

Ben Cruachan Walking Club Inc.
Incorporation Number A0004849G

Minutes of the 2020 Annual General Meeting

Held via Zoom on Wednesday, 9 September 2020 at 7.00pm

1. President's Welcome:

1.1. Attendance:

The President, Joe van Beek, welcomed all those present:

Committee Members –Heather Alexander, Piero Baglioni, Joe van Beek, Michael Dowe, Becky Horsham, Robyn Kercher, Geoff Mattingley, Rob Paterson, Monica Scicluna, Jim Stranger, Helmut Tracksdorf, Jack Winterbottom.

Club members – Judy van Beek, Ken Free, John Kellas, Corrine Klein, Sandy Mattingley, Patrick Platt, Josie Paterson, Angela Roughley, Jodie Wigg.

1.2. Apologies:

Noel & Janice Burrows, Trevor Whibley, Chris Marshall, Jennie & Greg de Freitas, Elizabeth & Phil Davis, Rose de Leeuw Marian Matchan, Oliver Raymond.

2. Confirmation of Minutes of Previous Meeting Held on 10 July 2019

Motion: That the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 10 July 2019, be received and confirmed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Moved: Monica Scicluna

Seconded: Jim Stranger

Carried

3. Special Business, changes to the Rules of Association

The President, Joe van Beek moved the following motion:

3.1 **Motion:** That the Rules of Association of the Ben Cruachan Walking Club Inc be changed as per the changes shown in the marked up AGM 2020 DRAFT ROA WITH AMENDMENTS AUGUST 2020 and explained in the AGM 2020 EXPLANATORY NOTES AUGUST 2020 distributed to members on 19 August 2020.

Moved: Joe van Beek

Seconded : Heather Alexander.

Ken Free moved the following motion to amend the motion:

3.2 **Motion:** That the draft Rules of Association with amendments be further amended at rule 21.1(h) by deleting the words Tracks and Huts Co-ordinator and inserting the words Tracks and Conservation Co-ordinator.

Moved: Ken Free

Seconded : Joe van Beek

Carried

Joe van Beek put the amended motion to the meeting which was carried unanimously.

4. Presentation of Reports:

4.1. President:

The President, Joe van Beek, presented the President's Report as attached.

Motion: That the President's Report be accepted.

Moved: Ken Free

Seconded: Helmut Tracksdorf **Carried**

4.2. Treasurer:

The Treasurer, Monica Scicluna, presented the financial statements for the 2019-20 financial year to 30 April 2020, as attached.

Motion: That the Financial Statement for 2019-20 financial year and Treasurer's Report be accepted.

Moved: Monica Scicluna

Seconded: Jack Winterbottom **Carried**

4.3. Tracks and Huts:

The Tracks and Huts Co-ordinator, Helmut Tracksdorf presented the Tracks and Huts report, as attached.

Motion: That the Tracks and Huts Officer's Report be accepted.

Moved: Helmut Tracksdorf

Seconded: Piero Baglioni **Carried**

4.4. Walks Coordinator:

The Walks Coordinator, Geoff Mattingley, presented the Walks Coordinator's Report. The Walks Coordinator's Report is attached.

Motion: That the Walks Coordinator's Report be accepted.

Moved: Geoff Mattingley

Seconded: Jim Stranger **Carried**

4.5. Newsletter Editor:

The Newsletter Editor, Jack Winterbottom, presented a verbal Newsletter Editor's Report:

Joe van Beek thanked and congratulated Jack for his excellent work on the newsletter and supplementary McMillans Walking Track report.

4.6. Publicity:

The Publicity Officer, Robyn Kercher, presented the Publicity Officer's Report, as attached.

Judy van Beek and Jim Stranger thanked and congratulated Robyn on her excellent work as Publicity Officer.

Motion: That the Publicity Officer's Report be accepted.

Moved: Robyn Kercher

Seconded: Geoff Mattingley

Carried

5. Appointment by the membership present of an impartial Club member to chair proceedings during the election of office holders and ordinary Committee members:

Motion: That John Kellas chair the meeting for the election of office holders and ordinary committee members.

Moved: Joe van Beek **Seconded:** Heather Alexander **Carried**

6. Vacating of all office holder and ordinary Committee member positions:

The Chairperson, John Kellas, declared all positions vacant and thanked Joe van Beek and Office Holders for their work during the last year. He congratulated the outgoing committee on a job well done and thanked them on behalf of the membership.

7. Appointment of Office Holders:

7.1. President:

The Chairperson invited nominations for the position of President.

Nomination: Helmut Tracksdorf

Nominated by: Joe van Beek **Seconded:** Piero Baglioni

Nomination accepted. As no further nominations were received, the Chairperson declared Helmut Tracksdorf appointed to the Office of President.

7.2. Vice President:

The Chairperson invited nominations for the position of Vice President.

Nomination: Piero Baglioni

Nominated by: Helmut Tracksdorf **Seconded:** Geoff Mattingley

Nomination accepted. As no further nominations were received, the Chairperson declared Piero Baglioni appointed to the Office of Vice President.

7.3. Treasurer:

The Chairperson invited nominations for the position of Treasurer.

Nomination: Monica Scicluna

Nominated by: Heather Alexander **Seconded:** Joe van Beek

Nomination accepted. As no further nominations were received, the Chairperson declared Monica Scicluna appointed to the Office of Treasurer.

7.4. Secretary:

The Chairperson invited nominations for the position of Secretary.

Nomination: Robyn Kercher

Nominated by: Joe van Beek **Seconded:** Helmut Tracksdorf

Nomination accepted. As no further nominations were received, the Chairperson declared Robyn Kercher appointed to the Office of Secretary.

7.5. Membership Secretary:

The Chairperson invited nominations for the position of Membership Secretary.

Nomination: Ken Free

Nominated by: Joe van Beek **Seconded:** Marian Matchan

Nomination accepted. As no further nominations were received, the Chairperson declared Ken Free appointed to the Office of Membership Secretary.

7.6.

Publicity Officer:

The Chairperson invited nominations for the position of Publicity Officer.

Nomination: Jim Stranger

Nominated by: Joe van Beek **Seconded:** Rob Paterson

Nomination accepted. As no further nominations were received, the Chairperson declared Jim Stranger appointed to the Office of Publicity Officer.

7.7. Newsletter Editor:

The Chairperson invited nominations for the position of Newsletter Editor.

Nomination: Jack Winterbottom

Nominated by: Piero Baglioni **Seconded:** Michael Dowe

Nomination accepted. As no further nominations were received, the Chairperson declared Jack Winterbottom appointed to the Office of Newsletter Editor.

7.8. Tracks and Conservation Coordinator:

The Chairperson invited nominations for the position of Tracks and Conservation Coordinator.

Nomination: Joe van Beek

Nominated by: Helmut Tracksdorf **Seconded:** Monica Scicluna

Nomination accepted. As no further nominations were received, the Chairperson declared Joe van Beek appointed to the Office of Tracks and Huts Coordinator.

7.9. Walks Coordinator:

The Chairperson invited nominations for the position of Walks Coordinator.

Nomination: Geoff Mattingley

Nominated by: Monica Scicluna **Seconded:** Jack Winterbottom

Nomination accepted. As no further nominations were received, the Chairperson declared Geoff Mattingley appointed to the Office of Walks Coordinator .

8. Appointment of Up to Six Ordinary Members:

The Chairperson invited nominations for Ordinary Members of the Committee.

Nomination: Heather Alexander

Nominated by: Monica Scicluna **Seconded:** Robyn Kercher

Nomination accepted.

Nomination: Michael Dowe

Nominated by: Jack Winterbottom **Seconded:** Trevor Whibley

Nomination accepted.

Nomination: Rob Paterson

Nominated by: Geoff Mattingley **Seconded:** Becky Horsham

Nomination accepted.

Nomination: Elizabeth Davis

Nominated by: Joe van Beek **Seconded:** Jim Stranger

Nomination accepted.

Nomination: Angela Roughley

Nominated by: Ken Free

Seconded: Joe van Beek

Nomination accepted.

As no further nominations were received the, the Chairperson declared the nominees elected as Ordinary Members of the ommittee.

9. President Takes Chair and Addresses the Meeting as follows:

Thank you, John and Joe for Chairing the meeting.

It is indeed unfortunate that we were not able to meet at the Criterion, this year, which would have been more convivial. Hopefully we will be able to meet in person again next year.

I would like to thank you all for the privilege and honour of electing me for your next President. In this 56th year of the club

I would also like to extend my congratulations to all those who have been elected to the Management Committee. I do look forward to working with you more closely so that we can strengthen the club and effectively continue to enjoy the great outdoors.

I would like to extend a welcome to all those members who are new to the committee. Welcome to Jim Stranger who is stepping up to the role of Publicity, and thanks Robyn Kercher who is stepping up to take on the challenging role of Secretary. Robyn will be ably supported in her role by Ken Free in the new position of Membership Secretary and I am sure that he will assist Robyn to a fair degree.

I would also like to thank those who are stepping down:

- Heather Alexander from the role of Secretary
- Becky Horsham who has done a great job on the Facebook page
- Trevor Whibley
- Marian Matchan

Also thanks to our long distance member John Kellas for chairing the election and for his ongoing commitment to the club from afar.

I can't end without recognising the contribution of our outgoing President, Joe van Beek and for his efforts in leading the club through what for the last 8 months at least has been a very frustrating time with the Covid restrictions. That aside he has been a very solid leader for the club for the last three years.

I think it only fair that we do thank Joe and give him a virtual round of applause for his efforts and dedication to the club.

I would also like to acknowledge Judy who has done a fantastic job in the background supporting Joe.

I have one concern about this role, and that is that Joe you have set the bar too high, so any assistance would be appreciated. I will try to continue in the footsteps that Joe has laid out.

Looking back to the minutes of the last AGM Joe did set out some stated goals , and I would like to repeat them

- Effective leadership of the committee
- A great year of bush walking for the club
- Maintain our standing in the community
- Foster external relationships
- Exploit our uniqueness - e.g. FedWalks2021
- Protect the values for which we are known: openness and being friendly.

I am repeating those aims, because I would like to maintain those goals. The goals set a path from which we all stand to benefit.

Thanks again Joe and I do appreciate your leadership over the last 3 years

All that aside: I appreciate we are still under restrictions due to the Covid pandemic, but sooner or later we will be in a position to be fully operational. I would like to assure you all that the committee will continue to monitor the situation closely and when we are certain that it is safe to gather in numbers that the walking program will kick back into action pretty quickly.

One of my aims in what is left of 2020-2021, will be to increase the number of overnight walks and extend our reach to places we normally don't visit. I am keen to get into the Grampians, I have never been to Erinunderra, I would like to go there, and get club members to explore that area, and even to Feathertop. I know Feathertop is a very popular area but it is something that I can't recall in my time with the club going there. I hope to get walks into these areas onto the program.

Later in the year, in November, we will be launching the official McMillans Walking Track Guide Book. This in itself is a great achievement for the club which started back in the 1980's when club member John Smith started discovering McMillans Track. Through the initiative of current members, Joe van Beek and myself, Martin Norris of Strzelecki Bushwalking Club and the support of John and Monica Chapman, we have been able to fulfill the dream of John Smith. Unfortunately, with his passing last year we cannot share that one with him. Nevertheless I am confident that current and future members will carry on Smithies' legacy and continue the association with McMillans Walking Track.

I am not sure that it has been announced, but DELWP have contributed \$2,500 to the publication so we are very grateful for their support.

Looking forward to the coming months, depending upon the lifting of restrictions, there are two major events on the calendar.

1. BCWC and SBWC in conjunction with Friends of Tyers Park are preparing an invitation to attend the annual combined walk on the Wirilda Walking Track. Currently scheduled for Sat 26th Sept. Stay tuned.
2. Two sets of dates have been mooted for the Combined Gippsland Bushwalking Clubs Weekend event to be held at Tarra Bulga NP
 - (a) Sat 24 and Sun 25 Oct
 - (b) Sat 21 and Sun 22 November

Due to the current uncertainty about number of participants allowed at any event the final dates remain to be confirmed – stay tuned

I am sure you are all aware that this year BCWC with other Gippsland clubs was due to host Fedwalks2020 but with the pandemic it has been deferred to 2021. That is still far way away now. The organising committee are currently in recess but due to reconvene in November 2020 to take stock and recommence activities in 2021.

I would like to reassure all members that the committee will work hard to ensure we exercise out duty of care of facilitating enjoyable and hassle free bushwalking. It is a balance in terms of making sure everyone has a good time and also making sure everyone is safe.

Helmut thanked everyone for attending and declared the 2020 Ben Cruachan Walking Club AGM closed.

Meeting Close: The meeting closed at 8:15 pm.

The date of the 2021 Annual General Meeting will be decided by the new Committee.

Ben Cruachan Walking Club President's Report for 2019/2020

This has been a long year, not just because the AGM has been delayed by two months but because of all that has happened since our last AGM. We have had to cancel walks and other activities because of snow, bush fires, closed parks and of course the Covid-19 restrictions.

This concludes my third and last year as president of the club. When I look back on the aims I set three years ago I am satisfied and proud that we are achieving well. These aims were:

- **Effective leadership** of the committee. This is for others to judge.
- **A great calendar** of bushwalking - a wide variety of walks/events to cater to a wide range of people. Unfortunately some had to be cancelled.
- Maintain our **standing in the community**
- Foster **external relationships**
- **Exploit our uniqueness**
- **Protect the values** for which the club has become to be known - **Openness** and being **Friendly and welcoming**

The challenge for the president is to ensure that the club exercises its duty of care, while facilitating, safe, enjoyable, hassle free bushwalking - and other outdoor adventures.

Looking back over the last year tells me that we have done well including achieving against those aims. Some features and achievements of the last year include:

- All positions on the committee were filled and the committee did a sterling job including adapting to meetings by Zoom.
- A varied program of bushwalks and other outdoor activities capably co-ordinated by Geoff (unfortunately interrupted by Covid-19 et al).
- A good club turn out at the Combined Gippsland Walking Clubs' event on Philip Island and Federation Walks Weekend based at Lorne.
- Members were involved in helping to clear bushwalking tracks in our area and further afield.
- The guide book to McMillans Walking Track is almost ready to go to print. We have raised over \$900 towards the cost of printing from the sale of donated gear and DELWP have agreed to contribute \$2,500.
- Our relationship with Parks Victoria, DELWP and Bushwalking Victoria (in particularly BTAC) continues to be strong.
- We have rekindled a connection with the Wallangarra Outdoor Education Centre.
- The three Club Nights held were varied and well attended. Thank you to Becky for sharing her photos of High Country Huts.
- The pre-Christmas lunch held at the Stratford Hotel was enjoyable and well attended.
- We have welcomed a good number of new members and hosted many visitors on walks. Our membership reached a record high.
- Life Membership was awarded to Wil Streckfuss and Oliver Raymond.

- We have had good coverage in the local media thanks to Robyn's efforts.
- The bi monthly Newsletter has kept us well informed, thanks Jack.
- The BCWC Facebook group page is going strong. It has 180 members.
- We are in a sound financial position with income for the year exceeding expenditure by \$43
- There was a big turnout of club members to farewell long term club member, Jessie Walker, at her funeral at Briagolong last September.
- Ambulance Victoria in conjunction with Maffra SES took members through a thorough introduction to Isolated and Wilderness First Aid. Thanks to member Debbie Ray for organising this.
- A number of members did the 1st Aid and CPR refresher training.
- We had another successful end-to-end walk of McMillans Walking track as recorded in the Supplementary Newsletter Issue 211.
- The Federation Walks Weekend to be hosted at the Licola Wilderness Village has been postponed till November 2021 because of Covid-19. It will be known as **FedWalks2021**. Planning is already well advanced.

It has been a full on year and we have much to be **proud** of.

Thanks to all **our members** for their support and participation at whatever level. I also extend a welcome to **our visitors** and trust that they enjoyed their experience with the club and may consider becoming a member if they have not already done so.

I would like to make particular tribute to all those who have lead walks. Without **walk leaders** we have no walks, without walks we don't have a walking club. It is encouraging to see new walk leaders giving it a go.

A big thank you to each and every member of the Committee for all their efforts, contributions and achievements over the last year. A special thank you to those standing down from their officer roles on the committee; Heather Alexander from secretary, Robyn Kercher from publicity and Helmut Tracksdorf from Huts and Tracks. Many thanks and best wishes to those standing down from the committee; Marian Matchan, Becky Horsham and Trevor Whibley.

I wish the incoming committee good fortune.

Covid-19 is far from over. Take care and stay safe. I look forward to when we can safely resume our club walks and other activities.

Joe van Beek

BEN CRUACHAN WALKING CLUB INCORPORATED

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH APRIL 2020

OPENING BALANCE AS AT 1ST MAY 2019	6,013.68	
	2020	2019
ADD RECEIPTS		
Membership	2,199.00	4,114.00
Interest	1.62	0.62
Visitors Fees	360.00	370.00
First Aid Full Course (rebate not included)	950.00	
First Aid Refresher Course (includes rebate)		420.00
Wilson's Prom Weekend 2019	879.00	
Wilson Prom Weekend 2020 (refunded)	909.00	
Wilson Prom Weekend 2019		868.20
McMillan Track Walk 2019	3,670.00	
McMillan Track Guidebook Donations	705.00	
TOTAL RECEIPTS	9,673.62	5,772.82
TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE	15,687.30	
LESS EXPENDITURE		
Insurance and BWV Affiliation Fees	2,867.30	3,153.26
Equipment (Sun Tent)	213.90	883.00
Wilson's Prom 2020	909.00	879.00
First Aid Course (Kemp Aquatics)	1,440.00	420.00
Supplies & Meals (guest speaker)	79.17	
Engraving & Making Life Memberships (Wil & Oliver)	105.00	
Refund of memberships paid twice (J Carter)	48.00	
Easy Joomla (hosting domain fee)	195.00	
Refund of camping gear (boots) from donations	70.00	
McMillan Track Re-imburements	3,670.00	
Repair (CB antenna)	33.00	
Postage/Print & Stationery (includes mail box)		454.00
Gift Vouchers		90.00
Consumer Affairs Club Rego (3 years owning)		173.40
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	9,630.37	6,052.66
NET PROFIT/LOSS	43.25	-279.84
CLOSING BALANCE AS AT 30TH APRIL 2020	6,056.93	

BEN CRUACHAN WALKING CLUB INCORPORATED

BANK RECONCILIATION AS AT 1ST MAY 2020

CASH BOOK

Opening Balance as at 1st May 2019	6,013.68
Add Deposits	9,673.62
Total Income	15,687.30
Less Expenditure	9,630.37
Balance as at 30th April 2020	6,056.93

BANK STATEMENT

Balance as per Bank statement 1st May 2019	6,013.68
Less unrepresented cheques	Nil
Closing Balance as at 30th April 2020	6,056.93

AGM - TRACKS & HUTS REPORT FOR 2019/2020

Background:

2019/20 certainly has proven challenging for most Victorian Bushwalking Clubs. Prior to the declaration of the global pandemic back in March 2020 significant areas of East Gippsland and the Alpine High Country were ravaged by bushfires. These fires had an impact on many walking tracks, including McMillans Walking Track. The fires curtailed the club's ability to carry out track maintenance, which was then further exacerbated by the restrictions and shutdowns imposed because of the pandemic.

All that aside.

I am pleased to report that during the last twelve months club members and guests completed an end to end walk of McMillans Walking Track during December 2019 during which they managed to reconnoitre and assess some of the fire damage caused by wildfires in Summer. Minor track clearing and track marking work was also carried out during this event.

During the Labor day weekend in March 2020, club members and Friends also managed to clear a 9km section of MMWT from Arbuckle Junction through to Dingo Hill track. This was done in conjunction with BTAC support.

During that same weekend event club members were also able to clear a 2km section of the track to Mt Reynard starting from Kellys hut.

As previously reported, the production of a guidebook for MMWT in conjunction with John & Monica Chapman has progressed significantly with the final draft of the guide now complete. It is anticipated the guidebook will be printed during September or October 2020 ready for distribution and circulation during the BWV forum in November 2020.

Earlier in the year, during the Australia Day weekend members of the Club joined other volunteers from various bushwalking clubs on a BTAC track maintenance activity on the East Tyers Walking Track. In addition they were able to conduct some clearing of Track along the Australian Alps Walking Track (AAWT), near Mt Erica and Thompson valley.

In August, several members joined BTAC again to assist with track maintenance work within the fire effected Bunyip State Park.

Thanks to everyone who participated, especially Joe van Beek for taking the lead role and project managing the BTAC activities.

Helmut Tracksdorf

Tracks and Maintenance

Walks Coordinator Report to 2020 Annual General Meeting

Walk	Date	Leader	Walk Type			Attendance		
			Day	Base Camp	Pack Carry	Mem	Vis	Total
2019								
Mitchelldale River Walk	Sat 6 Jul	Ken	*			7	1	8
Avon Channel	Sat 13 Jul	Geoff	*			8	4	12
Cobbannah and Gap Creeks	Sat 20 Jul	Ken	*			9	1	10
Snow Shoe shuffle Mt St Gwinear	Sat 27 Jul	Joe	*			6	1	7
North Sister	Sat 3 Aug	Ken	*			8	1	9
Heart Morass	Sat 10 Aug	Heather	*			5		5
Mitchell River Weir site	Sat 17 Aug	Ken	*			8	7	15
Tyers	Sun 25 Aug	Oliver	*			6	1	7
Billygoat Bend to Jurgenson Point	Sat 31 Aug	Ken	*			13	11	24
Bald Hills Gorge	Wed 18 Sep	Rob P	*			14		14
Wirilda Track 14 km	Sat 21 Sep	Joe	*			11	7	18
Wirilda Track 24 km	Sat 21 Sep	Michael	*			4	4	8
Roaring Mag Falls	Wed 25 Sep	Ken	*			9	0	9
Licola Base Camp (replaced Mac 4)	Fri 27 - Sun 29 Sep	Joe		*		3	1	4
Mitchelldale Peaks and River	Sat 5 Oct	Ken	*			6	1	7
Port Albert Old Port Trail	Wed 23 Oct	Monica	*			3	1	4
Nicholson River	Sat 26 Oct	Trevor C	*			8	2	10
Angusvale to Jurgenson Point	Tue 5 Nov	Ken	*			11	1	12
Falls Ck - Hotham Alpine Crossing	Sat 2 - Tue 5 Nov	Anna			*	11		11
Hodde Trail	Wed 9 Nov	Chris	*			6	4	10
Wilsons Prom lodge weekend	Fri 15 - Sun 17 Nov	Monica		*		12		12
Horseshoe Bend Tunnel	Sat 23 Nov	Jim S	*			2	5	7
McMillans track end to end supported	Sat 1 - Sun 14 Dec	Joe			*	8	7	15
Huts Walk & Tabletop	Fri 6 - Sun 8 Dec	Marian/Jackie		*		8		8
2020								
The Lakes NP	Sat 15 Feb	Monica	*			4	4	8
Eagle Point - Paynesville	Sat 22 Feb	Trevor C	*			2	6	8
Den of Nargun	Sat 29 Feb	Monica	*			4		4
Kelly Hut Car Camp	Fri 6 - Mon 9 Mar	Joe		*		7	10	17
Jack Smith Lake	Sat 14 Mar	Peter Jennings	*			3	5	8
Doolans Plain - Nielson Crag recce	Sat 21 Mar	Marian/Jackie	*			8	4	12
Dry River - Wonnangatta	Sat 21 - Sun 22 Mar	Joe		*		3	1	4
Wirilda Track	Sat 16 May	Joe	*			7	1	8
Mitchell R - Picnic Point	Sat 23 May	Robyn K	*			4	2	6
Wirilda Track repeat	Sat 23 May	Joe	*			5	2	7
Port Albert Old Port Trail	Wed 27 May	Monica	*			11		11
Sale Wetlands	Sat 30 May	Monica/Joe	*			13	3	16
Metung	Sat 6 Jun	Trevor C	*			7	2	9
Bruthen - Bumberrah Rail Trail	Sat 13 Jun	Geoff	*			11	3	14
Mt Taylor	Sat 20 Jun	Robyn K	*			13	2	15
Mt Erica	Sat 27 Jun	Joe	*			11	1	12
Totals:			33	5	2	299	106	405
Last year:			35	6	5	325	90	415

Leader leading most walks:
Walk with most participants:

Joe with 9 + 1 as co-leader, total 10; Ken Free with 8
Billygoat Bend - Jurgensen Point Sat 31 Aug - leader Ken Free

Publicity Report Ben Cruachan Walking Club 2019-2020

During 2019 and 2020 I have enjoyed the role of Publicity Officer for Ben Cruachan Walking Club. Coming to the role as a new member I was able to really appreciate the work that goes on in the club from all of the committee members and office bearers. Committee meetings were a great way to get to know others and have an informative time with other club members.

Although the role was not onerous, it did keep me busy. Monthly, I prepared newspaper articles and sent them to the Latrobe Valley Express, East Gippsland News, and Gippsland times. As the News is no longer publishing, I used the Bairnsdale Advertiser after that. Photos with faces and names are very popular with the editors, so in future I will write names down left to right, back row to front like a journalist if I think a photo may be used.

I also used the local radio to report on walks, and had a conversation with "Macca" on Australia All Over to report on the work of BTAC. Joe also was heard on the local radio promoting the club.

The basis of the articles all came from the walk preview list on the upcoming walks page of our website. At times walks were elaborated or summarised in my editing. It really is important for walk leaders to give a clear description of the walk on our website. At times I was stumped if several walks were not to be publicised during the one month.

I am hugely in debt to Joe who edited my work, as I usually ran the articles by him before sending to the press. I usually attempted to wax lyrical in articles for publicity and to attract new walkers.

As a committee member it is also possible to join sub groups, and contribute in many ways to the club.

Like everyone in the club, Covid sadly affected the publication of walk articles, but I managed to write about Ben Cruachan Walking Club in a positive promotional article in the first lockdown. I wish the next publicity officer all the best for 2020-21, and can happily offer any advice they may need.

Thanks,
Robyn Kercher

BCWC Membership Profile for the period from 1 April 2019 to 31 August 2020														
	Members as at 1 April 2020				New Members			Not Renewed			Members as at 31 August 2020			
	Female	Male	Total	%	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total	%
Under 50	11	7	18	16%	10	9	19	6	1	7	15	15	30	24%
Over 50	53	41	94	84%	10	10	20	9	8	17	54	43	97	76%
Total	64	48	112		20	19	39	15	9	24	69	58	127	
%	57%	43%									54%	46%		

The net increase in members in the under 50 age range is largely due to families joining the club. We welcomed 32 new members from 11 family memberships. Enquiries have been consistent from prospective members since March 2020. We look forward to the prospect of welcoming more members during the year.

BEN CRUACHAN WALKING CLUB INC.
Minutes of the Management Committee Meeting
Held on Wednesday 12 February 2020 at 7:00 pm
Maffra Community Sports Club, 122-126 Johnson Street, Maffra

1. President's Welcome:

Joe van Beek welcomed those attending.

1.1. Attendance: Joe van Beek, Heather Alexander, Marian Matchan, Trevor Whibley, Jim Stranger, Robyn Kercher. Monica Scicluna, Rob Paterson, Geoff Mattingley,

1.2. Apologies: Michael Dowe, Helmut Tracksdorf, Becky Horsham, Jack Winterbottom, Piero Baglioni.

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting:

2.1. Confirmation

Joe thanked Monica for preparing the minutes of the meeting of 11 December 2019

Motion: That the minutes of the meeting of 11 December 2019 be accepted as an accurate record of that meeting.

Moved: Jim Stranger **Seconded:** Geoff Mattingley **Carried.**

2.2. Matters Arising

Jack to fix banner photos.

Registration of PLB's. Geoff advised the issue was now resolved.

Heather to follow up walk leader training with Pam Horton and provide details for members to attend.

3. Correspondence:

Some adjustments were made to the list of correspondence on the agenda

Motion: That incoming correspondence be accepted and actions and outgoing correspondence be noted.

Moved: Joe van Beek **Seconded:** Geoff Mattingley **Carried.**

4. Reports:

4.1. President

Joe advised that we had a slow start to the year because of low number of walks and fires. Joe had contacted all members offering emergency accommodation to those affected by the East Gippsland Fires. There were several offers but no requests.

The request from Sports Victoria via BWV to sporting clubs re bushfire damage was discussed. BWV offered to send a Board member to visit club. BWV are having a strategic planning meeting this week, top priorities (see Club Update 11 Feb for list). BWV are asking for nominations for board members. Annual Insurance questionnaire will be coming

out and due in early April and Joomla invoices for hosting to go direct to clubs. Diarise 20 June 2020 for Birthday event.

4.2. Treasurer

The Treasurer's report for the 2 months ended 31 January 2020 was tabled (attached to these Minutes).

4.3. Motion: That the Treasurer's Report be accepted.

Moved: Monica Scicluna **Seconded:** Joe van Beek **Carried**

4.4. Tracks and Huts

The tracks & huts report was tabled and discussed and is included at the end of the minutes.

4.3.1 McMillans Track

Further to the report: Joe advised that Don Fuchs, photo journalist, has requested a 1 week plan to access McMillans Walking Track for he and a journalist to prepare a 10 page article on the track for Australian Geographic. Target dates are mid-March to April.

The guide book to the track is progressing well with draft wording prepared for review. The cost of printing of \$10,000 is to be shared and sponsorship will be sought from Wellington Shire and DELWP. Printing is anticipated in August 2020.

4.3.2 BTAC

Refer to the report.

4.5. Newsletter Editor

Joe requested any suggestions and contributions for the next newsletter.

4.6. Publicity

Robyn advised that the McTk2019 walk report was published in several sources. Further articles re club activities will be issued in coming weeks. The club featured in an article in The Gippsland Senior

4.7. Facebook Page

The Facebook page was discussed.

Joe advised that the posting of information regarding private walks on the page is acceptable.

5. Walks Program

Geoff updated the committee regarding upcoming walks.

Geoff to issue reminder message re upcoming walks.

Heather to send latest membership list to Geoff.

Second half of the year does not have many walks on the program.
Monica will decline invitation to Peregrine re the Philip Island walk.
Joe highlighted the absence of a walk for the Labour Day weekend.
Heather and Robyn to plan beginner's overnight walk to Bryce's Gorge after Cup Day.

5.1 Development of Walks Program

Geoff to arrange a walk program planning meeting 1 March 2020 to develop walks program.

6. Meetings Program

6.1 Committee Meetings

Heather to book meeting venue for Wednesday 8 April 2020 at Bairnsdale Club.

6.2 Club Nights

Next club night 11 March 2020 at Won Loy Restaurant Traralgon.

Jim has booked Guest Speaker Gabrielle Brown PV Community Liaison Ranger and restaurant.

Trevor requested Gabrielle discuss the Camp host program as part of her presentation.

Social night 13 May 2020 at Bairnsdale Club. Geoff will follow up with CMA re possible guest speaker to speak on Bairnsdale Silt Jetties and book meeting with Club.

6.3 Other Social Events

Christmas in July and AGM Wednesday 8 July 2020. Monica will check with Badger and Hare, for availability and space for 40. If not, she will book the Criterion in Sale.

Joe discussed leading an open day for the Ben Cruachan Birthday 20 June 2020 and will consider Ben Cruachan or other options for the event.

7. Management of Website

Jack to fix and resize banner photos.

Heather to contact Joomla representative re banner photos and font changes after saving.

Heather to follow up re loading minutes and latest Newsletter to website.

8. General Business:

8.1 Federation Walks Weekend 2020 (FedWalks2020)

Joe advised that plans are progressing well. Next meeting 21 February 2020 at Licola Wilderness retreat.

Try booking site is set up and being tested.

8.2 BCWC Membership

8.2.1 Life Memberships

The Life Membership recommendation was discussed.

Motion: That Oliver Raymond be awarded Life Membership of the Club

Moved: Joe van Beek

Seconded: Heather Alexander **Carried**

Joe to organise a certificate and memento to be presented at the March 11 Club Night

8.2.2 Membership at 6 February 2020

	Male	Female
Under 50	11	7
Over 50	48	42
Age not disclosed	5	2
Sub-total	64	51

Total Membership 115

8.2.3 Membership Renewals

NIL

8.3 Registration of PLB's

Matter resolved by Geoff Mattingly.

8.4 Wilderness First Aid Presentation Slides

Heather to distribute to attendees and committee.

8.5 McMillans Walking Track Guide Contract

Joe discussed the contract draft and wording in relation to right to property in the event of the publisher ceasing trading and cessation of the agreement.

Marian raised clause re publisher making changes to draft as appropriate. Joe advised that he is not concerned with the clause.

Motion: That the president be authorised to sign the agreement subject to satisfactory wording for clause 15.

Moved: Joe van Beek

Seconded: Trevor Whibley

Carried

8.6 Review Action List

The meeting closed at 9.15 pm

Next Meeting: Wednesday 8 April 2020 at 7.00 pm
Bairnsdale Club, 68 Nicholson Street, Bairnsdale.

ACTION LIST ITEM	RESPONSIBILITY	DUE DATE
Publish McMillan's Walking Track Guidebook	Joe v B + others	FedWalks2020 (Nov 2020)
Liaise with Enoch Lavender of Joomla	Heather A.	Ongoing
Liaise with BWV re FedWalks2020	Joe v B.	Ongoing
Load Latest Newsletters onto Website	Jack W.	Ongoing
Update website banner photographs	Jack W.	Dec 2019
Keep Website up to date	All those with resp.	Ongoing
Distribute FedWalks2020 Agendas and Minutes	Joe v B.	Ongoing
Determine Track clearing activities	Joe /Helmut	April 2020
Consider a club Open Day for Active April	Joe to follow up with BWV	March 2020
Book Committee Meeting Night Venues	Heather A.	To be conducted via email until further notice.
Website information to Becky	Heather A.	April 2020
Geoff to arrange walks meeting 1 March 2020 and engage with Helmut to arrange.	Geoff Mattingley	March 2020
Monica to email Jack re membership renewals reminder in Newsletter	Monica S	February 2020
AGM		
Contact Joomla re banner resizing and font	Heather A.	April 2020
Newsletters and minutes to website	Heather A.	April 2020
Send First Aid slides to participants	Heather A.	April 2020

Tracks and Huts Report

The fires in East Gippsland and the Alpine High Country have had an impact on many walking tracks, including McMillans Walking Track!

In addition, the following high-country huts have been confirmed as lost:

- Lind Lodge aka Ski Lodge*
- Wheelers Creek Hut*
- Turntable Huts*
- Gibson Hut*

and unfortunately, the historical Wairewa trestle bridge, east of Nowa Nowa on the defunct Bairnsdale - Orbost rail line has been destroyed. Please note that the more significant trestle bridge over Stony Creek west of Nowa Nowa has not been impacted.

McMillans Walking Track

Back in March 2019, MMWT was impacted by fires along Mayford Spur and Treasure spur.

The recent fires that impacted the Cobungra & Hotham region have now effectively burnt the remaining part of MMWT along Victoria River track including the Black Sallee area. In addition, White Timber Spur has been burnt from the Dargo High Plains Rd, all the way down to the Junction of 25 mile and 30 mile Creek. Fortunately, the Crooked River section remains untouched for now.

At present, the rest of MMWT remains relatively untouched by the current fires, which are located predominantly North and East of MMWT track.

No track maintenance is currently scheduled for MMWT until full access to the Alpine High Country is confirmed.

BTAC

Three members of the Ben Cruachan Walking Club joined ten other volunteers from various bushwalking clubs on a BTAC track maintenance activity on the East Tyers Walking Track over the Australia Day weekend. The volunteers conducted a number of tasks on the East Tyers Walking Track and the Australian Alps Walking Track (AAWT). Joe van Beek was the project leader ably supported by Peter Maffei, BTAC Convener. Robyn Kercher and Patrick Platt from BCWC had ample opportunity to put their chainsaw training to good use.

*Helmut Tracksdorf
Tracks and Huts
10th February 2020*



Lind Lodge – High Country Victoria



Gibsons Hut – High Country Victoria



Wheeler's Creek Hut



Turntable Huts



Waiwera trestle Bridge – Nowa Nowa

Alpine National Park – General Info

The Alpine National Park remains closed, with the exception of the following areas:

Wellington River camping area

Mount Feathertop (between the Great Alpine Road to Mount Hotham and the Alpine Walking Track from Mount Hotham to the Cobungra River)

Areas that are now open in this precinct include:

- Mount Feathertop
- Razorback Ridge
- Bon Accord Spur, Bungalow Spur and North-West Spur
- Diamantina Horse Yards

- Dibbins Hut
- The Alpine Walking Trail between Mount Hotham and Pole 333

Areas that remain closed in this area include:

- Brandy Creek Mine

Mount Bogong and the northern Bogong High Plains (between the Alpine Walking Track to Pole 333, Fainter Fire Trail to Pretty Valley Pondage, the southern edge of Rocky Valley Storage to Watchbed Creek, the big River Fire Trail to Big River, and Big River to the Omeo Highway)

Areas that are now open in this precinct include:

- Falls Creek Alpine Resort
- Mount Bogong
- Blairs Hut, Tawonga Huts, Edmondson Hut
- Pretty Valley Pondage
- Rocky Valley Storage
- Heathy Spur
- Watchbed Creek
- Mount Spione Kopje

Areas that remain closed in this precinct include:

- Wallace's Hut, Kelly Hut, Fitzgerald Hut, Johnson's Hut, Cope Hut
- Mount Cope
- Ryder's Yards
- Rover Chalet
- Track 107

Financial Statement of 31st January 2020

Ben Cruachan Walking Club

Balance @ 30th November 2019 8733.16

Income:

McMillan Walk Payment

Cartledge G & W 10.00

McMillan Track Guide Book 170.00

First Aid Training 320.00

Interest .69

500.69

Sub Total Income: 9233.85

Expenditure:

Cheque 249523 Judy VanBeek (Refund of boots) 70.00

249524 Oliver Raymond (McMillan Track Re-imburement) 150.00

249525 John Kellas (" 1075.00

249526 Maggie Marriott (" 370.00

249527 Sue Hides (" 1755.00

249528 Robyn Kercher (" 150.00

249529 Martin Norris (" 70.00

3640.00

Balance @ 31st January 2020 5593.85

Cheques Outstanding:

Nil

BEN CRUACHAN WALKING CLUB INC.
Minutes of the Management Committee Meeting
Held on Wednesday 8 April 2020 at 7:00 pm
Via Zoom

1. President's Welcome:

Joe van Beek welcomed those attending the on line meeting.

Attendance: Heather Alexander, Piero Baglioni, Joe van Beek, Michael Dowe, Becky Horsham, Geoff Mattingley, Rob Paterson, Monica Scicluna, Jim Stranger, Helmut Tracksdorf, Jack Winterbottom.

Apologies: Robyn Kercher, Marian Matchan, Trevor Whibley.

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting:

2.1 Confirmation

Motion: That the minutes of the meeting of 14 February 2020 be accepted as an accurate record of that meeting.

Moved: Joe van Beek **Seconded:** Monica Scicluna **Carried.**

Matters Arising

There were no matters arising from the previous minutes.

3. Correspondence:

Motion: That incoming correspondence be accepted and actions and outgoing correspondence be noted.

Moved: Heather Alexander **Seconded:** Geoff Mattingley **Carried.**

4. Reports:

4.1 President

Joe thanked the committee members for their prompt response to the motion to cancel the program in the light of the COVID-19 social restrictions. All face to face activities will be ceased to at least the end of June. Members have been advised and Geoff has made decision clear to members viewing the walks calendar.

At the Club Night held 11 March 2020 Oliver Raymond was awarded Life Membership of the club. The certificate and the tray that Ken Free made was very well received by Oliver and Carolyn.

4.2 Treasurer

The Treasurer's report for the 2 months ended 31 March 2020 was tabled (attached to these Minutes).

Motion: That the Treasurer's Report be accepted.

Moved: Monica Scicluna

Seconded: Piero Baglioni

Carried

4.3 Tracks and Huts

4.3.1 McMillans Walking Track

Helmut advised that work was done to the track over the Labour Day weekend from Arbuckle Junction to Kelly Lane and from Kelly Lane through to Dingo Hill Track. A very successful weekend done in conjunction with BTAC.

Some work was also done along the track to Mt Reynard.

All further work is on hold for the foreseeable future .

Joe advised that bushfire stories had taken precedence over the article on McMillans Walking Track and hence the article to be prepared by Don Fuch's for Australia Geographic has been put on hold until further notice.

The preparation of the guide book to McMillans Walking Track is currently on track for a November release.

4.3.2 BTAC

Plans on hold until further notice.

4.4. Newsletter Editor

Jack advised that the newsletter will be small, and not out for at least 10 days. Available walk reports were discussed.

Monica to provide report for walk completed for FedWalks2020 from Arbuckle Junction to Thomastown.

Joe to provide a walk report on the Neilson Crag walk and the Dry River Recce.

Becky suggested adding the best of the last 10 years or walk ideas for the future to keep members interested and beef up the newsletter.

4.5 Publicity

No report was tabled.

Joe to discuss with Robyn an article re the club still running but face to face activities cancelled until further notice.

Piero noted that a number of the papers have reduced capacity and articles for the time being.

4.6 Facebook Page

Becky advised that an item advising that walks have been cancelled for the foreseeable future has been posted.

There is still interest in the page with new people joining the page or the group each week.

5. Walks Program

Geoff advised that the meeting to complete the framework of walks for the rest of the year was held and the program loaded to the website. All walks have been left on the website but cancellation noted. The program should be straightforward to reactivate once safe to do so.

6. Meetings Program

6.1 Committee Meetings

The next committee meeting is on 10 June. This will be held via Zoom
Arrangements for the AGM 8 July 2020 were discussed.

The Coronavirus considerations were discussed, and options for the meeting considered to be discussed further at the June meeting. Monica to make tentative booking.

6.2 Club Nights

Joe suggested that the arrangements for the May Club Night be carried over to the September Club night and requested Geoff follow up with CMA as appropriate.

6.3 Other Social Events

Monica will continue to liaise with the Badger and Hare in Stratford or the Criterion in Sale re a possible venue for the Christmas in July and AGM evening.

7. Management of Website

Heather advised that she had contacted Enoch Lavender for assistance with the website on Monday. He is happy to arrange a webinar for those interested to learn about the website. He requested we let him know what we want to cover. .

Heather to send out a document to Joe, Geoff, Jack and Becky soliciting what we want to cover. Those involved to update and advise Heather.

Heather to contact Joomla representative re banner photos and font changes after saving.

8. General Business:

8.1 Federation Walks Weekend 2020 (FedWalks2020)

Joe advised that plans are progressing well.

Planning as though the event will proceed, and reviewing at each meeting.

8.2 BCWC Membership

8.2.1 Membership at 6 February 2020

	Male	Female
Under 50	11	7
Over 50	48	42
Age not disclosed	5	2
Sub-total	64	51

Total Membership 115

8.2.3 Membership Renewals

Four renewals have been received so far.

8.3 Stay Connected – Virtual Walks

Joe emphasised the importance of staying connected with the membership over the period of the COVID-19 pandemic. We should be making good use of email, our website, newsletter and face book.

Joe is going to send a montage of photographs to members to enjoy a virtual walk of the Taste of McMillans Walking Track #5 walk.

Joe raised the importance of having regular contact with members over the period of social isolation and suggested sending weekly communications via email to the membership on an ongoing basis. Heather to arrange and distribute weekly-Mondays. Committee to forward any items in addition to regular bulletins for distribution.

Joe, Helmut and Martin will prepare a walk report on McTk2019 for a supplement newsletter for mid-May 2020.

Helmut to source hiking cartoons.

Monthly quiz options were discussed.

Jack will follow up on old photographs for Becky to use to post to Facebook.

Joe will encourage members to link to Facebook in Presidential Ramblings.

Identified website issues to be remedied ASAP.

8.4 Membership Payment Considerations

The payment for renewal of memberships in light of the suspension of the walks program due to the Coronavirus was discussed. It was decided that we encourage members to renew and review in the future once the outcome of the Coronavirus pandemic and any discounts from Bushwalking Victoria affiliation fees and insurance cover premiums are known.

Note that according to our rules memberships that are unpaid by 30 June 2020 are deemed to have lapsed.

8.5 Wilson's Promontory

Monica advised that the deposit for the booking in October is to be refunded. Monica will continue to liaise with Parks Victoria re the booking.

8.6 Review Action List

The meeting closed at 8.25 pm

Next Meeting: Wednesday 10 June 2020 at 7.00 pm via Zoom

Financial Statement for 31st March 2020

Ben Cruachan Walking Club

Balance @ 31st January 2020		5593.85
Income:		
First Aid:		
Rowley R	80.00	
Janca A	80.00	
Winterbottom J, Alexander H, Stranger J & D, Wigg J	400.00	
van Beek J	70.00	
Donation McMillan Track Guide Book:		
Roughly A (boots)	20.00	
Davis P (donation)	100.00	
Visitor Fees:	50.00	
Membership:		
Rowley, Robyn	48.00	
	<u>848.00</u>	
Sub Total Income:		6441.85
Expenditure:		
Cheque 249530 Kemp Aquatic (first aid training)	1440.00	
249531 Joe van Beek (cb antenna)	33.00	
249532 BCWC (P Davis reimbursement)	100.00	
	<u>1573.00</u>	
Balance @ 31st March 2020		4868.85
Cheque Outstanding :		
249533 Ken Free (Labour life membership O Raymond)	80.00	

ACTION LIST ITEM	RESPONSIBILITY	DUE DATE
Publish McMillans Walking Track Guidebook	Joe v B + others	FedWalks2020 (Nov 2020)
Liaise with Enoch Lavender of Joomla	Heather A.	Ongoing
Liaise with BWV re FedWalks2020	Joe v B.	Ongoing
Load Latest Newsletters onto Website	Jack W.	Ongoing
Update website banner photographs	Jack W. Heather A.	May 2020
Keep Website up to date	All those with resp.	Ongoing
Distribute FedWalks2020 Agendas and Minutes	Joe v B.	Ongoing
Determine Track clearing activities	Joe /Helmut	On hold
Consider a club Open Day Activity	Joe to follow up with BWV	On hold
Book Committee Meeting Night Venues	Heather A.	On hold – meeting via zoom
Joe to continue to host meetings via Zoom	Joe v B.	Ongoing until further notice
Heather to complete Meeting Schedule for 2020-2021 to discuss at next meeting	Heather A.	April 2020
Contact Joomla re banner resizing and font	Heather A.	April 2020
Newsletters and minutes to website	Heather A.	April 2020
Send First Aid slides to participants	Heather A.	April 2020
Arbuckle Junction to Thomastown report to Jack for Newsletter	Monica S.	April 2020
Neilson Crag report to Jack for Newsletter	Joe v B.	April 2020
Joe to discuss article for papers with Robyn	Joe v B.	April 2020
Geoff to continue to liaise with CMA re guest speaker for September Club night,	Geoff M.	Ongoing
Monica to continue to liaise with Badger & Hare re timing of Christmas in July event	Monica S.	Ongoing
Heather to arrange Website training Webinar	Heather A.	April/May 2020
Heather to ensure distribution of articles to members at least each Monday	Heather A.	Ongoing
Prepare a walk report for 2019 McMillans Walking Track walk for supplementary newsletter for mid-May 2020.	Joe, Helmut	Beginning of May 2020

No planned walks or maintenance on that track. Will try to fit something in before the end of the year.

Guidebook on schedule for release by November 2020.

4.3.2 BTAC

Joe advised that there was a BTAC meeting last week. Work on McMillans Walking Track from Smith Street down to the Macalister River has been scheduled for the last or second last week of November, subject to PV approval.

Guys Hut to Wonnangatta is scheduled for the Australia Day weekend 23 January 2021.

4.4 Newsletter Editor

Jack advised that McMillans Track Walk supplement would be issued 10 June 2020 and the Newsletter would be issued soon.

The Fedwalks booklet is almost complete.

4.5 Publicity

Robyn advised that there have been two articles published about the club and walks for June. Both were published in the Latrobe Valley Express and the Bairnsdale Advertiser.

4.6 Facebook Page

Becky advised that we have 160 in group. Walk leaders are continuing to post pictures. Becky has fielded public enquiries regarding tracks.

5. Walks Program

The walks program was discussed. Geoff advised that the program has been going well. Four walks have been run since the recommencement of walking.

It was decided that we would not run a Ben Cruachan birthday celebration this year.

Geoff will forward a reminder to those who have volunteered to conduct walks in coming months.

6. Meetings Program

6.1 Committee Meetings

The next committee meeting is on 12 August 2020. Joe asked committee whether some future meetings should be held by Zoom. It was suggested that alternate meetings be held via Zoom and at Maffra, being a central location.

Arrangements for the AGM 8 July 2020 were discussed.

6.2 Club Nights

Geoff will follow up on speaker for 9 September 2020 Club Night. **(Note that this has been superseded by decision to defer AGM to September 2020 as per addendum to minutes)**

6.3 Other Social Events

Not discussed.

7. Management of Website:

Banner Video has been provided and list of Webinar topics has been provided to Enoch. Dates will be advised in due course.

8. General Business:

8.1 Federation Walks Weekend (FedWalks2021)

Organising committee determined that it was best to defer the weekend to 2021.

Booked for 12-15 November 2021.

Bi-monthly meetings will continue.

McMillans Walking Track Guide Book will be launched at the BWV forum in November 2020.

Joe raised option of having a Gippsland Combined Clubs' Weekend on the weekend 24-25th October 2020. We will make a decision as to what will be run following further easing of restrictions.

8.2 BCWC Membership

8.2.1 New Members

Deferred to next meeting

8.2.2 Membership at 6 February 2020

Deferred to next meeting

8.2.3 Membership Renewals

BWV have offered that clubs with membership reductions of 10% or greater may request a reduction in the numbers of members stated in the earlier Insurance Questionnaire by the end of June 2020. Heather and Monica to review membership numbers.

8.3 AGM

The AGM options were discussed. Monica has been consulting with the Criterion regarding the possibility of meeting in person for the AGM. Numbers are currently limited to groups of 20. It was noted that the meeting could be deferred until we can be sure that we can have unlimited numbers.

Preference is to have a meeting with up to 35-40 people in July, and if not, either defer the meeting or conduct the meeting by Zoom. Monica will provide Jack with notice for newsletter.

8.4 BWV Affiliation Fee and Insurance Rebate

Joe raised the matter of the rebate to be provided by BWV and how that may impact membership Subscription rates. Decision deferred to next meeting.

8.5 Advance for McMillans Track Guide Book Printing

It was noted that the club had already raised some money from donations and sale of donated goods towards the printing of the guide book. Joe is to approach DELWP for a contribution on the basis that profits will go towards the maintenance of McMillans Walking Track

Motion: That any shortfall for the funds required for BCWC's share (estimated cost of \$3,000) to print 4,000 copies of the McMillans Walking Track Guide Book be borrowed from the Club's reserves.

Moved: Joe van Beek

Seconded: Heather Alexander

Carried

8.6 Review Action List

Next Meeting Wednesday 12 August 2020 at 7.00 pm via Zoom

8.6 Addendum to the Minutes

Motion: That the AGM scheduled for 8 July 2020 be postponed until 9 September 2020. To be held at the Criterion in sale pending easing of COVID-19 restrictions.

Moved: Joe van Beek

Seconded: Heather Alexander

Carried

Financial Statement for 31st May 2020

Ben Cruachan Walking Club

Balance @ 31st March 2020		4868.85
Income:		
Membership:		
Free & Quattrocchi, Scicluna, van Beek, Kellas, Kleine, MacLennan, Wielgosz, Sharp, Wigg, Burgess, Kercher, Jennings, Watts, Waddell, Bodin, Ravenhall, Harris, Hinde, Hanlon, Clues, Cox & Burrows	1181.00	
Visitor Fees:	95.00	
Interest:	.08	
Wilson Prom 2020 Re-imburement	909.00	
McMillan Track Handbook Donations	301.00	
	<u>2486.08</u>	
Sub Total Income:		7354.93
Expenditure:		
Cheque 249533 Ken free (Labour life membership O Raymond)	80.00	
249534 M Scicluna (Wilson Prom Oct 2020)	909.00	
	<u>989.00</u>	
Sub Total Expenditure:		989.00
Balance @ 31 May 2020		6365.93
Cheque Outstanding:		
249534 M Scicluna (Wilson Prom Oct 2020)		

ACTION LIST ITEM	RESPONSIBILITY	DUE DATE
Publish McMillans Walking Track Guidebook	Joe v B + others	FedWalks2020 (Nov 2020)
Liaise with Enoch Lavender of Joomla	Heather A.	Ongoing
Liaise with BWV re FedWalks2020	Joe v B.	Ongoing
Load Latest Newsletters onto Website	Jack W.	Ongoing
	Jack W. Heather A.	May 2020
Keep Website up to date	All those with resp.	Ongoing
Distribute FedWalks2020 Agendas and Minutes	Joe v B.	Ongoing
Determine Track clearing activities	Joe /Helmut	On hold
Consider a club Open Day Activity	Joe to follow up with BWV	On hold
Book Committee Meeting Night Venues	Heather A.	On hold – meeting via zoom
Joe to continue to host meetings via Zoom	Joe v B.	Ongoing until further notice
Heather to complete Meeting Schedule for 2020-2021 to discuss at next meeting	Heather A.	April 2020
Contact Joomla re banner resizing and font	Heather A.	April 2020
Newsletters and minutes to website	Heather A.	April 2020
Send First Aid slides to participants	Heather A.	April 2020
	Monica S.	April 2020
	Joe v B.	April 2020
	Joe v B.	April 2020
Geoff to continue to liaise with CMA re guest speaker for September Club night,	Geoff M.	Ongoing
	Monica S.	Ongoing
Heather to arrange Website training Webinar	Heather A.	April/May 2020
Heather to ensure distribution of articles to members at least each Monday	Heather A.	Ongoing
Prepare a walk report for 2019 McMillans Walking Track walk for supplementary newsletter for mid-May 2020.	Joe, Helmut	Beginning of May 2020
Heather to write back to Lisa Grassby re options for walking student	Heather A.	June 2020
Heather to provide details of Bruce Draper to Jack for Newsletter	Heather A.	June 2020
Heather to provide Jack with note re membership renewals for newsletter	Heather A.	June 2020
Heather to issue the meeting program for 2020-2021 to the committee	Heather A.	June 2020
Geoff to send reminder to those who have volunteered to conduct future walks	Geoff M.	June 2020
Heather to advise dates for Webinar	Heather A.	June 2020
Heather and Monica to reconcile memberships and estimate numbers for Insurance	Heather A.	June 2020

BEN CRUACHAN WALKING CLUB INC.
Minutes of the Management Committee Meeting
Held on Wednesday 12 August 2020 at 7:00 pm
Via Zoom

1.	President's Welcome:		
	Joe van Beek welcomed those attending the on line meeting.		
	Attendance: Heather Alexander, Piero Baglioni, Joe van Beek, Michael Dowe, Robyn Kercher, Geoff Mattingley, Rob Paterson, Monica Scicluna, Jim Stranger, Helmut Tracksdorf, .		
	Apologies: Becky Horsham, Marian Matchan, Trevor Whibley, Jack Winterbottom		
2.	Minutes of Previous Meeting:		
	2.1	Confirmation	
		Motion: That the minutes of the meeting of 10 June 2020 be accepted as an accurate record of that meeting.	
		Moved: Joe van Beek	Seconded: Monica Scicluna Carried
	2.2	Matters Arising	
		Joe noted that he had sent a reminder to DELWP re the funding request for McMillans Track Guide Book as he had not received a response. If the funding is not made available Club reserves will be used to print the Guide book and reimbursed from sales. Printing costs are estimated at \$3,000. Jim Stranger noted that the previous minutes noted that the suggestion was made that in future alternate meetings be held via Zoom and then in Maffra and gave his support for that proposal.	
3.	Correspondence:		
		Motion: That incoming correspondence be accepted and actions and outgoing correspondence be noted.	
		Moved: Heather Alexander	Seconded: Helmut Tracksdorf Carried
4.	Reports:		
	4.1	President	
		Joe advised that it was disappointing to have to suspend the walks program. Joe thanked those who led walks whilst permitted. Joe expressed thanks to Jack for publishing the Report on the December 2019 McMillans WalkingTrack. Joe advised weekly contact with members important and requested communication to members be sent weekly.	
	4.2	Treasurer	
		The Treasurer's report for the 2 months ended 31 July 2020 was tabled (attached to these Minutes).	
		Motion: That the Treasurer's Report be accepted.	
		Moved: Monica Scicluna	Seconded: Joe van Beek Carried
	4.3	Tracks and Huts	
		4.3.1	McMillans Walking Track
			No planned walks or maintenance on that track due to suspension of activity.

	4.3.2 BTAC	BTAC activities have been suspended. Two activities have been identified for our area: clearing McMillans Walking Track from the saddle between The Crinoline and Sugarloaf down to the Macalister River in Oct/Nov and Guys Hut down to the Dry River or alternatively work on track to Tali Karng in Jan 2021.															
	4.4 Newsletter Editor	No Report. Newsletter will be out in the coming week.															
	4.5 Publicity	Robyn advised that August articles had been retracted due to restrictions.															
	4.6 Facebook Page	No report.															
	4.7 Membership	<p>New Members: Noelene Barnes Tanya Casey Linda Judge Tracey, Duane & Mariah Kelly Elisa & Erik Rimsa Andrew, Maggie, Ned & Jack Sheridan & Heather Watson Robyn Stone and Roger Wall</p> <p>Membership at 11 August 2020</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Male</th> <th>Female</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Under 50</td> <td>10</td> <td>12</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Over 50</td> <td>46</td> <td>26</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Age not disclosed</td> <td>2</td> <td>5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sub-total</td> <td>58</td> <td>64</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Total Membership 122</p> <p>Membership Renewals 94</p>		Male	Female	Under 50	10	12	Over 50	46	26	Age not disclosed	2	5	Sub-total	58	64
	Male	Female															
Under 50	10	12															
Over 50	46	26															
Age not disclosed	2	5															
Sub-total	58	64															
5.	Walks Program	Geoff advised that the program had been going well. He will look at getting a program together in anticipation of restrictions being lifted.															
	5.1 Development of Walks Program	Not discussed.															
6.	Meetings Program																
	6.1 Committee Meetings	The next committee meeting is on 14 October 2020. Pending restrictions, the meeting may be conducted via Zoom.															
	6.2 Club Nights	The next club night is scheduled for 11 November 2020. Possibly CMA on Silt Jetties															

		or Peter Jennings on the Horseshoe Bend fishladder via Zoom. Joe to discuss with Peter.
	6.3	Other Social Events Not discussed.
	6.4	AGM <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The proposal to conduct the AGM via Zoom was discussed. The concern that conducting the meeting via Zoom may disenfranchise members who are unable to utilise Zoom. It was decided that all reports and proposed amendments would be forwarded to members in advance of the meeting so that members have time to raise concerns and nominate a proxy vote for the AGM. b) The AGM marks the 55th anniversary of the club. To mark this Joe will request members to submit photographs to Jack in Newsletter Presidential Ramblings. Jack will use photographs gathered from members to display as part of the Zoom meeting following the AGM. c) Nominations for committee positions were discussed. Further nominations will be requested from members via the newsletter, with nominations to be with the Secretary by 21 August 2020.
	7.	Management of Website: The committee approved in principal the cost of \$60 per hour for the training Webinar and suggested the training be arranged for incoming committee members following the AGM. Heather will arrange and seek further information regarding the website disc space issue.
	8.	General Business:
	8.1	Proposed changes to the Rules of Association to be put to the AGM <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The proposed change to the rules to split the role of Secretary into the Membership Secretary and Secretary was discussed. The committee unanimously agreed to the proposal. b) The proposal to keep committee membership at fourteen was considered. The committee unanimously agreed to keep the committee membership at 14, reducing the number of ordinary committee members to five. c) The proposed wording to the rules to allow committee meetings and special meetings to be conducted via the use of technology was considered. The committee unanimously agreed to the proposal. d) The proposal to change the end of financial year from 30 April to 30 June was considered. The committee unanimously agreed to the proposal.
	8.2	Combined Gippsland Bushwalking Clubs' Weekend An event has been proposed for the weekend of the 24-25 th of October. As it is unlikely that groups of walkers will be permitted to walk by that time, Joe will write back to the clubs and suggest they conduct their own activity that weekend.
	8.3	BWV Affiliation Fee and Insurance Rebate Joe raised the matter of the Insurance rebate provided by BWV. Subject to the AGM, the current year's membership will cover 14 months.

	8.4	Fedwalks 2021 The next committee meeting will be held in November 2020. The booklet has progressed well. Walks are covered. Promotions will commence at the BWV AGM in November.
Next Meeting		AGM Wednesday 9 September 2020 at 7.00 pm via Zoom
		Committee meeting Wednesday 14 October 2020 at 7.00 pm via Zoom

Financial Statement for 31st July 2020

Ben Cruachan Walking Club

Balance @ 31st May 2020	6365.93
Income:	
Membership:	
Roughley, Mattingley, Beard & Gillen, Muir, Matcham, Alexander, Stevenson & McLaren, DeFreitas, Martin, Marshall & Whibley, Tracksdorf, Plat, Whiting, Dowe, Rimsa, Caithness, Ross, Hickling, Raymond, McNaughton, Janca, Wall, Rogers, Newman, Reid, Ray, Grandy, Davis, Stranger, Dunlop, Balderstone, Judge, Kelly, Casey Stone, Paterson, Burrows	1900.00
Visitors Fees:	70.00
Interest:	.51
First Aid Re-imburement BWV	490.00

	2460.51

Sub Total Income: 8826.44

Expenditure :

Nil

Balance @ 31st July 2020 8826.44

Cheques Outstanding :

Nil

ACTION LIST ITEM	RESPONSIBILITY	DUE DATE
Publish McMillans Walking Track Guidebook	Joe v B + others	(Nov 2020)
Liaise with Enoch Lavender of Joomla	Heather A.	Ongoing
Liaise with BWV re FedWalks2021	Joe v B.	Ongoing
Keep Website up to date	All those with resp.	Ongoing
Distribute FedWalks2021 Agendas and Minutes	Joe v B.	Ongoing
Determine Track clearing activities	Joe /Helmut	On hold
Newsletters and minutes to website	Heather A.	Ongoing
Joe to discuss article for papers with Robyn	Joe v B.	April 2020
Geoff to continue to liaise with CMA re possible guest speaker for November Club night,	Geoff M.	Ongoing
Heather to arrange Website training Webinar	Heather A.	Sept/Oct 2020
Heather to ensure distribution of articles to members at least each Monday	Heather A.	Ongoing
Heather to issue the meeting program for 2020-2021 to the committee	Heather A.	Sept 2020
Heather to advise dates for Webinar	Heather A.	Oct 2020
Heather to follow up with Enoch re disk space issue for committee.	Heather A.	September 2020
Issue Proposed changes to Rules of Association, Agenda and Proxy vote 19 August 2020	Joe v B and Heather A.	19 August 2020
All officer reports to be available for distribution to membership 26 August 2020	All	26 August 2020
Request nominations for 2020/2021 Committee in Newsletter	Joe vB & Jack W	15 August 2020

BEN CRUACHAN WALKING CLUB INC.

Minutes of the Management Committee Meeting

held on Wednesday 14 October 2020 at 7:00 pm
Via Zoom

1.	President's Welcome: Helmut welcomed those attending online.
1.1	Attendance: Helmut Tracksdorf, Ken Free, Elizabeth Davis, Geoff Mattingley, Joe van Beek, Angela Roughley, Heather Alexander, Monica Scicluna, Robyn Kercher, , Jim Stranger, Jack Winterbottom, Michael Dowe
1.2	Apologies: Rob Paterson
2.	Minutes of Previous Meeting
2.1	Confirmation: Motion: That the minutes of the meeting of 12 August 2020 be accepted as an accurate record of that meeting. Moved: Helmut Tracksdorf Seconded: Geoff Mattingley Carried
2.2	Matters Arising <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Helmut confirmed the club has received confirmation from DWELP of a \$2500 contribution towards the publication of the McMillans Walking Track Guidebook The \$2750 mentioned in correspondence includes \$250 of GST which the club does not receive.2. Next Management Committee Meeting is scheduled for 9th Dec at Maffra. All going well, hopefully we can meet in person, however, this will depend on Covid restrictions being eased, so stay tuned. It is anticipated that we will hold alternative meetings via Zoom in the future.3. Next Club night is scheduled to be held at the Criterion on November 11th, Joe is seeking to secure a guest speaker, David Stork from West Gippsland Catchment Management Authority. However, with restrictions limiting gatherings to 10 people this meeting will be held via Zoom
3.	Correspondence: Motion: That incoming correspondence be accepted, and actions and outgoing correspondence be noted. Moved: Robyn Kercher Seconded: Jack Winterbottom Carried
4.	Reports:
4.1	President: Welcomed the new committee and reminded everyone that we are all volunteers in our roles. In the event there are any concerns or issues that need to be resolved please feel free to talk or contact Helmut directly so that we can avoid any potential conflicts. With restrictions for Regional Victorians eased allowing for groups of 10 to attend walks we have been able to restart our walks program. Recommend members register early to avoid missing out. There have already been 7- 8 walks within last 4 weeks. In mid Nov we will be launching The MMWT Guidebook at the BWV Leadership Forum. This will be an online event and Joe van Beek will expand upon this in his report. The Secretary's role has been split with Ken Free taking on responsibility of the Membership lists. Ken will explain his new role during his report to Committee.
4.2	Treasurer: Monica asked if the Membership form needs to be updated. Ken advised this has been done. Motion: That the Treasurer's Report attached to the Agenda be accepted. Moved: Monica Scicluna Seconded: Elizabeth Davis Carried

	4.3	Tracks and Conservation
	4.3.1	<p>McMillans Walking Track: Guidebook to be launched on the 14th of November at BWV Leadership Forum. Successfully raised sufficient funds to cover BCWC share of costs. The guidebook will be available to club members for \$20. The RRP is \$24.95 to the general public. Income from sales will be split 50/50 with the Chapman's. Joe to write an article for the October newsletter. Sales to members will be co-ordinated via a direct email address, which Joe will co-ordinate. We will try to place books in local stores. Jim Stranger will do a press release. DELWP have asked for rights to use photos from members to promote one of their Apps.</p> <p>In December, Australian Geographic photojournalist Don Fuchs intends to write an article on the Grant Historic area. Several members will assist Don and attend the visit.(if restrictions allow)</p>
	4.3.2	<p>BTAC: 1st Week in November trail maintenance at Cape Conran, On weekend of 6th – 9th Dec clearing a section of MMWT from Macalister River to Crinoline track. Parks Vic plan to clear track from Guy's hut to Dry River, Also planning to carry out some track maintenance in the Tali Karng area. Within the Grant Historic area there are plans to locate and clear the Eldorado track. Some track work is also planned in upper Howqua in Dec and Erinunderra during Feb 2021. See BTAC website for details and if interested to book in!</p>
	4.4	<p>Newsletter Editor: Jack advised he has been flooded with articles for October Newsletter Newsletter to be issued next week (19th- 23rd Oct)</p>
	4.5	<p>Publicity: Articles sent to Express, Gippsland Times, Bairnsdale Advertiser. Jim Stranger suggested reports on walks that have already been completed could be included. This was considered a good idea. Discussed opportunity to increase memory space on website. Refer to General Business.</p>
	4.6	<p>Facebook Page: Refer General Business</p>
	4.7	<p>Membership: Ken advised his role involves maintaining the membership register and registration details. Also, his responsibility includes sending out new membership packs with welcome letter from BCWC President. New version has been drafted.</p>
5.	Walks Program	
	5.1	<p>Development of Walks Program: Current walks program comes to an end in December 2020. So, need to start thinking about co-ordinating walks program for 2021. Geoff and Helmut will come up with a plan to extend the walks program. With Fedwalks 2020 deferred, Joe raised the possibility of organising a combined clubs walk, but due to the uncertainty associated with covid 19 restrictions the decision will be deferred to the end of October 2020.</p>
6.	Meetings Program	
	6.1	<p>Committee Meetings: Depending upon level of restriction may be able to gather together on 9th Dec at Maffra for next MCM</p>
	6.2	<p>Club Nights: Next Club night is scheduled for 11th Nov at the Criterion Hotel in Sale. However most likely this will be held as a virtual meeting. If available, David Stork from West Gippsland Catchment Management Authority to give a presentation on the fish ladder at Horseshoe Bend, if not Peter Jennings. Monica also putting together a slide show on McMillans Walking Track. Also presents us with an opportunity to do a rehearsal of the MMWT guidebook launch. Joe and Helmut will arrange to put this together.</p>

		Monica to check and confirm with Criterion if bookings available for 11 th Nov.
	6.3	Other Social Events BCWC Xmas Lunch is scheduled on Sunday 13 th December and Monica has made a booking at the Sale Greyhound club. Need to RSVP by 30 th Nov.
	6.4	AGM 2021: In principle, to be held in July 2021 as a face to face meeting.
7.	Management of Website	
		At present no individual is responsible for the website. Currently a group of individuals post to the site. Heather is willing to act as webmaster for now and upload photos. Heather to organise a webinar for members to learn how to use the system with support from Enoch. Heather to forward an email seeking EOI from Members to attend webinar. Ken to send username / password to Helmut. Geoff advised do not need to log in to get access to most forms. Committee agreed to Upgrade to 3 Gigabytes for annual cost of \$115. In addition it was agreed to send photos to Heather for uploading to website and CC Jim for Publicity and Jack for newsletter purposes.
8.	General Business	
	8.1	Review action list: Rules of Association to be updated and issued to members. Heather will do the amendments to rules of association. Cost of registration \$185.
		Combined club walk has been cancelled. Joe to contact West and South Gippsland clubs and confirm decision.
		Fedwalks 2021, To be promoted at Leadership Forum on 14 th Nov.
		Mc Millans Walking Track guidebook: Book prices, \$20 for club members, \$22 for other Gippsland club members, , retail \$24.95. To be launched at BWV leadership forum on the 14 th of November. Guidebook will also be promoted at Leadership Forum Joe to organise online sales via an email address.
		Facebook site: Angela explained background to our FB page and requested clarification about what should we allow to be posted to FB page. Due to microphone problems, Helmut expanded on the issue. There is a public FB page anyone can visit, and a BCWC Members page that is open to members and other approved people. Angela is the FB page manager. It was generally agreed not to advertise other groups, or products on Members FB page. May need to review purpose of our FB page, revisit in a separate forum.
		Geoff highlighted the options associated with PLB replacement. After some discussion it was decided to approve purchase of new PLB rather than arrange replacement of battery.
		Feral horses: Request for BCWC to enter a submission re: Feral horses. With a range of views within Committee, we will wait for release of draft plan before considering clubs response.
		Discussion on oversubscribed walks. If more than 10 can make 2 groups with 2 leaders, clearly separate, and not to lunch together.
Next Committee meeting: Wednesday 9th December 7:00pm		
Meeting Closed: 9:25pm		

Financial Statement for 30th September 2020

Ben Cruachan Walking Club

Balance @ 31st July 2020	8826.44
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Income:

Membership:

Murphy, Weightman, Baglioni & De Leeuw, Hides, Roberts, Jarvis, Boyd, Clark	391.00
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Visitor Fees	20.00
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	<hr/>	411.00
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		<hr/>	9237.44
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Expenditure:

BWV Insurance	2041.38
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Balance @ 30th September 2020	7196.06
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Cheques Outstanding :

Nil

BEN CRUACHAN WALKING CLUB INC.

Minutes of Management Committee Meeting

9 December 2020 at 7.00 pm by Zoom

1. President's Welcome:

1.1. Attendance:

The President, Helmut Tracksdorf, welcomed those in attendance:

Jack Winterbottom, Angela Roughley, Elizabeth Davis, Monica Scicluna, Geoff Mattingley, Piero Baglioni, Ken Free, Joe van Beek, Jim Stranger

1.2. Apologies: Robyn Kercher, Heather Alexander

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting:

2.1. Confirmation:

Motion: That the minutes of the meeting of 14 October 2020 be accepted as an accurate record of that meeting.

Moved: Helmut Tracksdorf **Seconded:** Elizabeth **Carried.**

2.2 Business Arising From Previous Meeting:

- Helmut apologised for missing the Combined Gippsland Clubs' meeting on 26 November 2020; Joe van Beek represented the club at the meeting.
- The McMillans Walking Track Guide Book was officially launched during November; Joe van Beek received an email from John and Monica Chapman advising that sales of the book have been very good (see Item 8.2 for details).
- The Ben Cruachan Xmas lunch will be on Sunday 13 December 2020 at the Sale Greyhound Club and members should carry a mask with them in case it's needed.
- It was not known whether the club's amended Rules of Association have been finalised and lodged with Consumer Affairs Victoria. Monica Scicluna has not received any request for payment of Consumer Affairs fees.

3. Correspondence:

3.1. Incoming:

Emails from:	SBWC with Newsletters; BWV with Bulletins;
BWV 3/12	Website options re Joomla change
SGWAAC 28/11	Track condition Cowombat
Combined Gipps BWC	Weekend and zoom meeting
Warby Walkers	Re Mc Millan's book
Tim Godfrey	Skenes Creek footprint
Tom Bodycomb	Walkers journal
Tom Woolven	Re Mc Millan's Track

3.2. Outgoing:

Emails to all members:	BCWC Newsletter;
	SBWC Newsletters;
	BWV Bulletins;
	PV Survey P. Maffei BTAC
	Change of walk date due to weather
	Regional catchment management strategy WGCMA
	General Info re Christmas party
Emails to Members:	Welcome to new members
Emails To External Parties:	

Motion: That incoming correspondence be accepted and actions and outgoing correspondence noted

Moved: Helmut Tracksdorf **Seconded:** Monica Scicluna **Carried.**

4. Reports:

4.1. President:

Helmut Tracksdorf reported that although we've had a somewhat frustrating year with our bushwalking interrupted by bushfires and then Covid 19, we've all survived and are looking forward to hopefully a better year in 2021. We're anticipating a full program of walks including FedWalks 2021 towards the end of the year and hopefully we can all regain a level of fitness that we may have lost during the restrictions.

On Sunday 13 December 2020, we'll get together for our Xmas lunch with an opportunity to reflect on the year just past and generally catch up with other club members.

Helmut thanked everyone for their contributions to the club over the last 12 months and wished everyone an enjoyable festive season.

4.2. Treasurer:

Monica presented the Treasurer's report for the month ended 30 November 2020 (attached to these Minutes).

Motion: That the Treasurer's Report be accepted.

Moved: Monica Scicluna **Seconded:** Joe van Beek **Carried.**

4.3. Tracks and Conservation:

4.3.1. McMillans Track

Joe van Beek reported that:

- There was a successful BCWC/BTAC track maintenance weekend 6-8 November to clear and remark the track from Smith Street (Ridge between The Crinoline and Sugarloaf) down to Macalister River. Four club members plus one other. 83 volunteer on the job hours.
- McMillans Walking Track guide book was launched at the BWV Leadership Forum on 14 November.
- Starting Monday 30 November six club members accompanied and supported photojournalists Don Fuchs and Richard Monk, on assignment from Australia Geographic, for 8 days around the Omeo Goldfields, Grant Historic Area and the 65km of McMillans Walking Track linking the two areas. Malcolm Smith, of DELWP at Swifts Creek, and Don Christie, author of Victoria's Forgotten Goldfield (A history of the Dargo, Crooked River

Goldfield), were our guest guides for Cassilis (Omeo) and Grant Historic Area respectively.

- An end-to-end walker was encountered on both of the above events and a report has been received from two guys who recently walked the track in 7 days. The first to walk it with the guide book. i.e. the track is being used.
- Friends of Grant are applying for a grant from the Bendigo Bank to make a promotional film, improve signage and install information boards in the Grant, Crooked River and at both ends of McMillans Walking Track. The aim is to increase visitation to the region and use of MMWT and hence provide economic benefit to the communities in the region. FoG have asked BCWC for a letter of support for their application.

4.3.2. BTAC

Joe van Beek reported that:

- Early November, activity on McMillans Walking Track, as above.
- First weekend in December, track maintenance in the Howqua area with 17 volunteers went well.
- Australia Day weekend late January will be an activity with PV, probably Guys Hut to Dry River, Wonnangatta Valley.
- March, AAWT in Mt Willis area
- April, AAWT on Baw Baw plateau

4.4. Newsletter Editor:

Jack Winterbottom advised that the December newsletter would be published early next week, 15 or 16 December 2020.

Joe van Beek will provide information to Jack on the recent Combined Gippsland Clubs Zoom meeting and information about the most recent club night.

Helmut advised that Lynette Newman is preparing a report on the Cowombat Flat and Pilot Walk.

4.5. Publicity:

Jim Stranger advised that the most recent publicity article was about the McMillans Walking Track and those present confirmed that it had been published in all Gippsland newspapers.

4.6. Facebook Page:

Angela Roughley reported that the 'public' Facebook page appears to be a waste of time. The club Facebook page is well used by members for posting photographs etc.

A non-member (Mr Bullock), who is apparently a 'member' of the club's page, frequently posts seeking directions for specific walks, e.g. the Old Weir Site. The consensus was that we should not provide walk directions to non-club members. It was also agreed that we should delete the 'public' page and have a Ben Cruachan Walking Club Facebook page for members only.

Motion: That the public Facebook page be deleted and the Ben Cruachan Walking Club page be maintained for club members only.

Moved: Angela Roughley **Seconded:** Jack Winterbottom **Carried.**

4.7. Membership:

Ken Free reported that since the last meeting we have 2 new memberships and the total membership is now in excess of 120. [*the exact number of members is 130*]

5. Walks Program:

5.1 Development of Walks Program

Geoff Mattingley advised that the Walks Program for 2021 is now looking reasonable thanks to contributions from Helmut Tracksdorf, Ken Free and Jim Stranger. A formal meeting to put together a walks program is probably no longer necessary.

However, there are no planned day walks for January and February and very little in March.

Monica Scicluna and Angela Roughley advised that they will be proposing some walks.

Geoff requested that Walk Previews be provided as soon as possible.

6. Meetings Program:

6.1 Committee Meetings:

The next committee meeting will be at 7:00 pm on 10 February 2021 at the Maffra Community Sports Club, 122-126 Johnson Street, Maffra, preceded by dinner at 6 pm

6.2 Club Nights:

The next club night will be at the Wan Loy Chinese restaurant in Traralgon on 10 March 2021 and Jim Stranger and Joe van Beek will organise a guest speaker or activity for the evening.

6.3 Other Social Events:

Nothing planned at this stage.

6.4 AGM 2021

It was agreed that a date and venue for the 2021 AGM will be set at a future meeting.

7. Management of Website

In an email circulated by Robyn Kercher, Bushwalking Victoria offered to provide assistance to clubs with website management. BWV recently moved their own website from the Joomla platform.

Helmut advised that a relatively new member, John Cox, had offered to provide assistance in managing/maintaining the club's website. John has considerable experience with Joomla websites having set up and maintained the website for Maroondah Bushwalking club. Helmut will talk to John about how he might assist Heather Alexander who had volunteered to take on the 'webmaster' role.

Helmut will report back to the next committee meeting.

8. General Business:

8.1 Review Action List

Helmut advised that arrangements had been made to update the club's bank account signatories.

8.2 McMillans Track Walking Book

Joe van Beek reported that:

Sales as at 9 December, Chapmans have sold 114 copies, 77 copies paid - received \$1263.40, 37 sold to distributors, payment pending. BCWC have disposed of 101 books and received \$1,382.

Gifted	19 @ 0 = \$0
Retail Agents	45 @ 14 = \$630
Club members	31 @ 20 = \$620
other Clubs	6 @ 22 = <u>\$132</u>
	<u>\$1,382</u>

8.3 FedWalks 2021

Joe van Beek advised that the FedWalks 2021 committee had met in November and in the new year will become more active in planning the event.

Next Meeting:

7:00 pm on 10 February 2021 at the Maffra Community Sports Club,
122-126 Johnson Street, Maffra, preceded by dinner at 6 pm

Meeting Closed: 8:20 pm

Financial Statement for 30th November 2020

Ben Cruachan Walking Club

Balance @ 30th September 2020		7196.06
Income:		
Memberships		
Wesson, Scott & Dunn, King	102.00	
Visitor Fees:	77.00	
McMillan Book Sales:	660.00	
Interest:	0.70	
	<hr/>	839.70
		<hr/>
		8035.76
Expenditure:		
249536 G. Mattingley (PLB)	298.96	
249537 J Chapman (McMillan Guide Books)	2882.50	
	<hr/>	3181.46
Balance @ 30th November 2020		<hr/>
		4854.30
Cheques Outstanding :		
Nil		