

Brindabella Bushwalking Club Newsletter

September 2016

The following members were elected at the AGM.

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The Committee for 2016-2017

President	-	Peter Ford
Vice President/Walks Officer	-	Peter Dalton
Secretary & Public Officer	-	Julie Pettit
Treasurer/Membership Secretary	-	Davinia Wells
Social Convenor	-	Lucinda Lang
Training & Development	-	Bob Chittenden
Facebook	-	Terrylea Reynolds
Committee Member	-	Elaine Atkinson
Committee Member	-	Terry O'Brien

Walks Committee

Peter Dalton	Kathy Handel	Robyn Gallagher
Robyn Kelly	Peter Wellman	Jillian Bellamy

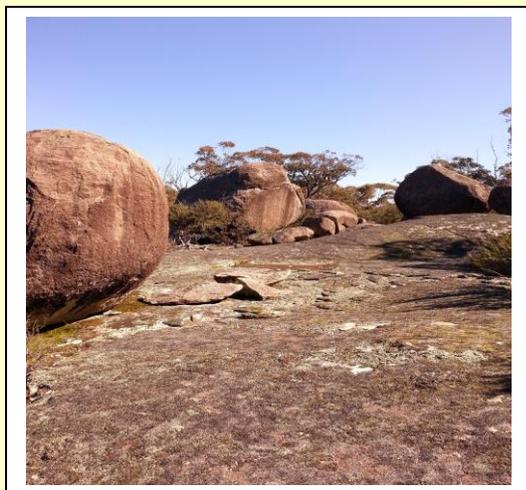
Social Committee

Lucinda Lang	Julie Pettit	Margitta Acker
Colleen Fox	Terry O'Brien	

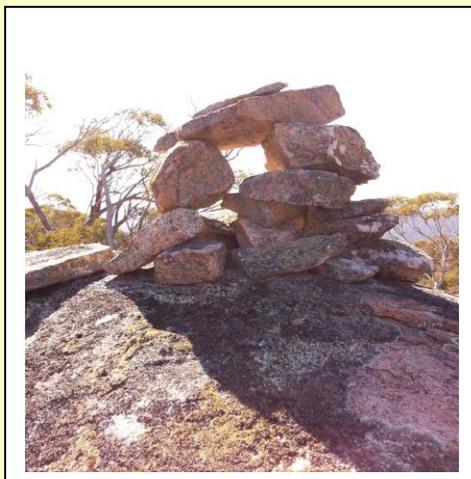
Emergency Officers

Doug Finlayson

Colin Boreham



On
top of
the
Hills
North
of
Rowleys
Hut





Constitutional Changes

The members agreed at the Annual General Meeting to amend the Club Constitution in three areas.

- The first was to increase the membership of the committee by adding up to three ordinary committee members.
- The second was to unlink the Vice President/Walks Officer positions into two separate portfolios.
- The third was to unlink the Treasurer/Membership Officer positions.

Notwithstanding these changes, a committee member may still hold up to two offices (other than both the president and vice president together).

A proposal to remove the category of 'Honorary Membership' was defeated.

Our Honorary/Life Members.

We have six Honorary/Life Members in the Brindabella Bushwalking Club. They are:

Val Boreham
John Clune
Jeff Colwell
Ray Franzi
Milton Turner
Peter Wellman

Each has given outstanding service to the Club over many years

From The Retiring President

I want to congratulate Peter Ford on becoming President of this great bushwalking club. In any organisation I think that it is healthy for the top position to be subject to new ideas and enthusiasm on a regular basis and I have been the fortunate occupant of this position for three years - a position that I have thoroughly enjoyed. I would like to encourage the incoming Committee to continue and expand what the Club has to offer, to encourage so many more to join us in this wonderful activity of bushwalking. I would also like to thank the Committee that I have worked with during the year, Peter, Julie, Davinia, Colleen and Bob.

A highlight for me during the year was the talk at the last Pot Luck Dinner by Brett McNamara, Regional Manager, National Parks & Catchments, ACT Parks & Conservation Service, who provided us with his insights into the management of Namadgi. In responding to our letter of thanks, Brett said: 'The pleasure was all mine, I always benefit from gaining an insight from wonderful community groups who share a passion for our conservation estate. Enjoy... Nature can certainly nurture the mind, the body and the soul.' That certainly summarises a lot of what we are about. I hope that you all enjoy the coming year of BBC activities. *David Wardle*

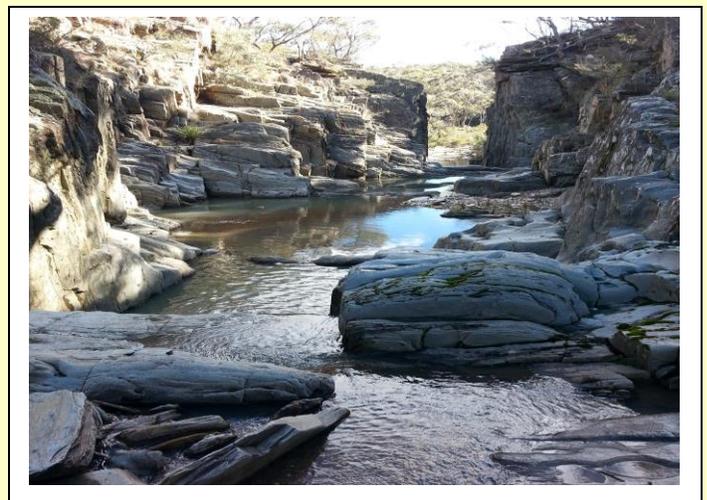
Subscription Fees

Those who have not yet paid their fees are reminded that they are due now.

Subscription fees will remain unchanged for 2017-2018.

Car Costs

Car costs also remain unchanged at 12 cents per kilometre per passenger.



Spring Creek Gorge
Yanununbeyan National Park

BBC Facebook Page

The BBC facebook page has been 'reborn' and is being managed for us by Terrylea Reynolds, who was elected to the committee at the Annual General Meeting. Have a look and discover the great work she is doing; you will definitely be pleasantly surprised. Visit it at: <https://www.facebook.com/BrindabellaBushwalkingClub/>

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.

Walks Leader/Navigation Course

The next course will be held on **Sunday 23 October**. If you are interested, please contact Bob by no later than Sunday 2 October so that he can send you the learning material in time.

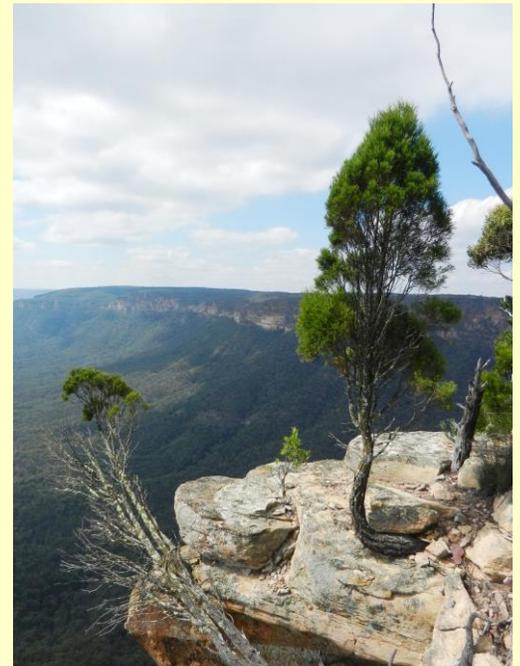
It is not an essential requirement that you have completed this course before leading walks, but you will certainly be better prepared if you have done so.

Rules for Walkers

The Rules for Walkers, which always appear in each new program, are tweaked slightly whenever the committee sees the need. Please take the time to peruse these when you get the new program.

Four Days in the Snowies at Perisher

If you would like to enjoy this summer stay in a comfortable lodge from Friday 9 to Monday 12 December, you need to contact Judy Lejins by no later than 2 November. All details are in the program.



Lonely Cyprus

Advance Notices

The program includes details of some 2017 activities that need to be booked this year. These are:

- 5-11 March at Karbethong Lodge, Mallacoota. The deadline is 31 October; and
- Two weeks in early April - Great South-West Walk, Victoria.

Please check the program and contact the relevant leader ASAP if you are interested in either of these, because they are usually very popular.

Additionally, John Clune has added a stay at Cockatoo Island, with walks in Sydney from 16-23 February. Contact John at j.clune@bigpond.com ASAP if you are interested in this activity.

Finally, John is planning a two-week trip to Madeira in June next year. Contact him for details.



Namadgi Skyline

A DAY WALK ALONG THE HIGH RIDGE AND SUMMITS TO THE NORTH-EAST OF BOOROOMBA ROCKS

A Little Over 7 Hours, (About 5 Hours Off-Track) 13.5 Km, 605 M Height Gain

Under gloomy and lowering skies, with mist down on the summit of Mt Tennant, the nine of us commenced walking northwards along the Australian Alps Walking track (AAWT) for this exploratory walk.

At the creek which comes down from the saddle between Booroomba Rocks and “our” ridge and summits, we left the AAWT for the summit of our first peak. Here the scrub was fairly thick, but not too bad. At least it was not spiky or prickly. We were climbing a southerly slope so it was shadier, received and retained more rain and had more luxuriant vegetation. It was, however, very steep. In addition to the fallen trees and the scrub we had all the usual “hazards” of off-track bushwalking: lots of leaf litter and fallen bark, twigs, low-growing ground covers, unseen holes, boulders and the like. Our progress was slower than I had anticipated. I had thought we would have morning on the top but no such luck. By eleven, fearful of a mutiny, I called a halt for morning tea, perhaps 30 minutes short of the summit.

Nearing the summit, we climbed through a very rocky ramp between imposing rock cliffs, traversed around and then followed a similar ramp and suddenly we were almost on the top. We stepped out of the scrub and trees onto a flat area of low vegetation with stunning views. The transition was so sudden and unexpected that I gasped. As the others joined me, each of them had the same reaction. Just a few metres away on the top of a granite slab was the summit cairn. We made our way there and there were more gasps and “wows”. What a stunning view over to Booroomba Rocks, Blue Gum Hill, Blue Gum Creek and other unnamed hills.

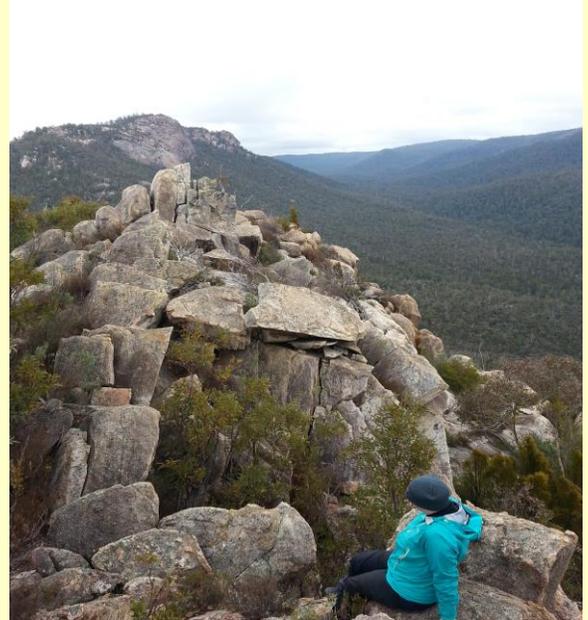
Our party’s botanist, Isobel, told us that Blue Gum Creek and Blue Gum Hill take their name from the small and rare patch of eucalypts with blue leaves growing on the northern edge of the summit of Blue Gum Hill. I am not sure if they survived the 2003 fires.

From this summit, after a bit of scouting around to get down off it, we headed almost north, dropping down into a very shallow saddle before ascending a slight knoll. Another lovely surprise: we broke out of the trees and scrub right on the very edge of cliffs flanking Blue Gum Creek. This last section was scrubby, but not too bad.



C. Alison Schmiadtchen

The First Clear View



Lunch - looking back at Booroomba Rocks

It was now 12.30 pm and with such a wonderful view, we declared it lunch time. No one disagreed! After lunch we continued along the ridge in a north-east direction to the next summit. This section was only about ½ km but it was hard work as the scrub was quite dense with a lot of dead stuff, which of course does not bend away and has a tendency to rip into you. From this summit down to Georges Creek, a descent of some 300 m, it was fairly easy going, with only light scrub.

At Georges Creek we followed the fire trail which took us back onto the AAWT and then on to Bushfold Flats and the Hut.

We had occasional light drizzle on the way back to the cars, but the real rain only started on the drive home and became torrential in Tuggeranong. We were all delighted with this walk and I will be putting it on the program for next winter.

Barrie Ridgway

Deadline 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