

Eltham and Environs Walking Group

Weekend walk – Saturday March 16th 2019

Blackwood

Reverse of a walk we did three years ago. This is a very pretty two-hour+ (essentially flat) walk, forested (dry and moist), tree-ferned, crossing gullies and passing through masses of [goodenias](#). The paths are generally foot-kind. Poles are advisable, particularly if there's been recent rain.

Depart Diamond Valley Stadium at 8am, unless you've made other arrangements. The journey takes about 90 minutes, via the Ring Road and Melton. Leave the Western Highway at the second Myrniong turn-off, turning right almost immediately onto the Greendale-Myrniong Rd. Follow the signs to Blackwood (not Myrniong), turning right at Greendale (pub) roundabout. Note the half church on the left, just before the roundabout.

Meet at [Martin Street Coffee](#) (last time it was called *The Blackwood Merchant and Provedore*, before that the *General Store*), opposite the pub, for a restorative coffee and any other relief that seems appropriate at the time. We will return there for lunch.

The walk begins at the Garden of St Erth carpark (further around from the one immediately adjacent to St Erth). There is a toilet here.

The first part of the walk is well above and away from the Lerderderg River. We will largely walk through dry forest on and along one of Madame Bonford's old water races (narrow in places) to the indiscernible remains of the Crown Dam, where we have a break.

We then return along the Lerderderg River Heritage Trail to St Erth.

Suggested petrol donation \$10.