

Brindabella Bushwalking Club Newsletter

November 2016

From The President

I'm honoured to have been elected as President of a great club at our annual general meeting. I first joined the Club in the 1980s and learned a lot by participating in many of the weekend walks and trips away in those days. Subsequently, my attention was taken up by other interests but I returned to the club after my retirement in 2004 and followed my wife, Truus, by joining the Wednesday walks and trips away. This has been my primary area of interest in the years since then and I occasionally lead walks in the easy/medium category.

I am greatly indebted to our past President, Davis Wardle, for his briefing to bring me up to speed and, as I said at the AGM, I plan to 'take some leaves out of his book'.

In particular, I hope to get around a bit more so as to get to know a wider circle of club members. In the meantime, if you would like to chat about any aspect of the club's activities I'd welcome a call on 0437 110 001 or an email to tford@pcug.org.au



President - Peter Ford

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Contributing Articles

Suitable articles are always welcomed and photos make them better. It may not be possible to use all the photos. We will include the photographer's name in the newsletter, unless they ask us not to bother. If it is not your photo, you must have the photographer's permission to use it.

An article may be edited to correct spelling errors and to suit the newsletter's style by restructuring, cutting to fit, and even re-writing sections if the editor believes that will better appeal to readers.

The newsletters will also be placed on the Club's website.



Teapot?

The Rules for Walkers, the Walks Grading System and the email addresses of the Walks Committee are all in the current Walks and Social Program

An Explanation

We received an email after the September edition of the newsletter was distributed, in which we were chided for editing and then publishing an article without seeking the author's approval of the changes. We were also taken to task for having substituted one of his photos and for not indicating who had taken the replacement photo.

There are two points here - editing articles and attributing photos.

Editing. The editor/publisher has the right and responsibility to restructure, cut to fit, correct spelling errors, and even re-write sections when they believe doing so will better appeal to readers and suit the general style of the newsletter.

Attributing Photos. There was one photo in the submitted article that featured me (the 'editor/publisher') - my image was partially obscuring a view towards Booroomba Rocks. As I had taken an unobstructed photo of the same scene, I substituted that photo.

Moral Rights. A photographer has the right (known as a 'moral right') to attribution of photos - or they may decide they don't want this. In the September newsletter, there were 8 photos, of which 7 were taken by me, but didn't bear my name. The other one had the photographer's name on it.

There have been previous editions, though, where perhaps a photographer might have liked to have had credit for their photo, but it wasn't given. I apologise for this naïve oversight and have taken steps to address this (see the 'Contributing Articles' item on page 1).

'Moral rights' to a photo cannot be assigned and always belong to the creator of the work.

Also, with just a couple of exceptions (e.g. if it's part of your employment contract) all photos remain the property of the photographer and are copyrighted to that person even if their name doesn't appear.

I hope this explanation has cleared the matter up.

Peter Dalton

Overdue Fees

Annual fees are now overdue. If you haven't paid yours yet, then please do so now. Remember to include your name if you are paying electronically and also please do complete and submit the membership form so we can keep our records up to date.

BBC Facebook Page

The facebook page is attracting plenty of interest and Terrylea is keeping it up to date with photos and walk reports. Visit it at: <https://www.facebook.com/BrindabellaBushwalkingClub/> You can set your facebook page to receive notifications every time there is a new post.

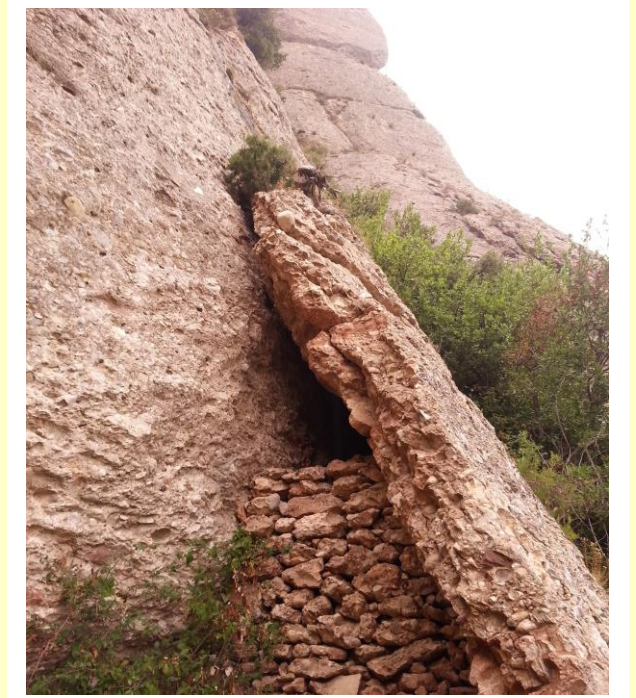
Progressive Dinner

The next Progressive Dinner will be held on Saturday 12 November. The deadline for contacting Sue Williams about this is Thursday 3 November - all details are in the program.

Advance Notices

There are some 2017 activities that need to be booked this year. Others need an expression of interest or you might miss out. These are:

- 6-9 February - Depot Beach Campground. The details appear later in this newsletter. As it is a joint activity with CBC it is likely to be popular. janet.edstein@gmail.com
- 16-23 February - Cockatoo Island, with walks in Sydney. Contact John at j.clune@bigpond.com
- 5-11 March at Karbethong Lodge, Mallacoota. Bookings are closed but you might be able to get onto the waiting list.
- Two weeks in early April - Great South-West Walk, Victoria. Contact John at j.clune@bigpond.com
- Madeira, two weeks in June - Once again, contact John at j.clune@bigpond.com



Misty Mountains

ON AND AROUND THE GREAT NORTH WALK 11 - 21 September 2016

With the kookaburra alarm ringing in our ears at the [Umina Beach](#) Caravan Park, we were summoned to our first walk of about 12 kilometres up the escarpment north of, and overlooking, the little town of [Patonga](#) near the mouth of the Hawkesbury River and around the coast through the upmarket [Pearl Beach](#) and its [arboretum](#) back to our tents and cabins. The coastal scenery was spectacular but Elaine Atkinson was an early casualty from a walking injury. However, she bravely managed to find other things to do in substitution for the eight walks to follow. I always marvel at how a major city like Sydney can be surrounded by such wild country. If it weren't for the tracks, fellow walkers, occasional hum of traffic and other indications of nearby urbanisation, it would be possible to think oneself in wilderness.

The next day was a little more ambitious but we started with a comedy of errors. Our injured friend was dropped off at the Woy Woy railway station and Robyn Kelly and I hopped out there too while our leader parked his car. Unfortunately, in the general excitement of his efforts to link up with the other cars, we were overlooked and had to while away an hour bus-spotting until our absence was noticed at the start of the walk, which was at a national park about 15 minutes away by car. We learnt quite a lot about Woy Woy bus routes and were offered lifts to Gosford by sympathetic bus drivers but declined.



When, after a few phone calls, we were finally restored to our tribe by John Wells, timing was getting a bit tight to catch our train at the end of the walk but we all rose to the occasion and had a lovely walk through temperate rain forest featuring the State emblem, **Waratah**.

At the conclusion of the walk at an unattended [Wondabyne railway station](#) on the Hawkesbury, we successfully flagged down the train and returned quickly to base.

Day 3 was a little wet and some chose a respite from walking but those of us who braved a walk along the [Coastal Track in Bouddi National Park](#) were rewarded with some gems of beaches and fascinating rock formations. Despite the predations of a few leeches, it was a great day.



Our final walk on the southern part of the [Great North Walk](#) was from an access point near [Somersby](#) to [Mooney Mooney Bridge](#), said to be the highest bridge in Australia although I understand that there is another claimant. Our afternoon stroll through the big trees on the valley floor with the bridge spanning the valley far above and carrying the M1 traffic was a memorable experience.

The next day, we shifted base to [Cessnock](#) in the Hunter Valley about an hour or so north and close to Newcastle. I had never spent time there previously but it's a strange blend of coal mining grittiness and vineyard glamour and sophistication.

The country in this area is less dramatic and, while the walks were pleasant, the only clear impression I came away with was of the clumps of the strange Gynea Lillies, which I'd first seen in the National Botanic Gardens here in Canberra. They are more impressive 'in the flesh'.



On the second day at Cessnock, it rained heavily and we took the opportunity to visit the vineyards. I hadn't been to one in this area since 1986 and really enjoyed myself.

On the third day, we had planned to take an easy downward incline on the Great North Walk from the Watagan Forest Motel at Heaton Gap for a leisurely walk along forest fire trails but a slight navigational error (which had nothing at all to do with the previous day's purchases) led to us taking a steep and eroded trail bike track in a more northerly direction. However, with the aid of GPS we soon realised our mistake and made our way back to the track. While there was a little denting of pride, what we lost was more than offset by useful exercise.

Our last day was taken up by the longest, but easiest and, in my view, the most enjoyable, walk of the trip - 16 kilometres along a well formed track on the ridge of a mountain range overlooking Cessnock and the vineyards.

Returning to Canberra, we chose to go via [Wisemans Ferry](#) and, as far as possible, take the old '[Great North Road](#)', convict built and now a tourist attraction itself. It's closed to vehicular traffic at a point well north of the Hawkesbury but promoted as another walking track.

We stopped for coffee at a little shop on the river bank and were served by a character who, like Basil Fawty, seemed to want to pick an argument with his guests. Sledging Canberra is a sport with which we are familiar and we are used to responding with a few facts to dispel some of the more ridiculous claims but, Trump like, this bloke was not to be deflected with such responses. He had been much impressed with an article in the Sydney Morning Herald reporting that Canberra had the lowest electricity prices in Australia and seemed determined to believe that we must have been given this benefit at the expense of the rest of Australia. We pointed out that electricity pricing was a matter for ACTEW and the local ACT government but he was disinclined to believe this or even that such entities existed.

Our thanks went to John Clune for his leadership and organisation in arranging this very enjoyable trip.

Peter Ford

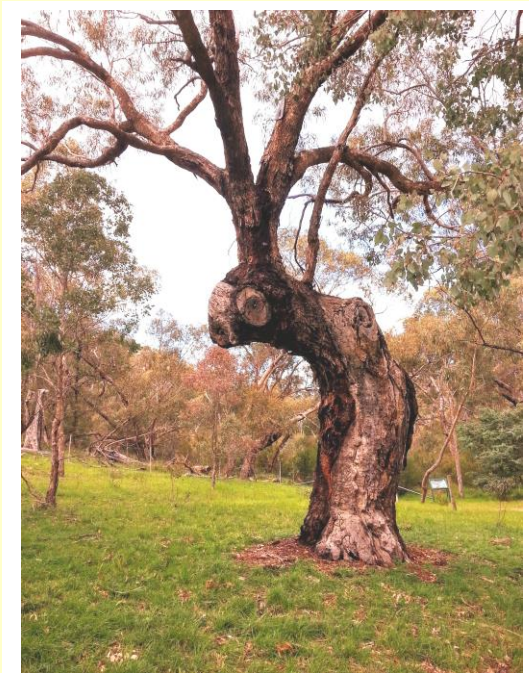
Depot Beach 4 day Camp. Monday 6 -Thursday 9 February

Easy grade with swimming, surfing and snorkelling.

An opportunity to enjoy 4 days' camp at the Depot Beach Campground. Activities include walking around to Pt Upright along a spectacular wave cut platform, walking along the beach to Pebbly Beach, short walks in the rainforest, a day spent at North Head, as well as gazing at the stars and doing nothing.

Campers need to bring own tent or van (Powered sites \$34 per night, unpowered \$12.50 per person per night) Accommodation needed for 3 nights. Bring food as there aren't shops nearby, chair etc. Showers are \$1. National Park Pass \$8 per car per night. For information on Depot Beach www.nationalparks.nsw.gov.au 02 4478 6582. Please book ASAP so I can arrange tent sites and joint car travel. Joint activity with CBC. Transport costs ~\$60 each person includes travel to North Beach.

Leader: Janet Edstein janet.edstein@gmail.com



Bird or Rabbit - Molonglo Gorge

Family Walks

Our Group. We are a group of families from Canberra, with children, who enjoy bushwalking and go on walks about once a month.

The children in our group are mostly primary school aged and are able to walk 5 km or longer. Some have been bushwalking since they were babies.

We usually walk on a Sunday morning starting at 10 am and finishing around 12.30, including breaks for morning tea and time for kids to explore. The walks are not hard but can involve some steep climbs.

Most of our walks are in or near Canberra. The furthest location has been Goongong Dam. Once a year (in spring) we also have a camping weekend.

Each walk is organised by an experienced BBC leader.

Details of the walks are routinely emailed to members who have indicated they are interested in going on these walks.

If you would like to get the details of the walks and possibly join the group on some of them, contact the Membership Secretary at treasurer@brindabellabushwalking.org.au and ask to be added to the email list.

Walks for the Next Program

The next Walks Program Meeting will be held on **Tuesday 8 November** (details are in the current program). This will be to set the program for January to June 2017.

Please try to get your proposals for walks and other activities to the relevant committee member before that date (their email addresses are at pages 1 and 8 of the program, but note that Robyn Gallagher has replaced Prue Deacon and Robyn's email address is gallagher.robyn@gmail.com).

If you want to advertise details of trips planned for the second half of 2017, please send the information to the Walks Officer.

Conclusion

We hope you've enjoyed this newsletter and, as always, we'd be very happy to consider items from you for inclusion in the next newsletter - these can be emailed to walks@brindabellabushwalking.org.au