

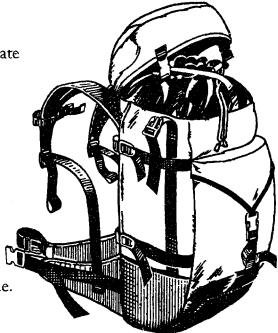




Print Post Approved PP 235723/01270

TRIASSIC DAY PACK

Amongst the vast array of day packs that decorate the shelves of outdoor shops, it's difficult to pick something with the right features, what with 101 different types of nylon, all sorts of different canvases, airflow systems, expanding pockets and neon colours. So it's nice to know that if your the type of person that wants simple robust functionality that reflects years of local bushwalking experience with solid locally made material then the BLUE MOUNTAINS TRIASSIC could be your best companion for many years to come.



Pack Review

by David Nobie

It's good to see a pack made in the Blue Mountains for use in the Blue Mountains. The "Triassic" features two shoulder strap sizes so that the pack can be properly hip loaded, sitting down comfortably in the lumbar region of the back. This is sometimes difficult especially if you are a taller person. The harness system also includes a thick waist belt and chest strap enabling a tight fit which is great when climbing over rocks.

The volume is large enough to allow a 50m rope and wetsuit to easily fit in and the top is made larger so that your stuff slides in and out with ease. The pack has a large front pocket for those essential items such as a torch, and a top pocket for the map and camera. The pack is large enough to be used as a weekend pack when no ropes etc. are needed. This can keep the bulk down and stop you from packing too much on those weekend bushwalks.

The "Triassic" is made from durable 12oz canvas which can withstand the abuse given to it in canyons and when walking through scrub. All the seams are double stitched and sealed to prevent failure. It is also very water proof, on a recent trip down "Hole In The Wall" canyon, no water entered the main compartment despite a number of lengthy swims.

The pack is bush green in colour making the walker almost invisible in the bush. This is handy for sneaking up on wildlife with a camera or just blending in to the wilderness as you walk along. Good for those who like to keep the visual impact minimal too.

A quality Blue Mountains pack for our tough conditions, the "Triassic" carries a lifetime guarantee on workmanship and materials.

Overall an excellent pack for either short or tall with the 2 shoulder strap options. And great for canyons or short weekend trips.

NB: David Noble is a keen canyoner and bushwalker. He is also the discoverer of the rare Wollemi Pine (WOLLEMIA NOBILIS) found in 1994.

- ▲ Australian 12oz canvas
- ▲ Made in Katoomba the old traditional way
- ▲ 40 litre capacity
- ▲ Proper hip loading with 2 shoulder strap sizes for walking comfort
- ▲ Wide throat for easy loading and unloading
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- ▲ Padded back (removable)
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- ▲ Internal compression strap for holding down your canyon rope
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- ▲ Storm throat to keep out the rain
- A Hard wearing Cordura base
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SYDNEY BUSHWALKER is the monthly bulletin of matters of interest to members of

The Sydney Bush Walkers Inc

PO Box 431 Milsons Point 1565.

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Bill Holland

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Tom Wenman Don Brooks Margaret Niven

Highlights from the Social Programme

Wed 26th Leadership and Walks Planning

July:

Wed 12th General Meeting

Wed 19th Winter Solstice Feast

Wed 24th Peru - Part 2 of Oliver's Video

Wed 31" Indoor Rock Climbing

Edna Gentle (Stratton)

Edna Gentle, an honorary Club member for many years passed away peacefully on 24th April 2002. She is survived by her husband and Past President, Jack Gentle.

Our sincere sympathy goes out to Jack, from all her many friends in SBW

Have you changed your Address?

If you have changed your address or phone number recently, please advise:

Members:

Pam Morrison

Prospectives: Heike Krausse

The advice should be in writing directed to the Club's postal address. This will ensure that our records show your current address and prevent delay in receiving the magazine each month.



Forgotten Something?

Turn to Page 8 for a reminder

JUNE 2002

Issue No. 811

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The Sydney Bush Walkers Inc.

This year we celebrate our 75th anniversary.

The Club's main activity is bushwalking, but it has grown to include other activities such as ski touring, canyoning, abseiling, li-loing, cycling and social events.

Our Club meetings are held every Wednesday evening at 8 pm at Kirribilli Neighbourhood Centre, 16 Fitzroy Street, Kirribilli (near Milsons Point Railway Station).

Visitors and prospective members are welcome.

General Enquiries: Phone 0500 500 729

SBW Website

www.sbw.org.au

Office Bearers

President: Rosemary MacDougal

Vice-President: Wilf Hilder
Public Officer: Maurice Smith
Treasurer: Maurice Smith

Secretary: -- vacant --

Walks Secretary: Carol Lubbers
Social Secretary Vicki Garamy
Membership Secretary Pam Morrison

New Members Secretary: Heike Krausse Conservation Secretary: David Trinder

Magazine Editor: Bill Holland
Committee Member: Eddy Giacomel

Barry Wallace

Delegates to Confederation:

Jim Callaway -- vacant --

Editor's Note:

It's very pleasing to see that our old friend Alex Colley is now back to active letter writing – see Letters to

the Editor on Page 4..

Alex raises valid points in his letter when he talks about the level of social activity in the Club and laments the poor attendances at general meetings. Both of these matters are currently receiving attention from the Club's Management Review Sub-committee with suggestions that the number of meetings per month be cut to two and doing away with general meetings altogether, or making them less frequent, perhaps every three or six months.

We should ask ourselves whether reducing the level of social activities will make the remaining meetings better attended. It is worth noting that some social nights are well attended – those nights when we have slides about interesting overseas walking trips or interesting guest speakers. Perhaps the answer may be to pay more attention to the quality of the social nights and widen the appeal.

The club has a long history of fluctuating

attendances at general meetings. In recent years these meetings have been predictably repetitious with very little participation from the floor.

With recent publicity given to reducing the size of the committee to 5 -8 members it becomes even more important that general meetings continue in some form and are fostered as a means of member participation and to provide a watching brief on the Committee.

Consideration could be given to incorporating elements of the general meeting into one of the social nights with only essential items being reported in a limited time frame but still giving members the option of questioning the Committee and proposing resolutions.

Another suggestion is that the monthly magazine could substitute for the general meetings by including more walks reports, proceedings of the Committee, notes from Confederation etc.

This has severe limitations. Not only is there insufficient space available but the Editor's duty is to encourage a diversity of relevant and interesting subject matter contributed by members, not simply act as a voice for the Committee.

And, the magazine is a one-way process, giving out information with little opportunity for member feedback and a considerable time lag.

Moving on to this month's issue, there your are some reports of significant matters. Changes to the Club's public risk insurance may impact on our activities – see President's report; Maurice Smith raises the question of privacy – Page 3. David Trinder reports on conservation matters and Eddy Giacomel has some concerns about the club website – Page 4.

There are some interesting walks reports, including Maureen and David Carter's 100km effort in 30 hours. Please keep these reports coming in as many members, who are no longer active, enjoy reading about others finding the rewards of bush walking.

Unfortunately, no one has offered a "recipe of the month".

Bill Holland

Contact The Editor:

Copy for publishing in the SBW magazine should be received by the editor by the end of the first week of each month. Letters stating your viewpoint on matters of interest are most welcome.

Please send your submission in by mail (preferably typed), on floppy disc, by fax or by email addressed to The Editor

Telephone:

9484 6636

Email:

A part of the second

billholl@hotkey.net.au (phone 9484 6636 first

Fax: 9980 5476

Presidents Report:

A sub committee has been formed (led by Maurice Smith) to undertake a complete review of our Constitution, which governs our activities. It is thought that a number of improvements can be made to increase efficiency and bring it up to date. In due course any changes recommended will be notified to the membership for consideration at a general meeting.

Regrettably, Confederation, who organises our insurance, has been forced to accept the one and only offer for public liability insurance for the year commencing July 2002. This policy excludes cover for canyoning, caving, rock climbing, mountaineering, abseiling, rafting, skiing, and any other activities above the snow line.* We have no choice but to exclude these activities from our walks programme for the time being. However, we will continue to monitor the position and obtain clarification of the precise meaning of these exclusions.

Wilf Hilder has been appointed by Confederation to represent it as one of four representatives of recreational interests for the Kosciuszko NP Plan of Management Review Reference Group. Wilf's tactics will be to maximise co-operation between recreational users in opposition to commercial interests.

The new training officer at Confederation is organising a two day Leadership Training weekend at the end of August and September. I am proposing to book in for the September weekend but would be pleased to hear from anyone else who may be interested. We are encouraged to book early.

See you on the track Rosemary MacDougal

* The referral to "activities above the snowline" applies only where the walk is deliberately or intentionally attempted in the snow.

SBW And the Private Sector provisions of the Commonwealth Privacy Act 1988

A few members have asked about whether SBW is subject to the above-named Act. In brief, the answer is no, it isn't. For your information SBW maintains records in relation to its members, including:

- the club membership database used for mailing and membership maintenance purposes will contain your name, nominated mailing address and telephone numbers
- the Walks Recorder's database will record your name when you attend a club walk/activity.
- SBW does not provide, sell or otherwise make available its membership list to any other organisation.

An extract of the club's membership list (excluding prospective members) containing members' names, mailing addresses and telephone number(s) is printed annually and provided to all club members, excluding prospective members.

Names of walks participants will often appear in walks reports in the club magazine.

If you have any concerns about your privacy take the time to discuss your concerns with the management committee.

Maurice Smith

Treasurer's Report	£24.242
Bank Balance 1st May	\$24,243
Income received	
Subscription	5,196
Other	405
Total Income	5,601
Cash Management Account	22,000
Expenses paid	
Rental	575
Magazine	347
Coolana rates	274
75 th anniversary dinner depo	osit 610
Brochure printing	845
Other	<u>25</u>
Total payments	24,676
Bank Balance 31st May	\$5,515

The annual subscriptions are still dribbling into the post office box. Remember, if you haven't paid your subscription it is now due.

Overdue Subs

Does the label on your magazine have the message "SUBS OVERDUE" printed on it? If it does, then it means that your current year subscription has not been received by the Treasurer.

If you are certain that you have paid in the last two weeks or so then it is likely that the Treasurer has in fact received your cheque since the label was printed. However, if you have locked up your cheque book inside the Doberman's kennel then distract it (a nice ham bone might do the trick) while you write a cheque to ensure that your membership is renewed.

If you don't renew then the consequences are dire! It will mean no magazine and no Spring Walks Program. So get to and write a cheque or buy a money order from the post office for the relevant amount. Oh so you've lost you're original subscription notice, well there is another one included in this magazine so you know the correct amount to pay.

Send your payment addressed to "The Treasurer" to the Club's postal address.

Maurice Smith

Letters To The Editor

A Thank You Note

If there is room in your pages I would like to express my thanks to the 30 or more SBW members who came to see me during my three and a half months in hospital. Many of them came several times, two over 20 times, and they cheered me up a lot. In addition I had many visits from members of the Colong Foundation and the Total Environment Centre. Somerville, an accountant, who came nineteen times, counted the number of visits - 288 in all... Although an object of our constitution is "To promote social activity amongst members" Nancy Alderson wrote in the February magazine, that we are a walking club, not a social club. I thought so too when I joined, but I soon changed my mind, and I think my experience in hospital proves that we are a very social club.

In May last year I wrote an article on "Social Capital," defined in Professor Putnam's book "Bowling Alone" as "those tangible substances that count for most in the daily lives of people, namely goodwill, fellowship and social intercourse" The main way to accumulate social capital is to take part in group activities. Groups may be formed at school or university, at work, in sporting clubs and many other ways, but there is no better way of gaining retaining social capital than joining a walking club and spending days or weeks together in the bush One of the benefits of acquiring social capital is, in Professor Putnam's words, that people who are socially disconnected "are between two and five times more likely to die from all causes, compared with matched individuals who have close ties with family friends and community." This was particularly relevant in my case.

I am saddened by the fact that members and officers of the Club don't come to Club meetings. I regret the passing of the days when meetings were well attended and there was wide and lively participation in Club debates, but that is because I have failed to move with the times. There are however some Club social activities in which those who cant be bothered debating the Club's affairs can participate, such as collating the magazine and looking after Coolana.

Alex Colley

The latest AUSLIG newsletter, advises that all paper maps will rise in price from A\$7.70 to A\$9.25 as of July 1st.

Wondabyne Station Track Closed

Club members, especially leaders of day walks, should be aware that the waterside section of track from Wondabyne station to the northern end of Mullet Creek has been 'closed' by the NPWS. Indeed, so effectively has it been closed that dense bracken and lantana have quickly grown over it in parts, with the result that the old track in those sections cannot even be seen, let alone be negotiated. Nor can you even get around the shoreline at low tide at the critical points, because the water laps up against near-vertical rocks.

The situation is most disappointing as it means that walkers can no longer do the very pleasant circular walk to and from Wondabyne Station via Kariong Brook and Mt Wondabyne. Nor can walkers now do the walk from the station to Little Wobby, with those spectacular cliff top views in the final section. Of course, fast and keen walkers can do this walk if they are prepared to loop around the Kariong Brook section first, before heading to Mt Wondabyne and on to Little Wobby, making it a pretty long walk in all.

Perhaps one day the NPWS will re-open the track alongside Mullet Creek from Wondabyne station. But don't hold your breath, as there are no votes to be gained by the NSW government from allocating money for it. Meantime, Brisbane Water National Park still offers some excellent day walks, and we will have to make do with them from now on. As well as the magnificent views, the abundant spring wildflowers make this park a great place for walking.

Nigel Weaver.

Website www.sbw.org.au

There have been some recent changes to the website. A member's section has been added with a summary of the social program and the 75th anniversary celebrations. The website hopefully will become more useful as more material is added. I'm working on a few items as time permits me and these will be added if/when approved by the committee. If you have any suggestions please forward them to me at giacomel@tpgi.com.au.

The committee has recently decided to add a summary of the walks program to the website within the next few months. In particular, it is intended not to include names and phone numbers of leaders. However, it is a decision

that causes me some concern. Putting material on the website doesn't just make it convenient for our club members, it also enables virtually anyone to use (or abuse) the information. Areas that members may wish to keep to the club could be advertised to 4 wheel drivers, commercial operators and even the arsonists that were active during last summer's bushfires.

There is also the question of security. Could someone deduce where our cars will be parked for some time? Or worse, where we will be? I was on a SBW walk 18 months ago. Upon returning to the two parked cars we found that someone had slashed two tyres. A broken knife blade found in one tyre led to speculation that all tyres on both cars would have been slashed if the blade hadn't broken. We'd be naive if we thought that everyone out there had good or facil spector in a size intentions.

The use of the Internet is growing rapidly and its use in a few years from now is expected to be much greater than it is today. This is an issue that sooner or later will need to be debated within the club. The debate should however be more than just a few minutes in the committee. Eddy Giacomel

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1381 48 Coolana Report Don Finch

June 2002

The Landcare registration process is now complete. The Department of Land and Water Conservation Landcare officer Eric Zarrella has agreed to a meeting at Coolana on Saturday 6th July at 11:00am. You are all invited to attend. The purpose of the meeting will be to plan the first steps in the Landcare project for Coolana.

Work on the access road to the car park is progressing. A plan to repair the road from the car park to the hut for use by four-wheel drive vehicles is in the initial stages. Expect an invitation to the road gang on the spring program as this will be a major undertaking a lot of muscle will be required. On recent weekends various people have continued with the weeding program and several local trees were planted on the flat. White top stakes were used to mark small trees and shrubs in an effort to protect the new growth from accidental damage, please feel free to use the marking stakes that are near the shed for this purpose.

For Sale

"One Planet" Strezlecki model 65 litre backpack with 2 compartments and gel shoulder pads. Two years old and used for only about six \$320.00 or nearest offer. Contact 02 9520 0266 Kay Chan or Tony Manes

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The May 2002 General Meeting.

After some rounding up of the noises-off fraternity the meeting began at around 2011 with 15 members present and Rosemary in the chair. There were apologies from Pam Morrison, David Trinder, Fran Holland and Gretel Woodward.

Minutes of the April General Meeting were read and received, with no matters arising.

The first item in correspondence was a letter from Confederation. This diverted the meeting into a Confederation report that went something like this: The plan to introduce a requirement that where a member club's name "does not include the word 'bushwalking' they must affirm at each annual renewal that at least 50% of the organisation's activities bushwalking" has been shelved. Confederation will oppose the proposed charcoal plant at Mogo on the NSW south coast. Mention was made of a "Game Bill" being moved in the NSW parliament, but no one had any useful information on the matter. The budget prepared for production by Confederation of a film on bushwalking has rendered the enterprise doubtful. The new State Rail timetable (deferred indefinitely) would have eliminated stops by southbound services at Wondabyne. Affiliation fees remain unchanged for the coming year. The Catchment Management Authority has begun to step up enforcement activities in the restricted areas of the catchment in an effort to improve security. Review workshops are to be held to obtain public input on the plan of management for Kosciuszko National Park. The meeting passed a motion supporting a fundraising raffle Confederation bush dance in response to a request from the floor.

Meanwhile, back at the correspondence, we received a letter from Oxfam/Community Aid Abroad seeking starters for a fundraising Trailwalk event. A letter from Jack Gentle brought the sad news that his wife Edna had passed away on 24th April.

The walks secretary then regaled us with tales of walks past and to come, though this report only covers those passed since the last general meeting. We begin with Wilf Hilder's midweek walk scheduled for Thursday the 18th April. Alas the walk was cancelled due to a lack of starters. The following weekend, 12, 13, 14 April, saw Steve Adams cancel his birthday walk to Pantoneys Crown for a similar reason. It may also have had something to do with the hard-sell line on the program about starting early Sunday with a sore head. I wonder what that meant. The day walks fared somewhat better with Chris Dowling leading 12 walkers on his Saturday car shuffle from Govetts Leap to Conditions were somewhat Victoria Falls. warm and some of the prospective members found the going tougher than anticipated. Tony Marshall diverted his Sunday walk planned for the Glenbrook area to the Megalong Valley, out from Carlons Farm, over Knights Deck to the Cox River and back.

June 2002

Bill Holland cancelled his scheduled mid week walk along the North Arm track.

Anzac weekend saw Rosemary leading the party of 5 who turned out for Kenn Clacher's walk in Duea National Park. It was a memorable walk in many ways, not the least of which being the pinched nerve that kept Rosemary company for most of the way. Bill Capon re-routed his walk in Wollemi National Park somewhat, but the weather was good and the party of 8 returned with a remarkable diversity of memories. Maurice added a walk out from Yalwal to the program as the weekend approached. attracted a party of 4 and was described to the meeting as excellent by the author. Lubbers had a walk out from Newnes into the scheduled over the Red Rocks conventional weekend that weekend. There was a party of 10, a cold breeze, goats along the track, they downgraded the walk for some reason, and we are promised a detailed report for the magazine. Three day walks were also scheduled for that weekend. Nigel Weaver led 13 walkers on his Anzac Day trip off the Megalong side of Narrow Neck. They relapsed to "Plan B" for the trip, whatever that was, and had a great day we were told. Eddy Giacomel cancelled his Saturday walk in Ku-Ring-Gai Chase when his son Ethan, recovering from a broken foot, had a doctor's appointment to Sunday saw Eddie Collins change plaster. leading a party of 16 on his trip to Grand Canyon from Neates Glen.

The following weekend Wilf encountered a shortage of starters for his Stages Q and R of the Great River Walk and so cancelled the event. Seventeen starters turned out for Rosemary's walk in Wattagan State Forest on the Sunday. Another 16 walkers were out that day on Arthur Anderson's tour of the heads out from Victoria Falls. This brought the walks reports for the month to a close.

The walks secretary also advised us that there has been a good response to completing and submitting walks attendance forms.

The Treasurer's report indicated that we began the month with a balance of \$10,081, received income of \$7,411, disbursed \$1,176 and closed with a balance of \$16,316.

Patrick James then presented details of the possible options for the celebration of the club's 75th anniversary. Details of the decisions reached have already appeared in this magazine.

Announcements included notice that a locally manufactured EPIRB unit is available through Confederation for around \$300.

There was no general business so the President closed the meeting at around 2142 hours.

Conservation Report David Trinder

Bob Brown, the Tasmanian Greens MP considered supporting the Government's proposal to privatize the last of Telstra by asking for restrictions on logging native forests. He backed down because his party did not want to sell the remainder of Telstra, but his heart was in the right place, he wanted to stop logging native forests.

The Carr Government has recently approved the Mogo charcoal factory near Batemans Bay on the NSW south coast. If built this factory will consume 200,000 tonnes of native forest timber for the next forty years. Many groups from the south coast and the ACT are responding to the call to stop the factory. The factory will burn the timber for charcoal which will be used to make silicone in a plant in Lithgow.

The Eurobodalla Shire Council decided to appeal against the Governments approval of the Mogo Plant. The approval has not brought the project much closer to completion. There are lengthy court battles ahead and a community mobilized to stop construction of the facility.

Two years ago a similar proposal to take timber from the Goonoo and Pilliga forests in the west of New South Wales was rejected amid an enormous community uproar. Now the same company from Western Australia, an iron ore miner called Portman Limited under the name Australian Silicone proposes to woodchip the south coast forests for charcoal with the continued support of the Premier's Strategic Projects Unit and the enthusiastic encouragement of NSW State Forests.

The South Coast charcoal woodchipping will threaten catchment values, 150 existing sawmill jobs, the fishing industry, oyster growing and the 6,200 nature tourism jobs in the region that depend on nature based tourism. In return the forest miners are promising somewhere between 20 and 50 jobs. The charcoal plant will more than double the native forest logging in the region. There is already an unsustainable supply

of up to 65,000 tonnes per year of woodchips taken to the Eden chip mill from the South Coast Forests.

There has been no environmental or economic assessment of the threats to our South Coast forests for this proposal. The limited assessment of the plant itself at the Batemans Bay received the largest ever number of submissions, over 1,500, with more than 98% of submissions opposing the factory. The Government is essentially relying on conservation advice from NSW State Forests, who were discredited two years ago for recommending logging in the west of the state for the same reason.

Spring Walks Programme:

The deadline for the Spring Walks Programme is 26th July 2002. Would all leaders please submit their proposed walks to our Walks Secretary, Carol Lubbers by post (no fax please) Address details are on the last page of the Winter Programme."



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Maureen Carter

About two years ago I was inspired by Richard Darke's the account in he had Bushwalker of how completed the Oxfam/CAA I thought then, Trailwalker. who can I con into joining me for that epic. Only my family foolish enough were volunteer and a couple of SBW Stuart Corner and members. Phil Newman joined with two others, as I had signed up David (husband); Martin (son); and, Mark (brother). We even met our young neighbour at the start, with seven of his running mates from the police force, keen to

get going. So, on a miserable wet Friday in late May team "Mythical Beasts" joined 1196 other Trailwalkers at Hunters Hill to attempt to reach Brooklyn, 100 kms away, mostly on the Great North Walk. I grew in confidence as we trialed the trail in the few months beforehand, but still, it is 55kms further than the Six Foot Track and someone in the Club asked me if I would be capable of doing the K to K and back again. I doubt it.

Our first task on the day was to prevent Mark from running, as he recently completed 100kms in under 14 hours. He discovered a hazard of bush walking a half hour into the walk when he slipped on a rock and headed for the river, but, was hauled back by a member of Team No. 8. Martin had trained by completing a triathlon in April and never worked up a sweat under the goretex jacket that he wore all the way. David performed splendidly on coffee, muesli bars and bananas. I relied heavily on adrenalin, cups of tea (with caffeine instead of mint) and the knowledge that I was one of the oldest walkers.

There were many funny moments – jokes to share with other walkers; smiling, helpful volunteers at the nine checkpoints; and for me, taking a mobile phone call regarding work, somewhere in the Lane Cove National Park. The caller was amazed when I told her why I was puffing. We rejoiced in being in the bush despite the weather and the pace. There were a few anxious moments too, especially in the rain at night, but we worked well as a team and stayed together, taking it in turn to lead.

Our support groups were brilliant, providing us with a hot meal at 10.30 pm at Crosslands; two tents at Mt Kuring-gai where we spent four hours; and, meeting us throughout Saturday with encouraging words and yummy treats. Richard Darke walked the last 12 kms with us and they were all there at the end when we actually ran the last kilometre. It was not my idea to sprint in, but, the men decided that if we hurried we could finish in under 30 hours. My estimate had been to finish between 30 and 32 hours. Martin threatened to carry me if I refused to co-operate. We made it with two minutes to spare.

The whole event was a fantastic experience. We met many interesting people of all ages; enjoyed each others company; raised over \$2,000 for the cause and only suffered some aches and pains in the last 5 kms. Who would like to join us for the Trailwalker in Adelaide in October 2003?

Incidentally, five SBW members finished (but I never did meet Lesley); only three of the eight burly cops survived to the end; and, 800 of the 1200 walkers crossed the line with 116 of the 300 teams being complete.



A Reminder - Don't forget that the LBW 75 Anniversary Dinner will be held in the Harbourview Room at the Kirribilli Club on Friday 25 October. The venue is booked from 7 pm to midnight. Frains stop nearly at the door; alternatively you may park your car on the premises. Jickets (\$40 each) can be booked now. Yes now, right now! Send a cheque made out to LBW for the number of tickets, addressed to:

15th Anniversary Dinner
The Sydney Bush Walkers Inc
PG Box 431 Milsons Point 1565.

received income of \$7,411, disbursed \$1,176 and closed with a balance of \$16,316.

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Conservation Report David Trinder

Bob Brown, the Tasmanian Greens MP considered supporting the Government's proposal to privatize the last of Telstra by asking for restrictions on logging native forests. He backed down because his party did not want to sell the remainder of Telstra, but his heart was in the right place, he wanted to stop logging native forests.

The Carr Government has recently approved the Mogo charcoal factory near Batemans Bay on the NSW south coast. If built this factory will consume 200,000 tonnes of native forest timber for the next forty years. Many groups from the south coast and the ACT are responding to the call to stop the factory. The factory will burn the timber for charcoal which will be used to make silicone in a plant in Lithgow.

The Eurobodalla Shire Council decided to appeal against the Governments approval of the Mogo Plant. The approval has not brought the project much closer to completion. There are lengthy court battles ahead and a community mobilized to stop construction of the facility.

Two years ago a similar proposal to take timber from the Goonoo and Pilliga forests in the west of New South Wales was rejected amid an enormous community uproar. Now the same company from Western Australia, an iron ore miner called Portman Limited under the name Australian Silicone proposes to woodchip the south coast forests for charcoal with the continued support of the Premier's Strategic Projects Unit and the enthusiastic encouragement of NSW State Forests.

The South Coast charcoal woodchipping will threaten catchment values, 150 existing sawmill jobs, the fishing industry, oyster growing and the 6,200 nature tourism jobs in the region that depend on nature based tourism. In return the forest miners are promising somewhere between 20 and 50 jobs. The charcoal plant will more than double the native forest logging in the region. There is already an unsustainable supply

of up to 65,000 tonnes per year of woodchips taken to the Eden chip mill from the South Coast Forests.

There has been no environmental or economic assessment of the threats to our South Coast forests for this proposal. The limited assessment of the plant itself at the Batemans Bay received the largest ever number of submissions, over 1,500, with more than 98% of submissions opposing the factory. Government essentially relying is conservation advice from NSW State Forests, who were discredited two years ago for recommending logging in the west of the state for the same reason.

Spring Walks Programme:

The deadline for the Spring Walks Programme is 26th July 2002. Would all leaders please submit their proposed walks to our Walks Secretary, Carol Lubbers by post (no fax please) Address details are on the last page of the Winter Programme."



JENOLAN CAVES. KANANGRA WALLS. YERRANDERIE GHOST TOWN STARLIGHTS TRACK. BUNGONIA CAVES. WOG WOG. NERRIGA

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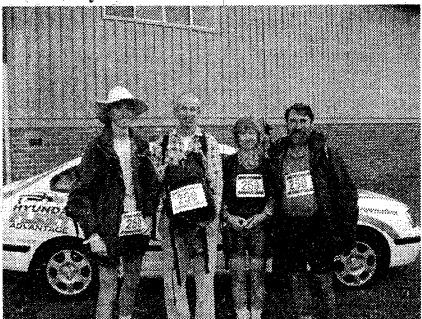
Wog Wog-Nerriga Tues.& Thurs & Sun at 11am Returns 4 pm Tues, Thurs, Sun.

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An Easy/Medium Walk !!!! The Oxfam/CAA Trailwalker 100 kms < 48 hours!



Maureen Carter

About two years ago I was inspired by Richard Darke's Sydney the account in Bushwalker of how he had Oxfam/CAA completed the Trailwalker. I thought then, who can I con into joining me for that epic. Only my family were foolish enough volunteer and a couple of SBW Stuart Corner and members. Phil Newman joined with two others, as I had signed up David (husband); Martin (son); and, Mark (brother). We even met our young neighbour at the start, with seven of his running mates from the police force, keen to

get going. So, on a miserable wet Friday in late May team "Mythical Beasts" joined 1196 other Trailwalkers at Hunters Hill to attempt to reach Brooklyn, 100 kms away, mostly on the Great North Walk. I grew in confidence as we trialed the trail in the few months beforehand, but still, it is 55kms further than the Six Foot Track and someone in the Club asked me if I would be capable of doing the K to K and back again. I doubt it.

Our first task on the day was to prevent Mark from running, as he recently completed 100kms in under 14 hours. He discovered a hazard of bush walking a half hour into the walk when he slipped on a rock and headed for the river, but, was hauled back by a member of Team No. 8. Martin had trained by completing a triathlon in April and never worked up a sweat under the goretex jacket that he wore all the way. David performed splendidly on coffee, muesli bars and bananas. I relied heavily on adrenalin, cups of tea (with caffeine instead of mint) and the knowledge that I was one of the oldest walkers.

There were many funny moments – jokes to share with other walkers; smiling, helpful volunteers at the nine checkpoints; and for me, taking a mobile phone call regarding work, somewhere in the Lane Cove National Park. The caller was amazed when I told her why I was puffing. We rejoiced in being in the bush despite the weather and the pace. There were a few anxious moments too, especially in the rain at night, but we worked well as a team and stayed together, taking it in turn to lead.

Our support groups were brilliant, providing us with a hot meal at 10.30 pm at Crosslands; two tents at Mt Kuring-gai where we spent four hours; and, meeting us throughout Saturday with encouraging words and yummy treats. Richard Darke walked the last 12 kms with us and they were all there at the end when we actually ran the last kilometre. It was not my idea to sprint in, but, the men decided that if we hurried we could finish in under 30 hours. My estimate had been to finish between 30 and 32 hours. Martin threatened to carry me if I refused to co-operate. We made it with two minutes to spare:

The whole event was a fantastic experience. We met many interesting people of all ages; enjoyed each others company; raised over \$2,000 for the cause and only suffered some aches and pains in the last 5 kms. Who would like to join us for the Trailwalker in Adelaide in October 2003?

Incidentally, five SBW members finished (but I never did meet Lesley); only three of the eight burly cops survived to the end; and, 800 of the 1200 walkers crossed the line with 116 of the 300 teams being complete.



A Reminder - Don't forget that the SBW 15th Anniversary Dinner will be held in the Harbourview Room at the Kirribilli Club on Friday 25th October. The venue is booked from 1 pm to midnight. Trains stop nearly at the door; alternatively you may park your car on the premises. Tickets (\$40 each) can be booked now. Yes now, right now! Send a cheque made out to SBW for the number of tickets, addressed to:

75th Anniversary Dinner
The Lydney Bush Walkers Inc
FO Box 431 Milsons Point 1565.

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What is Geocaching? (Extracts from www.geocaching.com)

Geocaching is the name given to a sport which is played around the world by a small number of

enthusiasts, via the Internet. A small box is hidden, the co-ordinates and clues are posted on the Internet, and players use GPS to find it.

It is an entertaining adventure game for GPS users. Participating in

a cache hunt is a good way to take advantage of the wonderful features and capability of a GPS unit. The basic idea is to have individuals and organizations set up caches all over the world and share the locations of these caches on the internet. GPS users can then use the location coordinates to find the caches. Once found, a cache may provide the visitor with a wide variety of rewards. All the visitor is asked to do is if they get something they should try to leave something for the cache.

What is usually in a cache?

A cache can come in many forms but the first item should always be the logbook. In its simplest form a cache can be just a logbook and nothing else. The logbook contains information from the founder of the cache and notes from the cache's visitors. The logbook can contain much entertaining rewarding, and valuable, information. Α logbook might contain information about nearby attractions. coordinates to other unpublished caches etc.

If you get some information from a logbook you should give some back. At the very least you can leave the date and time you visited the cache.

Larger caches may consist of a waterproof plastic bucket placed tastefully within the local terrain. The bucket will contain the logbook and any number of more or less valuable items. These items turn the cache into a true treasure hunt. You never know what the founder or other visitors of the cache may have left there for you to enjoy. Remember, if you take something, its only fair for you to leave something in return. Items in a bucket cache could be: Maps, books, software, hardware, CD's, videos, pictures, money, jewelry, tickets, antiques, tools, games, etc. It is recommended that items in a bucket cache be individually packaged in a clear zipped plastic bag to protect them.



As of today, there are 17520 active caches in 121 countries. In the last 7 days, there have been 10891 new logs written by 3507 account holders.

For more information on geocaching, please search the web using "geocaching in Australia" as your reference.

Warning - Take Care in National Parks

Please note that there are some problems using national parks for geocaching purposes – as set out in the following extract from an a posting on www.geocaching.com. Also note that such organised activities may be contrary to the park's Plan of Management

"This GPS cache was located in the Lane Cove National Park, in the lower-north suburbs of Sydney, NSW, Australia. It was Australia's first cache, planted 18th May, 2000. It has now become a "virtual cache" because of its unfortunate position (please read below!!!).

If anyone wishes to create a cache in a national park in Sydney it is a lot more complicated than you can imagine.

Some places in the park have been designated as remote places suitable for growing rare plants. I managed to place mine where they were growing Darwinia Biflora. Secondly, people normally stick to the walking tracks (as they are supposed to), rather than heading into the scrub. So placing the cache there provides unexpected attention to some normally undisturbed scrub. Thirdly, your shoes carry weeds from one place to another, and with cache hunters arriving from unexpected directions, this causes unexpected problems. Fourthly, during bushfire season, backburning may be done, and the rangers need to know of unexpected people (before they commit homicide) "

<u>Is Geocaching Consistent With The Aims Of</u> <u>Bushwalking?</u>

Some would say that it is a high-tech version of orienteering. Others may think it just a game or an elaborate treasure hunt. Many may object to it taking place in the bushland as it risks disturbing the environment. Perhaps it has no place in a bushwalking club – what do you think?

Write to the Editor and give your opinion......ED

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Is Your Annual Subscription Overdue?

The rates for the current year

Single Membership = \$40-00 Household membership = \$66-00 Non Active Membership = \$15-00 Magazine only = \$15-00

Prompt payment will help ensure that you are covered by club insurance and that you receive the magazine and Spring Walks Programme.

FROM OUT OF THE PAST (75 Years of SBW History)



From 1960's - Car camp on the Turon River near Sofala: Val and Arthur Gilroy, Malcolm McGregor, John Noble, Elsa McGregor, Jean Webb and Ron Baker. Photo: Reg Alder

75th Anniversary Celebrations

We turn Seventy-five on 21st October 2002. To help with your planning please reserve the whole of October for SBW activities. Mark these dates on your calendar:

Reunion at Coolana. 19th/20th October.

This will extend to the Monday as well to celebrate the actual birthday. The Coolana details are still on the drawing board and will be revealed in due course.

The Dinner Friday 25 October.

Harbourview Room at the Kirribilli Club. Book your tickets now. Cost \$40

75th Anniversary Tee-shirts

These will be available soon.

Anniversary Walks.

Special anniversary walks repeating walks of the very early years. See the Spring Programme

THE WALKS PAGES

Walking in Deua NP Rosemary MacDougal

I had never walked in this area but had heard much about Mother Woila and wondered what she must look like. My imagination ran wild as to the prospects of climbing it. I booked into Ken Clacher's walk for the Anzac weekend, which was scheduled to go through this area, but at the last minute he was unable to lead the walk and so I did.

The Park has very dramatic ranges and peaks. This was essentially a ridge walk along narrow, rocky and at times pinnacles of stone where the way down would entertain us for hours. Water was always going to be difficult but when we found it we carried as much as we could.

The first night we camped in a saddle not far from the Mother to which we would go the next day as a day walk. The approach was across and down a very narrow ridge with some sections requiring sidling around with some exposure. To do this with full packs would be quite difficult. Once onto the saddle below the Mother we set off around the base over some pretty but slippery grass. We came to some mossy and wet dripping rocks from which we replenished our water bottles. The map gave no hint that there would be water here and we concluded that it could only be because of the recent rain.

Up into the saddle between the Mother and the small hump which we referred to as the baby. The views from the baby were spectacular in that we were above the mist and the clouds with the peaks in the distance poking out. There was a great campsite here for the brave who could carry a full pack and water.

The Mother herself did not offer views as it was heavily wooded but we felt well pleased with our efforts.

We returned to campsite and packed up to move onto Tabletop. The fog and mist had not lifted and as it started get dark it became obvious we would not make Tabletop that night. Therefore we camped in the saddle below. It was a bit tight but some gardening generally results in creating a relatively flat area or at least a position to wrap oneself around a tree or a rock to avoid slipping down the hill. The next morning as the moon set the sun rose thereby indicating that the moon had been full. That saddle enabled us to experience this wonderful site.

The next day we set off over Tabletop towards Scout Hat. We had seen it in the distance and its spine up which we presumed we had to go looked daunting. Once at the bottom we could see the way up but with some exposure. The party was very happy to proceed this way rather than the long way around the base. Once on the top we felt a sense of achievement and were able to see the route we had taken over the previous days. Mother Woila dominated the scene.

We proceeded down the ridge and into Woila creek where were greeted with running water (and leeches) all of which was in such contrast to the dry and arid country over which we had been. A beaut camp site on the creek was a welcome relief and prepared us for the ascent of 1000 m the next day back to the cars.

Cross Country Skiing-75th Memorial Anniversary Kiandra to Kosciusko Crossing

75 years ago Dr Schlink and party made this



epic XC ski trip and I will be leading a party to commemorate their efforts (also to have some fun!)

Dates are 24th August -1st September. Leave cars

at Cooma, get transported to by bus to Kiandra and dropped off, ski for half a day then progressively ski to Thredbo via all the Peaks & slopes enroute. Bus from Thredbo to Cooma. Carry a 7 day pack to give flexibility with the weather (really necessary on 5 days skiing). Denison, Eucumbene, Khancoban, Maps Kossie etc. Grade Medium/Hard.

There will be some "hut" nights. Having done the trip a few years ago I have planned a "fairly flat" route initially and remember that Paddy did his first Crossing when he was 65. I plan to do the 75th and then come back for the Centenary (given that there is still snow in 25yrs time!) Ian Wolfe

First Aid Certificates for Leaders:



To encourage our walks leaders to get their St First Aid John's the Certificate. Committee has offered to subsidise current Walks Leaders for half the cost of gaining an accredited Senior First

Certificate up to \$50 and if combined with an accredited Remote Area First Aid, up to \$80. This will be for a trial six-month period.

Easter In Ettrema Caro Ryan

You've Read The Leader's Report Last Month ... Read One From A Punter!

There is something so wonderfully comforting about the sense of the familiar. The aroma of Mum's roast lamb on Sundays, the smell of freshly washed linen and the sound of rain at Easter. It simply wouldn't be Easter on the east coast without it. And it was with this sound that myself and Pamela Irving made our way down the Princes Hwy, through the fog, hazard lights flashing, on our way to Nowra, Ettrema and beyond!

Never ones to be pessimists, we pondered the myriad of activities available to us over the next four days, should Maurice (our intrepid leader) decide to cancel the walk. There were books to read, movies to see, sleep to catch up on and of course, the Blessing of the Fleet in Ulladulla. Geez! A girl could get exhausted just thinking about it!!!

Friday morning came and with it - patches of blue, a lightening of the sky and a 7am meeting time at Nowra Maccas. (Oh Damn, wouldn't get to read those books after all!) The car convoy out to the end of the walk (somewhere out along the Braidwood Rd) went well, as did the meeting of the bus and ferrying around to the start. (It was only afterwards that I found out that the driver of Bushwalkers Wilderness Transport was Robert Sloss, whose published track notes on the Katoomba-Mittagong walk I had followed religiously last October.)

Now it's at this point that I should let you, the good reader, know that I am writing from a prospective's perspective. Ah yes, one of those shiny eyed, eager young things who can make simple mistakes like packing hairdryers, 8 man tents (with annexe) or car fridges on overnight walks. Thankfully, I don't think that SBW is the type of club that attracts people who would do such a thing...although I have heard stories... You know who you are! Anyway - I can happily report that myself and Grace, the other prospective, certainly did not fit this bill. (Although her tent did become known as the Taj Mahal, but weighing in at 2.5kgs as opposed to a MacPac Microlite at 2.2kg - she knows the delight and comfort that a 3 man tent can bring!! Thank you Grace!!)

The start of the walk was a good introduction to some of the challenges that we would find over the next four days. The scrub along sections of Bullfrog Creek was thicker than a serve of badly mixed Deb. This was my introduction to "Day-O". Most bizarre to think that someone is only 2 metres away from you, and you can have no idea where they are. The

rain from the previous night was still hanging in the trees, so that after only a few hundred metres, we were all soaked to the skin - not that we were complaining, as morning tea was called only 25 mins into the walk! "Wow," I thought, "This might be an easy/medium trip after all!". Hmmm, little was I to know what was ahead! 4 days of But what exactly was ahead? wilderness 5 beautiful, pristine, waterholes, 5 star campsites, breathtaking gorges, crystal waterfalls, towering cliffs and a hell of a lot of rocks. Yep, rocks! All shapes and sizes, big, small, enormous, pebbly, mountainous, slippery, rough, moss covered, wet or dry - we had 'em.... Rocks! Don't think for a minute that it was possible in four days to put your foot on simple, everyday, flat earth, uh huh - that just ain't going to happen in Ettrema! The trip down Bullfrog Creek was a slow and slippery one, with many bruises and scrapes (mostly on my legs, thanks for the photo Maurice!!!) And the sight of Ettrema was a With it, brought the first welcome one. campsite of the trip - 3kms short of our intended stopping point for the day. (Ahhh, thanks Peter for the introduction to the famous SBW Lemon Barley/Hot Toddie concoction.) Bruises forgotton and sleep approaching, I settled down in the Taj Mahal for a great night's sleep.

For the next 3 days, we continued down along Ettrema (just follow the water with the rocks under it! You can't miss it), zig-zagging our way across the creek, and getting used to the whole idea of rock "hopping". I found myself chanting, "Momentum, Momentum - must keep moving - tread lightly - skip over the rocks" and, bizarre as it may sound, it worked. I think I found my rock-hopping feet.

There were numerous scrambles and climbs up over rocky banks to avoid the option of swimming with packs and as the days progressed, there were more trips away from the creek to avoid whole sections that were impassable. It was during these forays into the bush and scrub, whilst we held dear to Maurice's insistence that there was "an old disused fire-trail that will be much easier to walk on", that I was introduced to Lawyer Vine (the hard way!!) And the Stinging Tree (thankfully only by sight), along Blackberries and stinging nettles. Not much fun all round, but we kept up good spirits by keeping an eye out for any rogue fire trucks that might come speeding past. Let's just say, that if that was a fire trail - I'll eat my thermarest.

Don't get me wrong though, yes, the Ettrema Easter walk with the intrepid Maurice Smith was one of the hardest walks I've ever done, but I don't regret it for a second. It was however, most encouraging to hear even the most hardened of walkers (you know, the one that is always 10 mins ahead of everyone else) on the trip comment that it was a 6 day walk, done in 4 and indeed, that's what it was. This is reflected by the exciting news that Maurice has announced he will be doing Ettrema again later in the year, this time over 6 days, with a base camp and the option of a rest day!

Let me encourage you all, this is wonderful territory - the wilderness of Ettrema and as I heard it mentioned at last week's reunion, if you want to do a Morton NP walk properly, do it with Maurice - nobody knows Morton better. I'd have to agree.....even though there is that small issue of exactly WHERE Tallyangello Creek disappeared too??? Maurice?? Maurice??

And Another Punter's Report! Pamela Irving

The next time I want to do a six day walk in four days, Maurice, I'll ring you." These were the parting words of one of our party as we left the restaurant in Nowra where we had celebrated our deliverance from the Ettrema Wilderness.

A long-held ambition of Maurice Smith was to walk the full length of Ettrema Creek, and this Easter he finally filled in the missing bit on his map. Torrential rain on Thursday afternoon and night made descending Bullfrog Creek slow going on Friday, but at least it had stopped raining. We pitched camp at 4 pm amongst the trees, earlier than planned, in consideration of the toll taken on the less-fit members of our party.

Maurice had us up at 6.30 the next morning and back into the creek at 8 am. Rock-hopping, boulder-scrambling, waist-deep wading, bush-bashing, this trip had the lot. The sun even started to break through in the afternoon.

I pointed out Hamlet's Crown, a vertical cliff Bill Capon made me climb some time ago, carrying 4litres of water. This rightly impressed some of the members of our partly. The tail enders collapsed into camp at 6pm, compensated by a beautiful campsite next to a big waterhole, beneath a cliff-face covered with lichen. Ettrema Creek has countless such stunning spots.

Sunday was a repeat of Saturday I in sunshine this time. Ettrema is at her best in the sun. The cliffs in the gorge shine, the waterholes beckon, the foliage is bright. We even met a naked bunch of Canberra Bushwalkers, camped

at a huge water hole. One remarked that our trip was "ambitious" Once again the front runners had a fire roaring to lift the spirits of we three permanent stragglers. Thanks for hanging out at the back with me, Cathryn and Caro.

An even earlier start on Monday. Maurice assured us that as we progressed towards the lower reaches of Ettrema, we would come across a fire-trail, albeit somewhat overgrown. We began to suspect that Maurice is a master of under-statement. However, towards the very end where Ettrema joins Yalwal Creek the track became discernible, to the extent that we actually saw fresh tyre-tracks.

Caro, one of our two prospectives, had sustained a hip injury earlier in the morning, so Maurice altered our exit plan and sent us on ahead to an accessible four-wheel drive track near where Yalwal joins the Shoalhaven River. He and Grace, our other prospective, followed our original planned route back to the cars. It was after seven pm when we saw the headlights of Maurice's Rav4 approaching as we climbed our first hill of the whole four days. (This was one of Maurice's selling points -"it's all down hill")

Two hours later, six of our party were eating Asian food at an excellent restaurant in Nowra. Maurice has announced that he's putting this trip on again as a Christmas walk, over six or seven days this time. At least some of our mutterings hit home...

Thanks Maurice for a truly unforgettable experience...

(Trip participants, Maurice Smith, Cathryn Cliff, Caro Ryan, Peter Love, Nenad Stilin, Bill Smallwood, Grace Martinez and Pamela Irving)

Wanted: Companion(s) for Tasmania Overland Trek January 2003

I'm looking for some company early/mid January to walk the Cradle MountainlLake St Clair (or vice versa) route with me at a comfortable unhurried pace --please contact Byron on 9387 7208(H) or 9387 2167 (W) orby fax 9387 7536

Cycling:

Regular mid-week cycling activities are sometimes conducted at short notice on Thursdays and are additional to those shown in the Club's Walks Programme.

If you are free to cycle during the week please contact George Mawer 9707 1343

A Walk With The Lot!

Richard Phillipps

Emus, Icy Water, Dense Scrub, Vines, Vistas and History

All 12 starters arrived on time, 9am (three cancelled late, sick). It was a qualifying walk for prospective members.

The car shuffle put half the cars at finish point, Highland Road Faulconbridge, and half at Adeline Park. This nearly went awry because I wasn't in the lead car and was busy chatting to Cecily instead of looking where we should be going.

This walk had everything - rain on the lower Blue Mountains last week made Linden Creek fuller than usual. First we found three emus carved in the cliff ledge. After half an hour we reached a waterfall, later the main creek we could either ford half a kilometre upstream or we could wade across there. They looked at the thick wet Eucalypt forest and voted to wade. We took off boots and socks, tucked up our shorts - it was freezing.

Then we struggled through chest-high ferns up a 45-degree talus slope to a long west-heading spur heading for Linden Ridge. At the top we paused for morning tea in weak sunshine. By then it was 1 lam and I feared we would be struggling home in the dark.

By noon, after water stops we had progressed to the high point of the climb, 539m. I asked the three prospectives how far off the fire trail was (nothing visible). The answer - 100 metres - was spot on. I attempted to lead them in the wrong direction but they didn't fall for it.

We then hiked fast along the fire trail SW towards Linden. We avoided the temptation to check out Mount Twiss. Some put up with gravelly socks and boots, and we didn't stop until we reached my hidden cairn. Again, the map readers knew where to turn east.

I've been on many walks but the scrub at this point was the highest and thickest I've yet encountered - some hakea and mountain devil, the rest not very prickly but almost impenetrable - hard work for the guy in front (me). A gloves, long sleeves and gaiters job.

By Ipm, amazingly we burst through the head-high scrub right at the lunch spot atop the sheltered cliff sussed out the month before with a jogging mate (took us five hours' scrambling then, no stops except for water). The sun by now was quite warm, autumnal weather even though it was the first day of winter.

Black rain clouds looming impelled a quick pack-up after half an hour and we moved off east down and up and down a very hilly spur. Gradually the eucalypts, angophoras and turpentines got taller, the scrub less of a challenge and the occasional views rewarding at least we could see what compass and map implied. We found the saddles, some of which had amazing chimneys and balancing boulders.

We all climbed a rock, now Mount SBW?, 515 metres; views south across Linden Creek headwaters, north into wilderness (gorgeous gorges).

Some unusual fungi and herbs in the deep litter underfoot; plenty of aromatic boronia and mintbush but not in flower, only Epacris and blue Dampiera in sunny spots ... a lyrebird's paradise and they sang to us at every rest stop. The clouds moved away and despite forecast showers, the afternoon was warm and quite sunny.

We made it smartly down a steep slope by 3.15pm, negotiated ferns and lawyer vines to Linden Creek again (well upstream of the bidet crossing), right at a sawmill site abandoned about 1910 *. The boiler looked like an ancient submarine that had come up the Grose Valley and Linden Creek to rest on a sandstone wharf in knee-high ferns and rainforest. Huge logs, cables and wheels in the moss and ferns.

By then I was more confident that we would finish on time but there was some debate about whether and where to cross the creek again - no one wanted to take off boots. Most men got wet feet but the women found a drier crossing downstream below a cave.

Had we forded the right creek? Nenad said no and insisted on finding the junction. He did. After a long climb we were safely back at the cars by 4pm; a bandaged knee or two, some blood but nothing serious.

The only thing I forgot was my camera. Salt was packed but not needed - no leeches. Are they hibernating for the winter?

I enjoyed leading, a first for me with SBW. As Maurice said, the best part of being a leader is, you get to choose where to go and the other 11 tag along.

Walkers: Pat Bickley, Cecily Fremaux, Trevor Kloeden, Heike Krausse, Carol Lubbers, Pam Morrison, Jim Percy, Richard Phillipps, Jan Pieters, Maurice Smith, Nenad Stilin and Marianne Watt

** Jim Percy advises that subsequent checking indicates that the Cable Incline and Tramway was built around 1910 although many of these projects had very short lives and it could be correct that it was abandoned also about that year

Hello from Heike.

Day walking dags....If you have been out on a few walks you may have noticed that the average Sydney Bushwalker is not garbed with sartorial splendour, that is the fashion stakes are not high, if they exist at all.

Comfort, comfort, comfort and practicality are the keys for planning your bushwalking wardrobe.

You can stroll into your camping and bushwalking store on the Kent street strip and spend a fortune on the latest and best in polyester, polypropylene and new fashioned wool (mm I love it), however as a new pennypinching walker personally, I headed down to the local K-Mart/Woollies/Target and found pretty much all I required and still 2 years on walking in that gear that cost me less than \$50. Some would say even that was extravagant as they swan about displaying the latest in Op-shop vogue.

What do you need for starters?

Shorts: baggy legged for the high leg raises over logs, up very steep hills, those unexpected drops on river crossings and able to accommodate legging thermals when it gets a little chilly. Most do swear by polyester for the quick dry factor, however I'm a fan of my heavy duty cotton ones that still dry well and have solid butt-patch pockets for the bum-shuffles down steep rock inclines.

Some prefer longs especially in Hakea country (although not much less than armour plating will protect you on some bush-bash ventures). Again, the natty zip-off-to-shorts numbers can be purchased or you can wander down to Paddy's market and pick up some Chinese cotton elastic/tie waisted ones for about \$10 (Stall adjacent to the fruit and veg).

Tops: Layering is the secret here, over all should be a long sleeved shirt, protection from sun, sharp pointy things in passing, or tick/leech access. Cotton again is my choice, as I prefer natural fibres. I have a very dinky lots-of-pockets, roll-up-the-sleeves, aerated armholes, fishing shirt that was dead cheap on sale at the local mall chain store. There are the lovely poly/nylon ones in beautiful colours for around \$50 that are designed to wick away moisture from the skin. But you can't go wrong with the cotton/polyester blend as in your old business shirts, and if they get shredded well, forking out another 50cents at St Vinnie's wont twinge the hip pocket nerve severely.

Depending on the weather underneath can be nothing if hot, or in the chill of winter long-sleeved thermals. (One of the Kent St strip stores has a range of more reasonably priced ones or again the good old chain-stores have plenty, not as snazzily striped or coloured but will do the job in being light and an extra layer). Some shop on the net for super bargains in thermal gear available overseas.

The heavier weight and warmer gear for winter may mean a little more expense, this is where you act predatory, hunt around, scout the layout and pounce in the sales. Get onto the mailing lists and you get pre-sale invites to avoid the trampling on doors open day. If you feel like Harlequin look around, most walkers are dressed in an array of colours, not because we are all genetically challenged in trend setting, we've just built up our bushwalking wardrobe over the years in sales. Plus you get to be a bit handy with needle and thread. (No patch pockets and bumsliding leads to more than a visible panty line).

Worth a little extra to get Gortex for the raingear, I waited and found exactly what I wanted in the mens section, \$200 off, bargain.... Ok the sleeves are a bit long but they'll just keep me that bit drier.

Found a great pair of polyprop gloves at the local mall chain store. Maybe I'm wrong but they look and feel very similar to the \$30 ones, at \$7.....Easy choice.

Explorer sox can be found there too, teamed with a thin cotton pair you may find that you no longer suffer blisters even on extended walks. Top it all off with a hat of suitable dimensions to cover the nose!

There are many different opinions as to what is best, but the one thing all agree on is that wearing jeans is the worst!

Next month, gear pool and keeping non-clothing-gear costs down, yes I know that was supposed to be this month but I got sidetracked....

Please welcome on your next walk our new members: Nancy Vozoff, Bryan Smith, Ian Hughes, Amanda Osenton, Nic Dzainko, Emma Setchell, Chris Oldrey, Garry Shaw, Ann-Marie Powell, Stefanie Brown and Joe Stratek.

Striding on into Full membership are Clive Klugman, Graciela Martinez and James Cryer.

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OF INTEREST TO NEW MEMBERS

Recommended For New Members:

The following walks are extracts from the Winter Walks Programme. For additional details of leaders, contact numbers etc please refer to the programme.

Day Walks:

Sun 30th June: Kuring-Gai NP Easy 12km. St Ives - Bobbin Head - Wahroonga Stn. An interesting picturesque walk along river and

Sat 27th July: Blue Mountains NP Easy 6kms Blackheath stn - Porters Pass - Centennial Pass. Suitable for beginners. Late start an early finish. Sun 28th July: Eastern Suburbs Ramble. 10km Edgecliff to Watsons Bay. An easy, enjoyable walk with fish and chips lunch.

Sun 28th July: Great River Walk Easy 7km Final stage Brooklyn to Palm Beach. Some coastal rock hopping.

Week-end Walks

Sat/Sun 13th 14th July: Morton NP Meryla Pass - Danjera Dam - Griffins Farm An easy walk, ideal first weekend walk for new members as 50% is without weekend packs. Navigation training and tests can be given if required. Sat morning start. Sat/Sun 27th 28th July: Wollemi NP Overnight base camp in Newnes area. Explore creeks and spectacular pagoda country. Great views.

Weekend Walking Gear For Hire

The club now has a small pool of weekend walking equipment available for hire to Prospective Members. The rates for weekly hire

Weekend pack: \$15 \$15

Sleeping bag: (For hygiene reasons you must provide and use your own sleeping bag liner)

Sleeping mat: \$5 Ground sheet: \$2

Tent: \$20 Complete kit \$50

All items will require an equivalent cash deposit, refundable on return of the equipment. Geoff McIntosh has volunteered to act as Gear Custodian on a trial basis and would be hirers should telephone Geoff on 9419 4619

Please be aware that our pool is presently still small, so give plenty of notice. We will be monitoring the demand and may, as required, expand our stocks

Coolana Training Weekend:

We had a very successful training weekend in May with 11 new members and several members attending the training and maintenance activities. Our next training weekend is in July.

All new members are invited to join us at the "Coolana" Wildlife Refuge in the beautiful Kangaroo Valley on Sat, Sun 20th, 21st July.

> The weekend offers practical training in navigation, first aid and bushcraft. It provides an ideal introduction to camping and a

chance to extend your social contacts within the club. There is a shelter shed for those who do not have a tent. Ample shelter if weather is cold or wet. The camping site is about 15 minutes downhill from the carpark.

Experienced members may also attend to assist with training and join in the social activities around the camp fire on Saturday evening.

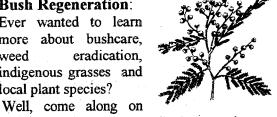
Maps are provided but please bring a mapping compass. Activities start on Saturday morning and finishes late afternoon on Sunday.

For transport assistance and location advice please phone:

Bill Holland 9484 6636 (h & w) or Patrick James 9904 1515 (h & w)

Bush Regeneration:

Ever wanted to learn more about bushcare. eradication, weed indigenous grasses and local plant species?



any of the scheduled Coolana maintenance weekends as featured in our Walks Programmes. For instance:

6th, 7th July: Come and join the maintenance crew for a pleasant weekend. Shelter available but tents recommended.

17th 18th August: Another weekend of light maintenance and bushcare.

Wandering Jew (Tradescantia albilfora) * Wandering Jew is a weed.. It grows quickly and spreads over the ground, forming a dense mat and smothering other small plants. This succulent herb grows best in damp places and tolerates moderate sun or shade. established it suppresses all other ground plants. Wandering Jew is one of the weeds at Coolana. Members might like to adopt a 10 square metre patch of Wandering Jew at Coolana and try their hand at eradication..

SOCIAL NOTES:

Our Social Programme In Review:

In May we saw Part 2. of Jan Mohandas' South American slide night and Part 1. of Oliver Crawford's video of the same trip. It definitely was not a repetitive evening, far from it. It was interesting the differences between the two visuals.

Maurice Smith presented a talk on the club's personal accident and public liability insurance on May 29th. It highlighted the the importance of the club's need for coverage of this very topical issue.

June:

Wed 26th Leadership/Walks Planning Night

Wed 3rd Committee Meeting

Observers welcome as well to see their Committee members at work Introduction to SBW

Introducing new members to the Club

Wed 10th General Meeting

Your opportunity to participate in the management of your club. Hear the reports from office bearers, walks reports and discussion of current events

Wed 17th Leadership Workshop

For experienced and aspiring leaders. A chance to learn from Wilf Hilder

Wed 24th South America - Peru

Oliver Crawford will show Part 2 of the video taken during the recent trip

Wed 31st Indoor Rock Climbing at Summer Hill A fun activity for all! Cost \$9-50 per person. Please RSVP by 15th July

Any suggestions, ideas or questions about the social programme should be directed to the Social Secretary: Vicki Garamy 9349 2905 You can find this social program (and updates) on our web site www.sbw.org.au

The Club Telephone

Volunteers are (still) required to assist Ian Rannard and Judy O'Connor in answering the club's phone from 9am to 5pm Monday to Friday. The club's phone can be diverted to your home on certain days of the week according to a roster. Calls outside these times are automatically diverted to a recorded announcement. I'm sure Ian and Judy would be willing to discuss their experiences with anyone who is interested. If you would like to assist please give Eddy Giaomel a call on 9144 5095.

A Scholar Of The Scriptures!

A young woman brings home her fiancee to meet her parents. After dinner, her mother tells her father to find out about the young man. The father invites the fiancee to his study for a

"So what are your plans?" the father asks the young man.

"I am a scholar of the Scriptures," he replies. "A scholar of the scriptures, Hmm." the father says. "Admirable, but what will you do to provide a nice house for my daughter to live in as she's accustomed to?"

"I will study," the young man replies, "and God will provide for us."

"And how will you buy her a beautiful engagement ring such as she deserves?" asks the father.

"I will concentrate on my studies," the young man replies, "and God will provide for us." "And children?" asks the father. "How will you support children?"

"Don't worry, sir, God will provide," replies the

The conversation proceeds like this, and each time the father questions, the young idealist insists that God will provide.

Later, the mother asks, "How did it go, dear?" The father answers, "He has no job and no plans, but the good news is he thinks I'm God."

Mid-week Walking Group:

There is a group of members with time available to participate in midweek activities. If you have time during the week or can take leave from work please join us. Here are the mid-week activities already listed in The Winter Walks Programme

Tues 25th June Cape Bailey Coast Walk Discovery Centre (Kurnell- Cape Bailey lighthouse - Solander Trig - Muru Track. Along this coastal walk explore sand dunes and heathland and spectacular views of rugged coastline. Easy 10 km

Thur 11th July Suburban Parks Med 12 km Wynyard - bus - Cammeray -Greenwich Wharf - Ferry - Circular Quay. Early finish.

Additionally, we organise bike rides and other excursions sometimes at short notice. For instance in July have three days of walking in the Blue Mountains staying at a member's house. In August we go to Hitchenbrook Island for a week.

If you would like to have your name added to our mailing list for regular newsletters please contact Bill Holland 9484 6636 or email billholl@hotkey.net.au

carry on our backs to achieve shelter,

to get the best prepare food and have a night's rest

""

If you really want to get the best out of what you carry with you,

Paddy Pallin, 1900-1991

then move up to Black Diamond, exclusive to Paddy Pallin.

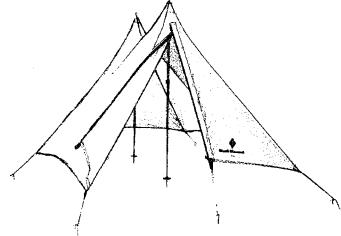




Black Diamond Moonlight Headtorch: Constantly frustrated with replacing your torch battery? Then the Moonlight is for you. WIth 4 ultra bright, energy efficient LED bulbs, it provides 70 hours of constant light. It weighs a mere 90g (without batteries) so you'll hardly know you're carrying it. Ideal for night walking, cooking and reading.



Black Diamond Contour Trekking Pole: Trekking poles don't just improve your balance and reduce the strain on your lower limbs; they help re-distribute the load to your upper limbs as well, meaning you can keep going for longer. The Contour, featured, is ideal for comfort over long periods of walking with an ergonomic 15 degree correction angle in the upper shaft and soft dual density hand grip. It also features a unique NEW adjustment system, making these the most easily adjusted poles on the market.



Black Diamond Betamid Tent: When you want to go ultra-light or you need extra storage space, the Betamid has you covered. This compact, floorless tent will go anywhere and pitches using a pair of trekking poles! Weighing in at a fraction over 1kg, it sleeps two and stands strong against the elements. (Optional, detachable tub floor is also available.)

Store locations: Sydney: 507 Kent Street • Miranda: 527 Kingsway • Parramatta: 74 Macquarie Street • Katoomba: 166 Katoomba Street

Also in Canberra and Jindabyne

Website: www.paddypallin.com.au

Mail order: 1800 805 398

