



Photo by Vivien de Rémy de Courcelles - Kanangra plateau.

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Opinions expressed in this magazine are the opinions of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the policies or views of The Sydney Bush Walkers.

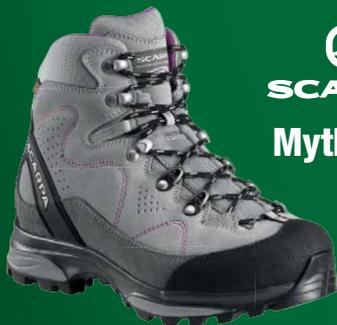
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Paddy Pallin
SINCE 1930

From the President

John Flint

I hope all members are enjoying the spring time for bushwalking, on all the walks I have been on the wildflowers have been amazing. There are plenty of good walks coming up on the program to enjoy so hope to see you out there. I thought I would mention though that we could do with a few more moderate rated walks as the last few months have seen a very good join-up of prospective members. So if you are thinking of putting on a walk or two on the short notice program I am sure they will be well attended. Since I mentioned about prospectives, we had a good turnout last weekend for the skills day, as well as being part of the requirements for gaining full membership most attendees report having an enjoyable day and learning about the bush skills and SBW. Thanks to all the facilitators for taking the time to pass on their knowledge. Committee members Isabelle Moss and Thuy Ho put a lot of effort into organising and making it a successful day.

Isabelle and Tracey Avolio have also been organising a gear swap night for Wednesday 14 of October. We all have some still good gear that we have lying around that we don't use anymore. I'd encourage members to dig it out of their closets and bring it to Kirribilli Neighbourhood Centre on the night as there are many members that would like to acquire some gear

but don't necessarily want to buy a brand new full kit. Both interested buyers and sellers should register their interest with Tracey tracey.avolio@hotmail.com so that we know we have the numbers to make it a successful event. There should be an email reminder in the next few days.

On a different matter altogether, members might have read an article in the Sydney Morning Herald regarding the raising of fees to national parks. Some fees for park access have already been put in place and there is the prospect of fees doubling in some cases at a later date. While it is ok for the government to raise some fees to pay for facilities in the parks, trying to fund the National Parks from user fees to make them financially sustainable is not workable. The parks are there to preserve the environment and can't be funded by a user pays model. It is still early days in the plans for changing the funding so I would encourage SBW members to write to their local member, the Minister of the Environment Mark Speakman and also the Premier Mike Baird, to stress the importance of having a properly funded National Parks service. Search on "Contact your member NSW Parliament" for all the right places to write or email.



**The latest edition of the
Bushwalking NSW magazine is available for
downloaded at:**

<http://www.bushwalkingnsw.org.au/bushwalker-archives/>

*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*

New members

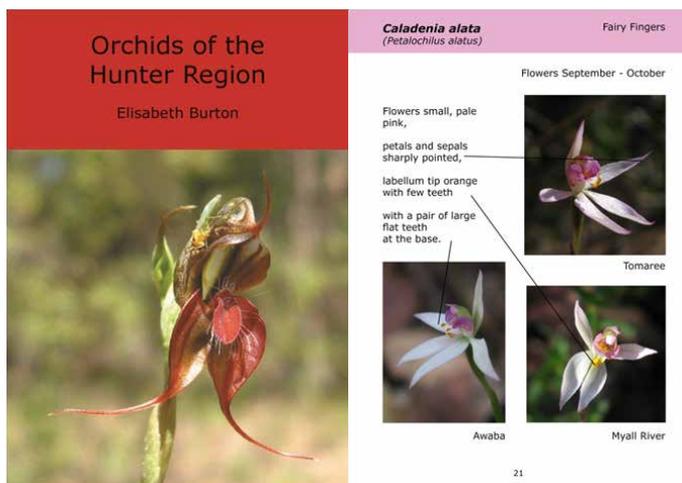
The committee approved the following new members at the June meeting:

Adrian Magno
James Blair

Michael Johnstone
Helen Anne Johnstone

Book review

Frank Grennan



Identifying orchids has never been easier with this new book *Orchids of the Hunter Region* by Elisabeth Burton. Unlike other publications the emphasis of this book is to help the reader with identification through the use of labelled photographs. As a novice to the world of orchids this feature is also an educational tool, as it helps identify the different parts of the plant. The catalogue of original photographs provides the Orchid enthusiasts with the location and flowering times of over 150 species. The book is the culmination of eight years' work while collecting orchid specimens for the herbarium at the Botanic Gardens Trust, Sydney. This book is certainly an asset to any orchid enthusiast's library.

Burton, E. (2015). *Orchids of the Hunter Region*. Newcastle NSW: Elisabeth Burton. ISBN : 9780646934242

Social Program

Wed 14 Oct - Sell, Swap, Buy used and loved Bushwalking Gear. Bring your gear, relatively new clothing and footwear to the SBW Sell, Swap, Buy evening extravaganza. All gear welcome across the range of SBW activities: hiking, climbing, canyoning... So clear out your cupboards, bring it in and free up some space. Just started with SBW and want to spend your money wisely or need to refresh your gear? Come to the Sell, Swap, Buy evening where gear will be on sale at great prices. Plus talk to the real experts about what to get and buy, we are out there doing the off track and over nights and who best to get advice from than those doing the walking every week? For this great event to go ahead please register your interest and your gear list with Tracey Avolio – tracey.avolio@hotmail.com by the 30th of September.

Wed 21 Oct - Peru Trekking. One of the world's top destinations for high mountain trekking, come and see the possibilities for yourself. Lesley Clarke has run a number of outstanding treks in the region and will also preview some future options. Slideshow of past trekking routes to Machu Picchu and in the north, a peek at future plans or find out how to get a trip organised with Colonia and with Lesley's help.

Wed 18 Nov - Remote Mongolia. Mongolia remains one of the world's last truly undiscovered trekking destinations; a land steeped in legacy created by the warriors of Chinggis Khan who created the largest land empire that the world has seen. Mongolia is a land of dramatic contrasts from barren mountains to emerald green seas of rolling grasslands dotted with herds of horses and the snowy white dwellings of today's nomadic herders. This presentation will highlight the trekking in the Wild West of Mongolia between the Twin Peaks of Kharkhiraa and Turgen and show the different contrasts that this beautiful remote country offers.

If you have any ideas for social events, contact Tracey Avolio and Jan Spencer: social@sbw.org.au

*All meetings are held at the Kirribilli Neighbourhood Centre, Fitzroy St Kirribilli and start at 7.35 pm.
The KNC is within easy walking distance of Milson's Point station.*

Social Evenings are preceded by a pre meeting dinner at the Mad Italian, a cheap and cheerful Italian restaurant just around the corner at 5A Broughton St, where club members congregate from 6.30pm on.

Walks in the Flinders Ranges

7 – 16 Aug: Sandra See



Leader: David Rostron. Participants: Wayne Steele, Wendy Lippiatt, Vivian Winthorpe, Richard Winthorpe; Daniel Laver (now living in Adelaide) and Sandra See.

We met at Wilpena pound in the Flinders Ranges on the afternoon of 7 August with Wendy, Wayne, Richard and Vivian having arrived overland from Sydney whilst the Leader, Sandy and Daniel made the 5 hour trip by car from Adelaide airport. After stocking up with last minute items (grog, lollies and petrol) we drove to Parachilna gorge where we camped on a cool night. This is the northern end of the Heysen trail which extends south for about 1200 km past Adelaide.

On waking to a sunny day, half the party set off to climb 500 m to the top of Flinders Range at 747 m and proceed along the range for 3 km lunching at Mt Bell which had 360 degree fabulous views. However this was a very scratchy introduction to Flinders with Wayne, the leader for this section, literally dripping blood from numerous scratches on his legs. We dropped down to the saddle and followed 'the creek' (no water in it) to Dead goat soak where we met the rest of the party. With David and Vivian suffering respiratory infections, and with Richard for company they had wisely decided to follow the direction of the Heysen Trail, a relatively flat section and were found sunning themselves at Dead Goat Soak after covering the bodies of two long dead goats! As promised water was available and most of the party camped tentless with uninterrupted views of a magnificent starry night.

Next day the whole party walked out along Wolf

creek following a gorge to a non existent spring. Despite this we found a charming lunch spot before heading back to the cars. With plenty of light we drove to Aroona station ruins via Brachina gorge. We camped for the night there amid very well maintained facilities with toilets and tapped spring water.

The wind had picked up and it was still windy next morning when we set out with water for our first overnight trip to the top of the range just below Walkindi peak. Finding a new route to the top – a 500m ascent – we intended to stop at a delightful high campsite where the leader had camped on four separate occasions. The cold westerly wind and the exposed position however led us to reluctantly return to the cars after waiting about an hour hoping the wind would drop. The surrounding spinifex meant any sparks from a campfire were dangerous and could easily start a fire.



Back at the cars we filled up with spring water and headed to Bunyeroo where we met up with Don Finch's party of six from SBW who were day tripping the Flinders Ranges and Mt Remarkables NP. That evening five of our group camped at Bunyeroo gorge in a natural river camp setting. A front passed through with a few spots of rain (in retrospect a warning we neglected to heed).

Next day it was a beautiful sunny day with no wind and the party of five set off carrying water for a high camp on Mt Abrupt where the leader promised (guaranteed) a six star cliff top camping experience with magnificent views on sunset and sunrise. So convinced were the party that the weather would be perfect (the previous front had passed 12 hours before) no tents were taken. After all they would only spoil the anticipated view of a magnificent sunrise peaking over the mountains.



We achieved the high camp and found it to be as wonderful as the leader had described. Daniel, Richard and Sandy set off to climb Mt Abrupt which was an extraordinary exposed rock experience. On reaching the summit we found the previous climbers had come two months previously. Views were sensational and we felt elated. The wind continued to freshen as we returned to our high camp and to rewards of mars bars from the leader.

We began to notice that the clear skies had changed and a number of rain squalls were visible to the west and heading our way. We made an excellent fire and celebrated our achievement enjoying dinner in daylight as cloud and wind increased bringing a few spots of rain. The leader had investigated potential overhangs nearby but there was nothing specifically helpful. From previous experience the leader believed that any rain squalls would only last for a couple of hours and then pass. Some went to bed, the rest stayed by the fire for several hours patiently waiting for stars to appear heralding a dry cloudless night. It was not to be.

Rain continued then stopped for a few hours enabling some sleep to be had. By 3.00am more rain had the leader, Daniel and Vivian up keeping the fire going throughout the night. The magnificent early morning views promised by the leader did not materialize. All

was obscured by cloud - a typical Blue Mountains wipeout! The rating deteriorated from 6 stars to minus 2 stars as we had breakfast between showers and tried to dry off our wet sleeping bags. We packed up and descended the ridge in driving rain to the saddle where we dropped off to the east and descended that ridge and followed it to the Heysen trail and hence to the vehicles.



We were cold and wet but cheered up on seeing the anxious faces of Wayne and Wendy waiting for us. There had been power outages in Adelaide overnight and a severe storm warning for the Flinders! They were getting ready to conduct a search party with Don Finch if we had not returned by 12 midday. After changing into dry clothes and warming up we headed off to Wilpena resort where the leader insisted we should spend the night (as his guests) as compensation for our disappointing high camp experience. Who could say no to hot showers, warm beds with clean sheets and a washing machine and drier to clean our wet and muddy clothes? Not to mention a lovely dinner by a fire in the resort. As the weather continued to look grim, Daniel decided to drive back to his young family in Adelaide. It seemed unlikely we would be doing much more walking.

We awoke to a surprisingly fine clear day. Richard, Vivian and Sandy set off to climb St Mary peak, a 6 hour return journey, which the others had done previously so they set off to Mt Remarkables. Being a beautiful day, Richard did not stop to have any water for about an hour but when he did he found he had bought 750mls of rum! Not wanting to carry it he hid the rum and we proceeded to climb the track only to find that after awhile we seemed to have lost it. We carefully followed three cairns but could not find the track despite exploring a number of possibilities and bush bashing for about an hour and a half. Deciding to give up and return to Wilpena we proceeded down only to find the correct track! We grasped the opportunity and climbed to St Mary peak leaving Vivian at the saddle as she was suffering from a respiratory infection that had worsened. Richard and Sandy plowed ahead and reached the summit - what astonishing views of Wilpena pound and the Flinders Ranges. We were able to see Mt Abrupt which we had climbed the

previous day. Descending the 6 km back to Wilpena we retrieved the rum and came across a herd of goats scampering along the track. Our 6 hour trip had taken over 7 hours!

We drove to Wilmington , the northern access to the Remarkables where we met up with our leader and the rest of our party. Staying in cabins due to potential wet weather we made the most of it and had a very convivial pre dinner drink or two.

Next day we drove to Melrose, stopping briefly at this very picturesque town before setting out to climb Mt Remarkable 996 m – a 4 hour return trip on track all the way. On the way up there were wonderful views of the surrounding agricultural land which looked like a bright yellow and green patchwork quilt. We thought the yellow sections may have been a canola crop. Skirting several scree slopes on the way up – part of the weathering of this 800 million year old landscape – we reached the summit. What should have been a 360 degree view was fairly well obscured by major trees so a little disappointing for all of us.

After walking back to Melrose we rewarded ourselves with coffees in the local bike shop and headed off to Mambray creek. This is the south western entrance to the Remarkables and we camped two nights in a

delightful spot (toilets, tap water and tepid showers available) amid cypress pines and Murray River red gums thought to be hundreds of years old. Here we found picturesque walks from 1 hour to 11 hours. Opting for the Hidden gorge walk it turned out to be quite stunning although at least a dozen creek crossings meant wet feet were a mandatory by-product. Next morning some wallabies and young emus came investigating our campsite and they got up close and personal. It is exciting to look each other in the eye with only a meter or two separating you. Talking to a local we were told it is the emu 'dad' who looks after the chicks once they are born while mum heads off for rest and recreation (now there's an idea).

A farewell diner was had before heading back home. The leader and Sandy were very kindly dropped at Port Pirie to get the bus to Adelaide while Wayne and Wendy, Richard and Vivian headed overland via Renmark and Broken Hill. In all, we had had some wonderful experiences in the Flinders Ranges and it was all due to the careful planning of our leader David Rostron.

PS When the leader says 'you won't need a tent' – read this story and make up your own mind!



Walk updates

Don't forget to check the Short Notice Activities bulletin for any amendments to the quarterly program such as changes in walk dates.

Many walks that go into the walks program are planned weeks or months ahead and unforeseen circumstances can arise in the meantime affecting walk details and dates.

Walks and Activities Report

Emmanuelle Convert

Leaders: After the activity, please fill in the google form on the SBW website [here](#). Email your photos to e_convert@hotmail.com and the editor@sbw.org.au

Please keep the signature sheet as this is a legal document. If you want your report to be published as an article, email the report and any photos (jpeg or tiff format) to editor@sbw.org.au.

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| 1 Aug 2015 | Ten Mile Hollow | Dharug | Angela Beveridge |
| <p>Easy terrain and a fun day out with a good group. Add in a few points of historical interest, some flowers identification, some gawping at the hillsides of Gymea Lillies, some nicking of 'wild' oranges (leader) and perfect weather conditions, and all in all you get a good day out. Which we did!</p> | | | <p>John Kennett Jim Close Genevieve Savill Bronwen O'Dwyer Margaret Rozea</p> <p><i>P Members</i></p> <p>Alexa Bullen</p> |

Willis's Walkabouts

Build Up & Wet

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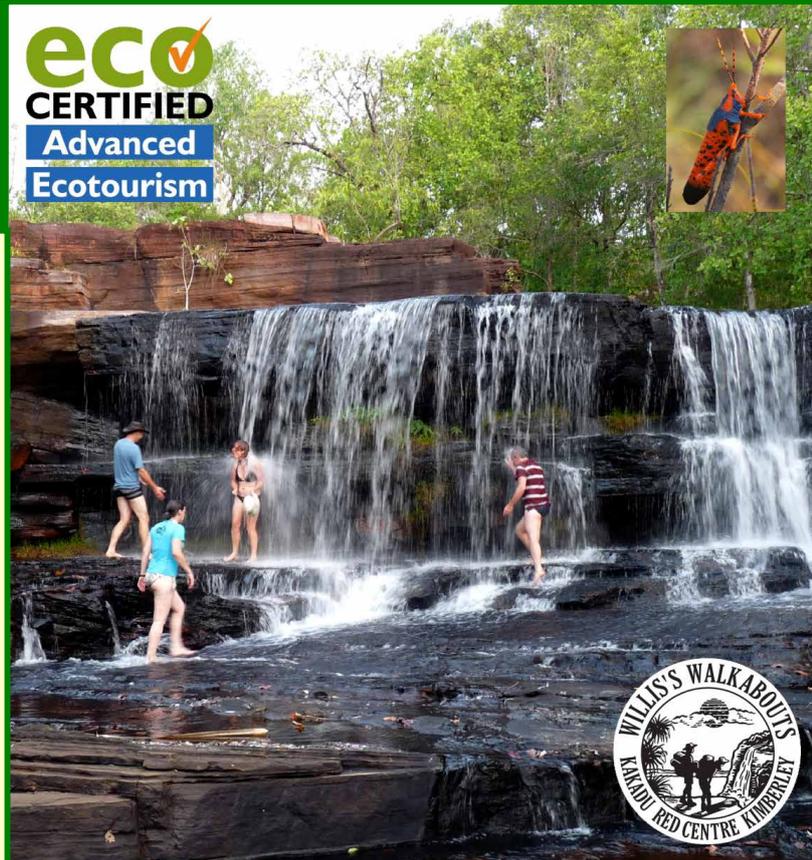
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| <p>1 Aug 2015</p> <p>Good walk with no dramas. Wished the horse "happy birthday"</p> | <p>Wild Dogs</p> | <p>Blue Mountains NP</p> | <p>Tim sutherland</p> <p>Chris Dowling Frances Botrell Nicola Piper Sandra See Virginia Waller</p> <p><i>P Members</i></p> <p>Jean Huang Dave Brooks</p> |
| <p>1 - 2 Aug 2015</p> <p>We set off mid morning and arrived at the camp site around midday. We spent most of the afternoon exploring Breakfast Creek before getting into the serious business of cooking our gourmet meals over the campfire. We made fresh pizzas, chicken and chorizo paella, Chinese dumplings and hot pot, and Japanese rice and barbequed meat, with chocolate parfaits and a Pavlova for dessert, amongst other delicious stuff. All the food came up really well and we cooked and ate for about three hours, sharing our dish amongst each other. On day 2 we slowly made our way to the Coxs River before climbing out via Ironmonger spur. Congratulations to Trish who returned to overnight walking after a hiatus of 25 years and to Mindy who experienced her first ever camping weekend in the Blue Mountains.</p> | <p>Wild Dogs Gourmet Weekend</p> | <p>Blue Mountains NP</p> | <p>Bruno De Villenoisy</p> <p>Peter Cai John Flint David Trinder Daryl Watson</p> <p><i>P Members</i></p> <p>Mindy Trinder Trish Watson</p> |
| <p>1 - 2 Aug 2015</p> <p>Another great trip out to 100 Man Cave with a side trip to the spectacular 1000 Man Cave. The weather was generally kind with clear skies however cold with a bit of wind and light rain during our return on Sunday morning.</p> <p>A highly engaged and strong group who managed the terrain without any real difficulties and contributed to yet another fantastic happy hour!</p> <p>One of our merry throng modelled the latest in head to toe 'puffy' fashion with jacket, pants and matching 'moon' boots – I suppose you had to be there to witness the spectacle.</p> <p>Three of our group (somehow) extended their walk with an unplanned visit to Coal Seam Cave – this added a bit of excitement for the remainder waiting anxiously at Kanangra Carpark!</p> <p>Congratulations to Prospective Members Joan, Kate and Joel - on completing an overnight Q-walk and especially Joan Chan who has now qualified for Full Membership.</p> | <p>100 Man Cave (Overnight)</p> | <p>Kanangra-Boyd NP</p> | <p>Robert Carter</p> <p>Tracey Avolio Angela Barton Bill Raffle Geoff Bishop</p> <p><i>P Members</i></p> <p>Joan Chan Kate Miles Joel Landon-Lane</p> |
| | | | |
| <p>2 Aug 2015</p> <p>See July Magazine</p> | <p>Narrow Neck Exploration #2</p> | <p>Blue Mountains NP</p> | <p>Alex Allchin</p> <p>Michael Browning Geoff Goodyer Ted Nixon Tim Yewdall</p> |

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| 3 - 5 Aug 2015 Kanangra-Boyd NP | Kanangra to Katoomba | Blue Mountains NP, | Robert Carter Geoff Bishop |
| <p>Another walk that had been languishing on the bucket list for some time however completed in a little more relaxed manner than those who prefer extreme walking. This walk was a continuation of the 100 Man Cave walk completed on 1-2/8/15 with Geoff and I spending a very windy, cold and sometimes wet Sunday night in the picnic shelter at Kanangra Walls Carpark.</p> <p>We had very cold weather and strong winds for most of the walk – very chilly crossing Kanangra Creek and Coxs River – however mostly clear skies. Most of the water run off along Narrow Neck was solid ice. Day 1 we walked from Kanangra Walls to Konangaroo Clearing; day 2 to Medlow Gap and day 3 to Katoomba Station.</p> <p>Overall and despite the conditions this was a great adventure and certainly one that I will repeat as an add-on to future 100 Man Cave walks. It was great to spend a few more days on the track and share a memorable experience with Geoff Bishop who also recently completed the Great North walk with me back in May 2015.</p> | | | |



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| 4 Aug 2015 | Scotland Island | Ku-ring-gai Chase NP | Leigh McClintock |
| <p>Scotland Island was not at its best. Cloudy skies made Pittwater look grey, instead of blue. And our visit coincided with Pittwater Council's occasional household rubbish clean-up , giving the roads on the island the appearance of a linear rubbish tip!</p> <p>Nonetheless an enjoyable outing for all participants, speculating about West Pittwater lifestyles, and meeting a few of the natives. Impressive acceleration shown by Anna Wells as she raced along the wharf to hail down the ferry on our return trip.</p> | | | Anna Wells Tim Yewdall Pamela Irving <i>Visitor</i> |
| | | | Marjorie Gamble |

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|---|--------------------------------|----------|---|
| 5 Aug 2015 | Creeks from Engadine to Audley | Royal NP | Melanie Freer |
| <p>There were no injuries on the walk. All people completed the walk. The walk started at 8.45 and finished at 4.00 pm. We crossed 3 creeks and stopped by Audley cafe for ice-cream.</p> | | | Jenny Stephens Margaret Rosea Brian Tomney Petros Nikolouis Michelle Rose Alice yang |
| | | | <i>P Members</i> Svet Orrock |



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| <p>5 Aug 2015</p> <p>Beautiful sunny but cold day. Left station by 8.40am. Morning Tea at 10am beside the new Calna Creek bridge. Mt Kuring-gai by 11.40am then took Pipeline track to Appletree Bay for lunch. Back to Berowra by 3.15pm.</p> | <p>Berowra Valley Circuit Berowra Valley Regional Park</p> | <p>Robyn Christie</p> <p>Sally Reynolds Margaret Rozea Peter Cunningham</p> <p><i>P Members</i></p> <p>Bruce Worthington</p> <p><i>Visitor</i></p> <p>8 Bush Club Members</p> |
| <p>6 Aug 2015</p> <p>After talking to a park ranger at the entrance to the National Park gates, a decision was made to amend the walk due to some track changes around Flat Creek. The navigational duties were handed over to Tracy Edwards who took us on a circuit which included the Carrol Creek, Governor Phillip and Pipeline tracks. Another lovely evening in the bush.</p> | <p>Forestville Circuit Garigal NP</p> | <p>Genevieve Savill</p> <p>Tracy Edwards Jim Close Susan Healey Philip Worledge Judy Dent Bill Raffle</p> |
| <p>8 Aug 2015</p> <p>Given this walk was marketed as a pre-Q walk suitable for new prospectives building up their fitness there was a surprising number of full members signed up.</p> <p>As well as completing the circuit including Olive, Hominy and 248 tracks we did a few side trips to Mt Olive (and Mt Olive trig), Emerald Pool, several look-outs and rock platforms. The pace was relaxed with plenty of breaks to enjoy the views and sunshine. A few good examples of aboriginal engravings were located and Popran National Park was looking superb with many wild flowers in full bloom. Congratulations to Claire Bradford for completing her first walk with the club.</p> | <p>Emerald Pool Circuit Popran NP</p> | <p>Genevieve Savill</p> <p>Angela Beveridge John Kennett Lin Kennett Rod Wales Andrew Vilder Petros Nikoloudis Michelle Rose Sue Tiller</p> <p><i>P Members</i></p> <p>Alexa Bullen Claire Bradford</p> |



Popran National Park - Emerald Pool Circuit August 2015



SBW members are eligible for Free Paddy Pallin Club membership.
Mention the Paddy Pallin ad in this newsletter and they will honor this offer!

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| <p>8 - 9 Aug 2015</p> <p>Perfect winter walking weather for our overnight walk to Konangaroo Clearing. Beautiful blue skies and cool temperatures made for easy walking. The Coxs River being a very low .17m made our ankle freezing walk though it all that much quicker and we were setting up camp before 4pm. Yay! Great weekend had by all.</p> <p>Congratulations to Anne and Michael Johnstone for completing their overnight Q walk.</p> | <p>Konangaroo Clearing Blue Mountains NP, Kanangra NP</p> | <p>Frances Bottrell</p> <p>Margot Bull Joanne Armstrong</p> <p><i>P Members</i></p> <p>Anne Johnstone Michael Johnstone Ross Jamieson Jack Cocking</p> |
| <p>9 Aug 2015</p> <p>From Katoomba Oval we visit the Ruined Castle where we had morning tea, before continuing up Koorowall Knife-edge to Mount Solitary and Melvilles Lookout for a perfect view lunch. Return back the same way to Katoomba Oval. Overall was a good walk with great company!</p> | <p>Mt Solitary Return Blue Mountains NP</p> | <p>Tracey Avolio</p> <p>Robert Carter Kylie Carter Jim Close Chris Dowling Rachel Grindlay Jo Squires Edward Squires Jose Correa Susan Healey Peter Cai Karen Kool</p> <p><i>P Members</i></p> <p>Tiger Alberta</p> |
| <p>12 Aug 2015</p> <p>The Thursday night walk was moved to Wednesday night this week so it was good to see many of the regular walkers were able to attend. We did a slight variation to the normal route climbing up to Harold Reid reserve and venturing out to the lookout for spectacular views of middle harbour. Another enjoyable evening walk.</p> | <p>Sugarloaf Bay</p> | <p>Genevieve Savill</p> <p>Angela Beveridge Jim Close Philip Worledge Tracy Edwards Jenny Stephens</p> |
| <p>15 Aug 2015</p> <p>We completed the Mill Creek "11km Circuit" walk in the morning, followed by a civilized lunchbreak sitting at the picnic tables. Finches Line circuit was completed in the afternoon at the same time as a history lesson courtesy of the copious information boards detailing the convict road building heritage along the Great North Road.</p> | <p>Wisemans Ferry Brace Dharug</p> | <p>Angela Beveridge</p> <p>Genevieve Savill Margaret Rozea Kate Griffiths Margaret Baz</p> |
| <p>15 Aug 2015</p> <p>A lovely late winter's day in the Blue Mountains with mainly clear skies making for spectacular views.</p> <p>An energetic and fit group who knocked this 21km walk over in a quick time. For some of us this was the last hit out before tackling the Six Foot Track in a day scheduled for the following weekend.</p> <p>The original walk as planned needed to be modified due to the closure of the Golden Stairs and therefore we had a bit extra along residential streets to descend via Furber Steps. However we still managed two decent downs and ups. A slight navigation embarrassment ascending Devil's Hole added a bit more ascent/descent for some of the group!</p> <p>Congratulations to Claire Bradford on completing her first Q-walk.</p> | <p>Katoomba Rollercoaster Blue Mountains NP</p> | <p>Robert Carter</p> <p>Ryan Swaine Petros Nikoloudis Michelle Rose Sue Tiller Karen Kool Peter Cai Barbara Laborczfalvi John Currie Cathy Hui</p> <p><i>P Members</i></p> <p>Claire Bradford</p> |

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|--|---------------------------|------------------------|--|
| 15 - 16 Aug 2015 | Merrigal Creek, Wild Dogs | Blue Mountains NP | Tim Sutherland Bill Raffle Garry O'Toole Glen Draper <i>P Members</i> Adrian Magno James Blair |
| <p>August 15 was National Day of Relaxation [Can you believe that !].Anyway, we complied with an easy day over Tinpot Hill and down the Coxs River to Merrigal Creek. Beautiful sunny day - and 2 black snakes also thought that! Enjoyed watching a pelican take off from its fishing pool on the river.</p> <p>Sunday was a more traditional Wild Dog event with a couple of decent climbs returning us to the cars at 3 pm. Excellent display of pink boronias on top of Cattle Dog</p> | | | John Kennett <i>P Members</i> Geoff Goodyr |
| 16 Aug 2015 | Kulnura Gyneas | McPherson State Forest | Nigel Weaver Margaret Weaver Jan Dormor Misako Sugiyama Jenny Stephens <i>P Members</i> Chris Cunningham Sue Hailstone |
| <p>Not enough starters for an official walk. Decided to toughen up the walk so that Geoff wouldn't be disappointed. Great day, fabulous weather, early blooming waratahs, prolific wildflowers, rocky narrow ridges, spectacular aboriginal art, big trees, beautiful pristine creeks.</p> <p>On a sunny and mild day we enjoyed spectacular views of Hawkesbury River and the surrounding hills from the heights of Porto Ridge, the top of Peak Hill, and from Green Point Lookout. We also checked out some aboriginal rock carvings and hand stencils. The walk included three off-track sections which made progress sometimes slow, and caused us many small cuts and scratches, especially for the guy out front! Overall it was another fabulous day in the highly scenic hills south of Brooklyn.</p> | | | |

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|---|--|
| <p>16 Aug 2015</p> <p>West Head Circuit</p> <p>Ku-ring-gai Chase NP</p> <p>We caught the ferry from Palm Beach wharf to Currawong on a mild sunny day and ascended the ridge between Currawong and Mackerel for a great view and an early morning tea. The tide was out enough by the time we walked along Mackerel Beach to make a dry crossing to the track to West Head. We passed the WW2 gun emplacement and mingled with all the tourists at West Head Lookout. After a brief inspection of the tramway used to ferry ammunition down to the old wartime guns we headed off to red hand cave, a significant aboriginal site and then to Koolawong lookout for lunch with views across to Patonga and the Central Coast. Heading south from this vantage point we eventually arrived back at Mackerel village where we took the new back track at the extreme western end of the village that led back to the Mackerel track and a final decent into Currawong for cake and the ferry back to Palm Beach. It was a short walk but involved 2 ascents of about 150m and one of 70 m. The original intention was to go on to the Basin, cross the Basin channel and walk to another lookout before arriving at Bennetts wharf. However we ran out of time and the idea of afternoon tea cake at Currawong amongst all the resident wallabies was too good to miss. We saw a wallaby in the bush as well so it seems the wallaby population numbers seem quite healthy at the moment.</p> | <p>Roger Treagus</p> <p>Firas Halawani Nigel Wingate Tom Moss Geoff Coleman Liz La Jan McLean Roger Treagus Kathleen Herz Leigh McLintock David Trinder Pamela Irving Anna Wells Hubert Hasrt</p> <p><i>P Members</i></p> <p>Mindi Gu Eleen Leong</p> |
| <p>20 Aug 2015</p> <p>Wildflower Wanderings</p> <p>Ku-ring-gai Chase NP</p> <p>The leader had not walked in this area for a while but luckily we had a 'local' with us (thanks Jim) to help negotiate the maze that is the Wildflower Gardens. Another very enjoyable evening.</p> | <p>Genevieve Savill</p> <p>Jim Close Susan Healey Melinda Long Barbara Laborczfalvi</p> |
| <p>22 Aug 2015</p> <p>Coalcliff - Illawarra Escarpment - Austinmer</p> <p>Northern Illawarra</p> <p>Our party left Coalcliff station and made our way up the Bullock Track to the great lookouts on the top of the Illawarra escarpment at Mt Mitchell. We enjoyed fabulous views over Stanwell Park and the coastline around Coalcliff. From these lookouts we walked southwards towards Sublime Point, stopping for lunch along the way at another great lookout which had magnificent views all the way along the coastline to Port Kembla. We enjoyed similar fantastic views from Sublime Point before making the steep descent down to Austinmer via about a dozen steel ladders and hundreds of bone-jarring steps. We arrived at the station about 30 minutes before the scheduled train time, to round off a pleasant day that provided us with several spectacular viewing points along the way.</p> | <p>Nigel Weaver</p> <p>Margaret Weaver David Angell Misako Sugiyama Nigel Wingate Patricia Huang Glenn Draper</p> <p><i>P Members</i></p> <p>Suzanne Gapps Peter Bruce Liz Youman Rachel Rugiero Susan Baar</p> |
| <p>22 Aug 2015</p> <p>Wild Dogs</p> <p>Blue Mountains NP</p> <p>This was a good walk to do. Great weather, a fit and varied group and a good variety of terrain: typical wild dog track up Ironpot Mt, a bit of off track across to Tinpot Hill, sunny, grassy meadows down to a pretty river [Julie Andrewesque], then an open, lightly wooded climb, followed by rocky scree and a short hard slog.</p> <p>One black snake sun baking in winter, one fat and languid goanna, and a fantastic close up of a wedge-tailed eagle - we first saw it over the meadows in the distance with its partner. It slowly came towards us and then circled us 3 or 4 time at a height of 30? metres Extraordinary machine! Tail of a jet fighter.</p> | <p>Tim Sutherland</p> <p>Susan Bucknell Huw ap Rees</p> <p><i>P Members</i></p> <p>Garth Ainsworth Alexa Bullen Serge Robidoux</p> |

22 Aug 2015 Six Foot Track in a Day
Kanangra-Boyd NP, Jenolan Karste NP

Blue Mountains NP,

Robert Carter

We could not have asked for better weather in which to complete our 'marathon' despite the forecast being predicting thunder storms during the afternoon.

David Trinder recounted the SBW history of the Six Foot Track in a Day which was conceived by Jan Mohandas as a mark of respect to the early SBW Tiger walkers. The initial event was walked in 1988 and has been held each year since – a fantastic legacy created for SBW by Jan. Incidentally, Jan also conceived the Kanangra to Katoomba in a Day was that was first held in 1989. David has completed the Six Foot Track on 20 occasions – a pretty amazing feat in itself !

Walker numbers were down a little this year with only 14 brave (or foolhardy) souls who met at 6.00 am at Explorers Tree full of energy and eager to get going. Incidentally, the same 14 'energetic' walkers were sore and sorry as they trudged into Jenolan Caves from approx. 4.00 pm with the tail-end charlie (aka Lonely Larry) arriving at 4.58 pm. Everyone did extremely well and should be very proud of their achievement.

Following an injury check, shower and change of clothes we partook in an extended Happy Hour (we talk about this in whispers) followed by a very jovial dinner in the Main Dining Room at Caves House. As usual the hospitality was great including the impromptu Gangnam Style performance.

The only complaint noted was there were insufficient Mint Slices – only because Rory ate most of them – however there were plenty of Tim Tam.

The walkers could not complete the day without the fantastic efforts of the Support Crew – Jim & Valerie Close, David & Mindy Trinder, Joe Laborczfalvi, Anne Marie Cooper and Andrew Vilder. The lengths that these guys went to ensure that we were kept monitored, hydrated and nourished on the track is priceless and we thank them very much for giving up their weekend and vehicles to look after us.

Kylie Carter
Wayne Gardner
Jim Collier
Carley Finn
Barbara Laborczfalvi
Geoff Goodyer
Jane Fielding
Lyonel Tan
Samira Bachir
Rory Fagan
Bill Raffle
John Currie
David Trinder
Jim Close
Anne Marie Cooper
Joe Laborczfalvi
Andrew Vilder

P Members

Simon Tellam
Mindy Gu
Valerie Close



22 Aug 2015

Wild Dogs

Blue Mountains NP

Angela Barton

A very long walk on a very hot day in August. Einion's GPS said we did over 40km and about 2300m of ascent - a little bit different to what I had on the program. It just goes to show how all the little turns in a track and the small ups and downs add up. We started walking at about 7.15am and arrived back at the car at 7.50pm. Due to the heat we gave the climb up Howling Dog and on to Splendor Rock a miss. I carried a water purifier so we could use the Cocks River to re-fill our bottles. We enjoyed the day but were glad to see the campfires at the Camping Ground.

Einion Thomas
Calogero Panvino

| | | | |
|------------------|------------------------|----------------------|--|
| 23 Aug 2015 | Berowra Trig | Popran NP | Genevieve Savill Angela Beveridge Jeff Boyd Tracey Avolio Vivien de Remy de Courcelles Pamela Campbell Melinda Long <i>P Members</i> Andrew Price |
| 28 Aug 2015 | Above Corn Paddock | Wollemi NP | Yuri Bolotin Grace Love |
| 29 Aug 2015 | Hecates Cauldron | Ben Bullen SF | Yuri Bolotin Daryl Watson Joan Chan Lynn Dabbs <i>Visitors</i> Patricia Watson Hae-Young Seo Kevin Platt Ochre Lawson Mike Vogt |
| 29 Aug 2015 | Taffy's Rock | Ku-ring-gai Chase NP | Nigel Weaver George Cagle Rosemary MacDougal Jose Correa Jan Dormor Don Andrews Linda Mallett Melanie Freer Nigel Wingate <i>P Members</i> Garth Ainsworth Peter Bruce Liz Youman |
| 29 - 30 Aug 2015 | Corang Peak, Budawangs | Morton NP | Tim Hagert Glenn Draper Gilda Floyd Michael Floyd Damon Nomad Ted Nixon Alan Osland |

| | | |
|---|--|--|
| <p>30 Aug 2015</p> <p>Mt White to Bar Point</p> <p>This is a repeat of the 2004 walk that identified this as a viable stage for the Great River walk route. The repeat confirmed that this is a good practical off track route where the bush is quite thin on the ridge tops where we walked for most of the day. We were a large party for an extended off track walk, 17 being the limit for the water taxi to take us to Kangaroo Point where our cars were from Bar Point 6km upstream. The walk was a joint SBW/NPA walk. We started walking from the old Pacific Highway at Mt White at 10am and had gained the main north south ridge by 11am. This ridge forms the watershed between the Hawkesbury on the west and Monney Mooney Creek on the east. Navigation was about sticking to the ridgelines, a task made difficult by the lack of views at important ridge junctions. By lunchtime we had made it to a hill 2km north of Berowra trig and had great views of the river near Marlow. Our progress slowed when we reached the prominent hill just north of Berowra trig as we sidled around it to the east. We had a very sure footed party as no one had any problems with the very uneven ground and the succession of rock scrambles.</p> <p>We then traversed Berowra trip to the west and missed the next connection ridge to the east. Having lost quite a lot of altitude we headed down to the eastern shore rather than climb back to the ridge that led to the point of Bar Point. Finally we ended up on a private wharf but discovered a local track that led to the public wharf with the water taxi already coming for us 5 minutes away. As we did on the previous walk to Bar Point in 2004 we enjoyed a bit of a happy hour like party at the end, which was Kangaroo point where the water taxi deposited us. The weather was great and the party very fit and keen on an unusual walk through Popran</p> | <p>Popran NP</p> | <p>Roger Treagus</p> <p>Misako Sugiyama Anna Tiller Margaret Rosea George Cagle Alexa Bullen Mary Watson Richard Fletook Jenny Stephens Petros Nikolovois Michele Rose Jan McLean</p> <p><i>P Members</i></p> <p>Rhys Jones Liz MacKay Mark Wigley</p> <p><i>Visitors from NPA</i></p> <p>Kristine Souter Wayne Moore</p> |
| <p>30 Aug - 4 Sep 2015</p> | <p>Yuraygir Coastal Track</p> <p>Beautiful coastal walking on beaches, rocky platforms and headlands with spectacular views and lots of whale and dolphin sightings.</p> | <p>Yuraygir NP</p> <p>Virginia Riley</p> <p>Pamela Irving Joanne McLachlan Philip Worledge Sandra See</p> <p><i>Visitor</i></p> <p>Jill Austin</p> |

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www.sbw.org.au

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Use this wonderful resource to help plan your next walk!

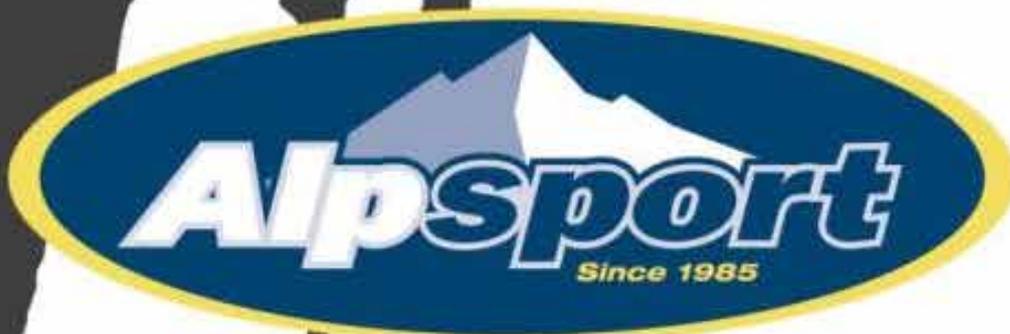


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