

Brindabella Bushwalking Club

July 2021 Newsletter



BBC



Rob Roy Waterfall after recent rain

In this issue

- ◆ Coronavirus Update
- ◆ From the President
- ◆ Changes to Club Documents
- ◆ Using the Club Website
- ◆ Trip Report — Royal National Park
- ◆ Don't want your photo to appear?

Coronavirus Update

- * The latest ACT updates can be found here: [Updates](#)
- * Keeping your distance and maintaining hand (and respiratory) hygiene are essential.
- * **Masks** must be worn at meeting places and when car-pooling until the ACT Government says otherwise.

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

Jul-Dec Program. The program has been distributed and is also at the club's website. The preliminary pages have been cut back by two pages, such that only essential information is included.

Website. Some of the club's documents have been updated to reflect current practices. A summary of these changes appears on the next page and leaders, in particular, are asked to carefully note these — don't worry, they are minor and not onerous. Rest assured we have not made any new rules!

Additionally, our website manager Peter Ford has written an article explaining the features of the website and reminding us of the excellent information available there. It's a very worthwhile read.

Covid. We must not become complacent about this disease and our responsibility in keeping at bay. Some stories in the media can confuse the latest restrictions and requirements so, if in doubt, refer to the ACT Government Health site here: [Updates](#).

Our Walk Program is continuing to operate as published.

Peter Dalton



Changes to Club Documents

Walk Report. The old form had a column headed 'Emergency Phone Number' . Many of our walkers have been inserting their own phone numbers here, which isn't much use if the leader needs to call someone to let them know the member is injured or ill. To clarify this, the column has been changed to read '**Number to call if you suffer an injury or are ill**', as shown in the extract below.

This updated form is available for downloading from the website.

| | Name | Signature | Number to be called if you suffer an injury or are ill | Club – if not BBC |
|---|------|-----------|--|-------------------|
| 1 | | | | |
| 2 | | | | |
| 3 | | | | |

Guidelines for Leaders. This document was out of date; e.g. it considered mobile phones to be somewhat of a nuisance on a walk, where of course they can now do so much more than receive and make calls.

- **First Aid.** The guidelines also had two pages of First Aid advice, but unfortunately it hadn't been keeping up with subtle changes in the way aid is to be administered. So, instead of trying to maintain what was virtually our own First Aid manual, this has all been deleted and replaced by a clickable link to the [Emergencies](#) section of the Bushwalking Manual. This should always contain the most up-to-date information there is.
- **Walk Report — leave it in the car or take it with you?.** The advice in the Guidelines was to leave the Walk Report form in the leader's car before heading off on the walk. However, not all leaders thought this to be a good idea and so many took the form with them because it had all the important details of the participants. Some leaders cunningly take a photo of the form with their phones and then leave the form in the car, resulting in a copy being in both places. Although this is clearly a brilliant idea, we have not made it a rule, but have left it up to the leader.

Click here (or go to the website) to see the updated [Leader Guidelines](#)

Maps. The club has a huge library of topographic maps available for loan to members. Deidre Shaw has fully indexed these and the complete listing is at the **Resources for Members** page on the website. Importantly, there is also an explanatory document headed [BBC Map Collection](#) on that page which you should first refer to.

Password Protection. There is no longer a password-protected Members' Area. The information from there is now on the page named 'Resources for Members'.

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

USING THE WEBSITE

The BBC Website (<http://www.brindabellabushwalking.org.au/>) is designed to address two audiences, members and prospective members. In relation to both, perhaps the most important reference document is the program of bushwalks and social activities for the current six-month period. The new program for the second half of 2021 has just been posted. However, the wide range of other information available should not be overlooked.

Apart from the sections of our website that are directed to prospective members, the content of the main body of the website comprises information, and links to information, that is considered to be of continuing relevance and importance to existing members. Much of it is well known by members but it serves as a reference document. It is there to be consulted when there is occasion to check something that needs to be clarified - e.g., transport costs, meeting places, rules, advice to walkers etc.

Information content is leavened by a few photographs which are refreshed from time to time. Recent newsletters are also available by clicking the relevant buttons.

Bushwalking Manual. The recent addition of a link on the Club's website to the Bushwalking Manual (<https://bushwalkingmanual.org.au/>) prompts the question 'what is there of interest to be explored?'

The answer is - a great deal. The menu structure of the manual anticipates the likely main concerns of bushwalkers at all levels with sub-menus arranged in a logical way. It also has a 'search' function.

Other links are to a range of websites including those providing information on other clubs, general bushwalking information, weather, maps and access to particular walking areas.

Suggested Improvements. In line with the Club's principles, we also endeavour to keep the website simple and are always looking for ways to improve your experience in using it. In this connection any suggestions would be welcome.

Peter Ford



The Royal National Park

This article was supplied by David, with photos by him and Elaine

The Brindabella Bushwalking Club has made an almost annual pilgrimage to the Royal National Park south of Sydney. Jillian Bellamy has organised most of these as camping trips over the years. This year however, John Clune pushed the travels more up market and we stayed in rather splendid cottages right within the Park. The NPWS who had in the past a policy of demolishing cottages that remained within Park boundaries, has now had an about turn and is refurbishing many of those that remain to provide accommodation for walkers. John was able to secure bookings for three cottages, Hilltop, Weemalah and Reids Flat which became our base for the days of walking.

*The morning
'wake-up'
team at
Hilltop Cottage*



The classic walk of the Park is the Coastal Track which we did over two days. Day one was heading north from Otford and day two was heading south from Bundeena. The only minor disappointment was that the Kiosk at Garie Beach was closed by the time that we got there so the reward of an end of day ice cream was off the agenda. A few nameless hardy souls though did however celebrate with an icy swim. This is the walk that provides spectacular views changing with every step. Forest glades in the south and cliff top and beach walks in the north. The surviving small cottage settlements such as Burning Palms, Era and Little Garie provide a glimpse of the recreation pursuits of the Depression years when unemployed families built small retreats with whatever they could scrounge.



*Another climb on Day
2 on the northern end
of the Coastal Path*

Day three delivered totally different walks along the inland Karloo and Uloola Walking Tracks. Quite a change of vegetation with a morning tea stop at the beautiful reflective Karloo Pool which thankfully we had to ourselves, however I imagine on a summer's weekend it could be bedlam. Using our Opal Cards we were able to utilise Sydney trains to collect us at the end of the walk.



One more climb



The leader shepherding his group

Day four was in the adjacent Heathcote National Park where the flowering Gynea Lilies provided beautiful splashes of red in the green leafy landscape. The Bullawarring Walking Track enabled us to traverse the park from north to south and had us winding our way from river's edge to craggy cliff tops. Beautiful reflections at Mirang Pool but we still had a long way to go with morning tea at the Battery Causeway and lunch at Mike's Lookout before leaving the track at Kingfisher Pool and a rapid walk back to Waterfall Station where we joined the waiting train with masks attached.

There was also some interruption to the serious business of walking with visits to coffee shops in Bundeena (where some others were staying), ferry rides over to Cronulla and coffee and cake at Audley. Thanks John for amazing coordination and leadership. The story of a Kookaburra's liking for butter will remain untold!



How about here for morning tea?

Your Photo in the Newsletter, Facebook or the Club Website

In Australia:

- There are no laws that stop someone taking your photo or video in a **public place** and then posting it online.
- There are no laws that stop someone posting photos or videos of you taken from a **public location**, even when you are on **private property**.
- It is a crime for someone to take a picture or video of you doing a **private activity** if you didn't know or didn't agree. Private activities are things that you do in private when you don't expect to be watched. These could include undressing, using the toilet or engaging in a sexual act.
- Any photos you've **taken in public** – which is considered any place where people have no reasonable expectation of privacy (e.g. bushwalking) – can be published online without getting permission first.
- You have no expectation of privacy in anything you do in public. This includes where you go and what you do while you're there.
- If you're in a **public place** and someone snaps a picture of you while you're falling down drunk, getting arrested, picking your nose, scowling at a crying baby, or not wearing pants, there's probably nothing you can do if that picture shows up online somewhere.

So, if you don't want to appear on our Facebook page, website or the newsletter, please let people know whenever you are on a walk — our members are all reasonable people and will honour your request.

Emergency Plus Phone App



If you have a **Smart phone**, then you really should install the free **Emergency+** application that can save lives. This App is available for both Android and Apple phones.

If you need help in an emergency, you select the App and it will give you your location and the choice of three buttons to press – one will dial 000, the second will call the Police, and the third the SES.

It does, of course, rely on your phone being in an area of coverage at the time.

The **free** app, which uses a mobile phone's GPS functionality, also uses 'What3words', so callers can provide emergency call-takers with their location information as determined by their smart phone; i.e. GPS coordinates, street address (if in an urban area) or by three words.

what3words has divided the world into 3m squares and given each one a unique three-word identifier.

The best explanation about how it works can be found here: [what3words](#)

Trevor Willson's Amazing Car Shuffle Calculator

Ever been confused when trying to set up a car shuffle? Here's the solution.

| No. of people on walk | Total No. of cars needed | No. of cars needed to transport drivers | Max no. of passengers per car during shuffle |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|---|--|
| 6 - 10 | 3 | 1 | 5,5. |
| 11 - 13 | 4 | 1 | 4,4,5. |
| 14 - 17 | 5 | 1 | 4,4,4,5. |
| 18 - 22 | 7 | 2 | 4,4,4,5,5. |
| 23 - 26 | 8 | 2 | 4,4,4,4,5,5. |

The Feral Pig Problem



There must be a very big mob of pigs in the Bushfold Flats area. The route north from the hut has been comprehensively 'ploughed' (as shown above) for at least 3 km — we didn't go any further than that.

Rangers have set up pig traps and bait stations, but an infantry ambush is probably what is needed!