



WA Wanderers 2023 Chairman's Report

We have had a great year of walks.

I would like to thank all the men who has helped organise the year's events, **Greg, Phil, Graham, David, James, Rob, Terry and Pete**, and all those who attended.

I'd also like to thank the committee for all their hard work. Particularly Terry for his fantastic cooking, Pete for his efficiency in running the group and the website, Greg and Phil for organising a lot of the year's walks and Rob for his talent at organising fun stuff to do.

Our paid member numbers are relatively stable at 49 men compared to 53 last year and 49 the year before. I would like to remind everyone that paid members get additional benefits, such as early booking on weekends away and limited number events.

Facebook membership has continued to climb from 513 men last year to 551 now. People like to see the pictures of past walks. Email subscriptions have also grown from 234 to 262.

As I said last year, it feels like the group is almost at capacity, because some of our walks are already getting difficult to manage. However, the average age of the group seems to be climbing, and we should encourage younger men to join.

The key to our success as a social walking group is our reputation for being friendly and approachable. On almost every walk we have some men you may not have met before. Chat with them. Introduce them to others. Include them in the conversation. Make them feel welcome.

I would also encourage men who may want to grow into leadership roles as many of the committee are ready for a break. First step is probably to plan and lead a few walks. Talk to the committee to discuss how you want to get involved.

I wish everyone a happy Christmas and a great year in 2024.

Ro Richardson

3 December 2023