

THE Bushwal

MAGAZINE OF THE CONFEDERATION OF BUSHWALKING CLUBS NSW INC.

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WALKING THE LAND WAKING THE PEOPLE

A WORLD HERITAGE CELEBRATION

Wyn Jones *

ATOP Mt Cloudmaker a conversation was heard late in 2000. "Blue Mountains is World Heritage? So what! We knew that for years."

"But the rest of the world knows now." **AND THAT'S THE DIFFERENCE.**

"And by the way it's the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area"

"What a mouthful, I guess the kooris had a shorter name"

And indeed the kooris had numer-

And because we fought for it, Bushwalkers and Greenies. Now World Heritage means that we have to be even more careful in looking after this natural treasure, since it is considered so valuable by all the World. The way we look after it will be scrutinised by State and Federal Governments and by international conventions. More people will come to see its beauty and

wonder; more of us will have to care for it even more.

At last Dunphy's Dream came true. And to give proper public recognition to those conservationists who fought for this honour, bushwalkers need to show

their flag, and display their hearts on the shoulder together with their packs.

Once before we have witnessed a public Walk Event, when in 1992 this same area was walked in 52 days during the Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Walk. This too was a celebration of the natural values and those who had conserved them during the 20th Century. This was in the early days of the campaign for World Heritage listing. More than 100 people joined the walk some for one day, most for more. Wyn Jones walked the entire distance of 450 km. Bushwalking clubs and individuals were invited, and funds were raised for conservation of threatened species in the Blue Mountains.

A New Celebration

Now almost 10 years later and in the cusp of the 70th Anniversary of the Saving of Blue Gum Forest from

logging, we need to Walk the Land for the eyes of the World to see. To show the people our land and how much we care. Bushwalkers were the primary instigators of this conservation and for the World Heritage listing - they took the lead in the battle and should take the lead in this walk. I have chosen a name for this walk Gumtree Songlines, a name which goes to the very heart of the Australian Landscape and the fact

AT LAST DUNPHY'S DREAM CAME TRUE.

that the Greater Blue Mountains is the first area to be listed based on the diversity of the Eucalyptus trees. In the true manner of Walking the Land, this walk is

intended to awaken the many stories of bushwalkers, traditional owners and people of the nearby lands.

That is the difference that World Heritage can make; a much greater appreciation of this vast wilderness and the promise it holds for all people.

Bushwalkers can and should be the ambassadors of this promise.

This Walk cannot and should not be a repetition of the old one in 1992. The Celebratory nature of the Walk suggests we have to do it differently. We have to connect with those communities adjacent to the area; there are 14 different councils or LGA's with diverse land uses from intense mining, agriculture and hobby farming. **There are many stories hidden in these places relating to the Heritage Area, stories that this Walk will help to tell.**

The Gumtree Songline Walk is firstly a bushwalkers walk, it is through the Wilderness. It is to be a relay where the cold coals of the previous campfire are carried and passed to the next team of walkers. Coals from Campfires will be lodged for keeping by all local communities along the way.

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Upper Grose Valley - photo Colin Wood

ous names many of which are embedded in the landscape of the Blueys and on Dunphy's Maps. Would you like to Walk this Land in Celebration of this Great Honour which the World Community has bestowed? Sure, you can walk it anytime and probably have, but how about walking it to tell the world what a super special place it is.

I like to call this Walking the Land, Waking the People. But first what's all this World Heritage about?

The Blueys! World Heritage. Why?

because it is beautiful,
and wild,
because it is
wilderness and so diverse,
because it
has over 90 species of gumtrees
and it
is evolutions' cauldron !

**READ ABOUT THE PHOTO
COMPETITION ON PAGE 5.**

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THE BUSHWALKER

Contributions, letters to the editor, original cartoons and suggestions are welcome. They should be sent to the address below. Except for short notes or letters, all contributions should be accompanied with text file on three and a half inch floppy disk in IBM format or E-Mail.

Advertising rates are available on request. Ring Judy Hellyer 029604-1101 or hellyer@ihug.com.au

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The Confederation of Bushwalking Clubs NSW Inc represents approximately 70 clubs with a total membership around 10,000 bushwalkers. Formed in 1932, the Confederation provides a united voice on conservation and other issues, runs training courses for members, and provides for the public a free wilderness search and rescue service. People interested in joining a bushwalking club are invited to write to the Secretary Bushwalkers NSW at the above address for information on clubs in their area.

Or web site www.bushwalking.org.au

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THE BUSHWALKER

is the magazine of the Confederation of Bushwalking Clubs NSW Inc. It's published quarterly. The aim of the magazine is to provide articles and information of interest to the members of clubs affiliated with the Confederation and Bushwalkers generally. Any opinions expressed by individual authors do not always represent the official views of the Confederation.



THE DUNPHY WILDERNESS FUND,

A FIVE YEAR REVIEW

By John Macris
Conservation Officer

As this magazine hits the streets, a public launch of stage two of the Dunphy Wilderness Fund will be taking place at the Bondi Pavillion on Tuesday 15th May. Premier Bob Carr is to launch the fund and speak on its achievements to date.

The Fund was established in September 1996 by the NSW Government in recognition of the contribution made by Myles and Milo Dunphy to conservation. It has provided one million dollars per annum over five years for the purchase of private and leasehold lands within wilderness areas. On completion of five years of expenditure, approximately 45,000 hectares of land will have been acquired for addition to National Park estate.

In addition to government funding, public donations to support the wilderness acquisition program of the fund now total \$73,100. Almost the entire amount was contributed by environment group The Budawang Committee, for the acquisition of leasehold land in the Budawang wilderness.

Many acquisitions under this fund have directly improved the connectivity of the core reserve system. The example shown here from Guy Fawkes River

National Park in the northern tablelands, clearly demonstrates the conservation benefits achieved so far. The grey area shows the park as it was in 1996, while the dotted areas have all been purchased over the past five years. Over twenty seven thousand hectares in total, with most of the formerly isolated sections of the park now connected.

Other significant acquisitions have been achieved in Washpool, Morton, Oxley Wild Rivers National Parks and the greater Blue Mountains.

Revenue for the fund was to lapse in July 2001, but representations by environment groups produced a commitment that the NSW Government would make resourcing of the Dunphy Fund part of normal budgetary processes and additional to the existing NPWS budget (the fund to date was revenue normally allocated to the capital works budget of the NPWS).

The launch coincides with a public exhibition of Henry Gold's wilderness photography by the Colong Foundation. This runs from 14 to 17 May at the Bondi Pavillion Gallery (Queen Elizabeth Drive, Bondi Beach) and is in support of the wilderness 2000 campaign.

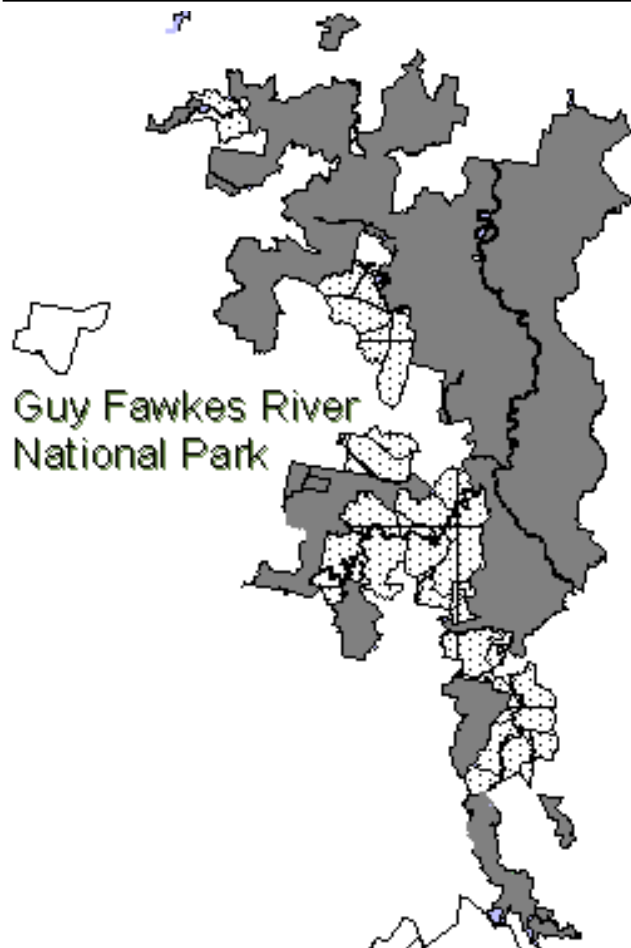
DEUA-TUROSS HANGS IN THE BALANCE

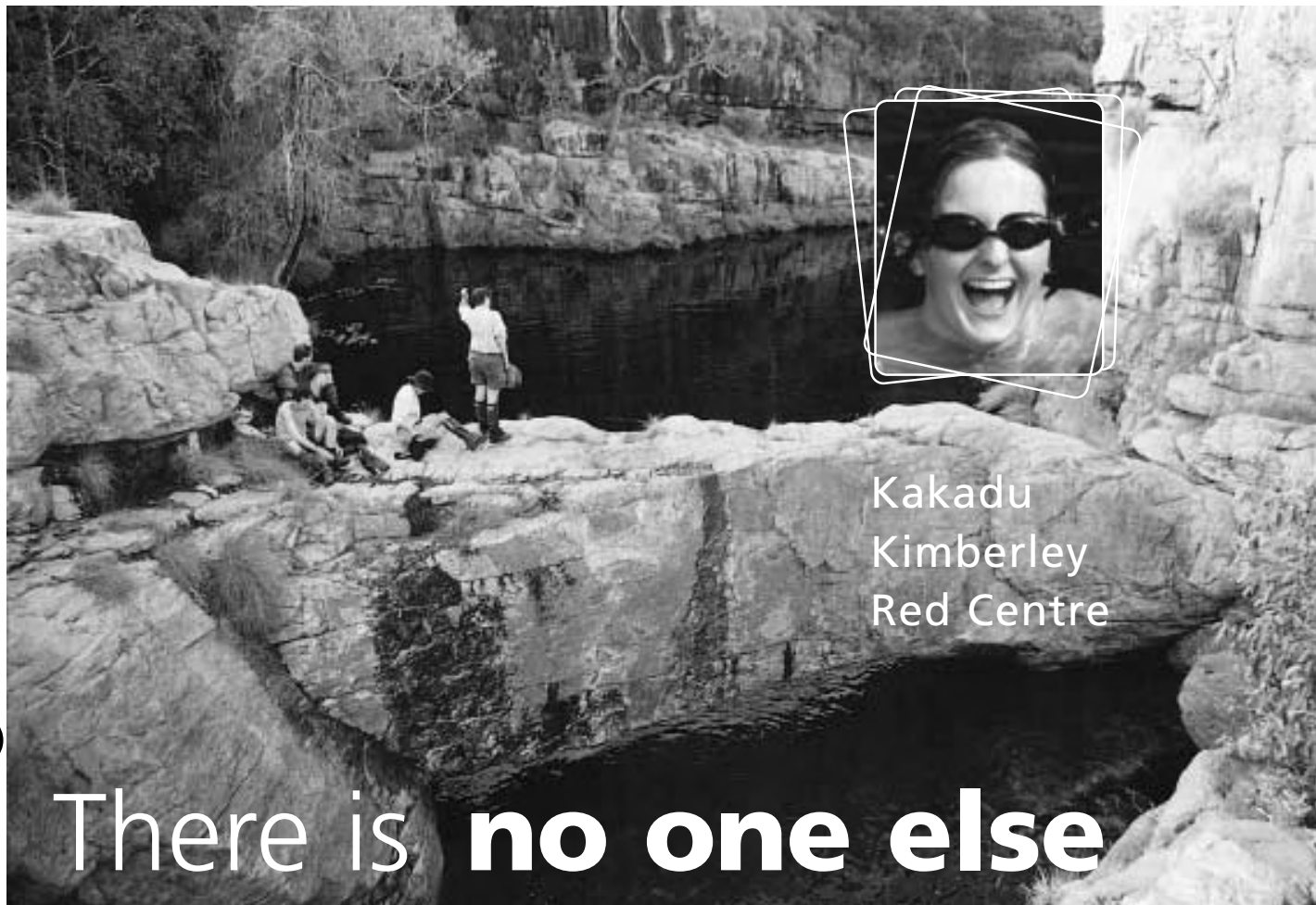
Until 28 May the State Government will be taking public submissions on the future of wilderness areas in southern NSW, one of many being the Deua-Tuross wilderness with its pristine catchments, extensive old growth forests, rare and rich fauna, diverse rainforests and fabulous scenery.

The Government proposes leaving Bendethera and much of Deua National Park exposed to horse and off road vehicle damage and allowing intensive logging in thousands of hectares of formerly identified wilderness in Badja State Forest and in the upper Deua River catchment.

Please write to the Premier supporting the conservation movement's Wilderness 2000 Protection Plan.

Graham Daly
Chairperson
Canopy Native Forest Committee TEC





Kakadu
Kimberley
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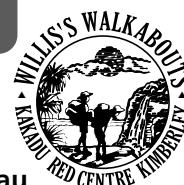
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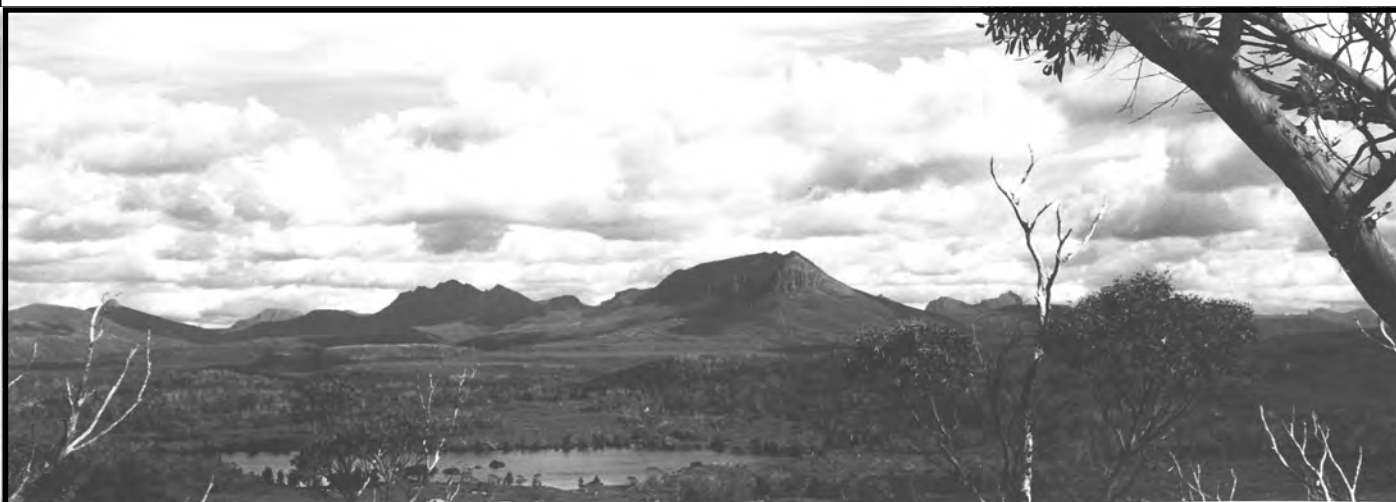
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PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION

TO COMMEMORATE THE 70TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
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Lake Windamere Overland Track - Tasmania - photo Colin wood

ENTRY FORM

NAME.....

ADDRESS.....

.....POST CODE.....

PHONE No.....

Post to - Photographic Competition - Bushwalkers NSW GPO Box 2090 Sydney 1043

CONDITIONS OF HOW TO ENTER

1. Information on 'how to enter' and prizes, form part of the conditions of entry.
2. Entry will be accepted as a photo, print, floppy disk, or on CD in PC format, no slides.
3. Entry is open to all residents of Australia except the prize givers and their employees and immediate families and the executive committee of the Confederation of Bushwalking Clubs NSW Incorporated herein referred to as 'Confederation', and their immediate families.
4. The competition commences on the 15th of May 2001, and closes on the 15th of May 2002.
5. Winners will be notified by mail and all prize winners will be published in the spring 2002 issue of the *The Bushwalker*.
6. Enter as many times as you wish by mailing in the completed entry form together with name and address clearly written on the entry. Separate entry form for each photo (photo copies are OK)
7. The judge's decision in relation to any aspect of the competition is final and binding on each person and no correspondence will be entered into.
8. All entries become property of the Confederation and may be used in future publications unless otherwise stated by the entrant.
9. The Confederation shall not be liable for any loss or damage whatsoever suffered including but not limited to direct or consequential loss, or personal injury suffered or sustained during the course of prize winning trips or in connection with any of the prizes.
10. Confederation reserves the right to publish photos of the winners.
11. Any change in value of the prizes occurring between the publishing date and date of the prize is claimed is not the responsibility of the confederation.
12. Signing the back of the photo or disk confirms the photo belongs to & has been taken by the entrant.

**13. WHILE ENTRY IS FREE, DONATIONS ARE ENCOURAGED AND WILL BE GIVEN TO THE
AUSTRALIAN CONSERVATION COUNCIL.**



BUSHWALKERS WILDERNESS RESCUE TRAINING WEEKEND

Mark Dabbs

The weekend of 31st March, 1st April saw a scruffy (and not so scruffy) mob of around 45 bushwalkers attend the Bushwalkers Wilderness Rescue training weekend. It was held at Cataract Scout Camp, near Appin. The aim of the



Careflight Rescue Helicopter

exercise was to train bushwalkers in the additional skills required for search and rescue, and was based around the new structured training system which BWR is currently developing.

Many aspects of search and rescue were covered, including how the emergency services are structured in NSW, what to do at incident sites and search techniques.

On Saturday morning we were visited by the Careflight Rescue Helicopter - helicopter and all. No, we didn't get a joy flight, although many of us were keen to take it for a spin. We were shown the safety procedures, discussed the workings of the various medical and rescue equipment, radio contact methods along with general discussion. The dangers associated with helicopters was inadvertently demonstrated by some grit being blown into one of our member's eyes during take-off. The down draft of the 5.5 ton helicopter is enormous - anything loose will never be seen again!

The navigation training covered everything from the most basic up to some highly specialised discussions. For those who felt they knew all there was to know, they had the opportunity to head off into the bush with their trusty GPS and search for a small ice cream bucket

with its location only given by a 15 figure grid reference. An interesting challenge, and more difficult than you might think.

Sunday morning saw all in their old clothes for the "Challenge Valley" obstacle course. We got completely dirty and wet, and it was great fun. No broken bones, but lots of smiles. The course record was not broken, but I believe some bloke about 46 years old beat some of the younger ones? Who's not so fit now?

To finish the weekend off we were organised into groups and participated in a simulated search. Starting from a briefing of team leaders, we walked off to the designated bush areas where we used the search techniques and radio skills that we had learnt to find a poor lost soul, returning to base for a final debriefing.

BWR encourages any experienced

bushwalker to join them for the next training weekend. We want to train you in modern search and rescue methods so you can join our squad. Of course, it is also a fantastic social event to meet other clubs and interesting fellow walkers, climbers, cyclists, cavers, canoeists, canyoners and skiers.

See ya next time 'round.

NAVSHIELD 2001 7TH - 8TH JULY

Last year's NavShield was held in Wollemi National Park at Dunns Swamp near Rylestone. The weather was perfect, the scenery spectacular, and whether you entered competitively or socially, the event was heaps of fun.

The Navigation Shield (or NavShield) is an overnight navigation event where teams of competitors attempt to gain as many points as possible by finding their way, on foot only, through wilderness terrain to pre-set checkpoints. There are more checkpoints on the course than can be reached by any team during the event. Each checkpoint is given a score and it is up to the team to decide which checkpoints to visit and to select a route through the course. The team then navigates with

map and compass along their selected route, collecting points at each checkpoint that they visit. The team with the most points at the end of the event wins. There are two events in the NavShield, a one day (8 hour) and a 2 day (30 hour) event.

The NavShield is designed to cater for the whole range of bushwalkers from elite speed demons to people who just enjoy a day out in the bush. The event is a chance for the best navigation and rescue teams in the country to compete, unsupported, in unfamiliar terrain. For the rest of us, it is an opportunity to train our navigation skills in a safe, friendly environment, and to enjoy a day or two exploring the bush.

The winners of last year's event covered 59km during the 30 hour event, almost entirely cross country! Another team

decided on the rather unusual strategy of swimming (in mid-winter) across Kandos Weir to reach a checkpoint, because it was faster than walking around! Other teams decided to walk to one of the checkpoints located on top of a pagoda and then enjoy a long lunch surrounded by magnificent views over the national park.

This year's NavShield will be held on the weekend of 7th - 8th July in an area of around 100 square kilometres of rugged bushland in NSW. The exact location will be made known in the fortnight prior to the event. It is, however, being held in an area of bushland that few bushwalkers visit and the terrain is completely different to the terrain on last year's event. (The course setter promises that there is not a single pagoda to be seen anywhere on the course!). This means that this year's event will be a whole new challenge, and it's a great



A BWR course setter at work

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ARE YOU A CANDIDATE FOR A SEARCH & RESCUE?

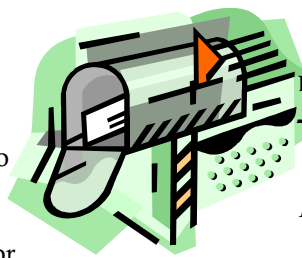
Robert Sloss

A recent search and rescue effort in the Nattai Valley underlines the need to plan your bushwalk beforehand. The leader of a small group planning a day walk purchased a bushwalking guide for the Nattai Valley which the salesperson indicated was the best available, but as a back up they purchased a L.I.C. MAP 1;25000. Having read through the various tracks they decided on the Wanganderry Creek Circuit for a day walk even though the guide states 10 hours' walking time over 2 days. They arrived at the track head at the end of Wattle Ridge Road, Hilltop at 9am and decided that they would walk it in an anticlockwise direction because the first half was an easy going fire trail, then to follow the route back up the Nattai River to Starlights Track and return to their car.

The first problem encountered was the jelly leg syndrome inflicted on the uninitiated to the severe steep 400m drop down the steep mountain side. At the Nattai river they found a well worn track heading off upstream and so off they went. Some 3 km upstream the worn track ended at a river crossing and they became disorientated and apprehensive. Then the third problem happened; a walker fell heavily on their hip and slowed up the walk. Problem number 4; the sun sets early in the Nattai Valley which forced them to stop. Problem 5; no camping gear, no food, and no one back home knew where they were walking or the expected time back.

The next day they became more distressed and bypassed or ignored the marked Starlights Track and spent several hours scrambling up the adjacent steep mountain to phone for assistance, then gave a map reference for a mountain top 5 km away. The search involved a helicopter, police and the Volunteer Rescue Squad for most of whole day. The moral is why bother going to so much trouble planning a disaster when there are many bushwalking clubs who welcome new members?

Don't get lost, join a bushwalking club. Local residents can contact the Confederation of Bushwalkers. Send a stamped addressed envelope to Bushwalkers NSW GPO Box 2090 Sydney 1043 and ask for a clubs list or go to www.bushwalking.org.au/nswpage.html



THE END OF BUSHWALKING - AS I KNEW IT

By Brian D. Saunders
Ron Woodland -

Blanch, (Bushwalker Nov. 2000) is the first person to bring some common sense to the debate on public use of Sydney's great National Parks. He should be commended. This debate has obviously touched a raw nerve amongst outdoor loving people and exposed the resentment that often occurs toward our Park Service.

I find this resentment exists amongst people deprived of old and innocent usages of, especially Royal and Healthcote Parks. Kosciusko Park management is visibly much more user friendly, despite much heavier client usage.

When Ron W. Blanch protests about the loss of firelighting rights, I really wonder whether he knows the full extent of bans existing today on youthful campers. A horrible form of group camping is now only allowed in two places instead of bush camping.

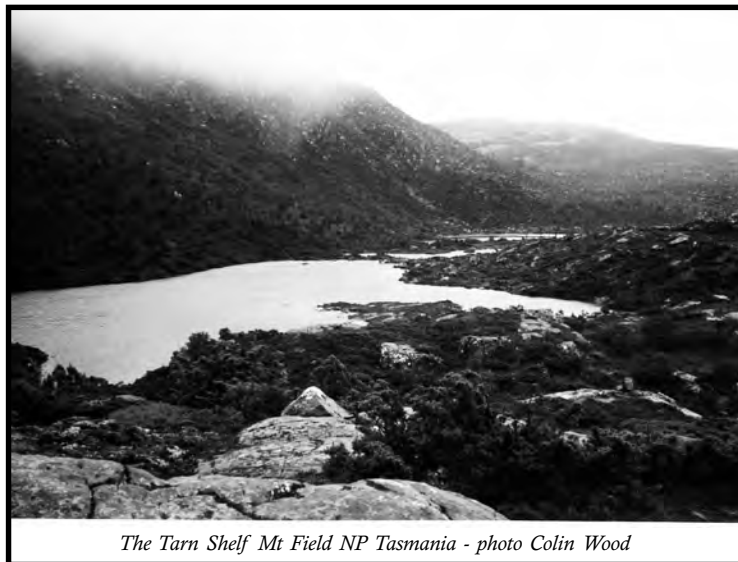
This new camping is eventually to be on land to be reformed and re-hardened. This is an ecologically dangerous practise used previously by N.P. & W.S. and as in the case of Pebbly Beach with disastrous and permanent damage. God spare us from that at beautiful North Era, especially as it is directly below and in full view of Governor Games busy tourist lookout.

Uloola Falls is less important as they can only improve on the previous destructive work done there before, some years back (1968). This damage they readily suggest was done by bushwalkers and campers, which is incorrect.

Bans unfortunately have become the modus operandi of the Park Service.

They have been doing it steadily in 5 year bites ever since they came to power in 1967. They started by banning Verturer Scouts from their First Class Journeys in Royal. Then came the Blue Gum Forest ban bringing to it the over grown condition it is today. Next came Little Marley Beach, claiming that kids were caught cutting and stacking green bush pieces, to dry for future use (Cirea 1982). That's worth a public ban apparently.

Since 1993 I have been addressing occasional meetings whenever possible about these bans. So with the first publication of the N.P.W.S. Brochure called "The Future of Bush Camping" we read the famous words "...we believe the best way to offer enjoyable camping in Royal National Park is by phasing out



The Tarn Shelf Mt Field NP Tasmania - photo Colin Wood

uncontrolled bush camping over five years...". I'm still puzzling over this contradiction.

Well with these veiled accusations being made about campers doing their worst I once took a New Zealand Medical Doctor and trumper to inspect it all. At the end of considerable coastal walking he asked me "... where is all this damage?"

Again after my address one night the then President of the Bushwalker's Federation (name available) summarised my talk on the proposed bans, by saying "...this is the thin end of the wedge. They've gradually been closing and never re-opening places in the Royal National Park for many years".

When next ... Boyd Plateau? Grose Valley? Budawang? Kosciusko Tops? Its time for angry responses; like the fishermen and surfers did, "(with 7am

Continued on page 8

opening)”. *Continued from page 7*

I’m surprised the large clubs don’t publicly protest. However like myself they have gravitated away from the coast to the Blue Mountains and beyond. They’re not safe there though, as the service now controls the main entrance to the Warrigal Mountains with potential for insisting you carry a stove and liquid fuel. It’s okay perhaps but by 7pm you’ll need to be in bed for warmth and a long boring night.

Well those eighteen year olds on the coast may look like amateurs with their K-Mart packs and tents, but clubs should see them as tomorrow’s members and not have them chucked off now. And furthermore, it did once seem a great idea to have this Parks Service. The main activists who pushed for it were none other than the Bushwalker’s Federation with Myles Dunphy and Alan Strom of N.P.A as advocates. Well I don’t know why they bothered. One of the great and most enduring successes of this Service now after 35 years has been to steadily exclude traditional bushwalker/campers, including me.

So you see the irony. Bushwalkers almost entirely influenced these great jobs for Rangers yet their own children and great grand children are turfed out like ferals. In fact feral deer get a better go as grass cutters for those “charmed life” cabins and their privileged lease holders. No question of bans here.

So Ron, I noticed no letters to support you so here I am. Are they fair dinkum? We now have Service officers who are going to teach us Bushwalking. But believe me, this is just a way to control us, and if we agree then we’re agreeing we’ve been naughty boys and girls who deserve it. Don’t cop this.

Another gentleman says we are contributing to the degradation of the National Parks. The hide of him. Not around my camp friend, but I’m ready for any tour of inspection you care to organise to make your point. Set a date.

Yet another tells us that National Parks were founded by far sighted people to protect our unique flora and fauna”. This is incorrect, and ample sources tell us Sir John Roberston dedicated it specifically for “rest and recreation”. Any way the real reason was because the fragmented valleys and large rivers kept the developers out. They did though hack into Heathcote East, Bundeena, Maianbar etc with no concern for flora and fauna.

Well I don’t offer any agreements with authorities Ron and I’m aware the

public’s been bluffed. False claims have been made about damage attributed to us and erroneous statistics quoted to support it. I resent this and so feel entitled to criticise back. Is that vitriolic too?

Mr Brian Saunders, Cronulla, NSW.
18/04/01



RESPONSE TO LETTER FROM MR BRIAN SAUNDERS,

*by Brian Gilligan,
Director General NPWS*

As a conservation agency the National Parks Wildlife Service (NPWS) has a duty to ensure our natural heritage is managed in a sustainable manner so future generations have the opportunity to enjoy the bush as much as Mr Saunders so obviously does.

In Sydney, the NPWS works hard to balance conservation and the needs of an ever-growing number of people, local residents and international visitors, wanting to visit and enjoy the natural environment on the doorstep of Australia’s biggest city.

Royal National Park receives more than three (3) million visitors a year. Before the 1994 bushfires the park had more than 300 bush camping sites that developed on an ad hoc basis, many of which were showing signs of serious erosion.

As part of a Plan of Management for the park formalised last year, the Service is consolidating camping into select areas to allow damaged sites to rehabilitate and minimise visitor impact in the wider reserve. Great effort is going into upgrading these sites so everyone can enjoy them, however bushwalkers can still enjoy bush camping in neighbouring Heathcote NP.

The park cannot sustain the unchecked collection of firewood by a growing number of park visitors. Dead and fallen timber provides important habitat and protection for small native mammals. It is also a source of nutrients as it decays.

To help conserve the environment, ensure visitor comfort, and of course, reduce potential fire hazards, the NPWS has provided gas and electric barbecues in many parks, including the Royal. In all parks, even in remote areas, campers are encouraged to adopt minimum

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impact cooking techniques such as fuel stoves.

Far from being deterred or campers being barred as suggested, more and more people are visiting national parks every year. An independent visitor survey carried out in National Parks in Sydney’s south found that 97 per cent of visitors to Royal NP were satisfied with their visit.

To encourage people to enjoy our natural heritage and help visitors find the level of camping they desire, the Service has just produced a new brochure outlining options in more than 70 national parks, from remote parks offering bush camping to busy reserves close to the major population centres which offer a range of facilities. Camping information is also available on our website, www.npws.nsw.gov.au.

Dear Editor

To Frustrated

Reading the summer issue of the magazine. I note readers’ and contributors’ frustrations in finding places to go and with shortages of fire wood at camp sites.

Having both, a place to go with a camp fire and stacks of firewood, has prompted me to place the ad for “Exy’s Hut appearing on page 17 of this issue

Helping hand.

Dear Editor,

I was at the Kingfisher Pool and to my horror witnessed firsthand the degradation by careless visitors. Also, a brand spanking new tin toilet had been erected alongside what appeared to be a pile of red designer rubble. If we are encouraging visitors by making it easy for them to have a comfortable time it looks like we are also bringing in types that are so comfortable they don’t care to take their own litter with them!! Let them suffer, I say.

Cranky

Dear Editor,

Dear Ed.,

I don’t see it as a problem to take other forms of heating and cooking into a national park. This is one of the many situations we have to take on board as responsible users of the planet. Look at it in the same way you do sun cream, gasmasks and checking your boots in England. Come to think of it, with a bit of lateral thinking, the parks would have provided our sunscreen and gasmasks.

M.Opus

Continued on page 9



Continued from page 8

I recently parked my car in the Kanangra NP parking space, having already paid for my overnight stay, and then had to pay for my car park as well! When I returned the following afternoon, the car had obviously been broken into via the now smashed window. I was horrified, but there was nothing of value in the car to take. Presumably they also did not want the car itself (an '88 corona)

Just thought I'd let the readers know that there seems to be a problem. I have heard of it happening before.

In the last few weeks the NPWS have acquired Lots 1 and 17, Parish Broadmeadows through the Dunphy Wilderness Fund. These two leasehold blocks form part of the high habitat quality old growth areas currently gazetted as Chaelundi State Forest.

People may remember that this patch of forest was at the hub of logging, legal, and parliamentary show downs in the early 1990s.

Acquisition means that about 1,400 hectares (I've yet to get the exact figure for this one) of the State Forest will be revoked for addition to Guy Fawkes River National Park, and subsequently declared as wilderness.

This is additional to the 3,097 ha of Chaelundi further to the east in Chandlers Creek catchment, for which the lease was acquired in September 2000. In spite of the continued trashing of so much unprotected habitat elsewhere, I would suggest that this small step calls for a moment of positive reflection.

Well done to all of the NEFA people and other supporters of the park and wilderness proposals for Chaelundi.

John Macris

Conservation Rep to Dunphy Fund Reference Group.

IN THE COMING ISSUES THERE WILL BE INTERVIEWS WITH ALL EXECUTIVE MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE OF CONFEDERATION BY OUR OFFICE ASSISTANT, JUDY HELLYER. SHE THOUGHT SHE WOULD START WITH THE EDITOR.

Judy: So, what is your title in 'Confederation', and while you're answering that, could you explain what confederation is, please.

Colin: Communication Officer. Confederation is the umbrella body that is over the 70 NSW clubs, comprised of 10-11 000 walkers. Confederation doesn't control them, they're all autonomous, and operate by themselves. Confederation provides insurance, first aid training, as well as anything else they may need.

Judy: Right. Why did you decide to give up a portion of your life for this unpaid work? And how did you meet them in the first place?

Colin: Through the club I was a member of at the time, the YMCA Bushwalkers, and I saw an ad in the minutes advertising for editor of the magazine. I had always been interested in desktop publishing so decided to put my bushwalking interest and my DTP skills together.

Judy: So exactly how many hours a month do you give up for the magazine, The Bushwalker?

Colin: I worked this out once, about 40-50 hours a month.

Judy: What did you do the first time your wife tried to sabotage your web page?

Colin: (laughing) she wouldn't know how.

Judy: If you were stranded in the Australian bush for two days what would you hope you had remembered to pack?

Colin: Food and water. Something to cook it on.

Judy: What was that incident again, about Little Marley in the fifties?

Colin: Oh yeah, well, a few mates of mine and me, we used to go down to Little Marley on the weekend in the fifties for a weekend of camping as a teenager. An introduction to a love of bushwalking I suppose.

Judy: What is your biggest achievement in bushwalking terms?

Colin: Oh, The overland Track, I guess and One Day to Mt Victoria to Neats Glen, 27km.

Judy: Are there problems associated with being a bushwalker?

Colin: No, there isn't. It's just a pastime.

Judy: What is your favourite spot of all time to visit

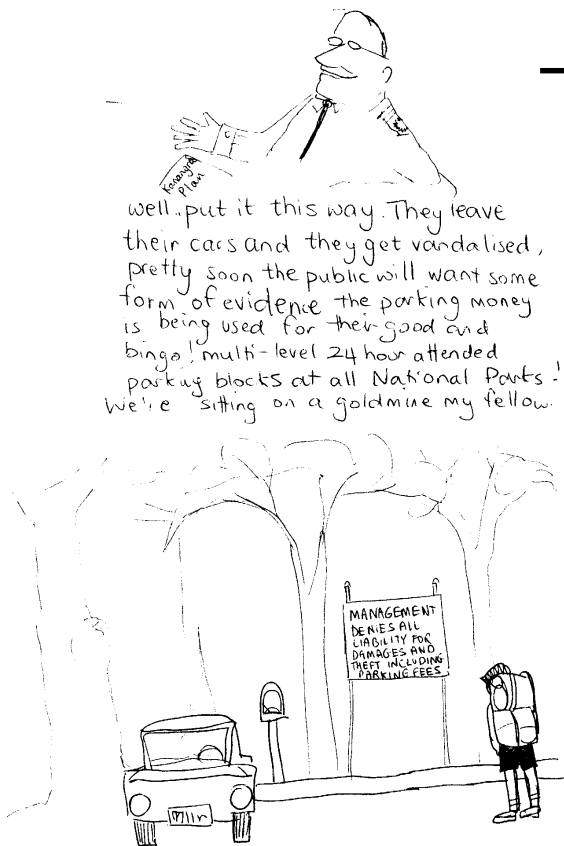
Colin: Tasmania

Judy: What is your long term goal as editor of the Bushwalker?

Colin: Um, to do some good for the bushwalking movement, and to encourage more people to join clubs.

Judy: Thanks Colin

Colin: Your welcome





VOLUNTEER WORKBY BY MEMBER CLUBS IN NATIONAL PARKS

We

read quite often of volunteer work being done or proposed by 4WD clubs

o r horse riding clubs. The Federation of Bushwalking Clubs was established in 1932 by clubs that had worked together to save the Blue Gum Forest from development and then to make it a more attractive place to camp. The clubs listed below are among those who have continued maintenance work whilst other clubs have concentrated on the "political" activity directed to the expansion of the National Park estate. We needed and still need both endeavours and must be thankful to those who have maintained the faith,

Elsewhere in this edition you will read of our efforts to reestablish Confederation's role as a facilitator of working weekends in our National Parks

The following information has been compiled from reports from clubs or gleaned from club newsletters. To indicate the range of programmed activities in NPs. It is known that other clubs have long standing working arrangements with their local NPWS offices, that many individual bushwalkers are active in bush regeneration etc. and that others carry and fill garbage bags on day walks

Bankstown Bushwalking Club Inc

A regular activity is the removal of accumulated rubbish from the popular abseil site at Alfords Point in Georges River NP

Canberra Bushwalking Club Inc Broom Clearing Upper Cotter

Catchment 8th Annual Exercise 2000
10 members participated, two attended all eight days. This year GPS was used to record locations of infestations and changes since last year.

Weedbusters Weekend at Blue Waterholes (A November Program activity)

A joint club/N.P. staff endeavour,
Ginini Project (RAMSAR wetlands) Home to the Northern Corroboree Frog

A project funded by the National Heritage fund to implement key functions of the Management Plan. The club's involvement may include:

- Vegetation monitoring using fixed point photography
- Removal; of juniper seedlings originating from Stockyard Arboretum
- Water monitoring
- Propagation of snow gum seeds and later planting out
- Assistance with visitor monitoring. The project is due for completion by April 2002

Catholic Bushwalking Club

Weed Eradication The club has adopted the Carlon's property recently acquired as part of Blue Mountains NP with the aim of combating the weed infestation which followed Carlon's abandonment of cattle grazing. Last February 19 members demolished, internally and externally, a large area of blackberries near the track head and six months later the results are gratifying.

The Service had provided training by bush care practitioners. Another weekend is planned for next February.

Great Grose Gorse Walk Members

have attended in past years and now the club has offered to assist the 2001 walk

Weed Mapping The club has applied their navigation and mapping skills to the accurate mapping of weed infestations from the track head to Breakfast Creek,

Clean up Australia Walks have been organised.

The Coast & Mountain Walkers of NSW Inc

Site Clean Up The Club has a policy of removing other people's rubbish and scattering "fairy rings" around camp fire locations. (In very popular camp sites, it is considered better to leave one marked fire site rather than many scattered fire scars) About 150 sites are visited p.a. but not all require work.

Reporting sightings of pigs, cattle etc to NPWS

Clean Up Australia Days Three in recent years at Glenbrook Creek or Shoalhaven River.

Clean up Weekend at Blue Gum Forest in association with Friends of B.G.

Track Work to Folly Point

Morton NP Twice in past five years 6 volunteers for 2 days each occasion. The club has adopted some tracks in the Budawang and has regular maintenance weekends. On the most recent occasion the work done exceeded the Ranger's expectations

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11

Om Trek



WHY NOT TREK WITH MELBOURNE SHERPAS THIS OCTOBER/
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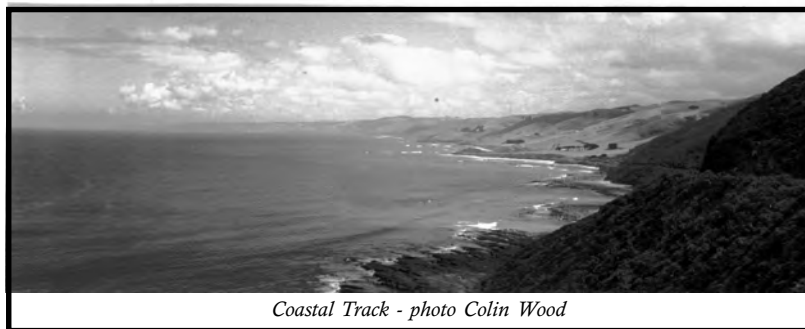
<http://travel.to/kathmandu>



Narrabri Bushwalking Club Inc

Some of the Tasks of the past five years in co-operation with local NPWS office: Distributing cactoblastus into remote areas infested with prickly pear

- Assisting with landscaping of new visitor facilities
- Documenting historic sites previously unknown to NPWS
- Documenting Aboriginal sites previously unknown to NPWS



Coastal Track - photo Colin Wood

- Participating in bio-diversity surveys
- Reporting of concentrations of feral animals
- Reporting damage to service infrastructure
- Assisting with restoration of historic hut and out buildings Carrying out a major campaign to eradicate sweet briar from an historic precinct .

Shoalhaven Bushwalkers Inc

- Assisting Shoalhaven Council in the **computer listing** of more than half of Council's 150 walking tracks by providing detailed maps and information on track conditions and points of interest
- Developing a standard report form and **monitoring track conditions** during programmed walks **Adopting a section of the Two Rivers walk** by the initial clearing along the route and providing annual vegetation trimming and other light maintenance

Springwood Bushwalking Club.

- **Each Clean Up Australia Day**, the club does a clean up in the Glenbrook precinct of the Blue Mountains National Park.
- **Actively promoted the Friends of Blue Gum Forest** since the latter's inception in 1992, including the annual Great Grose Gorse Walk. Several club members are actively involved in that program.

• **Actively promotes the newly formed Friends of the Colo** The club has organised one Colo Walk to survey and treat willows on behalf of the Friends of the Colo, and there are plans for more such walks in the new year.

• **Constructive interest in park management issues.** In particular, members on remote area bushwalks have been reporting discoveries of rare animals, feral animals, and Aboriginal sites. **If your Club's work has not been listed above please ask your club Secretary to send details to the Tracks & Access Officer Contact details page 2**

HELL FOR THE TREE OF HEAVEN

by Jim Cook

The 2nd weekend in February saw members and friends of the Catholic Bushwalking Club converge on the recently acquired NPWS section of Carlons property in Megalong Valley for its (now) annual bushcare weekend.

Carlons (or Green Gully) would be familiar to many walkers who walk in the Wild Dog Mountains and the upper end of Kanangra Boyd National Park as the main access route to these areas is through Carlons.

Several years back, using funds donated by the Dunphy Foundation, NPWS acquired several of the Carlons blocks with a view to ultimately gazetting them as part of the Kanangra Boyd National Park.

Not long after the NPWS purchase and following elimination of cattle grazing in the area CBC members noted an explosion of weeds along the upper reaches of Carlons Creek such that access along the walking track was almost impassable in places.

In response to a request from some club members that the club write to NPWS and advise them of the weed problem the club decided to go one step further and to not only point out the problem but offer to help by organising a

bushcare weekend

One weekend in February last year saw a CBC party of 19 attack the blackberries along the upper parts of the Carlons Creek track, also they mapped much of the weed infestation to help NPWS with their weed eradication planning. This year a party of 17 got stuck into large thickets of Tree of Heaven in the same area.

Kath Ireland from NPWS Blackheath organised last years attack with the help of several lovely ladies from the Good Bush Company and this year Lyndsay Holme from NPWS Blackheath organised activities. NPWS supplied all of the necessary equipment, herbicide and bushcare and safety training and CBC supplied the willing labour.

Since last years attack NPWS has received funding for weed spraying in the area and with the help of their contractor, Duncan, have significantly expanded upon CBC's work of last year and have given the Blackerries a hiding. However Tree of Heaven infestation had, until CBC's attack this year, been largely untouched as it requires hand attention.

Those who walk along Carlons Creek may be surprised to learn that the two very large groves of Tree of Heaven (including one very large specimen that the "chainsaw kid" could not resist) that have been demolished were bowled over in only one weekend by the small party of CBC amateurs.

WHY NOT CONTACT ALEX & OFFER TO INCLUDE A BUSHCARE DAY OR WEEKEND ON YOUR WALKS PROGRAMME?

Those club members who attend the (now) annual CBC bushcare weekend made it a great social activity and at the same time gave a little back to our national park. There is the annual Great Gorse Walk and we know

a few other clubs organise bushcare activities but there are many other clubs who could help NPWS with this worthwhile activity.

Alex Tucker, Tracks & Access Officer at Confederation, is trying to organise clubs to help with bushcare activities in national parks and NPWS are planning to appoint bushcare co-ordinators to help manage the whole process. Why not contact Alex and offer to include a bushcare day or weekend on your walks programme? This year CBC managed 17 volunteers from a membership base of 450 so from the 8,000 or so Confederation members a target of 200 to 300 should not be unachievable. With those sorts of numbers taking part in regular programmes the weeds wont stand a chance.



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Continued from page 1

GUMTREE SONGLINE WALK A BUSHWALKERS CELEBRATION FOR WORLD HERITAGE SEPTEMBER 2001



CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Ultimately the final parties of walkers will meet in Blue Gum Forest for the final campfire. Teams of Walkers will start from the north and south extremities of the area walking for 2 to 4 days before swapping stories, passing on the campfire coals in their gumnut capsules, and leaving. Each group will be asked to observe the gumtree species along the way – hopefully recording all 90 species. A most important feature of the Walk will be the Welcome Campfires at the starts where the **local community meets the walkers and regales them with tales and song at a campfire.**

When

- I. Saturday 1st September: Start Baerami and Denman
- II. Saturday 8th September: Start Mittagong
- III. Saturday 22nd September: Finish Blue Gum Forest

Who

A bushwalkers' walk, for those who walk the land.
A celebration with the local communities.

Get a team from your club or two clubs and contact **Blue Gum Pathways** who are organising the walk. Each club will be responsible for their own walkers and transport.

Ideally each group will have a person responsible for:

- I. Eucalypt ID (we will provide a kit),
- II. Recording the journey (still images, video, text),
- III. Relaying info to Walk co-ordinators (sat phone, GPS, radio)

Route

The start, finish, and transition sites need to be defined but the actual route between will be up to the walkers – just as long as they take 3 days to get from A to B.

Some significant places that we hope to include:

Yerranderie, Kanangra, Jenolan, Colong, Carlon's, Guouogang, Church Ck, Thirlmere, Blue Labyrinth, Scott's, Mobb's, Grose, Wollangambe, Deep Pass, Cameron, Coricudgy, Coriaday, Yengo, Cameron, Rocky, Baal Bone, Blue Gum, and many more.

The Organisers

The principals are Wyn Jones, Richard Delaney, and Ian Brown. All are Blue Mountains residents with extensive experience walking the Mountains, Australia and overseas. They will discuss with you the final route and start dates and coordinate the Gumnut Campfires at the National Park boundary.

*** Wyn Jones** is a former member of the Sydney University Bushwalkers and the Upper Blue Mountains Bushwalking Club and a very experienced bushwalker and canyoneer. Now a freelance poet and musician, he worked for 25 years with the National Parks and Wildlife Service of NSW. During that time he conducted research into the effects of logging on forest wildlife, and many surveys for wildlife in the Blue Mountains. He is the senior name giver and taxonomist of the Wollemi Pine. During 1992 Wyn organised and lead the Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Walk. He lives in Blackheath.

Contact

Richard Delaney, e mail: rdelaney@lisp.com.au 47 82 1042

Wyn Jones, PO BOX 60, Blackheath. NSW 2785

Phone: 0247 877 511 e mail: winjones@lisp.com.au

Ian Brown: 0247 871420 e mail:

ianbrown@lisp.com.au



MAPS FOR SALE

A large number (approximately 5000) of current 1:25k series maps of NSW & ACT are for sale at \$2-50 each. (Retail price \$8-50)

Only some have been superseded by the new 3rd edition series maps. All proceeds will be going to the Bushwalkers Wilderness Rescue Squad. Please email david.drohan@cbr.defence.gov.au to get a list of what maps are available and how to purchase them. To see list of maps go to www.geocities.com/mapsale

SYDNEY HARBOUR DEFENCE LANDS PLACED IN PUBLIC RESERVES

by Peter Caldwell, President of NPA Sydney Branch.

Thanks to the active lobbying by "Defenders of Sydney Harbour Foreshores", a coalition including NPA Sydney Branch, many of the amendments to the Sydney

Harbour Federation Trust Bill passed



in the Senate in June 2000 has now been included in the Act passed by the House of Reps and the Senate in March 2001. The official hand over of these lands to the Trust was conducted on Georges Heights on Sunday 18 March.

Proposals for the management of these sites will be on public display in the old Customs House in May/June/July. Work of the Community Consultative Committees continues.

The Trust has opened the previous Army Maritime School at the northeastern end of Clifton Gardens and the 150m of road into Middle Head so that one can now walk from Sirius Cove to Middle Head along the foreshore during the day.

Plans are being finalised for walking tracks from the Maritime School up to Middle Head road and also through the southern end of HMAS Penguin to Balmoral beach.

COME & CELEBRATE THE CENTENARY OF FEDERATION AT BUSHWALKERS BUSH DANCE SEPTEMBER 21ST

PETERSHAM

TOWN HALL



Bushwalking in the 1900's



FIVE WEEKS LOST IN THE TASMANIAN BUSH

A BUSHWALKER given up for dead emerged hungry and disorientated today after wandering lost for five weeks in Tasmania's rugged southern wilderness.

Police and searchers had given up hope of finding Victorian Benjamin Maloney, 27, who set off on a 12-day trek through Tasmania's South-West National Park on March 15.

Police called off the search for Mr Maloney on April 2 in wet and cold weather. But Mr Maloney, from Geelong, was found this morning by campers who said he appeared to be in good health, although disorientated. Ragged-looking and appearing to have lost track of time, he told them he had not eaten for 14 days. Asked later how he had managed his miraculous survival, he simply stated: "I wanted to survive."

Campers Marcus and Joey Hamilton said a gaunt Mr Maloney wandered into their camp at South Cape Rivulet at 9am. They then walked with him for more than six hours to Cockle Creek, the last point for road vehicles at the start of the South Coast Track, then drove him to Lune River where he was met by police. Tonight he was taken to Royal Hobart Hospital. Police said he was lucky to be alive.

"He said he had stumbled onto the South Coast Track sometime yesterday, and was heading back to Cockle Creek," Mr Hamilton said.

"Myself and my wife walked back to our car with him. It's normally a four-hour walk, it took about six hours. "We fed him, and chatted, and established who he was," he said. "He didn't really have a clue how long he'd been away, he'd lost all sense of time. "He said he hadn't eaten for 14 days," he said.

As he was transferred to an ambulance in Dover tonight, Mr Maloney briefly spoke to reporters with a message for his family. "I love you," he said.

His first call to a sister in Nowra was dismissed as a hoax, but another sister, Rosie Murtagh, said the family had received confirmation of his safety.

"We're ecstatic, we haven't spoken to him but he is on his way to Hobart Hospital," she told AAP.

"He rang my sister in Nowra and said he was alright, it's fantastic," she said. Mr Maloney was reported overdue on March 28 and an extensive search of the area conducted by about 20 police, State Emergency Service personnel and Hobart Walking Club volunteers failed to produce any sign of the missing walker.

An aerial reconnaissance also failed to find any trace of the missing man and the search was called off on April 2.

The full extent of Mr Maloney's condition will not be known until a thorough medical examination is completed at Royal Hobart Hospital, where it is expected he will arrive later tonight. Mr Maloney had been in the army and had some bush skills, but he was inexperienced in Tasmanian conditions and was believed to be poorly equipped when he set off.

Police said the Victorian was not carrying a map, compass or distress beacon and there were doubts that he had enough warm gear for the conditions, which deteriorated with wet and cold weather during the search period.

VALE: JACK WATSON

Andy Macqueen

The death occurred recently of Jack Hayward Watson, an early member of the Rover Ramblers' the bushwalking club formed by Paddy Pallin for former Scouts. Jack joined the club in 1934 at the age of 18, and was very active until he joined the forces in 1941.

In 1936 Jack was a member of the first search party made up of bushwalkers, when a group of youths were overdue on the Grose River. The event brought about the formation of the Federation's Search and Rescue section, the first volunteer search and rescue service. Jack was active in that section, and also in Federation's Conservation Bureau', as the conservation subcommittee was then known.

During the war years Jack contributed articles to The Bushwalker. (Jack's brother Bill Watson, another enthusiastic walker, was president of Federation during the war.)

In an interview for the Blue Gum Forest Oral History Project, Jack recalled his fond memories of trips in



L to R: Tom Herbert, Jean Trimble, Jack Watson and Paddy Pallin. (Photo courtesy of Jack Chisolm)

the Grose and elsewhere. He was able to show me a delightful series of journals and photos from his early walks: like many of his colleagues he was a meticulous note-taker and record-keeper.

Jack pursued a distinguished life in many other ways. A lawyer and barrister, he was the NSW Registrar General

for 19 years from 1958. He worked tirelessly in several volunteer organisations including the Scout movement and St John Ambulance. More details were published in an obituary in the Sydney

Morning Herald of 12 March 2001.

Photo: The first bushwalkers' search and rescue party. L to R: Tom Herbert, Jean Trimble, Jack Watson and Paddy Pallin. (Photo courtesy of Jack Chisolm)

REPRINTED FROM
'THE BUSHWALKER ANNUAL'
1945

SEARCH & RESCUE
BY J. H. WATSON
(ROVER RAMBLERS CLUB)

Not once but on several occasions in the past eight years has the phone rung about teatime for members of the Search and Rescue Section of the Federation; lifting the receiver, a familiar voice is heard, "Hello! Paddy speaking. There's a party overdue; can you get out tomorrow?" In every such instance, the Section has been able to furnish valuable assistance.

The need for an efficient organisation
Continued on page 16

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 **Air Niugini**



CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15

for search and rescue work was first realised in 1936 following the big Grose River search. A party of four Sydney hikers had set out over Eight-Hour Week-end to journey down the Grose from Blackheath to Richmond; by the following Friday grave fears were entertained for the safety of the missing youths, for whom planes and land parties (led by police) were conducting a search. Following a meeting of members of the various walking clubs of the Federation, convened by Paddy Pallin, an offer was made of a search party to enter the Grose Valley from Faulconbridge.

Some eleven walkers then caught the Mudgee Mail as far as Faulconbridge, to move off at 12.30 a.m. and stop for the night at 2.40 a.m. just above the river. Up again at 5.30 a.m. on the Saturday to descend to the Grose for breakfast and

then move upstream to find a cave marked with the names of two of the missing lads. Nearing Linden Creek we heard the planes roaring up the valley and attracted their attention; they thought we were the missing party until we signalled to the contrary. We reached Wentworth Creek at midday to find that the police had been through the same morning. As the afternoon wore on lack of sleep on the previous night began to exact its toll and we made camp at 6.30 p.m. as another plane passed over. We lit a smoky fire to attract attention and on the return journey the plane dropped four paper bags to signify that the missing party had been located. Thereafter chief interest was in the speediest means of leaving the valley.

We continued upstream on the Sunday and about 8.30 a.m., beyond Porcupine Creek, we met three bushmen from Bilpin who had de-

scended via Tomah Creek; they informed us that the police were taking the missing youths back to Blackheath, and gave us notice of an easy way out along the spur between Hungerford and Porcupine Creeks. We followed this route and, after some bother with bushfires, reached the Bell Road at 1 p.m. and followed it to Bilpin for lunch and a wash. Thoroughly refreshed, we returned by car to Kurrajong for the train home. rch and Rescue Section then came into being and its first call to take the field came in January, 1938, when two hikers were reported missing after their failure to return from a hike through the bush near Heathcote on a Sunday. The request for assistance was received at 5 p.m. on Monday and at 4 a.m. Tuesday eight members of the Federated Clubs met at Railway Square to travel by lorry to Heathcote. We ate and drank; meanwhile the police and relatives of the missing pair had arrived.

June	17th 6hr Rogaine Paddy pallin	19th- Confederation general meeting Ashfield RSL	18-20th St John Ambulance Remote Area first aid course	
July	7th & 8th BWR* Emergency Services NavShield	17th -Confederation general metting Ashfield RSL	14- 15th & 21st St John Ambulance Remote Area first aid course	
August	11th-Confederation Annual General Meeting	21st -Confederation general metting Ashfield RSL		
September	1st Start of Heritage walk Baerami & Denman & 8th at Mittagong	18th- Confederation general metting Ashfield RSL	21st -Annual Bushwalkers Bushdance Petersham Town hall	22nd finish of heritage Walk Blue Gum Forest
October		16th- Confederation general metting Ashfield RSL	20/21st- Advanced S & R Training	27/28th- St. John First Aid Training
november		20th- Confederation general metting Ashfield RSL	31st Oct & 1-2nd St John Ambulance Remote Area first aid course	
December	1-2nd & 8th- St John Ambulance Remote Area first aid course	18th -Confederation general metting Ashfield RSL		

The Remote Area First-aid course is designed to equip those individuals whose interests, activities or employment takes them to isolated areas, with the knowledge and skills necessary to give ongoing care, over a prolonged period of time, to an ill/injured casualty. For enquires contact St John Ambulance N.S.W. (02) 9212-1088. Courses will also be conducted on request for groups of 12 or more. Courses are also available at Bathurst, Castle Hill, Gosford, Lismore, Newcastle, Nowra and Wollongong.

To become a member of the Rogaine Association phone 9990-3480 or visit the website at <http://rogaine.asn.au>

The Confederation of Bushwalking Clubs represents over 69 clubs and 10,500 walkers in NSW. Visit our website at www.bushwalking.org.au - email turton@smartchat.net.com.au. Phone (02) 9294-6797

Any member of any club may attend meetings of the Confederation.

*BWR Bushwalker Wilderness Rescue



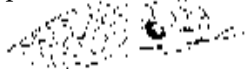
A SMALL DOSE OF FEAR

by Colin Gibson

My world was reduced to the resonant hum of the heat,
The struggle with scrub, determined working of feet.
My very next step was almost complete ...

When, unleashing the threat that the heat had been brewing,
It seemed the leaf-litter beneath me hissing and spewing
As the brown snake spat "What the hell are you doing?!"

Indignant, insulted, it leapt to alert on the ground;
What manner of creature was I that came crashing around
Disturbing the peace with a devil of sound?



And rearing on its spine, like a dagger it whipped back its head:
I instinctively halted in the very midst of my tread
(For one more step I'd be walking with the dead).

I froze in that instant, I dared not to blink -
Those fangs could have found their mark in the tenth of a wink;
We each had a split-of-a-second to think.

For that moment, my fate in the balance, no options were mine
Transfixed by a force that I could not describe or define,
Like a psychic grip in control of my spine.

Then, soon as the snake was sure with its will I'd complied,
It dropped to the leaves and spun to one side
And shot through the sticks like a whip at a hide.

My companion's footsteps crunched up through the bush from behind
And the curious question was put to me "What did you find?"
"Something" I said "of the slithering kind."

I stood there: that moment seemed tangible, crystal and clear
As the sweat on my brow, with the pulsing of blood in my ear,
Cooled with the chill of a small dose of fear.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SEE MORE OF COLIN'S WORK, HE HAS JUST PUBLISHED HIS LATEST BOOK OF BUSHWALKER POEMS ENTITLED "A WILD BLUE WANDER" WRITE TO HIM AT 29 EAST PDE FAIRFIELD AND ENCLOSE \$16 TO PURCHASE THIS WORK.

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PROPOSED DOCUMENTARY ON "THE BUSHWALKERS" - AN UPDATE

Towards the end of last year the Scripture Union Bushwalkers put forward a proposal that Confederation approach a television network to request the making of a documentary called "The Bushwalkers".

The main aims for this proposal is to highlight some of the history, activities and achievements of Confederation and affiliated clubs. The showing of the documentary would hopefully be in 2002 which marks the 70th anniversary of the formation of a Bushwalkers' Federation in NSW.

A documentary, with careful input from Confederation, could highlight such things as:

- *minimal impact bushwalking
- **"walk safely, walk with a club"
- *historical footage/archival material

on clubs

- *current club activities

*special events (eg. annual BWR NavShield

The proposal has been enthusiastically discussed at each Confederation meeting this year and should soon be developed to the point when we can approach a TV network.

So far a number of clubs have expressed interest in possibly having their activities filmed as part of a doco. The Watagan Wanderers has provided some video footage on their club and to the Canberra Bushwalkers has sent me details of a variety of older bushwalking films held in the archives. Thanks to both clubs.

If you are in a club that also has or knows of some video/film or archival material on bushwalking that may assist in submitting a documentary proposal, it would be great to also hear from you. I can be phoned on (02) 9630 3371 (home).

Confederation presently has a "publicising bushwalking" sub-committee that meets at Ashfield RSL over dinner (from 6.30pm) on the nights of Confederation meetings. New people are welcome to join the sub-committee.

A documentary on "The Bushwalkers" would present a great opportunity to spread a positive message about Confederation and member clubs, and to highlight the efforts and achievements of bushwalkers from the past, so hope many of you will look at lending your support!

Tony Miller

Scripture Union Bushwalkers



CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

opportunity to check out a new area of bushland.

The event is open to members of search and rescue organizations including members of Confederation of Bushwalkers clubs, and members of rognaining associations. So mark the date in your diary, get together a team together and come along to NavShield 2001 for a great weekend of navigation, bushwalking and socialising.

For further information on the 2001 NavShield contact the event secretary, John Tonitto by email at WRS@mbox.com.au or by phone on (0427) 455 397, or visit the web site at <http://www.bushwalking.org.au/> and click on the "NavShield 2001" link.

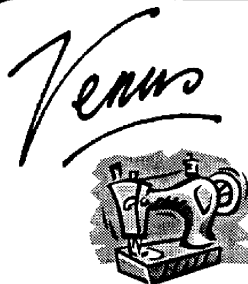
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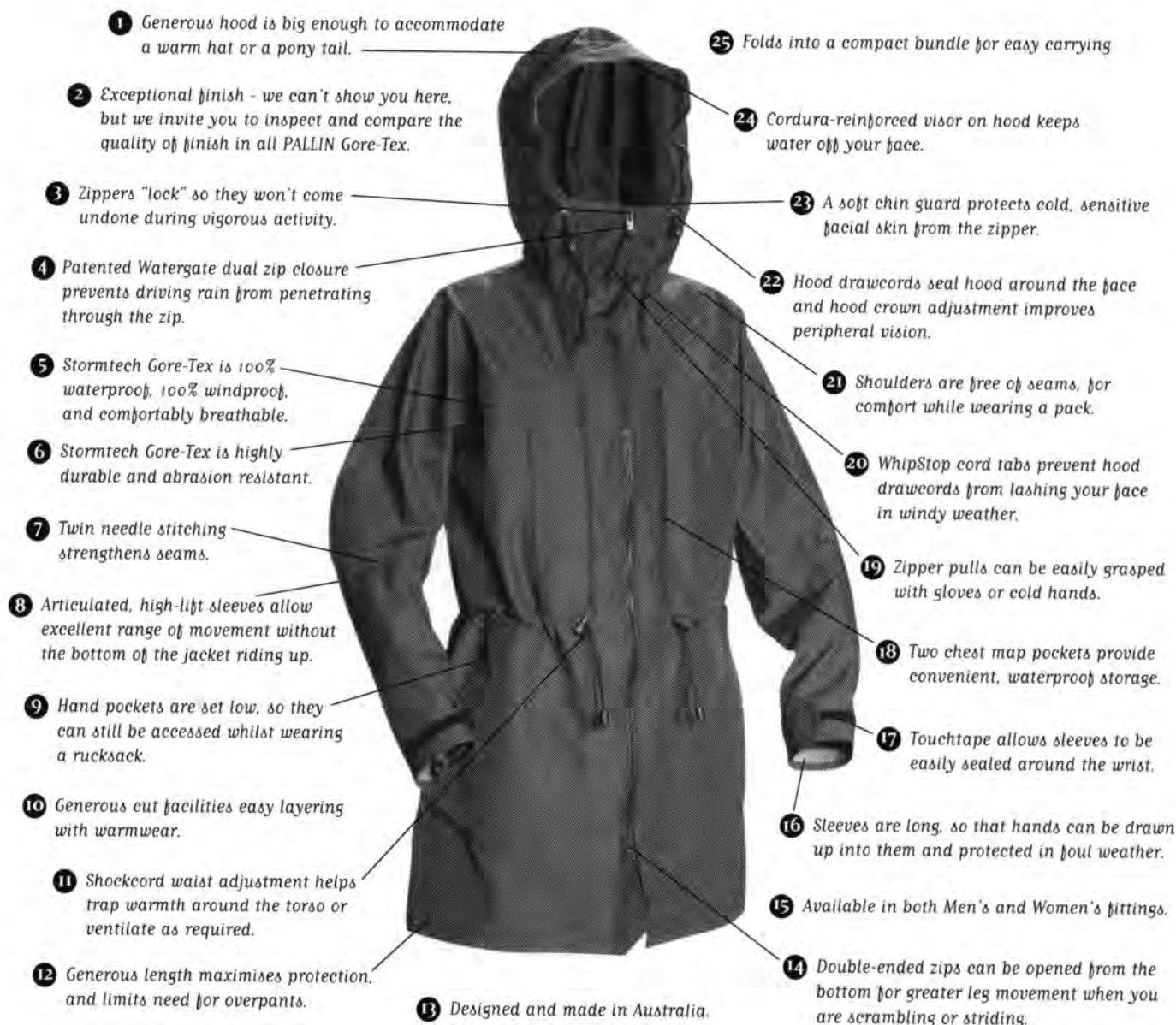
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