

# Bushwalking NSW

## NEWSLETTER

Edition 34  
October 2016

*Keep exploring, be amazed!*



*Just a little reminder of the joys of cross-country skiing before we venture into spring! Photo: Kirsten Mayer*

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### From the Executive Officer

Congratulations to [Sydney University Bushwalkers](#) on their 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary this month! An outstanding achievement by all involved over all those years!

### It's Sweet to Walk Soft

The "It's Sweet to Walk Soft" (ISWS) project is continuing to power on.

- Hannah Moody joined Bushwalking NSW this month as our Community Liaison Officer – volunteering 2.5 days a week to Bushwalking NSW and the project over the coming months. Hannah is getting to know our clubs and our community by looking at your websites ready to start reaching out to you. Thanks Hannah!
- Maddy has surveyed the new bushwalkers we wish to reach out to on the project and now she will work with our expert community members to formulate the best approach to reach-out and engage these new bushwalkers.
- I've drafted the project Steering Committee Terms of Reference and I'm on the look-out for nominees! Let me know if you are interested.
- We've also started looking at the IT aspects of the project and we are looking for volunteers to help.



The "It's Sweet to Walk Soft" project seeks to promote nature conservation and protection of biosecurity in NSW, through information and training. This project has been assisted by the NSW Government through its Environmental Trust.



### Do you have IT skills to share?

Get in touch with me at [eo@bushwalkingnsw.org.au](mailto:eo@bushwalkingnsw.org.au) if you'd also like to be involved. You may have a particular skill set or area of interest you would like to pursue. At present we need:

- **Business Analyst** to design the information architecture behind our modern format HTML newsletter
- **Database/Mail Chimp expert** to design our newsletter subscription databases and help us implement link tracking
- **WordPress website developer** to pull all of the above together in our WordPress website including developing forms, page menus, navigation structure
- **Graphic Designer** to design our modern format HTML newsletter

### Call for committee nominations

If you'd like to nominate for either of these committees, please send a request to Kirsten at [eo@bushwalkingnsw.org.au](mailto:eo@bushwalkingnsw.org.au):

- Bushwalking NSW Management Committee to help guide Bushwalking NSW or
- "It's Sweet to Walk Soft" (ISWS) Steering Committee

### When is an Executive Officer not an Admin Officer?

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[www.bushwalkingnsw.org.au](http://www.bushwalkingnsw.org.au) | [admin@bushwalkingnsw.org.au](mailto:admin@bushwalkingnsw.org.au) | 02 8003 5545

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Some have asked me why I didn't change the BNSW email address from "admin@BNSW" when I came on board. It would have made everyone immediately aware that my role is as Executive Officer.

"Admin@BNSW" contains years of conversations and information shared with our clubs, and I needed all that history to get to know the members I was conversing with, and to learn about the business and history of Bushwalking NSW. I also needed all our club members to still be able to reach us at Bushwalking NSW!



So while I haven't ever been Bushwalking NSW's Admin Officer, you can still reach me on [admin@bushwalkingnsw.org.au](mailto:admin@bushwalkingnsw.org.au). It is the repository of Bushwalking NSW's club communications.

Thankfully, we have also started to turn Bushwalking NSW around and we are now attracting interns and volunteers who are freeing me up to more fully take on my role as Executive Officer. You'll meet just some of our interns in this issue. They and all our volunteers are achieving fantastic work for Bushwalking NSW and making Bushwalking NSW into the vibrant and active peak body we envisage. It is a pleasure to work with you all to make that a reality!

Kirsten Mayer – Executive Officer, Bushwalking NSW

P: (02) 8003 5545 | E: [eo@bushwalkingnsw.org.au](mailto:eo@bushwalkingnsw.org.au) | OFFICE HOURS: Monday Wednesday Friday

## Australian Activity Adventure Standards (AAAS)

The Australian Adventure Activity Standards (AAAS) project is currently underway to harmonise outdoor adventure safety standards across Australia. The group started with the core standards and have now released their draft version for public comment and readable online at [www.yoursay.australianaas.org.au/core-standards](http://www.yoursay.australianaas.org.au/core-standards).

Our Victorian counterparts are concerned that there is no explicit exemption in the standards for recreational bushwalkers: ie. our club members. They are also concerned by the AAAS definition of consensus which is: "*Consensus need not mean everyone agrees. The definition used for consensus is "Consensus — general agreement on the content of the publication is reached with no sustained opposition by any important interests."*" AAAS.

So if you have any concerns, do ensure you raise them using the AAAS website using this form <http://yoursay.australianaas.org.au/core-standards/your-say/>.

More specific to bushwalking, the Bushwalking and Camping technical working group (TWG) has already been formed and is ready to start work in September. They are scheduled to finish in Dec 2016. The working group developing that standard is listed here: <http://australianaas.org.au/working-groups/members/bushwalking-camping-twg/> - and was appointed by the AAS steering committee.

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### Meet our Campaign Officer: Maddy Miller!

Madeleine Miller joined Bushwalking NSW as our Campaign Officer in late July, 2016. Maddy is volunteering 2 days a week and is focused on the "It's Sweet to Walk Soft" project and improving our newsletter content.

Maddy has the challenging task of formulating our message for newcomers to bushwalking to encourage them to use Minimal Impact Bushwalking techniques such as the Leave No Trace principles and to consider biosecurity.

Maddy has a Bachelor of Fine Arts/ Arts in Environmental Humanities from the University of NSW and will be undertaking her Honours year next year exploring the cultural construction of sustainable food production. Having grown up next to Ku-ring-gai Chase National Park, Maddy has a very personal connection with the natural environment and a passion for its protection and value.

If you have any ideas or experience in introducing environmental messages to bushwalking newcomers, Maddy would love to hear from you!

Contact her on: [newsletter@bushwalkingnsw.org.au](mailto:newsletter@bushwalkingnsw.org.au)

### Meet our Community Liaison Officer: Hannah Moody!

Hannah Moody joined Bushwalking NSW as our Community Liaison Officer in early September, 2016. Hannah is volunteering 2.5 days a week and is focused on the "It's Sweet to Walk Soft" project and improving our engagement with our clubs.

Hannah is tasked with executing our Communications Plan and reaching out to our clubs so please do give her a warm hello when she connects with you!

Hannah has a Bachelor of Fine Arts/Arts in Anthropology, Environmental Humanities and Photography from the University of NSW and will be undertaking Honours next year looking at how different cultures perceive the environment. Hannah has grown up bushwalking and camping around Australia and adores being outdoors. A joy that has led her to trekking overseas in places such as the Alps, the Western Ghats and the Himalayas.

You can reach Hannah at: [community@bushwalkingnsw.org.au](mailto:community@bushwalkingnsw.org.au)



### Changes to the associations incorporation laws

Changes to the association laws start on 1 September 2016, including amendments made to the Associations Incorporation Act 2009 (the Act) and a new Regulation. Visit their [website](#) for more information outlining the key changes. An important change is better protection for Office Bearers in performing their duties.

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### Upcoming events for your club calendar

Please let all your members know that the Bushwalking NSW General Meetings are open for all club members to attend. You don't have to be a delegate for your club, the presentations are entertaining, and you can network and nibble. We currently have the following keynotes planned:

Date	Keynote Speaker	Topic
7pm 15 <sup>th</sup> Nov 2016	Matt McClelland & Helen Smith, NPA of NSW	Bushwalking 101 & Naturally Accessible <a href="http://www.bushwalking101.org/">http://www.bushwalking101.org/</a> <a href="http://www.naturallyaccessible.org/">http://www.naturallyaccessible.org/</a>
7pm 21 <sup>st</sup> Feb 2017	Greg Kirk, Special Ambulance Rescue Team Paramedic	How bushwalkers can prepare for rescue operations
7pm 16 <sup>th</sup> May 2017	Sharon Fulcher, NPA of NSW	What is the latest in Minimal Impact Bushwalking & Biosecurity?

Bushwalking NSW General Meetings are always held at **7pm on the third Tuesday in February, May, August & November at Redfern Town Hall - 73 Pitt Street, Redfern** – just 7 minutes' walk from the station.

### Conservation Report

#### Rachel Carson & Marie Byles – Two Exceptional Women Who Loved Nature

Saturday 15 October 10am-12 noon Cost \$35

US writer, Rachel Carson's (1907-1964) book *Silent Spring* is claimed to have heralded in the modern environment movement. Australia's Marie Byles (1900-1979) is recognized as NSW's first practicing woman solicitor as well as a leading woman bushwalker, mountain climber and conservationist. This comparative study of these two women conservationists – an American and Australian – will reveal much about the history of the modern environment movement. Tutor: Janine Kitson. Bookings essential. Contact WEA, SYDNEY Ph: (02) 9264 2781 E: [info@weasydney.nsw.edu.au](mailto:info@weasydney.nsw.edu.au) [www.weasydney.com.au](http://www.weasydney.com.au)



Byles on left. Photo: State Library of New South Wales

Carson on right. Photo: <http://www.ecologycenter.us/>

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### Have Your Say on the future of Kamay Botany Bay National Park

NPWS wants to hear the community's ideas and views on the master plan for Kurnell and the plan of management for the entire Kamay Botany Bay park. This survey offers an opportunity to contribute your ideas. It will take about 5-10 minutes to complete. The survey is anonymous. To make your response count, please complete every question through to the end. Most questions require an answer (marked with an asterisk\*). The survey will close at midnight on 23 October 2016. Take part here:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/KamayBotanyBay>

You can also register your interest in continuing to participate in planning for the future of this park at the end of this survey, or ask for further information by emailing [Kamaybotanybay.2020@environment.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Kamaybotanybay.2020@environment.nsw.gov.au)

### You're Invited! The Stead Memorial Walk

1 – 16 October 2016

This great walk through the lower Blue Mountains World Heritage Listed Area bridges two memorials to David G. Stead and intends to achieve two outcomes: to raise awareness of Australia's pioneer conservationists and secondly to raise funds to establish an annual scholarship award to support TAFE students in the field of conservation, environment and native natural sciences.

The 160 km walk through the World Heritage listed Greater Blue Mountains National Park starts at Wurrumbirra Sanctuary in Bargo, established by David's wife Thistle as a memorial, following his death in 1957. The last day trails through the Blue Gum Forest to Mt Stead, named by Milo Dunphy in recognition of David's work in nature conservation.

Bushwalking NSW is pleased to be a Bronze Sponsor of The Stead Memorial Walk and encourages clubs to support this venture with funds and by putting the walk on your walks program and joining David on the last two days.

Follow the Stead Memorial Walk on:

[facebook.com/steadmemorialwalk](https://www.facebook.com/steadmemorialwalk)

[SteadWalk/Twitter](https://twitter.com/SteadWalk)

[steadmemorialwalk.net.au](http://steadmemorialwalk.net.au)

Donate at: [steadmemorialwalk](http://steadmemorialwalk)



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### Get Involved! It's National Bird Week!

Monday 17 October and Sunday 23 October.

BirdLife Australia organises and promotes Bird Week with the goal of inspiring Australians to take action and get involved in bird conservation efforts. Make every bird count, this National Bird Week with the Aussie Backyard Bird Count.

BirdLife Australia is urging all nature lovers to get involved. All you need is 20 minutes, your favourite outdoor space, and some keen eyesight. Record the birds you see on their [Aussie Bird Count app](http://aussiebirdcount.org.au), or through the [Submit a Count](http://aussiebirdcount.org.au) tab on their website. Enjoy live statistics on the number of birds and species counted in your neighbourhood and the whole of Australia. You will be contributing to a vital pool of information from across the nation that will help us see how Australian birds are faring.



Image: <http://aussiebirdcount.org.au/>

### Allen Strom Biography available online

Allan Fox's biography of Allen Strom, Chief Guardian: The Life and Times of Allen Strom is now available for Kindle on [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com). Allen Strom (1915-1997) was a leading conservationist and environmental educator in Australia. This is an inspiring biography of a person who grew from humble beginnings to become the Chief Guardian of New South Wales. Allen Strom also founded environmental education centres in NSW and made significant contributions to environmental management in the state. A must read for anyone interested in nature conservation.



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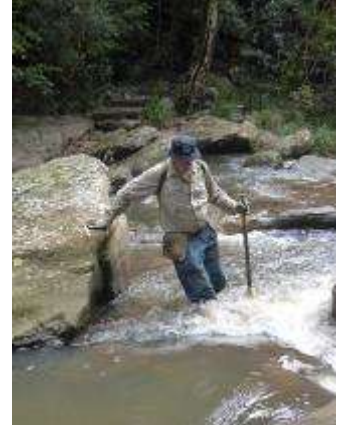
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### Tracks and Access

#### The Best Maintained Track in the Royal!



[Sutherland Bushwalking Club](#) has collaborated with the National Parks and Wildlife Services in their restoration of the Burgh Track in an inspiring feat of volunteer commitment.

After 250 hours of work the Burgh Track is now clear of all fallen trees, overgrown vegetation, blocked culverts and general debris. The track is up to 'maintenance' standard & with an expected occasional walk-through the track will be kept in a good general condition. As a result of their efforts on the Burgh Track, NPWS have asked the [Sutherland Bushwalking Club](#) to consider doing work on another track in the Royal.

The [Sutherland Bushwalking Club](#) have deserved their honourable mention in this month's newsletter, as does their future plans to extend their efforts throughout the Park. The Burgh Track success exemplifies how the bushwalking community and the NPWS can work together for all of our benefits!

### BWRS still active

Life in Bushwalkers Wilderness Rescue Squad (BWRS) is never predictable but always memorable. In the past month there was a Callout (from NSW Police) plus another Barrington Tops adventure. Both are a reminder for you to consider how to bushwalk safely.

In NSW, land search & rescue is the responsibility of NSW Police. Currently, they recognise the skills of BWRS members as an outstanding resource particularly for remote areas. BWRS was 'called out' Sunday night by NSW Police for a bushwalker who got separated from his bushwalking group, on September 11, when they were over the Colo River into seldom visited country. Fortunately, the missing male was located early morning from a helicopter. To be seen from a helicopter you need lots of movement, unusual shapes plus plenty of colour and contrast.



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BWRS members were joined by Rural Fire Service (RFS) members in another search in Barrington Tops on September 16 / 17 / 18. Water dominates the landscape. Fire roads are often muddy and boggy. Scrub can vary from dense to open easy going under the rainforest canopy. It is a wild place but memorable to visit.

Sydney is surrounded by good bushwalking country. However, in 2014 and 2015 BWRS was involved in several unsuccessful multiday searches in country far less challenging than Barrington Tops. You cannot assume that you will be found. It is your club responsibility to bushwalk safely. Many bushwalkers now consider a PLB (Personal Locator Beacon) plus a mobile phone useful safety items to compliment their map & compass navigation skills. The BWRS website at [www.bwrs.org.au](http://www.bwrs.org.au) has useful advice on bushwalking safety and PLBs. The website also has a link to the NSW Police "TREK" system of (sometimes free) PLB hire.

The twice yearly format of the First Aid course training from BWRS has changed and is very popular. We are now turning people away from full courses in St John Ambulance "Provide First Aid" (previously known as Senior First Aid) and "Remote Area First Aid" (RAFA). BWRS has a bushwalker volunteer instructor who makes the training bushwalker relevant and cost effective. The November 2016 course is full. There will be more training in May 2017. Registration, as always, will be via the BWRS website. Bushwalkers who cannot wait until May can always pay full price for the above courses with St John Ambulance.

BWRS is far more active than this short report can present. If you are a bushwalker then BWRS would like to share these great activities with you.

A reminder: our website [www.bwrs.org.au](http://www.bwrs.org.au) details good safety practices and information on distress beacons / remote area communications.

Keith Maxwell – President, Bushwalkers Wilderness Rescue Squad | W:  
<http://www.bwrs.org.au>



## Download Bushwalk Australia October Edition

The latest Bushwalk Australia digital Magazine is out now. Ever wonder; Which GPS to buy? How people with disAbilities get into bushwalking? How much water you need on a bushwalk? What goes through people's minds when things go wrong in the wild? What happened to Mt Jack? How to eat in style in the wild? How bushwalking improves our bodies? How to walk with a bit of luxury

PDF -> <http://emag.bushwalk.com/BWA201610.pdf>

ePub -> <http://emag.bushwalk.com/BWA201610.epub>



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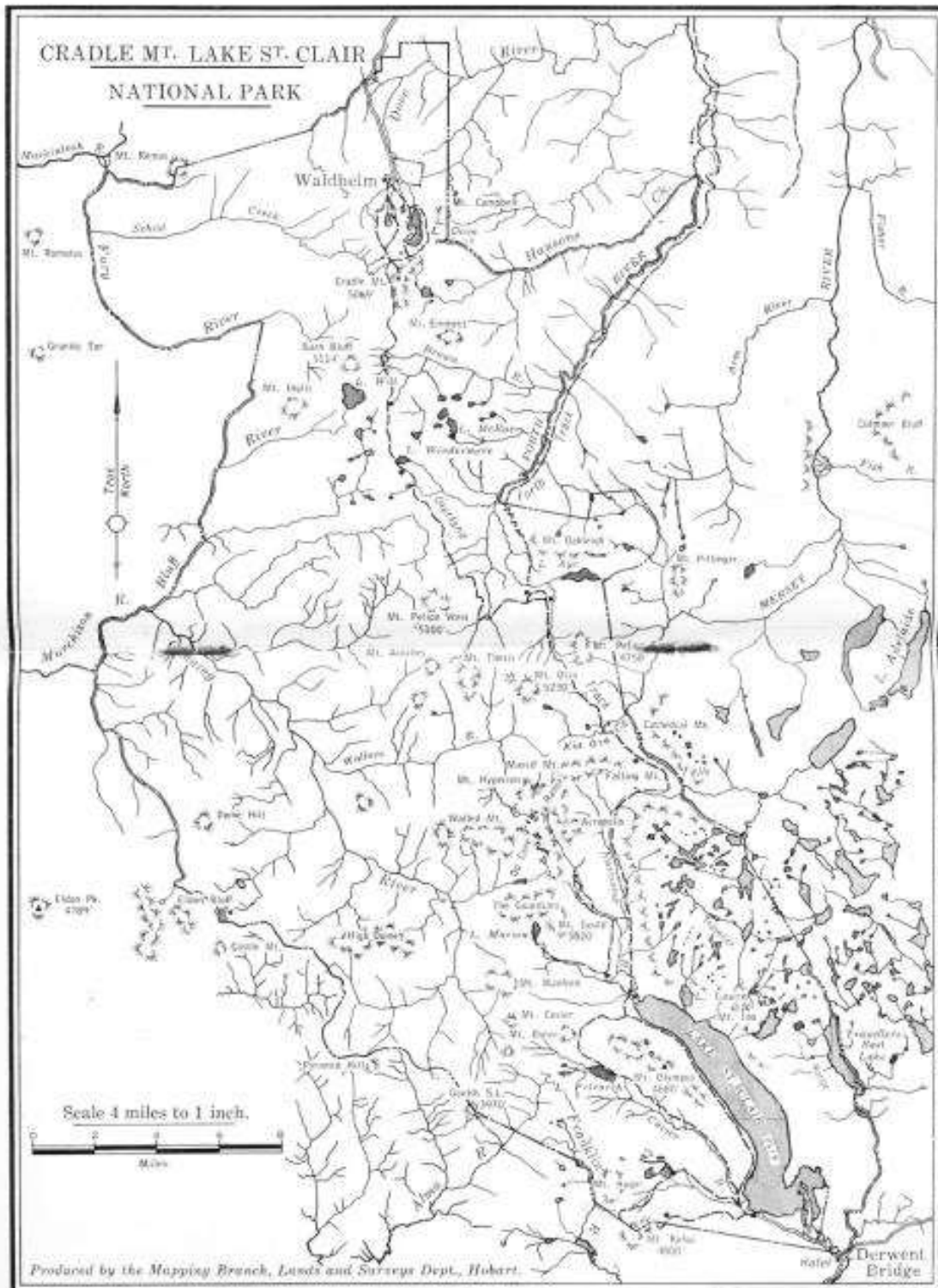
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### Historic map of Cradle Mountain



Cradle Mt, Lake St Clair. Image by TASMALP

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