

**83rd
ANNUAL REPORT**

1 JULY 2011 – 30 JUNE 2012



Hobart Walking Club Inc.

**GPO Box 753
Hobart
Tasmania 7001**

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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

(October 2011 to October 2012)

President:	Rupert Manners
Vice President:	Midj Jones
Vice President:	John Street
Secretary:	Dawn Hendrick
Assistant Secretary	Chris Rathbone
Treasurer:	Philip Le Grove
Walks Secretary:	Andrew Davey
Ski & Hut Secretary:	Fred Koolhof
Membership Officer:	Geoff O'Hara
Committee Members:	Gill Fitzgerald Chanchal Foxen Alison Street Gill Mosmann
Auditor:	Geoff Morffew, FCPA
Annual Report Editors:	Dawn Hendrick and Philip Le Grove

Club Delegates as at 30 June 2012

Bush Walking Tasmania

Andrew Davey, Midj Jones and Rupert Manners

Southern Tasmanian Ski Association (STSA)

Fred Koolhof, Andrew Davey and Liz Koolhof

Tasmanian Bicycle Council Inc

Linda and Tony Cook

Clarence Tracks and Trails Committee

Barry Ford and Bob Wyatt

Wellington Park Management Trust Committee

John Cannon

President's Report

I always like the end of a year; it is a time for reflection and review. How did we go? Did we achieve what we wanted to? How can we do better next year?

First of all I would like to thank the 98 people who contributed to the running of the Club, and this does not include all the people who lead walks. I always think that the way the jobs are spread around so that no one person works too hard is one of the major strengths of the Club.

The other major strength of the Club is its programme with its wonderful depth and variety. When the Club was formed in 1929 it had 70 members and ran walks once a fortnight. Today we have 768 members and have walks every day of the week and cycling 3 times a week. It is because we are a large club that we can run this number of walks and I am very keen to keep the numbers up so we that can continue with this level of activity.

It is very pleasing to report that the number of walks we organised increased by 63 to 588 and participation increased by about 10% to over 5500 in 2012, that is on top of an increase of 25% last year.

In 2010 we made a number of changes which included replacing the Overnight Training Trip with an Essential Skills Day, setting up a Facebook page to allow for last minute walks and producing an advertising brochure. This year we undertook to continue the reform process and at the beginning of the year we set out an agenda of the things we would like to look at to see if they could be improved. The agenda items were the Circular, the website, walks, political representation, media and promotion, interclub activities, the Lake Dobson hut, meetings and executive duties.

A lot of these discussions are ongoing and will always be so but for the first time for quite a while we did increase our membership. Of course one year is not enough to discern that the downward trend has changed but maybe it has.

This year we have revised the Circular; are in the process of revamping the website; and have initiated discussions with Parks including submissions on the Three Capes Track and the management of Wellington Park. We have also worked with Parks on track maintenance; we have started a kayaking group and "Walk after Work" in the summer months. We have promoted ourselves in the Mercury, on

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ABC radio and have attended the Treadlightly Festival. We have initiated a process for inter club walks both with the Tasmanian University Bushwalking Club and other clubs.

Like last year, General Meetings have concentrated on being more about entertainment with the Executive giving a brief report about the Executive meetings and then quickly moving on to the entertainment. We have also trialled different days. As a result we have had a quorum at nearly every meeting.

During the year David Seymour scanned Tramps 1-10 and put them onto CDs. A wonderful job which has meant people can complete their collections. I put mine onto my Kindle for late night reading in my tent. Thank you David.

Finally a great thank you to the members of the Executive. It has been a pleasure working with everyone and for those who are thinking about nominating for the executive I can assure you it is very interesting and productive.

Of course the Club is about walking and cycling and I personally had a fabulous year, my best since moving to Tasmania 6 years ago. I think I did some 17 extended trips and spent about 60 days in a cabin or a tent and what is more, most of my walks were reasonably dry.

Happy walking.

Rupert Manners, President

SOCIAL SUB-COMMITTEE

Members: Trish Colles, Linda Cook, Anne Elston, Gill Fitzgerald, Gill Mosmann and Ruth Raward.

Our 82nd Annual Dinner was held on Saturday 12th November 2011 at Lindisfarne Rowing Club, with Tornies' Catering. The venue and the catering proved a good combination and a very pleasant evening was enjoyed by members and guests.

We held a mid-year lunch on Saturday 30th July 2011 at the Buckingham Bowls Club. 70 members and guests attended, indicating that there is a demand for a daytime function at this time of year.

Presentation of a new HWC award, for Long & Significant Service, was given to several members by President Midj Jones. The Bowls Club was a good venue with pleasant surroundings and level access and Tornies' provided their usual high standard of catering.

The annual Christmas BBQ was held at Margret Mosmann's Blackmans Bay home on Monday 5th December 2011. The weather was good and the hot plates sizzled as walkers and cyclists gathered in Margret's garden for a pleasant sociable evening. Thank you Margret.

The Australia Day Picnic on 26th January 2012 was very popular with walking groups, cyclists and car arrivals all meeting up for lunch at the Orana Guide Camp. Some swam, but most people simply enjoyed socialising and cooking on the BBQ. Thank you to Phyl Wyatt for arranging the event.

Thank you to all Club members who have helped with Social events during the year.

Gill Fitzgerald, Social Convenor.

CIRCULAR SUB-COMMITTEE

Co-ordinator: Jim Anderson

Editors: Ken Chilcott, Doug McLean, Henk Brolsma, Stephanie Schulz

Walks Data Entry: Vicki Martin

Mailing Officer: Lawrence Hemsley

Emailing Officer: Geoff O'Hara

Circular production hosts & hostesses; mailing helpers; cover artists & photographers.

Circular production numbers as at 30 June 2012 are:-

Circular style	Members	Others	Total	%
Print	358	8	366	54.4
Email	304	3	307	45.6
Total	662	11	673	100.0

Members who pay to receive a printed circular are now offered an email version as well. In this table, those members subscribing for print and email are counted in the Print category while members who subscribe for email alone are counted in the Email category.

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

In 2012 we have had an average of 10 mailing helpers per month at production homes, some of whom are regulars travelling to all suburbs. Perhaps others could assist when production is near their home. Preparation is a pleasant social event which takes a couple of hours at most.

Jim Anderson, Circular Co-ordinator

PUBLICATION SALES

December 2011 saw the launch and distribution of the long awaited 'Bushwalking - Emergency Management' booklet. Distribution to mid-week walkers via the coordinators was easily accomplished but distribution to weekend walkers has been more difficult and is an on-going activity. Interstate sales of the booklet are now occurring and perhaps one day Tasmanian bush walking clubs may show similar interest.

Tramp 38 sales continue to be very slow and despite a special effort to attract advertisers for Tramp 39 the response was very disappointing. The sale by tender of old copies of The Tasmanian Tramp was very successful and indicated that there is quite a strong market for early editions, particularly those numbered below 20 (1972).

Malcolm Sherlock

WALKS SUB-COMMITTEE

Walks Data:	Vicki Martin (primarily) and Chris Rathbone
Walks Coordinators:	
Overnight Walks:	Paul Geeves
Tuesday Walks:	Heather Hurd
Wednesday Walks:	Jenny Ford, Bernd Janisch
Thursday Walks:	Malcolm Sherlock, Alan Wilson,
Weekend SE / SM:	Jeanette Brown
Weekend MM+ :	Chris Rathbone
Midweek SE / SM:	Felicity Walch
SCNQ (midweek):	Bob & Phil Wyatt
Toddlers Toddles:	Rupert Manners

Thank You

Vicki Martin and Chris Rathbone have done a sterling effort with walks data, our largest job. The job of Walk Data Entry is huge and time consuming; it requires considerable skill, attention to detail and the meeting of important deadlines. It is much more than “data entry”.

Vicki has been and is a most diligent stalwart in this. Chris Rathbone is back up to Vicki so she can get some time off. He has also done a great job and helped in other ways.

Thanks are also due to the several active persons who coordinate the various types of walks and other activities (above), also Alan Wilson, Rupert Manners, Gill Mosmann and their helpers. Many put in hours of work per month to establish our trips calendar. More recently thanks are due to Robyn Everist who took on Walk after Work in the above period for trips later in 2012. A great thank you is due to all who have offered and conducted walks and other activities.

Without the help of the above there would only be a very much diminished program of trips; we are much indebted for their help. There are several jobs I simply could not do, so don't thank me, thank those I list.

Trip Activity

The year has been quite active: 670 trips were attended by 6372 participants (5587 beings walks); there may have been slightly more Club activity where records were not received. Toddlers Toddles have proven successful and ran regularly. Some walks with other Clubs have occurred: other Bushwalking Tasmania member Clubs (and a few VTMC guests) and the Tasmania University Bushwalking Club. The former are generally to remoter areas, the latter to easier near-Hobart areas.

The average number of walkers on day trips is about ten, whilst for overnight trips it is about six. As usual the most popular type of trip is day walks of a moderate difficulty followed by short easy day trips then cycling (see that report for further detail). At times some walks have 'large' numbers of attendees (≥ 20) which led to a thought that perhaps more than one walk could be run at the same time. However the camaraderie / associated social values would usually preclude running alternatives, i.e. participants are generally happy with the numbers sharing popular trips.

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Effort has been made to develop some new walking categories (if wanted). One which will be run once daylight savings begins is "Walk after Work". A walk category Coordinator and several walk coordinators have been found.

Some kayaking events have been conducted, including training, thanks to the effort of Pieter Buining and Kay Mallinson.

155 people conducted trips. Thanks to all those who coordinated walks and other events. Below is a table of those who ensured we have a walking club which walks - hearty congratulations! The names are ordered according the number of days coordinated as one trip of nine days in the middle of "where?" is a significant commitment.

OUR TOP COORDINATORS		
Coordinator	Trips Conducted	Days Coordinated
Paul Geeves	21	65
Rupert Manners	27	62
David Leaman	45	45
Alan Wilson	22	22
Brian Haas	22	22
Bruce Wilkinson	22	22
Mark Nelson	20	20
Chris Rathbone	15	15
Dawn Albert	4	14
Pam Powell	7	13
Andrew Davey	2	13
Roger Hurd	12	12
Judy Bond	11	11
Jim Baptist	10	10
Andreas Hack	3	10
Warwick Risby	8	10
Phyl Wyatt	10	10
Alison Street	2	10

Note that the above is based on data returned; a few more trips may have occurred than listed.

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Trips Organised

Month	SCNQ	NQ	SE	SM	SR	ME	MM	MR	LE	LM	LR	FB	CYC	Total
July	5	4	7	2	0	0	19	3	0	1	0	3	0	44
August	4	5	7	1	0	0	21	3	0	2	0	2	0	45
Sept	5	4	8	6	0	1	20	2	0	3	0	3	0	52
October	4	5	9	1	0	0	18	6	0	5	1	0	0	49
Nov	4	7	8	1	1	2	15	4	0	6	0	0	0	48
Dec	5	5	7	4	0	1	13	6	0	2	2	4	0	49
January	4	5	8	6	0	1	11	5	0	4	2	4	14	64
February	4	7	8	2	2	1	17	6	0	4	4	3	12	70
March	5	9	8	2	1	0	13	6	0	3	2	2	14	65
April	4	9	9	0	0	1	16	5	0	1	0	2	16	63
May	4	4	8	3	2	1	19	2	0	2	0	1	14	60
June	5	8	8	3	0	0	17	4	0	1	0	3	12	61
Total	53	72	95	31	6	8	199	52	0	34	11	27	82	670
Percent	7.91	11	14	4.6	0.9	1.2	30	7.8	0	5.1	1.6	4	12.2	100

Specific Category Participation

Month	SCNQ	NQ	SE	SM	SR	ME	MM	MR	LE	LM	LR	FB	CYC
July	36	33	57	25	0	0	229	14	0	4	0	9	0
August	23	27	66	4	0	0	208	4	0	19	0	3	0
Sept	32	83	99	24	0	12	260	0	0	27	0	11	0
October	28	41	86	0	0	0	218	27	0	44	0	0	0
Nov	36	44	82	9	12	31	199	19	0	36	0	0	0
Dec	39	45	70	62	0	0	167	42	0	15	9	19	0
January	41	65	86	38	0	11	158	35	0	33	15	16	123
February	38	68	94	43	18	17	175	28	0	23	42	8	123
March	48	87	51	24	3	0	129	34	0	41	17	4	162
April	38	79	106	0	0	19	195	25	0	14	0	2	183
May	25	32	58	54	18	12	247	11	0	18	0	2	144
June	39	19	93	48	0	0	223	23	0	5	0	3	65
Total	423	623	948	331	51	102	2408	262	0	279	83	77	785
Percent	6.64	9.8	14.9	5.19	0.8	1.6	37.8	4.11	0	4.38	1.3	1.21	12.3

General Category Participation

Month	Midweek		Weekend		Extended		Totals	
	Walks	Walkers	Walks	Walkers	Walks	Walkers	Walks	Walkers
July	25	273	19	134	0	0	44	407
August	27	274	17	71	1	9	45	354
Sept	31	409	17	112	4	27	52	548
October	25	306	20	105	4	33	49	444
Nov	29	338	17	115	2	15	48	468
Dec	29	355	12	73	8	40	49	468
January	45	480	14	103	5	38	64	621
February	43	532	15	68	12	77	70	677
March	43	481	16	84	6	35	65	600
April	44	543	14	81	5	22	63	646
May	44	494	15	120	1	7	60	621
June	40	376	17	126	4	16	61	518
Total	425	4861	193	1192	52	319	670	6372

Trends: walks led and walking participation has increased by more than 10% since last year – well done! LR participation has dramatically increased (16 to 83 participants) for a very similar number of trips, although a small percentage of total trips. NQ has increased substantially in trips (38 to 72) and participation (338 to 623). All medium classes have increased participation by 10 % or a little more except MR. Facebook walks have doubled from last year. It is expected that Facebook (flashwalks) may increase substantially in future years as more people use on-line media and can better match good weather with unpredictable free time.

The Future

It is up to you. All positions on the Walks committee need backup. The Walks Data position should have someone learning what to do to help reduce the work load when required. To have trips needs someone to offer them or accept running one or more when asked. We are in need of help in a few areas in case of illness, accident, a need for a break, for variety, and so on.

A few walks which we thought would have suited many more than attended, seemed to occur because some people attribute a different difficulty to a particular coordinator's trip(s) than what was advertised. For example this relates to newer coordinators who may on rare occasions do harder walks. This can be a negative to newer, less well known or younger coordinators. As age and other circumstances catch up with us all, let us be mindful to encourage newcomers with appropriate participation from time to time so as to keep the Club pleasantly meaningful for all.

I urge anyone contemplating offering or wanting a particular trip to contact the Walks Secretary or relevant Coordinator - don't delay. If you feel a bit unsure just say so and a suitable helper or mentor can be arranged. We all started with trepidation, but in our Club we are all there to help.

I wish you all happy, safe and interesting walking.

Andrew Davey, Walks Secretary

EDITORIAL SUB-COMMITTEE

The latest Edition of The Tasmanian Tramp is at the printers and will be released at the launch on the 24th September 2012. Members who have requested The Tasmanian Tramp will receive it along with the Annual Report. Once again I have had a brilliant committee who have worked hard to help me to proof read, research items and edit articles. The Tasmanian Tramp would not be possible if it was not for people willing to contribute time and effort into writing articles and poems and sending in drawings and photos. Once again I believe this issue, number 39, to be an outstanding Journal that I feel sure members and the general public will enjoy reading.

The committee will now be in recess for about a year. The committee consists of Helen Daly; Editorial Convener, John Street; Executive rep. and committee members; John Adams, John Cannon, Karen Marriott and Catharine Errey.

Helen Daly, Editorial Convener

MEMBERSHIP

Membership increased slightly during the past year with member numbers increasing by seven for the year. 62 members did not renew their membership, 9 members rejoined after a couple of year's absence, while 47 Prospective Members applied to join the Club. 32 Prospective Members qualified for full membership during the year.

Bob Brown remains our only Honorary Associate Member, and Stephanie Schulz and Brian Haas joined the very distinguished Honorary Life Member list.

Below are the membership statistics for 2012 divided by membership category.

Membership Statistics at 30 June 2012

Category	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008
Hon. Life Members	13	11	10	11	11
Hon. Associate Members	1	1	1	1	1
Associate Members	1	1	2	2	2
Members	695	703	692	767	764
Prospective Members	58	45	61	46	68
Total	768	761	766	827	847

Age Group Statistics at 30 June 2012

Age	2012			2011		
	M	F	Total	M	F	Total
16-18	1	0	1	0	0	0
19-24	4	2	6	4	3	7
25-29	3	3	6	3	1	4
30-39	8	19	27	8	13	21
40-49	23	48	71	29	46	75
50-59	81	111	189	90	113	203
60-69	152	158	310	147	156	303
70-79	66	46	112	62	48	110
80-89	15	19	34	16	16	32
90+	1	2	3	2	1	3
Unk	4	2	7	2	1	3
Total	358	410	768	363	398	761

35 Year Membership Certificates

Six members attained 35 years in the Club and were awarded Certificates. They were:

Name	Date Joined
Ken Carpenter	3/06/1977
David Hardy	2/02/1977
Lynn Oliver	5/11/1977
David Pears	1/01/1977
Nola Smith	5/08/1977
Ann Taylor	24/04/1977

50 Year Membership Certificates

One member attained the significant milestone of 50 years membership in the Club and was awarded a Gold Certificate. The member was:

Sally Riley 7/12/1962

Life Members

The following members are HWC Life Members:

John Cannon	Allan Christian
Don Closs	Andrew Davey
Bruce Davis	Brian Haas
Mary Hewitt (Passed away June 2012)	Val Linsell
Jessie Luckman	Sheila Reynolds
Stephanie Schulz	Bob Wyatt
John Wythes	

Geoff O'Hara, Membership Officer

SEARCH, RESCUE & TRAINING SUB-COMMITTEE

Members: Pam Powell (Convenor), Malcolm Sherlock, Greg Downer, Glen Kowalik, Stuart Whitney, Barry Mulhearn (left in March), Ian Draper (joined in April), Sue Denman, Chris Rathbone (Exec Rep)

The committee is responsible for the organisation and conduct of introductory training trips, 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.

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The committee continued to run the training day of “Essential Skills” required by new members to participate in club trips. This program covers all aspects relating to day walking trips.

During the 2011/2012 year we scheduled six Essential Skills 1-day training events with 31 prospective members being trained. This compares with 45 for the previous year. One training day was cancelled due to low registrations.

We organised the annual training weekend at the Steppes Reserve in May. This year 30 members attended. The morning was devoted to navigation training (maps and compass refresher, a navigation rogaine and discussion of GPS and PLBs). After lunch we discussed first aid, concentrating on heat stroke, fluids and supplements; contaminated water, gastro and bush hygiene. Later in the afternoon we reviewed various scenarios and discussed what would be the best response in each situation. The day concluded with a BBQ and discussions around the fire. On Sunday we had a day walk to Split Rock.

In November we ran a GPS training day at Risdon Dam. The session was aimed at people not currently using a GPS or those who were new users wanting guidance in GPS use, how to set up a GPS to match map coordinates (datum), navigation to way-points or projected way-points and back tracking.

HWC members who lead at least 6 trips in any year are eligible to claim up to 50% of the cost of first aid training up to a maximum of \$100. We hope that this encourages more walks leaders to enhance their skills in dealing with first aid incidents.

The committee maintains a search and rescue call-out list from which we are able to mobilise searches when alerted by the Police. With the pattern of searches in which the Club is involved shifting more to 1-day searches or multi-day searches where the searchers go home each night, the committee have responded by revamping our call-out lists adding many members who are available for day searches, but not for multi-day or remote area searching. We have also adopted new technology with the use of mobile phones and email to contact members about a search. We now have 3 primary police contacts who will send a text message to the mobile phone and an email 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 get the message out quickly and get responses back quickly.

Many people were involved in the search for Paul Wilson in the Mt Field area in April. The search went on for 3 days with intensive use of people (around 25 over the 3 days from HWC), members of other walking clubs, SES, police and parks personnel. The Police helicopter was also used extensively. Unfortunately, Mr. Wilson was never found.

During August, we were also contacted when a HWC group got back to the car park to find that one of the walkers who they had thought was walking out ahead of them was not there. They contacted the SRT callout number who contacted the Police Search and Rescue as it was now getting dark. HWC searchers, police and SES assembled at the track head (Myrtle Gully). The SES went in on the fire trails on quad bikes and found the lost person on another track leading to the SW trail and brought him out at around 10pm.

At other times, the club has been contacted to get people organised to search for a missing person, but the search has been called off prior to the party going into the field. Some of the callout members participated in the annual search and rescue exercise (SAREX) organized by the Police Search and Rescue Squad.

The writing and layout of the new publication '*Bushwalking - Emergency Management*' was completed and 2000 copies the pocket sized text published. This handy booklet is meant to be carried in your pack while on walks and used as a reference during any emergency arising. It was printed on a waterproof membrane with clearly laid out contents pages and an index. Distribution of copies to most active club members is almost complete.

We once again want to record our thanks to those who led training trips, ran training activities and participated in searches during the year.

Pam Powell, SRT Convenor

ENVIRONMENT SUB-COMMITTEE

The 2011-12 year has been a reasonably quiet one for the Environment Committee. Formal Club submissions prepared by the Committee in response to various planning documents were:-

- Submission on the Draft Development Proposal and Environmental Management Plan for the Three Capes Track
- Submission on the Wellington Park Management Plan Review
- Submission on the Draft Greater Hobart Mountain Bike Master Plan

In addition input was also provided from the Environment Committee towards Club Comments on biosecurity measures to prevent the carrying pests and diseases into World Heritage Areas and an invitation to participate in Stakeholder consultation around Forestry Stewardship Certification surveillance audit for SFM Forest Products.

I would like to thank the Committee members for their assistance and valuable contributions on Club submissions.

Paul Geeves, Convenor

SKI & HUT SUB-COMMITTEE

Members: Fred Koolhof, Joanna de Burgh, Allen Holding, Liz Koolhof, Frank Lawrence, Val Linsell, Ian Picken, Franz Rader, Robyn Rader, Roger Reed, Andrew Davey.

The weather for the working bees at the Lake Dobson Memorial Hut was not so kind this summer, especially for the weekend the firewood was to be delivered. 4 tons were delivered on the Sunday, as there was too much snow on the road for the truck to deliver on Saturday. Broken glass in 3 windows was replaced, walls and ceilings were washed down and the front door was re-aligned. A light-weight wheelbarrow was purchased to help bring down anything heavy from the road.

The winter of 2011 came with a huge dump of snow on an early July weekend to start the ski season. The hut was buried in snow: it took the Saturday morning to dig out steps to the front door. There was so much snow on the ski slopes that both the top and bottom ropes of Mawson

Tow were deeply buried in the snow that almost reached the top of several of the tow poles! After a full day of digging out the top rope, the bottom rope was cut and left until the snow melted while a new section was spliced into the rope, with the tow finally opening on Sunday afternoon. Uni Tow was dug out on the Saturday morning and running in the afternoon. The ski season lasted 6 weekends, ending not for lack of snow, but because it was too soft to run the tows.

The Club played an important role in the 2011 winter Search and Rescue Training Exercise run by Tasmania Police. The Hut provided the opportunity for social interaction between Police, SES, several searchers and paramedics on the Friday evening, with the latter groups being accommodated overnight in readiness for the early Saturday morning start to a cold, wet and windy weekend exercise. Sunday morning saw cold, wet searchers retreating to our Hut, the only warm place near Search Base, to warm up, re-hydrate and generally dry out. I wish to thank the committee and all the members who assisted in keeping the Hut in good order for all of us to enjoy.

Fred Koolhof, Ski and Hut Secretary

WEB MANAGER

Big plans are afoot to set up a new HWC web site. The two drivers for this are:

1. The policy of promoting the club to encourage people to join - we want to make a site with maximum appeal.
2. The perceived advantage of having some on-line management of club business. This means there will be a range of "self serve" functions available to members who choose to use the web and register with their own personal password. The functions will include membership renewal and walks programming. Although change always brings extra work, it is expected that in the long term the current burden on a few key volunteers will be greatly alleviated, partly because jobs will be more easily shared around. The new web site should be available this year.

Many thanks go to the developer of the Brisbane Bushwalking Club who has offered his services to set up a similar site for the HWC at an extremely reasonable cost. Total cost this year, including a separate web graphic design expert, is expected to be about \$1500. Ongoing annual cost is expected to be about \$1000.

There has been little change to the existing HWC web site this year. There was a minor change to the forward walks listing which reflects the

changes to the circular; there is a two month calendar of all events now shown, without coordinator names.

A new subcommittee to manage the development of the new web site consists of the following members from the executive committee and I extend my thanks to them for their efforts in pushing forward with this project:

Philip Le Grove
Midj Jones
Geoff O'Hara
Rupert Manners
Alison Street

Chris Rathbone, Web Manager

FACEBOOK

At 9.07pm 14 May 2010, the Hobart Walking Club (the Club) commenced an initiative to attract new members, especially younger people – the Club joined Facebook!

Establishing the Club Facebook group and a memorandum of understanding affiliating the Club and the Tasmanian University Bushwalking Club (TUBC) will continue to bring generations together to learn from each other and enjoy bush walking and other outdoor activities where age is not a barrier. The Club aims to share the knowledge and experiences of its members and use this as a unique 'selling point' for young peak baggers. The Club posts to the TUBC Facebook a summary of the month's events and a list of week-end walks to encourage participation.

The first 'flashwalk' was posted by Geoff O'Hara on 1 June 2010 and the Club was on its way to enticing young and not so young walkers to pack up, go bush and conquer that 'peak'. In the time between July 2011 and June 2012 there have been 40 'flashwalks' posted. There are currently 190 members enjoying the Club's Facebook.

Facebook has been used to advertise and promote walks and to notify members of last minute changes to advertised walks. The Club posts a monthly summary of Club events including walks, meetings, and cycling events. Each Thursday a list of the weekend walks is posted to

Facebook. The Club uses it to promote the anniversary dinner, general meetings and the Annual General Meeting.

Facebook is used to display wonderful photos of Club trips to inspire others in both walking and in photography. It is useful for sharing information on track clearing, track routes and closures, fire and weather warnings and road closures. There are also links to newspaper articles and bushwalking related government websites. Club members use Facebook to discuss walking gear and to buy and sell equipment. In the past 12 months members organised trips to Bibbulmun, Patagonia, Mt Everest base camp and to Annapurna sanctuary through Facebook.

Gill Mosmann, Facebook Administrator

GENERAL MEETINGS ENTERTAINMENT

2011

July: Chris Rathbone. *Mountain climbing in New Zealand.*
August: Denis & Lindy Mackie Winter *Trans Mongolian Railway.*
September: Dawn Hendrick & Glenn Iddon *Walking the Cinque Terra.*
October: Andrew Davey *Canadian Rockies.*
November: Simon McCulloch *The new Weather reporting system.*
December: John & Alison Street *Walking in Western U.S.A.*

2012.

February: Genevieve Gates & David Ratkowski. *Fungi.*
March: Warwick Risby *Reunion & Madagascar.*
April: Malcolm Sherlock *Mt. Anne Circuit.*
May: Midj Jones *Weather basics – a beginners guide.*
June: Andrew Davey *The Eldons.*

General Meetings were held on the usual Friday evening for 9 months and Wednesday evening on two occasions. This has been to accommodate those who find Friday inconvenient. Overall there has been an increase in attendance at General Meetings, possibly due to reducing the amount of time spent on business and better promotion of the speaker and topic on the front cover of the Circular each month. Thank you to everyone who has provided us with a varied and interesting programme. In September the Club purchased its own Litepro projector so that we are no longer dependant upon the generosity of U3A who have been lending us theirs. Grateful thanks to

the technical experts for the smooth operation of the equipment used for our wonderful presentations.

Gill Fitzgerald, Entertainment Co-ordinator

EQUIPMENT

The Club has items of equipment for overnight walks/camping available for hire by members for club and private trips/activities within Tasmania, club trips having priority.

The equipment includes:

4 tents: 2 x 2 person and 2 x 1 person.

4 rucksacks of varying capacity

2 Trangia cooksets with fuel bottles

2 PLBs

2 sleeping mats:- 1 self inflating, 1 closed cell foam.

1 Silva "Starter" Compass.

Also available is a P.A./ Cassette Recorder with extension speaker' Tapes, vinyl records and a 6 litre urn from the defunct dance group. A 16mm sound projector/reels, a Waterworth 35mm slide projector.

With the demise of the Prospective Member overnight Training trip, usage of equipment has dropped markedly.

Tents 1 x club trip, 3 x private trips

R/sacks 1 x c/trip, 3 x p/trips

Cooksets 1 x c/trip, 1 x p/trip

S/mats 1 x c/trip, 1 x p/trip

PLBs 1 x c/trip, 2 x p/trip

** (this detail only for 1 PLB, contact Rupert Manners for the unit he uses.)

Brian Haas, Equipment Custodian

LIBRARY

It was another very quiet year for the Library Custodian. No requests were received.

Keith Brown, Custodian

CYCLING GROUPS

Tuesday Bike Rides

Another enjoyable 12 months have passed for the Tuesday Group. We have had new rides added to our list, taking in new terrain and providing new experiences for those taking part.

In the early part of the year we launched our new Hobart Walking Club bike group tops. To date, about 35 have been purchased by HWC riders. We have had a lot of positive feedback from other cyclists and the general public, one good comment being that a rider wearing one of the tops was very visible on the road. The tops also give us a sense of team and belonging. It could be a positive step if these were to be taken up across the club's other riding groups.

The Tuesday group has continued to visit points of interest on our weekly rides. One particularly popular tour was the One Metre Tall Brewery at Hayes, a micro brewery where the partners grow their own barley and some of their hop requirements. After the tour we were treated to a tasting of the various products of the brewery. The riders found this experience most enjoyable.

We very much appreciate Forestry Tasmania's continuing help to make our rides through areas under their management safer by liaising with contractors and other forest operators. The forester I work with has offered to give me details of two more rides he believes would be of interest to our riders.

In the past twelve months we have had more suburban rides which have attracted an increased number of riders. With the Dave Tucker's street knowledge from his postal work, together with mine from the insurance industry, riders have visited places in suburban Hobart they had never previously been. It has been popular to start and finish these rides at a café, and we will continue to schedule them over the next twelve months.

In the past, all Tuesday Richmond rides have started from the old gaol carpark. At the request of the new lessee of the gaol, we now start from the Franklin Street car park, as does the Thursday Group.

To mark the start of daylight saving we ran a short ride from Long Point to Blackmans Bay. We were a bit light on for riders but will give it another try this year.

A new slant was put on our Opossum Bay ride. Instead of the usual loop ride, nine cyclists were taken by Water Taxi to the Opossum Bay jetty for the return ride to Hobart through the eastern suburbs, over the

Bowen Bridge and back to the city along the bike track. This ride was a great success and is sure to be repeated.

Last Christmas the group continued its seasonal tradition with a festive barbecue after the ride at the Salmon Ponds at Plenty. We rode to the Possum Shed Café at Westerway and, after coffee and cake, returned to the Salmon Ponds. The location and facilities at the Salmon Ponds topped off a most enjoyable ride.

The Styx Valley of the Giants ride was back on the agenda after a gap of three years. Hobart weather that morning was cool with some light rain and, as a consequence, only two riders did the course in cool weather with just a light shower. There is a mind set with some riders that 'if it's raining in my suburb, it's raining everywhere else'.

Cyclists have been hosting and leading rides from their homes, which has proved to be popular. It is most enjoyable to relax in a private residence with some homemade goodies and a drink after an outing.

The ride to the Pinnacle was staged on the 6th of March this year after a lapse of more than 5 years. This day also happened to be the day two of the group celebrated their 68th birthdays. The weather was cold and foul but the group completed the ride, despite the conditions. At the completion of the ride, a warm house, dry clothes, hot drinks, cakes and champagne made things much better.

Over the last 48 weeks to the end of May we have had 288 riders, with an average field of 6 per ride, a most pleasing result as, over the preceding couple of years, our numbers had been a bit light. With this sized group the safety factors for the cyclists is better and there tends to be more fellowship. The tone has been raised somewhat and the testosterone level reduced with some regular lady riders.

During the winter months our numbers become fewer due to riders heading for overseas bike tours, travelling abroad or heading to the mainland with land yachts for extended periods.

Bruce Wilkinson, Tuesday Rides Coordinator

Thursday Moderate Bike Rides.

There were 51 of 52 programmed rides that were held, 1 cancelled due to wet weather. There were 883 person rides covering 1920kms, averaging 17 riders and 37.6kms/trip.

A maximum of 30 riders participated on the Australia Day event from Sorell to the Orana Guide Camp and there, met with other club members.

The usual cycle camp based at Hawley/Port Sorell was held from 22nd – 29th October. There were a total of 35 participants including 2 visitors. 4 out of the 6 rides programmed were held the other 2 cancelled by rain. The 4 rides totalled a distance of 193kms. There were 83 person rides with an average of 20 riders and 48.3kms/trip.

Brian Haas, Thursday (Moderate) Rides Co-ordinator

Thursday Easy Bike Rides

This small group of cyclists have had an enjoyable year of cycling. Out of 52 rides only 5 were cancelled due to heavy rain. Our numbers have ranged between 4 - 11 cyclists per ride with between 1 - 5 people per trip joining us for lunch and or afternoon tea.

We cater for many abilities by offering variable distances within the proposed route. Most of our rides are approx. 30K with variable terrain.

The "Short" description of this group is possibly a misnomer and therefore a reason for our low numbers as prospective cyclists may think we are only cycling 8 - 12K which is the "Short Walk" category.

All members of this group are very willing co-ordinators, even some of the non-cyclists taking a turn at co-ordinating, and Phil Wyatt regularly uses her car to transport riders packs and chairs for comfortable meal breaks.

Carole Nodder, Thursday (Easy) Rides Coordinator

CYCLING TOURS

		People	Days	Km
October 2011	Tour de Tamar	9	3	180
February 2012	Penny Farthing Tour	7	8	400
March 2012	North, North West Tour	13	7	380
Easter 2012	Caveside walks & cycling	9	4	

Linda & Tony Cook, Coordinators

DELEGATES' REPORTS

BUSHWALKING TASMANIA

Bushwalking Australia (BWA) met in Tasmania near Port Arthur for their annual Face to Face AGM weekend in November. A few Clubs arranged walks that weekend and met the BWA Committee at a Saturday evening barbeque.

It seems that most Clubs in Australia have an aging membership. Most young persons tend to see formal meetings as a negative; rules and some mores are usually seen similarly. BWA has been trying to develop and produce national recommendations for risk management, walk descriptions and minimum impact bushwalking. However elements of most would be redundant, inappropriate or unacceptable to Club members (usually because all our Tasmanian Clubs have implemented their own effective longstanding mechanisms which are well accepted. Also we avoid totally responsible leaders.)

BWT made several submissions representing Tasmanian walkers: Three Capes Track Draft Management Plan, Mount Wellington, the IGA (forestry agreement), retention of camping in the Three Capes Track area and track work. Considerable concern was expressed regarding the lack of maintenance of significant accesses on Forestry land, like the Meander Falls area and the Fisher River - Clumner Bluff area where access has been lost.

Several letters seeking to improve the way walkers are handled were sent to various organisations: Lake St Claire ferry operator, Parks & Wildlife, a few Government Ministers and the Premier. One BWT meeting canvassed the ways the member Clubs perform works of community benefit which go unnoticed; in fact some have ignorantly berated walkers as merely "users". (Clubs perform considerable unpaid track work; search and rescue; rubbish picking up; make community values representations, authority committee work; training of members in MIB and admonishing / correcting poor bushwalking and environmental behaviour; promotion of safe walking; helping authorities, Wildcare and others in a variety of projects and working bees; provision of very low cost recreation and ways to see and appreciate nature and Tasmania open to all; ...). Ideas to overcome inappropriate perceptions are being considered.

Some arrangements have been made for the now two-yearly Bushwalking Tasmania Get Together weekend to be centred at Weldborough in March 2013. Walks and a shared barbeque are being organised. All are welcome.

Two BWT delegates actively participated in Three Capes Track project deliberations and sought comment from walkers from time to time. With luck there will be all-year-around traditional camping (e.g. tent) and winter hut use. The former is important to retain as it is possible that PWS will shorten the period of use of 3CT huts as they have walking the Overland Track by two months this year.

BWT also arranged some equipment evenings for Clubs which were much appreciated.

Andrew Davey, BWT Delegate

SOUTHERN TASMANIAN SKI ASSOCIATION

2011 was a short season of five weekends, one of which HWC was on tow duty. The snow was good most of the time, but the weather was not so kind. The STSA working bees were well attended by members of clubs on the mountain. An additional webcam was installed but this has had operational problems from early on.

For the Club to keep up with its share of duties, more people are required for tow working bees which in turn will enable workers to receive considerable discount on tow tickets. At present, our Club's tow duty obligations are carried out by a "hard core" of six or seven members, two of whom are also qualified ski patrollers.

Mount Mawson Ski Patrol (a part of STSA) is also in desperate need of more members (especially younger skiers and boarders) who have Certificate 2 in First Aid and are willing to be rostered on duty for several weekends during ski season.

For the upcoming ski season, Patrol numbers have dropped to only four fully certified, active members assisted by several first aiders. An ASPA ski patrol first aid course was conducted in the Hobart area in the Autumn. Anyone who has a current Certificate 2 in First Aid certificate and is interested in ski patrolling is welcome to contact me.

Fred Koolhof, Delegate

TASMANIAN BICYCLE COUNCIL INC.

The cycling this year started off again with a very successful Bike Week with varied activities culminating with the well attended Bike Breakfast at Mawson Place.

The Tweed Ride was held for the second time this year and our very own Mary Rathbone looking truly resplendent in her Retro Tweed Outfit won the prize for Best Dressed Female. The Hobart Walking Club was well represented by some of its other members who also looked quite dashing in their old Tweed jacket, cap and old School ties or strands of pearls and lace gloves. Twelve cyclists took part in the inaugural event last year and over 300 this year.

The Minister for Sustainable Transport Mr Nick McKim recently announced a Grant of \$150,000 for continuing improvements to bicycle infrastructure. This includes new and extended Bike Paths plus on road Cycle Lanes and general improvements in bicycle safety. This is very important because bike safety allows those new to cycling to gain confidence to get on the bike for recreation and the promotion of Green Transport within our community.

All five Southern Councils have continued to work on their cycling facilities and payed particular attention to new areas for children to ride in safety gaining experience and skills. The combined Southern Councils have asked for anyone noticing a Black Spot or other areas of concern to be reported to the relevant Councils.

Linda & Tony Cook, Delegates

CLARENCE TRACKS AND TRAILS COMMITTEE

Meetings are held on a two-monthly basis, with additional special meetings to discuss specific issues. Throughout the year there has been attention given to the preparation of a Tracks and Trails Strategy and a Tangara Trail Management Plan. A constant is the consideration of new subdivision proposals to ensure adequate opportunity for the extension of tracks and trails within the Clarence Municipality.

Projects completed, or well underway, during the year include:

- Completion of the walkway/cycleway between Bellerive Oval and Second Bluff.
- Darwin Trail – track upgrade in Waverley Flora Park
- South Arm – Blessington foreshore track.
- Tranmere Coastal Reserve – upgrade of footway

- Geilston Bay – completion of bridge and connection tracks to Shag Bay and East Derwent Highway.
- Natone Hill – upgrade of various tracks.
- Single Hill Subdivision has been approved, with substantial land being set aside as reserve and a number of access points provided.
- Ongoing installation of directional signage on many tracks.

Whilst the Committee has many projects under review in the coming year, of particular concern is the proposed subdivision of the wooded area of the Rokeby Hills above Oceania Drive. It is hoped to retain a wide skyline access for eventual connection to the proposed Droughty Point Skyline Reserve.

Barry Ford and Bob Wyatt, HWC Delegates

WELLINGTON PARK TRACKS COMMITTEE

No meetings were held during the reporting period.

John Cannon, Delegate

Greater Hobart Mountain Bike Master Plan Working Group

This Group consisted of representatives from HWC; local Councils – Kingborough, Hobart, Glenorchy, Clarence; government departments - Sport and Recreation, Tourism, Parks and Wildlife; Hobart Trail Alliance and Mountain Bike riders. The Group developed a suggested network of official trails for mountain bike use within the municipalities. Some of the proposed trails are existing, some new, some in allowable areas, some illegal. A set of priorities for development was set out, along with a map of desired routes.

HWC supported the general concept. In many areas the trails are 4WD or fire trails already used by walkers and mountain bikers, however, a minority of the trails the mountain bikers request are in conflict with walking tracks, especially in the Mt Wellington Park. HWCs submission to the Draft Report emphasised the undesirability of existing narrow walking tracks being shared with other modes of transport.

The Greater Hobart Mountain Bike Master Plan has been finalised now.

HWC Delegate, Midj Jones and Andrew Davey (job-sharing)

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND REPORTS

STATEMENT BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

In the opinion of this Committee the accompanying financial statements and the notes thereto fairly represent the financial position of the Hobart Walking Club Inc. at 30 June 2012 and the results of the Club's financial performance for the year ended on that date.

This statement is made in accordance with a resolution of this committee and is signed on behalf of the committee by:



Rupert Manners, President



Philip Le Grove, Treasurer

TREASURER'S REPORT**STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE***for the year 1 July 2011 to 30 June 2012*

	Notes	2012	2011
		\$	\$
Income			
Members subscriptions		25,792	25,991
Sale of publications		1,073	3,884
Hut fees		1,656	1,931
Interest received		3,792	2,977
Social Functions		4,521	2,664
Equipment hire		374	284
Sundry income		615	8
		37,823	37,739
Less Expenditure			
Administration	2	6,488	5,668
Publications	3	5,813	8,022
Stock Reduction	4	879	243
Lake Dobson Memorial Hut	5	2,497	2,336
Social Functions		5,019	2,982
Circular	6	8,837	8,640
Insurance		728	735
Sundry	7	3,730	1,899
		33,991	30,525
Surplus for the year		3,832	7,214
Accumulated surplus 30/06/11		110,972	103,758
Accumulated surplus 30/6/12		114,804	110,972

BALANCE SHEET at 30 June 2012

	Notes	2012 \$	2,011 \$
Members Equity			
Accumulated surplus		114,804	110,972
		114,804	110,972
Represented by:			
Current Assets			
Commonwealth Bank chq a/c		9,673	13,927
Term deposits	8	60,000	50,000
Publications stock	4	7,846	8,725
		77,519	72,652
Non-current Assets			
Lake Dobson Memorial Hut	1(c)	43,540	43,540
		43,540	43,540
Total Assets		121,059	116,192
Less Current Liabilities			
Payments in Advance		2,933	1,898
Funds held In trust	9	3,322	3,322
		6,255	5,220
Net Assets		114,804	110,972

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.

(c) The Lake Dobson Memorial Hut is located on a site which is retained by the issue of an annual licence. A longer term lease is not available. The hut and its contents are recorded at book value of \$43,540 as at 30 June 2005. The hut is unlikely to have any market value.

	2012	2011
	\$	\$
2. Administration		
Post, phone, stationery, audit, a/report	2,015	2,747
Website, email, computers	-	391
Office rent	2,746	1,339
Room hire for meetings	986	900
Taxes & bank fees	250	157
Travel - FTBC/BATR	491	134
	6,488	5,668
3. Publications & sales expense		
Printing & Mailing Tramp 38	-	7,920
Sundry costs Tramp 38	105	102
Emergency Management Booklet	5,708	-
	5,813	8,022
4. Stock adjustment		
Stock at 30/6/11	8,725	8,968
Safety in the Bush reduction	879	243
Stock at 30/6/12	7,846	8,725

5. Lake Dobson Memorial Hut

Gas & Firewood	1,010	638
General Hut maintenance	373	855
Crown Land Licence Fee	792	528
Derwent Valley Council fire levy & rates	322	315
	2,497	2,336

6. Circular

Postage	2,758	3,279
Printing	5,749	5,161
Other	330	200
	8,837	8,640

7. Sundry

Projector	597	-
Badges	1,007	-
Affiliation BWT/STA	859	770
Other	1,267	1,129
	3,730	1,899

HOBART WALKING CLUB**8. Term deposits**

Perpetual Trustees No.1 Account	60,000	50,000
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9. Funds held in trust

The current balance is the Leo Luckman hut maintenance fund of \$1,000 and \$2,322 of Brenda Hean funds

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 comprising a Statement of Receipts and Expenditure for the year ended 30 June 2012. The Executive Committee of the Hobart Walking Club Inc is responsible for the preparation and presentation of the financial report and the information contained therein and have determined that the accounting policies used are consistent with the financial reporting requirements of the organisation 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 in order to express an opinion on it to the members of the organisation. 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 so as to present a view that is consistent with my understanding of the financial position of the Hobart Walking Club Inc 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 from all of its activities. 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 2012, and the results of its receipts and payments for the year then ended.

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

Geoff Morffew, FCPA
5 August 2012

