

Brindabella Bushwalking Club

May 2021 Newsletter



BBC



Lunch at Horse Gully Hut

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Coronavirus Update

- * The latest ACT updates can be found here: [Updates](#)
- * Keeping your distance and maintaining hand (and respiratory) hygiene are essential.

BBC Website

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



Lunch at the peak of Mt Wee Jasper

From the President

Namadgi. Wouldn't you know it —just a couple of weeks after the reopening of most of Namadgi it has been closed again for two weeks for an essential feral animal control program. All returns to normal on 15 May, although there are still ongoing road closures; the details are [here](#)

First Aid Course. 13 club members completed the First Aid Course and have received their qualifying certificates.

Riverina Trip. By all accounts, David and Prue's club trip to the Riverina was a great success. There is a trip report and photos later in this newsletter.

Next Program. The Walks Officer and sub-committee are starting to compile the next program. Some leaders are reluctant to commit to dates until they know if there are any trips away they might be interested in. If you are one of these, please just submit your walk descriptions with preferred dates so that we can get the program completed in time. The Walks Officer can easily swap dates around for you later, even after the program has been distributed.

Social Activities. There are some reports and photos in this newsletter of social activities that have recently been completed. The social sub-committee will continue to organise these activities and perhaps we'll be able to enjoy a major indoor get-together in the near future—coronavirus permitting!

Peter Dalton

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

New Members

The following people have joined the club in the last couple of months.

Welcome to our club — you've made a great decision! We're pretty sure you'll enjoy the walks, the scenery and the company of our members.

Tim Bennetts

Josephine Bothroyd

Francis and Peter Buscombe

Josephine Bothroyd

Eleanor Cotterell

Henry Gardner, James Gardner, Andrew Gardner and Anne Moroney

Sue Hunter

Eva Kline

Sandra King

Damien McRae

Monique Machutta and Phillip Braslins

Sally Richards

Gordon Waddington and Catherine Pearson

Paul Noone and Jen Walton



We've had some wet weather lately



White Horse Rocks

Walking in The Riverina

Monday 26 – Friday 30 April, 2021

[Leaders – David Wardle and Prue Deacon]

Twenty-three BBC members set off for our meeting point at the June Licorice and Chocolate Factory on the Monday. Some congregated at the Railway Refreshment Rooms for lunch and others (mostly those with vans) met at the Licorice Factory. Travelling on to Narrandera via Coolamon Cheese Shop we all arrived late afternoon and set up camp (five of us) or settled into cabins (the rest). Luckily we didn't have to cook that night as David had thoughtfully booked us all in to the Charles Sturt Hotel for a meal at their very popular and well patronised restaurant.



Sandstone cliffs in the gorge

On Day 2 we left at 9:00 for the 1hour drive to the Cocopara National Park near Griffith. We all enjoyed two short easy walks in the morning – the first starting in a cypress pine forest along the well-made paths of the Jacks Creek Walking Track which then led into a beautiful gorge surrounded by high orange coloured sandstone cliffs. Many of the cliffs were festooned with cascading Wonga vines covered in white trumpet like blossoms. After walking about 2 Kms we retraced our route and drove a short distance to the Store Creek Walking Track for our second easy walk again through a gorge but not quite as spectacular as the first. The walk ended in a rocky amphitheatre at the head of which was a steep climb up boulders forming a dry water fall. It must look quite wonderful when in full flood.

We then split up with some choosing to visit the sites of Griffith while nine ventured on towards the southern part of the park to climb Mt Brogden. After a steady climb the view from the top unfortunately was somewhat obscured by a smoke haze as at this time of year farmers were burning off the stubble from their grain harvest to get ready for the next season's sowing.

An easier day followed on Wednesday with a leisurely walk around Lake Talbot just below our caravan park. The views of the Lake and surrounding red gum forest were stunning and some of us were lucky to spot a koala in one of them. After walking along the levee bank on the eastern side of the Lake we walked through the forest to see the Murrumbidgee which after all the rain was flowing quite rapidly. After lunch we again set forth towards Leeton to visit the Fivebough and Tuckerbil Wetlands area and bird sanctuary. This wetlands is of international importance as a sanctuary for supporting important and endangered or vulnerable species especially water birds of the Riverina district. We managed to see some water birds but as it was the middle of the day many species were probably taking a rest. However we all enjoyed the walk on the well made paths through the tall reeds with bird hides dotted here and there.



Lake Talbot

On our last day Thursday we tackled The Rock about an hour away near Lockhart. It is a large steep monolith and looked rather daunting from below. David had arranged for a Wiradjari elder Mark Saddler to give us a talk on the customs and beliefs of his people and their stories about the sacred sites, animals and plants of The Rock (Kengal). His presentation was very informative and he held us all enthralled with his deep knowledge of the area and its significance to his people.

The climb up The Rock was steady and needed some concentration as the path was steep and rocky. We were all pleased to reach the top without mishap and to be able to take in the wonderful 360 degree view of the farming landscape surrounding us.

A fitting end to a great trip with beautiful weather, fine company and lots of interesting walks and sights to see. **Thank you David and Prue.**

Julie Pettit



The climb up 'The Rock'



Store Creek walking track



Prue and Julie at the summit of 'The Rock'



Jack's Creek walking track

Wonga Vines at Jack's Creek



How to waterproof a jacket: a step-by-step guide to reproofing

By Jonathan Manning on *Adventure.com* (not a spelling mistake)

Follow these easy steps on how to waterproof a jacket to rejuvenate the performance of your shell – and laugh in the face of rain .

The good news is that any jacket with a membrane (such as Gore-Tex) should stay waterproof so long as it's not torn or ripped. The bad news is that these waterproof jackets still need a bit of regular TLC to maintain their performance – a potentially daunting prospect if you don't know how to waterproof a jacket.

Even with the best jackets, once the jacket's first line of defence – the Durable Water Repellent (DWR) coating – is compromised, water no longer beads and rolls off the fabric. Instead, the jacket starts to soak up rain – aka 'wetting out' – and its breathability suffers (see [breathability ratings explained](#)). This leaves you in danger of getting soaked in sweat from the inside, rather than soaked by rain from the outside, and signals the moment when it's time to invest in specialist cleaning and reproofing products to restore your jacket's wet-weather performance.

Learn how to use these products in this straight-talking guide on how to waterproof a jacket.

How to waterproof a jacket: step-by-step instructions

1. When to reproof

This depends heavily on use – how dirty is your jacket and how much abrasion has it suffered from backpack straps and rock faces? To test whether it needs reproofing, pour water onto the shoulders and arms of your jacket. If the water beads on the surface there's no need to take action: if it soaks in ("wets out") it's time for a re-proof.

2. Clean your washing machine

The residue of detergent washing powders is kryptonite to DWR (check out our '[What is DWR?](#)' explainer), so it's important to clean out the powder drawer of your washing machine, and ideally put the machine through a wash cycle with nothing in it to make sure it's clean.



3. Wash your jacket

Choose a specialist cleaner, such as Nikwax Tech Wash or Grangers Performance Wash, pour the recommended dose into the detergent drawer of your washing machine, and set the temperature according to the jacket's care instructions. A full cycle at 85°F/30°C is normally about right. Don't be tempted to stuff your entire outdoor wardrobe into the machine – for optimum performance no more than two jackets should be washed at the same time. Make sure to empty the pockets and zip up all zippers of the jacket before washing.

4. Reproof your jacket

There are two options here to waterproof a jacket. Firstly, use a waterproof spray such as Granger's Performance Repel Plus or Nikwax TX.Direct Spray-On, and apply to a clean, damp jacket from a distance of about 15-20cm. Wipe away any surplus spray after a few minutes.

Alternatively, use a wash-in waterproofing agent, such as Nikwax TX.Direct Wash-In or Grangers Clothing Repel. Pour the recommended dose of the wash-in cleaner into the detergent drawer of your machine and wash again on a full cycle. After washing, hang up the jacket to dry.

To save time, there are two-in-one wash and reproof products, such as Grangers Wash & Repel Clothing 2 in 1.

5. Boost the DWR

To optimise the DWR finish, tumble dry the jacket (if its care instructions allow), or use a hairdryer to apply modest heat to the surface of the fabric. Using an iron on a very low heat has the same positive effect, but make sure there is a tea towel between the iron and the jacket, and keep the temperature on the lowest setting.

6. Check the seams

As a final step, check that the internal taped seams are still intact and in place. If not, use a glue, such as Storm-seal Seam Sealer or Stormsure Flexible Repair, to re-attach the seams. If the seam has perished, you can do a DIY repair with 20mm, [iron-on seam seal tape](#), which is specially made for three-layer laminate fabric jackets.



Social Events April 2021

Easter Monday 5 April

11 of us enjoyed morning coffee on the deck outside the National Library on a picture perfect Canberra autumn day. We were so relaxed talking and enjoying our yummy coffee, we decided not to walk or have a picnic lunch. We did, however, stand on the Stone of Knowledge (over 2000 years old). We are now super, super, super intelligent (but we were already). Well done Rene (80 on 22/4) riding 17 kms there and 17 kms back!!! Age is just a number. The stained glass windows are always a delight. As this morning was a wonderful outing, there will be another morning coffee this year. Welcome to new club member Gayle.



Morning tea at the library

At this stage there are no social activities planned for May; however, check your emails carefully in the second half of the month because we might just come up with something.

Elaine Atkinson and the Social sub-committee



Jillian, Ann and some of the stained glass

Octogenarian Picnic and Walks



Elaine and her understrength social sub-committee once again organised a marvellous activity on Saturday 17 April to celebrate our elder statesmen and women (or should that be 'statespeople'?).

Covid-19 prevented us from holding this event last year, so it was great to see it back on the calendar in 2021.

17 representatives of our over-80 membership attended and most walked. There were also several notable apologies—some because they were away adventuring!

We were blessed with a perfect day and after the walks we enjoyed champagne and a variety of cakes, fruit and finger food. A big thanks to those of you who made the cakes for us and to our two walk leaders.

Much of the success of the day was the result of the hard work Elaine put in; the inside of her car was full to the brim with eskies, champagne, juice, food platters, ice, the club banner and so on. Well done Elaine.

Below and on the next page are a couple more photos taken on the day.





Our Banner and Tablecloth on display

And just to finish

Here's a sign we might like to see at some cafes

