

Brindabella Bushwalking Club

January 2025 Newsletter



BBC

Issue 90



View from Main Range, Kosciuszko National Park

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At the interview, Steve is asked if he can perform under pressure. Steve is not 100% sure he knows all the lyrics
But he's about to try his best.



BBC Website

www.brindabellabushwalking.org.au [All newsletters are on the website]

From the President – January 2025

I hope that you have had an enjoyable festive season and whilst it has been hot, nonetheless it is still great to be with family and friends at this time, whether it is inside or out.



Here we are, at the beginning of a New Year of walking with the club. Our January – June 2025 program was published to members in early December 2024 and so you all should have put into your diaries which walks you are looking forward to participate in .

Even although it can be hot in January and early February our walking program gets underway early in January. As always, walk leaders ensure that the walking will be done mindful of the weather conditions. This may mean that walks will start earlier, take a modified route or even be curtailed to varying degrees.

We have plans for 5 Walking Trips Away in the first half of the year plus an early notification of a Walk in Spain (jointly with CBC), plus all our weekend and Wednesday walks. So, an exciting and full 2025.

Of course, we also have an active social programme inter-mingled with our walks and you will receive communications throughout the year of what is happening and when with regard to these activities.

I do hope to see you on a walk soon, until then do take care.....Bill



Facebook

Our Facebook Manager regularly posts photos, walk reports and information about upcoming activities. 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

Change of Newsletter Editor

Last month's edition was the final issue of the BBC Newsletter to be edited and produced by Peter Ford. Peter has set a very high standard over the last three years and will be a hard act to follow. For starters, I can guarantee that his punctuality is unlikely ever to be matched!

I'm keeping the seat warm for the time being, but if you'd like to help your club by stepping into this role, please get in touch. No particular computer skills are required and it is quite rewarding when you get positive feedback about the articles you publish.

The newsletters are only as good as the content you offer, so please submit anything you think might be of interest to our members (especially articles including photos) to me at [BBC Editor](#) Peter Dalton

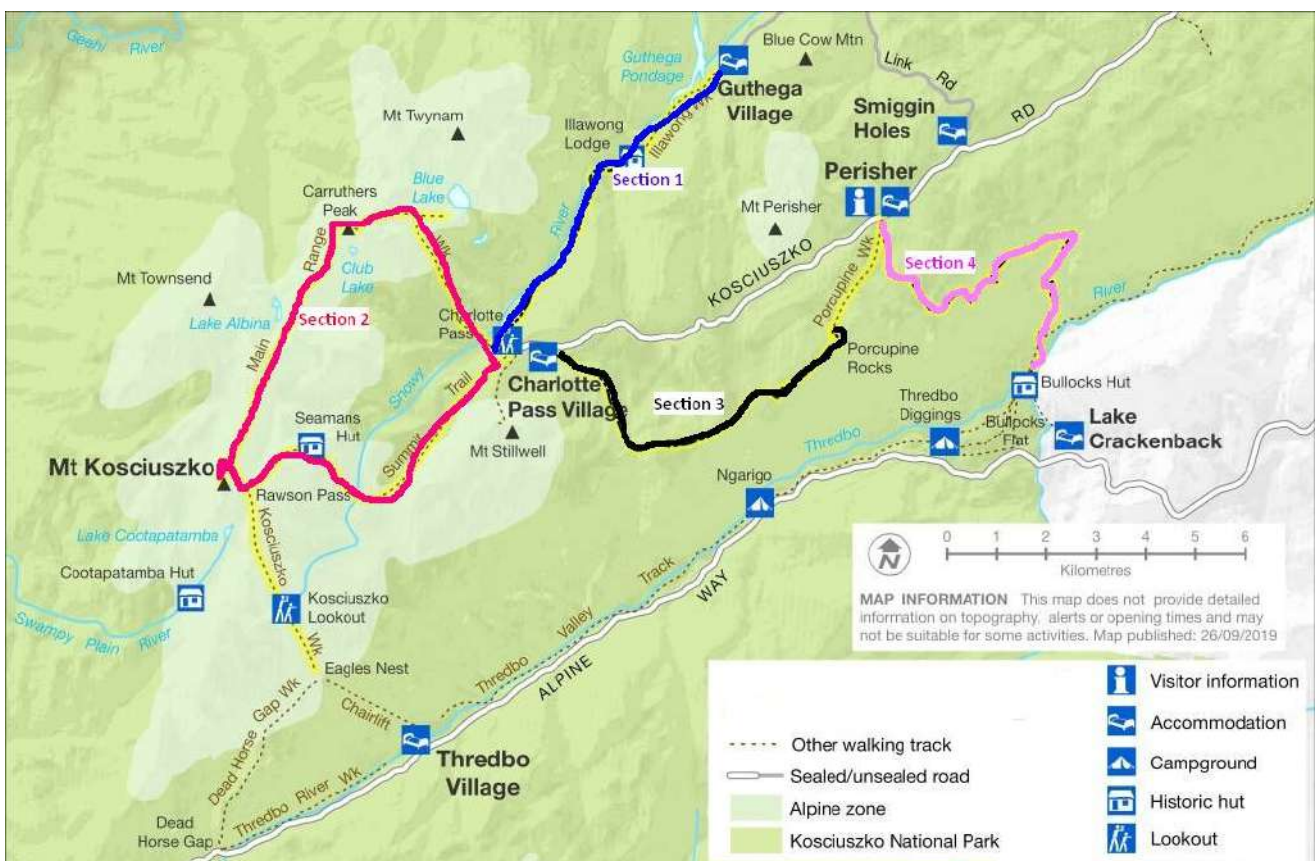
Snowies Alpine Walk



Wayne is leading four days of walks in Kosciuszko National Park this month. In case you missed out or are planning on heading there before winter, you might be interested in what NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) is promoting as the 'Snowies Alpine Walk'.

It is designed as a four day through-walk, but most people would prefer to stay in the one place and plan on doing four separate day walks. You then stay in comfort, only unpack once and have the option of skipping a day if the weather is unsuitable or you have an injury, for example.

Here is a great link that details NPWS accommodation options and even transport/transfer arrangements: [Snowies Alpine Walk: 4 days self guided | NSW National Parks](#). The Sections are described on the next page.



Snowies Alpine Walks Sections (see map on the previous page)

Section 1: Guthega to Charlotte Pass – A relatively easy 9 km walk with incredible scenery, winding alongside the **Snowy River**, past the **Illawong Hut** and over the **Spencers Creek Suspension Bridge**. This can comfortably be done as an out-and-back walk of 18 km or you can turn back at any time to make it shorter. Start at Guthega, following the Illawong Track, or start at Charlotte Pass. David and Prue provided a detailed report on this section in the January 2024 issue of the newsletter, which you can find here: [January 2024 newsletter](#)

Section 2: Main Range Loop – The most challenging section at 22 km and the only section that is a loop or circuit. However, standing on the top of Australia's highest peak, **Mount Kosciuszko**, and enjoying the panoramic vistas make every step worth it. This walk also features the spectacular **Blue Lake** and the historic **Seamans Hut**. Start and finish at Charlotte Pass.

Section 3: Charlotte Pass to Perisher – A 12.5 km walk that takes you through alpine meadows, snowgum forests and past striking rock formations. **This walk is spectacular and will reward you with amazing views.** If you start at Charlotte Pass and turn back at Porcupine Rocks it becomes about an 18 km walk, otherwise it's 25 km return! If you just want to walk it one way, you'll need transport from Perisher.

Section 4: Perisher to Bullocks Flat – **A brand new track**, with 11 km of descent (or ascent if undertaken in reverse) through alpine wonderland, over the sparkling Thredbo River to Bullocks Flat, with spectacular views most of the way. If you turn back once you reach the river, this will also be about an 18 km walk. Note that there is more than 600 metres of descent (which becomes climb if you turn back) and, once again, have transport meeting you at Bullocks Flat if you are going through to there.



Coming Up This Month

(See the program on the website for more details; Wednesday Walks have been omitted)

Date	Walk Title	km	Rating	Leader
Wed 1 Jan	New Year's Day early evening Picnic	-		Elaine Atkinson
Sat 4 Jan	Lake Burley Griffin Basins	13	Medium (8)	Luisa Dal Molin
Sun 5 Jan	Pine Island to Point Hut and return, swim/walk	7	Easy (5)	Bob Chittenden
Sat 11 Jan	Bradleys Creek Walk	15	Medium (9)	Bob Chittenden
Sun 12 Jan	Pinnacle and Kama Nature Reserves	10	Easy (6)	Margaret Power
Sat 18 Jan	Smokers Loop and Square Rock	15	Medium (8)	Michael Clisby
Sun 19 Jan	Pine Island to Kambah Pool and return	19	Easy (7)	Bob Chittenden
Sat 25 Jan	Orroral Heritage Trail and Homestead	10.5	Easy (7)	Peter Dalton
Sun 26 Jan	Cuumbeun Nature Reserve	12	Medium (8)	Bob Chittenden
Fri 31 Jan	Mt Ainslie Sunset Walk	3	Easy (5)	Elaine Atkinson

Royal National Park Car Camp – November 2024

A grateful thank you to Virginia De Luca and Ralph Seccombe who supplied the photographs for this article.

The Preliminaries

- We stayed at Bonnie Vale camping ground, which is in the Royal National Park and does not have any cabins.
- Most of our membership prefer the comfort and ease of staying in lodges, or camping grounds with cabins, so this kept attendance down a little.
- Moreover, the forecast for the duration of the camp was, in not quite Bureau of Meteorology language, **stinking hot and humid**. A couple pulled out prior to the camp because of the forecast heat. However, ten hardy BBC members braved the heat and humidity to attend the camp.

Tuesday 26 Nov 24

After we had all set up our tents/vans, all ten of us set out on the Point Hacking walk including a nice walk through the town of Bundeena from the camping ground. However, the walk was shortened to a loop walk to view the Jibbon Aboriginal Rock Engravings.

The engravings have sadly been allowed to degenerate, such that none of the engravings are now visible (even with a good imagination). The engravings were maintained for many years, but now the rock platform that contained the engravings has vegetation growing all over it.

Wednesday 27 Nov 24

The original intent was to walk from Otford to Wattamolla (17.6 km 270 m climb), but the heat got to us again and we altered the walk to be from Wattamolla back to camp (12 km 70 m climb).

The walk had some magnificent views.

The track has been markedly upgraded such that now it is mainly on boardwalk (the somewhat new fibreglass construction now used on a number of foot tracks these days).

The upgraded foot track made such a difference that it cut half an hour off the time that it took to complete a couple of years back.





Thursday 28 Nov 24

Another very hot day and another altered walk! Some decided to stay in camp and go swimming rather than walking, which was not such a bad idea given the heat.

The rest of us decided on a morning walk to visit a couple of waterfalls (8.5 km but it did have a 200 m climb).

The walk was half on a poorly kept fire trail and half on a reasonable foot-pad.



Not all the men went swimming at the water fall



The most interesting part of this walk was coming upon a bearded dragon laying her eggs

That afternoon, the following was an Email sent to all those camping at the Bonnie Vale camping ground by NSW Parks and Wildlife:

[Message to Bonnie Vale Campers . NPWS has received information regarding thunderstorm forecast and passing on for your consideration.](#)

[Issued by the BOM. – Sydney Metropolitan has a primary risk of heavy rainfall from thunderstorms into Thursday afternoon, with risk of storms producing damaging winds and large hail.](#)

This email resulted in a number packing up and leaving on Thursday afternoon.

Seven brave souls stayed and we were lucky enough to have a relatively pleasant evening at the refurbished and just reopened Community Club (the original RSL Club was burnt down a number of years ago), but of course we had to pack up our wet tents on Friday morning, but luckily, the hail failed to eventuate.

Ed: Another great trip organised and led by Bob Chittenden

Social News



The outlook from Kathy and Keith's Property

SOCIAL NEWS JANUARY 2025

Sunday 8 December: Christmas Party

This year we broke with tradition and held a lunchtime picnic at Kathy and Keith's block in Wamboin. This was also the first time the club provided the lunch with chicken, ham and salads.

This format was obviously a winner as a record 79 attendees (53 last year) enjoyed their lunch while chatting to friends.

A BIG thank you to Kathy and Keith for hosting the lunch. Due to a recent storm, it was too boggy by the dam, so we made the best of the situation on a hot day.

Another BIG thank you to members of the social sub-committee, members who provided salads and the expert ham carvers Trevor and Monty. This was the biggest event I have organised and it was a great team effort.

I have received many complimentary emails thanking the team for the success of the day. Definitely a repeat in December 2025, at least a Sunday picnic in Wamboin.

There are a few lost property items, see the photo on the last page. I don't have a photo of the purple cup or another pair of tongs, which were also left behind.

Upcoming Events

Wednesday 1 January: New Year's Day picnic Bowen Park, Barton from 4:30 pm. Will send an email closer to the date.

Friday 31 January: Mt Ainslie sunset walk from 6 pm. Details in the Walks Program and I will send out an email reminder.

Elaine Atkinson
Social Convenor
0410 154 133



Christmas Party Photos



More from the Christmas Party



Lost and found—If you left these items behind at the party, please contact Elaine to arrange their return.



Walks Statistics - December

December Theme

This month, the variously wet and hot weather certainly affected weekend walks, with several cancelled and the rest with low numbers.

Wednesday attendances were strong, especially for first time leader Tony Mollett who attracted 31 on his Queanbeyan River walk. Easy Wednesday walks will recommence in February.

Weekend Walks

01-Dec	Progressive Dinner	16
01-Dec	Five Hills in Goorooyarroo	5
07-Dec	Booroomba Rocks carpark to Namadgi VC	Cncl
08-Dec	No walk (Christmas party)	
14-Dec	Molonglo Gorge to Blue Tiles	4
15-Dec	Mount Taylor via Oakey Hill	Cncl
21-Dec	Coolleman Ridge	Cncl
22-Dec	Mount Rob Roy - walking & birding	4



BBC– led Wednesday Easy/Medium and Medium/Hard walks

04-Dec	Rocky knoll between Nursery & Rendezvous Cks	8
04-Dec	Wamboin forest track	16
18-Dec	Queanbeyan River walk	31

Wednesday Easy walks

04-Dec	Isaacs Ridge pine forest	21
11-Dec	CSIRO, ANU, Botanic Gardens	28