

## Better Bushwalking 2013 – 2014



### HIGHLIGHTS

#### Walking

61 member clubs conducted 4,994 activities involving 64,358 participants (av. 13 people per activity), including 3,776 walks and 348 cycling trips.

#### Leadership Training Course

A multi module walk leader training course has been developed with the assistance of a grant from the Victorian government and the valuable skills and resources of 8 volunteers from member clubs.

Initial response from clubs has been very strong and positive with the first course being delivered in June 2014.

The course material will be made available to all clubs after the initial course has been delivered and any feedback incorporated.

#### A new visual identity for Bushwalking Victoria

A modern and more professional image has been created for Bushwalking Victoria reflecting its current strategic direction. It will be 'unveiled' at the Leadership Forum in June 2014.

The new image will help Bushwalking Victoria to exert more influence and

attract new (and younger) members, supporters, sponsors and partners.

#### Tracks and Conservation

A review of Bushwalking Environment Committee (BEC) activities resulted in broader and more strategic approach to tracks and conservation activities. The name was changed to Bushwalking Tracks and Conservation (BTAC).

#### Federation Day Walk 2013

'Lerderberg and Beyond' was a very enjoyable day, attended by 232 bushwalkers, who enjoyed 23 varied walks in the unique environment of the gorges, hills and plains that lie to the west of Melbourne.

Thanks to Boroondara Bushwalkers for making it such a success.

#### Thank You

Bushwalking Victoria is a volunteer run organisation and thanks the many volunteers whose hard work during the year were instrumental in achieving great results over the past twelve months.

#### Full Report

The full Annual Report is available at [www.bushwalkingvictoria.org.au](http://www.bushwalkingvictoria.org.au).

## WHAT WE DID IN 2013-2014

### Representing Bushwalkers

Regular meetings with Parks Victoria, Sport & Recreation Victoria and Victorian Trails Coordinating Committee.

Twelve Field Officers liaising with rangers in key national and state parks plus Australian Alps Walking Track on matters of specific interest to bushwalkers.

A busy year for submissions to State and Federal governments, including:

- Control of wild horses in alpine areas
- Cattle grazing in the high country
- Trail Bike tracks in Arthurs Seat
- Mt Buller – Mt Stirling Link Road
- Camping and Accommodation Fees in National Parks
- Victorian Trails Strategy (2 rounds)
- Ngootyong Gunditj Ngootyong Mara South West Draft Management Plan

### Bushwalking Tracks and Conservation (BTAC)

A new newsletter, On The Tracks created and two issues produced.

680 hours of work (excluding planning, packing and driving) over five projects:

- North Wilsons Prom: 7 volunteers, 46 hours work
- Freeman's Mill Track, Bunyip State Park: 17 volunteers, 110 hours of work
- Upper Howqua River: 2 days, 6 volunteers, 84 hours of work
- Bogong High Plains: 2 days, 26 volunteers; 418 hours of work
- Heath Track in Bunyip State Park: 6 volunteers – 22 hours of work

### Support to Clubs

Advice on incorporating and the new Associations Incorporation Review Act.

Assistance to various clubs about the discontinuation of the webhosting at the State Library. Several club websites created with assistance from Bushwalking Victoria.

Board members visited clubs during year.

### Policies and key documents

Conservation policies revised and published as drafts under four headings: conservation, commercial activities in protected areas, bushwalking infrastructure, and other recreational user groups.

A draft policy released on relationships with Partners and Sponsors.

### Bush Search and Rescue (BSAR)

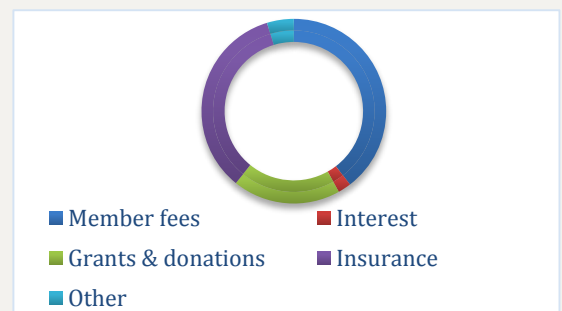
2 successful callouts involving 24 person days – Howitt and Razorback.

240 searchers available for call out - a net increase of 9 over 2013.

166 person days of training completed.

New call out system in place and additional high visibility safety clothing provided to searchers.

### Where our funds came from:



### How we used the funds:

