

BEN CRUACHAN WALKING CLUB INC.

Minutes for Management Committee Meeting

Held on Wednesday 9th August 2023

at 7:00pm

preceded by Dinner at 6:00pm

Maffra Community Sports Club

1. President's Welcome:

1.1. Attendance: P Jennings, M Matchan, M Scicluna, G Mattingley, E Davis, J van Beek, K Free, K Knights, R Kercher, R Patterson, J Winterbottom, Guest: J Patterson

1.2. Apologies: Janine Muir, Clare Snell, J Wigg

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting:

2.1. Confirmation

That the Minutes be confirmed.

Moved: P Jennings Seconded: R Patterson

2.2. Matters Arising from Previous Minutes

Walks request, thanks particularly to new leaders Kerry, Clare, Debbie and Belle

Bairnsdale club night Speaker TBA

Traralgon Club night Speaker TBA

3. Correspondence:

See List Below

Noted

4. Reports:

4.1. President

See Below

Website task group will include K Free, G Mattingley, J Muir and R Patterson

The committee agreed to explore the possibility of replacing the toposcope and renovating the plinth on Ben Cruachan and use and acknowledge the bequeathment from N Williams with a view to complete it by the 60th birthday of the club in 2025.

4.2. Treasurer

See Below

That the Treasurer's report be received.

Moved: K Free Seconded: R Kercher

Monica was thanked for her work.

Marian proposed to initiate internet banking for the club, and this was agreed to.

4.3. Tracks and Conservation

- **McMillans Track**

Joe also reported on the work done today near Talbotville on McMillans Track. Some spraying had been done 5 club volunteers and 3 Parks staff.

See Below

- **BTAC**

Eagle peaks Track Howqua Hills 18-20 August

Croajingalong NP September

See Below

Moved: J van Beek Seconded: E Davis

That Joe's report be received

Carried

4.4. Newsletter Editor

J Winterbottom reported the newsletter will be out on the weekend.

Noted

4.5. Publicity

Reports are coming in regularly, note only first names to appear on reports.

See Below

4.6. Facebook

See Below

Noted

4.7. Membership

There are 117 financial memberships, but more may renew as the cut-off date approaches

5. Walks Program

5.1 Current Status

Going well, thanks Ken for Mitchelldale walk.

Please offer walks

Wilson's Prom has been booked by Monica

6. Management of Website

6.2 Current Status

As per President's report

7. General Business:

7.1 From Janine for discussion

I have just recently learned that upon joining BCWC, new members are given full contact details for all committee members (Name, Home address, Email address, Phone numbers). This information is the perfect start for identity theft and I therefore think the practice should be stopped. I certainly didn't know this was happening and wonder how many of the newer committee members realise their home address, phone numbers etc. are being given to any and all new members.

I'd appreciate this being discussed at Wednesday's meeting - as part of a broader discussion around what private information really needs to be given out. We have club-level emails set up, so all members are able to contact the 'main' committee positions already. We have an active Facebook page that also facilitates club-level comms. I cannot see any reason why a new member (whom we've never met) needs to know our home address (and other private information).

Website update from Peter: Issues noted and to be taken up by a task group led by Ken.

At the club level committee member's emails and phone numbers are taken off and only the President, Secretary, Membership Secretary, and Newsletter club emails to appear.

Moved: K Free Seconded: K Knights

7.2 60th Birthday

This will become an agenda item, and M Scicluna and J Winterbottom will preside over celebrations

K Free will speak to P Synan about the toposcope and the trig site at Ben Cruachan with view to asking Peter to be guest speaker at the Traralgon club night

7.3

Monica will investigate Christmas party for last Sunday in November for Maffra

7.4

Gippsland Combined Club Walks coordinator for 2024 is Ben Cruachan, J van Beek will lead proceedings

Meeting closed 8:37pm

Next Committee Meeting:

Maffra Community Sports Club Wednesday October 11

Next Social Meeting:

September 13 Venue, Bairnsdale Club 68 Nicholson St Bairnsdale
November 8 Venue, Wan Loy Traralgon

ACTION LIST

ACTION	WHO	STATUS
Traralgon club night September – guest speaker	Ken	Pending
Bairnsdale club night November – guest speaker	Peter	Pending
Website update	Ken, Geoff, Rob, Janine	Pending
Ben Cruachan plinth and toposcope	Joe and Peter	Pending
Internet banking	Marian	Pending
Club 60 th anniversary celebrations 2024-25	Jack and Monica	Pending
Xmas lunch	Monica	Pending
Gippsland combined clubs walks 2024 - coordination	Joe	Pending

President's Report - August meeting.

1. November Guest Speaker. (Moscow Villa)

The guest speaker who Josie suggested is currently overseas - he will follow up with me when he gets back.

2. Walks Calendar

It's been very pleasing to see some walks appearing on the calendar in recent and coming weeks, particularly those led by some of our new walk leaders.

3. BCWC Website

The renewed website is up and running with Ken as lead super user and Geoff also as a super user. John Cox has "signed off" but not before Janine did an audit for him. There are still some tweaks needed and I suggest we form a small task group to do that.

4. Heyfield Tourism Future.

I was asked to attend the most recent meeting last week - I'll give a verbal report at the meeting.

5. Leave of absence.

I will be away for most of September and October in Europe so will be calling on Liz to fill in for me.

Correspondence

Incoming Emails

BWV	Expressions of interest for remote first aid course
BWV	Club Membership renewal
J van Beek	Mc Millans maintenance
J van Beek	Mc Millans maintenance details of works
Easy Web Design	Invoice
BWV	Board update
K Knights	Vic maps Information and new maps

To all members

BWV	Discount partners
BWV	Bushwalking news
SCWC	August Newsletter
SecBCWC	Meeting Invitation, reminders

Other Correspondence

BWV	Re unsubscription
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Walks Co-ordinator's Report for August Committee meeting:

1. 7 walks completed since last committee meeting - total 71 participants. Largest number of participants 13 on Clare's Noojee Trestle and Waterfalls(13 members)
2. 3 day walks added to program. Thanks Ken for organising Mitchelldale at short notice.
3. Second half of this year is still short of walks.

Treasurer's Report

Financial Statement for 31st July 2023

Ben Cruachan Walking Club

Total Account Balance @ 31st May 2023 2333.28

Club 14731.70
MMWT 7601.58

Income :

Membership :

Ray, Sharp, Free, Davis, Camburn, Grandy, Baglioni & DeLeuw,
Tomlin, Wielgosz, Wilson, Hides, Jennings, Noonan, Knight,
Mattingley, Hickling, Burgess, Baldwin, Garth, Newman, Deacon,
Bull, Paterson, Watson, Matcham, O'Neill, Martin, Free,
Stevenson, Kellas, Jones, Platt, Watts, Royce, Cox, Stone,
Cox & Lung, Snell, Malmo, Smith, Kercher, Shepherd, Burrows,
Balderstone, White, Tracksdorf, Downs, Owen, Muir, Boyd, Russell,
Frith, Clues, Stranger, Wigg, Freely, Taylor, Sanford, Hughe, Jarvis,
Horsham, Collette, McNaughton, Cox, Lane, Roughley, Young,
Calman, Rodgers-Wilson, MacIennan, Tozer, Kline 3442.00

Visitor Fees : 50.00 3492.00

Sub Total : 5825.28

Expenditure :

249581 Easy Web Design (Website Set Up) 258.50
249582 Bushwalking Vic (Affiliation Fee & Insurance) 3806.60
249583 Joe vanBeek (Ben Cruachan birthday exp.) 135.68
249584 Peter Jennings (Donation Ambulance Vic.
Wilderness First Aid) 200.00
(Life Membership voucher K. Free) 200.00
(Wilderness First Aid supplies) 89.80
249585 Easy Web Design (Website Set Up) 55.00 4745.58

Total Account Balance @ 31st July 2023 1079.70

Unpresented Cheque :

249583 Joe vanBeek 135.68

Bank Balance @ 31st July 2023 1215.38

Term Deposit \$ 5041.09 due 14th October 2023
Term Deposit \$ 5000.00 due 17th November 2023
Term Deposit \$10000.00 due 14th February 2024

Club 13519.21
MMWT 7601.58

Tracks and Conservation.



Report from Joe van Beek for BCWC August Committee Meeting

4.3 Tracks and Conservation Report

McMillans Walking Track

There is a BCWC Track maintenance activity on MMWT on 9 August to clear the section near Talbotville, from Brewery Creek Track to Pioneer Racecourse.

Five members are attending.

BTAC

The 6.5 km section of the AAWT from the Thomson Valley Road to the Mt Erica Road was cleared over the weekend 22/23 July. Three BCWC

members attended. See attached report.

BTAC committee met on 3 August to firm up further activities. The latest program of activities is available on the BTAC page of the Bushwalking Victoria Website.

The August activity from 18th to 20th is in the Howqua Historical Area on Eagle Peaks Track and the September activity over the grand final weekend is in the Croajingolong National Park based at Wingan Inlet.

Conservation:

Awaiting details from Parks Victoria Ovens Region with respect to helping to plant out former ski slopes on Mount Buffalo with native species in February next year.

BTAC clear lots of logs from the AAWT

Report on BTAC Firebreak Track activity 22 and 23 July 2023.

Over the two days more than 100 logs, some quite substantial, were cleared from the 6.5km section of the AAWT from the Mt Erica Road, down Fire Break Trail to O'Sheas Mill Site and out to the Thompson Valley Road. 15 volunteers, some from as far afield as Banella, toiled with chainsaws, brush cutters, hedge trimmers and hand tools to clear the many logs, regrowth on the track and the overhanging vegetation to restore the track hopefully for some years to come.



For the July track clearing activity BTAC sought a track that was not likely to be covered with snow, something at a lower altitude. We partnered with Friends of Baw Baw to do work on the AAWT within the Baw Baw National Park. Parks Victoria readily accepted the offer to attend to this section of track which was indeed in need of attention.

Petter Maffei and Joe van Beek checked out the track ahead of the event. They counted over 100 chainsaw jobs and noted the huge amount of hedge trimming that was needed. On passing through the intended camp site for the

weekend at O'Sheas Mill Site, aka East Tyers Camping Area, they declared it as not fit for purpose because of mud, dampness and lack of suitable tent sites.

While a few of the volunteers traveled from home each day the majority arrived on Friday afternoon and stayed in the luxury of the Erica Caravan Park with undercover cooking facilities and hot showers. As this was a last minute change and an unexpected cost to the volunteers a good rate was obtained from the Park owners, which BTAC further subsidised so volunteers were paying just \$10 per night for the unpowered sites and access to all camp facilities. A wood fire in the BBQ shelter provided a focal point for socialising.



We worked as two teams, each with a similar combination of skills, experience and equipment. On Saturday one team lead by Peter Maffei started on the Mt Erika Road and worked down hill on Firebreak Track while the other team lead by Joe van Beek worked uphill from O'Sheas. The chain sawing was all done by the end of the day. On Sunday Peter's team, without chainsaws, went back to finish off Firebreak Track while Joe's team cleared from O'Sheas to Thompson Valley Road. The participants contributed some 200 on the job volunteer hours with a further 80 to travel and in preparation.

Although it was cold with temperatures between 2 and 12 degrees the days were ideal working conditions. Soft misty rain set in around 3 on Sunday afternoon just after our objectives for the weekend were achieved and we had arrived back at our vehicles.

Thanks to Parks Victoria and Friends of Baw Baw for their support for this activity. Thanks to Peter Maffei for leading the second team and special thanks to all the volunteers for giving of their time, travelling to the site, hard (but hopefully satisfying) work and camaraderie.

Joe van Beek
BTAC Activity Leader

PS An example of feedback on Facebook:

[Jenny Woodhouse](#)

Yippee! Oh heartfelt thanks to everyone concerned for all of those tireless days of hard work. Please know all of your efforts are very much appreciated! You guys are absolutely all legends!

PUBLICITY REPORT

Aug 2023

Kerry Knights

The Publicity part of my role has been somewhat limited of late. That is, in part, due to my recent holiday (hiking the Jatbula track in NT), but also the result of a limited number of walk reports coming my way.

I'm away for all of Sept, so the Publicity momentum will evaporate for those four weeks, unless someone wants to step in as an interim measure.

However, when I do submit articles to papers, especially the Sale and Latrobe regions, they are readily published.

The Scotts Farm/Mitchell River walk article was sent off this week.

The aim of submitting articles is always to increase the profile of the Club, and encourage guest walkers.

Thanks to all those who assist me in my role.

Kerry

Facebook Report – August 2023

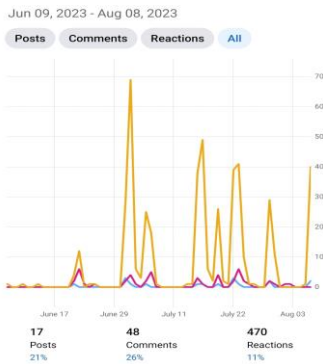
by Jodie Wigg

Memberships

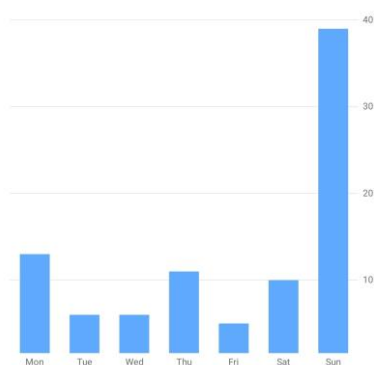
New member requests (last 60 days) = 15
Growth (last 60 days) = 3%
Total members = 485

Engagement:

Posts (last 60 days) = 17
Comments (last 60 days) = 48
Reactions (last 60 days) = 470
Active members (last 60 days) = 421



Popular days



Top contributors

Jul 11, 2023 - Aug 08, 2023

- Robyn Kercher**
2 posts · 5 comments
- Andy Stevenson**
1 post · 2 comments
- April Freely**
1 post · 2 comments
- Janine Muir**
1 post · 1 comment
- Dan Prowse**
1 post · 1 comment
- Clare Leah**
1 post · 1 comment
- Sue Wielgosz**
1 post · 0 comments
- Joe Scicluna**
1 post · 0 comments
- Friends of Tyers Park**
1 post · 0 comments
- Peter Jennings**
1 post · 0 comments