



92nd ANNUAL REPORT

1 JULY 2020 – 30 JUNE 2021

HOBART WALKING CLUB Inc.

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Editor – Annette Picone

Executive Committee

5 October 2020 to 2 October 2021

President:	Jill Finch
Vice President:	Grant Kench
Vice President:	Midj Jones
Secretary:	Annette Picone
Assistant Secretary:	Andrew Davey
Treasurer:	Rupert Manners
Trips Secretary:	Philip Le Grove
Ski & Hut Secretary:	Keith Simmonds
New Members:	Storm Foulkes
Membership Officer:	Ian Welch
Committee Members:	Helen Daly Margaret Williams

Club Delegates

as at 30 June 2021

Bushwalking Tasmania:	Andrew Davey Jill Finch
Southern Tasmanian Ski Association:	Andrew Davey Fred Koolhof Liz Koolhof
Clarence Tracks and Trails:	Barry Ford

President

I am pleased to report an excellent year for the Club. At the beginning of this reporting period, the restrictions of COVID-19 had just been eased, so that any number of people could attend on club activities, compared to previous number limits of 10 and then 20. July saw the first month of 'back-to-normal' outdoor activities for the Club. The Club rebounded strongly in response with an increase in the participation rate of more than 24%. There was an increase in membership from 836 to 939 over the year, a rise of 12%. It is important to welcome new members continually as they maintain the vitality of the Club and bring fresh energy and ideas.

The Club again offered a large number and variety of trips during the year. Our strong activities program is something all members can be proud of, and we thank the people who arrange our walking, cycling and kayaking trips and make them so interesting: all the coordinators and programmers, the Tripsdata team and the Trips Secretary.

Financially, the Club has maintained a steady position. Income from subscriptions came in well over budget, reflecting the rise in member numbers. A stand-out in the financial statement is the income from the Lake Dobson Hut. This is a tribute to the energetic Ski and Hut Sub-Committee and their Secretary, who have encouraged more members to make use of this unique Club facility. You can read more about what they have been doing in the Ski and Hut Report.

The Executive Committee took a number of steps to streamline our administrative tasks. Actions this year included:

- Found new venues
 - The monthly Club Night moved to the Mt Stuart Hall, which is warm and bright and caters well for the 30 - 60 people now attending each month.

- The Club's 'office' contents were transferred from Murray Street to a secure storage facility at New Town. This is safer, cheaper, and a more satisfactory 'home' than the previous location.
- Executive Committee meetings were moved to the Black Buffalo Hotel. This is more congenial than the previous location and offers free parking, as well as the chance to purchase a meal for anyone rushing in late from a walk.
- Continued work on developing a new website – see details in the Web Manager's Report. Improved the current website.
- Appointed an Archivist and adopted an Archives Policy.
- Appointed a new Circular Editor and two Tripsdata team members.
- Improved some of our Club processes: revised Club Policies, adopted a better Agenda/Minutes format, simplified by-laws on lapsed membership, and improved the membership renewal form and the trip waiver form. It was helpful to have a lawyer on the Executive!
- Made written submissions, with the assistance of the Club's Environment Sub-Committee, on:
 - The Mt Wellington Cableway Company Development Application to the Hobart City Council. The Club also made personal representation to the HCC. The Executive will keep a watchful eye and respond to any future appeals.
 - The Maria Island Management Plan. The Tasmania Parks and Wildlife Service (PWS) has a two-year time frame for renewal of the Plan and the Club will be prepared for further input.
- Worked through a 'HWC Future Plan'. The plan had broad ranging aims, and most of these are well under way or completed. They include:
 - Agreement on track clearing arranged in conjunction with PWS.

- A regular series of articles about bushwalking in *The Mercury* magazine section on Saturdays.
- Increased usage of Lake Dobson Hut.
- Setting up a 'Back Country Tracks' committee to push for work on non-tourist tracks.
- A plan to approach local Councils to advocate for improvements to signage and marking of tracks in their area.
- Input into Bushwalking Tasmania to work on shared concerns of clubs.

Congratulations to Vicki Martin who was elected an Honorary Life Member at the last AGM for her significant contribution to the activities, management and administration of our Club.

All in all, it has been a busy twelve months. I thank members of the Executive Committee for their harmonious and constructive teamwork. On behalf of the Executive, I also wish to thank volunteers on all Sub-Committees who work quietly and steadily for the benefit of the Club. You can read through this report the many things they have achieved.

Jill Finch, President

Membership

There were 172 new Members during the year which almost doubled the prior year's intake and, in addition, those not renewing dropped by 37%. This resulted in the Club having 939 Members at 30 June 2021, an increase of 103 over the previous year and only eight fewer than the bumper year of 2016-17.

The gender ratio continues to hover around 44% male and 56% female.

A summary of the key membership statistics follows.

Membership Numbers by Category as at 30 June

Membership Category	Number of Members			
	2021	2020	2019	2018
Honorary Life Members	13	12	10	8
Honorary Associate Members	1	1	1	1
Associate Members	1	1	0	1
Members	788	726	760	798
Prospective Members	136	96	122	134
Total	939	836	893	942

Membership Count by Age and Gender as at 30 June

Age	FY 2020 - 2021				FY 2019 - 2020			FY 2018 - 2019		
	M	F	Not Given	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total
18 - 24	1	1		2	1	0	1	0	2	2
25 - 29	2	5		7	1	3	4	4	3	7
30 - 39	8	10	1	19	9	9	18	11	12	23
40 - 49	18	22	1	41	14	22	36	15	29	44
50 - 59	59	104		163	62	87	149	64	104	168
60 - 69	127	186		313	125	152	277	139	177	316
70 - 79	143	155	1	299	126	141	267	127	131	258
80 - 89	52	33		85	45	31	76	35	25	61
90+	2	1		3	1	1	2	2	0	2
Not Given	1	5	1	7	1	5	6	0	0	13
Total	413	522	4	939	385	451	836	397	483	893

35 Year Membership Certificates

Ten members attained 35 years Club membership during the year.

Andreas Hack	03 July 1985
Kathleen McLaren	26 August 1985
Brian Gisborne	09 September 1985
Margaret McKerracher	18 December 1985
Ken Kirkby	01 January 1986
Stacy Kirkby	01 January 1986
Gwen Thomas	01 January 1986
Diane Balding	01 January 1986
Christine Swan	22 January 1986
David Seymour	07 April 1986

50 Year Membership Certificates

Two members attained the significant milestone of 50 years Club membership during the year.

Liz Koolhof	25 February 1971
Margaret Williams	02 April 1971

Honorary Life Members

Bob Wyatt	1979	Chris Rathbone	2017
John Cannon	1990	Geoff Morffew	2018
Sheila Reynolds	1994	Barry Ford	2018
Val Linsell	2001	Rupert Manners	2019
Andrew Davey	2010	Midj Jones	2019
Brian Haas	2011	Vicki Martin	2020
Stephanie Schulz	2011		

Long and Significant Service Award Recipients

Margaret Knight	2011	Tony Rae	2015
Stuart Whitney	2011	Paul Geeves	2015
Hilary Goodwin	2011	Linda Cook	2016
Sylvia Ledger	2011	Tony Cook	2016
Anna Rau	2011	Helen Daly	2016
Phyl Wyatt	2011	Gill Fitzgerald	2016
Barry Ford	2012	Storm Foulkes	2016
Jenny Ford	2012	Heather Hurd <i>(dec)</i>	2016
Adrian Jowett	2012	Roger Hurd	2016
Margaret Gould	2012	Rupert Manners	2016
John Adams	2013	Doug Mclean	2017
Jim Anderson	2013	David Pears	2017
Rosalie Davis	2013	Ruth Raward	2018
David Hardy	2013	Philip Le Grove	2018
Fred Koolhof	2013	Margaret Williams	2019
Pam Powell	2014	Liz Koolhof	2019
Chris Rathbone	2014	Alison Bowling	2020
Vicki Martin	2014	John Kerrison	2020
Midj Jones	2014	Geoff O’Hara	2020
Geoff Morffew	2015		

President’s Award

Vicki Martin	2013
Barry Plews	2019

Ian Welch, Membership Officer

Trips Sub-Committee

Trips Secretary

Philip Le Grove

Tripsdata Team

Antonia Dunne

Vicki Martin (*Jul – Oct*)

Judy Micklewright (*from Nov*)

Lee Parker (*from Sep*)

Walk Programmers

Overnight

Paul Geeves

Monday Toddlers Toddle

John Gora

Tuesday MM+ / MM alternative

Brett O'Halloran (*Jul – Sep*)

David Picone (*from Oct*)

Wednesday SE/SM

Judith Holmes

Wednesday MM+

Christine Philbrick (*Jul – Sep*)

Graham Sargison (*from Oct*)

Wednesday MM alternative

Helen Daly (*from Sep*)

Thursday MM+

John Kerrison

Thursday MM alternative

Alan Wilson

Friday SNQ

Erika Shankley

Saturday SE/SM

Carole Nodder

Saturday MM+ / Sunday MM+

Trish Colles

Dog Walks

Dawn Hendrick (*Jul-Sep*)

Cycle Programmers

Tuesday L/Int

Chris Howard

Thursday SE

Cecilia Eriksson

Thursday ME

Margaret McDonald/
David Pears (*Jul – Aug*)

Daryl Stewart/
Stephen Robinson (*from Sept*)

Phil Whitham (*Jul – Nov*)

Thursday MM

Chanchal Foxen (*from Dec*)

Kayak Programmer

Barry Plews

As the Club moved on from the COVID-19 restrictions placed on our activities at the end of the previous reporting period, it soon became apparent that demand from members wanting to participate in activities, especially walking, was growing. The number of walking trips 633 (503:2020) and the number of walking trip participants 6839 (5489:2020) was evidence that members were staying in the state rather than going away on holiday.

This result is a 23% increase in the number of trips and a 24% increase in the number of participants during the year. Participation per trip was similar to the previous year at 10.7 (10.6:2020).

A highlight was the extended walks program which became very popular after COVID-19 restrictions came off with 75 (55:2020) trips. With extended walks it was pleasing to see that, when a walk was full, another walk to the same location was quickly organised. An additional walking program was introduced on alternate Wednesdays to take some of the pressure off a growing group size on that day. Tuesdays often conducted two walks to cater for demand.

Our kayak program with 6 multi-day trips was well supported. The cycling program maintains a strong following by members.

A Coordinator Training day was held in September.

Special mention and thank you to the Trip Programmers for providing our members with a diverse program. Thank you to all coordinators for responding to the increased demand and providing interesting walks.

Our Tripsdata Team of Antonia Dunne, Vicki Martin, Judy Micklewright and Lee Parker have done a wonderful job to ensure the trips are entered in a timely way and appear in the correct format ready for production of the Circular. Our Web Manager Chris Rathbone was always there to help with any fixes and keeping a watchful eye over the process.

The leading Trip Coordinators for the year are:

		No of Trips	No of Days
Rupert Manners	walks	31	65
Geoff O’Hara	walks	20	48
Dale Carney	walks	10	47
Helen Daly	walks	21	43
Barry Plews	kayak	7	41
Vicki Martin	walks	21	33
Jim Gandy	walks	5	24
Chris Rathbone	walks	16	22
Linda Cook	walks & cycle	6	20
John Kerrison	walks	11	19
Charles Chadwick	walks	7	19
Trish Colles	walks	16	18
John Leaf	walks	9	18
Carolynne Smith	walks	6	18
Judy Bond	walks	17	17
Philip Le Grove	walks	11	17
Stacy Kirkby	walks	5	17
David Picone	walks & cycle	16	16
Nick Hume	walks & cycle	9	16
Andreas Hack	walks	3	16
Keith Simmonds	walks	11	15
Kent Lilico	walks	3	15
Carole Nodder	walks & cycle	14	14
Felicity Walch	walks	13	13
Helen Dalla-Fontana	walks	13	13
Jane Long	walks	12	12
Dianne Martin	walks	12	12

Awards

The **Golden Boot Award** goes to the Club member who accrues the most days walking as a coordinator, doing a minimum 10 qualifying trips across 12 months. Trips must include 4 or more people. The winner is:

Rupert Manners

The **Silver Saddle Award** goes to the Club member who accrues the most days cycling as a coordinator doing a minimum 10 trips across 12 months. Qualifying trips must include 4 or more people.

Not Awarded – Special mention to Chanchal Foxen and Linda Cook

Number of Trips and Participant Numbers by Category

Category	FY 2020 - 2021			FY 2019 - 2020		
	Trips	Participants	Average	Trips	Participants	Average
Day Walking Trips						
Long Rough	7	47	6.7	5	52	10.4
Long Medium	34	311	9.1	27	253	9.4
Medium Rough	37	329	8.9	20	190	9.5
ME and MM	265	2755	10.4	181	2155	11.9
Short Rough	4	60	15	4	32	8
Short Medium	12	177	14.8	19	307	16.1
Short Easy	96	1441	15	73	1024	14
Short Non-Qualifying	50	563	11.3	41	354	8.6
Toddles Non-Qualifying	48	670	14	43	611	14.2
Dog Walk Non-Qualifying	7	43	6.1	35	232	6.6
Total Day Walks	560	6396	11.4	448	5210	11.6

Number of Trips and Participant Numbers by Category

Category	FY 2020 - 2021			FY 2019 - 2020		
	Trips	Participants	Average	Trips	Participants	Average
Extended Walking						
Long Rough	16	45	2.9	9	33	3.7
Long Medium	3	12	4	2	9	4.5
Medium Rough	24	151	6.3	24	117	4.9
SM and MM	30	235	7.8	20	120	6
Total Extended Walks	73	443	6.1	55	279	5.1
Cycling						
Long/int	44	448	10.2	40	449	11.2
Moderate/Med-Med	42	454	10.8	44	468	10.6
Medium Easy	47	659	14	47	508	10.8
Short Easy	43	199	4.6	41	214	5.2
Tour	5	108	21.7	5	86	17.2
Total Cycling Trips	181	1868	10.3	177	1725	9.6
Kayaking						
Day trips	-	-	-	2	16	8
Kayak tour	6	40	6.7	7	48	6.9
Total kayaking trips	6	40	6.7	9	64	7.1
TOTAL TRIPS	820	8747	10.7	689	7278	10.6

Programmer Reports

Paul Geeves, Overnight walks

2020-21 was another strong year for overnight and extended walks with a wide variety of trips offered.

Types of trips included car camping or overnight camping at a basecamp to do day walks, and tent and hut camping trips of overnight or extended duration.

The trips ranged from easy and moderate on track trips to extended walks off track.

My thanks to all the overnight and extended walk coordinators for their contribution to ensuring the Hobart Walking Club continues to offer such a good overnight and extended walks program.

John Gora, Monday Toddlers Toddle

It was good to see a few new toddlers, bringing their happy grandparents (and sometimes parents) along with them, and replacing toddlers who have gone to school. Unfortunately, a number of keen grandparents do not have access to their grandchildren on Monday.

It is also great to see retired toddlers regularly turning up during school holidays, letting us know that they still have fond memories of younger days. One of our holiday highlights is the Sixpence Cave campfire, with sausages and roasted marshmallows and the opportunity to douse the fire afterwards.

David Picone, Tuesday MM+ and Alternative walks

The Tuesday group have been deeply moved and saddened by the passing of Heather Hurd, who was a welcoming friend to us all.

Grateful thanks to Brett O'Halloran who skillfully arranged two walks a week right through the COVID-19 situation and managed our program until early 2021.

There were 77 walks completed on Tuesdays, with an average of 15 people per walk.

We provided a good variety of locations and degrees of difficulty, but clearly the more challenging walks did not attract many participants.

On the positive side the walks have attracted a good number of newer members who we hope to see as regular walkers.

Judith Holmes, Wednesday SE/SM walks

The Wednesday SE/SM program rolled along well except for COVID-19 restrictions early on. The walks were carried out over a variety of locations and generally attracted around 20 or more members per walk. Only one walk was cancelled due to bad weather. The roster still relied very much on a few regular coordinators and as some of these are stepping back the challenge now is to recruit others to fill their shoes. I would like to thank all members who put their hand up to coordinate a walk. And a special mention for those who normally don't walk on Wednesdays but were happy to help out when asked.

Jeff Leis (acting for Graham Sargison), Wednesday MM Walks –

prepared with information from Graham Sargison and Christine Philbrick

Graham Sargison took over as Wednesday MM Programmer from Christine Philbrick during the year, and they put together a varied program of walks. This included Mt Field area (3), Eastern Shore (8), Mt Wellington, Ridgeway and Mt Nelson (13), Tasman Peninsula and East Coast (13), Bruny Island (5), Kingborough and south (6), Bisdee Tier and Chauncey Vale (4), and Mt Rufus (1). There were 26 walk coordinators, with special thanks to Helen Daly (6 walks), Bob Boocock, Mary Jolly and Christine Philbrick with four walks each, and too many to mention with three walks each. Due to bad weather, two walks were cancelled (Mt Fortescue Circuit in March and Tangara Trail in June), and one (Needles/Growling Swallet in December) changed to a more sheltered location.

Helen Daly, Wednesday Alternative Walks

COVID-19 presented the Club with many challenges. Firstly walks were cancelled completely. This shutdown of the program was followed by a numbers limit of ten, and a booking system. It was

necessary to add additional walks so that as many people as possible had the opportunity to join a group and walk with the Club. Due to ongoing border restrictions and no overseas travel, walkers have not been able to travel and are staying at home. The extra walks have continued to be programmed to reduce the extremely large number of walkers on each walk, and also offer a choice of destination, different levels of difficulty, and length.

John Kerrison, Thursday MM+ walks

A big thank you to all coordinators and others who helped in any way to make the walks possible and enjoyable.

Again this year we had an extra two walks every month (separately programmed by Alan Wilson) so more choice for those wanting to walk on a Thursday.

Forty-six walks went ahead with an average participation of 9. Despite quite a number of programmed walks having a change of venue due to inclement weather forecasts only 6 were cancelled - two in 2020 (bad weather) and 4 in 2021 (bad weather x 3 and the other due to the Mt Anne area still being closed after the fires). Interestingly these 4 walks were all in March and April.

Alan Wilson, Thursday Alternative Walks

These walks began in May 2020 just as we were emerging from the COVID-19 shutdown. They came as a welcome addition to the program allowing members to get walking again, albeit in groups of ten initially. We walk on first and third Thursdays each month at what we regard as a “pleasant” medium pace. Most winter walks have been close to home (kunanyi/Mt Wellington etc) but other seasons we walk in the Mt Field, Hartz, Bruny Island and Tasman Peninsula areas. Walk numbers have remained steady around the 10-12 mark

Erika Shankley, Friday SNQ walks

With the resumption of walks in May 2020 after Tasmania’s lockdown due to the COVID-19, numbers on SNQ walks have burgeoned. During the year 517 members enjoyed the regular Friday walks. This is, in part, due thanks to the number of willing

volunteers who coordinate the varied walks. Thank you everyone. See you on the track!

Carole Nodder, Weekend SE walks – no report provided

Trish Colles, Saturday MM+ and Sunday MM+ walks

Another successful and enjoyable year of MM weekend walks. There have been a variety of destinations offered, depending on the time of the year and amount of daylight hours available. With Spring and Summer approaching, we will be able to wander further afield, expanding the choice of walk being offered. My thanks to all coordinators for your generous support to the program, including several new members who have taken on the coordinators role this year.

Chris Howard, Tuesday L/Int cycling

The Tuesday cycling group has had another great year. Rides are offered all over SE Tasmania from Oatlands to Dover and Waddamana to Orford. There is a core group who are regulars and there are others, from the rider pool of 30, who participate from time to time. There was an average of 10 participants per ride which is a more manageable number for the coordinator. Fifty-two rides were planned of which 7 were cancelled due to poor weather which seems to be the norm each year. The total distance for the 40 rides was 2,660km which equates to an average of 66km per ride.

Cecilia Eriksson, Thursday SE cycling – no report provided

Daryl Stewart and Stephen Robinson, Thursday ME cycling

With COVID-19 restrictions eased and less holiday travel interstate and overseas, the ME Group participation increased with an average of 14.73 per ride. The maximum for one ride was 26 cyclists and minimum for one ride was 3.

Riding distances varied between 21 and 38 kms with an average distance of 29.91kms. There were 44 rides for the year with 8 cancelled due to the weather.

Overall it was a good year for the ME Cycling Group with enjoyable weekly rides and very popular cycling camps in various locations thrown in. Stephen and I would like to thank the members of our group for their friendship and willingness to coordinate rides during the year. May the coming year be even better.

Chanchal Foxen, Thursday MM rides -- no report provided

Barry Plews, Kayaking

This year's kayaking program included trips to Lake St Clair, Macquarie Harbour, Gordon River, Lake Pedder, Lake Burbury, Pieman River, Freycinet Peninsula, Schouten Island, Cockle Creek / Southport Lagoon. Unfortunately, planned trips to Bruny Island, Huonville / Gordon and Maria Island had to be cancelled due to poor weather forecasts. Whilst previous programs included both overnight trips and day paddles, the 2020/2021 program focused exclusively on overnight trips with day paddles arranged on an ad hoc basis as Flash activities. Kayaking is still a niche Club activity. We continued to see new members joining the club specifically to enjoy the developing kayaking program. A positive sign in the 2020/2021 HWC kayaking program was the increase in the number of HWC members volunteering to coordinate overnight kayaking trips. This was much appreciated, and we are expecting this to continue in the 2021/2022 program matched by an expansion of the number of kayaking destinations offered.

Dog Walks, Dawn Hendrick

Seven Club Dog Walks were scheduled in the Circular and went ahead, with 43 human participants, and one trip cancelled.

As no-one has volunteered to be Dog Walk Programmer from July 2020, the HWC Dog Walks Program is in abeyance for the time being.

Philip Le Grove, Trips Secretary

New Members

This is the second year in which the Executive Committee included a New Members Officer, a position which was introduced to reduce the workload of the Membership Officer and provide a more focused service for new members. The decision has proved especially sensible in the past year, which has seen the number of new members almost double compared to the previous year.

We welcomed 172 new members during the year and welcomed back 10 rejoining members. A total of 87 new members qualified for and were elected to full membership during the year; this included 7 for whom we waived the prospective membership stage because they were current members of other Australian bushwalking clubs and demonstrated substantial bushwalking experience.

Storm Foulkes, New Members Officer

Environment Sub-Committee

Members: Paul Geeves (Convenor), Helen Daly (Exec Rep), Andrew Davey, David Jupe, Phil Watson, Grant Kench, John Cannon, Charles Chadwick

The 2020-2021 year was a fairly busy one for the Environment Sub-Committee. The committee prepared detailed formal submissions on the following matters:

- Maria Island Management Plan update
- Mount Wellington Cableway Development Application

The Environment Sub-Committee was also consulted on the proposed North West Bay River Trail.

I would like to thank the committee members for their assistance and valuable contributions.

Paul Geeves, Environment Convenor

Circular Sub-Committee

Coordinator: Jim Anderson

Editors: Helen Bethune Moore (*Jul - Oct*)
Nola Errey
John Gora
Renate Griffiths (*from Jan*)

Tripsdata Team: Antonia Dunne
Vicki Martin (*Jul – Oct*)
Judy Micklewright (*from Nov*)
Lee Parker (*from Sep*)

Mailing Officer: Jim Anderson

Emailing Officer: Ian Welch

Circular production mailing helpers; cover artists and photographers.

Circular production numbers as at 30 June 2021 are -

Circular style	Members	Others	Total	%
Print	227	2	229	25.0
Email	703	2	705	75.0
Total	930	4	934	100.0

In this table, members subscribing for print and email are counted in the Print category while members who subscribe for email only are counted in the Email category. A further 9 members receive no circular by request.

Thank you to all the above-mentioned team for their dedication in producing the monthly circulars.

From March 2020, the practice of hosting working bees at members' homes to prepare circulars for the mail was discontinued to comply with COVID-19 social isolation rules. While those rules prevail, the pleasant task of addressing and wrapping the monthly circular is being carried out by volunteer member couples.

Jim Anderson, Circular Coordinator

Search, Rescue & Training Sub-Committee

Members: David Young (Convenor), Rupert Manners (Exec Rep), Pam Powell, Stuart Whitney, Sue Denman (Police Liaison), Chris Rathbone, and Andrew Davey.

The sub-committee is responsible for the organisation and conduct of introductory training days, maintenance of a call-out list for rescue activities, organisation of search groups, training of club members and monitoring the overall safety of the Club's activities. In addition, we write and update the club booklets *Safety in the Bush* and *Emergency Management*, review and make recommendations regarding incidents and accidents, and log trips for PLBs used on club walks.

Essential Skills Days - The sub-committee continued to run the Essential Skills training days required for new members to gain full membership of the Club. During 2020-2021 we scheduled eleven Essential Skills Days and 120 Prospective members attended.

Real Navigation - Two Real Navigation days, in which participants learn how to use maps, compasses and GPSs in the context of a walk, were planned for 2020-21. One was cancelled on account of low numbers. Five members attended the other. In 2019-20, two Real Navigation walks were planned, but cancelled because of COVID-19 restrictions.

GPS Training - Two training days to assist members in the use of their GPSs were held. Eight members attended. Last year two GPS training days were held, with ten members attending.

Introductory Overnight Walks - Two introductory overnight walks were held, one to the Walls of Jerusalem, the other to the Labyrinth. Both were booked out, with a total of 15 members attending.

First Aid - A non-accredited first aid course had to be postponed because of COVID-19 restrictions.

Search and Rescue

The sub-committee maintains a search and rescue call-out list from which we are able to mobilise searches when alerted by the Police. These callouts can range from remote difficult searches to local one-day searches. In recent years the police use of helicopters to fly over wide-spread search areas, has resulted in more one-day searches or multi-day searches where the searchers go home each night. The sub-committee has continued to update our call-out lists using mobile phone technology. Currently two primary police contacts can send a text message to our expanded search list and a follow-up message to the member's email address with details of the search. The secondary contacts get in touch with those who are not on mobile phone or email. This enables us to send a message and get a response quickly.

Incident Monitoring

The sub-committee monitors incidents on Club walks and if necessary makes recommendations to the Executive regarding action. Six incidents during the year (including two unrelated incidents on the same day!), compared with none last year. PLBs were activated for two of the incidents, resulting in helicopter evacuations. An ambulance was called to a third. Fortunately, no lasting injuries resulted from any of the incidents.

Safety in the Bush

The sub-committee has almost completed updating *Safety in the Bush*. The book is given to Prospectives when they join the Club. It is expected that the new edition will be available by the end of 2021.

Thanks

I thank those who led training days, ran training activities and maintained readiness for searches during the year.

David Young, Search Rescue & Training Convenor

Track Clearing

This year we renewed our authority with PWS. The tracks we can work on are:-

- Arthurs Peak Track
- High Yellow Bluff Track
- Cape Surville Track
- Slide Track with the Cape Connella side trip
- Kermandie Track
- Mt Wedge Track
- Clarkes Cliff Track
- Mt Mueller Track
- Mt Sprent Track
- Timbs Track
- Lichen Hill Track
- Balts Spur Track

During the year we had eleven working bees and most of the other tracks were walked and were in acceptable condition. Our major effort was to clear the middle and lower sections of the Kermandie Track to Kermandie Falls which were heavily impacted by fires. This took three working bees and about 40 person days. We also worked on a bypass track around a private house site on the Platform Peak Track.

We have six members who have chainsaw accreditation and five members who have the required First Aid Certificates.

Thank you to all who participated in these working bees.

Rupert Manners, Track Clearing Convenor

Tramp Sub-Committee

Members: Helen Daly (Convenor and Exec Rep), John Cannon, John Adams, Karen Marriott, Gill Fitzgerald, Gladys Seymour, David Seymour.

The Tasmanian Tramp No. 44 is well under-way and due for launch by September 2022. Committee members are busy reviewing articles and formatting. Without members' stories, poems, sketches and photos this journal would not be possible, so once again I thank the fantastic committee and all contributors. The deadline for all submissions is 31 January 2022.

Helen Daly, Tramp Convenor

Club Night Entertainment

2020

Jul	COVID-19 lockdown	
Aug	Vonda Kerrison	Tarkine Coast
Sept	Suellen Jones	Walking the Camino
Oct	Rupert Manners	"Mostest" Experiences
Nov	Dale Carney	The Vanishing Falls Trip
Dec	Vonda Kerrison	Walking, Cycling & Kayaking during isolation <i>(Audience Participation)</i>

2021

Feb	Geoff Morffew	My first 30 years of Bushwalking
Mar	Dawn Hendrick	A couple of European castles
Apr	Mark Nelson	Walks in North & South America & Eurasia
May	Charles Chadwick	Tasmanian Photography
June	Barry Plews	Kayaking in Tasmania

A big thank you to all guest speakers and others who helped in any way to make the monthly entertainment possible.

Vonda Kerrison, Entertainment Coordinator

Web Manager

The existing HWC website was implemented in 2015 for the club at no cost apart from an annual fee of one dollar per member, totaling about \$700 to \$800 each year. For the last several years the developer of this operational website has been unavailable to fix faults and shortcomings and make highly desirable improvements. Recently, thanks to proactive action by the Club Secretary, the developer has taken on some of this work. This is underway and some improvements will soon appear. However, in the long run this website is not maintainable and so it must be replaced by an entirely new website.

Over the last three years a large amount of work had been put into a trial new website based on the Canberra Bushwalking Club's website, mainly thanks to Jane Long and Geoff O'Hara. Unfortunately support from the developer for this has been a problem and work to complete it has stalled. The Club has an internet service provider, Digital Pacific, hosting this website, at an annual cost of about \$170. They also provide the essential email service which Club officers use which will be ongoing.

Now the Club is reviewing its web development options and to this end a document of requirements for our Club has been created with a considerable effort by two members. Thankfully, Ross Stephens, a relatively new member with web development expertise has offered to begin taking on the role of web manager. Ross with the help of Jill Finch has produced the website requirements document and this will be the basis for the envisaged new website.

Some potential local web development companies have been consulted for their assessment of these requirements and advice for a way forward.

Chris Rathbone, Web Manager

Facebook

The Hobart Walking Club created its Facebook Page on the 14 May 2010. The Page is private, but anyone can request to join. Membership is vetted.

The membership continues to grow and at the end of June 2021 Facebook membership was 2100. This is an increase of 115 new members since the end of June last year. The majority of new Facebook members are not Club members. Requests to join the Page indicate that quite a few people are looking for likeminded people to walk with and places to walk. I often send a message to those who indicate they want to walk with others encouraging them to join the Club with a link to the website.

There are more than twice the number of Facebook only members compared to Club members. It is not possible to ascertain how many look at the Page or how many active Facebook members there are, but it does highlight the fact that many join the Page but do not join the Club. In the Announcements section of the Page there is a post encouraging people to join the Club with a link to the Club website.

Most users are respectful and keep to the rules.

The Page keeps HWC members up to date on Club matters, particularly those that arise after the publication of the Circular and changes to activities due to, for instance, bad weather, floods and fires. Flash walks advertised are included in the Announcements section. The Page also keeps members connected.

The page shares information which may impact Club activities from Tasmania Parks and Wildlife Service, Tasmania Police, Tasmania Fire Service, Bureau of Meteorology, Sustainable Timber Tasmania and Local and State Government.

The posting of photos of recent Club activities is very popular and generates a lot of interest.

Wendy Fletcher, Facebook Administrator

Ski & Hut Sub-Committee

Members: Keith Simmonds (Secretary & Exec Rep), Andrew Davey, Liz Koolhof, Simon and Margaret Benham, Paul Vince, Christina Nebel, Joanna de Burgh, Sebastian Rainer, Nina Brown and Vicki Martin.

I would like to thank Andrew Davey for the considerable time, patience and willingness to pass on information that made my new role easier and welcome the new committee members, Nina Brown and Vicki Martin. It is with regret that Simon and Margaret Benham resigned. I thank them for all the hard work they undertook as committee members.

The year was very busy with many improvements that would not have been possible without a team effort from all committee members, especially Christina for obtaining the underfelt and carpets and arranging wood supplies, Andrew for his continual work in upgrading the hut, Liz for taking bookings, Sebastian for using his vehicle and everyone that assisted with the working bees and open days.

Unfortunately, the number of people allowed to stay overnight continues at 11 in compliance with COVID-19 restrictions. The previous COVID-19 Plan continues for hut use to meet the required WorkSafe requirements and for hut users to be trained in, and practice, COVID-19 precautions.

Open Days: Two very successful open days were held for members to familiarise themselves with the hut, and be inducted, entitling HWC members to book overnight stays for club activities or family/friends gatherings. A variety of walks were offered plus the opportunity for the necessary induction to cover legal and COVID-19 requirements.

The Open Day on 7&8 November included walks, inductions and an opportunity for new committee members to get to know fellow committee members, to see what works need to be undertaken and to arrange order of priority. The weekend was very successful

with 23 members attending, including 9 inductions and 4 day walks being conducted.

The second Open Day on 1&2 May was also very successful with an enthusiastic response, 12 attending including 9 Prospectives who were all inducted. The weather was ideal with SM walks to Tarn Shelf and Lake Fenton Track being undertaken.

Working Bees: Thanks to Andrew Davey and Nina Brown for organising the working bees held on 20&21 February and 20&21 March. Both were well attended. Thanks to the willing workers we achieved many tasks including painting the cupboards; continued painting of internal walls; oiled outside vertical boards; oiled stumps and flashings; removed rock from under hut; changed all mattress covers; aired all pillows and mattresses in sun; curtains changed; painted steps on track; repaired wire on track; chopping of wood; general cleaning, vacuuming and other small sundry activities.

Wood: Collection and stacking of wood occurred on 18&19 June by hut committee members. To save delivery costs two utes and a trailer collected the wood from Westerway and delivered to the hut. Thank you to those who helped, especially to Sebastian, Paul and Liz who used their own vehicles. As we have access to a number of suitable vehicles for delivering the wood, it is hoped that this practice will continue in the future saving costs to the Club. This approach will allow us to replenish the wood supply a couple of times a year instead of the current arrangement of one large yearly exercise.

Future:

- Carpet and underlay has been obtained with the purpose of replacing the existing floor rugs to both eating areas in the hut in either August or September.
- Contact has been made with Tasmanian Walking Company with the possibility of them providing mattresses for all beds.
- Working bees twice a year to continue with maintenance and replacement of curtains in Hewardia.

- Continue open days twice a year encouraging members to familiarise themselves with the hut and undertake inductions.

Hut Use Statistics

Other than working bees or rostered duties			
Financial Year	2021	2020	2019
Person nights booked ¹	349	267	299
Nights stayed	83	100	185

¹ all bookings, 1 group of 5 booked for 2 nights is 10 person nights

53 inductions conducted.

There has been a steady decrease in hut use for purely snow recreational purposes, while duties associated with tow operations remain the same.



Keith Simmonds, Ski & Hut Secretary

Social Sub-Committee

Members: Margaret Williams (Convenor and Exec Rep), Vicki Martin, Trish Colles, Vonda Kerrison, Gill Fitzgerald.

Our **91st Annual Dinner** was held 21 November 2020 at Twin Ovals Function Centre, Kingston. Two circumstances challenged the organising committee: COVID-19 and the retirement of our long-term caterer, Anne Milbourne. The subcommittee chose Coast to Coast Golden Roast who came closest to providing a similar experience to Tornies, at least on paper.

While the venue chosen is a bit out of Hobart it had several excellent features, the best being the acoustics. COVID-19 changed the way in which the meal was presented but did not alter the enjoyment. Platters of nibbles were circulated while we stood and chatted in small groups. The meal was nominally a buffet but desserts were plated up ready for collection!

We broke with tradition for the **Xmas BBQ**, choosing to hold it at a public venue rather than a private home. Site 9 at the Waterworks Reserve was chosen for its size, the good shelter offered and level access to toilets and carpark. This site has a wonderful view of kunyoni/Mt Wellington; something that comes at a price when Hobart is assailed by one of the occasional bouts of Antarctic weather that can be experienced in summer. About 10 hardy souls braved the conditions long enough to cook and eat. There was little incentive to remain and chat!

In contrast to the Xmas BBQ, perfect weather was experienced for **Orana 2021**. Nearly 50 cyclists and some walkers enjoyed the sunshine, calm conditions and congenial company. Tawny frogmouths were spotted sleeping in a couple of trees. Some of the group enjoyed a swim and others enjoyed lots of friendly chatting. This was our 39th gathering at the Orana Guide Camp. A booking has been made for **27 January 2022** - Save The Date - **It's our 40th!**

Margaret Williams, Social Convenor

Publication Sales

Sales figures as at 30 June 2021 are:

Publications	Shops	Individuals	Total
The Tasmanian Tramp No. 43	90	10	100
Safety in the Bush	6	0	6
Emergency Management	4	0	4

Total items remaining:

The Tasmanian Tramp							
No. 21	17	No. 23	25	No. 24	22	No. 25	29
No. 26	31	No. 27	3	No. 31	28	No. 32	25
No. 34	25	No. 35	26	No. 38	25	No. 39	67
No. 40	70	No. 41	92	No. 42	29	No. 43	80
The Tasmanian Tramp index (1-16)					16		
The Tasmanian Tramp index (17-23)					101		
Safety in the Bush				Booklets are now retained by SR&T Sub-Committee			
Emergency Management							

A list of current prices of all Club publications is shown on the HWC website, with all back copies of *The Tasmanian Tramp* selling to members for \$5.

HWC car stickers are free and available at Club nights.

There are a number of secondhand back copies of *The Tasmanian Tramp*. Please email sales@hobartwalkingclub.org.au if you would like a copy. The price will depend on the quality, as some are copies.

The Tasmanian Tramp editorial committee are now receiving articles for the next issue.

Dawn Hendrick, Publications Sales Officer

Equipment

Tents <i>suitable for use in all seasons</i>	1x 2person Macpac "Olympus" 1x 2 person Macpac "Minaret" 3x 1 person Macpac "Microlight"
Backpacks -	2 Aiking – 1x Universal, 1x Womens 2 Macpac – 1x Cascade, 1x un-named 2 Berghaus – 1x 30L, 1x 10L daypack.
Cooksets	2 Trangia spirit c/w fuel bottles 2 Jetboil gas - cylinders required
Sleeping mats	1 Thermarest self-inflating ¾ length 1 closed cell foam full length
Compass	1 Silva Starter
Overpants	1 pair – waterproof
Gaiters	1 pair – knee length
PLBs	Now available for hire from Search, Rescue & Training Sub-Committee
Other equipment available:	
Sound Projector - 1 Siemens 16mm c/w spare reels	
Slide Projector - 1 Leica P2000 35mm c/w spare magazines	
Slide/Strip Projector - 1 Waterworth 35mm	
Urn - 1 Linda Hostess 6 litre	
Cassette Recorder/Audio Player - 1 Audio Telex c/w extension speaker	
FM Wireless Microphone System – 1 Realistic	
Cassette tapes and vinyl records - "folk" and other dance music.	

There were 14 bookings of which 2 were cancelled. The remaining 12 bookings utilised 8x single tents, 2x double tents, 4x rucksacks, 2x sleeping mats, 2x jetboil cookers and 1x trangia cookset.

Brian Haas, Equipment Custodian

Delegates' Reports

Bushwalking Tasmania (BWT)

BWT consists of 11 walking associated entities, including a representative for non-club Tasmanian bushwalkers. BWT met formally four times during the year – three times via Zoom and once face to face for the AGM. At the AGM Andrew Davey was elected President, Rodney Walker Secretary and Kent Lillico Treasurer. In liaison with Bushwalking Australia, BWT continued arranging insurance for BWT members. HWC Delegates were Andrew Davey and Jill Finch.

Promoting protection for customary walking by Tasmanians in Tasmania continued. BWT continued to brief Overland Track area rangers on Tasmanian walkers' expectations and history for the greater area. In addition BWT have been working with PWS to better tailor the Overland Track Guidelines and allied actions with walker issues and expectations. Misleading signage in the Overland Track area is also being addressed.

BWT was saddened by the unexpected passing of David Atkins who along with Andrew Davey has spent some years defending the Tasmanian bushwalker with determination, e.g. defeating the 'Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area (TWWHA)' permit system, to gain overnight walking access to the Three Capes area, along with formal campsites and facilities and many other achievements. David had held the positions of President, Secretary and Vice President.

During the year BWT updated and condensed its constitution.

BWT made submissions regarding a Tyndalls commercial walk, new plans for some Overland Track huts, access to Cradle Valley, Maria Island NP, the closure of SW walking tracks, subsequent quotas for a few of the tracks and some minor other comment. In addition BWT was able to make direct comment to some possibilities to the head of PWS who rang the BWT President on several occasions to sound out issues. A key discussion point was, for the duration of COVID-19 constraints, the PWS want to have

walkers book hut use and at popular campsites with limited room. This kind of booking is free.

Meetings with Minister Jaensch occurred a couple of times to discuss a variety of issues where some of PWS were resisting meaningful consultation. The main topics covered (1) access to the greater Overland Track area and (2) TWWHA Tourism Master Plan that gave the main interests as those of business and some of the Tasmanian Aboriginal sector, failing other Tasmanians with cultural interests. The Minister was most supportive of BWT. There was also informal contact with some bushwalking facility developers who were interested in what concerns Tasmanian bushwalkers might have.

BWT submitted edits to the national bushwalking manual being compiled by Bushwalking Victoria.

BWT, per the President, also participated in a national Zoom meeting hosted by Bushwalking NSW about the ramifications of commercial intentions in their parks and reserves. Similar issues have become national, though many have had unsuccessful outcomes for walkers.

Andrew Davey, Delegate

Southern Tasmanian Ski Association (STSA)

The 2020 skiing season was, and so far 2021, has been a non-event for actual skiing. However, the ski field has been maintained and improved thanks to many volunteers in the hope of sometimes elusive snow. A few from our Club put in a lot of effort. For instance, there is improved heating in the STSA ticketing area and the ski patrol room. Ski patrollers have continued to keep up their qualifications, while interest in skiing, or helping with it, increased within our Club during 2021. Due to no snow, tow duty days for our Club were cancelled, however, several new people volunteered to help and some contributed to maintenance of STSA infrastructure and other key jobs.

Andrew Davey, Delegate

Clarence Tracks and Trails Committee

In 2002 The Clarence City Council formed a group to advise on development of a tracks and trails system within the Municipality. The original group was chaired by Club member Midj Jones and is now an official Committee of the Council, with Alderman Dean Ewington as chairperson.

The Club is fortunate to have a Council keen on the development and promotion of a tracks system. Considerable funds are provided each year for initial construction and subsequent maintenance.

Single Hill

Funds have been provided for development of a track system over the Hill. The old fence and gate at the foot of the Hill have been removed.

Cremorne - Mays Beach - Lauderdale

Work on the Council controlled area between Cremorne and Mays Beach is virtually complete. The middle section under Calverts Hill cannot be commenced until PWS completes its bureaucratic requirements – now over 6 years! The Lauderdale Point sector cannot be commenced until some land ownership issues are sorted out.

Goat Bluff - Mortimer Bay

Although a route has been determined, negotiations with the landowner have not been concluded.

Rosny Point

Work is progressing on the upgrade of the track for use by cyclists and walkers.

Lauderdale – Seven Mile Beach

This popular track is to be upgraded to allow side by side walking rather than single file.

Geilston Bay – Shag Bay

A new track with Art installations and a ramped lookout over the Aboriginal Cave is planned.

Tracks Generally

There are many minor tracks and linkages that have been completed. Heavy rain caused many washouts and significant damage to some tracks which require repair.

Barry Ford, Delegate



Hobart Walking Club Inc

ABN 49 779 622 718

Financial Statements

Declaration by the Executive Committee

The Executive Committee has determined that the Hobart Walking Club Inc (the Club) is not a reporting entity and that this special purpose financial report should be prepared in accordance with the accounting policies prescribed in Note 1 to the financial statements.

The Executive Committee declares that:

1. The financial statements and notes, present fairly the Club's financial position as at 30 June 2021 and its performance for the year then ended in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements; and
2. There are reasonable grounds to believe that the Club will be able to pay its debts, as and when they become due and payable.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Executive Committee and is signed by:



Jill Finch
President



Rupert Manners
Treasurer

Dated – 4 August 2021

Statement of Income and Expenditure

year ended 30 June 2021

	Notes	2021	2020
		\$	\$
Income			
Members Subscriptions		38532	33740
Donations		0	427
Sale of Publications		1630	142
Lake Dobson Hut Fees		3978	895
Interest		1090	1877
Social Functions		2205	3570
Equipment hire		325	383
Sales to Members		1098	630
		48858	41664
Less Expenditure			
Post, Printing, Stationery		2430	1513
Website		3859	2249
HWC Office Rent		2855	3373
Meeting Room Hire		1010	639
Bank Fees		72	75
Travel Expenses		144	317
General Meeting Expenses		353	226
Printing Tramp		8333	0
Posting Tramp		1260	0
Other Publication Expenses		697	708
Stock Reduction	2	931	295
Lake Dobson Hut	3	7561	6230
Social Functions		2722	4243
Volunteer Recognition		1518	1028
Printing Circular		4439	4574
Posting Circular		2568	2513
Insurance		3852	3162
Cost of Sales to Members		1585	0
Training		1793	581
Marketing & Promotion		145	
Affiliation Fees		1331	1435

Office & Camping Equipment		1204
Track Clearing	2089	214
Donation	1000	
	52547	34579
Surplus/Deficit for the year	-3689	7085
Accumulated surplus 30/6/20	48555	41470
Accumulated surplus 30/6/21	44866	48555

Balance Sheet

at 30 June 2021

	Notes	2021	2020
		\$	\$
Members Equity			
Accumulated surplus		44866	48555
Lake Dobson Memorial Hut Fund		60000	60000
		104866	108555
Represented by:			
Current Assets			
Commonwealth Bank chq a/c		26304	23333
Pay Pal		100	100
Tasmania Perpetual Trustee – Long Term Fund		100000	90000
Payments in Advance		0	8332
Publications Stock	2	221	1152
		126625	122917
Non-current Assets		0	0
Total Assets		126625	122917
Less Current Liabilities			
Subscriptions Prepaid		21759	14362
		21759	14362
Net Assets		104866	108555

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

1. Statement of accounting policies

(a) The financial statements are special purpose reports specifically prepared for distribution within the club. The Executive Committee has determined that the club is not a reporting entity as defined in the Statement of Accounting Concepts 1: Definition of a Reporting Entity and therefore application of all accounting standards is not mandatory.

(b) The stock of publications has been valued at the lower of historical cost and estimated realisable value.

	2021	2020
	\$	\$
2. Stock adjustment		
Stock at 30/6/2020	1152	1447
Safety in the Bush reduction	931	295
Stock at 30/6/2021	221	1152

3. Lake Dobson Memorial Hut Expenditure

Gas & Firewood	1617	231
General Hut Maintenance	839	443
Crown Land Licence Fee	330	792
Derwent Valley Council Fire Levy & Rates	442	442
Insurance for Hut	4333	4322
	7561	6230

Independent Audit Report

To the members of the Hobart Walking Club Inc

Scope

I have audited the special purpose financial report of the Hobart Walking Club Inc (the Club) comprising a Balance Sheet and Income Statement for the year ended 30 June 2021, together with explanatory notes. The Executive Committee of the Club is responsible for the preparation and presentation of the financial report and the information contained therein and has determined that the accounting policies used are consistent with the financial reporting requirements of the Club and are appropriate to meet the needs of the members. No opinion is expressed as to whether the accounting policies used are appropriate to the needs of the members.

I have conducted an independent audit of the financial report to express an opinion on it to the members of the Club. I disclaim any assumption of responsibility for any reliance on this report or on the financial report to which it relates to any person other than the members, or for any purposes than for which it was prepared.

The audit has been conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards to provide reasonable assurance whether the financial report is free of material misstatement. My procedures included examination, on a test basis, of evidence supporting the amounts and other disclosures in the financial report, and the evaluation of accounting policies and significant accounting estimates. These procedures have been undertaken to form an opinion whether, in all material respects, the financial report is presented fairly in accordance with the accounting policies adopted to present a view that is consistent with my understanding of the financial position of the Club and the results of its financial performance.

The audit opinion expressed in this report has been formed on the above basis.

Limitation of Scope

It was not possible for the Executive Committee to establish complete accounting control over cash received until its initial entry in the accounting records, nor was it practicable to perform audit procedures to satisfy myself that all income had been received and recorded. Verification therefore has been limited to the receipt of funds recorded in the Club's financial records.

Audit Opinion

In my opinion the special purpose financial report presents fairly the financial position of the Hobart Walking Club Inc as at 30 June 2021, and the results of its financial performance for the year then ended.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Geoff Morffew', written in a cursive style.

Geoff Morffew, FCPA
22 July 2021