tracks/ Records	Darren McClelland	Essendon
Newsletter Assistant	Helen Rowley	VMTC
Newsletter Summary	Jim Harker	VMTC

**Administration Officer**

Jenny Sykes

VMTC

**Delegates**

Ballarat/GDTA	Mal Dorricott	Maroondah	Steven Robertson
Ballarat	Rob Hutchison	Melbourne Bushwalkers	Carol Criddle
Bayside	Lesley Hale	Melbourne Bushwalkers	Jan Palich
Bayside	Nick Brown	Melbourne Bushwalkers	Bill Metzenthien
Bayside	David Patston	MWC	Ken Rofe
Boroondara	Tom Orange	MWWC	Shirley Bushrod
CWCV	Nick van Ewijk	MWWC	Beryl Haile
CAEX	Lia Albergo	MWWC	Heather Main
Dandenong Valley	John Freeman	ORWTA	John Piesse
Diamond Valley/Koonung	Des Bain	Springvale	Hugh Carrigan
Essendon	Darren McClelland	VMTC	Peter Conroy
Essendon	Sylvia McLean	VMTC	Melissa Harcourt

Essendon	Ian Tovey	Waverley	Eileen Kerlin
Essendon	John Atkinson	Waverley	Jim Ray
Essendon/GDTA	Neil Campbell	Waverley	Don Hutton
GDTA	Michael Fox		

## **AFFILIATE AND ASSOCIATE MEMBER CLUBS**

Clubs with *web sites* are in bold italic font. To access club information on the web go to [www.vicnet.net.au/~vicwalk](http://www.vicnet.net.au/~vicwalk) main menu and click on 'Victorian Bushwalking Clubs', then click the list type you need, then click the Club you are interested in.

### **AFFILIATE MEMBERS of the FEDERATION**

Almost Anything Outdoors Inc.	<i>c/- PO Box 363 INVERLOCH 3996</i>
Bairnsdale Bushwalking Club Inc.	<i>PO Box 419 BAIRNSDALE 3875</i>
<b><i>Ballarat Bushwalking &amp; Outdoor Club</i></b>	<i>PO Box 133W, BALLARAT 3350</i>
<b><i>Basically Bushwalking Inc.</i></b>	<i>27 Bell St HAWTHORN 3122</i>
Bass Coast Strollers	<i>c/- PO CORINELLA 3984</i>
<b><i>Bayside Bushwalking Club Inc.</i></b>	<i>PO Box 656 MOORABBIN 3189</i>
<b><i>Ben Cruachan Walking Club Inc.</i></b>	<i>PO Box 70 MAFFRA 3860</i>
<b><i>Benalla Bushwalking Club Inc.</i></b>	<i>PO Box 210 BENALLA 3672</i>
<b><i>Bendigo Bushwalkers Inc</i></b>	<i>PO Box 2406 Bendigo Mail Centre BENDIGO, 3554</i>
Bendigo Outdoor Club Inc.	<i>PO Box 989 BENDIGO 3550</i>
<b><i>Berwick&amp;District Bushwalking Club Inc</i></b>	<i>PO Box 515 BERWICK 3806</i>
B'nai B'rith Ramblers	<i>c/- 12 Monomeith Cres MT WAVERLEY 3149</i>
<b><i>Border Bushwalking Club Inc.</i></b>	<i>PO Box 857 WODONGA 3689</i>
<b><i>Boroondara Bushwalkers Inc.</i></b>	<i>PO Box 355 KEW 3101</i>
<b><i>Bunarong Bushwalking Club Inc.</i></b>	<i>PO Box 512 FRANKSTON 3199</i>
Bushrangers Womens Walking Club	<i>6 Solway St ASHBURTON 3147</i>
<b><i>CAEX Bushwalking Club Inc.</i></b>	<i>GPO Box 435C, MELBOURNE 3001</i>
Camperdown Bushwalking Club	<i>PO Box 236 CAMPERDOWN 3260</i>
<b><i>Catholic Walking Club of Vic Inc.</i></b>	<i>PO Box 26 CARLTON SOUTH 3053</i>
Cobram Bushwalking Club Inc.	<i>Lot 8 Binda Rd MULWALA, NSW 2647</i>
<b><i>Dandenong Valley Bushwalking Club</i></b>	<i>PO Box 398 DOVETON 3177</i>
<b><i>Diamond Valley Bushwalking Club Inc.</i></b>	<i>PO Box 536 ELTHAM 3095</i>
Echuca Moama Bushwalking Club	<i>C/- Echuca YMCA, Cnr McKenzie &amp; Eyre St, ECHUCA 3564</i>
Eltham and Environs Walking Group	<i>56 Ramptons Rd ELTHAM, 3095</i>
<b><i>Essendon Bushwalking Club Inc.</i></b>	<i>PO Box 3, MOONEEPOND, 3039</i>
Friends of the Great South- West Walk	<i>PO Box 192 PORTLAND 3305</i>
<b><i>Geelong Bushwalking Club Inc.</i></b>	<i>PO Box 675 GEELONG 3220</i>
Gisborne Bushwalking Club	<i>P.O. Box 879, SUNBURY 3429</i>
Grampians Bushwalking Club Inc.	<i>PO Box 12 STAWELL 3380</i>
Great Alpine Walkers Club.	<i>PO Box 65 OMEO 3898</i>
<b><i>Great Dividing Trail Association Inc.</i></b>	<i>PO Box 429 DAYLESFORD, 3460</i>
Heathcote Walkers	<i>78 Bonneys Lane RSD 1014 HEATHCOTE 3523</i>
Keilor Bushwalking Club Inc.	<i>43 Diamond Avenue ST ALBANS 3021</i>
<b><i>Koonung Bushwalking Club Inc.</i></b>	<i>PO Box 360 DONCASTER 3108</i>
<b><i>Locksley Bushwalking Club Inc.</i></b>	<i>PO Box 147 ROSANNA 3084</i>
<b><i>Maroondah Bushwalking Club Inc.</i></b>	<i>PO Box 575 RINGWOOD 3134</i>
Maryborough & District Bushwalking Club	<i>PO Box 77 MARYBOROUGH 3465</i>
<b><i>Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc.</i></b>	<i>GPO Box 1751Q, MELBOURNE 3001</i>
Melbourne Walking Club Inc.	<i>GPO Box 2446V, MELBOURNE 3001</i>
<b><i>Melbourne Womens Walking Club Inc.</i></b>	<i>23 Glenwood Ave GLEN WAVERLEY 3150</i>
<b><i>Melton Bushwalkers Inc.</i></b>	<i>65 Blamey Drive SOUTH MELTON 3338</i>

<b>Orion Bushwalking Club Inc.</b> Otway Ranges Walking Track Association Inc. Pakenham Bushwalking Club	19 Heathfield Rise BOX HILL NORTH 3129 PO Box 291 APOLLO BAY 3233  PO Box 316 PAKENHAM 3810
<b>Peninsula Bushwalking Club Inc.</b> Peregrine Club Inc.	PO Box 433 MORNINGTON 3931 c/- 44 Pier Road INVERLOCH 3996
<b>Ramblers Walking Club Inc.</b> Red Hill Ramblers Bushwalking Club Inc Rosebud Ramblers	23 Roland Avenue STRATHMORE 3041 113 Tucks Rd MAIN RIDGE 3928 10 Coolangatta Tce DROMANA 3936
Seymour Bushwalking Group Inc.	8 Cleve Court, WALLAN, 3756
<b>Shepparton Adventure Club Inc.</b>	PO Box 264 SHEPPARTON 3630
<b>South Gippsland Walking &amp; Adventure Club</b>	PO Box 557 LEONGATHA 3953
Springvale Bushwalking & Cycling Club Inc.	459 Springvale Rd SPRINGVALE 3171
Stonnington Walking Club	c/- 19 Grandview Road CHADSTONE 3148
<b>Strzelecki Bushwalking Club</b>	PO Box 844 WARRAGUL 3820
<b>Sunraysia Bushwalkers Inc.</b>	PO Box 1827 MILDURA 3500
<b>The Nomads Outdoors Group Inc.</b>	PO Box 56 Flinders Lane MELBOURNE 8009
The Wednesday Walkers	52 Emily Stree, MURRUMBEENA 3163
University of Melbourne Alumni Bushwalkers	119 Auburn Rd HAWTHORN EAST 3123
<b>Victorian Mountain Tramping Club Inc.</b>	GPO Box 1340L, MELBOURNE 3001
<b>Walking Club of Victoria Inc.</b>	PO Box 204 PORT MELBOURNE 3207
Wangaratta Out & About Inc.	PO Box 825 WANGARATTA 3676
Warby Range Bushwalkers Inc.	RMB 8360 Kurrajong Lane WANGARATTA SOUTH 3678
<b>Warrnambool Walkers Inc.</b>	PO Box 425 WARRNAMBOOL 3290
<b>Waverley Bushwalking Club Inc.</b>	PO Box 685 GLEN WAVERLEY 3150
Wayward Women Walkers	PO Box 1219 GLEN WAVERLEY 3150
Werribee Bushwalking & Outdoor Club Inc.	PO Box 233 WERRIBEE 3030
West Gippsland Bush Walkers	PO Box 1134 WARRAGUL 3820
<b>Wimmera Bushwalking Club Inc.</b>	PO Box 575 HORSHAM 3400
Wonthaggi Bush Beach Walking Club	78 Glen Alvie Road GRANTVILLE 3984

### ASSOCIATE MEMBERS of the FEDERATION

Birkebeiner Nordic Ski Club Inc	PO Box 192 MT BEAUTY 3699
BMTAB Inc Search Group	332 Banyule Rd VIEWBANK 3084
Cowombat Walking Club	60 Wellington St KEW 3101
<b>Latrobe Mountaineering Club Melbourne University Mountaineering Club</b>	PO Box 285 GLENHUNTLY 3163 Sports Union, Tin Alley PARKVILLE, 3052
<b>Monash Bushwalking Club Inc.</b>	Building 1, MONASH UNIVERSITY 3800
Scout Bushwalkers	13B Peter St BOX HILL NORTH 3129
<b>VNPA Bushwalking Group</b>	60 Leicester Street CARLTON 3054
Victorian Nordic Rescue Service	PO Box 185 ASHBURTON 3147
Victorian Rogaining Association	PO Box 30 COLLINS STREET WEST 8007
Victorian Rovers (Scout Association)	PO Box 774 MT WAVERLEY 3149
<b>YHA Bushwalking Club</b>	GPO Box 25 MELBOURNE 3001

**CLUB STATISTICS**

	AFFILIATE CLUBS		ASSOCIATE CLUBS
	Number of clubs	Number of members	Number of clubs
1992/93	45	4,957	9
1993/94	49	5,207	9
1994/95	51	5,148	10
1995/96	56	5,424	11
1996/97	60	5,608	13
1997/98	67	5,725	13
1998/99	66	5,992	13
1999/2000	67	5,962	13
2000/01	67	5,969	12
2001/02	68	5,951	12
2002/03	69	6,158	12
2003/04	71	6,310	11
2004/05	70	6,610	12

**Federation of Victorian Walking Clubs (VicWalk) Inc**  
**Certificate by Member of the Executive**

I, Jim Harker of (4 French St, Noble Park) and G. Weston of (15 Dickson Court, Williamstown),

certify that:

- a. We are members of the Executive of the Federation of Victorian Walking Clubs (VicWalk) Inc
- b. We attended the annual general meeting of the Federation held on June 7, 2005
- c. We are authorized by the Executive to sign this certificate
- d. This annual statement was submitted to the members of the Federation at its annual general meeting

Dated this June 8, 2005, 1 day after the AGM on June 7, 2005

.....  
JHarker

.....  
G Weston