

August 2020

Brindabella Bushwalking Club

Newsletter and Program



BBC



This 'wagon wheel' is near the Horse Park Drive entrance to Goorooyarroo Reserve

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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 [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

From the President

This newsletter includes a section showing the dates walks are planned for in the coming month or so, their grading and the leader's name. All known trips away are also listed. With the ever-changing coronavirus situation and with Namadgi only partially available (see the next page), we won't be issuing a formal program for this half-year.

I remind you that **nobody can book a place until the leader emails the detailed description out**. You book directly with the leader by return email, **not through the Walks Officer**.

Car Parking at the Start remains an issue and the leader might have to put a limit on the number of participants for this reason. Please be understanding. Additionally, walks in NSW are limited to 20 participants.

As a **hygiene measure**, leaders will record your details on **the 'sign-on' sheet** for you — no signature is required for the time being. They will remind you of the risks and obligations associated with the walk.

There is a notice below about the AGM. Please come along; hear how we've been spending your subscriptions, meet your committee and help elect a new committee for 2020-2021.

We need a volunteer to look after Facebook — please email me at president@brindabellabushwalking.org.au if you'd like to help us with this.

As there have been no walk reports offered for this edition, I have included one of my own about Granada — although you probably won't be able to travel to there before late next year at the earliest.

Peter Dalton

AGM

Annual General Meeting

The AGM will be held at St Margaret's Uniting Church Hall at the corner of Phillip Avenue and Antill Street, HACKETT on Tuesday 8 September.

Arrive from 7.00 pm for a 7.30 pm start. Proceedings will be over by 9.30 pm.

Hand Sanitiser will be provided

To maintain our coronavirus preventative obligations, the treasurer will not be accepting membership forms and cash. This year, we are asking everybody to pay electronically — see our website for details. Seating will be arranged so as to provide 4 square metres per person.

At the conclusion of the AGM we always socialise over supper. This year the procedure will be a little different, in that **the club will provide all the supper** — please do not bring any food as this will contravene the 'rules'. If you don't like drinking from disposable cups, you can bring your own.

Annual reports for the past year will be provided at the meeting, followed by the election of office holders.

Nominations for Committee. If you'd like to be part of the committee or perhaps understudy one of the other committee positions, please let the Secretary (Julie Pettit) know.

There is still plenty of time to nominate someone for any of the committee positions at all, so don't be shy.

Please come and join us.

**NAMADGI BUSHFIRE
RECOVERY UPDATE**



During the Orroral Valley bushfire earlier this year, over 80% of Namadgi National Park burnt. In the six months since, ACT Government has been hard at work responding to the most immediate threats and visitors are now able to return to parts of Namadgi.

The Corin and Naas/Boboyan Road precincts have now reopened, including Gibraltar Falls, Corrin Dam, Settlers Walking Track, Square Rock and more.

Mt Clear and Woods Reserve campgrounds have also reopened and are now taking bookings online.

Some areas of the park will remain closed as further works and assessment are carried out. The following areas will be inaccessible until further notice:

- Old Boboyan Road, including Yankee Hat, Gudgenby Valley and Ready Cut Cottage
- Honeysuckle
- Orroral Valley
- Bimberi Wilderness Area

While parts of Namadgi are now accessible, many of these areas are still fire impacted. When setting out to explore the park, take proper precautions, plan your visit carefully and please let someone know where you intend to go.

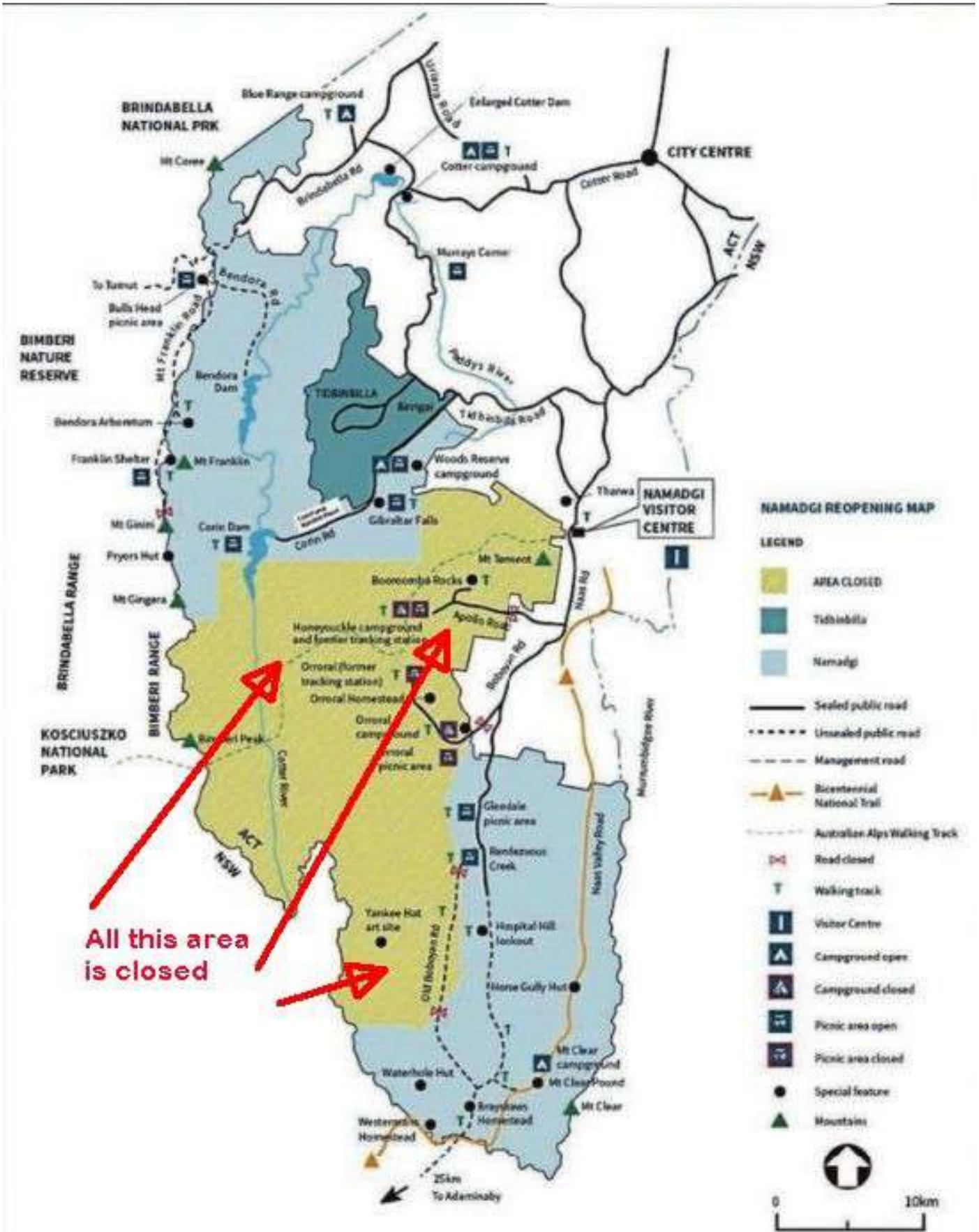
For more information on bushfire recovery efforts and to check which areas of Namadgi are open, visit

Authorised by Justin Foley, Executive Branch Manager, ACT Parks and Conservation Service, Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate

Editor's Notes:

- 1. While Mt Tennent and Booroomba Rocks remain closed, we can expect the Square Rock track to be awfully overcrowded, especially on weekends — physical distancing will be difficult.**
- 2. If heading off-track, your clothes will be blackened by the burnt bush — take a change of clothes**

Namadgi Open Areas



Aftermath of the Fires



No shortage of trip hazards



Devastation abounds, but there's encouraging regrowth to be found

Granada

(hold down CTRL and click the left button to open links in this article):

Getting there from Madrid — about 560 km. *Note: However you travel, always print your tickets*

Air. On some days there is a direct flight, which costs around \$130-\$200, plus the time and cost of getting to and from each airport.

Rail. Several trains run every day, with some requiring a simple change at Cordoba. The quicker ones take 3 hrs 15 mins and the slower ones 30 mins more. The cost is around \$90, but it can be half of this if you book online in advance (Promo fares) and don't travel in the morning or afternoon peak hours. You can't book more than 60 days in advance for most trains and some aren't available until 30 days ahead. These two websites explain everything about using Spanish trains:

[Seat 61](#)

[Rome 2 Rio](#)

Bus. Buses run all day long and the primary operator is [ALSA](#). The trip takes about 5 hours, including a 20-minute refreshment stop along the way. Expect to pay around \$30 but, as with the trains, there are cheaper fares (Promo) if you book in advance. Tickets can be bought up to 6 months in advance for long-distance routes and 1 month for regional buses. You can't normally book for local village-to-village buses.

Where to stay in Granada

The old Arab quarter of Albaicin (or Albaycin) is my recommendation. Its narrow, cobbled streets, tiny authentic bars and Moorish architecture make this suburb a tourist attraction of its own. A small warning, though, it rises fairly steeply from the river up to the miradors (lookouts) at the top of the suburb. Many of the streets are too narrow for cars, so if you arrive by taxi you will be dropped off at the nearest intersection. There is detailed information here [Albaicin](#) and this video covers both Albaican and the Alhambra beautifully. [Granada Video](#)



What to Do

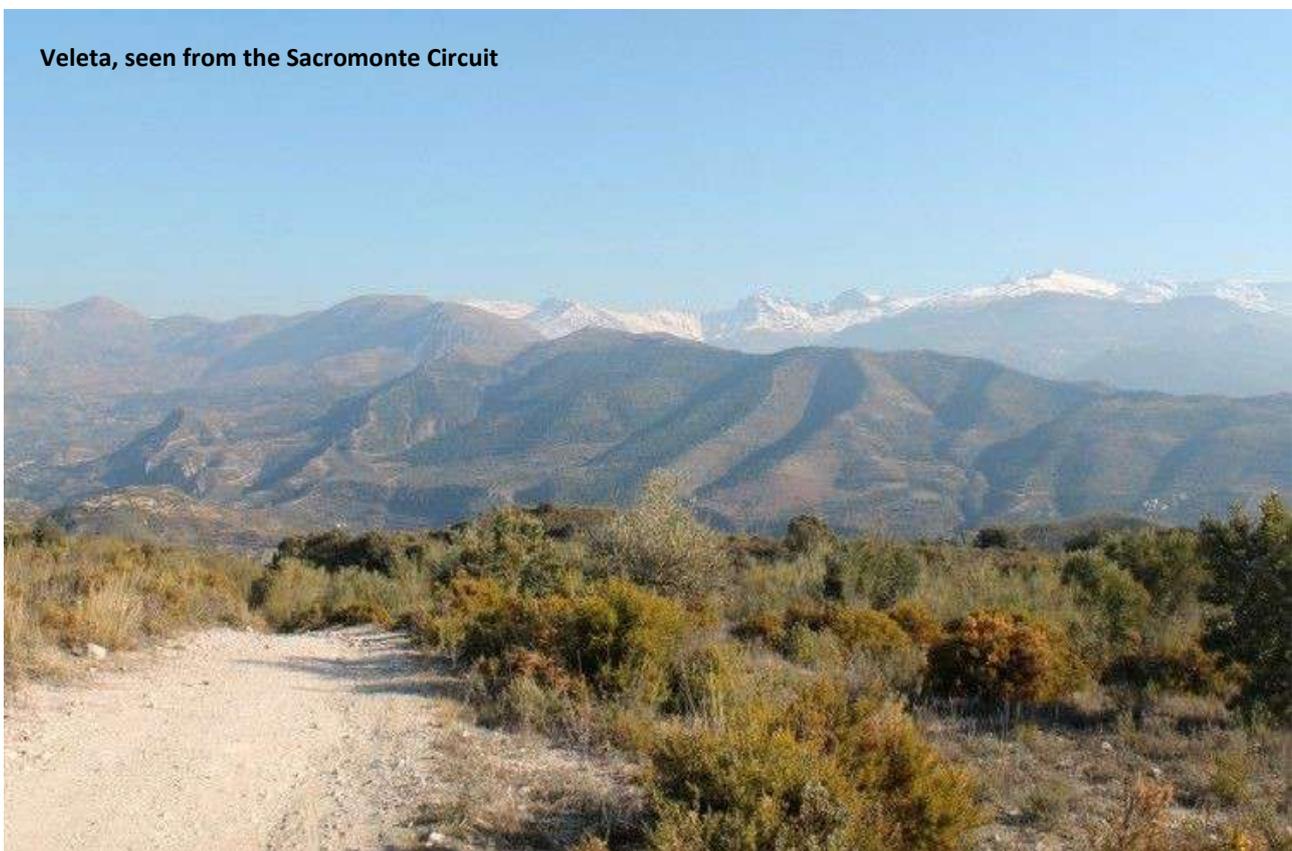
The Alhambra Palace and its surrounding gardens are on most people's list of must-sees. You have to buy tickets online in advance. Only 6600 tickets are sold for each day, so it is best to place your order as far out as 90 days in advance. If you buy for more than one person, both names will be on each ticket, but the ticket will only admit the first named, so ensure you print all copies. You buy from here: [Tickets](#)

Granada (continued)

Day Walks

Here are three, but you'll find more if you search the internet.

Veleta. This is Spain's second highest mountain and it has an associated ski resort. There is a daily bus that runs from May-November, departing Granada bus station at 9.00 am and returning at 5.00 pm. Stay on the bus until the last stop and commence your walk from there up a very well-marked track to the summit. There is a bar at the bus stop where you can relax while waiting for the return bus. I recommend you buy your ticket (about 9 Euros) in advance if you will be passing through the bus station earlier, because this is the only bus and apparently it can be sold out (not my experience). Alternatively, get to the bus station early, buy your ticket, identify the departure platform and then go to the café for breakfast.



Sacromonte Circuit. This longer walk (15 km and 650 m climb) begins from the Albaicin. You head out on Camino Del Sacromonte through the old gypsy area, where people still live in caves. You'll see a number of flamenco shows advertised in the more upmarket caves. Continue to follow this narrow, quiet and mostly level road (it changes name after a while, but you won't notice) as it heads east roughly paralleling the river Darro.

The walk passes an abandoned abbey where you cross the river and begin the return journey. You re-enter Granada at the cemetery and follow the main road down past the Alhambra to the finish as Plaza Nueva. This link will open in Google Earth and show the route: [Sacromonte Loop](#)

Granada (continued)

Los Cahorras. This is a very enjoyable half-day walk inside a highly-photogenic gorge about 30 minutes from Granada by local bus (Bus No 183). This bus leaves from Paseo de Los Basiliros, not from the main bus station. Los Cahorras has a couple of suspension bridges and a narrow pathway alongside the river in places. The route is well-marked and there are several interesting offshoots you can take. There are some spectacular views packed into this small area. Here's a taste: [Los Cahorras](#)

You arrive in the village of Monachil (last bus stop), cross the road bridge and follow the road to the right (slightly uphill) for about 1.5 km. Eventually you reach a parking area, with a sign pointing to Los Cahorras, which you follow. The entire walk is about 9 km and is relatively easy – there are plenty of children doing it and, for this reason, it's best to avoid weekends. If you're lucky, you'll get to see some rock climbers plying their trade.



One of 4 suspension bridges

When you return to the village of Monachil, you can get a drink and tapas at one of the cafes or at the bar near where the bus dropped you.

The bus leaves Granada at 10 past every hour and returns from Monachil at 20 to the hour.

Science Park. This 'park' (indoor and outdoor areas) caters for children and adults alike. It is like a combination of Questacon, The National Museum and an animal park. It is about a 20-minute walk from Albaicin if you follow the River Genil downstream and buses also go there. It is a terrific place to spend half a day and one of the highlights is when they release the raptors for their afternoon feeding time. The birds fly free and swoop in to collect meat from the handlers' heavily-wrapped hands. Google 'Granada Science Park' or 'Parque de Las Ciencias' for more information. Here is a random group of photos (the photographer really liked the aquarium): [Granada Science Park](#)

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 12 Aug	Easy/Medium	CBC
Wed 12 Aug	Medium/Hard	CBC
Sat 15 Aug	Medium	Jillian Bellamy
Sun 16 Aug	Easy	Bob Chittenden
Wed 19 Aug	Medium/Hard	Peter Wellman
Sat 22 Aug	Medium	Robyn Gallagher
Sun 23 Aug	Easy	Leigh Hermann
Wed 26 Aug	Easy/Medium	CBC
Wed 26 Aug	Medium/Hard	NPA
Sat 29 Aug	Medium	Prue Deacon
Sun 30 Aug	Easy	Bob Chittenden
Wed 2 Sep	Short	Robyn Kelly & Colleen Fox
Wed 2 Sep	Easy/Medium	Peter Ford
Wed 2 Sep	Medium/Hard	Peter Kallio
Sat 5 Sep	Easy	Elaine Atkinson
Sun 6 Sep	Medium	John Clune
Wed 9 Sep	Easy/Medium	CBC
Wed 9 Sep	Medium/Hard	CBC
Sat 12 Sep	Easy	Ken Hird
Sun 13 Sep	Medium	Bill Gibson
Wed 16 Sep	Short	Robyn Kelly & Colleen Fox
Wed 16 Sep	Easy/Medium	Elaine Atkinson
Wed 16 Sep	Medium/Hard	Prue Deacon
Sat 19 Sep	Medium	Phillip Hope
Sun 20 Sep	Easy	Jillian Bellamy

Walks Program and Social Activities

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

Date	Grade	Leader
Wed 23 Sep	Easy/Medium	CBC
Wed 23 Sep	Medium/Hard	NPA
Sat 26 Sep	Medium	Bill Gibson
Sun 27 Sep	Easy	Ken Johnson
Wed 30 Sep	Short	Robyn Kelly & Colleen Fox
Wed 30 Sep	Easy/Medium	CBC
Wed 30 Sep	Medium/Hard	NPA
Sat 3 Oct	Medium	Peter Dalton
Sun 4 Oct	Easy	John Clune
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

Advance Notices — **subject to coronavirus restrictions**

Trips Away

Thu 15 - Thu 22 and Thu 22-Thu 29 Oct 2020 — WILSONS PROMONTORY AREA, VICTORIA —

lower Medium walks. Leaders: Peter Wellman (62885985), Peter Ford (61612470, pford@pcug.org.au). Two parties will go to the area, the first week led by Peter Wellman and the second week by Peter Ford. The walking groups will stay near Yanakie just north of Wilsons Promontory and for 6 days will go on lower medium grade walks.

The main accommodation will be in three cabins, with four people in each, at a cost of about \$63.75 per person per night (Buln Buln Holiday Cabins www.bulnbuln.com). Others may stay at other local accommodation/motor camps (there is at least Telstra phone coverage). The walks will be mainly Wilsons Promontory NP, with one in the Strzelecki Ranges and another in Cape Liptrap Coastal Park. This is the main flowering time. The distance from Canberra to the accommodation via Cann River Valley is about 665 km, supposedly 7 h 40 min driving, but with stops it takes about 9 h 10 m. The cabin accommodation needs to be held by a deposit, so you will have to pay soon a deposit of \$171. Interested walkers should contact Peter Wellman by email: wellmanp@inet.net.au.

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 if you are interested in going.

Facebook

Our Facebook Manager is regularly posting 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/>

Helen, our Facebook Manager, has done a wonderful job for us, but is now going to take a break.

If you use Facebook, you already have the skills needed to take this role on.

Please let the president or secretary know (by email) if you are interested in joining the committee in this capacity.

