

24<sup>th</sup> May 2020

Dear fellow Ramblers,

As you'll know from the recent issue of *Ramblings*, we will be able to once again offer some walking opportunities to Ramblers' members, for small groups, from 1<sup>st</sup> June. It is really important that you read the attached **WEA Ramblers Sydney COVID-19 Walk Protocols** before taking part in any Ramblers' activities.

Because it was not possible to develop a Winter Walks Programme, under the uncertainties of COVID-19 restrictions, the resumption of Ramblers' walks will be organised through the Short Notice Walks system, until at least the end of August.

Leaders who are wishing to provide walks over the next 3 months will be sending the Short Notice Walks Co-ordinator relevant information about each individual walk (including the number of walkers they are able to accommodate on that walk), and this will be e-mailed to members a few days before the proposed Walk date. The information will include location, approximate distance, Grade level and any other details of the terrain that might assist potential participants in deciding if it's a good fit for them. Leaders will also include their preferred contact details for walk-specific enquiries and bookings.

Because of the mandated number limitations, bookings are required for all walks. The following process should be followed if you are interested in joining a particular walk:

- Contact the leader named in the Short Notice Walk e-mail you have received, using their preferred contact details.
- If there are still places available for the walk when you contact the leader, and you both decide that it is a suitable walk for you to undertake, s/he will let you know the starting time for the walk.
- The leader will also request your basic contact information for the **No touch sign-on** process both so that s/he can be in touch with you again if needed, and also to facilitate completion of the usual Walks sign-on record.
- If all places on the walk have already been filled (on a first come, first in basis), the leader can add you to a Reserve list, in case another walker has to withdraw before the walk takes place. Those on the Reserve list will generally be offered first option of a place on the next suitable walk with the same leader.
- If you are booked for a walk, but are then no longer able to take part, please let the leader know as soon as possible, so your place can be offered to someone else.

This approach to offering walks through Ramblers will be trialled over the next few weeks. We welcome feedback from both leaders and participants, so that it can be reviewed and adjusted as required, and as circumstances change.

I do hope you are all finding ways to enjoy a range of outdoor options, even if your walking opportunities are restricted. The next step could find us being able to reconnect more directly with some of our Ramblers friends over coming months. That would be something to look really forward to!

With very best wishes,

Rosemary

Rosemary Flavel  
President