

October 2020

# Brindabella Bushwalking Club



BBC

## Newsletter and Program



*Looking towards Tidbinbilla Range from Billy Billy Rocks*

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### Coronavirus Update

- \* Some restrictions have eased , but they have no impact on bushwalking. The latest ACT updates can always be found here: [Updates](#)
- \* Keeping your distance and maintaining hand (and respiratory) hygiene are essential.
- \* If sharing a car, it may ease the concern of fellow passengers if you all wear masks.

### BBC Website

[www.brindabellabushwalking.org.au](http://www.brindabellabushwalking.org.au) [All newsletters are on the website]

If you need the password to access the members' Area, please send a request by email to

[webmaster@brindabellabushwalking.org.au](mailto:webmaster@brindabellabushwalking.org.au)

## From the President

**COVID-19 restrictions** are still with us and the key elements remain physical distancing and hygiene measures. We aren't restricted on the number of people we can have on an activity provided, of course, that it is within the ACT. NSW, though, has a limit of 20 for any activity.

**Our Program.** For the remainder of 2020, walks will continue to be announced as 'short notice' activities in the week prior. However, our new Walks Officer and Sub-Committee are aiming to produce a full six-month walks program for the first half of 2021. Social activities will be announced on an ongoing basis, depending on the rules pertaining at the time.

**Leaders:** Please start preparing walk descriptions and selecting the dates in the period January to June that you would like to conduct these walks. Your respective walks sub-committee members will be asking for these by early November so they can develop the program. The Walks Officer will send you reminders. It is unlikely that the middle section of Namadgi will be open to the public before June, so you can't program walks for there just yet.

Heather McLoughlin is now managing **Facebook** for us — Thanks for offering your time and skills, Heather. Leaders and other members can send photos or reports to her at: [facebook@brindabellabushwalking.org.au](mailto:facebook@brindabellabushwalking.org.au)

Sadly, the Wilsons Promontory trips away had to be cancelled. Hopefully, this is really just an indefinite postponement.

Let's all keep enjoying the great outdoors before the summer heat arrives!

Peter Dalton



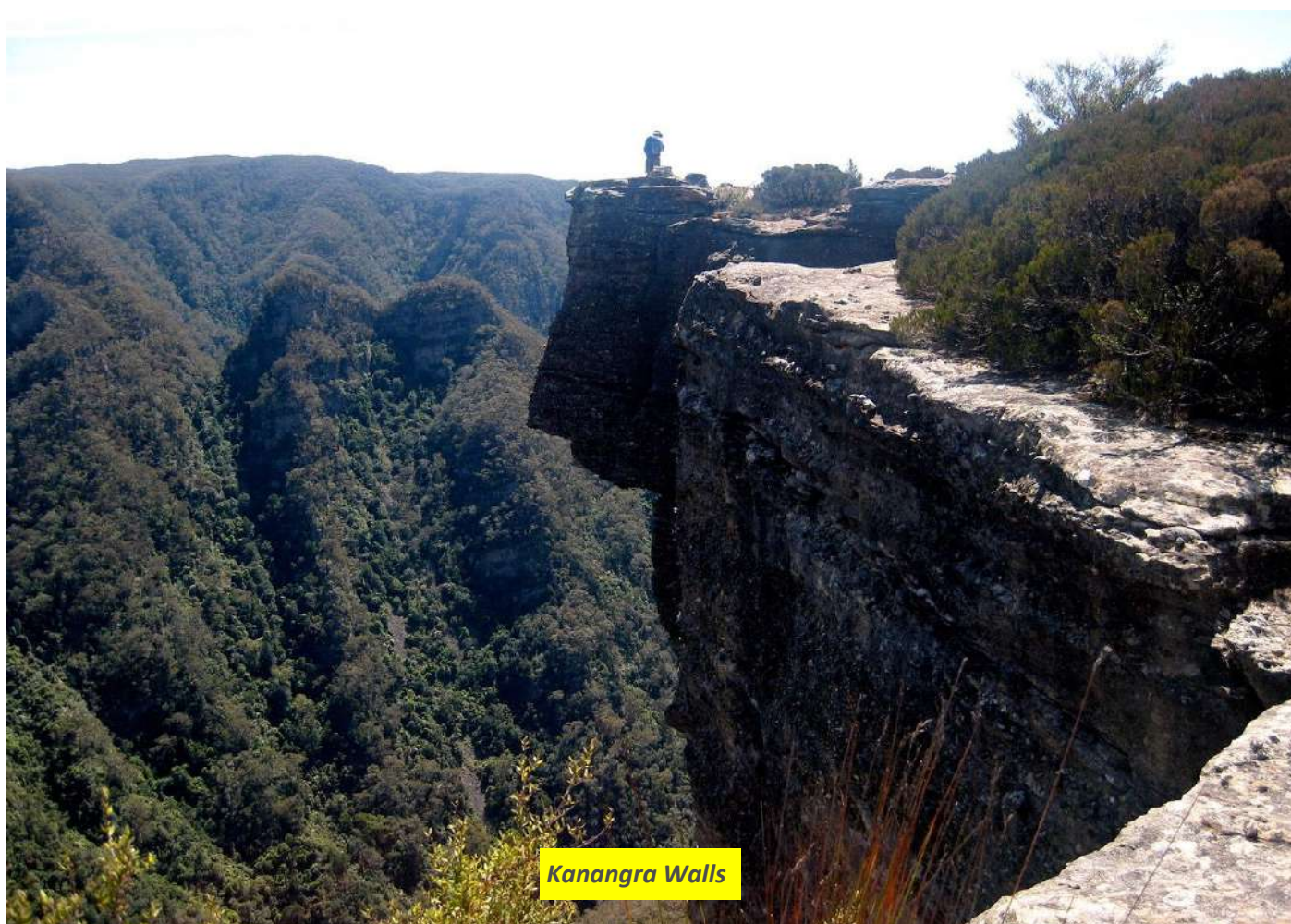
A testing climb on a recent walk

# Keeping within the borders

*Lyn and Trevor Willson*

Many club members are sitting on refunds from cancelled overseas travel plans in 2020, and we have seen the planned New Zealand trip, as well as the Tumut and Wilson's Promontory trips cancelled. For the foreseeable future it seems that New South Wales is the place to go - the *only* place to go - and many of our members are exploring locations closer to home which provide starting points for some interesting walks. Here are a few more ideas for camping locations which may be new to you and which give access to some worthwhile walks. Our second Country to Coast trip in 2012 included these places in a round trip but each is worth a trip as a separate destination.

**Abercrombie Caves.** Many may be familiar with the caves, worth seeing in themselves. In addition there is a good walk which starts here and goes to the remains of the Mt Gray goldmines and the Grove Creek waterfall. A circuit walk, you follow the river back to the campground and caves area.



**Oberon.** This town in the western Blue Mountains is a good base for walking in Kanangra Boyd National Park. The classic walk here is the Kanangra Walls walk. Spectacular scenery, which was used in the final scene of the classic Australian movie, Jedda (when the original film was lost and this crucial section of the movie had to be re-shot closer to Sydney). There is also the short but steep Waterfall walk. A walk of a different nature near Oberon is the half-day walk up Evans Crown in the small nature reserve with the same name. This is north of the town, near the Fish River. Access the start of the walk from Honeysuckle Falls Road.



*Fish River, Flat Rock Campground*

**Wiseman's Ferry.** In recent years the club has done a trip based in this area. One of the best walks is the Old Great North Road walk via Finch's Line on the north side of the Hawkesbury. It starts from a point on the road east of the cross-river ferry terminal and leads up following the route chosen for a road - and partly constructed - by the Government Surveyor Heneage Finch. At the top it joins the historic Old Great North Road which you follow down through lovely sandstone country with great views back to the ferry.



*A section of the Umina to Patonga Walk*



*Umina to Patonga along the coast*

**Umina.** The caravan park here is a very large NRMA-owned facility, and best avoided in school holidays and at weekends. It does, however, provide a good starting point for a delightful walk along the coast to Patonga (where you can have a fish and chip lunch). You walk through the small but very up-market Pearl Beach, then up through the national park with a wonderful array of vegetation, and great views from rocky ledges over the lower Hawkesbury River.



*Palm Beach and Pittwater, seen from Barrenjoey*

From Umina it is short drive to the terminal at Ettalong where you can catch the ferry for a day trip over to Palm Beach. On arrival you can walk up Barrenjoey to the historic lighthouse. Along the beach on the inland side, there is a well-maintained track to the top. On returning you can use the beach on the ocean side for variety.

## Car Break-Ins

In recent times, at least three of our members have had a car window smashed by thieves. The cars were parked beside busy roads in ACT urban areas while the members were on a bushwalk. The thieves typically insert a screwdriver between the glass and the frame and smash the window in seconds. They then get inside the car to rifle through everything and not look suspicious from the street.

The police don't have the resources to be everywhere at once, but the government is now installing CCTV cameras in some areas; e.g. the rock garden car park.

There's not much car owners can do to protect against this happening. Even if you have a car alarm, the thieves won't know until they smash the window, by which time the damage is done.



The best advice I've received is for owners to hide cords that are used to operate GPS or charge phones; GPS mounts should be removed (suction cups); bags should be hidden in the boot; sunglasses, etc, should all be out of sight; i.e. the car should look like it is in a car dealer's yard, devoid of accessories or loose items. The hope is that they'll bypass your car and move on to another one!

Having had this happen twice to us, my wife and I now pay an extra \$40 per year to insure against any glass breakage – insurance companies don't apply an excess to these claims.

It is illegal in most States to leave windows down or cars unlocked in public places and, as insurance probably wouldn't cover the owner for anything that happened in that case, this is not a viable option.

## The Lighter Side

### Losing Weight

I'm amazed by people who lose weight by exercising. When I exercise, nothing happens because my DNA still thinks I'm a European peasant. So it's like "Oh! Are we running from the English again, laddy? Dinnae ye worry: we'll keep ye plump as a partridge to outlast the murderous bastards"

# Walks Program and Social Activities

## Upcoming Day Walks

*[If you don't receive emails about Wednesday walks, but would like to, just follow the instructions on the Club's [website](#)*

**Leaders will not accept bookings until after the detailed description has been emailed to you**

Date	Grade	Leader
Wed 7 Oct	Short	Robyn Kelly & Colleen Fox
Wed 7 Oct	Easy/Medium	Terrylea Reynolds
Wed 7 Oct	Medium/Hard	Peter Wellman
Sat 10 Oct	Medium	Prue Deacon
Sun 11 Oct	Easy	Davinia Wells
Wed 14 Oct	Easy/Medium	CBC
Wed 14 Oct	Medium/Hard	CBC
Sat 17 Oct	Easy	Ken Johnson
Sun 18 Oct	Medium	Peter Dalton
Wed 21 Oct	Short	Robyn Kelly & Colleen Fox
Wed 21 Oct	Easy/Medium	John Ellis
Wed 21 Oct	Medium/Hard	Leigh Hermann
Sat 24 Oct	Easy	Colleen Fox
Sun 25 Oct	Medium	Prue Deacon
Wed 28 Oct	Easy/Medium	CBC
Wed 28 Oct	Medium/Hard	NPA
Sat 31 Oct	Easy	David Wardle
Sun 1 Nov	Medium	TBA
Wed 4 Nov	Short	Robyn Kelly & Colleen Fox
Wed 4 Nov	Easy/Medium	John Ellis
Wed 4 Nov	Medium/Hard	Prue Deacon
Sat 7 Nov	TBA	TBA
Sun 8 Nov	TBA	TBA
Wed 11 Nov	Easy/Medium	CBC
Wed 11 Nov	Medium/Hard	CBC

# Walks Program and Social Activities

Leaders will not accept bookings until after the detailed description has been emailed to you

Date	Grade	Leader
Sat 14 Nov	TBA	TBA
Sun 15 Nov	TBA	TBA
Wed 18 Nov	Short	Robyn Kelly & Colleen Fox
Wed 18 Nov	Easy/Medium	Kathy Handel
Wed 18 Nov	Medium/Hard	Leigh Hermann
Sat 21 Nov	TBA	TBA
Sun 22 Nov	TBA	TBA
Wed 25 Nov	Easy/Medium	CBC
Wed 25 Nov	Medium/Hard	NPA
Sat 28 Nov	TBA	TBA
Sun 29 Nov	TBA	TBA
Wed 2 Dec	Short	Robyn Kelly & Colleen Fox
Wed 2 Dec	Easy/Medium	Kathy Handel
Wed 2 Dec	Medium/Hard	Prue Deacon

## Genius or Cheapskate?

(spotted recently at Parkes)





## Advance Notices — **subject to coronavirus restrictions**

**2021**

**May 2021 – Walking in Austria, Stubai and Zillertal Alps - Easy and Medium walks.**

**Leader: John Clune.** One week at Mayrhofen in the Zillertal Alps, possibly staying in Hotel Garni Hubertus. These towns are south of Innsbruck. It is likely that we fly into Munich and take a train or bus to our accommodation. Both towns are in valleys near Innsbruck and are at the end of train lines. Contact John at [j.clune@bigpond.com](mailto:j.clune@bigpond.com) if you are interested in going.

### Facebook

*Our Facebook Manager regularly posts photos, walk reports and information about upcoming activities.  
Please pay a visit and see what our members are planning or have recently have been up to.*

<https://www.facebook.com/BrindabellaBushwalkingClub/>

*Please send your walk reports and photos to Heather at*

[facebook@brindabellabushwalking.org.au](mailto:facebook@brindabellabushwalking.org.au)



This (illegal) hut, complete with sleeping platform and seating is under construction in a lovely flat area beside a bend in a creek in the Kowen Escarpment area. It is fairly close to Sutton Rd, so perhaps the plan is to bring a tarp in each time they visit.