



BBC

# BRINDABELLA BUSHWALKING CLUB JULY 2022 NEWSLETTER

## From the President

A big thank you to everyone who contributes to the planning, preparation and delivery of our events. Without experienced, active and committed leaders and members we would be unable to achieve this. We also continue to see new leaders contributing to our walks



Medium/Hard walk, Booroomba

On offer are around 200 events each year, the scope of which are walks with differing degrees of challenge as well as locations and durations. There are both domestic and international events as well as very well received social activities. To see the appreciation of all who join in our walks and social activities is most satisfying and rewarding.

At this time of year, there are significant administrative matters which are dealt with:

- The clubs July-December walks program is finalised and published,
- The Committee meets to finalise any matters required prior to the AGM,
- Preparation for the clubs AGM occurs to ensure that all necessary arrangements required in support of a Covid-safe event are in place,
- Nominations from any member interested in undertaking club Committee and sub-committee duties are sought.

We have the benefit of having very capable committee and sub-committee members who deal with such matters. This ensures that the club operates smoothly and should not be taken for granted. My thanks also go to all involved in this.

I hope to see you at the upcoming AGM or on a walk soon, so until then do take care.....Bill

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**Contributions welcome**

**Articles and photos**

**Send to**

[editor@brindabellabushwalking.org.au](mailto:editor@brindabellabushwalking.org.au)

**COVID**

**UPDATE**

**CHECK HERE**

**FOR ADVICE**

**AND**

**RESTRICTIONS**

# Committee Meeting 28 June

As JFK once said:

*'Ask not what your club can do for you,  
Ask what you can do for your club!'*

Your committee members and other office holders are among those who try to follow this dictum. On 28 June, they met to consider reports on planning and activities and prepare for our Annual General Meeting on **Sunday 28 August at 3pm (tbc)** at St. Margaret's Hall Hackett. Discussion also covered a number of administrative matters and broader issues relating to Namadgi National Park and bushwalking issues of the kind covered in previous issues of this newsletter - see, in particular, the President's report on the cover page.



L to R: Julie Pettit, Bill Gibson, Davinia Wells, Peter Dalton, Lana Burmester, Prue Deacon, David Wardle, Bob Chittenden at Lana's

## Some points to consider:

- We're always looking for new blood - if you think you may be interested, please talk to one of the committee members;
- If you're waiting to be included on the Wednesday Walks list please be patient; it's not a BBC list but one run for all 3 clubs; on the upside, our reliance on the work of volunteers keeps your fees low;
- When paying your car contribution, it's a good idea to be ready to offer cash in the right amount..

Right: Bill Gibson.  
President



It's always worth reminding ourselves that the purpose of our committee work is to support our members in bushwalking activities. A recent example is this 8 k walk from the Duffy shops to Narrabundah Hill.

Ed.

Ed

# Arkaroola Village

*Bill Gibson*

It's a long way from Canberra to Arkaroola Village, but it's worth it! Located in the northern Flinders Ranges, Arkaroola is recognised for its outstanding geological, wilderness and cultural values. It is part of the Arkaroola Wilderness Sanctuary, a pastoral lease that has not been stocked for over 30 years and primarily managed for conservation and tourism. Great debate and community feedback on protecting the area from mining led to the South Australian Government announcing on 22 July 2011 that Arkaroola would be permanently protected through the establishment of the Arkaroola Protection Area. The area is approximately 590 km<sup>2</sup>.

The Flinders Ranges are considered one of the most dramatic landscapes of the Australian continent, the incredible geological layers are visible all around you. Arriving at the village the most prominent feature was Griselda Hill, which we had to climb, named after Griselda Sprigg, the Scottish wife of Reginald Sprigg, geologist, explorer and environmentalist who surveyed much of the area in and around the Arkaroola property.



There are well marked walks from the village ranging from a leisurely 8km circuit (Mawson-Spriggina walk) to 8km (Acacia Ridge) or 15km (Oppaminda-Nudlamutana) one-way walks. The Acacia Ridge walk offers a good introduction to the Arkaroola country and also has a good (high) view of the village from the west .



On the Barrarana Walk, you pass an Ochre Wall where indigenous people would extract Ochre for ceremonies.



The Barrarana walk crosses Arkaroola creek several times. Although it is generally a dry creek, after rains there are a number of picturesque waterholes on the way, most notably Mara Murumuru waterhole.



On the way out we passed the Vulkathunha-Gammon Ranges National Park which has numerous hiking trails, it was closed when we were there and so we weren't able to go to the park this time, but we will definitely go back

## *Photos*

1. *Griselda Hill from the village*
2. *Acacia Ridge*
3. *Folding*
4. *Barrarana Walk*
5. *“”*
6. *Mara Murumuru Waterhole*

# Metropolitan Walks

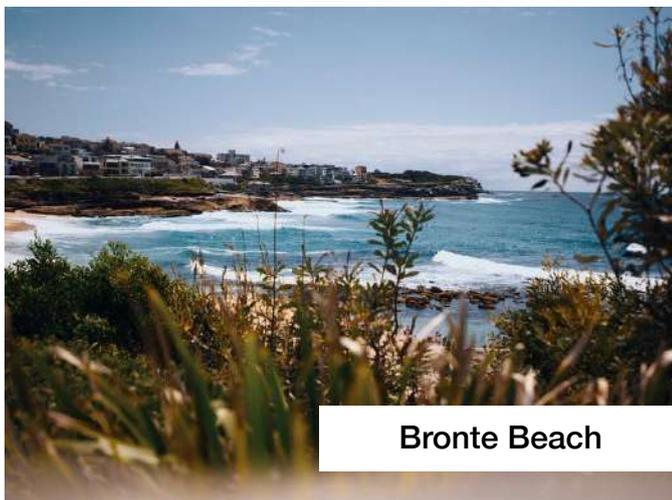
An occasional series

## 1. Bondi Beach to Coogee Coastal Walk

This easy 6 kilometre trail is worth keeping in mind for your next trip to Sydney. It takes about 2-3 hours and can be done in either direction. The [track](#) is suitable for most ages and fitness levels with occasional steep sections of stairs. Intermediate points include [Tamarama Beach](#), [Bronte Beach](#) and [Clovelly](#).



Tamarama Beach



Bronte Beach



Clovelly

## Nostalgia Corner

Another occasional series

*Your contribution is welcome.*

### Mooloolaba, Queensland

My parents and I used to camp in Mooloolaba for 6 weeks in 1950s summers. In those days, there was a small life-savers' clubhouse with a 'surf-o-plane' business, which I patronised (one shilling for half an hour). You could walk past fibro beach houses to the shops - a milk bar, a grocery, a chemist, a movie theatre and a newsagency. Now it's a riot of international resorts, wine bars, coffee shops, eateries, etc.

When we camped near the beach, I was lulled to sleep by the sound of the surf beyond the tent's entrance or on the other side of the dunes. The once pristine Mooloolah River, where we had hired dinghies and rowed to a crystal clear inlet, is now crowded with pleasure yachts and amusement arcades. It now incorporates a marina and the water quality resembles that of the Brisbane River. However, the views of the sea are still the same, there's a great walk-way along the coast and the town is nicely landscaped.



My camp site is now being made into parkland - maybe even an improvement - maybe.



*Ed.*

# Study of ACT Parks

Ove the next few weeks, the ACT Parks and Conservation Service is carrying out a survey of the use of our 30+ parks and reserves and inviting suggestions for their improvement.

If you wish to participate you can do so by visiting this [website](#).

## Namadgi NP recognised in Lonely Planet

In a recent evaluation of Australia's attractions, Namadgi National Park came in at #65, which, all things considered, is a pretty good result.



## NZ Topographic Maps

The [Links](#) page of the club's website now has a clickable link that takes you to a site where you can download any NZ Topographic Map. This could be handy for any leaders who might be planning a trip to NZ in the future.



### Did you know?

If you are a leader who needs to report on your walk, the website offers a shortcut to the process.

Copying and pasting the walks description from the website can be done quickly and easily to the Walk Report form by accessing 'Documents for Leaders and Members'.

Step by step guidance is available from the [Webmaster](#) or the [Walks Officer](#).

### Below

Sign on a Canberra lift at a shopping centre

Please press button to 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
If lift stops please press button  
Again if this fails please press  
Ground floor button and again if  
Lift hasn't moved Please keep trying  
Either buttons if this fails please  
Press Phone button wait for ANSWER  
And you will be lowered to ground floor



# A Blast from the Past - a club trip in 1997

Sat-Thu  
11-16-Jan  
1997

## SPRING IN THE HIGH COUNTRY

Hard 50 km

This six day walk is aimed at enjoying the beautiful alpine flowers and vistas offered by the Snowy Mountains in January. We will visit but not necessarily camp at: Boltons, Tin, Mawson, Valentine, and Schlink Hilton huts in a circular route starting at Guthega and finishing at Munyang Power Station. While the distance covered is only moderate, we must be prepared for bad weather. This walk is not for beginners. For security of cars, I intend to hire commercial transport and will need to know your intentions no later than 10 December 1996.

Leader: Peter Tedder (282 1711)



## Facebook

Our Facebook Manager regularly posts photos, walk reports and information about upcoming activities. Please visit and see what our members are planning or have recently been up to.

<https://www.facebook.com/BrindabellaBushwalkingClub/>

Please send your photos etc. to Heather at  
[facebook@brindabellabushwalking.org.au](mailto:facebook@brindabellabushwalking.org.au)

# Flooding—a natural process - extract from [BOM publication](#)

**While we often associate floods with damage, disaster and loss, flooding is a natural process that brings both positives and negatives.**



Townsville February 2019. Credit: Australian Defence Force

Coffee-coloured flood water is, for many, a river of gold. For Australia, the second driest continent, flooding provides water to many places that would otherwise be deserts. Bananas grow in Carnarvon (Western Australia), cotton in St George (Queensland), rice in Griffith (New South Wales) and stone fruit in Swan Hill (NSW), to give a few examples.

In many parts of the world, floodwaters spill out onto massive coastal areas known as river deltas. While only covering half a per cent of the Earth's surface, river deltas host 5 per cent of the global population—around 350 million people! Floodwater carries with it fine sediment, containing valuable nutrients and minerals. Water and sediment means flood plains, deltas and river areas are rich, fertile lands with plenty of water where agriculture thrives, providing income and quality of life for millions.

Floodwaters don't just benefit people either. Floods also fill billabongs and wetlands, replenishing water bodies and contributing to the life cycle of many plants and animals, including those in marine environments.

On the negative side, in Australia flooding is the second most deadly natural disaster after heatwaves. People have been drawn to living on flood plains and rivers for the agricultural benefits, however this can make the communities susceptible to flooding.

Some people don't perceive floodwaters to be as dangerous as raging fires, or the howling gales of a tropical cyclone—yet flooding is a serious threat. Over half of flood fatalities result from people entering floodwaters, usually in a vehicle. Sadly, most flood injuries and fatalities are preventable. A small car weighing about 1 tonne can be moved by floodwater which is only 15 cm deep at a flow rate of 1 metre/second. In 60 cm of floodwater a small car will completely float away. This is because of the car's buoyancy from airtight doors and inflated tyres. To prepare and stay safe, read '[What to do before, during and after a flood](#)'.

Australia depends heavily on road and rail networks, which are frequently disrupted by flooding. Extreme flooding may inundate homes and cause damage throughout communities; often recovery is costly and prolonged. Flooding costs the Australian economy an average of \$400–500 million per year.

## Concerns for Callum Brae

Popular walking area, Callum Brae, is under environmental threat from the proposed development of a large crematorium and cemetery on adjacent land.

The proposal has been put forward by InvoCare Funeral Homes and the proposed site borders on the Reserve. This area contains endangered Yellow Box and Blakely Red Gum as well as birds, including the swift parrot and the gang gang cockatoo. It is a popular site for birdwatching and, from a bushwalking perspective, a number of our Club walks use the area as a connecting route to Mt Mugga Mugga Reserve.

An NPA member, Pamela Collett, has started an [e-petition](#) to protect the nature reserve, which is now sponsored by ACT Legislative Assembly Member, Jo Clay. At its close, the petition had 570 signatures.

The petition asserts that 'Callum Brae Nature Reserve is a very special place. It protects critically endangered Yellow Box and Blakely Red Gum and grassy woodland. Callum Brae is the largest, best-connected and most diverse area of these species remaining in Australia. Many species of birds, some of which are critically endangered or endangered including the swift parrot and the gang gang cockatoo nest there. It is a popular location for birdwatching and walking, accessible to people with mobility issues, offering serenity in a peaceful natural environment.'

# More photos from recent walks



Left: Saturday 4 June - off track circuit via Sundial Rock

Below: Wednesday Medium/Hard - Booroomba Slabs Exploratory

Below:  
Deadmans Hill walk 11 June

