

Ben Cruachan Walking Club – Walk Preview

Please register with Walk Leader before the day of the walk. See website: http://bencruachanwalkingclub.com/			
Walk:	McAlister Springs, Mt Howitt, Mt Magdala & King Billy		
Area:	Alpine National Park		
Date:	Sat 10 to Mon 12 March 2018	To be publicised in local papers?	No
Grade:	Day 1: S-4-4 6 km Day 2: S-6-4 9 km Day 3: M-6-3 12 km or Day 3: L-7-3 17 kms	Style:	Multi day Pack Carry
Walk Length:	See above for kms	Walk Duration:	3 days.
Meeting Place:	Glenmaggie Hall or Howitt Plain Car Park TBA	Meeting Time:	TBA
Walk Summary:	<p>Mt Howitt (1742m) sits in the centre of a high range, part of the Great Dividing Range. It provides views of some of the most majestic and rugged peaks in the Victorian Alps, and in summer is carpeted in wild flowers. This walk will provide stunning views of The Crosscut Saw, the Wonnangatta Valley to the east and the Howqua Valley to the north west, Mt Buller in the distance, and then walk down into the Macalister River valley. A stunning walk.</p> <p>A circuit walk starting from the Howitt Plain Car Park. Ideally, if there are sufficient 4WD vehicles, we will start with a car shuffle, leaving 4WD vehicles on the King Billy Track at the Macalister River crossing, eliminating a 500m climb over 5 kms at the end of the walk. The walk will start with a pleasant walk across alpine meadow amongst snow gums to Macalister Springs and the Vallejo Gantner Hut for the first night campsite. Day 2 will be walking over undulating alpine meadows among magnificent snow gums, wildflowers, and gentle climbs reaching Mt Howitt, Hell's Window, and Mt Magdala whilst being in awe of the views, ending at King Billy No. 1 campsite. A short walk to Picture Point, will provide amazing views of the upper Howqua Valley and Mt Buller whilst also looking across at Mt Howitt and Mt Magdala. Day 3 will follow the Australian Alps Walking Track to King Billy No 1 and King Billy No 2 then onto the King Billy 4WD Track descending 600m over approx. 7 km to the Macalister River. If sufficient 4WD vehicles are available, we will take a ride for the last 5km / 500m ascent to complete the circuit, otherwise we walk.</p> <p>This walk is in exposed alpine country and a changeable weather environment. Appropriate clothing for all weather should be carried. Water will be available only at camp sites and when crossing the Macalister River. Vessels for up to 3 litres of water should be carried. Camp fires will be subject to fire restrictions. Walkers will be advised of cooking equipment requirements before the walk. This is a 3 day walk carrying a full pack – please keep items carried and pack weight to a minimum and share equipment where possible.</p>		
Walk Leader:	Anna Janca	Email:	annajanca@bigpond.com
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