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Photo: 2012 Photo Competition entry from David Angell

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## President says...

Whilst a tad hot, it was very good to get back to the Budawang recently and once more walk beneath those magnificent rock formations (and to recall how Bill Capon – whose obituary appeared in the 14 Dec edition of the *SMH* – had oft times led the party astray, to our great delight). Coolana is also looking good

- SBW's World Famous Xmas Party will be on Wednesday 19 December at the KNC from 6.30pm, and we will be celebrating the gazetting for the Dot Butler Conservation Reserve with a number of Dot's relatives in attendance.
- In the November Magazine there was an article on future options for the size of the Club – whilst we have received some feedback, we would definitely like to receive more from members so that this very important issue can be fully thought through, and (hopefully) a consensus achieved.
- Please pencil in your diaries the Annual Picnic at Balmoral Beach on Wed 9 January from 5pm onwards – bring your folding chair, Eski full of goodies as well as your Boules or croquet set (if you have one).

*Merry Christmas to all  
Ian Wolfe*



**The latest edition of the  
Confederation of Bushwalking Clubs  
magazine is now available for  
downloaded at:**

[www.bushwalking.org.au/mag.html](http://www.bushwalking.org.au/mag.html)

## From the Committee Room

- Sue Bucknell has completed The Canyon Leaders Pathway and so was approved as an SBW Canyon Leader (arguably the most exclusive and prestigious group in the world).
- We reviewed the outcomes from Bush Walking Australia's recent annual conference.
- We commenced the annual process of planning the Budget for 2013 (and our figures are far better than Swannies) and preparing the documentation for the AGM.
- A range of Coolana related matters.
- Grappled with the issues associated with the extension of the Wilderness Area in the Blue Mountains.
- The regular Business As Usual items
- And as it was Christmas, we had some wine and nibbles.

### **New members this month:**

- Julio Cesar Rodrigues

## From the Editor

Contributions to the Magazine, Newsletter and website are welcomed!

Please send through your text and photos as separate files. To aid readability, please limit the text of your article to around 800 words and supply photos in jpeg or tiff format with a resolution of at least 150dpi (preferably 300dpi).

Please note that submissions are received on the basis that all ownership of the material is completely waived and transferred to the Club in full. In addition, the material will be edited and published via the Club's media completely at the discretion of the Club.



# Coolana Report

Don Finch

*Thursday 8 November* Paul, Ros, Don and Greg left Forestville early with two fully loaded trailers, meeting Spiro and Roy who were already camped in having arrived on Wednesday, and Rick who arrived soon after. After setting up camp the trailers were taken down the hill to be unloaded near the old bridge crossing. A flying fox was assembled to sling the gear across the creek, and the pile of tools, generators, tarps, ropes and materials accumulated on the other side of the creek at a very satisfactory rate. The shed, timber and cement were picked up from Kangaroo Valley and by days end all but the cement was on the shed site.



On Friday, Paul and Greg took on the job of assembling the shed. A couple of tarps were slung up as heavy rain was forecast but did not eventuate in KV, although Sydney and other areas were flooded. Barry, Spiro and Roy watered trees and Ros went back to weeding. Rick and Don started mowing. A new Honda mower and brush cutter were delivered and the mower was put to work on the Eastern Flat. Bill Holland had a working bee over the weekend and people started to arrive on Friday afternoon. There was also a leadership course to be conducted over the weekend and some of the participants also arrived on Friday evening. Melinda and Rob Barwell also arrived from Wagga Wagga with my grandsons, James and Edward.

Paul and Greg finished the shed late Saturday afternoon – it has a wooden floor and a start has been made to fit benches and shelves. George, Bill and Jason made a start mowing the weeds and nettles on the camping flat, with Jason and Rick moving to the Eastern Flat later in the day. Several others kept weeding on the camping flat and made an impressive pile of weeds. There were 25 cars in the carpark on Saturday and not much room left.

On Sunday, some of Bill's group pitched in to help clear up the tool shed site – the many extra hands made the job easy and it was all done by 10am.

The shed crew packed up and were on the road home soon after lunch. Thank you to everybody who helped.

Several weeks later I was at Coolana to meet with the SCA for the acquittal inspection for the grant to plant trees and spray lantana. Arriving a day early, a start was made to water the 100 trees planted under the grant. The curtain used to cover the mirror in the toilet was not drawn across the mirror again! The purpose of the curtain is to prevent the local bird population fighting with their reflections in the mirror. Although it did not happen this time, in the past blood flecks splattered across the mirror attest to the seriousness of the dispute between bird and interloping reflection. Late in the afternoon it started to rain, with 18mm falling overall. The ground which had been bone dry was now just damp near the surface but not very far down it was still very dry. The grass is short and dying off across the camping and Eastern flats.

*Wednesday 28 November* The SCA officers duly arrived and an additional inspection was conducted in the Reserve to the west of Dot's Creek with a view to obtaining a further grant to spray the lantana infestation and to plant another 300 trees at the western end of Coolana. The acquittal inspection proceeded in tandem with this. The SCA team assisted with watering the trees along the WDT.

At 7.30am on Thursday the expected contractor cancelled the 8am appointment by SMS. I finished packing up and headed home calling into Wariapendi Nursery in Colo Vale on the way. Marilyn was very helpful and said that they could grow tube stock to order given a reasonable time frame. In the future this may allow us to get the trees we want rather than having to take what is available.

The trees will need to be watered again over summer so if anybody is going down and has the time, please let me know. If the creek water is running it takes about three hours to water the 70 trees near the old house site and between the road and the tool shed. Another hour to water the trees near the eastern flat tool shed and another hour to water the trees along the WDT.



# Call for Nominations for the 2013 Committee

## SBW Committee

Members are requested to consider nominating for next year's Committee.

The following roles are available, and will be elected at the Annual General Meeting on 13 March 2013:

- President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer

Five Ordinary Committee Member positions: The current Committee recommends to the Members that the specific roles for these positions for the 2013 term be:

- Membership Secretary, New Members Secretary, Activities Secretary, Skills Enhancement Secretary, Communications Secretary

In addition, the current Committee is recommending that there be a number of Associate Secretary positions for: Social, Conservation,

four Confederation Delegates, Editor, Business Manager and Web Master/Mistress. These positions are not elected and would be appointed by the Committee. While they are not formal Members of the Committee, the Associate Secretaries can attend Committee Meetings, as needed, to speak to specific matters of relevance to their subject area.

For Committee positions: Two members need to nominate the Candidate by completing the Nominating Form on the back page (a soft copy is on the web site) and send it to the Secretary (preferably by email to [secretary@sbw.org.au](mailto:secretary@sbw.org.au), by hand at a Club meeting, or by post to the Club's PO Box). [Note: physical signatures in ink are not required, and emails will suffice].

For Associate Secretary positions: Self-nominate by sending an email or a letter to the Secretary.

## Bushwalking Australia – Annual Conference

Ian Wolfe

SBW belongs to Confederation, the State representative body ([www.bushwalking.org.au](http://www.bushwalking.org.au)), which in turn belongs to Bushwalking Australia (BAI) ([www.bushwalkingaustralia.org/index.html](http://www.bushwalkingaustralia.org/index.html)) which is the national umbrella representative body.

BAI has a two-day conference each year and the location rotates around Australia. This year it was in Sydney at the North Narrabeen Caravan Park on the weekend of 17–18 Nov. So, enroute to the beach, I attended on Day 1 for four hours for the sessions on Insurance and training, and Caro presented on Day 2 on the use of technology etc. David Trinder attended both days in his capacity as SBW's Confederation Delegate and as the President of Confederation.

The Conference was fairly low key but well run. We were able to increase the awareness of the need to enhance the approach to insurance and the coverage of benefits etc. In the training session SBW was asked to speak (without warning – but that's OK, I can tap dance and concurrently speak Spanish) on our current successful approach. This was well received as being appropriate, practical, non-bureaucratic and an enjoyable activity for participants and facilitators. A national sub-committee has been formed to appraise how a lightweight national training approach could be put in place (but breath easy, Certification is not being proposed).

Take Aways included:

That the Vic Govt has placed the *Bushwalking and Mountain Leadership Handbook* online with free access – this is an extremely comprehensive and well regarded reference publication: [outdoorleaderonline.org/content/olo/pagerend.php](http://outdoorleaderonline.org/content/olo/pagerend.php)

Here is a site which has information on walking in NSW, Australia and internationally:

[www.adventure.com.au/Home.asp](http://www.adventure.com.au/Home.asp) Of particular use is the section on easy/medium walks which has trip info and downloadable maps

Some other good sites for NSW are:

[www.wildwalks.com/bushwalking/general/bushwalking.html](http://www.wildwalks.com/bushwalking/general/bushwalking.html)

[www.visitnsw.com/things-to-do/adventure-and-sport/hikes-and-walks?gclid=CMmtnLu2yrMCFedKpgodskYAPA](http://www.visitnsw.com/things-to-do/adventure-and-sport/hikes-and-walks?gclid=CMmtnLu2yrMCFedKpgodskYAPA)

[ozultimate.com/bushwalking/](http://ozultimate.com/bushwalking/)

[www.bodyandsoul.com.au/body+fitness/news+features/best+places+in+nsw+to+bushwalk,14049](http://www.bodyandsoul.com.au/body+fitness/news+features/best+places+in+nsw+to+bushwalk,14049)

[bushwalk.com/forum/viewforum.php?f=47](http://bushwalk.com/forum/viewforum.php?f=47)

# Kosciuszko Huts Update

There had been quite a lot of work done on a range of huts below the snowline over the last few months – including Doctors Hut, and removing the asbestos from Mackeys Hut.

Kiandra Court House now includes a café which is open on busy weekends, and accommodation is available in Wolgal Hut.

The hunt for the dreaded Orange Hawkweed continues – besides seeking volunteers to be based out of Khancoban (accommodation and meals provided) they are after experienced walkers to camp out (Farm Ridge or Doubtful Gap, etc) to save time on the commute to/from Khancoban. Please contact the NPWS to express interest on

02 60769373 or 0428103800. More Details at: [www.environment.nsw.gov.au/NationalParks/parkVolunteering.aspx?id=N0018](http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/NationalParks/parkVolunteering.aspx?id=N0018)

There are also volunteer opportunities for hut maintenance and conducting koala surveys

For those interested in participating in the above activities, more information about KHA can be found at:

[khuts.org/](http://khuts.org/) (please note the "News Update section half way down the page which has a number of interesting articles and old photos)

And the KHA forums at [khuts.org/forum](http://khuts.org/forum) where you can directly interact and have your say.

## Can you help?

Budget restriction and the arrival of a new member in the new members secretary's household means that we have not enough room to store the gear that the club has gathered thanks to the generosity of our members.

If any full member has the space and is willing to take the Club's gear, of which a list follows, can you please contact Vivien at [newmembers@sbw.org.au](mailto:newmembers@sbw.org.au) or 9960 1640.

The current practice is that each piece of gear can be borrowed by member for a deposit of \$5 per item that will be refunded when they bring the gear back. The gear has to be picked up and brought back where it is stored. In the last 12 month, gear has been borrowed only a handful of times.

### Backpacks:

- 2 x Macpac Ravine (about 60L)
- 1 x Mountain designs 60L women specific design
- 1 x DMH Elbe
- 1 x Paddy Pallin daypack

### Sleeping bags:

- 1 x Macpac Dragonfly R: down bag for summer to winter
- 1 x synthetic bag: summer

### Mattresses:

- 1 x Thermarest self inflating 2.5 cm thick
- 1 x ¾ length self inflating mattress
- 1 x blue foam mattress
- 1 x ¾ length foam mattress

### Shelters:

- 1 x double nylon fly/tarp
- 1 x single nylon fly/tarp

### Cookware:

- 2 x billies
- Several pots, containers and plates

### Other:

- 2 x compasses
- 1 x head torch

### SBW Social Media

To advise members of time urgent items, send an email to [sbw27@googlegroups.com](mailto:sbw27@googlegroups.com)

If you are not a member of GG, sign up at <https://accounts.google.com/>.

Then search for and select the Group Sydney Bush Walkers

To share updates on your outdoor activities use: [www.facebook.com/#!/SydneyBushWalkers](http://www.facebook.com/#!/SydneyBushWalkers)

If you are not a member of facebook, sign up by going to [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com) then add our page

## *Have you seen the latest Colong Foundation Bulletin?*



### THE COLONG BULLETIN

*If not, you can download it from the Colong Foundation website at:*  
[www.colongwilderness.org.au](http://www.colongwilderness.org.au)

# The Midweek Walkers

Bill Holland

There is 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. You are welcome to join us at any time, and if you would like to be added to our Midweek Activities mailing list please let me know by contacting Bill Holland 4296 3084 or by email to [billholland@bigpond.com](mailto:billholland@bigpond.com)

The weather was kind on our recent visit to Dunns Swamp. Eight of us enjoyed the sunshine, great walks, some kayaking and swimming during the day and the campfires at night. The rain came in as we were packing on Friday morning.

Our extended activities resume in February next year when we return to the Villa Paradiso in Myola on the South Coast, followed by a visit to Canberra or perhaps Woolgoolga in March, and in late April a return to Yarrangobilly Caves.

Looking further ahead and being a little bit more ambitious, we may aim to go further afield and be away for longer stays – after all, many of us are retirees and have loads of time.

Here are some suggestions:

**Broken Hill:** (7 days) Train journey both ways and stay in a motel or similar. Visit local attractions and hire vehicles to get to interesting places nearby.

**Lamington National Park in Queensland:** (14 days) This would be an extended trip visiting national parks on the way to and from Queensland, such as Bald Rock, Apsley Gorge, Border Ranges and Mt. Barney, with a day or two in each area.

**Southern Victoria:** (7 days) The idea here would be to fly to Avalon Airport in Melbourne, hire a minibus and travel the Great Ocean Road, stopping at camping sites or caravan parks along the way. Return to Avalon and fly home.

**Southern NSW:** Perhaps visiting Yanga National Park or Mungo Lakes National Park.

There is no need for a commitment at this stage, but I would appreciate knowing if you are interested in any of the above.

In the meantime here are the definite plans:

**February:** *Villa Paradise, Myola (18–22)*

We have booked both houses and indications are that we will have a good attendance. If you intend to join us please send \$50 deposit per person to ensure your bed. The houses are modern and comfortable, close to the river and surrounded by beautiful bush. The bay and creek are fantastic places for all sorts of water sport activities. A nice stroll through the bush brings you to the long beaches of the bay. Likely cost: around \$30 per person per night depending on numbers.

Please confirm your booking (and \$50 deposit) ASAP.

**April–May:** *Yarrangobilly Caves (29 April–3 May)*

“The Yarrangobilly Caves are located in the northern part of the Kosciuszko National Park, just off the Snowy Mountains Highway between Tumut and Cooma. Come and discover nature’s wonders inside the Snowy Mountains, providing tickets for guided and self-guided cave tours and access to a natural thermal bathing pool, barbecue facilities, picnic areas and a number of short walks. While the caves are some of the most beautiful in Australia, the landscape above ground is truly awe inspiring and well worth taking the time for a wander, you never know what you will come across.”

The East wing of Yarrangobilly Caves House sleeps up to nine people in separate rooms. When we were last there two years ago we had a great time with VIP treatment and exclusive tours of the caves. The cost will be about \$30 per night per person. As I have made a firm booking and paid in advance I would like you to let me know ASAP if you would like to be included in our group and an early deposit will be required.

## Common Bushwalking Injuries

Information from our insurance broker reveals that the vast majority of bushwalking injuries incurred across Australia are in the categories of:

- Broken Limbs, &
- Ligament Damage

Please take care when ascending or descending rock

bars, steep slopes and rutted tracks. Use of a pole/stick is a good preventative technique, as is wearing footwear that gives ankle support.

Broken Limbs should be supported with a splint and damaged ligaments treated with “RICE”: Rest, Ice (or in bush, cold compresses), Compression (apply a compression bandage) and Elevation.

# Mock news video about Gardens of Stone

Yuri Bolotin and Blue Mountains Conservation Society

I have been busy making a mock-news piece about the Gardens of Stone.

View it here: [bluemountains.us5.list-manage.com/track/click?u=7b60bf2f2f168420ede735d2c&id=e1da2c6270&e=04d0d43c4f](http://bluemountains.us5.list-manage.com/track/click?u=7b60bf2f2f168420ede735d2c&id=e1da2c6270&e=04d0d43c4f)

As you probably know, conservation groups have proposed a large area of the Gardens of Stone for reservation. This proposal is currently undergoing a "whole of government" review by the NSW Government, but it is facing an increasing number of open-cut coal mining applications which, if approved, will destroy it.

After visiting the Gardens of Stone and becoming smitten with its beauty, filmmakers felt compelled to create a mock news-item which reports: "Miners destroy part of Opera House and NSW Government gives it the OK". As viewers watch the world heritage Opera House engulfed in flames and smoke, they

are left to contemplate their own response to the notion of the iconic Gardens of Stone area receiving the same treatment.

While this news item is not real, the footage showing damage to the Gardens of Stone landscape is.

Despite its sandstone pagoda structures being unique by world standards, past mines have caused significant cliff collapses and destruction. Yet mining companies have incurred few, if any significant fines for this and none have had their operating licenses terminated.

The Gardens of Stone reserve proposal covers an area of outstanding natural values. It looks to a future in which the region becomes linked to the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area. Approving a long list of mining proposals will consign its future to oblivion.

## Remote Area First Aid (RAFA) Courses in 2013

### Course 1 - FEBRUARY

Weekends of 2nd / 3rd and 16th / 17th at 1st East Wahroonga Scout Hall, Cliff Road, North Wahroonga.

### Course 2 - APRIL

Weekends of 6-7 and 20-21 at Berrima Scout Camp, Apple Street, Berrima.

Re-certification Course and Skills Maintenance on 7-8 at Berrima Scout Camp, Apple Street, Berrima

### Course 3 - OCTOBER

Weekends of 12-13 and 26-27 at 1st East Wahroonga Scout Hall, Cliff Road, North Wahroonga.

More information at [www.bwrs.org.au/?q=first-aid-training](http://www.bwrs.org.au/?q=first-aid-training)

Or phone David or Merri Sheppard on (02) 4225 3580 or 0424 968 284, or email: [sheppard david1@bigpond.com](mailto:sheppard david1@bigpond.com)

Cost: NSW Confederation of Bush walking Clubs affiliate members \$270\*

SBW will pay the entire registration fee for any active leader (ie a person who puts trips on the current programs).

SBW will also pay the entire registration fee for any active full member (ie a person who does at least seven days of walking per year) to attend any basic First Aid Course conducted by BWRS (dates TBA at [www.bwrs.org.au/?q=first-aid-training](http://www.bwrs.org.au/?q=first-aid-training)), St Johns ([www.stjohnnsw.com.au/train\\_intro.html](http://www.stjohnnsw.com.au/train_intro.html)), or Red Cross ([college.redcross.org.au/courselocation.aspx?state=nsw](http://college.redcross.org.au/courselocation.aspx?state=nsw))

Prospectives – once you become a full member, you can then count your previous activity days towards the seven day threshold – should be pretty easy to do!

Lisa Sheldon recently completed the RAFA course, and had this to say: I put in a good rap for SBW on the course – apparently we are the only Club that fully reimburses members without a restriction on numbers. We could get a influx of people from the Bush Club . . .

I would also highly recommend the Remote Area First Aid course – it is great value for money (course is run by highly qualified volunteers), covers highly practical first aid points and everything is tailored for bushwalkers.

It was also great fun too – personally I spent half the course being bandaged up, stretchered around and feigning snake bites!



## Trip Report: Best of the Budawangs

23–25 Nov. Leader: Ian (Darn the Tarn) Wolfe

We walked up the ridge from Wog Wog Campsite to Korra Hill on a good track. Just past Korra Hill we tried to find the trail to Admiration Point but it was overgrown (there is a trail, but it drops down into the gully to a water point). Thereafter, the track sidles Corang Peak and we found the very impressive Corang Arch (some of the boys climbed over the top). Then down to Canowie Brook and over the small ridge to the scenic Burumbeet Brook.

After lunch we walked out to Yurnga Lookout from the main track for some very good panoramas up and down the escarpment (especially of Mt Owen and Mt Cole). By now it was getting pretty warm so the contour track around Bibbenluke with a bit of breeze was much appreciated. We found the track to the downhill camp cave and refilled with water from the adjacent creek (this would be pretty reliable even in late summer).

The NPWS have put in a shortcut which truncates the corner through the headwaters of Corang River (nice campsite) to the track up to Mt Tarn. There was no sign of the turnoff to the old route that contours around Mt Tarn to the north-east (which links up with the old fire trail below Hoddles Castle Hill).

The track on top of Mt Tarn wound through the 7ft high Tea Tree and the top of Mt Tarn is now very scrubby due to the re-growth, which has also encroached on the Tarn. We found an OK area to camp (people argued over the star rating), but in hindsight, a slightly better location would be on the central rock bar of the Tarn (water can be gathered 150m to the east where the duckboards cross the swamp, that is the outflow from the Tarn). There was no sign of the old track from the Pass on the east side of Mt Tarn.

The sidle around Mt Haughton was fine (there is plenty of reliable water from two of the creeks coming off the rock face gullies) and the camp cave could sleep 12 at a pinch. Then we descended down the hill and walked along the track past the wonderful Pagoda Rocks and Sturgiss Mountain (there was a

cairn marking what looked like the route around to Mt Elliot).

We eventually found the crossing of Styles Creek under Quilty's Mountain (the last bit of the track was obscure). Then it was along the old 4WD track up the hill to the side track that heads off to Hidden Valley – some of us did a quick jaunt out to this impressive valley encircled by cliffs (apparently it was an old cattle duffers site)

Then it was along the track, down into the cool rainforest gully and thence to have lunch at the track junction at the Vines. After lunch we had a pleasant walk down to the first ford of the Endrick River. Then around via the Red Rocks track through Quilty's Clearing with great views of the impressive cliff lines. This is a fair way to walk, but was broken by a cooling rinse at the exposed rock at the point of the northern V in the track. However, as the track is level, people could use mountain bikes to give a relatively quick commute to or from the Vines.

To end the walk there was the final ford of the Endrick River before ending up at the carpark (there are a plethora of junctions on the south side of the river, so best to tick off each one to avoid miscuing).

We finished off with a drink at the Nerriga Pub (which has gone up market, and now does OK meals from 6-8pm on the weekend – but not the schnitzel). However, there are still colourful locals littering the porch and you need to make sure that you don't step on their cattle dogs.

The Nowra–Nerriga road is completely sealed and is quite fast – although we did slow down to watch a huge Wedge Tailed Eagle feeding off road-kill. The alternative is the Nerriga to Marulan road via Oallen and Bungonia, which is now sealed except for 3km.

PS. It's worthwhile having a copy of both the Endrick Series 1 and 3 Maps (1:25,000) as well as the Budawangs Sketch Map, so that you have both historical and current information on where the tracks are.

# Trip Report: Kosciuszko National Park

9–11 Nov. Leader: David Angell

After negotiating unexpectedly heavy traffic out of Sydney on Thursday evening we eventually made camp at Island Bend at 1am Friday. We drove on in the morning to Charlotte's Pass where we began walking. Though there was no rain and skies were mostly clear, the wind was fierce, and making progress was often a struggle.



We began with a wander up the Snowy Valley, sheltering at Seaman's Hut for a well deserved lunch. After a visit to Kosciuszko summit, much of the afternoon was spent finding a suitably sheltered campsite. Our aim to stay at Albina Saddle was frustrated by a lengthy, near vertical and distinctly icy snowdrift extending south from Mt Mueller. The only way around was to descend into the upper Snowy Valley, and once there we decided that we might as well stay in the relative calm of the valley.

It was, however, still quite breezy and very cold, and none of us remained out of our sleeping bags after 8pm.

Waking up on Saturday morning, we found that while conditions were still cold (perhaps -5 degrees overnight), the wind had dropped considerably and blue skies promised a beautiful day. The morning was spent trying to tell at a distance the difference between snow and ice as we searched for a suitable route up Mt Townsend. Eventually this was achieved and we were rewarded with extensive views from that peak, with all the ranges from Mt Bogong to Mt Jagungal visible. We returned to our tents, packed up and moved everything over to Albina Saddle, perhaps the most spectacular campsite in the region. We had the good fortune to narrowly avoid a party of a dozen noisy school kids . . . The late afternoon was spent exploring the environs of Lake Albina.

Sunday was once again fine and cold with little wind. With no particular need for an early start, we meandered along the Main Range, across Mt Carruthers and down to the Blue Lake, spending about an hour enjoying the surroundings. We had lunch beside the Snowy before the short climb back to the cars, departing about 2pm.

All in all, a walk of marvellous views under exciting conditions. The walks description said, "in an ideal scenario there will be just enough snow to be fun", and that's exactly what happened.



# Musings aboard the *Freshwater* (en route to an SBW walk)

Virginia Waller

This is the life! I'm on the 8.10am ferry to Manly for our coastal walk; the day is perfect early summertime.

The ferry sits docked and awaiting our departure, with coffee in hand, I watch the early morning punters – runners snake in and out along the quayside dodging ambling tourists; a couple of fishermen can be seen casting (more like dropping) their lines. The quayside slowly stirs from its Friday night slumber awakening to the magnificence of Sydney Harbour. The ferry engines give a deep growl and we slowly start moving. With remarkable swiftness the Opera House and Botanic Gardens are soon passing by.

The harbourscape is reminiscent of a Sidney Nolan painting – all soft muted blues. Saturday morning stillness and quiet allow the visual splendour to take precedence. Clark Island is discernible and now the eastern suburbs of Rose Bay and Vaucluse come into view. High white swirling clouds transfix my gaze; it's a skyscape that is often depicted on a travellers guide to the Himalaya.

We approach the open water of the Sydney Heads, signalled by Macquarie lighthouse atop the hill in Vaucluse. The swell has picked up – fishing dinghies bob up and down, a lone kayaker rides the swell with ease. A thick fog of smoke haze from a burn-off up in the Ku-ring-gai National Park wafts in; the harbourscape is transformed to an eerie grey mire in seconds. The outline of the moon ghosts in and out. Gazing directly out between the Heads there is nothing but a vast flatness bathed in grey.

Again our course changes as the hinterland of North Head comes into view followed by the apartments and dwellings of Manly. The breeze picks up and the mix of smoke haze and cloud lift; sunshine breaks through, blue skies appear. We weekend commuters yawn, stretch and stride toward the side doors – not a hint of workday-itus among us. With an affirmed efficiency and skill the ferrymen tether the *Freshwater* once more and we move off down and along the Manly ferry wharf.

I feel I have had several mornings in one! And now for our SBW meander . . .

## Leader Profile

Vivien de Rémy de Courcelles



**Occupation:** PhD student/father

**Age:** 35

**Suburb:** Mosman

### **How long have you been bushwalking and what got you started?**

You have to be in Australia to go bushwalking, don't you? So I'd say I started bushwalking when I arrived in the country about 10 years ago. However since the birth of SBW is linked to the appearance of the term bushwalking, perhaps I really started bushwalking only 3.5 years ago when joining the club.

### **Which walking area has been your favourite so far and why?**

Anywhere I had not been before, except one or two occasions. Of these, I am particularly fond of Kanangra and the adjacent parts of the Blue Mountains national parks. Garden of Stones and the nearby area of the Wollemi are also favourites of mine. I love the scenery out there, the relative remoteness, and at times, the navigation challenge.

### **What's at the top of your walking to-do list?**

With a four-month old baby girl, any walks for which I need to see my feet are on my to-do list until we are able to switch her from a front carrier to a back carrier. Plus she has not been overly impressed when she stood at the front line the rare times we took her off-track!

### **What are your passions besides bushwalking?**

My babyyyyyyyyyyyyyyy! Too cheesy, maybe! Saving the world! Too ambitious! Canyoning, (mountain) bike riding and floating on Willy, my inflatable killer whale are nice ways to spend time.

# Trip Report: Beaches, Headlands and Whales – Bouddi NP

4 Nov. Leader: Roger Treagus

The day started with people converging to the sleepy town of Wagstaffe on the Central Coast by car and by ferry from Palm Beach – a truly magnificent 20 minutes across Broken Bay and into Brisbane Waters. This was a north-south walk right along the coast and through the whole of Bouddi National park. The weather was perfect and the water inviting, so off we went from the headland just south of McMasters Beach. The idea was to walk the coast all the way to Box Head, the northern headland of Broken Bay.



Headland track. Photo S.Wong

But first there was a detour as a track led up to the highest headland for miles around so there was sure to be a view. And it was a whale of a view, with two humpbacks heading south for the summer just off the headland; a nice way to start a walk. Morning tea at Little Beach was followed by a good wake up climb back to the coastal plateau and the track through to Maitland Bay via Caves Bay. This track is smaller version of the Otford to Bundeena walk in the Royal as it hugs a spectacular coastline with high headlands and beautiful beaches. It may not be as well known, but like the Royal NP track public transport is available at both ends so cars are not needed.

The day was getting hot with only a gentle breeze keeping us cool as we rounded the last headland before descending to gorgeous Maitland Bay Beach. The beach and bay are named after the ship that foundered off the rocks here back in 1898 – a tragedy that gripped the nation at the time. Here is an extract of part of that story taken from the ABC's site on shipwrecks:

"Just before 6.00am on 6 May 1898, the *Maitland* was driven onto the foot of East Reef with a mighty crash and driven high up into the air. The hull immediately wrenched apart amidships, carrying most of the crew and steerage passengers in the forward section to their deaths. Those swept ashore alive were severely injured by the jagged rocks and pounding surf. The remainder survived on the shattered stern, eventually making it ashore by the afternoon, after several nerve-racking attempts to

secure a line to the beach. At one stage four of the crew including the Stewardess were crossing by the line when it broke. Only the Third Engineer made it to safety.

The tragic death of 24 from 63 aboard appalled the population. One young woman found drowned had been buried under sand and wreckage, near naked, and with her teeth smashed away.

There were many tales of gallantry however, one involved the remarkable survival of baby Daisy Hammond. Trapped on the wreck after her mother had been carried ashore, Daisy was nursed by crew through the night. Next morning, she was carried through the surf on the Boatswain's back. Many years later, Daisy Stevens visited the wreck, and when she died in 1988 at the age of 90, had her ashes flown from Canada and scattered over the wreck site".

The old boiler from the ship can still be seen at low tide. The bombora off the beach that the ship struck was plainly visible as we walked along the beach.

It was an altogether happier place for us as the hot sun forced us to have an early lunch in the shade of the beachside cliffs. The surf was only 20 metres away so in we went. That wonderful cooling effect stayed with us for the rest of the day as the sea breeze started to establish itself during the afternoon.



View looking north. Photo K. Songbird

The track from here to Putty Beach was spectacular, at some points right on the cliff edge. National Parks seem to have spent a lot of money here, with extensive lookout platforms and boardwalks. We passed a lovely example of a tessellated rock platform and then came to the biggest beach on the walk, Putty Beach, where ice creams were eagerly



Boardwalk to Putty Beach. Photo K. Songbird  
bought from the surf life saving club kiosk.

A few weeks before our walk a major bushfire occurred in the southern section of the national park, destroying some very expensive property. It was a very high intensity fire judging from the complete lack of all vegetation cover on the ridges, having converted to white ash.

We finally reached our goal of Box Head by mid afternoon. It was a wonderful spot to stop with a view south to Barrenjoey and Pittwater. Looking west we could see well past Lion Island up to Juno Head and Cowan Creek, with the Pacific Highway ridge on the skyline. The shadows were starting to lengthen as we turned around and headed for the Wagstaffe

Bush regeneration. Photo K. Songbird

Ferry wharf and our transport back to Palm Beach. The track through this last section of National Park had sections where beautiful, expensive, sandstone stonework had been installed. It contrasted to the post-fire torched scene all around us.

There was a celebration underway at the old Wagstaffe Hall, adjacent to the wharf, when we arrived, with the community saying thanks to the fireies who had saved their town a few weeks before. It was a great pleasure to watch such a happy occasion while we got stuck into our afternoon tea of fruit cake. This was a truly scenic walk on a very special part of the NSW coast finished off by a great ferry trip back into Pittwater.

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# Trip Report: Mid-October Snow

13 Oct. Leader: Nigel Weaver

On Saturday 13 October I led a walk starting at Bell railway station in order to head northwards to pagoda country and the upper reaches of the Wallangambe River. Would you believe it, when we arrived at Bell we found snow on the ground all around the station and on adjacent parts of the high ridgeline on which it is located. Incongruously, the weather on that Saturday morning was fine and mild – ideal for bushwalking. The snow had actually fallen on the previous two days, and was so heavy that it made the news.



Bell Station.

So our merry band of walkers set out from Bell amid this snowy scene, and made our way gently downhill away from the station. As we started this descent there were sections of snow all around us, but as we moved further downhill the snow disappeared. In this first part of the walk we came across a fair number of waratahs, some in full bloom, and others not quite there yet. It was a marvellous spectacle to see these bright red waratahs lighting up the bush.

We continued down to a small creek, and then upwards into pagoda country, eventually reaching a large pagoda on a ridgeline. This is where we had lunch, enjoying the pleasant views out into the Wollangambe wilderness. For those of us who climbed to the top of the pagoda the views were even better!

In the afternoon we returned to Bell via the outward route. It was nice to see the waratahs again, but most of the snow had actually melted. Overall it was a very nice day for this quite easy walk out into pagoda country and the Wollangambe wilderness. Something to do again in October/November next year to see all those lovely waratahs in bloom.



A beautiful waratah, with snow in the background.

Below: Our lunch spot atop the pagoda



## New Member Profile

Tony Murphy

**Occupation:** Project Manager

**Age:** 50

**Suburb:** Chatswood

### How long have you been bushwalking and what got you started?

25 years – I started when I moved to Sydney in 1987. Did the tourist lookouts thing in the Blue Mountains and was blown away by the scenery and just naturally progressed into bushwalking.

### Which walking area has been your favourite so far and why?

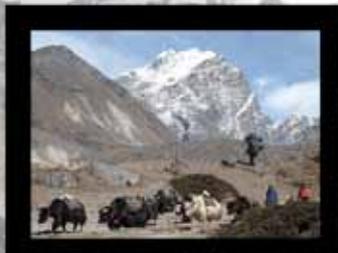
Kanangra Walls, Gangerang, Kowmung River. It's such a breathtaking landscape and any time except long weekends you can have it all to yourself!

### What's at the top of your walking to-do list?

Anywhere with mountains! New Zealand,

Nepal, Switzerland . . . Hoping to do a stretch of the GR5 in the French Alps in 2013.

**What are your passions besides bushwalking?**  
Skiing, cycling, sea kayaking.



# Everest Base Camp

28 march - 14 april 2013

Join SBW Member Chris Burke (1st NZ woman to climb the 7 summits) as she leads a trip into Everest Base Camp.

Spend two nights at Base Camp hearing stories about climbing this iconic peak.

Stunning scenery in the spiritual Khumbu region of Nepal. The trip of a lifetime!

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Contact Chris: [cpjb@ymail.com](mailto:cpjb@ymail.com) for details or [info@himalyanascent.com](mailto:info@himalyanascent.com) between 29 Aug - 8 Oct whilst Chris is climbing in the Mountains.

# Day Leader Training Coolana 10–11 Nov

Karen Darby

The original plan was for a relaxing weekend at Coolana doing a few walks to get to know the property. On the Saturday morning I decided to tag along with the leader training to see what they were up to. They headed out for the day with each trainee taking turns as trip leader. I had a relaxing time for the first hour or two photographing orchids (some very nice displays of *Cymbidium Suave*) and admiring the varied terrain on the property. Not sure the others found it as relaxing, as they navigated across country with the facilitators watching how they handled the navigation and group management. We lost one party member, had some snake bites,



Route finding.

a case of heat stroke, navigated through cliff lines and cycad thickets, there was never a dull moment.

I became more involved with training – acting as pace counter, tail-end Charlie, timekeeper, chief navigator and finally as leader of a section. At the request of the facilitators, I pretended to walk into a tree, leaving the group leaderless and with the problem of a trip leader who potentially was no longer able to lead effectively.

Sunday was an extension of what we had done on Saturday, with new and interesting challenges. I normally walk with my husband and, being lazy, I'm happy to let him take the main responsibility for navigation. I enjoyed the challenge of having to navigate by myself and while I'm not an expert navigator we did eventually get where we needed to be.

At the end of the weekend I graduated as a day trip leader, having learnt a lot and seen many different parts of Coolana. Next thing is to plan a real trip or two. Hopefully they will be less eventful than the training weekend.

Thanks to Richard Darke, Ian Wolfe, Jim Close and Tony Holgate for organising the weekend, sharing your experiences of running trips and most importantly for some Academy Award-winning performances as troublesome party members.

## New Member Profile

Karen Darby

**Occupation:** IT Consultant

**Age:** 47

**Suburb:** Chatswood

### How long have you been bushwalking and what got you started?

I have been bushwalking for about 25 years. I got started when I was heading overseas and my travelling buddy wanted to do a trek in Nepal. I started walking to get fit for the trek and discovered I loved it.

### Which walking area has been your favourite so far and why?

Wild Dogs would be my favourite area. Close enough for a day trip with lots of options for an interesting walk.



### What's at the top of your walking to-do list?

Spend less time working so I can walk regularly and have a decent level of fitness for harder walks.

### What are your passions besides bushwalking?

Sea kayaking. The NSW coastline is amazing.

# 2013 Cross Country Ski Week

Cross Country Ski Week is for all XC enthusiasts, whether you're a beginner or a seasoned racer. Be a part of a week-long celebration of this great sport. Plenty for all whether you are into testing yourself via a race, improving your skiing or simply having fun in the snow.

Cross Country Ski Week is on 3–10 August 2013 based in Perisher Valley with events in Smiggin Holes and Charlotte Pass.

**Sat 3rd**      **Opening with the KCross Tour**  
12km Classical Tour Race

**Sun 4th**      **The Boonoona Open**  
5km Classical/Freestyle Tour Race

**Mon 5th**      **Charlotte Pass Open**  
A quick classical sprint  
**Night relays**  
A strictly fun event

**Tues 6th**      **Mystery Coffee Tour**

**Wed 7th**      **KAC XC Classic**  
Perisher to the Charlotte Pass Pub,  
Classical/Freestyle

**Thur 8th**      **The Sundeck Handicap Race**  
7.5km Freestyle with lunch at the  
Sundeck Hotel

**Fri 9th**      **Mystery Coffee Tour No. 2**

**Sat 10th**      **Snowy Mountains Classic**  
Freestyle race 2.5–30km  
30km race is a great lead up to the  
Kangaroo Hoppet

## End of XC Ski Week prize giving dinner

Prize giving celebrations for each event are held only in the warmest of locations spread between Smiggin Holes, Perisher and Charlotte Pass with food & drink either supplied or available – many great opportunities to relax and be social with a great group of people.

Other planned events include waxing clinics and biathlon demonstrations, with discounted instruction and ski hire being negotiated for those taking part in XC Ski Week.

The events are in place with some details to be confirmed. More information will be available early in the New Year. Until then please contact Wayne Pethybridge on 0431 285 566 or [wpethybridge@fastmail.fm](mailto:wpethybridge@fastmail.fm)

This is a PRCC, Perisher Range Cross Country, sponsored event.

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# More Maps Than You Can Poke a Compass At

Courtesy of The Coast and Mountain Walkers of NSW Inc

## Budawang Sketch Map

The latest edition (Edition 9, published 1998) has been available from late August as print-on-request online at the National Library of Australia (NLA) website [www.nla.gov.au](http://www.nla.gov.au). Details of all purchase options available for various editions of the Budawang Map are (in the approximate words of the NLA):

<http://catalogue.nla.gov.au/Record/6093653> A CD containing the scans of the 1st. Edition, and both sides of the double-sided 9th. Edition.

<http://catalogue.nla.gov.au/Record/6093567> A print-out of the 1st. Edition (in essence a full-sized colour copy of the original map).

<http://catalogue.nla.gov.au/Record/6093471> A print-out of the 9th. Edition. Because the plan-printer cannot print doublesided, we have had to print each side of the 9th. Edition separately. Thus we have a digital copy and a facsimile paper copy of each of the 1st. and 9th. Editions.

The online entry for 6093653 (the CD) is headed as 'Northern Budawang Ranges [electronic resource]', while 6093567 and 6093471 are headed as 'The northern Budawang Range and the upper Clyde River Valley [cartographic material] / compiled and drawn by G.L. Elliott'.

The maps were lent to the NLA by cartographer and copyright holder George Elliott (who was a member of the erstwhile Budawang Committee, and as well is a long-time Honorary Life Member of the CMW) for permission to copy and offer for sale.

The 9th. Edition map (each side) costs \$16.50 plus postage, which means that if you wish to purchase the notes printed on the reverse side of the original map as well, you will need to pay an extra \$16.50, and specify your requirements as a note in the ordering procedure.

The historic 1st. Edition (1960) is also available to be printed at the same cost. This edition does not have any notes printed on the reverse side.

The 1st. Edition, 9th. Edition and notes from the 9th. Edition are also available together as three separate digital images (JPEG or TIFF) on a CD (refer to 6093653 above).

Please remember that copyright applies to these maps.

CMW member Craig Allen lent his pristine 8th. Edition to the NLA, as a result of a general request for contributions of other editions of the map, and it is also now available <http://catalogue.nla.gov.au/Record/6102291>. If any SBW members have copies of out-of-print maps, check with the NLA as they might appreciate having access to scan them.

## STEP Maps

STEP is a community-based environmental organisation with over 400 members from Ku-ring-gai, Hornsby and surrounding suburbs of northern Sydney. Their primary aim is to preserve all natural bushland within the area from alienation and degradation. Their website is [www.step.org.au](http://www.step.org.au).

Amongst other publications they provide the following local maps:

Walking Tracks of the Lane Cove Valley

Walking Tracks of Middle Harbour Valley and Northern Sydney Harbour Foreshore

Sheets 1 and 2 Bungaroo and Roseville Bridge

Walking Tracks of Middle Harbour Valley and Northern Sydney Harbour Foreshore

Sheets 3 and 4 Northbridge and North Harbour

If interested, the above maps can be purchased individually by using the order form at [www.step.org.au/maps.php](http://www.step.org.au/maps.php), which is also a membership form and an order form for STEP's other publications.

As well, these map can sometimes be found on sale elsewhere in physical stores and at NSW NPWS offices.



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6-20 September 2012
- ❖ **Central Bhutan Tour with Jambay Lhakhang Drub Festival**  
24 October – 4 November 2012
- ❖ **Laya Gasa Trek**  
20 May – 6 June 2012
- ❖ **Span Western, central & Eastern Bhutan with local Festival in Khaling**  
2-15 October 2012

Number of participants

6-16 people in a group

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# Accommodation in the Kangaroo Valley

As an alternative to camping at *Coolana* there is the option of hut accommodation at *Chakola* (which is on the right a couple of kilometres before *Coolana*, on the road to Tallowa Dam). This is the facility run by Conservation Volunteers Australia, who orchestrate a large number of conservation projects across Australia primarily staffed by young visitors from overseas.

The Property has 16 small rustic cabins which can accommodate up to 37 guests. Cabins are basic but comfortable, and range in size from single, twin share and double to four-share dormitory-style rooms. Bed linen is available upon request for a small additional cost. Amenity blocks with showers and toilets are a short stroll from the cabins. A camp kitchen and dining area is available for self-catering.

Facilities include:

- BBQ
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- Wood heater with comfortable seating
- Training and Education Room for up to 37 people (i.e. as a Conference venue)
- Access to DVD and TV

[www.conservationvolunteers.com.au/about-us/land-management/chakola](http://www.conservationvolunteers.com.au/about-us/land-management/chakola)

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# Summer Social Program

All meetings/events are held at Kirribilli Neighbourhood Centre and start at 7.35 pm, unless indicated otherwise.

Please assemble downstairs until the yoga class finishes, so that the class can have a peaceful ending.

## December

**Wed 19 @ 6.30pm** Our annual fabulous Xmas party. Do not miss this great chance to eat and booze and catch up with fellow club members. The club supplies all drinks, alcoholic and non-alcoholic, plates and cutlery. All you have to do is turn up with a plate of food and enjoy yourself. Location: at the back of KNC unless it pours with rain, in which case a rainy day alternative will be supplied. As we will be conducting some very short official business, formal notice is given that a General Meeting of SBW is to be convened at 7pm 19 Dec 2012 at the KNC - the Agenda is limited to Opening, Committee Announcement, then Closure.

**Dec 22–Jan 2** Come to the Club's property at Coolana in the Kangaroo Valley (see directions in magazine). Join others for a relaxing time with your choice of what to do – easy walks, swimming, bird and wombat watching, reading, or just chilling out in a gorgeous location. You could even whip into the township for coffee and cake! No need to book, just turn up.

**Dec 31** New Years Eve at Coolana. There may be no fireworks, but there will be a welcoming fire, permits permitting, maybe some singing and general good cheer. A great way to greet the New Year, in a beautiful outdoor setting. No need to book, just turn up.

## January

**Wed 9** Beach Picnic at Balmoral Beach.

The annual SBW beach picnic. Come to the southern end of Balmoral Beach and join with old and new members for a very enjoyable evening. Bring along a picnic or buy food at local cafes. BYO boules and croquet sets and display your skill to your peers. This event is co-ordinated by Bill Holland, so call him on 0418 210 290 or email him on [billholland@bigpond.com](mailto:billholland@bigpond.com) if you need more information.

## February

**Wed 6 @ 7pm** Committee Meeting. Observers welcome.

**Wed 13 @ 8pm** Meeting for those interested in joining SBW – an introduction to the club

**Wed 20** Social Evening. Seven Summits: Chris Burke, 'Everest summiteer' and 'Seven Summitter' will be presenting on her experiences climbing Mt Everest in 2011 - the journey, the challenges and the lessons. She will also present on the other mountains around the world comprising the 'Seven Summits' including Denali and Aconcagua. Chris has only recently returned from Nepal in early December 2012 after having successfully climbed Lobuche, Pachermo and Ama Dablam. She will be returning to Nepal only days after her SBW talk in order to prepare to climb Mt Lhotse, and then she is scheduled to go to Pakistan to attempt to climb Gasherbrums 1 and 2. Chris is also keen to answer any questions you may have on Nepal.

The presentation by Kenn Clacher on iking in the Dolomites and on Corsica will hopefully be rescheduled for later in 2013.

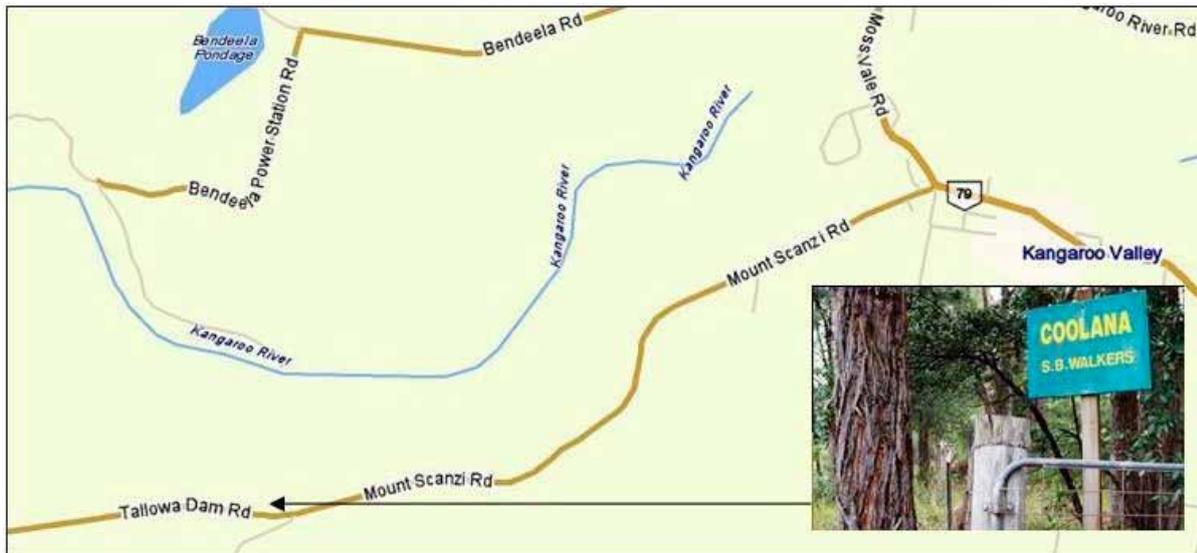
### COME AND SUPPORT OUR GUEST SPEAKERS!

**Why not come along and meet for dinner at Kirribilli before one of the social evenings? If you have any ideas for social events, contact Christine McColl: [social@sbw.org.au](mailto:social@sbw.org.au). Have you had a great trip somewhere you would like to share? Let us know!**

# How to get to Coolana

“Coolana” (an aboriginal word which means “*happy meeting place of the future*”) is located in the scenic Kangaroo Valley south of Sydney.

Directions: Drive down either by the Princes Highway via Berry, or the Hume Highway via Mittagong. Then drive to the historic Village of Kangaroo Valley. Total distance is 185km via the Princes Hwy & 175 km via the Hume Hwy ie 2.5 to 3 hrs dependant on traffic conditions and breaks.



Just N of the village (see Map), turn W onto the Mount Scanzi Road, and drive 5 kms to the intersection of the Mount Scanzi Road and Tallowa Dam Road (just past the Power Lines). At the junction, keep going straight ahead on Tallowa Dam Rd for 100 metres, to the signposted entrance to Coolana. The entrance is on the N side of the road at grid reference 692513, on the Burrier Map (8928-2-S). Open & close the gate, and drive 400 metres on the dirt track to the car park. It is possible to camp near the cars (as this is near the Escarpment, take care at night). The primary camping area is on the Flats beside the river, 600 metres down the hill following the 4WD Track (which is easy to follow at night with a torch!). The track is suitable for hand trolleys.

Facilities: There is a large open three sided **Shelter Shed** (for wet weather), 2/3 of the way down the 4WD track, and a **Composting Toilet** just up from the Camping Flat. Untreated **water** from our creek (which has a pristine catchment area) is piped to a tap near the Shed, and to a tap on the camping flat. Tank water from the Shed supplies water to a sink by the toilet. There is no power (the lights in the toilet and the exhaust fan are operated from a storage battery and a solar panel).

The Kangaroo Valley Village has a number of facilities: a Pub, Mini Super Market/Service Station, Stores, Cafes, Tourist Shops and activities etc, refer: <http://www.kangaroovalleytourist.asn.au/home/>  
Details of the Birds & other Fauna can be found at: <http://www.kangaroovalleytourist.asn.au/dir/wildlife>

## National Parks:

Barrens Grounds: <http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/NationalParks/parkHome.aspx?id=N0401>

Buddaroo: <http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/NationalParks/parkHome.aspx?id=N0069>

Morton: <http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/NationalParks/parkHome.aspx?id=N0022>

Guides - The NSW NPWS publication '*Walks Guide, Kangaroo Valley & Adjacent National Parks*' describes 25 graded walks in detail from 1 (easy) to 7 (very difficult) and is available for purchase from the NPWS Fitzroy Falls Visitors Centre (02 4887 7270) and from retailers in Kangaroo Valley (Hampden Cottage Craft, Homelea Cottage, Kangaroo Valley Woodcrafts).

# Tracks and Access Report

David Trinder

This report includes relevant extracts from the NPWS Park Closures section of their website at <http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/NationalParks/FireClosure.aspx>. For further information refer to the link.

On 10th December 70 Parks had closed areas, six parks were affected by fire and there were 16 parks with fire bans.

## Blue Mountains and Wollemi National Parks

Blue Mountains National Park: Fires: As a safety precaution, Kings Tableland Road, Wentworth Falls has been closed at the park boundary. There is no access to McMahons Lookout.

Breakfast Point Lookout at Wentworth Falls is closed until further notice.

Burralow picnic and camping area now OPEN via Kurrajong Heights only. The Bilpin entry remains closed due to extensive damage to the bridge over Burralow Creek.

Ingar camping areas: Vehicle access along Ingar Road may be closed at the end of Queen Elizabeth Drive while private property development works are underway.

Jenolan Karst Conservation Reserve: 'Karawina' rehabilitation: The area known as 'Karawina' is closed for rehabilitation. Access to walkers only; there is no access for vehicles.

Claustral Canyon: Access to Claustral Canyon via the usual route across private land at Mt Tomah is no longer possible due to landholders denying access. NPWS has sought alternative access to Claustral through private land without success. Canyoners should respect the rights of Mt Tomah residents and avoid using private land.

## Illawarra, Shoalhaven and Southern Highlands

Jervis Bay National Park: Track to Red Point, Red Point picnic area (Ends Monday 24 December)

Meroo National Park: In accordance with the Meroo National Park Management Plan changes have been made to camping arrangements within the park.

Morton National Park: Tianjara Artillery Impact Area: There is live Unexploded Ordnance (UXO) from former artillery training activities in the northeastern part of the Budawang Wilderness and adjacent parts of the Tianjara Plateau. Activities such as erecting tents, campfires and digging may cause a UXO to explode and could result in death or severe injury. The Tianjara Fire Trail is currently closed due to environmental damage.

## Central Coast, Newcastle, Sydney

Barrington Tops National Park: Antarctic Beech Forest Track partially blocked by tree falls, Gloucester Falls walk is currently partially closed.

Popran National park: Popran Creek within Popran National Park has been temporarily closed to public access until further notice. Temporary closure of Hominy Creek Walking Track.

Wallingat National Park: After Fire Clean Up: Reedy Creek Road, Forest Road and Double Wharf trail remain CLOSED to public access while NPWS crews continue patrol and clean up works on established fire containment lines.

## Mid North Coast, New England Tablelands

Oxley Wild Rivers National park: Closure of Michaeliana walk - Green Gully Track closed

The Green Gully Track, in Oxley Wild Rivers NP is closed until further notice due to damage from wildfire.

# Walks and Activities Report

Lucy Keatinge

Leaders: After the activity, please email completed Walks Attendance Form and Activity Report to: walksreporting@sbw.org.au Please keep the signature sheet as this is a legal document.

Date, Walk Location & Route	Participants
<p><b>20 Oct AREA: Narrow Neck, Blue Mountains NP Grade: M232 Q Walk</b></p> <p><b>START AND FINISH PLACE:</b> Locked Gate at Glenraphael Drive, Narrow Neck</p> <p><b>ROUTE DESCRIPTION:</b> Glenraphael Dr, Redledge Pass, Megalong, Mitchell's Creek, Fools Paradise, Glenraphael Drive</p> <p>It was an excellent day in the mountains and our group of enthusiastic walkers was rewarded with some stunning views of Narrow Neck's awe-inspiring cliffs and the vast country beyond Megalong Valley. Redledge Pass did not present a challenge and we were surprised that the log book dates back to 1997! At the bottom of the ridge we came across the old mine tramline track and, despite advice from Karl Miller and Richard Pattison, decided to follow it along the 790 m contour.</p> <p>It ended a kilometer later and we decided to keep traversing at the same level instead of backing down towards the creek. The terrain was hard and slow going – steep, slippery, with a lot of debris and overgrown with bracken and lawyer vine here and there. This did not scare us and we kept bush-bashing to reach the upper part of Mitchell's Creek about an hour after lunch. After a refreshing stop at a beautiful amphitheatre, the famous coachwood tree was easily climbed and we passed the final section of scrub in high spirits. The last 5km back to the cars rewarded us with magnificent views to Jamison Valley and Mt Solitary.</p> <p>A special thank you to Chris Dowling for making the walk happen with his competent advice and generous help!</p>	<p><b>Toni Bachvarova</b></p> <p>Chris Dowling Alan Michie Helen McDonald Joanna Penney Jim Close Peter Cai Christian Vallence Jane Fielding</p> <p><i>P members</i> Johno Downes</p> <p><i>Visitors</i> Alan Michie</p>
<p><b>26 Oct AREA: Bobbin Head, Ku-ring-gai NP GRADE: M111E</b></p> <p><b>START AND FINISH PLACE:</b> Murrua Road, North Turramurra</p> <p><b>ROUTE DESCRIPTION:</b> Murrua Rd, Murrua track, Sphinx track, Old Bobbin Head Rd, Bobbin Head, Gibberagong Track, Gibberagong Waterholes, Murrua Rd</p> <p>Our group had a really nice day with the walk being lead by Justine who took charge from the start as only a 3 month old child can. We walked to put her to sleep and stopped when she was hungry. I assumed the role as route guide. Wilf Hilder would have been proud of our group as we chose the easy route down the old road into Bobbin Head. We had an extended lunch in the empty picnic grounds before walking back to the cars. I particularly appreciated the break from preparing for my mother's funeral and the day showed that there is a place in SBW for easy weekday walking.</p>	<p><b>Stephen Brading</b></p> <p>Yvonne Brading Vivien De Remy De Courcelles Emmanuelle Convert Justine De Remy De Courcelles (Age 3 months )</p>

Date, Walk Location & Route	Participants
<p><b>27 Oct 2012 AREA Royal National Park</b></p> <p><b>START PLACE:</b> Helensburgh Station <b>FINISH PLACE:</b> Otford</p> <p>Port Hacking 85th Anniversary Walk</p> <p><b>ROUTE DESCRIPTION:</b> Helensburgh Station, the Burgh Track, Garrawarra, Otford</p> <p>This walk was a re-run of the first walk ever done by the Club in 1927, 85 years ago to the day. The meeting place was Helensburgh Station and there were 16 starters, including four Prospective members.</p> <p>The Burgh track, which I have followed before, was hard to find this time but some good navigators found the way and the group followed it to the coast. After that we were on the familiar Coast Track, which took us south along the coast to the pie shop at Otford where there was time to enjoy an apple pie and a drink before the 3.15 train.</p>	<p><b>David Trinder</b> <b>Lisa Sheldon</b> <b>John O’Riordan</b></p> <p>Rosetta Lee Sandra See Klaus Umland Hu ap Rees Tim Yewdall Misako Sugiyama Virginia Waller Jenney Xia Ian Wolfe</p> <p><i>P members</i> Bruno de Villanoisy Hui Chee Lam Sarah Paparo Nicholas Atwell</p>
<p><b>27–28 Oct AREA: Kangaroo Valley GRADE: S223 Q WALK</b></p> <p><b>START AND FINISH PLACE:</b> Top of Meryla Pass</p> <p><b>ROUTE DESCRIPTION:</b> We started about 3km short of the start of Griffins Fire Trail, because we did not want to risk our 2WD cars on the last part of Meryla Road, which is very rutted in places. We followed the fire trail down to Lake Yarrunga track. Thence westwards for a few km, looking for a view spot (partially successful). Bush bash down to junction of Crankeys Creek with Yarrunga Creek, picking up the fire trail shortly thereafter, to Griffins Farm for the night. Next day exploration upstream of Yarrunga Creek, before returning to the cars by the fire trail.</p> <p>The weather was very good. The scrub was thick enough to be an impediment, without being bad enough to drive one to distraction. It was quite dry – Yarrunga and Crankeys creeks were flowing nicely, but others were all dry. We saw a very fine wombat at the camp site, Glenn caught and ate a very fine bass, and we came across a very fine, very big black snake.</p>	<p><b>Leigh McClintock</b></p> <p>Glenn Draper Julian Martin John Robb</p> <p><i>P Members</i> Vicky Zhang Alex Lazar Steve Tusler Nancy Lloyd Kathy Grapsias</p>
<p><b>28 Oct AREA: Mt York</b></p> <p><b>ACTIVITY:</b> Abseiling workshop</p> <p>A bunch of enthusiastic new abseilers had a good day out on the crags, learning the ropes (so to speak!). Thanks to Rod Wales, Terry Moss and Andy Ojong who assisted with running the day, belaying, setting up and coaching everyone.</p>	<p><b>Tom Brennan</b> <b>Coaches</b> <b>Rod Wales</b> <b>Terry Moss</b> <b>Andy Ojong</b></p> <p>Amanda Nelson Jonno Downes Stephen Cox Lucy Keatinge Darryl Sullings Ondrej Ivanic Jahangir Alam Melissa Suen</p>

Date, Walk Location & Route	Participants
<p><b>3 Nov AREA: Mount Alexandria Reserve GRADE: M222 Q walk</b></p> <p><b>START AND FINISH PLACE:</b> Lake Alexandria</p> <p><b>ROUTE DESCRIPTION:</b> Lake Alexandria to the green track, 60 Foot Falls , Nattai river to Box vale creek, Boxvale incline, Boxvale track to 40 foot falls, Nattai river to yellow track return to Lake Alexandria.</p> <p>We started with a steady climb to the beginning of the green track, which was a funicular railway in the 1920 and '30s then on to 60 Foot waterfall. Continued on to the Nattai River, which we followed until it is joined by Box Vale Creek.</p> <p>Boxvale Incline is another old funicular railway used to access coal mines in the area. From the top of the incline we went to a viewing area, from which it is possible to see Mount Cloudmaker. Had lunch at the viewing area then walked to the 40 Foot Falls via the Boxvale Track, which was the site of an old railway used to haul coal. We had a rest behind the falls before continuing along the Nattai back to the yellow track. Returned back to Lake Alexandria just in time as it began to rain.</p>	<p><b>Glenn Draper</b></p> <p>Rosetta Lee Melinda Turner Robert MacIlwaine P members Alexandria Lazar Misung Kim Sagar Thakkar Richard Lall</p>
<p><b>3 Nov AREA: Bkue Mountains National Park GRADE: M221</b></p> <p><b>START PLACE:</b> Falconbridge <b>FINISH PLACE:</b> Springwood</p> <p><b>ROUTE DESCRIPTION:</b> Falconbridge, Sassafras Gully, Numantia Falls, Sassafras Ridge, Glenbrook Creek, Perch Ponds, Magdala Creek, Springwood.</p> <p>A pleasant walk through some beautiful rainforest. Rain threatened, but apart from some sprinkles, never materialised. There was some off-track walking, waterfalls and cascades. The delightful Numantia Falls is not far off the Sassafras Creek track, but is less often visited. All shared with a great group of walkers.</p> <p>On the ridge above Numantia Falls, there is well worn track, not marked on the map, and possible Aboriginal rock carvings. This may be worth a future exploratory walk.</p> <p>A twisted ankle forced a slight change to the route – we walked the same distance, but opted to finish on the Magda Creek Track – an easier track to walk, and finished with coffee at Springwood.</p>	<p><b>Tony Holgate</b></p> <p>Ian Thorpe Alan Carpenter Peter Miller</p> <p><i>P Members</i> Roslyn Fenton Anita Whitlock Sarah Paparo Giacomo Casalicchio David Doctor Sabrina Mina Amanda Nelson Diana Maslic Fiona McRos</p>
<p><b>3-4 Nov AREA: Bungleboori GRADE: M333E (Canyon Grade 4)</b></p> <p><b>START AND FINISH PLACE:</b> Waratah Ridge</p> <p><b>ROUTE DESCRIPTION:</b> Waratah Ridge, Bungleboori north branch, Crikey Canyon, Bungleboori north branch, Fortitude canyon, Bungleboori north branch, HITW exit track, Waratah Ridge</p> <p>The original plan for a Numietta Creek exploratory canyon weekend was postponed for various reasons. Instead, a closer objective was agreed upon – we had a good weekend along the northern branch of the Bungleboori, visiting Crikey canyon and Fortitude canyon.</p>	<p><b>Richard Pattison</b></p> <p>Sue Bucknell Brendon Anderson</p> <p><i>Visitor</i> Liam Suckling</p>

Date, Walk Location & Route	Participants
<p><b>3-4 Nov AREA: Wild Dogs GRADE: M223 Q walk</b></p> <p><b>START AND FINISH PLACE:</b> Dunphys campground</p> <p><b>ROUTE DESCRIPTION:</b> Day1: Dunphy's camp ground, Ironpot Ridge, Ironmonger Hill, Ironmonger Spur, Coxs River, Jenolan River junction. Day 2: Flaggi Clear, Galong Hill Saddle, Little River, Quartpot Ridge, Tinpot Mountain and back to Dunphy's via Ironpot Ridge</p> <p>Day 1 – Light drizzle for only 10 mins and then dry for the rest of the weekend. The climb up to Ironpot Ridge was quick and painless and we made good time down to the Coxs River and onto our fantastic campsite near the junction with Jenolan River. Set off with daypacks to explore the Jenolan River – not even the brisk navel-height wade could deter us! Such a magical place to explore, hopefully for longer next time.</p> <p>During dinner we were entertained by a very special campfire speaker, Chris Burke, who recently became the first NZ women to climb the 7 Summits. Chris not only came with iPad in backpack, to share her fantastic photos, but had also lugged a kilo of homemade Everest slice to indulge us in the interval! A great concept for future walks. Note: no ill effects from boiling and drinking the Jenolan river water.</p> <p>Day 2 The brave took the rare opportunity for a dip in a river but were rudely interrupted by a snake lounging rather close to the pool! Turned out to be a harmless diamond python. On the track by 8.30 and headed along the Cox towards Flaggi Clear. One member ran ahead to try his luck at casting a line, but no luck there! Arrived at Flaggi Clear with enough time to walk over Galong saddle and down to Little River for morning tea and a cooling dip.</p> <p>We couldn't believe our luck that a platypus had decided to stop at the exact same spot – I am still smiling at having seen my first platypus in the wild. Standing back on top of Galong saddle we had the most spectacular view of the climb we were about to endure up Quart Pot ridge.</p> <p>After a short rest at the Coxs we started our climb. I'd rather take this exit route any day over the slog up Ironmonger. The view from the top of Ironpot Mountain must be one of the best 360s in the Bluies. Back at the cars by 5pm. One of the best weekends this leader could ask for. A special thanks to Caro Ryan for planting the seed and encouraging me to navigate out of my comfort zone.</p>	<p><b>Helen MacDonald</b></p> <p>Elena Bogatova Caro Ryan Huw ap Rees Jim Vaughan John Robb Peter Cai</p> <p><i>P Members</i> Chris Burke Mary Hosford Stephen Krouzecky</p>
<p><b>4 Nov AREA: Bouddi National Park GRADE: M212</b></p> <p><b>START AND FINISH PLACE:</b> Wagstaff</p> <p><b>ROUTE DESCRIPTION:</b> Wagstaff, Macmasters Beach, Mourwang Point, Little Beach, Maramo Bay, Gernin Point, Putty Beach, Box Head, Wagstaff</p> <p>See page 10 for full report</p>	<p><b>Roger Treagus</b></p> <p>Ian Wolfe Kevin Songby Lloyd Francis Tim Yewdall Zac Bouray Sarah Bouray Leigh McClintock Sandra See Barbara Gray Andrew Vilder Rosemary McDonald David Trinder Ian McCann</p> <p><i>P Members</i> Liana Warner Bill Wood Jade Chang Vicky Zhang Kinh Wa</p>

Date, Walk Location & Route	Participants
<p><b>4 Nov AREA: Blue Mountains NP (Blackheath) GRADE: S222E</b></p> <p><b>START AND FINISH PLACE:</b> Near Katoomba Airfield</p> <p><b>ROUTE DESCRIPTION:</b> Pilcher Track, Jugglers Canyon, Beauchamp Falls, Grand Canyon Track, Grand Canyon, Pilcher Track</p> <p>See November Magazine for full report</p>	<p><b>Tom Brennan</b> <b>Rod Wales</b></p> <p>Alex Gould Jacquie Yates Lauren De Lange Vivien de Remy de Courcelles Emmanuelle Convert Jason Lorch Rebecca Lorch Geoff Bishop</p> <p><i>P members</i> Meredith Junor Amanda Nelson</p>
<p><b>4 Nov AREA: Blue Mountains GRADE: L222</b></p> <p><b>START PLACE:</b> Glenbrook Station <b>FINISH PLACE:</b> Springwood Station</p> <p><b>ROUTE DESCRIPTION:</b> Glenbrook to Springwood via St Helena Crater</p> <p>Low cloud cover made for a very humid day, and had many wishing they had brought their togs for a quick dip in the creeks along the way. A steep rock scramble was rewarded with a great view for morning tea.</p> <p>While some people continue to doubt the leader's ability to accurately estimate the distance for a walk, in this instance the humidity made a shortfall in kilometres quite welcome, as was the airconditioned train at Springwood.</p>	<p><b>Christian Vallenge</b></p> <p>Joanna Penney Marina Chan</p> <p><i>P members</i> Kathy Garsias Farnom Soodmand Natalia Veinberg Alan Sland</p>
<p><b>11 Nov AREA: Glenbrook GRADE: S212E</b></p> <p><b>START AND FINISH PLACE:</b> Pisgah Rock carpark</p> <p><b>ROUTE DESCRIPTION:</b> Pisgah Rock, Monkey Ropes Creek, Lincoln Creek, Erskine Creek, Dadder Cave, Blands Pool and return</p> <p>It was surprising that there were only four of us on this walk. We had plenty of time to stop and discuss the state of the Bushwalking Federation at morning tea. We stopped for silent contemplation at 11am as it was Armistice Day. Later Karolina revealed she is considering giving up the big smoke and moving into Dadder Cave.... The water in Blands Pool was a good temperature for a swim at lunch. We finished the afternoon with coffee, pies, quiche and cake in Glenbrook Park. A really nice day in excellent company.</p>	<p><b>Stephen Brading</b></p> <p>Yvonne Brading David Trinder</p> <p><i>P member</i> Karolina Adamczyk</p>
<p><b>11 Nov AREA: Berowra Regional Park, Mt Kuring-gai NP GRADE: M</b></p> <p><b>START AND FINISH PLACE:</b> Mt Kuring-gai Station</p> <p><b>ROUTE DESCRIPTION:</b> A fabulous day for it. We managed to muster, despite serious challenges from CityRail. The leader had decided to walk the planned route in reverse, in order to take both the climb out at Berowra and the afternoon sea breeze down at Cowan Creek. Good progress all day, the group seeming to enjoy a bit of a pace. Lunch was taken waterside at Cowan Creek, then the last blast to an early finish navigating our way past the many and relaxed goannas also enjoying an afternoon in the sun. Two lost sheep for a while and one walker but otherwise, incident free and a great bunch of walkers.</p>	<p><b>Lynette Preston</b></p> <p>Michele Powers Stanley Wong Julian Martin Leslie Clarke Rosetta Lee</p> <p><i>P Members</i> Nicola Piper Sagar Thakkar Melissa Suen Liz Sweetland Ewen Furguson Petros Nikoloudis</p>

Date, Walk Location & Route	Participants
<p><b>17 Nov AREA: Mount Shuttle, Marra Marra NP GRADE: M222 Q Walk</b></p> <p><b>START AND FINISH PLACE:</b> Kulpras Track</p> <p><b>ROUTE DESCRIPTION:</b> Kulpras Track, off track Marra Marra ridge, Sunny Corner, Mount Shuttle, return</p> <p>Nice day despite gloomy weather forecast. Challenging off track walk with great visual rewards from Mount Shuttle over Bar Island and the Hawkesbury. Everyone had a turn navigating. Thick bush meant that at times it was a demanding walk.</p>	<p><b>John Kennett</b></p> <p>Rosetta Lee Andrew Vilder Julian Martin</p> <p><i>P Members</i> Nick Atwell Steve Tussler James Graves</p>
<p><b>17 Nov AREA: Grose Valley GRADE: L332 Q WALK</b></p> <p><b>START AND FINISH PLACE:</b> Govetts Leap</p> <p><b>ROUTE DESCRIPTION:</b> Govetts Leap, Lockley's Pylon, Perry's Lookdown, Govetts Leap</p> <p>Huge day out in the Grose Valley. Congratulations to all those who manage to finish what was a very tough day walk</p>	<p><b>Christian Vallenge</b></p> <p>Penny Pang Jane Fielding Huw ap Rees Alan Carpenter Jim Close</p> <p><i>P Members</i> Amanda Nelson Stephen Cox Thien Lam Edward</p> <p><i>Visitor</i> David Nephew</p>
<p><b>17 Nov AREA: Blue Mountains National Park GRADE: L231 Q WALK</b></p> <p><b>START AND FINISH PLACE:</b> Carlon's Farm</p> <p><b>ROUTE DESCRIPTION:</b> Carlon's Farm, Blackhorse Ridge, Mt Mouin, Medlow Gap, Medlow Fire Trail, Carlons' Farm</p> <p>Our meeting place was in the mist and rain at Blackheath, which lived up to its nickname of Bleakheath. However, it became quite fine as we drove to Carlons' Farm. Hence we commenced our walk in fine and mild conditions, which lasted all day. We proceeded down the nettle-infested Carlons' Creek, mounted Blackhorse Spur, enjoyed the great views at the top, and then made our way to Blackhorse Gap and Mt Mouin from which we could see Cox's River Valley, Kanangra Walls, Mt Cloudmaker and Lake Burragorang. From there we went down the ultra-steep north slope of Mt Mouin, and made our way back to the cars via Medlow Gap. Overall it was a great day with fabulous views, and pleasant weather.</p>	<p><b>Nigel Weaver</b></p> <p>Greg Bray</p> <p><i>P Members</i> Nicola Piper Sagar Thakkar Petros Nikoloudis Alexandra Lazar Sally Fallon</p>

## Can't think of a walk to lead?

There are well over 1,000 overnight and extended trips outlined in the Historical Walks Database, found by logging in to the Members Area on our website and following the link to Historical Walks Record

[www.sbw.org.au](http://www.sbw.org.au)

Here you will find a list of all the overnight or extended walks run by the club from its inception to the present day. Look at the region you are interested in and see what walks have been done there in the past!

Use this wonderful resource to help plan your next walk!

Date, Walk Location & Route	Participants
<p><b>18 Nov AREA: Lower Blue Mountains (Erskine Creek) GRADE: S222</b></p> <p><b>START AND FINISH PLACE:</b> Glenbrook</p> <p><b>ROUTE DESCRIPTION:</b> Nepean Lookout, Jack Evans Track, Erskine Creek downstream towards Nepean River. Return by same route.</p> <p>This walk had intended to reach the junction of Erskine Creek and the Nepean River but we fell short by a kilometre. A combination of large boulders and dense thickets of vegetation slowed our progress right down. Even so we managed to enjoy a couple of swims in the creek (water temperature just nice) and Erskine Creek Gorge offers terrific views and scenery. A snake that tried to join us for afternoon tea had both species heading in opposite directions. Next time anyone wants to do this trip, consider it as an overnighter or take a shortcut across the ridge. Or maybe just float down on lilos.</p>	<p><b>David Bell</b></p> <p>Misako Sugiyama Tim Yewdall Stanley Wong Debbie Yeh Pam Campbell</p> <p><i>P Members</i> Fiona McRostie Genevieve Wilson Jade Chang</p>
<p><b>18 Nov AREA: Leura, Mt Solitary GRADE: L333</b></p> <p><b>START PLACE:</b> Leura <b>FINISH PLACE:</b> Katoomba</p> <p><b>ROUTE DESCRIPTION:</b> Leura, Lyrebird Dell, Sublime Point, Sublime Point Ridge, Kedumba River, traverse the foot of Mt Solitary, Cedar Gap, Feredal Pass, Furber Steps, Katoomba</p> <p>The walk started on the scenic track to Sublime Point with magnificent views to the area we were to walk later in the day. The descent of Sublime Point did not present a big challenge to the party of skilful and capable bushwalkers and we had morning tea at the junction with the abandoned Lindemann Pass track. The nose of Sublime Point ridge was marked with a cairn and Helen recognised the track used on previous SBW trip in the area.</p> <p>Following the ridge downhill appeared to be tricky at the beginning but thanks to some good teamwork we quickly got back "on track". The walk lived up to it's name, and various navigation techniques were used on our way down to Kedumba River. We had our lunch in the shade next to the river. Navigating the ridge towards Mt Solitary was much easier, and with only 400m to climb we made a good progress to the targeted 600m height.</p> <p>Traversing around the mighty Mt Solitary proved to be easier than expected and we tried to follow the flattest areas with only the covering of bracken on the eastern side of the ridges slowing us down. Unfortunately some of us had ignored the advice for using gaiters and some badly scratched legs and knees testified to the merciless lawyer vine. After crossing the dry Chinaman's Creek and another two gullies, we started heading north and approaching the foot of Korrowal Knife Edge, with the scrub becoming thicker. Despite everyone starting with a minimum of 2.5l of water the whole party was running low and everyone was pleased to reach the main track at Cedar Gap. There we decided to cut the walk short exiting via Golden Stairs, with Helen and Cal running ahead to bring the car from Katoomba oval.</p> <p>A fantastic job from both, arriving back just in time to meet the rest of the party with cool water at the top of the stairs! A day of adventure and challenges in the bush with a great party of strong walkers!</p>	<p><b>Toni Bachvarova</b></p> <p>Calogero Panvino Lucy Keatinge Peter Cai James Cryer Helen McDonald John Robb</p>
<p><b>24 Nov AREA: Ben Bullen State Forest GRADE:S222E</b></p> <p><b>START AND FINISH PLACE:</b> Ben Bullen State Forest</p> <p><b>ROUTE DESCRIPTION:</b> The Southern Valleys</p> <p>West of the Great Divide, these valleys encapsulate in a relatively small area, everything that is exciting and interesting about bushwalking – incredible rock sculptures, tall pagodas, narrow slot canyons, magnificent caves, verdant forests and more.</p>	<p><b>Yuri Bolotin</b></p> <p>Lynette Preston Peter Cai</p> <p><i>P Members</i> Meg Kwon</p>

Date, Walk Location & Route	Participants
<p><b>23–25 Nov AREA: Budawangs GRADE: M222</b></p> <p><b>START PLACE:</b> Wog Wog campsite <b>FINISH PLACE:</b> Endrick carpark</p> <p><b>ROUTE DESCRIPTION:</b> Corang Peak, Bibbenluke, camp Mt Tarn, Broughton, Hidden Valley, Vines, Qitly Clearing, Red Rocks</p> <p>See page 7 for full report</p>	<p><b>Ian Wolfe</b></p> <p>Richard Lall Nada Curac Grace Love Peter Love Rod Wales Ted Nixon Glenn Draper Valarie Hannaford Vic Gosbell James Swinton Jim Close</p> <p><i>P Members</i> Rainer Weeger Alan Olsand</p>
<p><b>25 Nov AREA: Blue Mountains GRADE: Easy</b></p> <p><b>START AND FINISH PLACE:</b> Blackheath</p> <p><b>ROUTE DESCRIPTION:</b> Blackheath Wander</p> <p>The walks went well. Little Justine loved the first loop but not much when we stopped except for morning tea. The views were very nice and a cool change mid walk on the second loop was greatly appreciated. The pies at the Ivanhoe in Blackheath were quite nice and dead cheap!</p>	<p><b>Emmanuelle Convert</b></p> <p>Vivien de Remy de Courcelles (loop 1 only) Justine de Remy de Courcelles (loop 1 only) Sandra See Lloyd Francis Sheena C Vicky Zhang Bill Wood Doreen Payne Andrew Vidler Rory Fagan</p>

## Communications problems with the club?

Please use the contacts below to resolve any problems you may have!

### Mailing list - want to join, not receiving, having problems?

Contact [communications@sbw.org.au](mailto:communications@sbw.org.au)

**Website - contributions, suggestions, errors?** Contact [webmaster@sbw.org.au](mailto:webmaster@sbw.org.au)

**Address and email change?** Please login to [members.sbw.org.au/default\\_login.aspx](http://members.sbw.org.au/default_login.aspx) to view your Membership Profile screen and the use the green links on the right hand side of the screen to change items as needed.

**Need your SBW website login details?** If you've forgotten or are not sure what your website login details are, please go to [members.sbw.org.au/default\\_login.aspx](http://members.sbw.org.au/default_login.aspx) and click **Forgot Your Password** at the bottom of the Login Box – then follow the prompts.

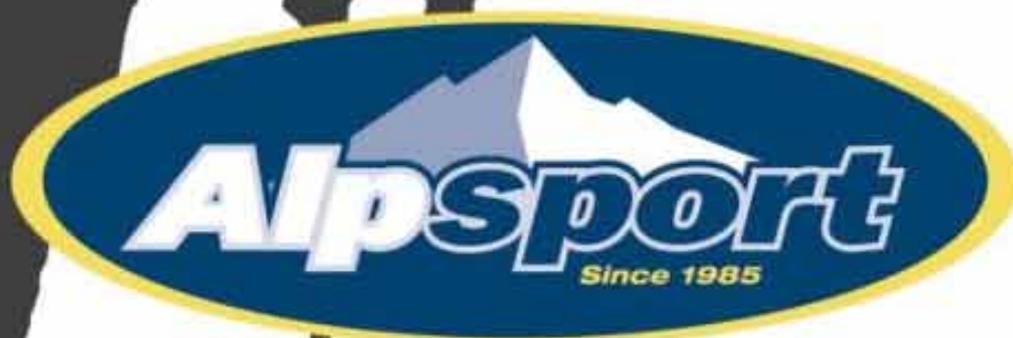


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# NOMINATION FORM

## For Election of SBW's Committee

### 2013 ANNUAL ELECTIONS

I, ..... (full name) a member of the Sydney Bush Walkers Inc (SBW) propose the nomination of the Candidate for election to the Committee position(s) of SBW.

.....  
(Full name of the Candidate)

.....  
Signature of Proposer (or by e-mail)      Date: .....

I, ..... (full name) a member of SBW second the nomination of the Candidate for election to a Committee position(s) of SBW.

.....  
Signature of Secunder (or by e-mail)      Date: .....

#### **Candidate Contact Details**

Telephone:    Work.....Home ..... Mobile: .....  
Email: .....

The Candidate, being a member of the SBW, is nominated for the position(s) of:

- President \_\_\_\_\_
- Vice President \_\_\_\_\_
- Secretary \_\_\_\_\_
- Treasurer \_\_\_\_\_
- Committee Member (5 positions) \_\_\_\_\_

(please indicate preferred roles:          New Members, Membership, Activities, Communications, Skills Enhancement)

(Members may be nominated for more than one position – please indicate at least one.)

.....  
Signature of the Candidate (or by e-mail)      Date: .....

Note: The Nomination Form must be delivered to the Club Secretary at least 7 days before the date fixed for the holding of the Annual General Meeting at which the election is to take place.