

Bushwalking News Victoria



September 2016 Issue
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Walking and Talking with the Bushwalking Victoria President

Board planning day

The Bushwalking Victoria board met for a planning day on 7 August 2016. Phillip Davis provided an insightful and thought provoking workshop about influencing decisions makers in government.

Other topics covered during the workshop included reviewing the current Bushwalking Victoria operational plan, discussing options for proceeding with the marketing project and clarifying our communications procedures and policies.

We made some good progress on these topics, but there is more work to do.

Adventure Activity Standard

The other topic that has been consuming a lot of my time is discussions regarding the proposed Bushwalking National Adventure Activity Standard (NAAS) that is under the remit of Outdoors Victoria. The board endorses Bushwalking Australia's position on this – which is:

'The proposed National Bushwalking AAAS must specifically exclude applicability to non-commercial users such as volunteer-run recreational groups including bushwalking clubs and groups of private individuals undertaking recreational adventure activities.'

We are greatly concerned that that if the proposed Bushwalking NAAS is enacted in Victoria and elsewhere across Australia without an exemption for recreational bushwalkers, land managers and insurers will require compliance by recreational bushwalkers and their clubs, and that the vast majority of recreational bushwalkers and community groups would not be able to show compliance with the Bushwalking NAAS, which could prevent them from conducting their chosen recreational bushwalking activities.

We have conveyed our concerns to Outdoors Victoria, but so far have made no progress getting this exemption included. More details on this issue will be sent to all clubs and individual members in the near future.

WalkSafe

We are making some progress updating *WalkSafe* to ensure it continues to be a useful resource for advising and guiding recreational bushwalkers.

Bushwalking and Ski Touring Leadership Manual

We are also considering forming a small committee to update the *Bushwalking and Ski Touring Leadership Manual* and will soon call for expressions of interest for that.

Club websites

If your club does not have a website and is considering getting one, Bushwalking Victoria funding to creating a website is still available.

Peter Campbell, President

2016-17 Board - Profiles

Peter Campbell, President

Peter was elected President of Bushwalking Victoria in 2016.

Peter's first bushwalk as a teenager was at Wilsons Promontory. While at La Trobe University, Peter started cross country skiing and rock climbing, and was President of the La Trobe University Mountaineering Club. He joined Bush Search and Rescue at that time.

Peter has participated in more than 20 searches and training weekends and has served on the BSAR committee for over two decades. Peter is currently the BSAR Convener and a Field Organiser.

Peter's preferred outdoor activities range from ski mountaineering and photography through to cycling and kitesurfing.

Peter is also currently employed as an IT Consultant.



Charles Ablitt, Vice President

See the next issue of *Bushwalking News Victoria*.

Philip Davis, Secretary

Philip was born at Maffra in Gippsland to a farming family, and his education and training focussed on agriculture and business. His career included a brief period working in the oil and gas industry. His main activity has been in farming – rearing wool sheep and beef cattle for three decades. He was actively involved in representing Victorian farmers at state and national levels for more than a decade and then spent more than two decades representing Gippsland in state parliament.

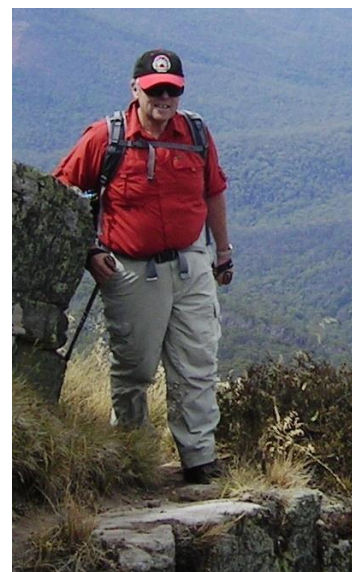
Philip is married to Elizabeth, who participates in day walks and supported walks. They have two adult daughters. They live in Gippsland.

While a Member of Parliament, he was actively involved in land and resource management issues. He advocated for improved management of public land, including improving access for walkers, and was the Chairman of Victorian Government's Trails Coordinating Committee for four years until mid-2015. Currently, he is a member of the Alpine Advisory Committee.

His involvement with bushwalking started in primary school through scouting, army cadets and the extensive school outdoor education program. School holidays frequently included trips to the Victorian high country and Wilsons Promontory for camping and hiking. With the pressure of work and family these adventures declined until 2008 when 'normal operations' resumed.

Philip's favourite region for walking is the Alpine Park. His favourite day walk Mount Howitt. His favourite multiday trip is Mount Skene to King Billy.

Philip is a member of Ben Cruachan Walking Club and Individual Supporter member of Bushwalking Victoria. He joined the Board of Bushwalking Victoria in 2015 as Secretary.



Robyn Shingles, Treasurer

Robyn has been a member of the Strzelecki Bushwalking Club for 11 years and is a current committee member. She joined the Bushwalking Victoria board in 2013 and took on the Treasurer's role in 2015. She is an accountant with over 20 years of professional experience in the power industry.

Robyn is keen traveller, participating in hiking and cycling activities locally and overseas. She was born and raised in Gippsland, lives in the Latrobe Valley and particularly enjoys walking in Victoria's beautiful alpine areas.



Narges Adhami

Narges is a new board member.

She is originally from Iran, and has worked in the IT industry for the last four years. In Iran one of her great passions was hiking in the mountains. Iran is famous for its great mountains.

When she came to Melbourne she wanted to continue hiking and was keen to find a hiking club. Eventually, she found the Iranian Bushwalkers' club, which not only feeds her passion for hiking but also provides a network for communicating her mother tongue.

Narges loves hiking in new places, and seeing the beauty of the Australian bush adds to her enjoyment of hiking. Until now her favourite hiking places in Victoria have been Mount Bogong in the Alpine National Park and Wilsons Promontory National Park, where she particularly likes overnight camping because she is fascinated by the night sky in these areas.



Narges wants to actively help keep the fascinating bushwalking environment safe and clean, which is one of her reasons for joining the Bushwalking Victoria board. She will try to use this opportunity to learn new things and be an even more active participant in Bushwalking Victoria activities.

Peter Conroy

See the next issue of *Bushwalking News Victoria*.

Mike Grant

Mike is new to the board.

He is an experienced bushwalker, ski tourer and outdoor activity leader. He is a founding member of Bayside Bushwalking Club and a past president. Mike has recently also joined the BTAC committee.

Mike is passionate about promoting bushwalking, ski touring and introducing others to the outdoors.



Joslin Guest

Joslin was educated at Auburn Central School, University High School, University of Melbourne (Commerce) and University of Sydney (Agricultural Economics). She worked as an agricultural economist, transport economist, documentation analyst and process mapper.

Joslin is a member of Boroondara Bushwalkers, where she held several committee positions, including president.

She has been editor of *Bushwalking News Victoria* for a number of years and is a member of the Bushwalking Tracks and Conservation (BTAC) committee. She joined the Bushwalking Victoria board in 2015.

Joslin's favourite bushwalking area close to Melbourne is Lerderderg Gorge. In regional Victoria, along with the usual favourite walking areas such as the Grampians, Wilson Promontory and the Alps, she particularly likes walking in the Mt Buangor area.



Hadi Hezaveh

Hadi was born in Arak, Iran in 1987. He studied maths and physics at high school then studied for a Bachelor of Chemical Engineering in Arak (graduated 2009) He did his Masters in Chemical Engineering at UTM in Malaysia (graduated 2012). He went on to study biomedical engineering at University of Queensland in 2013. Currently he is completing a PhD in Biomedical Engineering at CSIRO.

Hadi co-founded the Iranian Bushwalkers in August 2104 and was Secretary of the club from 2014 to 2015.

He has a particular interest in outdoor activities, including bushwalking and rock climbing. In Iran, he joined a group of mountain climbers in 2000 with whom he climbed mountains in west and central regions of Iran. In Australia, his favourite walk locations are Wilsons Promontory and the Great Ocean Walk. Other than bushwalking, he is interested in landscape and astrophotography, traditional Persian music and literature.



He joined the Bushwalking Victoria board on March 2015. He was also board member of the Australian-Iranian Society of Victoria.

Judy Hunter

See the next issue of *Bushwalking News Victoria*.

Bushwalking Victoria Office – Profiles

Patsy Scales, Office Manager

Patsy has over 20 years of managerial, organisational and administrative experience. She has spent the last four years at Bushwalking Victoria streamlining the Bushwalking Victoria office by implementing systems and developing customer relations with bushwalking clubs and individual members. Her knowledge and experience will add to the implementation of the Bushwalking Victoria marketing plan and a website renovation. Patsy also provides administrative support to the board.

Besides spending three days a week at Bushwalking Victoria, Patsy runs her own tour business and spends quite some time on the road entertaining international and local clients.

On holidays and days off, Patsy is out in the bush. Hikes completed include the Tour du Mont Blanc, Vikos Gorge, Lycian Way and the Overland Track. Her bucket list of hikes is never ending.



Trudi Edmeades, Office Assistant

Trudi recently joined the Bushwalking Victoria team to support Patsy in the office. Trudi has more than 15 years of experience working in offices in Australia and New Zealand and has worked in areas as diverse as disability, sawmilling, social enterprise, charity and paua farming.

Trudi has a love for organising systems and enjoys creating and maintaining efficient processes and databases, and is always on the lookout for opportunities to improve them. She is looking forward to helping build the capacity of the Bushwalking Victoria office to better serve its members.

She is a keen walker. Lake Mountain in spring is her favourite local walk, and Cathedral Range is next on her list.



Vale Terry Sydes, Bushwalking Victoria Board Member, 2011-2014

On Saturday night, 6 August, Terry Sydes sat in his favourite chair in front of the fire with friends and family. He passed away early the next morning. He left behind not only a loving wife and extensive family, but many friends and acquaintances.

The funeral Mass at the Benalla Catholic Church on Friday 12 August was well attended by his brothers, sisters, children, grandchildren and friends. Bushwalking Victoria was represented by Peter Conroy and his partner, Helen, as well as myself and my partner, Sigrid. Marianne and Jeff Keey from the Victorian Mountain Tramping Club also attended.

The Guard of Honour consisted of CFA Volunteers and members of the Benalla Bushwalking Club. Terry was an active member of both groups.

His contribution to bushwalking together with his sense of humour will be greatly missed.

May you walk on always in our hearts, Terry.

Charles Ablitt, Bushwalking Victoria Vice President



Generous Donations to BTAC



Bushwalking Victoria has received two generous donations for BTAC:

- Ballarat Bushwalking & Outdoor Club (BBOC), \$250
- Bayside Bushwalking Club, \$600.

These two clubs also support BTAC activities by providing BTAC committee members, field officers and skilled volunteers.

At the recent Bushwalking Victoria Annual General Meeting BTAC was able to report close to 2,000 volunteer hours on track and conservation projects. This level of effort means our track clearing equipment and the personal protective equipment is used extensively and intensively. The generous donations from BBOC and Bayside Bushwalking Club will be put towards the replacement of personal protective equipment to keep our volunteers safe.

Bushwalking Victoria and the BTAC committee and volunteers thank these two clubs for their donation and other contributions. Letters of acknowledgement and thanks have been sent to both clubs.

Peter Maffei, BTAC Convener

Fed16 – Short Time Left to Register



FEDERATION WALKS 2016 – WESTERN GRAMPIANS



Registration closes at **12midnight, Wednesday 31 August.**

Registration is via the **TryBooking** website. A link for this is on Bookings page (www.fedwalks.org.au/booking) of the [Federation Walks website](http://www.fedwalks.org.au).

Tracks and Conservation Activities

BTAC program

The following table provides indicative dates and activities. Most activities are still in the planning stage. All details are subject to clarification and change. For more information, contact Charlie Ablitt, the BTAC Projects Coordinator, at conservation@bushwalkingvictoria.org.au,

Date	Activity Description	Associated Organisations
26-28 Aug 2016	Track clearing, Wilsons Prom Lighthouse area	BTAC-Parks Victoria
Sep 2016	Track clearing, Johnny Souey Cove, Wilsons Prom	BTAC-Parks Victoria
30 Sep-9 Oct 2016	Track clearing, McMillian Track, Crooked River, north of Bulltown	BTAC-Parks Victoria
Nov 2016	Track clearing, Upper Howqua	BTAC-Parks Victoria
10-11 Nov 2016	Track clearing, McMillans Walking Track: Arbuckle Junction to Kellys Hut	BTAC-DEWLP
25-27 Nov 2016	Track clearing, Silver Mine Track	BTAC-Parks Victoria
Nov or Dec 2016	Working bee on Mt Stradbroke Walking Track	BTAC-Parks Victoria Friends of the Cobberas
Jan 2017	Sallow Willow removal, Falls Creek	BTAC-Parks Victoria
Other Parks Victoria tracks and conservation activities		
Nov 2015	English Box eradication	Parks Victoria
Dec 2016-Jan 2017	Hawkweed eradication, Falls Creek area	Parks Victoria
10-13 Mar 2017	AAWT, Omeo area	Parks Victoria

What the clubs are doing

Bayside Bushwalking Club:

- Sat 10 Sep - Freemans Mill Track Maintenance (Adopt a Track)
- Fri 28-Sun 30 Oct - Track maintenance on the Sealers Cove Track, Wilsons Prom.

Warrnambool Bushwalkers Inc:

- Last Sunday of each month - Rail trail working bees



Regent Honeyeater planting weekends 2016

Dates	Location	Activities
27-28 Aug	Lurg Hills near Benalla	
10-11 Sep		
24-26 Sep		Plant wildlife corridors for endangered birds and animals



Photo: Jody McCormack

Source:

<http://regenthoneyeater.org.au/>

Participate as a club or as an individual, for the weekend or a day. For more details check out the [flyer](#) and [planting weekend details PDF](#).

To register contact Ray Thomas, Coordinator, Regent Honeyeater Pro, ray@regenthoneyeater.org.au or (03) 5761 1515.

The Regent Honeyeater Project is supported by Bushwalking Victoria.

Navigation Training Field Day: Practise Basic Navigation Skills

Bushwalking Victoria education trainers will conduct a navigation training field day so that new and potential club walk leaders can learn and practise basic navigation skills.

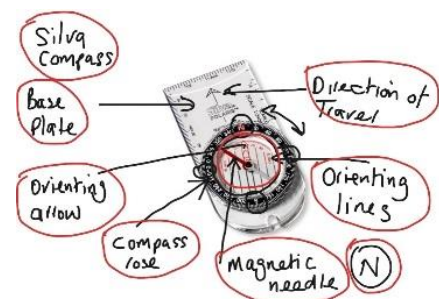
Participants will be provided via email with some pre-reading outlining some navigation techniques.

At the start of the day there will be a short theory and map reading skills session.

Participants will then set off in small groups to navigate a route in the park. The route will involve locating specific features at grid references, walking on a bearing, and timing and estimating distances.

Note the day does not cover advanced navigation.

- **Date:** Saturday 5 November
- **Location:** Dandenong Ranges National Park
- **Time:** 9am to 1:00pm
- **BYO:** Lunch, water, wet weather gear, sunhat and sunscreen if hot, compass (preferably a Silva compass) pen or pencil, clipboard
- **Cost:** \$2.00 (to cover printing costs)
- **Application close date:** Friday 7 October



- **Maximum number of participants:** 16

Email applications to participate in the course to training@bushwalkingvictoria.org.au.

Please include:

- Name
- Club / individual member of Bushwalking Victoria
- Contact phone/mobile number
- Contact email address
- A brief outline of any walks you have led for your club.

Judy Hunter, Bushwalking Victoria Training Coordinator

Forthcoming Vacancies on National Parks Advisory Council and Reference Areas Advisory Committee

I am writing to advise that the Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change is seeking expressions of interest for

- eight positions, including the Convener, on the National Parks Advisory Council; and
- six positions, including Chairperson, on the Reference Areas Advisory Committee.

National Parks Advisory Council (NPAC)

NPAC is a statutory authority established under the National Parks Act 1975 to advise the responsible Minister on the administration of the Act and on proposed excision from a park referred to it by the Minister.

Applicants should have demonstrated experience and knowledge in one or more of the following areas:

- two people with skills or experience relating to the preservation and the protection of parks;
- one who is a professor or teacher of ecology, biology or earth science at a university in Victoria;
- one with experience in local government who resides in a municipality in which there is a park;
- four (at least two of whom reside outside of the metropolitan area) with experience in matters affecting the interests of the community.

Applicants are particularly encouraged to apply if they can demonstrate experience and expertise in nature conservation; recreation provision or tourism and ecology.

Reference Areas Advisory Committee (RAAC)

RAAC is a statutory authority established under the Reference Areas Act 1978 to provide advice to the responsible Minister on the protection, control and management of reference areas.

Applicants should have demonstrated experience and knowledge in one or more of the following areas:

- three shall be nominated by the Minister; and
- three are appointed, who in the opinion of the Minister, have knowledge or expertise in one or more of the following areas: scientific disciplines concerned with matters relating to the preservation or management of land and ecological communities.

Applicants are particularly encouraged to apply if they can demonstrate experience and expertise in land management for conservation purposes; research promotion; strategic thinking and planning; risk management; and stakeholder management.

I encourage you to extend this notification to potential candidates within your professional networks.

Applicants can view further details on the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning website at: <http://www.delwp.vic.gov.au/about-us/current-board-vacancies>.

Expressions of interest are now open and close midnight, Monday 29 August 2016.

For any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Many thanks, Lisa Griggs

**Lisa Griggs | Project Officer | Land Governance | Land Management Policy
Energy, Environment and Climate Change | Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning**

Level 2, 8 Nicholson Street, East Melbourne, Victoria 3002

T: 03 9637 8726 | E: lisa.griggs@delwp.vic.gov.au



Change of Park Name to Recognise Traditional Owners?

Press release: 6 August 2016

Victorians are being asked to contribute to community consultation about a potential name change to both Mt Eccles National Park and the peak of Mt Eccles in the State's south west. The park forms part of the Budj Bim National Heritage Landscape area, which is currently being prepared for world heritage nomination, which will recognise its significant Aboriginal cultural values.

Parks Victoria's recent south west planning process showed strong community support for changing the name of the national park to Budj Bim National Park, and the Budj Bim Council recommended the peak be re-named Budj Bim.

Parks Victoria has a co-management agreement for the national park with the Gunditj Mirring Traditional Owners through the Budj Bim Council, which consists of Gunditj Mirring, Glenelg Hopkins Catchment Management Authority, the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning and Parks Victoria.

Parks Victoria will lead the community consultation, in partnership with the Gunditj Mirring Traditional Owners. People are invited to comments on the proposal to rename Mount Eccles to Budj Bim, and also to rename Mount Eccles National Park to Budj Bim National Park.

Comments can be submitted until 5 September 2016, online at www.surveymonkey.com/r/BudjBim or by emailing parkplan@parks.vic.gov.au.

Lily D'Ambrosio

Minister for Energy, Environment and
Climate Change
Minister for Suburban Development

VICTORIA
State
Government

Commercial Development in Victorian National Parks

Tourism Victoria is now named Visit Victoria. It merges Tourism Victoria's marketing division, the Victorian Major Events Company and the Melbourne Convention Bureau into a single umbrella organisation.

Visit Victoria's newly appointed CEO, Peter Bingeman, wants more hotels, restaurants and commercial nature-based activities to be built in some of the state's protected natural areas. The credo is for 'big nature' – private sector operators/commercial eco-tourism/commercial development - to be a core driver of visitation to regional Victoria and thereby increase spending by tourists.

For more information, see the article in *The Age*, Saturday 13 August or read it [online](#).

Bradley Fauteux, CEO of Parks Victoria, as keynote speaker at the Bushwalking Victoria's Leadership Forum in July made the following points about the issue of commercial development in protected areas:

- Visitation is really important for long-term relevancy and to know what people think of protected places. 'If people don't love them, then they won't be protected'.
- Policy is driving economic outcomes for regions. The development of iconic walks is important here.
- 'Parks Victoria is not in the hospitality business'. Commercial development in parks needs to consider what types of facilities are appropriate.

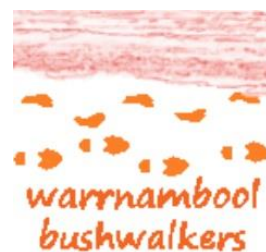
Bushwalking Victoria has policies regarding [commercial activities](#) and [bushwalking infrastructure](#) in protected areas, as well as for the [conservation](#) of such areas.

The current Labor Government in Victoria has a more ambivalent attitude than the previous Coalition Government to large-scale developments in protected areas. If you want to provide feedback about Mr Bingeman's proposals, you should express them to your local member and the relevant minister. Bushwalking Victoria is also interested in receiving feedback from bushwalkers.

Club Anniversaries

Warrnambool Bushwalkers' 30th birthday BBQ

To celebrate 30 years of walking, the Warrnambool Bushwalkers are having a low key BBQ lunch on Saturday 26 November 2016 at the Koroit railway station. If you know any Warrnambool Bushwalkers who've escaped the windy wet south-west, could you let them know about the event? Details can be found at www.warrnamboolbushwalkers.org.au.



Review of 4-Person Tents

The August edition of *Choice* magazine includes a review of 12 four-person tents.

Contributions

Email or post news, views, club profiles, articles, photographs, sketches and letters on any topic of interest to bushwalkers (publication is subject to editorial approval) to:

editor@bushwalkingvictoria.org.au or

24 Moorhouse Street, Camberwell Victoria 3124

Deadline for the October 2016 edition: Monday 19 September 2016.

The statements and opinions expressed in articles are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the views or position of Bushwalking Victoria.

Editor: Joslin Guest

Advertisements



**2017 is the 75th Anniversary of Kokoda
Join us as we walk the Track on special
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4WD Series



Download the latest ORG iPhone Apps.



Buller Howitt



Bogong



Wilsons Prom

Call 1300 36 67 96 or visit www.svmaps.com.au

Who's Who at Bushwalking Victoria

Reg No: A0002548Y

ABN: 88344 633 037

Office:

Patsy Scales	Office Manager	admin@bushwalkingvictoria.org.au	03 9846 1132
Trudi Edmeades	Administration Assistant		

Office bearers:

Peter Campbell	President	president@bushwalkingvictoria.org.au	0409 417 504
Charles Ablitt	Vice-President	vp@bushwalkingvictoria.org.au	0400 967 054
Philip Davis	Secretary	secretary@bushwalkingvictoria.org.au	0447 447 525
Robyn Shingle	Treasurer	treasurer@bushwalkingvictoria.org.au	0419 501 666

General board members:

Narges Adhami		narges@bushwalkingvictoria.org.au	0451 677 104
Peter Conroy		peter@bushwalkingvictoria.org.au	0425 721 479
Mike Grant		mike@nbushwalkingvictoria.org.au	0459 088 853
Joslin Guest		joslin@bushwalkingvictoria.org.au	0400 988 668
Hadi Hezaveh		hadi@bushwalkingvictoria.org.au	0406 177 130
Judy Hunter		judy@bushwalkingvictoria.org.au	0401 428 253

Standing committees:

Peter Campbell	Bush Search & Rescue Victoria Convener	convener@bsar.org
Peter Maffei	Bushwalking Tracks & Conservation Convener	tracks@bushwalkingvictoria.org.au

Specialist officers:

Bushwalking Australia	Insurance	1300 723 810
Joslin Guest	Publications & News Editor	editor@bushwalkingvictoria.org.au
Peter Conroy	Federation Walks Coordinator	peter@bushwalkingvictoria.org.au
Chris Towers	Web Manager	chris@bushwalkingvictoria.org.au
Peter Maffei	Land Management Submissions Coordinator	land@bushwalkingvictoria.org.au
Charles Ablitt	Bushwalking Tracks & Conservation Projects Coordinator	conservation@bushwalkingvictoria.org.au
Dave Rimmer	Bushwalking Track Development Coordinator	dave@bushwalkingvictoria.org.au
Judy Hunter	Training Coordinator	training@bushwalkingvictoria.org.au

Consultants:

TBA	Honorary Auditor & Accounting Consultant
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Representatives on other organisations:

Bushwalking Australia	Victorian Delegate	Peter Campbell
	Victorian Deputy Delegate	Chris Towers

Organisations where Bushwalking Victoria members provide a bushwalking perspective:

Alps Walking Track Stakeholder Group	Dave Rimmer, Charles Ablitt
Grampians Peak Trail Task Force	Mike Grant
Living Links Steering Committee	Tony Walker

Address:

PO Box 1007
Templestowe VIC 3106