Annual Report
2015 - 2016
Representing Bushwalkers since 1934

Bushwalking Victoria is the peak body that proactively represents the interests of all who walk in natural areas in Victoria. We proactively advocate on behalf of bushwalkers, contribute to track and conservation activities, provide highly skilled bushwalkers to assist Police with bush search and rescue and support our members.

We directly represent about 8,000 people who belong to our 62 affiliated and nine associated clubs or are Individual Members. More generally we advocate for the many people from Victoria, interstate or overseas who walk in natural areas in Victoria.

Our Vision is: Better Bushwalking for Victoria
Our Mission is: To inspire more people to walk in natural areas for enjoyment, health, wellbeing and appreciation of the Victorian environment.

Bushwalking Victoria is a not for profit, incorporated association run mainly by volunteers. It was established in 1934 as the Federation of Victorian Walking Clubs and changed its name to Bushwalking Victoria in 2006 to better reflect its key area of interest. We rely on member fees and small government grants to fund our activities.

Bushwalking Victoria exists to:
- Safeguard and advance the common interests of all bushwalkers.
- Promote safe and environmentally responsible recreational bushwalking and its benefits to the community.
- Maintain for the benefit of the community as a whole, a volunteer specialist search and rescue group to assist in land based searches for persons lost in Victoria.
- Promote and actively work for the conservation and effective management of the environment including national and state parks, wilderness and other public land areas to enhance their bushwalking value to the community.
- Work with other organisations having like interests; to assist with the development, maintenance and protection of the integrity and accessibility of walking tracks, so as to enhance their recreational bushwalking value for all.
- Publish information regarding safety, preservation of the environment, walking routes and other subjects of interest to all bushwalkers in the community.

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Contents
Representing Bushwalkers since 1934 .......................... 1
President’s Report ................................................... 4
Welcome ................................................................. 4
Working for Bushwalkers ........................................... 5
  Submissions to Government .................................... 5
  National Adventure Activity Standards ...................... 5
Relationships ........................................................... 6
  Victorian Government ............................................ 6
  Outdoors Victoria ............................................... 6
  Bushwalking Australia (BA) .................................... 6
Federation Walks ..................................................... 7
Leadership Training .................................................. 7
Next Year ............................................................... 7
Our Volunteers ......................................................... 7
Secretary’s Report ..................................................... 8
Treasurer’s Report ..................................................... 9
  Accounts for 2015-2016 ........................................ 9
  Statement by Members of the Board of Management,
  Bushwalking Victoria Inc A0002548Y ....................... 9
  Review of the Annual Accounts for Members of
  Bushwalking Victoria Inc ....................................... 10
Communications, Marketing and Promotion Report .... 10
  Bushwalking Victoria Website ................................. 10
  Bushwalking News Victoria .................................... 10
  Tread Softy .......................................................... 11
Office Manager’s Report ............................................. 11
Bushwalking Australia Report .................................... 12
Bushwalking Tracks and Conservation ....................... 13
Bush Search and Rescue Victoria Report ................... 18
Projects & Other Activities ....................................... 19
Projects ................................................................. 20
  Goal 1: Bushwalking is a popular activity recognised by
  the community as enjoyable, healthy, environmentally
  responsible and safe .............................................. 20
    Investigating suitability of SafeTRX .................... 20
    Promoting bushwalking ..................................... 20
    Upgrading of where2walk directory ...................... 20
    Other Projects and Activities ............................ 20
  Goal 2: Victoria is recognised for its varied bushwalking
  opportunities and comprehensive track network ....... 21
Goal 3: Bushwalking Victoria and its member clubs are well resourced and effective organisations that support the bushwalking community .................. 21
Guidelines for establishing new clubs ........ 21
Board Member liaison roles for member clubs ... 21
Other activities ......................... 21
Federation Walks Events ................. 22
2015 ...................................... 22
2016 ...................................... 22
2017 ...................................... 22
Governance & Management ............. 23
Bushwalking Victoria Inc ............... 26
Organisation Chart .................... 26
Bushwalking Victoria is also a Member of: ... 26
Membership ............................. 27
Affiliate Members ..................... 27
Associate Members ................... 28
Appendix 1 .............................. 29
President’s Report

Welcome

Welcome to the Bushwalking Victoria annual report for 2015-1016. As you will see in the report, the year has been a busy and challenging one for us all. We live in an environment of increased pressure on our tracks and trails, and very constrained resources available to our key land managers. We ourselves have limited funds, and can only achieve as much as we do, through the hard work of our network of volunteers.

I am proud to be able to say that in everything we have done, we have lived up to our aim: ‘Towards better Bushwalking’.

During the year:

- We have made 9 submissions to land managers and government departments on your behalf
- We have succeeded in getting a major 3 year grant of $87,500 from Sports and Recreation Victoria to help us spread the word about bushwalking to a wider public
- We have worked with clubs and individual members to greatly increase the volunteer hours from the BTAC group and club activities to a total value of almost $100 000
- We have continued to develop our commitment to Bush Search and Rescue whose volunteers have contributed a total of 373 volunteer days during 2015-16
- We have continued to build on the support and assistance available to new and existing bushwalking clubs
- We have continued to develop our relationship with key land managers, other outdoor recreation groups, and peer groups in other states.

You will find more details on all of these aspects of our work elsewhere in this report

Throughout the year, we have worked very hard to represent the interests of the Victorian bushwalking community in an environment of increasing pressures on our tracks and trails, and limited funding for our key land managers.

For the coming year, we will continue our efforts on behalf of Victorian bushwalkers, with a special focus on our key project ‘Promoting Bushwalking’ which we believe will bring significant benefits to clubs, individual members and the wider community. We want as many Victorians as possible to be aware of why bushwalking is a wonderful recreation we can all share.

I believe that, reading this report, you will agree that what we have achieved and are trying to achieve on your behalf is consistent with our mission:

‘To inspire more people to walk in natural areas for enjoyment, health, wellbeing and appreciation of the Victorian environment’
This is my last report to you as BWV President. May I say that it has been a privilege to have been entrusted to represent the Victorian bushwalking community over the last three years. I have enjoyed being able to meet and get to know so many talented and enthusiastic bushwalkers.

Bushwalking Victoria has been, and will continue to be the strongest voice it can for the Victorian bushwalking community.

Wishing all of you happy bushwalking!

Tony Walker  
*Bushwalking Victoria President*

## Working for Bushwalkers

### Submissions to Government

We have continued to provide input to land managers and other government instrumentalities on a large number of topics. Our Land Management Environment Consultant has been extremely busy analysing and formulating our responses to the often large and complex plans and proposals that come out. This has been made even more difficult by the very limited time that is often available for response.

During the year, we made 9 submissions to government on a wide variety of subjects of interest and relevance to bushwalkers:

- VEAC Statewide Assessment of Public Land
- Lake Boort Management Plan
- Plenty Gorge Park Concept Plan
- Port Philip Sport and Recreation Strategy
- Recreational Access and Use of Crown Land Water Frontage
- Falls to Hotham Alpine Crossing Preliminary Concept
- Point Nepean Master Plan
- River Red Gums Parks Management Plan
- Central Goldfields Shire Walking and Cycling Strategy

We believe that our submissions do help land managers to understand the facilities and issues that are of importance to the bushwalking community, and that we do have an influence on their decisions.

### National Adventure Activity Standards

Bushwalking Victoria has decided not to support or participate in development of the proposed National Bushwalking Adventure Activity Standard unless an exclusion for recreational and non-commercial bushwalking is provided and included in the standard document.
Relationships

Bushwalking Victoria has developed and maintained relationships with a number of other organisations, and we have worked actively this year to continue to develop them.

Victorian Government

Our key Victoria Government relationships are with:

- Parks Victoria (PV) which manage National Parks
- Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) which manage state forests and other reserves
- Sport and Recreation Victoria (SRV)

We have had regular meetings with Parks Victoria Directors whose areas touch on bushwalking, and recently with Parks Victoria’s CEO Bradley Fauteux. We have agreed to work on a strategy aimed at increasing and optimising our volunteer contribution to track maintenance and clearing and conservation activities with PV, and getting bushwalking involvement earlier in the process where new tracks are proposed or changes to existing tracks are being considered.

We have been meeting regularly with DELWP, focussing again on tracks and trails issues, and looking at how we can work with them more closely in the interests of all bushwalkers.

In October 2015, we were invited to put in a proposal for a three-year project for funding by SRV. After some delay, we got word in March 2016, that we had been given a grant of $87,500 over three years to support our ‘Promoting Bushwalking’ initiative.

This is the first time we have been in a position to plan ahead for this period of time, and it is both a challenge and an opportunity, to take the positive messages about bushwalking to a wider public.

Outdoors Victoria

BWV is a member of Outdoors Victoria (OV), which seeks to provide representation for the outdoors recreation sector. OV has been active in lobbying for improved investment in the outdoor sector, and has produced a list of key ‘Outdoors investments’ which the sector would like to see government implement. Bushwalking Victoria contributed to the formation of this list, and we hope that OV’s efforts will help to make government more aware of the importance of outdoor recreation, and the contribution outdoors recreation makes to the health and wellbeing of the community.

Bushwalking Australia (BA)

Victoria hosted the annual face-to-face meeting of the state organisation, in November 2015. As always, BA provides a very valuable forum for state federations to share experiences, discuss common issues, and learn from each other.

Bushwalking Australia organises insurance for all clubs, and has recently gone to tender for brokering services for their policies.

The Bushwalking Australia report gives more information about BA activities.
Federation Walks

Federation Walks 2015 was very successfully run by Great Dividing Trail Association and Bayside Bushwalking Club, in the beautiful Daylesford goldfields country.

Planning and organising Federation is a very large and demanding job, and I want to thank all those people from the two clubs and our Federation Co-ordinator, who put so much time and effort into ensuring that the weekend all ran smoothly and enjoyably.

Leadership Training

During this year, we have appointed a Training Coordinator, Judy Hunter, who played a large part in developing the Leadership training courses and supporting material which have already been used and adapted by a number of clubs.

She is very keen to work with clubs or groups of clubs to offer skills training for leadership. Clubs may choose to offer one unit at a club meeting or to offer a day / weekend of training. The Units are designed to be offered individually or as part of a whole training package. There is great flexibility in how the courses can be offered.

Judy is also looking at additional course material that may be useful to clubs, and she has begun work on a more advanced navigation training program to supplement the basic navigation and map reading material in the existing courses.

Next Year

The largest project for next year will be Promoting Bushwalking. The grant we have from SRV will need to be matched by our own contribution by a mix of volunteer and professional resources.

We plan to refresh the BWV web site, making it easier to use, and more user-friendly, and to continue to develop and extend the information it provides.

We will continue our efforts on behalf of all bushwalkers, consistent with our Strategic Plan. Specifically, we will focus on strengthening and growing the Victorian club network, and growing BWV individual membership.

We will continue our focus on tracks and trails and conservation through our developing BTAC group.

We will continue to build on our facilities to support and assist clubs, We will continue our commitment to Bush Search and Rescue.

Our Volunteers

Everything we have achieved has been made possible by a dedicated band of volunteers who have given their time, skills and commitment, to the cause of bushwalking in our state.

I want to thank our board members, the BSAR committee and all the BSAR volunteers, the BTAC committee and the BTAC field officers and volunteers, track maintenance and conservation project volunteers.
The many submissions BWV has made on behalf of all bushwalkers have relied on many hours of hard work by BTAC members, and in particular, on our Land Management and Environmental Consultant.

Our Strategic Consultant has provided vital planning and project management skills. Our Bushwalking News Victoria editor has ensured that our club and individual members are kept informed of important happenings and developments in the bushwalking world, our Training Coordinator has worked with a number of clubs to advise and assist them on leadership training, and our Federation coordinator, has worked to help Victorian clubs plan and deliver yet another very successful Federation event in 2015.

To all of these people, and to any others I have inadvertently overlooked, thank you – Bushwalking Victoria relies totally on your efforts and dedication.

Tony Walker
President

After more than 10 years in the role, Phil Brotchie has decided to step down as our Land Management Environment Consultant. Phil has been drafting BWV submissions since 2005 – we don’t know how many in total, but 34 since 2009.

While all have been signed and submitted by the Presidents, BWV members may not appreciate the extent of the work that Phil has put into drafting these submissions. Some require attending briefings, all require reading often very lengthy documents and some require researching multiple sources. Phil’s great contribution has been his skill at deconstructing the material, analysing the data, then writing a response that serves the best interests of all bushwalkers.

It is a tribute to the quality of Phil’s work that we have decided to put in place a small panel of people to replace him! The panel will share the load, cover for each other when people are away, and review each other’s work.

Phil Brotchie

Secretary’s Report
The role of the Secretary of Bushwalking Victoria is to assist the Board with its responsibilities for Governance, Compliance and Administration including employee related matters and contractual obligations.

These functions require effective collaboration especially with the Treasurer, Robyn Shingles and the Office Manager, Patsy Scales.

Patsy supports the Board and Executive in addition to maintaining the records of the Association. She is also the key person ensuring Clubs and Members are kept up to date.

Changes to the Rules of the Association made at last year’s AGM created an improved opportunity for membership for supporters when they cannot or choose not to join a club. It remains a work in progress to determine how this initiative will develop in terms of encouraging additional BWV membership.

Individual Membership at the end of 2015 – 2016 stood at 399 compared with 293 at the end of the 2014 – 2015 Year. The Board is
keen to ensure that it can represent an increasing cohort of bushwalking members in its discussions with government departments and agencies.

*Philip Davis*  
*Secretary*

## Treasurer’s Report

### Accounts for 2015-2016

The accounts for 2015-2016 are attached as Appendix 1 at the end of this Annual Report.

Some ups and downs during the year but overall a good outcome with our limited resources. The net result for 2015/16 was a deficit of $6,331 against a budgeted deficit of $9,325 for the year, which we have managed to achieve despite reduced government funding. We spent less on projects than expected and both BSAR & BTAC were under their budgeted expenditure.

Our new tranche of government funding will be received over the next 3 years and we are forecasting our project expenditure in line with this timing. Our forecast result for the 2016/17 year is a deficit of $14,300 for which we will draw on our existing reserves. We have held our increase in membership fees to last year’s forecast, setting our club members’ fees at $16.50 ($15.00 + GST) and maintaining our individual membership fees at $20.00 ($18.18 + GST).

### Statement by Members of the Board of Management, Bushwalking Victoria Inc A0002548Y

The Board has determined by means of the Australian Taxation Office self-assessment system that Bushwalking Victoria Inc. is an exempt entity for income tax purposes and that this special purpose financial report should be prepared in accordance with the notes accompanying the financial statements. Bushwalking Victoria Inc. does not have any mortgages, charges or securities; and is not a trustee of any trust nor does it have any trusts held on its behalf. In the opinion of the Board, the financial report as set out in this document presents a true and fair statement of the financial position of Bushwalking Victoria Inc. as at the 31 March 2016 and its financial performance for the year ended on that date.

At the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that Bushwalking Victoria Inc. will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due during the next twelve months.

*Tony Walker — President*  
*Robyn Shingles — Treasurer*
Review of the Annual Accounts for Members of Bushwalking Victoria Inc

I have reviewed the financial report, being a special purpose financial report, of Bushwalking Victoria Inc for the year ended 31 March 2016 as set out in the above pages.

The financial report has been prepared for the purpose of fulfilling the requirements of the Associations Incorporations Reform Act 2012.

In my opinion the financial report presents a true and fair view of the financial position of Bushwalking Victoria Inc as at 31 March 2016 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year ended in accordance with the accounting policies described in the Notes to the financial statements.

Keith Talty
Honorary Reviewer
June 2016

Communications, Marketing and Promotion Report

Bushwalking Victoria Website

The Bushwalking Victoria website contains a great deal of valuable information for both members and non-members. During 2015 a website subcommittee was tasked with reviewing this large and complex website to assess how easy and intuitive it is to use, especially for those not necessarily familiar with it, with the objective of making specific recommendations for any required changes, supported by evidence and reasons.

A website committee report has been presented to the board, which accepted its recommendations. Prominent among the many recommendations was the ‘elevation’ of member information so that this resource for club committees and club members is easier to find.

We expect the new version of the website to be launched later in 2016.

Bushwalking News Victoria

We conducted a survey of readers (and non-readers) of Bushwalking News Victoria. 323 responses were received – more than sufficient for the survey to be statistically valid. There were good levels of response from metropolitan and regional club members, as well as Individual Supporter members and bushwalkers who do not belong to any club.

Comments received about Bushwalking News Victoria were generally favourable. But we asked about what content readers would like to receive. Three items were prominent: news about what Bushwalking Victoria is doing on behalf of bushwalkers; news from land managers and news about Bushwalking Tracks and Conservation activities.

We are now planning to undertake a restructure of Bushwalking News Victoria, which we hope will fulfil this desires of readers. We are also planning to redesign the newsletter and its delivery mechanism to give
readers the option of reading it on a mobile device as well as having a print-friendly version of the newsletter. We expect the new version of the newsletter to be launched later in 2016.

Thank you John Campbell for proofing BNV for us.

Tread Softly

We launched the new and beautifully designed edition of Tread Softly at the 2015 Leadership Forum. Subsequent to that, it had two public launches. The first in the eastern part of the State in October 2015 to coincide with the 100th anniversary of the McMillian’s Track organised by Ben Cruachan Bushwalking Club. The second was in Geelong in December in conjunction with the public launch of Geelong Bushwalking Club’s new edition of Walking the Otways.

Thank you to Darren McClelland who helped me originally regarding the structure of press releases.

Joslin Guest
Communication, Marketing and Promotion

Office Manager’s Report

It has been an eventful year. BWV has finally implemented the new database and migrated the data. I have also integrated Mail Chimp into the database so that notifications can be sent more efficiently to the relevant contacts within the bushwalking clubs. However, my biggest challenge is keeping the data up-to-date – I urge clubs to advise changes to your committees as soon as your AGM has taken place.

BWV is also keen to become more active in the social media space. If clubs would like to promote special walks, ie clubs come across some interesting walking news, do send us the information and we can put this on Facebook and Google+. If you have any interesting images you would like posted on Instagram, we would welcome those with a caption.

As always, it is a pleasure dealing with fellow bushwalkers.

Patsy Scales
Office Manager

BWV now has a much more active and informative presence on social media, with a particular emphasis on Facebook.
Bushwalking Australia Report

As is always the case, most of the issues and challenges affecting bushwalking and bushwalkers occur at a state level, and so that is where most of the workload falls. Bushwalking Australia (BA) though has an important, and perhaps increasing role to support the state peak bodies by providing a forum for exchanging ideas, opinions, initiatives and resources that can assist each and every member state to achieve their goals.

A successful face-to-face conference was hosted by Victoria in November 2015 at a venue in Lancefield. These meetings provide a vital, once a year opportunity for delegates to meet and exchange ideas and opinions. Apart from the annual conference the BA Council (two delegates from each state) meets by teleconference approximately every three months.

Insurance is the BA activity that consumes much of our time and energy. In the past couple of years, information on the BA web site on how the insurance cover is organised and administered, the cover, benefits and exclusions that apply has been greatly expanded, and is now the single source of information on this important topic for clubs and their members. Suggestions for improvements to the information provided are always welcome. At the 2015 conference it was agreed that BA would go to tender for its insurance broker services for the next five years and this process is well underway.

An unexpected highlight of the year was an approach from the Philatelic Services Division of Australia Post to provide feedback on the draft designs for four stamps highlighting four Great Australian Bushwalks: Overland Track, Cape to Cape, Larapinta Trail and National Pass. We suggested some relatively minor improvements, and the stamps went on sale on 14 July.

The Christmas and New Year period saw two opportunities to promote bushwalking and Bushwalking Australia courtesy of ABC radio. The first opportunity was through an ABC radio summer series that was broadcast across Australia on ABC local radio. The series was focussing on the senses of summer, and I was interviewed concerning the sense of smell, which is perhaps not the first sense that springs to mind when thinking of bushwalking, unless perhaps it is the smell of perspiration! The second opportunity came thanks to Radio National, when I was interviewed live to air concerning how to bushwalk safely.

A third media opportunity was the most exciting. In February I was approached by World Wildlife Fund to appear in a short TV documentary called ‘Places we Love’ to be broadcast on Network 10 in connection with Earth Hour. The program was to get members of the community, experts and celebrities to talk about the effect of climate change on the places they love.

I had no idea whether I would make it to air and if I did, no idea what would be included, so was pleasantly surprised to see my mug on screen. I was also very happy with what they chose to air too.

Over the course of the past year the number of followers/likes of the BA Facebook page has increased slowly but steadily, and in April passed the milestone of 1,000 likes. BA needs to expand its Facebook presence, especially by following more clubs, so if yours is on Facebook please follow BA and we will reciprocate.

I will complete my term as president in November, when it will be the turn of one of the other states to nominate a president. It has been a
fascinating and enjoyable experience in this role, and I hope my contributions have made a difference.

Chris Towers  
Bushwalking Australia President

Bushwalking Tracks and Conservation

A Year of Continuing Growth and Activity

BTAC Committee
The members of the standing committee for the year remained the same as the previous year:

Megan Major – Convener  
Charlie Ablitt – Projects Coordinator  
Phil Brotchie – Land Management Environment Consultant  
David Rimmer – Track Development Officer  
Joslin Guest – Publications Officer  
Peter Maffei – Field Officers Coordinator

BTAC Field Officers
The Field Officers liaise and network with local bushwalkers and Land Managers and report to or advise the BTAC committee of issues in their area. Many of them have done so for many years and we thank them for their ongoing commitment. We acknowledge the contribution this year from Terry Sydes, Eileen Clark, Merilyn Liddell, Mike Liddell, Linda Haynes, Jim Harker, Bev Williams, David Rimmer, Phil Brotchie, John Petheram, Michael Haynes and Ian McKellar. Their input this year about “tracks at risk” provided essential information for the BTAC committee and the BWV board. A big thank you to all of the Field Officers for their contribution during the year.

BTAC Volunteers
Without the ongoing work by our volunteers none of our projects would happen. While the list of volunteers has grown to over 180 the work has actually been done by 90 volunteers from 17 clubs, much the same as last year. Many volunteers worked on more than one project - seven people worked on 3 projects. However, Charlie Ablitt, Mark Heath and Sigrid Meier deserve particular mention and thanks for working on 8, 6 and 5 projects respectively.

We must acknowledge that volunteers contribute much more than the recorded volunteer hours spent working on tracks. They spend hours travelling to the work at their own expense and can give up several
days of their own time to work for a couple of days in a remote area. A BIG THANK YOU to all of the volunteers for their time and effort so all walkers can enjoy the bush.

**BTAC Projects**

We are pleased to report that nine BTAC projects were held during the year. Credit is due again to Charlie Ablitt for negotiating the work with the land managers, and organising the teams of volunteers to suit the tasks. The tasks were many and varied from chainsaw, brush cutter, hand tool track clearing, sign & marker installation, filling sandbags for jetty repair, and cutting and painting weeds with herbicide. Work was conducted at Wilsons Promontory, Snake Island, Bunyip State Park, Mt Dandenong Valley, Upper Howqua River, Bogong High plains and on the AAWT near the Cobberas. The total hours worked increased from 1,611 to 1,981 volunteer hours. At a rate of $32.50 per hour, this equates to a contribution of $64,382.50.

**Club Projects**

This year, twelve clubs (eight in 2015) reported the work that their members contributed to tracks and conservation. Ballarat, Bayside, Benalla, Boroondara, Diamond Valley, Grampians, Iranian, Koonung, VNPA, Warrambool, Waverley and West Gippsland.

The activities undertaken included: weeding noxious plants, pruning, chainsaw fallen branches, install water bars, build steps and cairns, clear vegetation, poison plants, remove debris and collect rubbish.

Total volunteer hours reported is 1,072.5 hours, which translates to a massive $34,856.25 contribution based on an hourly rate of $32.50 per hour.

We are well aware that other club contribute many hours of voluntary work, but because they don’t report to us, we cannot include their data in this report or reports to government departments. I urge all clubs and BWV members to report their activities to us so we can tell your story and advocate on your behalf. We are also aware of and grateful for all the work done by Friends Groups. Many of our members participate in their activities, but their time cannot be claimed by BTAC.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Club Hours</th>
<th>1,072.50</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Club $ Contribution</td>
<td>$34,856.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total BTAC Hours</td>
<td>1,981.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total BTAC $ Contribution</td>
<td>$64,382.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Total Hours</td>
<td>3,053.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Total $ Contribution</td>
<td>$99,238.75</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Adopt A Track**

The “Adopt a Track” program is progressing slowly. The ten clubs listed last year have established an ongoing relationship with the land
managers and now make their own arrangements. We are pleased to report that the Iranian and Maroondah clubs joined the program this year and that there are several more that we are in the process of matching with a track or park. We have included GDTA in the list, because they continue to work on their tracks as they have for more than 20 years.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Club</th>
<th>Track / Park</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ballarat</td>
<td>Bukkertillible - Mt Buangor SP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bayside</td>
<td>Freemans Mill – Bunyip SP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benalla</td>
<td>Mt Samaria SP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boroondara</td>
<td>Cathederal Ranges SP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bunarong</td>
<td>Condons – Yarra Ranges NP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diamond Valley</td>
<td>Warrandyte SP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GDTA</td>
<td>Goldfields &amp; Lorderderg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grampians</td>
<td>Grampians NP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iranian</td>
<td>Churchill NP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maroondah</td>
<td>Sassafras Creek – Dandenong Ranges NP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strzelecki</td>
<td>Alps Walking Track – Baw Baw NP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warrnambool</td>
<td>Mt Abrupt – Grampians NP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Gippsland</td>
<td>Bunyip SP</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Submissions**

Phil Brotchie drafted nine submissions for BWV during the year – see the tribute to his work over many years in the President’s Report.
Training
Two successful events were conducted and were reported in BNV.

12 people successfully completed a Chainsaw Accreditation Course in Drouin. See full report in June BNV.

16 people completed a two-day Leadership Course held at Gembrook. Day one was an adapted version of the BWV Leadership course presented by Judy Hunter and Sally Walker. Staff from Parks Victoria and DELWP also presented information from the Land Managers perspective. Day two was a simulated track maintenance exercise in Bunyip State Park. Our thanks go to Andy Musgrove, Park Ranger for his support in planning and involvement on both days. This exercise gave us an opportunity to use our new viz vests, banners and A-frame, with the new BWV branding. See full report in August BNV.

Publications
Tread Softly, BWV’s code of practice for bushwalking in protected areas was printed and distributed to members at the AGM in June. The brochure was officially launched to the public in October.

This year we have concentrated on contributing articles to BNV and pleased with our efforts to obtain input from land managers on several topics. We thank Richard Wadsworth of Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) for his article on Forest Explorer in February BNV and his contribution to “Cleaning up Rubbish in the Bush” March BNV and “Unauthorised Track Clearing” April BNV. We also thank Bradley Fauteux, Parks Victoria (PV) for his input into the article “Cleaning up Rubbish in the Bush”.

Relationship with Land Managers
Last year we advised that our main task was to build relationships with land managers at all levels. We believe that we have achieved this and that we have established strong processes for ongoing and positive relationships in the future. We now have regular quarterly meeting with DELWP and have had several meetings about different issues with staff at PV. We are pleased to have had much more contact via phone and email from the land managers than in the past. We are confident that we are now recognised as active stakeholders to be consulted regarding changes to bushwalking tracks and facilities.

Relationships have also developed at local levels as clubs become more independent in working with PV and DELWP staff with their adopted tracks.

Tracks at Risk
During the year we compiled a list of tracks at risk of being lost due to lack of maintenance. We thank our Field Officers for identifying the tracks and Dave Rimmer for compiling the list. Both PV and DELWP have indicated that they will work with us to review the status of each track and decide where their limited budget should be spent.
BTAC is committed to maintaining this list and welcomes ongoing input from clubs and individual members, so that we can continue to advocate on behalf of all bushwalkers.

**BTAC Committee Activity**

Members attended five committee meetings during the year. Minutes and reports were provided for the BWV board. All members participated in several BTAC and club track maintenance or conservation projects. However, a huge number of hours were spent following up issues by phone or email. All attended a range of meetings and consultation forums. Examples include:

Consultation and meetings with Parks Victoria regarding:
- Grampians Peak Trail
- Falls to Hotham Alpine Crossing Preliminary Concept
- River Red Gum Parks Management Plan
- Greater Alpine National Parks Management Plan

Meetings with other organisations such as:
- DELWP public meeting / consultation in Wesburn regarding mountain bike trails
- Yarra Ranges Council regarding development of trails in their area
- 4WD Victoria regarding joint track maintenance activities

Our main priorities for the coming year are:
- Create awareness of the state of current bushwalking tracks, facilities and environment
- Lobby government and land managers to improve the network
- Increase the number of clubs that adopt a track or park

Again we thank Patsy Scales for her ongoing support and administrative assistance.

I thank the BTAC committee members for their work, achievements and support during the year and ask that BWV thank them and continue to support them with their plans for the future.

*Megan Major*

*BTAC Convener*
Bush Search and Rescue Victoria Report

Searches

Bush Search and Rescue Victoria was called out five times during the period and participated in the resulting search and rescue operations.

**Mount Bogong, 12 August 2015.** BSAR members participated in the rescue of an injured skier on Mt Bogong on 12 August 2015 following a local call-out by Mt Beauty Police. The rescue involved a stretcher haul down Eskdale Spur to Michel Hut under the supervision of Police SAR.

**Mount Erica, 26 August 2015.** Five BSAR members attended a search for a missing woman on Mt Erica who was located on 26 August. Twenty-five more members were ready to assist but were not deployed as the woman was found.

**Mt Burrowa, 5 October 2015.** Fifteen BSAR searchers travelled to Corryong on Tuesday 6 October for the search for a missing bushwalker in the vicinity of Mt Burrowa in the Burrowa-Pine National Park. The missing person was spotted by helicopter just as the BSAR team arrived in Corryong.

**Lerderderg, 18 February 2016.** Twenty-four Bush Search and Rescue volunteers participated in the search for a missing person in Lerderderg State Park who was found at 11 a.m.

**Merrijig, 26 April 2016.** Late on ANZAC Day, BSAR was called to join a search that was underway for a man who had gone missing out of Sawmill Settlement between Merrijig and Mt Buller. Eighteen members joined the search at dawn the next day. Thirty-three members participated in the search over the two days that followed. Sadly the missing man was found deceased on day 4 of the search.

Training

Eric Krista led the **BSAR Annual Training weekend** at Fryerstown in July 2015 with 95 visitors, prospective and existing personnel attending, including instructors and organisers. Duncan Brookes, Peter Campbell, Eric Krista, Ross McKinnon, Roger Palmer, Merv Trease and Wayne Merry assisted with planning and running the event. Support from Victoria Police Search and Rescue was also much appreciated.

Search and rescue training including search tasks, radio and GPS exercises and first aid were conducted on Saturday. On Sunday BSAR teams participated in the 6 hour Rogaine to develop and improve off track navigation skills.

**Steep Snow and Ice Training**

Peter Briggs, Eric Krista and Peter Campbell led the **Steep Snow and Ice training weekend** at JB Plain on 24 - 26 July 2015 in inclement weather. Exercises over the two days included self-arresting, setting up snow belays and a z-pulley haul, rescues using avalanche transceivers and probing followed by digging out a simulated buried patient. A simulated search was also conducted near JB Plain. Victoria Police Search and Rescue again provided us with excellent instruction and support,
Projects & Other Activities

New Equipment Store and Equipment Refresh
Our equipment store at the Northcote Police Bands compound that served us well for many years had to be vacated due to sale of the site. We moved our equipment store to a commercial premises as no suitable alternative Police site was available.

Roger Palmer, Lachlan Shield and Duncan Brookes have worked diligently to establish and fit out the new equipment store and to replace and refresh our search and rescue equipment and safety clothing thanks to funds provided by Bushwalking Victoria, a Volunteer Emergency Services Equipment Program Grant from the Department of Justice and a donation from the Shambrook family.

BSAR members
BSAR welcomed thirty-seven new members and thanked the 24 members who resigned during the year. 234 searchers are available for call-out as at 30 April 2016.

I am pleased to welcome BSAR Committee Delegates from Latrobe University Mountaineering Club, Swinburne Explorers Club and RMIT Outdoors Club.

Duncan Brookes was awarded an Emergency Services Medal on 18 June 2015 for his outstanding search and rescue service to BSAR and Victorian community over 42 years.

Bush Search and Rescue Committee and Executive members continue to make ongoing contributions to the operation and governance of BSAR.

Activities being planned for 2016-17 include development of a new BSAR Strategic Plan and refresh of the BSAR Manual.

I thank again the Bushwalking Victoria Board, the Victoria Police Search and Rescue Squad and the Victorian Department of Justice for the continued and much valued support they provide to Bush Search and Rescue Victoria.

Peter Campbell
Convener

Bush Search and Rescue Victoria contributed 134 searcher person-days and 239 training person-days, a total of 373 volunteer days during the year from 1 May 2015 to 30 April 2016.
Projects

Each year Bushwalking Victoria undertakes a number of projects as part of its implementation of the Strategic Plan 2013. This report provides a brief summary of our activities over the past year as they relate to our three Strategic Goals.

Goal 1: Bushwalking is a popular activity recognised by the community as enjoyable, healthy, environmentally responsible and safe.

Investigating suitability of SafeTRX
Project Leader: Peter Campbell
The team assessed the suitability of SafeTRX (used by the Australian Volunteer Coast Guard) for use in land based activities such as bushwalking. While SafeTRX has a number of valuable features the team recommended that Bushwalking Victoria not pursue its use at this time.

Promoting bushwalking
Project Leader: Elaine Towers
Considerable progress was made on developing a Marketing Strategy and a Marketing Plan which provide a framework for a series of integrated promotional activities for the next three years. The Strategy and Plan will be tabled at the BWV Board meeting in May with implementation to begin in July 2016. Bushwalking Victoria has been successful in its application for a grant from Sport and Recreation Victoria for this project with $87,500 allocated for a 3.5-year period ending on 30 June 2019.

Upgrading of where2walk directory
Project Leader: Chris Towers
New maps have been produced for all 215 walks on where2walk and these are progressively being uploaded to the website. Each walk entry is being thoroughly reviewed and amended to ensure that both maps and walk descriptions are of a consistent and reliable standard throughout the directory. 110 walks have been reviewed and upgraded to date and the remainder will be progressively updated.

Other Projects and Activities
Other projects pursued under this goal are reported in elsewhere in the Annual Report including:

- Bush Search and Rescue (BSAR) activities. BSAR Convener: Peter Campbell
- Federation Walks 2015, 2016 and 2017. Project Leader: Peter Conroy
- Review of BWV website. Project Leader: Joslin Guest
- Update of WalkSafe publication. Project Leader: Joslin Guest
Goal 2: Victoria is recognised for its varied bushwalking opportunities and comprehensive track network

Projects and activities in relation to this goal are all reported on elsewhere in this report:

- Relationships with outdoor organisations such as Outdoors Victoria, Bushwalking Australia and other track user groups is set out in section ‘Working for Bushwalkers’ President: Tony Walker
- Bushwalking Tracks and Conservation (BTAC) activities. Convener: Megan Major

Goal 3: Bushwalking Victoria and its member clubs are well resourced and effective organisations that support the bushwalking community

Guidelines for establishing new clubs

Project Leader: Hadi Hezaveh

Work is well advanced on a major revision of Guidelines for Establishing and Running New Bushwalking Clubs. The publication covers the benefits clubs can offer and provides advice on the administrative matters involved in setting up a club from scratch. It is due to be completed in mid-2016.

Board Member liaison roles for member clubs

All Board members

For the past two years each member club has been linked to a specific Board member as a way of strengthening links between member clubs and the Board. All Clubs were advised of their contact person and of any changes due to changes in Board members. Clubs are encouraged to take advantage of this program to raise issues of concern or suggestions or just to share information that may be of value to other members or bushwalking as a whole.

Other activities

There are a number of ongoing activities under this Goal including:

General advice and support to clubs as required.

Technical support to club website managers, particularly those clubs that took up BWV’s offer to provide Joomla websites.

Website Manager: Chris Towers

Annual Leadership Forum to discuss issues and ideas of interest to all members

Finding ways to improve communications between member clubs and BWV Board.

Project leader: Joslin Guest.

Elaine Towers

Strategy Adviser
Elaine Towers

After many years of highly valuable and valued service to BWV, Elaine Towers has decided to retire as Strategy Consultant and Project manager.

She has been involved in so many BWV activities that it is difficult to list them all!

She worked very hard to develop and build the ‘Where2Walk’ resource on the BWV web site, which now contains well over 200 walks. She was a key member of the team that developed the Strategic Plan in 2012-13, and contributed an enormous amount of effort into making it a consistent, credible document still valid today.

She went on to project manage the very successful BWV branding project in 2013-14 which was launched at the leadership forum in 2014 and then led the project to create a coherent, focussed marketing plan for BWV, to support the ‘Promoting Bushwalking’ project. Elaine’s efforts and professionalism were instrumental in BWV gaining major 3 year funding for this project from SRV.

Her expertise, good humour and hard work have been of great assistance to the BWV board.

Federation Walks Events

2015

The 2015 Federation Walks weekend, held at Daylesford on the weekend of 24-25 October, hosted by Bayside Bushwalking Club and Great Dividing Trail Association. It was a resounding success attended by 346 people from 36 clubs. 20 walks were run each day.

The Mayor of Hepburn Shire, Cr Kate Redwood, attended the traditional Saturday-night dinner and welcomed guests to the shire. The Hon. Mary-Anne Thomas, Member for Macedon, also attended, and spoke on behalf of John Eren, Minister for Sport, Veterans, Tourism and Major Events. Her speech touched on the health benefits of physical activity such as bushwalking, and was well received.

The guest speaker was David Bannear from Heritage Victoria.

2016

This year’s event will be held in the Grampians with the Wimmera Walking Club willing to host the event. They will, however, need a co-organising club with more human resources.

2017

Melbourne Bushwalkers are the 2017 host Club. The event will be held on 28 & 29 October in Warburton.

Planning for this event is going well.

Peter Conroy

Federation Walks Co-ordinator

Federation 2016 will be held in the Western Grampians, hosted over two days by the Wimmera Bushwalking Club.

Dates: 8 and 9 October

Annual Report 2015 - 2016
Governance & Management

Bushwalking Victoria is an Incorporated Association, and is the peak body for bushwalking in Victoria.

There are three categories of membership:

- **Affiliated members** - 62 clubs, where the main activity is bushwalking. These clubs have full voting rights and their members are eligible to hold office.
- **Associate members** - Nine organisations or clubs whose activities include bushwalking but they are constituted primarily for other purposes. Associate members do not have voting rights, but their members are able to participate in many Bushwalking Victoria committees and activities.
- **Individual supporter members** - 399 individual supporting members who have voting rights, are eligible to hold office and may participate in committees and activities.
- **Free Subscriptions** — 295.

The organisation is governed by a Board of Management, comprising four elected officers and six general Board members.

The Board currently meets up to 11 times each year to review performance, make policy decisions and develop strategic direction.

The day-to-day management of the organisation is carried out by the office bearers, conveners of standing committees and other specialist officers.

---

The organisation is governed by a Board of Management, comprising four elected officers and six general Board members.
### Table 1: Governance: Office Bearers and Board Members

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Club</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>Tony Walker</td>
<td>Waverley Bushwalking Club</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vice-President</td>
<td>Charles Ablitt</td>
<td>Bayside Bushwalking Club</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Philip Davis</td>
<td>Ben Cruachan Bushwalking Club</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Robyn Shingles</td>
<td>Strzelecki Bushwalking Club</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Board of Management – Other Board Members**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Club</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Member</td>
<td>John Creaser</td>
<td>Bayside Bushwalking Club</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Member</td>
<td>Megan Major</td>
<td>West Gippsland Bushwalkers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Member</td>
<td>Joslin Guest</td>
<td>Boroondara Bushwalking Club</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Member</td>
<td>Hadi Hezaveh</td>
<td>Iranian Bushwalkers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Member</td>
<td>Peter Conroy</td>
<td>VMTC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Member</td>
<td>Peter Campbell</td>
<td>BSAR, Individual Member</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Table 2: Governance: Other key roles

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Staff</strong></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Office Manager</td>
<td>Patsy Scales</td>
<td>Individual Member</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Other</strong></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Honorary Reviewer</td>
<td>Keith Talty</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Federation Walks</td>
<td>Peter Conroy</td>
<td>Victorian Mountain Tramping Club (VMTC)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BTAC Projects Coordinator</td>
<td>Charlie Ablitt</td>
<td>Bayside Bushwalking Club</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Publications/Editor</td>
<td>Joslin Guest</td>
<td>Boroondara Bushwalking Club</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Standing Committees – Conveners</strong></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bush Search and Rescue (BSAR)</td>
<td>Peter Campbell</td>
<td>Individual Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bushwalking Tracks and Conservation (BTAC)</td>
<td>Megan Major</td>
<td>West Gippsland Bushwalkers</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Consultants</strong></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Strategy</td>
<td>Elaine Towers</td>
<td>CAEX Bushwalking Club</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Land Management Submissions</td>
<td>Dr. Phil Brotchie</td>
<td>Walking Club of Victoria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounting</td>
<td>Keith Talty</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Representatives on Other Bodies</strong></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bushwalking Australia</td>
<td>Tony Walker</td>
<td>Waverley Bushwalking Club</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Chris Towers</td>
<td>CAEX Bushwalking Club</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alps Walking Track Stakeholder Group</td>
<td>David Rimmer</td>
<td>Victorian Mountain Tramping Club (VMTC)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grampians Peak Trail Task Force</td>
<td>Dr. Phil Brotchie</td>
<td>Walking Club of Victoria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Living Links Steering Committee</td>
<td>Tony Walker</td>
<td>Waverley Bushwalking Club</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Bushwalking Victoria Inc
Organisation Chart

* including:
- Bushwalking Australia
- Outdoors Victoria
- Australian Alps Walking Track Stakeholder Group
- Grampians Peak Trail Task Force
- Living Links Steering Committee

Bushwalking Victoria is also a Member of:
- Volunteering Victoria
- High Country Huts Association
- VicSport
- Victorian National Parks Association
Membership

Affiliate Members

Ballarat Bushwalking and Outdoor Club Inc.
Basically Bushwalking Inc
Bass Coast Strollers Inc
Bayside Bushwalking Club Inc
Ben Cruachan Walking Club Inc
Benalla Bushwalking Club Inc.
Bendigo Bushwalking & Outdoor Club Inc
Berwick and District Bushwalking Club
B’nai B’rith Ramblers
Border Bushwalking club Inc
Boroondara Bushwalkers Incorporated
Bunarong Bushwalking Club
Bushranger Women's Walking Club
Bushwalking Victoria
CAEX Bushwalking Club Inc
Camperdown Bushwalking Club
Catholic Walking Club of Victoria Inc
Cobram Bushwalking Club
Dandenong Valley Bushwalking Club
Diamond Valley Bushwalking Club Inc
Echuca Moama Bushwalkers Inc
Eltham and Environs Walking Group
Essendon Bushwalking Club
Friends of the Great South West Walk Inc.
Geelong Bushwalking Club
Gisborne Bushwalking Club
Grampians Bushwalking Club
Great Dividing Trail Association
Heathcote Walkers
Iranian Bushwalkers
Keilor Bushwalking Club
Koonung Bushwalking Club
Mansfield Bushwalking Club
Maroondah Bushwalking Club Inc
Melbourne Bushwalkers Incorporated (MBW)
Melbourne University Alumni Bushwalkers
Melbourne Walking Club Inc
Melbourne Women's Walking Club
Melbourne Young Hikers
Melton Bushwalkers Inc
Otway Ranges Walking Track Association Inc
Pakenham Bushwalking Club
Peninsula Bushwalking Club Inc
Peregrine Inc.
Ramblers Walking Club Inc
Rosebud Ramblers
Shepparton Adventure Club Inc.
South Gippsland Walking & Adventure Club
Stonnington Walking Club Inc
Strzelecki Bushwalking Club Inc
Sunraysia Bushwalkers Inc
Taradale & District Walking Group Inc.
Victorian Mountain Tramping Club Inc
Walking Club of Victoria
Wangaratta Out and About Inc
Warby Range Bushwalkers Incorporated
Warrnambool Bushwalkers Inc
Waverley Bushwalking Club Inc
Werribee Bushwalking & Outdoor Club Inc.
West Gippsland Bushwalkers Inc.
Wimmera Bushwalking Club Inc
Wonthaggi Bush and Beach Walking Club

Associate Members

AlpineSAR
Birkebeiner Nordic Ski Club Inc
La Trobe University Mountaineerin Club
Melbourne University Mountaineering Club
Monash Bushwalking & Outdoors Club
Scout Bushwalkers
VNPA Bushwalking Club
Victorian Rogaining Association
YHA Bushwalking Club
### Appendix 1

**Bushwalking Victoria**

**Income & Expenditure for the year ended 31 March 2016**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>General fund</th>
<th>Search &amp; Rescue</th>
<th>Bush Tracks &amp; Conservation</th>
<th>Insurance</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Income</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Membership Fees</td>
<td>89,166</td>
<td>72,222</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sundry Income</td>
<td>10,838</td>
<td>6,369</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donations and Grants</td>
<td>7,911</td>
<td>21,000</td>
<td>11,812</td>
<td>5,368</td>
<td>640</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest Received</td>
<td>3,550</td>
<td>3,814</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insurance by Members</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>111,465</td>
<td>103,405</td>
<td>11,812</td>
<td>5,368</td>
<td>640</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| **Expenditure**      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| General Administration| 19,471|15,732|237   |309   |286  |36   |      |      |      |      |      |
| Communications       | 11,770| 4,215 |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| Consultants          | 9,808 | 20,212|      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| Minor Equipment      | 910   |      | 10,391| 5,362| 2,219 |1,052|      |      |      |      |      |
| Memberships/Affiliations| 5,475| 5,484 |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| Depreciation         |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| Staff Costs          | 52,991|37,919 |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| Volunteer Training   | 3,494 | 6,694 | 2,624| 557   |1,853|112  |      |      |      |      |      |
| Other Volunteer Costs| 780  |379   | 2,665| 4,254| 4,729|2,121|      |      |      |      |      |
| Insurance for Members|      |      |      |      |      |      | 54,240| 52,074| 54,240| 52,074|      |
| Other expenses       | 219  | 300  |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| **Total**            | 104,918|90,933|15,917|10,537|9,307|3,321|54,240|52,074|184,382|156,867|      |

| **Surplus**          | 6547 | 12470| -4105| -5169| -8667| -3321| -106  | 0  | -6331| 3980  |      |
## Movement Of Funds

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>General Fund</th>
<th>Search &amp; Rescue Insurance</th>
<th>Future Projects</th>
<th>Contingency</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fund Balance at 1 April 2015</td>
<td>$21,318</td>
<td>$14,959</td>
<td>$118,680</td>
<td>$33,000</td>
<td>$187,957</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deficit for the Year</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$2,226</td>
<td>$4,105</td>
<td>- $6,331</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fund Balance at 31 March 2016</td>
<td>$19,092</td>
<td>$10,854</td>
<td>$118,680</td>
<td>$33,000</td>
<td>$181,626</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Balance Sheet at 31 March 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Notes</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>Movement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current Assets</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash Management Trading</td>
<td>90,743</td>
<td>90,276</td>
<td>467</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paypal</td>
<td>1,816</td>
<td>6,794</td>
<td>-4,978</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Federation Event Advance</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project Advance</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>555</td>
<td>-555</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term Deposits</td>
<td>96,959</td>
<td>94,458</td>
<td>2,501</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sundry Debtors</td>
<td>1,898</td>
<td>1,936</td>
<td>-38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Current Assets</strong></td>
<td>191,416</td>
<td>195,019</td>
<td>-3,603</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non Current Assets</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equipment (Note 1)</td>
<td>40,752</td>
<td>40,752</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Less Accumulated Depreciation</strong></td>
<td>-40,752</td>
<td>-40,752</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Non Current Assets</strong></td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Assets</strong></td>
<td>191,416</td>
<td>195,019</td>
<td>-3,603</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current Liabilities</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sundry Creditors (Note 3)</td>
<td>3,675</td>
<td>3,590</td>
<td>85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Liabilities (Note 4)</td>
<td>6,115</td>
<td>3,472</td>
<td>2,643</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Current Liabilities</strong></td>
<td>9,790</td>
<td>7,062</td>
<td>2,728</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Net Assets</strong></td>
<td>181,626</td>
<td>187,957</td>
<td>6,331</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Members Equity (Note 5)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Fund</td>
<td>19,092</td>
<td>21,318</td>
<td>-2,226</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Search &amp; Rescue</td>
<td>10,854</td>
<td>14,959</td>
<td>-4,105</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Future Projects</td>
<td>118,680</td>
<td>118,680</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contingency</td>
<td>33,000</td>
<td>33,000</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Equity</strong></td>
<td>181,626</td>
<td>187,957</td>
<td>6,331</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Notes to the Accounts as at March 31, 2016

1. Depreciation: All equipment has been fully depreciated

2. Grants
   - VESEP $8,812
   - Better Bushwalking $5,911

3. Sundry Creditors
   - JoElla Marketing $2,475
   - Outdoors Victoria $448
   - Charles Ablitt $441
   - Other $311
   - $3,675

4. Other Liabilities
   - Prepaid Revenue (Fed 16) $2,000
   - PAYG/GST payable $1,140
   - Provision for leave $1,802
   - Superannuation payable $1,173
   - $6,115

5. Members Equity
   - Members equity at 1 April 2015 $187,957
   - Net deficit for the current year $6,331
   - Members equity at 31 March 2016 $181,626