



WA Wanderers 2025 Chairman's Report

First, I'd like to say thanks to the folks who have turned up for this event planning and AGM. The Associations and Charities Branch of Consumer Protection will not allow us to hold the AGM in December as our financial year is not closed yet.

We have had another year of great walks.

I would like to thank all the men who has helped organise the year's events, **Dave, Kencho, Greg, Terry, Phil, John, Gary, Phillip**, and all those who attended. Also big thanks to **Terry, Jeff** and **Pete** for delicious food here today, at the Fairbridge weekend away and the BBQ at David's house after the Penguin Island walk.

I'd also like to thank Pete for his efficiency in running the group and the website, nagging members to respond or commit. A lot of work goes on behind the scenes. Please appreciate that and respond promptly.

I would like to remind everyone that paid members get additional benefits, such as early booking on weekends away and events with limited places available.

Facebook membership has grown 8.6% to 643 men. Facebook allows us to see the pictures of past walks. I'd like to thank **David, Gabe, Shaul, Shane, Andy** and others for posting great pics of this year's walks.

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 is 60 and seems to be climbing, and we should encourage younger men to join – and make them feel welcome when they do.

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. Introduce yourself; chat with them. Introduce them to others. Include them in the conversation. Make them feel welcome. Try to remember to bring your name badge.

We are aware of a new Facebook group, Queer Trails Perth which aims to organise a walk every Sunday and is open to women.

I would also encourage men who may want to grow into leadership roles to talk to Pete, Terry or me. The first step is probably to plan and lead a few walks.

I wish everyone a great year in 2026.

Ro Richardson

8 February 2026