

SEPTEMBER EVENTS

Standard Car pooling rates

\$2: Ganges to Duke's Road/Arnell Park/North End or similar short trips

\$3: Ganges to Fulford Harbour or similar-length trips

\$4: travel on unpaved roads or from Ganges to south of Fulford Harbour or Ruckle Park

\$5: when travelling on Musgrave Road, Mountain Road

Off island: \$0.30 per km per passenger plus shared ferry costs.

BLACKBERRY FESTIVAL Tuesday, September 8th

Tuesday, September 8th

Kick Off the season at our Annual Blackberry Festival. Meet at the **Group Camp Site #1** of Ruckle Park at 12 noon – **bring your lunch as well as a bowl and a spoon** for some blackberry treats! If you wish, feel free to bring along any blackberry treats to share with the group. This would also be a good chance for you to pay your annual dues if you have not already done so.

There will also be a hike, walk and ramble before lunch.

HIKE – Blackberry festival; Hikers meet at the **group campsite area** for a short hike before returning for lunch and blackberries. Meet at Art Spring to car pool, departing at 9:40 or gather at the lower parking area to designate a leader and to set out just after 10:00. Return to the Group Campsite area just before noon.

WALK – Blackberry festival; Walkers meet at the **group campsite area** for a short hike before returning for blackberries and ice cream. Meet at ArtSpring to car pool, departing at 9:40 or gather at the lower parking area at 10:00 am to choose your leader for a short walk. Return to the day use picnic area for lunch (where we had the strawberries) just before noon. Remember your bowl and spoon, and garden. Bring berries or treat if you can.

RAMBLE – Who would like to lead a ramble? Beginning with a short ramble before the blackberry festival on September 16 or any Tuesday thereafter?

Tuesday, September 15th

HIKE – Terri Leslie will lead a hike on Mt Erskine starting at Trustees Trail. Meet at ArtSpring to carpool, departing at 9:45 or at the trailhead on Trustees Trail to set out at 10:00. Good trails and great viewpoints towards Vancouver Island, 250 m net elevation gain with some minor ups and downs.

WALK – Angie will lead on Reginald Hill Conservancy, a gradual climb to the top for lunch with a view. Meet at ArtSpring to carpool, departing 10:00 am or at Clarinda Road at 10:20. Park on Clarinda Road near the intersection with Bridgeman Road.

RAMBLE – Meet at Artspring at 10:30 and carpool to Brinkworthy and walk around there then drive to Portlock Park for lunch.

Sunday, September 22nd HIKE – Chris Hatfield Trail, Ruckle Park: meet at ArtSpring to car pool departing at 1:00 or at the trailhead at the end of Meyer Road to set out at 1:20

Tuesday, September 22nd

HIKE – Ashley Hilliard will lead a hike to the summit of Mt Bruce via the Alvin Indridson Nature Reserve. About 200 m elevation gain on generally good trails. Meet to carpool at ArtSpring departing at 0945 or at 10:05 at Drummond Park to consolidate vehicles before proceeding in a group up Musgrave Road to the trailhead.

WALK – Sheila will lead a moderately vigorous walk to the top of Mount Erskine from Trustees Trail on the least intense route. Distance: 3.5 km, Elevation: 200 m, Time: 3hr. Lunch with great views, at the top. Meet at ArtSpring for 10:00 am departure or at the trailhead (end of Trustees Trail) at 10:15 am.

RAMBLE – Meet at Artspring at 10:30 and carpool to Broadwell and leave our cars there and ramble around Channel Ridge.

Lunch at water tower

Sunday, September 27th The Tsawout lands are closed for construction, so here is an amended hike description: Reginald Hill and Doukhobor Point. Meet at ArtSpring to car pool departing at 1:00 or at the corner of Clarinda and Bridgeman Road to set out at 1:20. Up through the NCC lands to the Reginald Hill summit and back via Doukhobor Point.

Tuesday, September 29th

HIKE – Weather for tomorrow is uncertain, with heavy overnight rain extending into the morning. Please check your email first thing tomorrow for an update on the status of this hike. In any case the best plan may be to delay the start of the hike by one hour to avoid most of the morning rain. Meet at Art Spring to carpool, departing at **10:45** or at the trailhead on Armand Way to set out at **11:00**.

WALK – Alison will lead a walk on the Cupples trail, a mainly easy trail with rope assist on a short, steep slope followed by the Jack Foster trail to have lunch on the beach. The Jack Foster trail includes one long descent where the trail is rough and somewhat eroded. Depart from ArtSpring at 10:00 am or meet Alison at 10:15 am at the parking area at the Jack Foster trailhead, intersection of Sunset and Southey Point Roads.

—————**It's not too soon to volunteer to lead an October Walk.**—————

RAMBLE – Meet at ArtSpring at 10:30 to carpool to Country Grocer and walk toward the cemetery as long as we want then back again.

Lunch at Portlock