

# Bushwalking NSW Newsletter

Edition 15

January 2015



Happy New Year, everyone! Is everybody enjoying Summer's lazy, sultry days as much as I am? This month's Newsletter is very 'historical' - read on to discover why!

And please, forward to your Club's distribution list: from recent enquiries I've had, it appears that (some) Club members are not seeing our Newsletter, so *please* make sure that you give it wide distribution. Email it, print it out and stick it on Club Notice Boards...Thanks!

The Blue Lake, Jenolan Caves, NSW. Photo credit: Cheryl Collins

**Tuesday, February 17** is the first of our General Meetings for the year. 7:30pm at Ashfield RSL Club. Clubs are welcome to send a delegate(/s) according to the size of the Club:

10 - 100 members	2 Delegates
101 - 250 members	3 Delegates
251 and over	4 Delegates

**FURTHERMORE, THIS IS A VERY IMPORTANT SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING AS A NEW PRESIDENT NEEDS TO BE ELECTED. PLEASE MAKE A SPECIAL EFFORT TO SUPPORT OUR ORGANISATION AT THIS TIME.**

You would all know by now that David Morrison, who took on the Presidency in August, has had to resign due to ill health. The Committee wishes to express its gratitude and appreciation to David for all his work since taking Office. Our new website is just one of David's contributions and he will be missed. We wish him all the best with his recovery.

So, these first couple of articles are pretty interesting: we've been asked to do some **detective work** – can you help identify anybody from these photos we've been sent?



This one was accompanied by this story:

“On our recent climb up Jagungal we found a lost camera near the summit, and it would be great if we could reunite SD card of trip photos with the people who took them. Unfortunately the camera didn't fare as well after six weeks in the weather - water poured out when Lindsay picked it up.

From the details on the SD card it appears the party consisted of three guys walking from 17th November to at least 21st November 2014 (date on last photo).

Here is a group photo from the camera. Would you be able to forward it around ... in case someone can recognise any of these walkers? I realise it's an outside chance, but you never know your luck...”

Thanks to Belinda Keir for her Good Samaritan efforts there, and to Keith Maxwell for passing on the message – can anybody help?

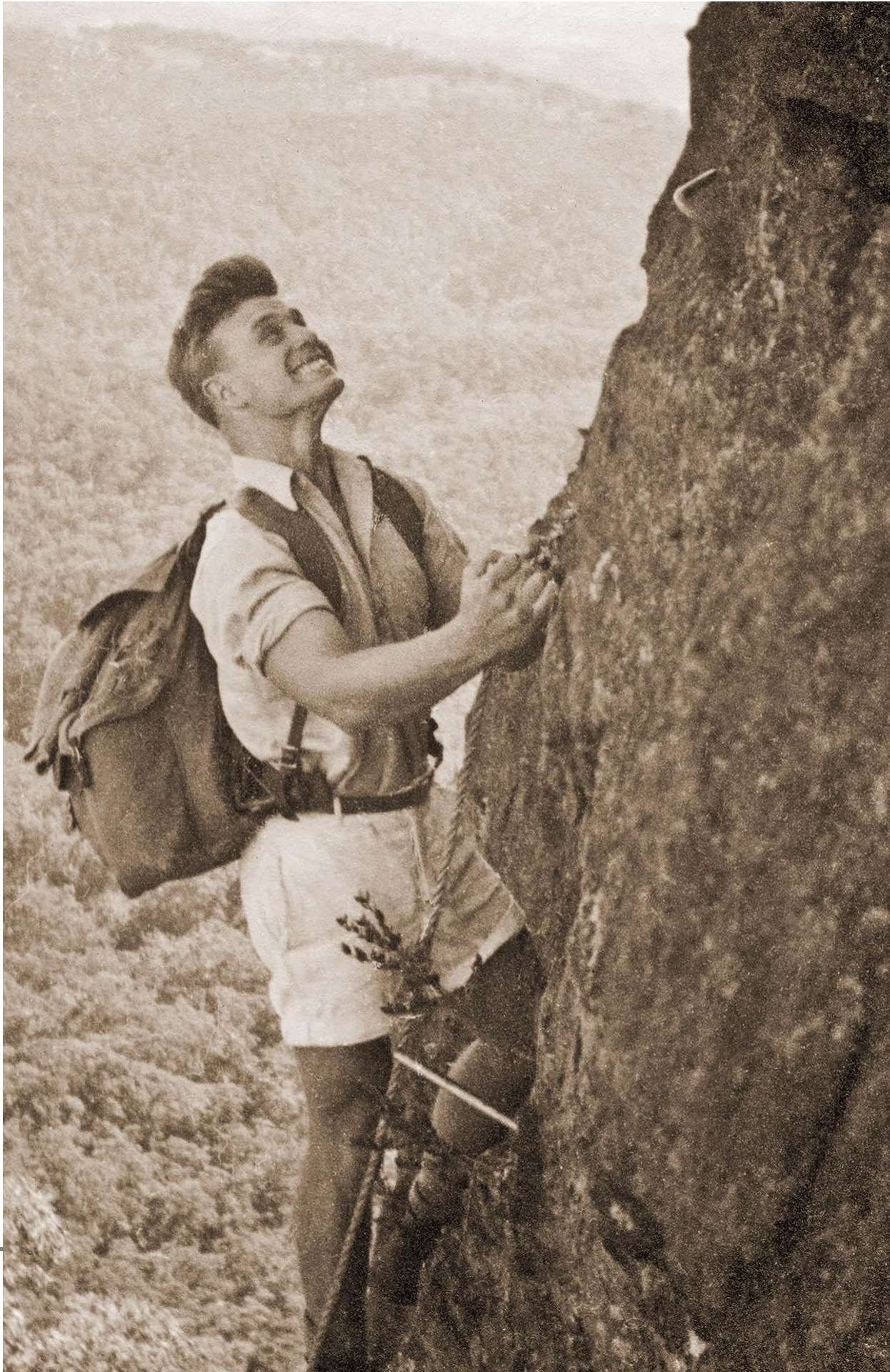
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And another one: get your thinking caps on, those magnifying glasses out, and let's see if we can help identify this 'mystery man'.

Just before the Christmas break, I had a call from one David Barnes. He is the son of Paul Barnes (who is 90 odd). Paul (formerly of Catholic Bushwalkers and Sydney Bushwalkers) was a mate of Alan Catford's who had been President of the NPA apparently, and recently died.

David emailed me this photo and said “My father Paul Henry Barnes took the photo on Carlons Head in 1943 (this was written on the back of the print) but he remembers no more detail.” David went on to say that his Dad would really love to know who the climber in the photo is, and David has asked for our help in trying to track down the family of the climber, assuming his family might still be in the bushwalking movement. So please, pass it around, let's see what we can find out! Is it you??!







### And one final 'historical' note:

We have been offered some very early copies of our magazine "The Bushwalker". Wendy Sheils says "I have volume 1, numbers 1 to 6, published in successive years from 1937, plus volume 2, number 3. My parents were a couple of early members of The Sydney Bushwalkers and both (my brother and I) were conceived "within tent". I live and walk in North Queensland."

So I've asked Wendy to mail those on down to me and will have them here if anyone is interested in having a look. I will also scan some pages and include them in Newsletters from time to time. Exciting, don't you think?!

#### ➤ FOR THE ADVENTUROUS, ALL IN A GOOD CAUSE:

"Royal Institute for Deaf and Blind Children is a charity based in North Rocks Sydney. The donations we receive from our supporters enables RIDBC to work with thousands of families across Australia to provide a wide range of education and specialist services, ensuring children who have vision or hearing loss have the very best opportunities in life. We are constantly enhancing our services through innovation and technology, improving outcomes for those with vision or hearing loss. We are currently promoting our Inspired Adventure Great Wall of China Challenge 2015 to our supporters ...

For more information about the challenge please go to: <http://www.inspiredadventures.com.au/RIDBC/China2015/> "



#### ➤ News from Mosman Council

We've been contacted by Julia Lee, the Environmental Sustainability Officer at Mosman Council. They have a free iPhone app which showcases **seven walks within the Mosman local government area**.

<http://mosman.nsw.gov.au/recreation/mosman-walks>  
<https://itunes.apple.com/au/app/walk-mosman/id580757773?mt=8>

Get downloading, folks, and enjoy our beautiful harbour foreshores!



Chowder Bay as seen from Shark Beach, Vaucluse, Sydney. Photo: Cheryl Collin



## **First Aid for Bushwalkers**

First Aid is a necessary skill within any bushwalking group. It is possible to get some worthwhile skills in just one day in St John Ambulance "Provide First Aid" in May or November each year. Medical evacuation in NSW is very advanced to minimise trauma and aid healing BUT First Aid is still required until ambulance services arrive at your incident.

Remote Area First Aid (RAFA) offers far better training in First Aid skills but requires four days of training. For some time, Bushwalkers Wilderness Rescue Squad (BWRS) has offered this training. Our RAFA courses have been very popular in training many outdoors personnel in First Aid. Now, RAFA is a nationally recognised competency. Unfortunately, the content has been revised so in the short term BWRS cannot offer these popular courses in RAFA.

However, watch this space. BWRS is exploring options to comply with these new requirements. Our BWRS website at [www.bwrs.org.au](http://www.bwrs.org.au) will have details of revised RAFA courses when they become available.

It is always worthwhile to explore this website with its extensive information on distress beacons, mobile phone and other remote area communication, GPS receivers, NavShield, wilderness safety plus the NSW Police TREK program (of free short term PLB hire). Follow the links to register on line for the Sunday, May 17 'Provide First Aid' course.

The BWRS website at [www.bwrs.org.au](http://www.bwrs.org.au) is a great resource for information to make your outdoors activity safer; plus register to gain useful First Aid skills in just one day of training.

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**And meanwhile, Committee members have been hard at it and send along these updates:**

### **From our Social Media Guru:**

A reminder that BNSW has both a Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/bushwalkingNSW](http://www.facebook.com/bushwalkingNSW)) and Twitter account (<http://twitter.com/BushwalkingNSW>) . Club members interested in staying up to date with the latest bushwalking news are encouraged to follow both.

(See **DECEMBER NEWSLETTER** FOR COMPLETE INSTRUCTIONS ON HOW TO "GET CONNECTED"!)

**From our Conservation Officer, Sierra Classen.**

Sierra has been on a site inspection in the Gardens of Stone to investigate swamp damage caused by underground longwall mining. What was discovered was truly shocking. Look out for a write up in the next edition of The Bushwalker.

Whist on the topic of the Gardens of Stone, a team from the Colong Foundation for Wilderness along with members of other conservation organisations are busy planning Gardens of Stone Festival (GoSFest for short) to be held around the month of April this year.

BNSW will keep you posted as more information comes to hand, but in the meantime we suggest honing in on your photography skills (but don't tell anyone we told you that!).

Clubs are encouraged to run trips in the area to get people out to see the wealth of scenery and adventure this amazing area has to offer. For more information on the Gardens of Stone and the issues which it faces see <http://protectgardensofstone.org.au/> or visit <http://www.bushexplorers.com.au/> for information on the series of books written on the area.

**From our Tracks and Access Officer, Alex Allchin.**

Alex is currently looking at undertaking track remediation work in the Garawarra area. The relevance being that the Federation was instrumental in the reservation of this area as part of the Royal National Park estate. Expressions of interest in assistance with this project are welcome. BNSW hopes to improve the relationship between NPWS and the bushwalking community in the coming years and this project will serve as a starting point for this goal.

What tracks and access issues are you facing within the areas where you bushwalk? BNSW wants to know what your concerns (and suggestions) are and it would be great if we could hear from all our clubs on the matter!

Alex can be contacted via email at [AJAllchin@gmail.com](mailto:AJAllchin@gmail.com) or via phone on 02 9540 9410.

That's all folks!! See you next time!

