

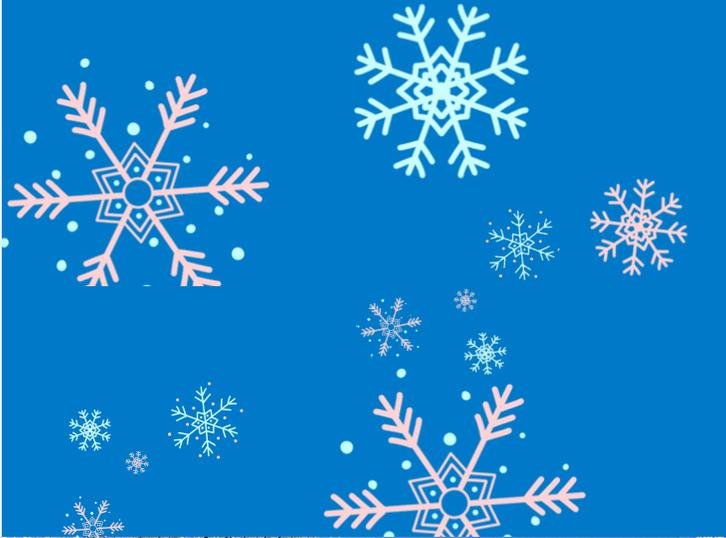


THE BLUE PRINT



The Blue Mountains Bruce Trail Club Newsletter

www.bmbtc.org, P.O. Box 91, Collingwood, ON, L9Y 3Z4



Photos by Greg Dunn
@theeinstagreg

What's in this Newsletter:

P.2 - INDEX

P.3 - BMBTC AWARDS

P.4 - BIODIVERSITY HIKE

P.5 - FALL END-2-END RECAP

P. 6-7 VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION

P. 8 - VOLUNTEER FOR THE BMBTC

P.9 - MOONLIGHT HIKE

P.10 - BADGE DESIGN OPPORTUNITY

P.11 - SPRING 2023 END-2-END

P.12 - WINTER 2023 END-2-END

P.13 - HIKES AT A GLANCE

BMBTC Executives 22/23

President Kelly-Leigh Thomas 519-501-8170 drklthomas@rogers.com	Trail Director Linda Finley trailmaintenance@bmbtc.org	Hike Director Allison Thomas hikecoordinator@bmbtc.org	Director at Large Dick Edwards
Vice President	Landowner Relations Dave and Bev Matthews Landowner.relations@bmbtc.org	Events and Fundraising Director Christine Lasky events@bmbtc.org	Past President Michael Treuman
Treasurer Rob Alsop	Land Steward Director Stan Kaczmarek	Volunteer Coordinator Sandy Buik volunteers@bmbtc.org	
Secretary Sandy McNair	Membership Director Dave Cole	Communications Director Rebecca Koroll Blueprint@bmbtc.org	

BMBTC Support Teams

Hike Team Allison Thomas hikecoordinator@bmbtc.org	Events and Fundraising Christine Lasky events@bmbtc.org	Communications Rebecca Koroll (newsletter) Blueprint@bmbtc.org
Mary-Lynne Chenard Michelle Wacker	Mary Jane McIntyre Rob Johnston Jessie Goodwin James Collie	Vera Cvetkovic (Webmaster) Caitlin Foisy (Social Media) Communications@bmbtc.org

From the Desk of the President, Kelly-Leigh Thomas

Our Blue Mountains Club received two BTC awards this past year! The Susan Oleskevitch Award that is presented annually to an outstanding trail worker. Our hard working, always positive and energetic Dick Edwards was nominated on behalf of our Club by Myra Campbell and Mary Jane McIntyre and he won!

Our second award was the Philip & Jean Gosling Award, for our beautiful, new bridge over the Noisy River. Mary Jane, a tireless volunteer for our Club reviewed the nomination process and our own very busy, long time Trail Director, Linda Finley, accepted this award on behalf of the Club.

Thank you to BTC staff member Meghan Croll and long time BTC volunteer David Moule for joining us this past autumn to present these awards in person! An inspiring and proud day for our Blue Mountains Bruce Trail Club



Bruce Trail Day, October 2nd

On Sunday, October 2nd we celebrated the annual Bruce Trail Day in person! This year, families were invited to join BTC Conservation and Trail Manager, Adam Brylowski for a biodiversity hike including a visit to Franks Lime Kiln. A loop hike followed through our new Balsam Wetlands Nature Reserve. Our 4km hike was enjoyed by about 30 hikers and included a wonderful walk in the woods past Walkers Aggregate to complete our lovely autumn hike.

Kelly-Leigh Thomas
President Blue Mountains & the Sweep for this hike!



Fall 2022 End-To-End

October 1st and 2nd was a beautiful sunny weekend, with a little chill in the air, as 40 hikers set out on Saturday morning for the 2022 Blue Mountains End-to-End.

Covering 37 km each day, this was a big challenge hike and, new this year, covered the Balsam Wetlands route.

32 finished the full E2E hike on Sunday and received their badges, while the other hikers gave it their best. Saturday concluded with a BBQ for hikers and over 45 volunteers that made this experience memorable. This was the first End-to-End for the Club in over two years after a COVID hiatus.

Our 2023 End-to-End is moving back to its traditional end of May date. Look for more details later in this newsletter.



Volunteer Appreciation Event

After more than a 2-year hiatus, due to COVID 19, the Events and Fundraising (E &F) Committee organized a great meet and greet as a thank you to all the volunteers that make the Blue Mountains Club so special. The event took place at the Collingwood Leisure Time Club and lunch was provided. Over 50 volunteers attended and door prizes were given out at the conclusion. Christine Lasky, Director of the E & F Committee welcomed everyone, Annette Sandberg led our Land Acknowledgment, Allison Thomas read greetings and thanks from our President, Kelly-Leigh Thomas, who was out of town, and Sandy Buik, our Director of Volunteers, joyously thanked everyone for giving of their time and passion as a volunteer for the Club. A wonderful time was had by all!



Volunteer Appreciation Event



Join us at the BMBTC

Volunteers are the backbone of the Blue Mountains Club of the Bruce Trail. If you've been considering a way to contribute to preserving that "ribbon of wilderness" you love to hike, then volunteering is such a great way to get involved and meet so many like-minded people. Here are some great opportunities right now to get involved:

We're currently planning our 2023 End 2 End Weekend – May 27-29, 2023. This year, it's an epic event with both 2- and 3-day hikes. We'd love it if you'd be interested in volunteering any or all three days. We need folks to help with checkpoints, sweeps, refreshments – it's fun, a great way to meet people and spend part or the whole weekend! This is something you can help with even if you are also interested in any of the great opportunities below.

Communications Team. If you like to write or edit – or are interested in social media, we'd love a couple of additions to our Communications Team. We also need an editor for the Club newsletter which is about organizing contributions that come in and helping ensure our membership is informed of all the fantastic activities going on across the Trail and the Club.

Events Team. Our amazing Director of Events and Fundraising has some fantastic things planned for the coming year and is looking for some keen people to join her team to help make them happen. This is a fun, active team.

Hike Director. We have a fantastic opportunity to join our Blue Mountains Club Board of Directors as Hike Director. In this role, you and a small but experienced team will plan and resource the great hike schedule and special hike events the Blue Mountains Club is known for. You'll also ensure a solid, well trained, enthusiastic team of Hike Leaders

Hike Team Member. Join the team that puts their passion for hiking into scheduling and resourcing our fantastic Blue Mountains Club hike schedule

Volunteer Director. The Volunteer Director sits on the Board of Directors and is a very hands on role. You'll ensure our teams are well resourced with the fantastic volunteers our Club is known for and work with the Bruce Trail Conservancy to ensure all of our volunteer practices and protocols meet the BTC standards. It's a fun, important role that crosses all areas of the Club!

Help out at the Clearview Health and Leisure Expo March 4, 2023. We'll be promoting the Club and the Bruce Trail Conservancy selling Memberships and Guides and sharing all the wonders that are the Bruce Trail and Club Membership (<https://www.discoverclearview.ca/recreation-leisure/health-leisure-expo>)

These are only a few of the ways to get involved right away. If you are interested, please go to <https://bruce-trail.org/apply-online-to-volunteer/>

Moonlight Hike by Hart Fischer

On January 6th, 2023, David Little led the Moonlight Hike for the Blue Mountain Bruce Trail Club. He was assisted by Mary-Lynne Chenard the sweep, and a sweep was surely needed to keep track of the 30 eager enthusiastic hikers!

The group gathered in the Home Hardware parking lot where David explained what could be expected on this 5 km urban hike.

The tour included sections along the Georgian Meadows Trail, along a portion of the Black Ash Creek, some local walking trails, a few streets in a subdivision, a section along a golf course, even a short trip along a snowmobile trail - all in all a wide variety of walking paths. We even walked past the fully lit Side Launch Brewery - but alas it was closed and we could not sample their wares. Groans all around.



The terrain was generally flat and had good footing. David asked several times if the pace was too fast or too slow and, like Goldilocks, we found it to be just right. When we got back to the cars we still had all 30 hikers without any injuries thanks to Mary-Lynne's outstanding job performance. In the parking lot was where David found his new calling. Let me explain. Of the 30 hikers about 5 were old hands from the BMBTC who already had the coveted Moonlight badge. So that left 25 souls without one. By looking at the badge you can see the wolf howling at the moon with gently falling snow. We had no snow, we had no moon, 100% cloud cover, and we neither heard nor saw the wolf. Nevertheless David sold 23 badges for a 92% success rate. What an awesome job!

Badge Design Opportunity

BMBTC Needs a Badge!

Calling all ARTISTS!! We are seeking creativity and talent in designing a new badge for the Blue Mountains Bruce Trail Club. This badge will be for the debut of our organized 3 Day End to End hike event taking place in May 2023. The badge must be reflective of hiking in the Blue Mountains section of the Bruce Trail. The designer of the chosen badge will have the satisfaction of having the badge handed out yearly at this event.

Submission Guidelines:

1. Open to all BTC members only, must submit an active membership # with entry
 2. Badge design must be original.
 3. The final badge size should be 3" by 3" maximum size.
 4. Shape is your choice.
 5. Design should be clear, creative, and colourful. (Maximum 5 colours.)
 6. Incorporate a feature of the BMBTC section.
 7. Design should incorporate relevant text for the identified badge ("BMBTC 3 DAY End to End") within the maximum size.
- Submissions must be emailed in PDF or JPG format to contest@bluemountainsbruce trail.ca

Contest closes March 25, 2023

Badge submissions will be judged by a committee made up of the BMBTC Hike Team, as well as Hike Leaders and BMBTC Board Directors. Judging designs will be done anonymously.

Good Luck to all!!



Spring 2023 End-2-End Event

Hike our amazing trail or become a volunteer for the event! This year we are offering two distinct hiking options:

- **2 Day hike for those looking for a big challenge**
- **3 Day hike for those who want to spread out the challenge**

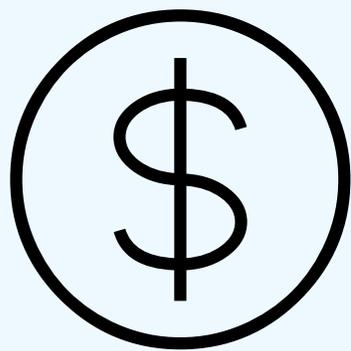
Both hikes will wind their way through our beautiful and varied terrain of the Blue Mountains Club trails. Enjoy the early signs of nature awakening, the beautiful vistas and the rugged escarpment. Whether you choose the 2 Day or 3 Day option, both hikes will cover the appropriate 69 km distance of our section, which runs from Lavender to Swiss Meadows. Checkpoint stations will be offered approximately every 10 kms offering snacks, water refill and assistance along the way.

The 2 Day hike fees:

- Members is \$70 and \$80 for non-members
- Includes bus transportation to the start point each day, refreshments, a Saturday end of hike BBQ, online registration fees and the E2E badge

The 3 Day hike fees:

- \$80 for members and \$90 for non-members
- Includes all of the same benefits of the 2 Day, and the added cost of transportation the extra day.



**Save
THE
Date**

**Registration will open on March 1,
2023.**

Details will be emailed to participants once registration is received. Note, these are longer distances and generally not suitable for beginner hikers.

Winter 2023 End-2-End



Are you exploring the Blue Mountains Bruce Trail Section over the winter? Hike our trails for the Winter End-2-End Badge!

Hike from December 21st (Winter Solstice) until March 19th (the last day before Vernal Equinox) to qualify for this Badge!

For more details visit our website -

<https://www.bmbtc.org/hikes/badges-and-hike-logs/>



Hikes at a Glance January to May

HIKE DATES	TIME	HIKE NAME	length/pace
Sat, Jan 21, 2023	8:00 AM	Winter R2R #1 Pretty River Valley Rim	19km Brisk & Strenuous
Wed, Jan 25, 2023	9:30 AM	Pretty River -Upper Loop John Haigh	6km Medium
Sat, Jan 28, 2023	9:00 AM	Duncan Crevice & Chuck Grant loop	12km Medium
Wed, Feb 1, 2023	9:30 AM	Franks Kiln-Singhampton Caves	12km Medium & Strenuous
Sat, Feb 4, 2023	9:00 AM	Pine River	7km Medium
Wed, Feb 8, 2023	9:00 AM	Lavender Cemetery (Noisy River Preserve)	13km Medium
Sat, Feb 11, 2023	9:00 AM	Duntroon Crevices - Devil's Glen	6km Leisurely
Wed, Feb 15, 2023	9:00 AM	Griersville	10km Brisk
Sat, Feb 18, 2023	8:00 AM	Winter R2R #2 Mad River Rim	9km Brisk & Strenuous
Sat, Feb 18, 2023	9:30 AM	Nottawasaga Bluffs and the Keyhole	6km Medium
Wed, Feb 22, 2023	8:30 AM	Woodford Escarpment ST & Crevice Spring	6km Medium
Sat, Feb 25, 2023	9:30 AM	Vandeleur (west side of Beaver Valley)	8km Medium
Wed, Mar 1, 2023	9:00 AM	Bibbulmun Friendship Trail, Mulmur	7km Medium
Sat, Mar 4, 2023	8:00 AM	Hockley Valley	12km Medium-Strenuous
Tue, Mar 7, 2023	8:00 PM	Moonlight Hike -11th Line Loops	2 hours Leisurely exploration
Wed, Mar 8, 2023	9:30 AM	Inglis Falls-Harrison Park Loop	8-10km Medium
Sat, Mar 11, 2023	8:00 AM	Winter R2R #3 Noisy River Rim	9km Brisk & Strenuous
Sat, Mar 11, 2023	9:30 AM	Dunedin Nature Reserve	6km Medium
Wed, Mar 15, 2023	9:00 AM	Swiss Meadows to Loree Forest (almost)	7.5km Medium
Sat, Mar 18, 2023	9:00 AM	Nottawasaga Lookout -top loop	5km Leisurely
Wed, Mar 22, 2023	9:00 AM	Two Big Rocks -Metcalf & Pinnacle	10 km Medium
Sat, Mar 25, 2023	9:00 AM	McCluskey's Rock	8km Medium
Wed, Mar 29, 2023	8:00 AM	Hart's NEW Triple Inferno	12km Medium & Strenuous
Sat, Apr 1, 2023	9:00 AM	Bighead Valley, Sydenham	10km Medium
Sat, Apr 1, 2023	9:00 AM	Kolapore Uplands In and Out	5-7km Medium
Wed, Apr 5, 2023	9:00 AM	Devilish Madness at Glen Huron	12km Medium
Sat, Apr 8, 2023	9:00 AM	Transcarioca Friendship Trail km9.1-14.5	10km Medium
Wed, Apr 12, 2023	9:00 AM	Blue Mountains E-E Hike #3 km21.9-km34.2	12.3km Medium
Sat, Apr 15, 2023	9:00 AM	Bayview Escarpment Provincial Reserve Park	12km Medium
Wed, Apr 19, 2023	9:00 AM	Old Baldy	5km Leisurely
Sat, Apr 22, 2023	9:00 AM	Creemore Nature Preserve	5km Leisurely
Wed, Apr 26, 2023	8:30 AM	Anthea's Waterfall, Griersville	10km Brisk
Sat, Apr 29, 2023	9:00 AM	Petun Conservation	8-9km Medium
Wed, May 3, 2023	8:30 AM	Wodehouse Karst	12km Medium & Strenuous
Sat, May 6, 2023	8:00 AM	Boyne Valley -Primrose	14km Medium
Wed, May 10, 2023	8:00 AM	Blue Mountains E-E Hike #4 km34.2-km44.5	10.3km Medium
Sat, May 13, 2023	8:30 AM	Inglis Falls -Harrison Park	8-10km Medium
Wed, May 17, 2023	8:00 AM	Blue Mountains E-E Hike #5 km44.5-km55.7	11.2km Medium
Sat, May 20, 2023	9:00 AM	Kilgorie & Melodonna Side Trail loop	8km Medium
Wed, May 24, 2023	8:00 AM	Blue Mountains E-E Hike #6 km55.7-km67.3	11.6km Medium
Sat, May 27, 2023		BMBTC End 2 End Day 1	34.5 & 23km
Sun, May 28, 2023		BMBTC End 2 End Day 2	34.5 & 23km
Mon, May 29, 2023		BMBTC End 2 End Day 3	23km
Wed, May 31, 2023	8:00 AM	Hart's DOUBLE Surprise Hike!	Loooong/Med/Brisk/Strenuous