



BENDIGO

UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

U3A Bendigo Incorporated, Association No: A0021550A

U3A Bendigo Hikers Group Guidelines for Summer Walks Program 2018 - 2019

Introduction

U3A Bendigo recognises the importance of planning for walking in advance of the walk, during the Summer time. The Bendigo Hikers Group have developed the following Guidelines for their Summer walks and if other walking groups would like to adapt or adopt them, please do so.

Guidelines

1. These guidelines apply to the period from Christmas to the end of February.
2. U3A policy requires that all outside activities stop when the temperature is over 35 degrees. This temperature refers to the location of the walk.
3. Walks in the bush must be **cancelled on days of total fire ban** in the relevant district. Bendigo is in **Northern Country District**, Castlemaine is in North Central District.

To Satisfy these Requirements:

- a. Plan walks in the Bendigo urban area, concentrating on established walking trails. Any sections in the pockets of bush must be close to roads to allow for easy evacuation.
- b. There is no need to meet at a set place. Choose a safe location which suits the walk.
- c. The planned walks must be **less than 10 kilometres**.
- d. Monitor weather forecasts (eg Weatherzone) and be prepared to modify or cancel the walk if the conditions are not safe.
- e. For the months of **January and February the meeting time is 8.00 am**. The same meeting time should apply to retain consistency and avoid mix ups. This would vary only on special occasions.
- f. The activity should be **completed by 10.30 am** to avoid the heat of the day.
- g. If the day is declared as a **Total Fire Ban or Code Red day in the Northern Fire District** then it is suggested that the group meets at the location advertised and have a short walk to have a coffee.
- h. If there is an actual fire in Bendigo then all activities are cancelled.

Remember that the area near where you live should be first place to plan your walk. Show everyone your own special part of Bendigo.

Judy and Lawrie Edward

8th November 2018

Authorisation : These Guidelines were adopted by the Committee Of Management of U3A Bendigo Incorporated, and minuted as such, on **5th November 2018**.