

Brindabella Bushwalking Club provides a program of bushwalking and other activities that adults and children can enjoy, and promotes interest in bushwalking, safety and survival in the bush. We encourage minimal-impact bushwalking and preservation of the natural environment. Visitors are welcome, but should contact the leader beforehand. Please read the introduction to the program, particularly 'Enjoying bushwalking' and 'Rules for Walkers'.

BRINDABELLA BUSHWALKING CLUB

WALKS AND SOCIAL PROGRAM

NOVEMBER — DECEMBER 2021

PRESIDENT

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EMERGENCY OFFICERS

Doug Finlayson 6281 5810 Colin Boreham 0428 864 342

Both can be contacted at emergency@brindabellabushwalking.org.au

This program is on the Club's website: www.brindabellabushwalking.org.au

INFORMATION FOR MEMBERS

MEMBERSHIP

The Membership Year is from 1 October to 30 September. The current Application for Membership (form) is available on the Club's website: www.brindabellabushwalking.org.au

WEEKEND DAY WALKS

Meeting times and places

The normal departure time is 9.00am, unless shown otherwise (highlighted with ***). **Please arrive 10 minutes before the departure time to allow the leader time to organise the car-pooling.** The usual meeting places and their symbols are shown below. **Please do not stand on the roadway at the meeting place, obstructing traffic.**

- K:** Kambah Village shopping centre car park, corner Drakeford Drive and Marconi Crescent, opposite the petrol service station
- NL:** North Lyneham shops, Colville St, off Montford Circuit, off Cossington Smith Crescent
- Q:** Queanbeyan Swimming Pool car park, Campbell Street
- S:** Spotlight Queanbeyan car park, 6-8 Bungendore Rd (aka Kings Highway)
- W:** The Weston Creek Tennis Courts car park, in Dillon Close, which comes off Namatjira Drive directly opposite and north of McDonalds at Coleman Court.

Cancellation of walks

Walks are likely to be cancelled if heavy rain or high temperatures are forecast, or a total fire ban is in force. If warnings are issued or you are unsure about conditions, contact the leader at least a day in advance about possible changes. If there are fewer than four people the walk cannot proceed as an official club activity.

Transport

Car sharing is arranged at meeting places. The contribution for each passenger is shown in the walk description. It is currently based on 12 cents per passenger per kilometre, rounded to the nearest dollar. In addition, any National Park and Nature Reserve entry fees are usually divided equally among all people in the car.

Drivers unsure of the route should ask the leader to wait at significant corners. A tail car may be nominated by the leader. Convoys inconvenience other drivers, so please allow plenty of room for overtaking traffic.

Start and finish

Day walks usually leave the cars by 10.00am. The time of return to the cars cannot be guaranteed, but it will usually be by 4.00pm in winter and 6.00pm in summer. Some walks may start earlier and end later, and this will be indicated in the walk description. It is our custom to bring a thermos and enjoy a friendly chat after walks before driving home.

DAY WALKS ON WEDNESDAY

Short/Easy Wednesday walks

These half-day walks of 10km or less will be held throughout the year. The club would value your suggestions. If you are interested, come and try some of the walks.

Easy/Medium Wednesday walks

These are conducted every Wednesday in cooperation with the Canberra Bushwalking Club (CBC). BBC arranges walks on the first and third Wednesdays of each month, CBC on the second, fourth and fifth Wednesdays. They are graded at the upper level of 'Easy' or the lower level of 'Medium'. They will usually take most of the day, but will be easier than the Medium/Hard Wednesday walk to be conducted on that day.

Medium/Hard Wednesday walks

These walks are conducted in cooperation with CBC and the National Parks Association (NPA). BBC arranges walks on the first and third Wednesdays of each month, CBC on the second Wednesday. Walks on fourth and fifth Wednesdays are arranged by the NPA. These walks will be graded Medium (grade 8) to the lower end of Hard (grade 12) and sometimes difficult or exploratory.

LATE RETURN FROM A WALK

Let your family know where you are going and the contact details of the club's Emergency Officers – see the front cover for contact details.

There can be many simple reasons for a walk finishing later than expected and, if the group is beyond mobile phone coverage, they cannot tell anybody the reason. If it is many hours later than expected, family members can contact one of the club's Emergency Officers who can begin activating emergency procedures. The ACT and/or NSW Emergency Services will not initiate any search or rescue activities until the next morning unless a Personal Locator Beacon (PLB) has been activated. Upon return, leaders of overdue parties must contact the Emergency Officers as soon as possible.

INSURANCE

All members of Brindabella Bushwalking Club are covered for public and product liability insurance through our affiliation with Bushwalking NSW. This insurance cover is negotiated for all bushwalking clubs throughout Australia by Bushwalking Australia. All members sign an acknowledgement of risk form as part of their annual renewal of membership process and each time they attend a club activity. Members are NOT covered for personal accident insurance, which remains the responsibility of individual members. Members may feel it necessary to insure themselves against any personal accident or injury that might occur while undertaking club activities.

Members and visitors participating in club activities are strongly advised that they should have some form of ambulance insurance in case of an accident requiring evacuation by emergency services.

DEVELOP YOUR BUSHWALKING SKILLS

The club wishes to encourage members to improve their skills in navigation, first aid and more advanced bushwalking. Further information is available on the Club's website: www.brindabellabushwalking.org.au

WALKS LEADERS

The club welcomes new leaders and new ideas for walks. If you are interested in leading or in finding out more about it, please feel free to talk to walk leaders, the Walks Officer, or other Committee members. A Walks Program Meeting is held prior to the end of the current 6 monthly program.

From the Walks Officer you can also obtain a copy of *Guidelines for Leaders*, which contains detailed advice on what is involved in leading a walk. This information is also available on the club website. The Club has two Personal Locator Beacons (PLB) and an extensive collection of local maps, available for loan.

SAFETY ON WALKS

The club encourages safe bushwalking practices by asking that all individuals on any walk be aware of the need to look out for the welfare of others in the party, especially the less experienced members of the party. The leader will follow the leader guidelines set down by the club, but there is a mutual obligation on other walkers to raise any concerns they may have about the route, weather, tired walkers, etc. with the leader and fellow walkers. Don't suffer in silence.

Walking in wilderness or remote areas also has its hazards if an emergency occurs. Walk leaders going into wilderness or remote areas may ask the club for the use of a personal locator beacon (PLB). For details contact the Walks Officer. Such an emergency beacon, however, should only be used in life-threatening situations since their activation triggers a national and international rescue procedure and actions by the police and rescue services. Walkers should consider all other options for the safe return of the party before considering the activation of a PLB.

ENJOYING BUSHWALKING

Bushwalking is an active recreation. The aim of the club is to facilitate enjoyment of the bush, safely and in good company. Each walker must be aware of the hazards and be prepared for them. If in the leader's opinion a walk is not suitable for someone, the leader has a right not to accept that person on the walk. The club expects all members and visitors to follow the advice given below:

- If you have doubts about your ability to undertake bushwalking, please consult your doctor beforehand.
- For your enjoyment and safety, and that of others, it is important that you read the walk descriptions carefully and understand them. If you have any doubts, phone the leader beforehand. Leaders' contact details are always given in the program.
- You should select an easy walk for your first walk, unless you are very experienced and the leader approves. Walkers with fitness problems and new members should stay with walks graded 'Very Easy' or 'Easy' until confident of their ability to undertake harder walks.
- If walking with children, make sure you choose a walk that they can manage comfortably. Most walks that are under 10 km and over easy terrain are suitable for children of, say, seven years and older.
- Most day walks take the party several hours away from car or phone, and pack walks often much further away.
- All walkers must take their own first aid kits – see the Rules for Walkers for details. The club cannot guarantee that there will be someone in each party with first aid qualifications.
- Bring sunscreen and insect repellent as appropriate. Flies are likely to be a nuisance in summer.
- Visitors are welcome on all walks, but they must discuss the walk and their own experience with the leader before going to the meeting point. If you have doubts about your ability to keep up with the group on a particular walk, do not attempt the walk.

RULES FOR WALKERS

- You (including visitors) must register on the Walk Report form, which includes a risk acknowledgement.
- Advise the leader of any physical or other limitation, or any dependence on medication, that may require urgent attention during the activity (eg insect allergy medication)
- There is a limit of 3 walks as a visitor - after this, visitors must apply for membership.
- Discuss your suitability with the leader beforehand if you plan on participating in a walk of a higher grade than you have done before.
- No person under the age of 18 can participate in a BBC walk unless accompanied by a parent, guardian or other adult who is either a close relative, or authorised by the parent or guardian. This 'responsible person' must sign the Walk Report form.
- Dogs and firearms are not allowed.
- Bring lunch and plenty to drink with a minimum of 1 litre per adult and 1.5 litres per child in normal weather and 2-3 litres for hot weather. You may wish to have hot water for morning tea and lunch.
- Dress appropriately and always bring a hat, waterproof jacket or coat, and warm clothing, e.g., polar-fleece, thermals, gloves and warm headgear, for unexpected cold weather.
- Strong footwear with thick treaded soles is recommended. Walking boots with thick socks are best; joggers may be adequate for easy and medium terrain; if in doubt, contact the walk leader.
- Walkers must carry a first aid kit containing, as the minimum, a wide compression bandage (for snake bites, sprains and breaks), some wide micropore surgical tape (all-purpose), bandaids and pain killers. Some first aid needs arise more often than others: sunburn, thorn pricks, insect bites, abrasions and bruising from falls, blisters, heat exhaustion, and sprains and strains from slipping on rock or wet wood. Snake bite is always a possibility and tick bites can occur in NSW coastal areas.
- Carry everything in a backpack so that both hands are free.
- Keep together. Use the same route as the leader and do not get ahead of or behind the party. Keep the walker in front **and** behind in sight - call the leader to stop if necessary. If the party is large, a tail person is usually appointed to monitor slower walkers. The most common causes of separation are getting ahead of the leader, stopping to take photos or making a toilet stop without telling anyone. Do not assume you can drop behind and then easily catch up.
- If you do become separated, stop and call out. Do not keep walking. Wait in a visible place even if you have to wait some time. The leader will return for you. Call out at intervals.
- Be aware of fellow walkers – if a problem is apparent, advise the leader.
- Let the leader know if you are having any difficulties.
- If you want to leave the walk for any reason, you must consult the leader first – and abide by the leader's ruling. Do not assume you will get approval.
- The club endorses minimum impact bushwalking. Avoid damaging the bush environment, leave absolutely no litter, and do not burn plastics or aluminium in fires.
- Call for a stop at the first sign of a blister or other injury. The party will gladly stop for a rest while any necessary first aid is given. If you use someone else's supplies, replace them.
- If the leader is making a head count, assist by standing still.
- Avoid using mobile phones. If you must, then move well away from others.

THE GRADING SYSTEM

Walks are graded by experienced walkers, but a grading will always be somewhat subjective. The difficulty of a walk can be greatly affected by changes in the weather, vegetation and track conditions. Note that the harder walks are carried out faster, with shorter and fewer stops.

Walk descriptions include the approximate distance, total climb and notes on the terrain, and are the best guide to the degree of difficulty. These factors are scored in the grading system, and the total score is used to grade each walk – see the tables below. Regular walkers will learn to match their capabilities to them.

FACTORS					
Dist. (km)	Score	Total Climb (m)	Score	Terrain	Score
		900	6		
21	5	700-899	5	Mostly rough going	5
16-20	4	500-699	4	Moderately rough going	4
11-15	3	300-499	3	Some rough going	3
6-10	2	100-299	2	Mostly road, track or footpad, no rough going	2
0-5	1	0-99	1	All road, track or footpad, no rough going	1

Note. Rough going includes medium or heavy scrub; rocky, loose or slippery ground; rock scrambling; and stony creek crossings.

GRADING		
Total Score	Grade	Comment
15-	Very Hard	Strenuous walking. Fit and experienced walkers only.
12-14	Hard	Demanding walking. Fit and experienced walkers only.
8-11	Medium	Moderate fitness and bushwalking experience is required. People who have not been on a full day's bushwalk before will find these quite difficult.
4-7	Easy	At the lower end (Grade 4), these are suitable for people with little or no bushwalking experience. The degree of difficulty increases with the grading score.
3	Very Easy	Distances up to 5 km; urban or nature park rambles; suitable for family groups, including young children needing to be carried.

Note. Total scores are included with the grading in the walk descriptions, e.g. Medium (9)

Wed 3 Nov – SHORT WEDNESDAY WALK – Easy. Contact: Robyn Kelly (6288 0449) or Colleen Fox (0424 030 015) or email ewwcontact@brindabellabushwalking.org.au

Wed 3 Nov - KAMBAH POOL TOWARDS CASUARINA SANDS AND BACK – 14 km Medium (10)
Leader: Peter Dalton (0414 363255, daltons2@tpg.com.au). A pleasant walk along a sometimes-overgrown track, high above the Murrumbidgee. There are some short, steep-ish undulations in the track during the first and last 90 minutes which produce a combined climb of 700 m. Cars: Nil. Map: Tuggeranong. **Meet just outside the top entrance gate at Kambah Pool at 8.30 am.*****

Sat 6 Nov – FORSTERS HILL (near Kambah Pool) – 7 km Easy (7)

Leader: Eric Pickering (6286 2128, pater@tpg.com.au). The walk starts near the noisy cattle grid marking the entry to the Kambah Pool area. We walk cross country through undulating grassland (off-track) crossing McQuoid Creek before a short but steep climb to Forsters Hill (morning tea). This section is overgrown with long grass, Gaiters are recommended/essential. We then drop down to the Murrumbidgee track which we follow for some distance before taking to a rough track along the river to Red Rocks Lookout (parts of this track might still be obliterated from recent floods). Return will be on the Murrumbidgee track. Although graded easy there are likely to be some rough bits to negotiate. The pace will be slow to moderate. **Meet on the Kambah Pool Road immediately before the noisy cattle grid marking the boundary of the Bullen Range Nature Reserve where the road goes steeply down to Kambah Pool at 8.50am.*****

Sun 7 Nov – FOUR HUTS WALK, NAMADGI NATIONAL PARK – 16km Medium (9)

Leader: Bill Gibson (0419 240 468, billgibsons@gmail.com). A combination of two walks in Namadgi NP. A pleasant walk in open and unburnt countryside. We drive to Old Bobeyan Homestead carpark, then do a short car shuffle to position the cars at our finishing point at Brayshaws Hut. We visit 4 historic structures, 3 of which have been restored by the KHA. Maps: Rooftop's Namadgi – ACT South Activities Map 1:50,000, Yaouk, Shannon's Flat. Climb: 350m. Cars: 120km (\$14). **Meet at K at 8.30am.*****

Wed 10 Nov – TIDBINBILLA RAMBLE – 6km Easy (7)

Leader: Eric Pickering (6286 2128, pater@tpg.com.au). This is a delightful walk within the Tidbinbilla Valley. It will take in some well-known landmarks and some surprises for those who have not explored this area. Much of the walk will be off-track in grassland so gaiters are a good idea. I hope to avoid thick scrub but there may be some very minor rock scrambling. The walk will be at a slowish pace. Make sure you bring a sit-upon, to enjoy some quiet, silent contemplation in this beautiful area. Bring morning tea and lunch. Climb: 200m. We start and finish the walk at the Dalsetta car park within Tidbinbilla but will first meet at the Visitor Centre. Park entry fees apply. **Meet at the car park at the Tidbinbilla Visitor Centre 8.50am. *****

Sat 13 Nov – THE PINNACLE TO KAMA – 14km Easy (7)

Leader: Davinia Wells (0439 424 834, daviniawells@hotmail.com). We begin our walk from the parking area at the start of Drake-Brockman Drive. From there we walk into The Pinnacle Reserve and head for The Pinnacle. We make the short climb to the top of The Pinnacle and then head towards the Kama property. We will use the 'right of way' crossing until we reach the underpass that leads to Kama Nature Reserve and make our way towards the Molonglo River. You can choose to follow the leader in some easy rock scrambling down to the river or follow along on the fire trail. Lunch will be at a spot where we can enjoy river views. We will return through Kama via a different track until we reach the Kama property where we will retrace our steps back to the cars. The climb will be approximately 250m. Map: Canberra. **Meet in the parking area on the left of Drake-Brockman Drive, close to the roundabout that joins Kingsford Smith Drive with Drake-Brockman Drive. Starting time 9.30am.*****

Sun 14 Nov — BORDER WALK & FLUSH TOILET – 19km Medium (10)

Leader: Bob Chittenden (6231 0856, bobchitt@hotmail.com). We drive on the Boboyan Road to the southern boundary of the ACT and park at the locked gate at the Mount Clear car park (just past the camping ground). The walk is a loop, all on fire trails. Firstly on the new border walk, then following the border to the

Long Flat fire trail, to the flush toilet and back to the cars. The area is open valley and bushland. Total climb: 680m. Cars: 130 km (\$15). Maps: Colinton, Bredbo, Shannons Flat. **Meet at K.**

Wed 17 Nov – SHORT WEDNESDAY WALK – Easy. Contact: Robyn Kelly (6288 0449) or Colleen Fox (0424 030 015) or email ewwcontact@brindabellabushwalking.org.au

Wed 17 Nov – WEDNESDAY WALK – Leader: Peter Wellman (6288 5985, wellmanp@iinet.net.au).

Sat 20 Nov – HILL 1288 AND OLD STONE WALLS – 10km Medium (8)

Leader: Peter Dalton (0414 363255, daltons2@tpg.com.au). We start at Glendale Crossing and follow the Brandy Flat Hut track until we take the turn to the north on the track beside Reedy Creek. After morning tea by the creek, we'll continue north for about 2 km before turning west off-track and climbing to the top of hill 1288, where we'll hopefully get some views north into the valley and probably have lunch. We then descend to the north-west to the saddle and turn south-west for our return - we will visit the mysterious old stone walls on the way. From here it is about 2km of steady descent to the cars. Climb: 450m. Cars: 80km (\$10). Map: Michelago. **Meet at K at 8.30am.*****

Sun 21 Nov – SQUARE ROCK – 10km Easy (6)

Leader: Ken Hird (0417 247 065). We start at the new Square Rock car park on the Corin Road. This is an easy walk on track to Square Rock via the Orroral Valley lookout. Good views from both the lookout and Square Rock. Lunch at Square Rock. Climb: 270m. Cars: 70km (\$8). Map: Corin Dam. **Meet at K.**

Wed 24 Nov – WEDNESDAY WALK – GIBRALTAR ROCKS AND TIDBINBILLA RIVER - 14km Medium (8)

Leader: Margaret Power (0448 924 357, power000@tpg.com.au) From the Tidbinbilla Nature Reserve Visitor Centre carpark we'll take tracks past Birigai and on to Gibraltar Rocks. After ascending Gibraltar Peak we'll descend to Dalsetta and continue to the Tidbinbilla River. From there we'll return to the Visitor Centre. This walk is all on track, with ascents of approximately 450 metres. People car-sharing and those wishing to enter the Visitor Centre will need masks. **Meet either at 8.20am in the carpark in Peter Cullen Way in Wright (near the corner of Swallowtail Road) OR at 9.00am in the carpark at the Tidbinbilla Nature Reserve Visitor Centre.*****

Sat 27 Nov – MOLONGLO GORGE MORNING WALK – 7km Easy (6)

Leader: Elaine Atkinson (6288 3557 / 0410 154 133, elainem.atkinson@gmail.com). From the picnic area in the Molonglo Nature Reserve near Queanbeyan we walk the length of the gorge to Blue Tile picnic area where we have morning tea. We return the same way. Some of the track is rocky and slippery when wet. Climb: 150m. Maps: Canberra, Bungendore. **Meet at the Molonglo Gorge Recreation Reserve car park at 9.00am.**

Sun 28 Nov – PARROT AND CHALET ROADS, BRINDABELLA TOPS – 14km Medium (8)

Leader: Peter Wellman (6288 5985, wellmanp@iinet.net.au). We will drive to near Bendora Arboretum and drop a car, then drive to Aggie Gap. We walk to Mount Aggie for the view and back, then along Parrot and Chalet Roads to Bendora Arboretum for lunch, and then to the car. All on roads. Lovely recovered forest. Climb: 300m. Map: Tidbinbilla. Cars: 120km (\$15). **Meet at W.**

Wed 1 Dec – SHORT WEDNESDAY WALK – Easy. Contact: Robyn Kelly (6288 0449) or Colleen Fox (0424 030 015) or email ewwcontact@brindabellabushwalking.org.au

Wed 1 Dec – WEDNESDAY WALK – Leader: Graham Chalker (0428 854 957, grahamchalker@grapevine.com.au).

Sat 4 Dec – CURTIN CORK OAKS, ARBORETUM AND MOLONGLO RIVER RESERVE - 13 km Easy (7)

Leader: Elaine Atkinson (6288 3557 / 0410 154 133, elainem.atkinson@gmail.com). First part of the walk is on a country track through the horse paddocks at the back of Curtin and up through the cork oaks to the Yarralumla woolshed for morning tea. Cross the Molonglo, through pine forest to the arboretum. Wend our way back to the cars via the ponds in Coombs and explore the top of Weston. Climb: 100 m. Cars: nil.

Meet at the grassed area by the gate into the horse paddocks, near the electricity substation cnr Devonport and Heyson Streets, Lyons.

Sun 5 Dec – TIDBINBILLA SHORT WALKS – 6km Easy (6)

Leader: Leigh Hermann (0417 147 260, hermannsuk@hotmail.com). A selection of short walks in Tidbinbilla Nature Reserve, such as the Rock Wallaby Wander, Church Rock Heritage Loop, and Cascades and Lyrebird trails. We will start early to avoid the heat and will finish before lunch. Morning tea snacks will be provided. Climb: 150m. Cars: 70km (\$8 plus park entry). Map: Tidbinbilla. **Meet at K.**

Wed 8 Dec – WEDNESDAY WALK. Leader: John Danaro (6254 3814, danaro@bigpond.net.au).

All Clubs Christmas Walk to be notified to the Wednesday Walks list. Look forward to meeting up with your friends from CBC and NPA.

Sat 11 Dec – ASHBROOK AND OTHER TRAILS – TIDBINBILLA - 11km Easy (7)

Leader: David Wardle (6286 1573, wardle@webone.com.au). From the Hanging Rock car park at Tidbinbilla we walk up the Ashbrook Trail in the cool of the early morning, exploring tall forests and wet gullies before crossing Ashbrook Creek. We then continue up to the locked gate on Mountain Creek Road where we will then walk along the shorter Cascade and Lyrebird Trails with the return the same way. Total climb 200m. Cars 70km. \$8 plus Park entry. Map: Tidbinbilla Walks Map. **Meet at K.**

SUN 12 Dec – NAAS VALLEY TO HORSE GULLY HUT – 18km Medium (9)

Leader: Bill Gibson (0419 240 468, billgibsons@gmail.com) A walk through Namadgi National Park. Leaving from Mt Clear Carpark, we walk through open forest and grasslands along undulating management trails. We cross 3 fords on the first part of the walk. Further along we reach Horse Gully Hut, a well-equipped hut which is a popular overnight stop for many walkers. We return the way we came. People may wish to consider bringing Crocs or similar as it is probably pretty wet and although we can detour around some of the fords, the detour may also be muddy & boggy, so we may be walking through water at the fords. Maps: Colinton 1:25,000, Rooftop's Namadgi - ACT South Activities Map 1: 50,000. Climb: 540m. Cars: 120km (\$14). The Boboyan Road is now open but has some rough spots because of water damage, so 4WDs for transport will be preferable. **Meet at Kambah Shopping Centre at 8:30am.*****

Wed 15 Dec – SHORT WEDNESDAY WALK – Easy. Contact: Robyn Kelly (6288 0449) or Colleen Fox (0424 030 015) or email ewwcontact@brindabellabushwalking.org.au

Wed 15 Dec – WEDNESDAY WALK – Leader: Peter Wellman (6288 5985, wellmanp@iinet.net.au).

Fri 17 Dec – CHRISTMAS PARTY. We will hold the picnic/barbecue at the home of Rene Lays, Kaleen, from 5:30 pm. BYO food (something to share for dessert), drinks and portable chairs if you have them. Also bring a jumper/jacket. A three-burner barbecue is available. **Enquiries to Rene (0424 465 418).**

Sat 18 Dec – No walk is scheduled for today.

Sun 19 Dec – BRANDY FLAT TRACK FROM THE SOUTH TO THE NORTH – 9km Easy (7)

Leader: John Clune (9fernyhough@gmail.com). We walk from the car park on the Boboyan Road near Gudgenby north to Brandy Flat Hut. Lunch at Brandy Flat, then on the track to Glendale Crossing. Climb: 430m. Car shuffle is necessary. Cars: 100km (\$12). Map: Michelago. **Meet at K.**