

# Brindabella Bushwalking Club

February 2021 Newsletter



BBC



Summit of Mt Ainslie — There'll be nibbles and drinks here after the Sunset Walk on Friday 5 February

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## Coronavirus Update

- \* We're not out of the woods yet! The latest ACT updates can be found here: [Updates](#)
- \* Keeping your distance and maintaining hand (and respiratory) hygiene are essential.
- \* We still need to be cautious while we await a vaccine.

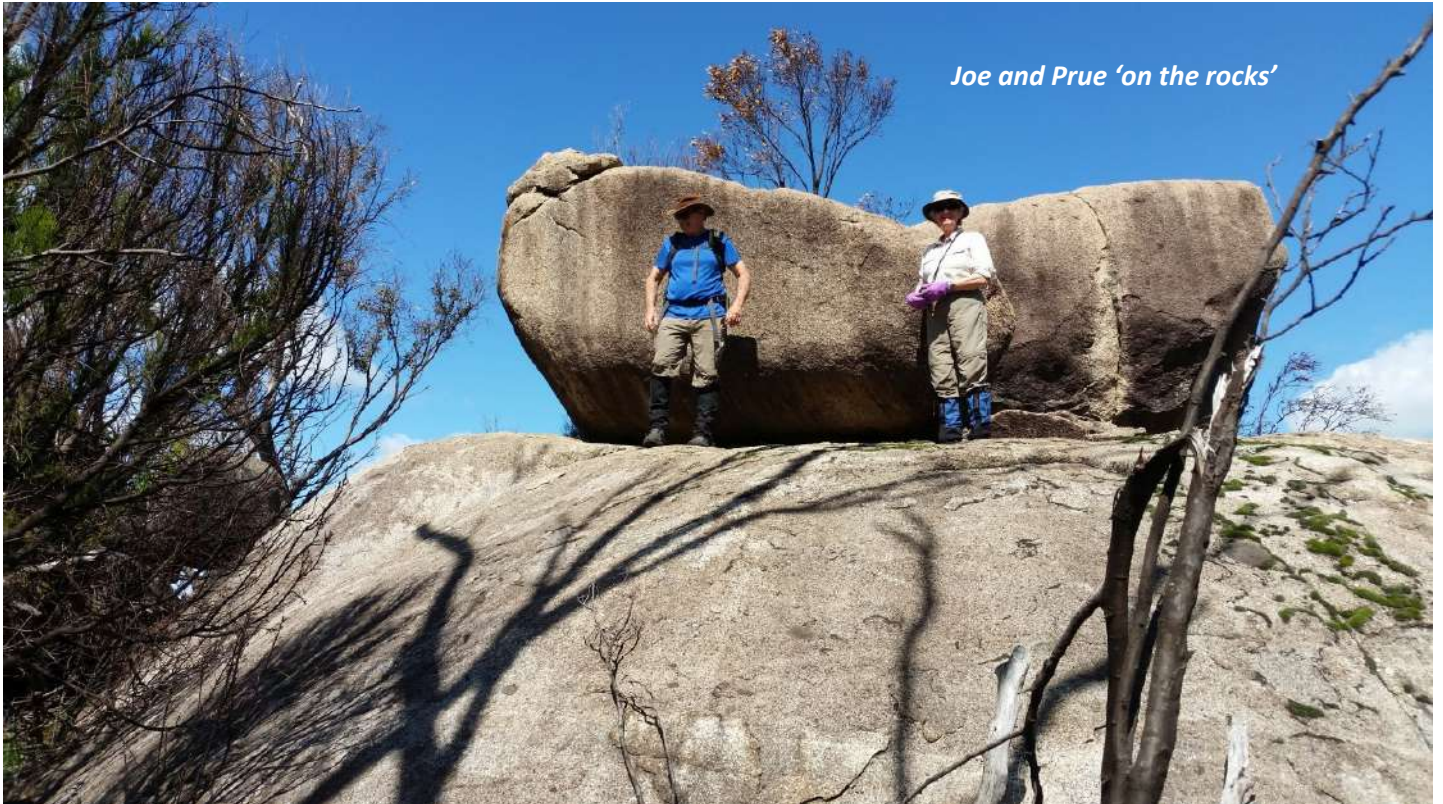
## BBC Website

[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

**Namadgi.** In a recent press release ACT Parks announced that the majority of Namadgi, including Booroomba Rocks, is likely to reopen mid-year. This is great news and as soon as we hear precise dates, we'll let you know.

**Tall Grass and Weeds.** The excellent rains we have enjoyed, along with the lack of leaf canopy since the fires, have accelerated the growth of grasses, weeds and shrubs. This means that many off-track walks will be much slower (like wading through treacle) and grass seeds will be a real pest for a while.

**Coronavirus and Car Sharing.** The ACT Government has no particular concern about car sharing — we've asked! However, we do need to be particularly careful when organising car shuffles, because these necessarily result in fewer cars to move the same number of passengers in one direction or the other. Leaders need to ensure that more cars are taken than usual to account for this. While no member should feel compelled to share a car with others, this will result in them not being able to participate in the few walks that involve car shuffles.

**Rob Roy Nature Reserve Restrictions.** There is a link to the restrictions that now apply and also a very detailed map on the club's website — open 'Links' from the top menu, then find the details under 'Access Issues'.

Club member, Joe Carmona, has uploaded some videos of walks (including BBC ones) to his YouTube channel. There is one on [Billy Range](#), with links to others like Orca Rock, Gorilla Rock and Mt Gingera — well done, Joe.

Recently, Capital Region Community Services kindly posted an article about our club on their Facebook page — you can see it [here](#).

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

# Vale

## Christine (Chris) Perrers

**3 June 1945 — 6 October 2020**

We have just recently become aware that Chris, who was a member of BBC for many years, and more recently also a member of the Central West Bushwalkers Club, died at Bathurst of Myeloma on 6 October 2020.

She was clearly loved and appreciated for the voluntary work she did at Bathurst and much of this is detailed in the words from Bernadette Mullaney on the next page. Chris also penned a touching farewell letter to all who knew her and it appears on the subsequent page.



Chris Perrers

More [Photos](#)

A [Landscape](#), by Chris

## *Chris Perrers*

Chris was a member of our bushwalking club from 2009, and participated on many walks. She particularly loved the Gardens of Stone area. Members commented on her friendliness, warmth, thoughtfulness and easy going nature. Bruce & I especially appreciated her thoroughness, gentle spirit and organisation when she led about 10 of us on walks on Flinders Island for a week. We weren't aware of her links with your club, but appreciate your sadness and we're sorry we couldn't have told you about her sickness sooner.

She was also on the committee of the Bathurst & District National Trust, and helped establish a steering committee to preserve the heritage and history of the Bathurst Agricultural Research Station. She was an active member of the Wholefood Co-Op, giving generously of her time. When Bathurst council planned to develop the open space of Centennial Park, a 4ha block in town, she joined a group advocating for natural recreational usage and greening of the space, and raised awareness and some funds for the group by propagating seedlings of stony pines from its cones the trees had dropped there. She also, at times, travelled by train to the Blue Mountains to help propagate seedlings at the Blue Mountains Conservation Society nursery. She was also involved in a spinning & weaving group, and probably other things!

As you may know, she had an aversion to mainstream medicine. We first realised something was amiss during 2019 when she stopped doing walks because she said she wasn't feeling well. By the end of the year, she was losing her voice. We were only fully told of her situation a few months before she passed away. She had myeloma, and declined treatment. Several of us were invited, singly or in pairs, to her home in August, where we shared mutual strength as she put things in order. Her humour, bright strength of spirit and prudence didn't leave her. A few friends living nearby had become very close to her, and sensitively, faithfully supported her and helped her with decisions and necessary arrangements. She had no close family links that we are aware of.

She moved into the local St Catherine's Aged Care, leaving her home on Wattle Day, 1st September as she appreciated the Cootamundra wattle she'd planted, blooming on the nature strip. She passed away on 6 October 2020.

It was her wish that there be no funeral. There was a swell of ways that friends arranged to mark her life, firstly many friends lining the roadside and sharing remembrances, as the hearse paused at her home enroute to the crematorium. Later, the WholeFood Co-Op and our Bushwalking Club both separately bought and planted, 2 young trees each in Boundary Road Nature Reserve, a grassy box woodland on the edge of town, in her memory. The creation of the attached card was another mark of the esteem, fondness and value of her to many people. Her ashes were spread at Olympian Rock Lookout, Leura, by friends of hers from the Blue Mountains.

Bernadette Mullaney,  
Central West Bushwalkers Club

Dear Friends ~

I've a person -  
who touches the earth  
who feels deeply for the land  
who loves people.

An absolutely wonderful life I have had for nearly 75 years.

I love sky and the clouds, and  
night sky, stars and moon

I love native bush and trees, and  
native animals

I love my garden, birds, bats,  
lizards, possums, frogs, insects,  
and can see Wahlen from my bedroom

I love Woodford when I saw a wallaby,  
echidna and a pigmy possum,  
a long time ago

I love friends, many friends

I love free and independent to my own desire.

I don't want any life-prolonging  
treatment for cancer in the blood.

My voice is still lost so I cannot converse  
I want to go peacefully. Farewell!!!

In next life, I am a Wedged Tailed Eagle, flying over  
the land. I see you, my friends, from the sky.

Christine XXX

24/8/20



## Mt Ainslie Sunset Walk— Friday 5 February



This 3 km walk (with a climb of 200 m) will conclude with drinks and nibbles provided by the Social Committee and is the first opportunity for all our club members to meet in 2021.

It is timed so that you can enjoy the sunset over the Brindabellas while chatting with friends. Bring a drink receptacle, and a torch for the descent at dusk - everything else is provided. The event will be cancelled if extreme weather is threatening.

If you're not up to the walk, just meet us at the top at around 7.00 pm.

**Meet at the base of the Mt Ainslie walking track behind the War Memorial at 6.30 pm**

Just ordered my new mask!





*Looking South from the Main Range in Kosciuszko National Park*

## The Traditions to understand on a BBC Bushwalk

*By David Wardle—Walks Officer*

We've had quite a few new members join in the last couple of months and it is always refreshing to see them come along on their first bushwalks with us, but we recognise it can be a little daunting initially, so here is an introduction.

**Ask the Leader.** If you are unsure about your ability, the location of the meeting place or anything at all about the walk, ask the leader beforehand. They are always happy to chat about what they have planned. Read the walk description carefully - the distance quoted is not the only indicator of the difficulty of the walk.

Be at the meeting place a good 10 minutes before the walk departure as it takes time to organise people into cars and to brief the drivers. Double-check that you have everything you will need on the walk, especially plenty of water - one litre minimum (more in summer) - and a good shady hat.

**What to expect on the Walk.** At the start of the walk, it is usual for everyone to get into a bit of a circle and introduce themselves. You won't remember all of the names but it is a good start. The leader will explain the walk and often get a map out to show you the route planned. The leader will appoint someone to be at the back of the group to keep an eye on everything if the numbers warrant it, so watch that you don't get behind this person. If anybody needs a slower pace, the tail-end walker will alert the leader. If you need to go to the toilet, only do so when the group has stopped and do let someone know so that they can watch out for your return; otherwise, you risk being separated from the rest of the group – i.e. lost. Whenever you leave the track for any reason leave your pack on the edge of the track so it is always known where you went.



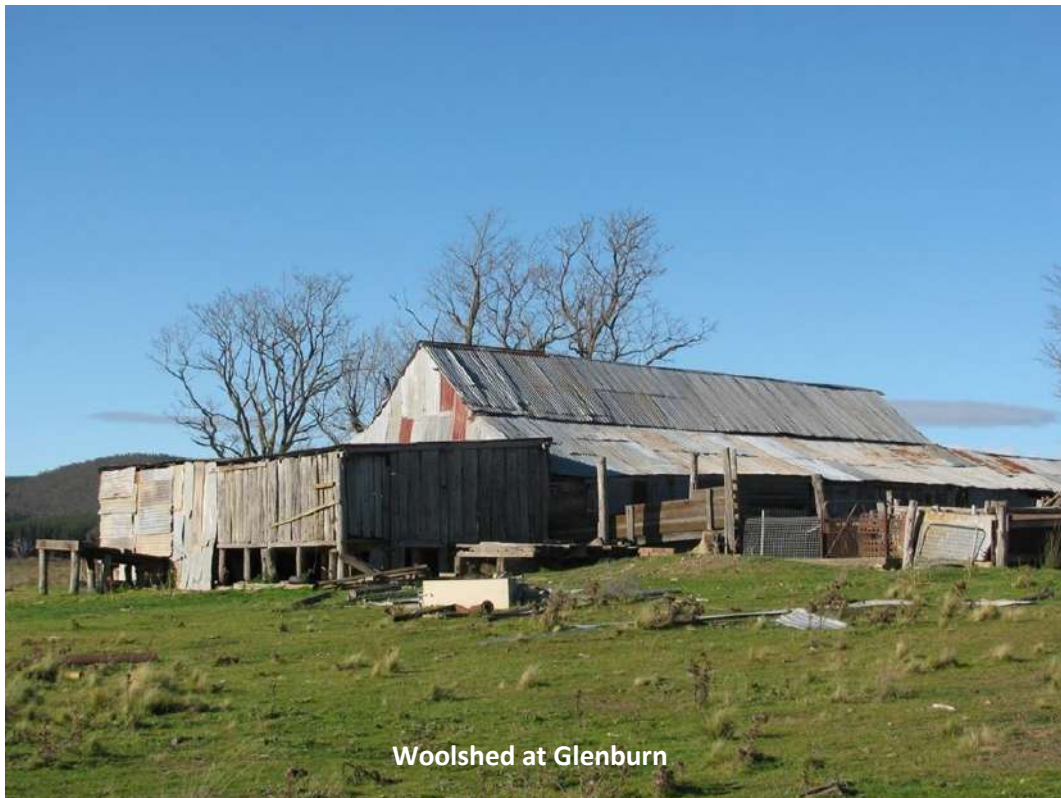
**Granite Tors Track**



## The Traditions to understand on a BBC Bushwalk— page 2

**Breaks.** There will be a morning tea break around 10.30 or at an interesting view point, whichever comes first. You'll probably stop for about 15 - 20 minutes, enough for a cup of tea or coffee. It's much the same at lunchtime with more likely up to a 30-minute stop and more tea and coffee. Unless the description says otherwise, you will need to bring lunch. Usually there will be plenty of trees around for more discrete matters, but always let someone know. Don't worry how often you need to stop to go to the toilet – you haven't had enough to drink if you don't need to go!

This is not the time to let the leader know that you have to be back at a specific time to collect grandchildren, or to prepare dinner for your expected evening guests. While the leader can let you know of a rough expected time of return, certainly don't bank on it as anything can happen. If you have to be back at a very specific time you should leave your walk for another day.

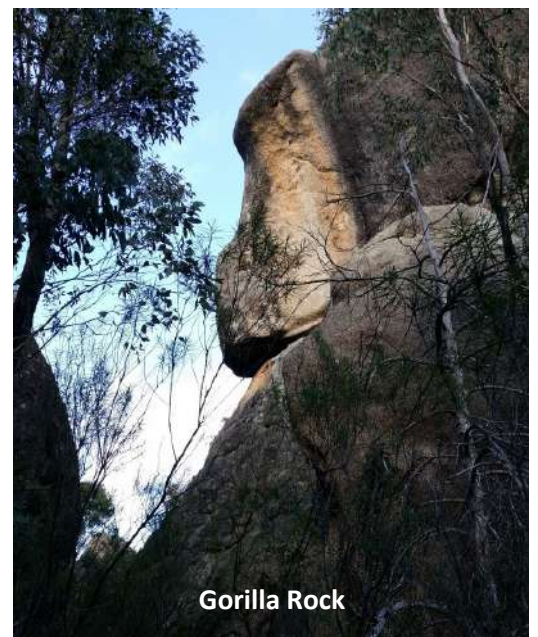


Woolshed at Glenburn

Some people feel that it is best not to chat about politics, sex or religion on a walk, but hey it would only leave one's own health to talk about, so don't worry. The final point is to always humour the leader because they are always right, even though they can often come out with some of the most outlandish thoughts or statements. Just listen politely and carry on. Enjoy your walk and always ask if you have thoughts or questions.

**First Aid Kits.** All walkers must carry a first aid kit, to cater for their own personal needs and preferences; e.g. aspirin instead of paracetamol. See the **Rules for Walkers** and **Advice for Walkers** on the website for more details.

**Enjoy the scenery,** the exercise and the socialising – you'll feel much better for all of these!



Gorilla Rock