

# Sydney Bush Walkers Newsletter

APRIL 2010

*Sydney Bushwalkers*  
PO Box 431 Milsons Point NSW 1565

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PURE MERINO



# The President Says

The Annual Reunion camp was an outstanding success. The focal event of the concert was brilliant in conception and execution. Congratulations to Patrick James, the Master of Ceremonies and performing artists Claudia, Douglas, Sue Yap and Nigel Weaver, and to Spiro too for his home made spinach pie. Best of wishes to all those who celebrated significant birthdays.

The new committee is already hard at work.

Safety in the bush is a high priority for us.

This year we will focus on:-

- Training
- Risk Management
- Leader development
- Implementing canyon competencies for participants and aspiring canyon leaders
- Competencies for kayaking
- Further development of the Activity program
- Access to Coolana for organisations with sympathetic conservation objectives

In developing and implementing initiatives the emphasis will be on acquiring skills by doing. And of course enjoying each others company and having fun at the same time.

Ron Watters

## Editor's Note

The various articles that have been sent in for this newsletter illustrate the diversity of activities that make our club so great.

We have walk reports that have been sent in by various leaders such as Nigel Weaver, Roger Treagus and Steven Brading. Leaders such as these are the backbone of our club.

However we are also starting to see some 'much welcome' variation appearing on our Walks and Social Programs with walks such as Dirk Goes 'Children's Walk to Glenbrook Gorge' and social events such as the 'Coolana Concert' organized by Patrick James for the recent Coolana Reunion.

There are a number of articles written about the Coolana reunion and I believe this clearly illustrates the passion that some of our members feel for Coolana. We are lucky to have such a magnificent property to call our own.

It is clear that the club means different things to different people. Let's welcome the diversity of ideas that our members have, and continue to build on the great and proud traditions that have always been synonymous with the name, the Sydney Bush Walkers.

Melinda Turner ( [editor@sbw.org.au](mailto:editor@sbw.org.au) or [turner.melinda@gmail.com](mailto:turner.melinda@gmail.com) )

### BUSHWALKS WANTED FOR SBW WINTER PROGRAM 2010

What bushwalking ideas do you have?

We are so lucky in Sydney. We can easily walk in the mountains close by, in parks that thread their way into the suburbs of Sydney, along beaches, through rainforest covered mountain ranges or our awe inspiring Alps.

Those walks you have always wanted to do, those walks others would love to do, SBW needs your help! We need all trips; easy through to hard. There is also room for trips that look at history, cultural or environmental issues. Or maybe a gourmet's walk!

The Winter Walks Program is now being compiled; get those walks to me as soon as possible.

Tony

02 9943 3388 (h) / 0434 968 793 (m)

[tholgate@optusnet.com.au](mailto:tholgate@optusnet.com.au)

# From the Committee Room

## MINUTES OF THE 83<sup>rd</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

With Ron Watters in the Chair and 25 Members present

### MINUTES:

The Minutes of the General Meeting on 11<sup>th</sup> March 2009 were read accepted.

### ANNUAL REPORTS:

Resolved to take the annual reports as read and received.

### FINANCIAL STATEMENTS:

It was resolved to accept the 2009 Financial Statements, as circulated to Members as part of the Annual Report.

### MOTION ON INVESTMENT FUNDS

Motion Carried:

“Re-examine the investment funds and determine if suited to a voluntary organization such as Sydney Bush Walkers”

### MEMBERSHIP FEES:

Agreed to leave Membership fees unchanged for 2010. Fees to remain as follows:

### ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS:

President Ron Watters

Vice President Ian Wolfe

Public Officer Helen MacDonald

Treasurer Leigh McClintock

Secretary Helen MacDonald

Walks Secretary Tony Holgate

Social Secretary Kathy Gero

Membership Secretary: vacant

New Members Secretary: Vivien de Remy de Courcelles & Emmanuelle Convert

Conservation Secretary: vacant

Magazine Editor: Melinda Turner

Committee Members: Bill Hope & one position vacant

Confederation Delegates Jim Callaway

Non-Committee Positions:

Confederation Delegates: Spiro Hajinikitas

Magazine Production Manager: vacant

Webmaster: Ron Watters

Magazine Business Manager: vacant

Printers: vacant

Archivist: Bill Holland

Hon. Solicitor: Richard Brading

Hon. Auditor: Chris Sonter

Coolana Maintenance Committee: Don Finch/Rick Angel/Barry Wallace/Patrick James/ Stephen Brown

Search and rescue contacts: vacant

Kosciuszko Huts Delegates: Ian Wolfe /Kenn Clacher

The club magazine is now looked after by a commercial printer. The President acknowledged the years of hard work that those Members who have looked after the production of the magazine have put in.

### GENERAL BUSINESS

At the September Six Monthly General Meeting of Sydney Bush Walkers the motion was put forward - “approval be given in principle to organizations with a sympathetic conservation objective to Sydney Bush Walkers being allowed to use Coolana on prescribed terms and conditions

The Motion was put to the Members present at the AGM: Motion carried

The Coolana Committee will draw up guidelines to be approved by the General Committee.

Helen MacDonald

# The Old Otford Railway Tunnel / Feb 13

## Nigel Weaver



*Departing Maddens Plains in the misty rain*

In February I led a walk that started at Maddens Plains, which is on top of the Northern Illawarra Escarpment a few kilometres north of Sublime Point Lookout. On a rainy morning we left Maddens Plains and followed the Forest Path northward until we reached the great lookouts on the south side of Stanwell Park. From there we descended on the steep Bullock Track down onto the beach, and made our way up to the southern entrance of the Old Otford Railway Tunnel, which starts on the northern side of Stanwell Park.

Using our torches, we entered the tunnel, which is just under 2 kms long. The floor of the tunnel is rough and uneven, and there are a few bits of junk lying around, but nothing that impeded our progress. Of course, going through the tunnel is hardly 'bushwalking', and the scenic views are, er, not very good, but nevertheless, it's a whole lot of fun!



*A clifftop view down to Coalcliff*

After reaching the northern end of the tunnel, we simply needed to go about 300 metres through the bush to reach a narrow asphalt path that would lead us to Otford railway station. I have done this three times previously. But...shock, horror! Over the past 18 months some blackberry bushes have grown up, making it difficult for us to make our way along the old bush track. Indeed, it took us over 30 minutes just to go the said 300 metres, with blackberry bushes catching our clothing and digging into us. Blood and guts! Not much fun!

Well, we finally got through the blackberries and made it to the station. But looking to the future, the blackberries are only going to get worse. Hence, it seems that it may no longer be possible to walk through the tunnel due to this access problem. My advice to anybody contemplating using the tunnel is to bring a pair of secateurs a week or so ahead of your proposed walk, and to clear a path through the bushes. You could even try doing this on your actual walk, but you would obviously need to allow a spare hour to do it. So perhaps all is not lost, but you will have to be very keen to make your own path through the blackberries from now on. Walking through the tunnel is fun, but potential walkers, you have been warned!

The participants were:

Nigel Weaver  
Margaret Weaver  
Misako Sugiyama  
Gerry Leitner  
Lyn Terrey  
Rosemary MacDougal  
Peter Cunningham.



*Emerging from the tunnel, just before reaching the dreaded blackberries*

Photos taken by Gerry Leitner

Please welcome the following new full members:

- ✿ Bob Galloway
- ✿ Chris Turton
- ✿ Adrian Buzo
- ✿ David Merrick

# Lovett Bay to Narrabeen Lagoon / February 27

Roger Treagus

Our day started with a refreshing high speed water taxi ride to Halls Wharf in Lovett Bay, Pittwater. Ahead was a bit of an unknown as the day's route had not been walked before as a day walk to my knowledge. We made an early stop at the cool and magnificent Pittwater Youth Hostel with the million dollar view looking north east to Barrenjoey light. A nice cup of tea from the kitchen was enough for us to storm the ridge to the Towlers Bay trail and the off track bash to historic Flagstaff Lookout complete with its 2 park benches, one on the rocks and one in the "downstairs cave". This was a popular picnic location for heavily clad ladies of the 1890s. Considering photos of their attire the tracks much have been in better condition back then to accommodate all of their clobber. Even now the painstaking 1890 construction techniques have ensured the maintenance of the beautifully uniform grade for the 140m decent to the Lovett Bay foreshore and Leech City at the mouth of the famous Salvation Creek (see the book of the same name).

Beyond Salvation (that's a good title) the track got decidedly worse, disappearing under a mass of fallen trees so it was a relief to get to a real fire trail after Pittwater's greatest waterfall (unnamed) going great guns. Lunch was by Colin Beachel's boatshed (the Olympian sailor) in superb Elvina bay, my home for several years and the closest to heaven you can get in a house in Sydney. We could see across to Scotland Island and Bilgola Plateau with Pittwater dotted with boats everywhere on this beautifully sunny day.



*One of the delightful little waterfalls on McCarrs*

We were falling behind schedule so got going after a 40 minute lunch bound for McCarrs Creek. The fire trail gave way to nothing after a 15 minute walk and we were forced down to the rocks but a very low tide made it easy for us to crunch along on the oysters and seashells to near the head of the tidal influence. That's when the nature of the walk suddenly changed. Gone was the mangrove mud. Gone was the blisteringly hot sun. We dived into the cool dark world of a gallery rain forest, rock hopping up McCarrs Creek to the Duckhole.

Many of us are familiar with the road that comes down to Pittwater and Church Point from Terrey Hills through the national park. But the world we were walking in was scarcely 100m away and everyone remarked that even for all their travels up and down that road this was a world they had never seen and never imagined. It was a beautiful succession of rocky ledges and mossy boulders culminating in a great big swimming hole in a 30m deep and narrow gorge with a 10m waterfall at the end. We plunged in and swam to the waterfall where the falling water massaged our backs for free. BLISS!

This had to be the afternoon tea spot. Where else? I had a nice fruit cake in my bag to distribute to everyone but I confess I was so blissed out floating around in the water hole that I forgot all about it. It was amazing what a great little canyon we were in completely invisible from the road nearby. We found a slot through the cliff line to climb out onto the rim and then we set sail for the Terrey Hills track walking along a ridge line between Wirriander Creek and McCarrs Creek just west of the Bahai Temple.

The day was wearing on a bit when we launched upon another off track section, this time across to the roads under the Bahai temple.

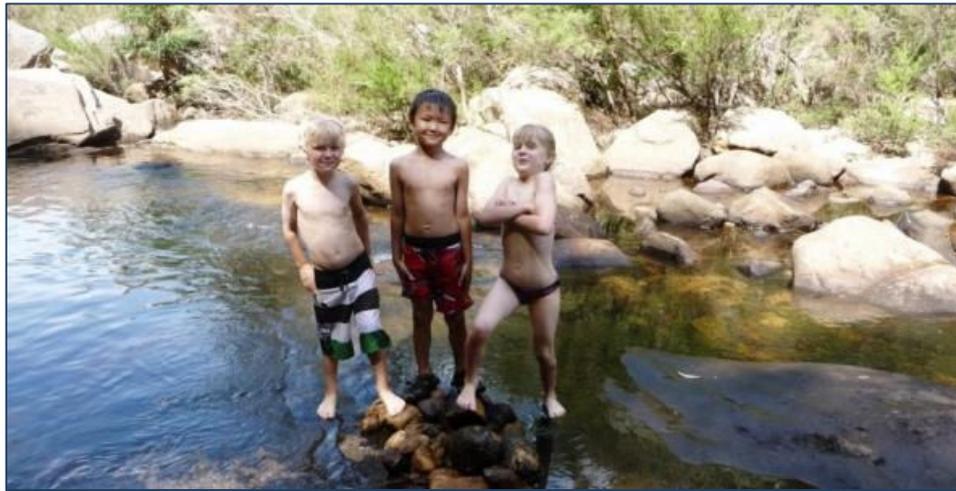
It was about 6:30pm when we faced the greatest danger of the day, the crossing of Mona Vale Road on a busy Sunday. Luckily a traffic island allowed us to focus on just one stream of traffic at a time. Once across the road we entered the Narrabeen Lagoon catchment and Garigal National Park. The hour was late and the sun was inching close to the horizon as we pounded the day's last fire trail reaching out onto a ridge that ran south to the Deep Creek valley. With the terminus of the fire trail came the "unofficial" mountain bike generated track linking the trail with the track system along the creek valley. A track that the national park rangers asked me to keep 'confidential'.

The normal gloom of being in the thick of a cabbage tree palm forest in the Deep Creek valley was made gloomier now that the sun had actually set but we pressed on making up speed on the flat track. The feeling of remoteness in this wetland was accentuated by the calls of the birds as they started to roost, with the whip birds and cockatoos still going at full decibel. The finish line was close once we had reached the Deep Creek estuary and finally the bridge carrying the main sewer line across the valley. Deep Creek Park and our vehicles appeared at 7:50pm with still enough light not to need torches, but only just. So ended a mini epic for a suburban walk and one that showcased a lot of what the Sydney Bush can offer. Thanks to a great group that just kept going on a day that never seemed to end.

Participants were: Chris Turton Sarah Bodlay Zol Bodlay  
Christine McColl Pamela Irvine Peter Blackband  
Carole Beale Ron Watters Lauren de Lange  
And the leader, Roger Treagus

# Children's Walk to Glenbrook Gorge / March 21.

Dirk Goës



*Felix, Kai & Jessica*

I have never seen four young children power through 8 kms of rough walking like Jessica (7), Kai (6), Felix (6) and Christopher (5) did on this hot March Sunday.

We started out at 9:30am from the commuter car park near Glenbrook Station and walked the 1 km to the park entrance. After a quick chat with the ranger we descended into the gorge. Glenbrook Gorge is a boulder strewn, trackless narrow valley with sheer cliffs on either side, which finally opens up when it reaches the Nepean River.

The day turned into a rolling adventure of scrambling, rock hopping, water crossings and negotiating scrub. The four children took to the challenge with gusto! The little pack of four were out in front most of the day finding their way through every obstacle the Gorge threw at us. In fact some of the obstacles were much easier for the children to negotiate than for the adults. A couple of tunnels to squeeze through, crawling under scrub and one tricky little ledge high above the water that the children shimmied over and the adults lumbered over. It seems that children are born off-track walkers!

Everyone had some scratches and band aids by the end of the day. Jessica even fell into Glenbrook Creek fully clothed but hardly a complaint was heard all day.

We had a long lunch by a shady pool, which really made the day as it was now way over 30 degrees. We swam and the children built a dam. After lunch we quickly reached the Nepean River and made our way to Lapstone Station to catch the train back to Glenbrook.

The amazing thing about the day was that it was like an adult hike; the pace was fast and the group hiked together as one.

Participants were Tarmo Raud & Felix, Caroline Rogers, Jessica & Christopher, Kelvin Cheung, Dirk Goes & Kai.



*At Lapstone Station - Christopher, Caroline, Jessica, Felix, Kai, Tarmo & Kelvin*

# Kanuka Brook / March 20 - 21

Stephen Brading

At 9.30am the Katka, Ondrej and Julian who travelled by train piled into our car for the short drive to the car park above Glenbrook causeway where the walk commenced. Already it was hot and the forecast maximum of 34 degrees looked very likely. It seems that nobody walks the section of Glenbrook creek to the Park St access track and our progress was very slow. There was little water in Glenbrook Creek and I began to wonder if we were going to find any in Kanuka Brook. We had a swim in Glenbrook Creek and lunch before heading up Kanuka Brook that made us feel much better as the heat was becoming a problem. Fortunately, there was a good water flow in Kanuka Brook. There was a foot pad to the camping cave at the bottom of the footpad down from the Red Hand Ridge foot track. Thanks to major flood not too long ago Kanuka Brook had all the scrubby growth that had been choking the creek washed away and now there were sandy and rocky pools offering cool respite from days heat. Upstream of the camping cave were only remnants of the old footpads here and there. As the flood had pushed all small trees and bushes over were continually pushing through the crowns of these plants through a sea of sticks in order to move forward. We reached the campsite at 4.30pm and collected firewood, pitched tents and went for a swim before happy hour and dinner. The 5 star camp site did not disappoint.

The next morning we visited the adjacent ironstone cave formations and then commenced the 200 metre climb out of the gorge which is canyon like. After an hour's struggle to clear a route we took a well earned rest at the top. The ridge vegetation was not much thicker than three years ago and we reached the Red Hands Fire Trail in half an hour. By this time both heat and high humidity were making things unpleasant and we decided to return directly to the car without side trips. We reached the car at noon in time for Julian, Katka and Ondrej to catch the 12.30pm train back to Sydney.

Participants were: Stephen & Yvonne Brading  
Katka Magova & Ondrej Ivanic  
Julian Martin



*Julian, Katka and Yvonne at Kanuka Brook*

## **We Have Purchased a New Personal Locator Beacon**

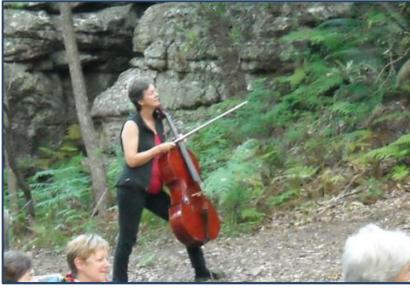
The club has recently purchased a new Personal Locator Beacon for use by club members.

This is for loan to all members, with the first preference being given to remote and / or more challenging trips.

If you would like to borrow it please contact Tony Holgate. His contact details are:

02 9943 3388 (home)  
0434 968 793 (mobile)  
[tholgate@optusnet.com.au](mailto:tholgate@optusnet.com.au)

*Please note: Katoomba and Springwood Police Stations also have EPIRBS for loan.*



## Reunion 2010, Music in the Bush at Coolana.

Patrick James

*Left: Claudia Douglas waiting to perform / Photo by George Mawer*

Had you gone down to the wood that day you'd had a big surprise. Firstly the open woodland of the Coolana car park was chock-a-block with vehicles; about 35 at one count. The early ones neatly in the usual parking bays, the later ones parked higgledy piggledy wherever! Fortunately the car park had had a clean-up and going over some months beforehand; good but obviously from the crowd not nearly enough.

The concert hall is a small section of Coolana immediately below the escarpment with the rock face of the escarpment forming the reflective, acoustic wall of the Concert Hall. At the base of the rock face a small level area is the stage and below the stage is the body of the hall, about the size of the centre court at Wimbledon, sloping down to the Happy Hour tables. For those of you who have seen the movies *Mozart the Musical* or *Bed, Bath, Booze and Bach* or who can even remember the minstrel gallery, a stage raised above the audience, was all the go in the castles and chateaux of the seventeen hundreds. A raised minstrel gallery stage is what we have at Coolana.

Plan A was to have the music after sunset under the stars with twinkling candles to add to the ambience of a starry, starry night. The artistic director/advisor Claudia Douglas pointed out the glaringly obvious fact that the musicians could not read their music in the dark! Stage lighting had been considered but got lost amongst the myriad of other things to be done, so Plan B came into effect.

The re-swearing of the President took place under the watchful eyes of seven ex-presidents; for the record there have been 49 presidencies since 1927. Ron and his fuzzy beard were asked the standard set of leading questions by four of the seven; he answered with a clear *I am* and a matrimonial *I do*. With that bit of traditional formality finished, over and done with and out of the way Ron then announced the Committee's decision to bestow Honorary Active Membership on David Trinder for his services to SBW. Now the music could begin! The full program of the music played is tabulated below.

The keyboard we had, lent by Vivien Dunn (thank you Vivien), was a Yamaha PSR-E303 with 36 white keys and 25 black keys, a total of 61 keys. Modern piano keyboards have 52 white keys and 36 black keys, a total of 88 keys. This thus was a three quarter keyboard sans foot pedals, suitable for playing with eight fingers, thumbs not required!

The concert started with Nigel Weaver as the ice breaker playing some of his own compositions which got round any copyright issues very nicely. In a post concert interview Nigel said his foot kept trying to engage the clutch or the brake or both, but as we had neither he felt that he was coasting downhill in a billy cart!

Claudia and her cello was/were next. Claudia had spent most of the day instructing people how to get the hang of ropes, not hung by ropes and how to descend a rock face with style, skill and panache. Keeping with fibres Claudia then changed from mountain ropes to cello strings and made beautiful music.

Next on the musical agenda was a duet of Claudia with Sue on the keyboard; they played a wide ranging selection of music from Bach to Beatles. Sue was not really hiding behind her music it just looked that way. Sue later explained that her hands, searching for the 88 keys of a real piano, kept hitting the ends of our three quarter keyboard.

The last piece of music was a duet of Claudia with John on keyboard playing Happy Birthday; leading the audience to sing for the ten Significant Birthdayees. These happy ten were called to the front of the hall for all to see and share their Birthdays.

Then the concert was over although there was no fat lady to sing. Happy hour was re-started combined with Spiro's famous spinach pie. The weather for the weekend was terrific, truly Camelot weather; fine days and the rain only fell well after sunset.

We did discover hidden in the audience a full blown recorder player; with a little bit of gentle persuasion this long-standing, upstanding member will stand before you at the next Coolana Concert. Discovered also was a young saxophone player who now has a musical performance objective and the time to practice for perfection. Who knows maybe Goldilocks from Wallaroo will dust off her violin for next time! *Music in the Bush* was a wonderful demonstration of SBW talent, a new activity on the Reunion agenda, and the concert hall is a new facility at Coolana.

In closing the musicians on this first SBW *Music in the Bush* walk were Claudia Douglas, John Michaelis, Nigel Weaver and Sue Yap.

# Reunion 2010, Music in the Bush, at Coolana <sup>cont.</sup>

The Musical Program was:

Musician(s)	Piece	Composer/ Comments
Nigel	<i>Wollangambe Aquarelle No. 1</i>	Nigel Weaver, inspired by fast running, shallow waters in Wollangambe Canyon
Nigel	<i>Wollangambe Aquarelle No. 2</i>	Nigel Weaver, inspired by deep water pools in Wollangambe Canyon
Claudia	<i>The Prelude</i>	Johann Sebastian Bach, from Suite for Unaccompanied Cello No.1 in G major
Sue and Claudia	<i>Canon in D major</i>	Johann Pachelbel, composed pre-1700, first published in 1919
Sue and Claudia	<i>Ave Maria</i>	Gounod over a piece by J.S.Bach, first Prelude in C Major for Keyboard
Sue and Claudia	<i>Yesterday</i>	Lennon-McCartney
Sue and Claudia	<i>I Will</i>	Lennon-McCartney
Sue and Claudia	<i>Cavatina</i>	Stanley Myers from the movie "The Deer Hunter"
Sue and Claudia	<i>Moon River</i>	Henry Mancini
Claudia and John	<i>Happy Birthday</i>	Patty and Mildred Hill

1. For the trivia buffs, the melody and lyrics of "Happy Birthday to You" comes from the song "Good Morning to All", which was written and composed in 1893 by American sisters Patty Hill and Mildred Hill, kindergarten school teachers in Louisville, Kentucky.

## Impressions - The Coolana Reunion

Bill Holland

Reclining, glass of wine in hand, listening to Pachelbel and Gounod delightfully played with cello and piano; the children's faces anticipating the results of the damper tasting; the bonfire: John playing guitar as we gathered under the tarpaulin in the late evening.

Memories are made of this!

A good crowd, about 80 in number, gathered at Coolana for the 2010 Annual Reunion. It was a collection of the young and the not so young, new and old members and some friends. First arrivals were on Thursday/Friday but most arrived on Saturday morning. Some stayed until Monday. The river flats provided the major camping site although some took advantage of a higher location to leave their tents closer to the cars and the concert area.

The weekend had many attractions. First we had the delightful Music Recital in the "Concert Hall" in the Coolana Cliffs in late Saturday afternoon - see separate report in this magazine. Then we moved down the fire trail to the river flats where we held the "Significant Birthday" celebrations. It did not seem to be ten years since we last cut the birthday cake and the birthday people had not aged one bit!

Then there was the celebratory traditional bonfire. This continued late into the evening until light rain encouraged a move to dry tents and bed. By daybreak on Sunday morning the rain had ceased and remnants of the bonfire provided well for breakfast cooking. Later, the children were eager to earn praise and a prize in the "damper competition - all of them were successful in at least one part of the contest!

Another attraction on the weekend was Claudia's "Advanced Rope Techniques". She led a large group of experienced and newer members who spent most of the weekend learning more about abseiling and rope rescue. My young grand daughter was particularly excited by the opportunity to try an abseil - under close supervision!

Don Finch and some dedicated nature lovers spent some of Sunday morning planting trees on the Eastern Flat. This large area has been cleared of weeds and other nasties but still requires some ongoing tender loving care. Others explored the walking tracks, the cliff lines and rainforest and by the mid-afternoon most had left, taking with them their own impressions of a memorable weekend.

Many of those attending were new members, having their first viewing of Coolana and were very impressed.

The Club purchased this old farming property of about 60 hectares about 1970 and it has become a valuable recreation and conservation area. The river flats that deteriorated in earlier years to a collection of falling wattle trees and weeds have now been restored to a bush setting with trees growing tall and natural grass offering ideal camping. This is a credit to those who give a weekend or two during the year to maintain our beautiful property.

Our maintenance efforts are now concentrated on the Eastern Flat where ongoing weed control and tree planting is required. If you would like to join us for bush-care and light maintenance duties please call me on 4296 3084.

## Melodies in the Bush / the 2010 Reunion

I've attended most of the SBW reunions for the past 25 or so years and disappointingly, over the last ten years or so the reunions have become (for me) decidedly unmemorable events, so I must admit I was not expecting this one to be much different. That there was to be "Music in the Bush" didn't excite me especially when I found that only a few musicians had volunteered.



*Waiting for the concert to begin  
Photo by Tony Manes*

Another turnoff as the date neared when I learned that a (very) small but (very) vocal minority were actively campaigning against having pre-performance refreshments at the concert venue which they feared might "split the party" and detract from the usual "happy-hour" gathering at the river flats campfire. There are always blinkered traditionalists but in the end common sense prevailed and everyone gathered at the "Patrick James Concert Hall" for a very convivial half hour or so prior to the customary investiture of our new (second term) president, Ron Watters. After these formalities the concert got underway starting with a piano solo by Nigel Weaver performing own compositions. Nigel was followed by Claudia Douglas with her cello accompanied by Sue Yap on piano and later by John Machaelis on piano.

I'm sure all who attended will agree that "Music in the Bush" was a big success, for which we owe a hearty thank you to Patrick James. Patrick told me that it was soon after the 2009 reunion that he got the idea that good musical entertainment might revitalize the Coolana reunion. Claudia Douglas volunteered to be his Artistic Advisor and the planning began. Patrick had identified an area only 100 meters or so down the track from the car park as a suitable venue for the concert and virtually single handed cleared it and built a stage platform against the escarpment backdrop. Not exactly a natural amphitheatre but it certainly helped.

Now that Coolana has an easy access entertainment venue let's hope others will make use of it and provide us with some imaginative entertainment.

George Mawer

*PS Could you please email any photos you may have taken at the reunion to to George Mawer at [gfmawer@optusnet.com.au](mailto:gfmawer@optusnet.com.au) and Patrick James at [pjames28@bigpond.net.au](mailto:pjames28@bigpond.net.au)*

### WILLIS'S WALKABOUTS

## Great walks in Patagonia

*"The Patagonian Andes are a wonderland of rugged mountains with granite spires, snow covered mountains, glaciers, lakes, beech forests, fields of daisies, waterfalls and more. The opportunity for some terrific trekking shouldn't be missed." Helen O'Callaghan, Melbourne*

### There is no one else

There are dozens, perhaps hundreds of tour operators in Patagonia. Only one offers trips where each itinerary is different, where you take your pack and explore some of the lesser known areas as well as some of the more popular ones. We've been running these trips since 1990. We give you the kind of wilderness experience that no other operator will offer.

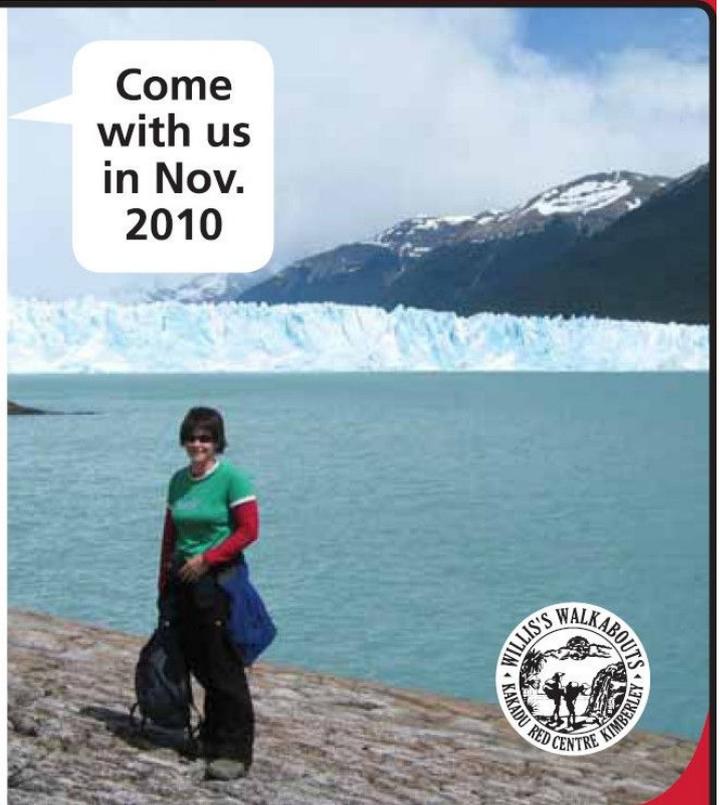
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Come with us in Nov. 2010



## Walks & other activities / 1 - 31 March 2010

Leaders please send your completed Walks Attendance Form & Activity Report to [walksreporting@sbw.org.au](mailto:walksreporting@sbw.org.au).

This helps the Walks Secretary and New Members Secretary in noting progress of our new members, the Leaders' Development Group and the reporting of walks. Contact President Ron if you need the Attendance form in word.

Please keep the signature sheets as these are a legal document. Thanking you in anticipation - Stephen Brading

Date, Walk Location & Route	Activity Participants
<p><b>SAT 6-MAR - Day Walk - X333</b>                      32km  <b>Metropolitan Area &amp; Illawarra Coast: - Royal NP</b>  <i>Bundeena to Otford the long way</i>  <b>No Walk Report received:</b></p>	<p>Tony Manes &amp; Others</p>
<p><b>SAT 6 MAR - Day Walk - M121</b>                      15km  <b>Metropolitan Area - North</b>  <i>A circuit of Avalon on tracks.</i>  <b>No Walk Report received:</b></p>	<p>Steve Bradbury &amp; Others</p>
<p><b>SUN 7 MAR - Day Walk - Easy</b>                      12km  <b>Illawarra Area</b>  <i>Minnamurra Rain Forest</i>  <b>Walk Report:</b>                      We walked in the beautiful Minnamurra Rainforest and up to the waterfall in the morning. After lunch we decided it was too misty for the Illawarra Fly so took an alternative of a walk around the Minnamurra Headland and through the woodland to Dunmore station.</p>	<p>Bill Holland                      Fran Holland                      Lisa Sheldon (P)                      Ros Sorensen (P)                      Phillia Restiani (P)                      Leigh McClintock                      Jaya_Fernandes (P)</p>
<p><b>SUN 7 MAR - Day Walk - S212</b>  <b>Metropolitan Area - North</b>  <i>East Wahroonga to Bobbin Head Café via a series of seldom trod tracks</i>  <b>Walks Report:</b>                      We rediscovered the site of a property established in the 1940's in the green zone between Nth Turramurra and Nth Wahroonga. A track network and the foundations of two buildings are still to be seen. Then made our way generally avoiding the Gibberagong track to Bobbin Head for coffee and lunch. Feeling let down that one of my walks had finished before nightfall, Steve, Yvonne, Vivien and Emmanuelle walked back to Wahroonga, while the rest of us were driven back. Plenty of leaches for all.</p>	<p>Karl Miller                      Yvonne Brading                      Stephen Brading                      Lucy Moore                      David Bell                      Vivien                      Emmanuelle Covert                      Gavin Marshall                      Liz McPhee (P)                      Laura Vazquez Maggio (P)                      Jim Close (P)</p>
<p><b>SUN 7 MAR - Kayak Activity - Easy</b>  <b>Metropolitan Area - Middle Harbour</b>  <i>Circumnavigate Bantry Bay Flat Rock Beach and Clontarf</i>  <b>No Activity Report received:</b></p>	<p>Ron Watters &amp; Others</p>
<p><b>WEEKEND 6-7 MAR - Weekend Walk - M223E</b>  <b>Glenbrook Area</b>  <i>The Oaks - Glen Doreen - Kanuka Brook - Tobys Rill - Elaroo Rill - Goonaroi Ridge - Goonaroi Rill - Kanuka Brook - Red Hand Ridge.</i>  <b>No Walk Report received:</b></p>	<p>Tony Holgate &amp; Others</p>
<p><b>SAT 13 MAR - Day Walk - M211</b>                      15km  <b>Metropolitan Area - Great North Walk Stage 1</b>  <i>Macquarie Place Sydney - ferry to Woolwich - some street walking through Hunters Hill - Lane Cove NP - De Burghs Bridge</i>  <b>No Walk Report received:</b></p>	<p>Helen Lallas &amp; Others</p>
<p><b>SUN 14 MAR - Day Walk - M121</b> 21km  <b>Hawkesbury Area</b>  <i>Canoelands - Gentlemans Halt - Singleton Mill</i>  <b>No Walk Report received:</b></p>	<p>Leigh McClintock &amp; Others</p>





## Walks & other activities / 1 - 31 March 2010 <sup>cont.</sup>

Date, Walk Location & Route	Activity Participants
<p><b>MON-FRI 22-26 MAR - Midweek Activity - Social</b>  <b>Metropolitan Area: - Ku-ring-gai Chase NP</b>  <i>Currawong Cottages.</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Activity Report:</b></p> <p>A very pleasant stay in the picturesque Pittwater. Currawong Cottages have much to offer and it will be a great shame when developers take over. Our members walked, kayaked and relaxed with very pleasant evenings around the barbecue and pit fire</p>	<p>Bill Holland  Fran Holland  Barrie Murdoch  Kate Murdoch  Gretel Woodward  Rick Angel  Margaret Conley  Kate Moore (V)  Jim Percy  Jo van Sommers  Karen (V)  Robert Sames (P)  Anita McMahon</p>
<p><b>THU 25 MAR - Day Walk - M221</b>      <b>14km</b>  <b>Leura Area</b>  <i>Pinnacles - Lockleys Pylon - Du Faur Buttress - Blue Gum Forest and return</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>No Walk Report received:</b></p>	<p>S I Obrian  &amp; Others</p>
<p><b>SAT 27 MAR - Day Walk - X322 Q</b>      <b>35km</b>  <b>Hawkesbury Area</b>  <i>Hawkesbury Rive station -Cowan - Berowra Waters - Mt Ku-ring-gai -Berowra.</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Walk Report:</b></p> <p><i>Stephens comment</i>  In summary this walk was heat affected due to the above average temperatures on the day. Started walking at 7.45am and made good time to Cowan station where Tony decided to call it a day. However the effort required to this point and the temperature slowed the travel speed of the group to our lunch spot beyond Berowra Waters. Mark spurred the group on after a short lunch to Berowra where I wimped out (taking Yvonne) to the shop at Berowra station leaving the hard core to walk to Mt Kuringai station and back to Berowra station along the Pacific Hwy. At least it was cooler than last weekend.</p>	<p>Mark Patteson  Jenny Paton  Stephen Brading  Yvonne Brading  Sandra See  Ken Smith  Tony Montgomery  Craig Hanahran</p>
<p><b>SAT 27 MAR - Day Walk - M212</b>      <b>18km</b>  <b>Coasters retreat to Refuge Bay</b>  <i>Palm Beach - Coasters Retreat (ferry) - Bairn Track - Topham Track - Refuge Bay spa pool - America Bay - Soldiers Point - The Basin - Currawong - Great Mackerel.</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>No Walk Report received:</b></p>	<p>Roger Tregus  &amp; Others</p>
<p><b>SAT 27 MAR - Day Walk - M222</b>      <b>15km</b>      <b>350m up &amp; down</b>  <b>Faulconbridge Area</b>  <i>Grose Rd - Faulconbridge lookout. Cliff top views, Faulconbridge Point. Linden Creek, optional ridge to Grose Rd.</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>No Walk Report received:</b></p>	<p>Francis Hartigan  &amp; Others</p>
<p><b>SUN 28 MAR - Day Walk - M222E</b>  <b>Hilltop Area</b>  <i>Wattle Ridge Rd, walk to Ahearns Lookout via top of Starlights Track. From Ahearns to Nattai River via unnamed track. Follow Nattai river back to Emmits Flat then return to start via Starlights track.</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>No Walk Report received:</b></p>	<p>Glenn Draper  &amp; Others</p>
<p><b>SUN 28 MAR - Day Walk - M211</b>  <b>Metropolitan Area.</b>  <i>Roseville Bridge covering both sides of Middle Harbour Creek and incorporating 2 creeks track finishing back at the Bridge in mid afternoon.</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>No Walk Report received:</b></p>	<p>Ron Watters  &amp; Others</p>
<p><b>MON-WED 29 - 31 MAR - Midweek Walkers Activities - Social</b>  <b>Canberra:</b>  <i>We will stay in caravan park cabins but tent camping will be available as well. A visit to the National Gallery to see "the Masterpieces from Paris" then cycle or relax the time away.</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>No Activity Report received:</b></p>	<p>Bill Holland  &amp; Others</p>

# SBW "Wild Cats" in Wilderness Society Wild Endurance 2010

This year's Wild Endurance will see a team of Sydney Bush Walkers heading for the starting line.

The team, "Wild Cats" is ready for the relay version of the event. It is made up of six species of feline. They are as follows:

Rod Wales - the Tiger of the team, strong and reliable, hunts well at night and loves nothing more than the cold damp environment of canyons.

Sandra See - the Cheetah of the group, fast, lean and always immaculately groomed. She is able to change direction on a dime. Loves the open grass lands, but is equally proficient on uphill stretches

Vivien de Remy de Courcelles - the Cougar of the team, shows great speed in mountainous areas, also an effective night hunter and able to jump great heights; just try to slow him down. Very passionate about all things related to the protection of the environment, really puts his paws where his mouth is.

Marcia Kaye - the snow leopard of the team originally from the colder part of the globe this cat is extremely flexible ("bendy") and adaptable to all conditions. However she is an extremely proficient rock climber; try to keep up with her on a downhill run

Emmanuelle Convert- the jaguar of the team, another great night hunter, happy in all terrains. Never tiring, always consistent, this cat is admired as much for its great disposition as its ability. Another passionate environmentalist.

Jodie Dixon - the fishing cat of the team, loves the water and is always looking for the next pool. Kind of scruffy and a little skittish, can often be found chasing its own tail (usually laughing about it)

The "Wild cats" are walking a course of 100kms in the Blue Mountains on the weekend of the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> of May. They are prowling to raise money for the Wilderness society, which in turn is working toward protecting the bush we all love and enjoy. If you would love to sponsor our team simply go to "Wild Endurance 2010" <http://www.wildendurance.org.au/> and click on sponsor a competitor and then type in "Sydney Bush Walkers Wild Cats" and then donate.

Thanking you in advance

The Wild Cats grrrrrrrrr

You may also wish to consider supporting club members Helen MacDonald competing with 'Happy Feet', Rory Fagan and Andrew Vilder of 'The Wombats', and Karen Kool with the "SBW Trekkers". To support any / or all of these teams follow the links to the individual teams at <http://www.wildendurance.org.au/>

We wish you all the best of luck on the day.

## Congratulations to our 6 Foot Track Marathoners

### Karl Miller

To all of you that have endured the 6 Foot Track as a long day walk or as a 3 day overnighter.

Hats off to our four members that joined 850 others on Saturday, 13th March and *ran* the 45k from Explorers Tree to Jenolan Caves (well I think we will all admit to walking up Mini Mini & Pluvi).



*Grim Sweeper at start*

We were all trying to avoid the "grim sweepers" that police the strict 7 hour race cut off. Get caught by these guys and their brooms will politely give you a nudge along. If you fail to take the hint, you are swept off the course and into the nearest Rural Fire Service 4WD for a "ride of shame" to the finish line.

We had wonderful cool weather for most of the day and this kept the infamous Black Range "Cramp Bear" at bay for most competitors. The wet weather in the week before, made for an interesting slippery slide down the stairs of Nellie's Glen at full pace. Then at the Coxs, rather than the usual wade, it was a full on swim.

What a fantastic feeling to reach Carlotta Arch, and hear the crowd below. Even better to cross the line and collapse!!

Congratulations to:

- James Cryer - 8th time finisher
- Clare Holland - 5th time finisher
- Karl Miller - 2nd time
- Helen MacDonald - Six Foot virgin

# To Go Where the Brave Dare Not Go, or “The Un-Ending Quest”



*Rocky Creek Canyon / Image with kind courtesy of Dave Noble*

Members and aspiring Canyoning Leaders,

Many of you have experienced the Wonders and Splendours of canyoning.

Thanks to Claudia’s efforts, we now have a lot of Members who wish to “go canyoning”. The problem is that we don’t have enough Committee endorsed Canyoning Leaders to meet the increasing demand.

So, a “Proposal” has recently been put to the Committee for consideration (and has been “Smiled On”) to “grow” potential Canyoning Leaders, via a simple 4 step process. This has a focus on “Doing” rather than “Talking”.

This would see existing Members, who are “Canyoners”, and a Committee endorsed “Trips Leader”, proceed along the following pathway:

Step 1 - attend an Improvised Ropes Rescue (IRR) 2 day Workshop at Coolana, run by Claudia (and spend the weekend setting up rope rescues, and hauling/lowering each other up and down cliffs).

Step 2 - go on a weekend trip with an existing Leader as the “Co Leader” (and do all the work, whilst the Leader encourages you.....) (= L Plates).

Step 3 - run your own weekend trip, with an existing Leader attending as a Participant (= P Plates).

Step 4 - Get endorsed by the Committee, and then run your first trip (= Black Licences). Thereafter, ascend to the exalted company of the “SBW Canyoning Leaders”.

It’s envisaged that the above could be done in 1 season, or over 2 seasons, or longer i.e. the “pace” is set by the Prospective Leader. People could “dwell” at any step.

Members with existing experience could enter at various levels i.e. the Pathway is “flexible”, yet designed to give/validate the competencies needed to run safe and enjoyable trips (plus give the Club, and Leaders, some objective basis for legal and insurance protection).

The first IRR Workshop has just been held in conjunction with the Club Reunion at Coolana, on the weekend of 13-14 March 10. We encouraged the existing Members of the Club, engaged in canyoning, to come along as Participants. Not everyone was interested in becoming a Prospective Leader at this time, and so some attended to just gain/refresh their IRR skills. The Workshop went very well from reports, with 5 Members considerably growing their skill base.

“A Bungleboori Canyoning trip was run on 27-28 March, for a large number of participants as an opportunity for ‘Step 2”.

Additional opportunities for step 2 will be available next summer.

Please give me a ring/email to discuss further, and to express your interest in potentially commencing such a journey.

**Comments on the “Pathway for accrediting Canyoning Leaders” Document are also welcomed, as we are now in “trial” mode. To view the “Pathway for accrediting Canyoning Leaders” document please log into the SBW Website, go to the ‘Members Area’ link and open the ‘Canyoning Leader Pathway’ link.**

Ian Wolfe (Home Ph +612 9904 3370, Mobile 0413 662 370)

## Memories of Joan Rigby

I met Joan and Frank Rigby on one of my first bush walks with SBW it was in the Budawangs and I was all of sixteen years of age. Joan and Frank was an adventurous couple and they were always willing to take along new chums into new or little known areas. Joan's cooking is legendary, both over a camp fire and in the kitchen; you ate well in her company. Golden brown damper on long walks or to-die-for profiteroles rolls as a reward for turning the gestetner handle were some of the high lights. A great walking companion respected for her sharp clear concise mind that always added positively to any discussion or endeavor.



*Joan Rigby at Lake Pedder in 1958*

*Photo taken by Henry Gold*

On a two week trip to the Western MacDonnell Ranges it rained despite Frank's prediction to the contrary. On the last night in Stuart's Pass we camped beside the Hugh River, Frank a prudent leader put us on the correct side. Half an hour before dawn twilight Frank checked the still bone dry river bed some one and a half meters below our sand bank. Right on twilight I looked out of the fly to see the water just lapping at the tents of our camp, I reported this to Frank who realized that the river had risen very rapidly and was now 100 meters wide and flowing fast. The effect on Joan and Frank was electric with shouted orders to pack and run for our lives we did just that. Shoes were on in an instant and everything was just stuffed into the packs with no concern for order at all, within a minute we were walking away from the still rising water.

An hour later well up on the ridge we could see the frightening extent of the flood, Joan casually asked Frank if he was prepared to swap one of his two right footed sand shoes for one of her two left footed sand shoes as she felt it would be more comfortable.

Joan's contribution to Coolana spanned many years her knowledge and dedication have left a legacy that we are still building on today. Northern Boobialla, myoporium acumination were some of Joan's last plantings and three of the seven specimens are growing particularly well near the old bridge on the Eastern Flat.

**Don Finch**

## The Midweek Walkers

Last month we returned to Dunns Swamp after postponing our visit due to fires in the area in November. It is a beautiful location and we had a very pleasant stay. For the fifteen participants it was ideal. Some stayed for the whole period, others came for three days. Nice to see Jenny and Don Cornell who travelled from Northern NSW and Joy Hynes and Ian Debert who came in their van all the way from Queensland.

We camped next a large body of water, right up to our campsite, and explored spectacular pagoda rock scenery. The week organized itself into walking in the morning and relaxing with canoeing or reading into the late afternoon. Good weather favored us over the five days. The first two days were warm to hot and next three cloudy and cooler. The large tarpaulin erected over a picnic table gave shelter from the sun and provided a gathering place for happy hours.

Now we can look forward to coming April to May activities:

### **April: Tombara Holiday Units: (19th -23rd April)**

Situated on 28 acres of natural bushland, fronting the beautiful Mongarlowe River, Tombarra is a short drive from the historic township of Braidwood. Tombarra is very close to The Budawangs and other bush walking areas. It offers swimming, tennis, kayaking, barbecue facilities or simply relax with a book and enjoy the peace. Costs will be very reasonable at \$20 - \$30 per night per head depending on numbers.

### **May: Wilsons Promontory (17<sup>th</sup> - 21<sup>st</sup> May) *Subject to confirmation.***

Known for its beautiful abundant wildlife. We plan to stay in holiday cabins and walk in the park and to explore major features. We may be able to arrange car sharing to reduce the cost of travel. At this stage I have not made any bookings but your expression of interest would assist the planning.

*The Mid Week Walkers are an informal gathering of people in SBW who find the time to enjoy walking, cycling, kayaking during the quiet times of the week when others are working hard to support us.*

*The range of activities caters for all abilities with emphasis on a more relaxed style of walking. Some even prefer to spend at least part of the time back at base reading, bird watching or just relaxing in the outdoors. In most cases you can join us for all or any part of the Monday to Friday events, but we need to know you are coming. If you would like to be added to our Midweek Walkers mailing list please let me know by contacting Bill Holland 4296 3084 or by email to [billholland@bipond.com](mailto:billholland@bipond.com)*

**Bill Holland**

## Coolana Report

On the Thursday before the reunion Ros, Phil and Don arrived early morning closely followed by Bill who went to work mowing tracks and areas around the camping flat. The grass is exceptionally long with seed set; this is the third year in a row that the grass has grown tall and set seed. The vigorous grass growth out competes most weeds; however swamp dock remains a problem. The time consuming job of constant mowing has been avoided by the use of weed spray, this has kept the weeds down in spring and the long grass keeps the weeds down in summer. Bill mowed using the Rover mower with the high level catcher. This removes both the grass seeds and the seeds of the swamp dock, clippings are thrown into the weed pit via the big wheel barrow.



*Two of the Holland grand children helping to plant an Illawarra flame tree*

Ros inspected the Eastern Flat and reported strong weed growth in most areas. All the familiar weeds were represented. There were a great many dead tobacco trees the result of spray poisoning with Grazon several weeks ago. Shriveled up and dead Patterson's curse rosettes showed the effectiveness of the brush-off spray program on the grassed areas. New rosettes were already growing spreading over and flattening the grass. In some areas the small dark green shrub with red/yellow berries is prolific this relatively benign weed is first slashed with the cutter then mulched with the Masport mower. In areas where this has been done in previous years the grass is well established and growing strongly. There are many areas yet to be treated and slashing and mowing will need to continue for many years yet.

With Phil using the saw and Ros rapidly pasting the stump over 200 tobacco trees were poisoned with Grazon and diesel on the eastern Flat, there are many more to do.

The support timbers under the Steele water tank at the shelter shed were replaced, the water pipe line filters were cleaned and the flow to the camping flat restored. Several fallen trees were cut up with the chainsaw and new short blades fitted to the Masport mower. Two sets of the correct long blades have been purchased.

On Sunday eight new trees were planted on the Eastern Flat with the help of several children. Two Illawarra Flame trees near the first water tank, they need watering any time you pass. Four red gums and two grey gums in the area east of the clear area on the top terrace. The remaining few tonnes of road gravel were used on the road above the car park.

On the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> May a major effort at road repairs is planned. Some 39 tonnes of road base will be moved from the car park to various sections of the road below the car park. Two 4x4 vehicles and two trailers have been arranged to transport the material. What I need are people to shovel the road base into the trailers at the car park and others to shovel it out again somewhere down the hill. Even a couple of hours on either day would be a great help and lady shovelers are more than welcome. This is heavy tiring work and knocking off after an hour or two is honor satisfied.

Please let me know if you intend to come and help as plans need to be made.

**Don Finch**

finchros@bigpond.com

## Kosciuszko Huts Update

Club Members,

The work on the reconstruction of Pretty Plain Hut has completed, and the Grand Opening was held on site on Sat 13 March. This received a fair amount of media coverage (TV, Print etc) and if you go to the Web Site & Blog, you can see pictures and access video etc.

KHA web site: <http://www.kosciuszkohuts.org.au/>

KHA Blog: <http://khuts.org.blog>

KHA Forum: <http://khuts.org/forum> where you can directly interact and have "your say".

A work party went to Mawsons Hut over the weekend of 19-21 March, and upcoming Hut maintenance trips are:

- 🌱 O'Keefes Hut: 24-25 April - Contact Jack Palmer [palmer.jack@gmail.com](mailto:palmer.jack@gmail.com) to register
- 🌱 DersHKos Hut: 24-26 April - Contact [hmosouth@kosciuszkohuts.org.a](mailto:hmosouth@kosciuszkohuts.org.a) to register
- 🌱 Kidman's Hut: 7 (Friday) to 9 May - Contact [hmosouth@kosciuszkohuts.org.a](mailto:hmosouth@kosciuszkohuts.org.a) to register

**Ian Wolfe**

(Your shy KHA Huts Association Delegate)

# Advance Notice for Trekking in Peru / May, 2011

Trekking in the Cordillera Blanca and Cordillera Huayhuash plus Machu Picchu via Choquequirau and Salcantay

Fully supported walks in the most spectacular parts of the Peruvian Andes.

Options are available for one, two or all three walks.

This will be a joint walk with Darwin Bushwalking Club.

For more information contact Lesley Clarke at: [lj.clarke@optusnet.com.au](mailto:lj.clarke@optusnet.com.au)

Please contact Lesley as soon as possible because there is a great deal of organizing required.



*The heavily glaciated massive of Pucahirca, seen from the summit of Quitaraju, Cordillera Blanca, Peru.*

## Training Events

### Comprehensive Remote Area First Aid Courses 2010



The BWRS is holding a number of Comprehensive Remote Area First Aid Courses next year. The dates and locations are:

1. May 1st, 2<sup>nd</sup> at Waterfall Camp Coutts
2. October 9th, 10th and 23rd, 24<sup>th</sup> at Berrima Scout Camp

For information and registration visit the BWRS Web Site at:

<http://www.bwrs.org.au/?q=remote-area-first-aid>

For more information contact:

TEL: (02) 4225 3580 David or Merri Sheppard  
Email: [sheppard david1@bigpond.com](mailto:sheppard david1@bigpond.com)

# Social Program

Kathy Gero

April 14 / 8pm

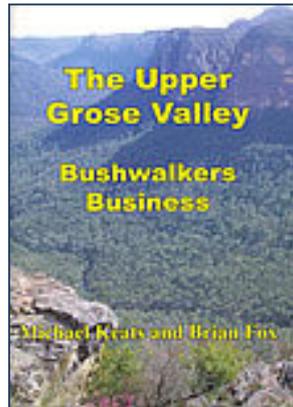
## **New Member's Night**

Introduction to SBW for intending Prospective members

April 21 / 8pm

## **“The Upper Grose Valley - Bushwalkers' Business”**

A talk by Michael Keats about this new book.



Probably every member of SBW is familiar with the awesome view from Govetts Leap. 2 Committed hikers from the Bush Club, Michael Keats and Brian Fox have produced a researched guide to the Upper Grose Valley.

750 pages includes maps, 59 walks, the origin of every place name, European history of the Valley and notes on fauna, flora, floods, fires and more. Come and get educated!

May 5 / 7pm

## **Committee Meeting**

Observers welcome

May 12 / 8pm

## **New Member's Night**

Introduction to SBW for intending Prospective members

May 19 / 8pm

## **The Forgotten Majority - Are They Hiding?**

Len Willan, an entomologist and bushwalker, will enthrall you with his bushwalker's look at insects.

***COME AND SUPPORT OUR GUEST SPEAKERS!***

*Our Social Secretary, Kathryn Gero has changed her email address. Her new address is:  
kathymg73@gmail.com*

If you would like to organise a social event for club members contact Kathy and share your ideas with her!

# WALKING THE WALK

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