

VAWC 1937 WINTER SEASON FIXTURE

Former club auditor and now retired walker Graeme Russell recently posted me a copy of the 1937 Victorian Amateur Walkers Club Winter Season fixture and I thought it would make interesting reading for our members. It came in two parts – the first page detailed the Social Fixture and the second page detailed the Racing Fixture.

Social Fixture

May 23	Hike from Blackwood	Meet at State Theatre	9:30 a.m.
June 2	Presentation Dance	Wayside Inn	8.00 p.m.
June 20	Hike from Kinglake Nth	Meet at State Theatre	9.30 a.m.
July 17	Relay to Healesville	Y.M.C.A.	11.30 a.m.
July 18	Trip from Healesville	as arranged	
Aug 8	Hike from Toolangi	State Theatre	8.00 a.m.
Sept 11	House Party – Mr Knott's home		8.00 p.m.
Sept 12	Picnic Hike	as arranged	

Dinner to be arranged

Note: The bus will leave punctual to times stated above.

Racing Fixture

Apr 17	Pack Walk	Collingwood Club Rooms	3.00 p.m.
Apr 24	Pack Walk	Caulfield Race Course	3.00 p.m.
May 1	3 Miles Handicap	Y.M.C.A.	2.45 p.m.
May 8	4 Miles Handicap	Y.M.C.A.	2.45 p.m.
May 15	3 Miles Novice Handicap and 5 Miles Handicap	Y.M.C.A.	2.45 p.m.
May 22	4 Miles Handicap	Y.M.C.A.	2.45 p.m.
May 29	6 Miles Handicap	Y.M.C.A.	2.45 p.m.
June 5	10,000 Metres Club Championship	Royal Show Grounds	2.45 p.m.
June 12	7 Miles Handicap	Alvert Park	2.45 p.m.
June 19	5 Miles State Championship	Royal Show Grounds	3.00 p.m.
June 26	5 Miles V.A.A.A. Open Teams Race	Albert Park	3.00 p.m.
July 3	8 Miles Handicap	Y.M.C.A.	2.45 p.m.
July 10	10 Miles State Championship	Royal Show Grounds	3.00 p.m.
July 17	Relay to Healesville	Y.M.C.A.	11.30 a.m.
July 24	6 Miles Handicap	Y.M.C.A.	2.45 p.m.
July 31	8 Miles Handicap	Albert Park	2.45 p.m.
Aug 7	20,000 Metres Handicap	Albert Park	2.30 p.m.
Aug 14	15 Miles Handicap	Albert Park	2.30 p.m.
Aug 21	7 Miles Handicap	Y.M.C.A.	2.45 p.m.
Aug 28	20 Miles Handicap	Albert Park	2.00 p.m.
Sept 4	Training Walk, as arranged		2.45 p.m.
Sept 11	Biennial 7 Miles Teams, Race Walking Clubs of Australia	Royal Show Grounds	2.45 p.m.
Sept 18	25 Miles Handicap	Albert Park	1.00 p.m.
Sept 25	Training Walk, as arranged		2.30 p.m.
Oct 2	50 Kilos Club Championship	Royal Show Grounds	11.00 a.m.

The **Y.M.C.A** meeting point mentioned was the Y.M.C.A boatshed at Princes Bridge, right in the middle of the city. Walkers normally changed in the boatshed clubrooms and raced along Alexandra Avenue, either to Morell Bridge and back or to Anderson Street and back or on a 1 mile out and back lap.

The **Royal Show Grounds** in Flemington were a regular racing venue. Track walks were held on the shellgrit track around the central showgrounds and road walks were also held from that venue, around the local streets.

When races were scheduled for **Albert Park**, the Albert Park Rowing Club was used.

Handicap races were always staggered starts with the slowest walkers starting first and the fastest walkers starting last, based on their handicaps or expected times. As fields were not large, this was not an issue.