



"Nature Conservation Saves for Tomorrow"

Our Hut News Editor is recovering from knee surgery and is doing well but we've decided to give her another month to fully recover.



FIRE FACTS FORENSIC

For more than a decade, warning signs like the one photographed have been placed near track heads and barbeque areas along the Jamison Valley escarpment on total fire ban days.

In January 2018, there was an exchange of communication, including an email from an Inspector of the Rural Fire Service directing that these signs no longer be affixed to trees. (If similar signage is decided on as government policy, it would be inexpensive to install posts and brackets where none are currently available, to allow the temporary signs to be posted.)

The email also said that Blue Mountains Council would look into what signage was appropriate at lookouts.

In April 2018, a source contacted a Conservation Society member and implied that a different motivation was in play in clouding the future of the Total Fire Ban warning signs. The source suggested that "they (whoever they might be) do not want to frighten off tourists, mostly in buses or cars, who drive along the scenic areas by seeing bush fire warning signs" (sic).

Will an adequate level of Total Fire Ban temporary signage be supported by the Rural Fire Service, Blue Mountains Council and other appropriate authorities in time for the fire season in spring and summer of this year? If anyone has a compelling reasons for asking any relevant authority to stop the roll out of Total Fire Ban warning signs, why has there been no public disclosure or public discussion about these attempts at influence occurring? Are not prominent fire ban warning signs thoroughly consistent with the impression the State Government is trying to give that it is very concerned about uncontrolled wildfire affecting the urban and tourist areas of the mountains?



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The next Hut News issue

DEADLINE:
16 JUNE 2018

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DANTE'S GEM

By the glen of Dante's waterfall
Sleeting showers drifting down
The track is now a silvered trail
Amidst a sea of green and brown.

There is a primal presence here
A chronicle of eons past in stone
Ancient ferns and timeless forms,
To nature hearts atone .

The darkened sky intensifies
Clouds release the breaking storm
Each droplet dancing on the pond
A symphony of sound is born.

Above, the stream's cascading plume
Drenched rocks and moss below
Crystal veils of moisture swirl
Every leaf aglow.

To be immersed, engrossed, amazed
A scene beyond the dreams of man
Dante's world within the universe imparts
Notions of the spirit of this land.

© Ross Bridle 2018

NURSERY NEWS

Nursery work is slowing down with the approach of winter. We had a very successful market at Lawson in May but we still have quite a lot of plants we would like to find homes for to make room for the new spring stock. To name just a few: we have Hardenbergias, Melaleucas, Acacias, Leptospermum and Coachwood which are all on special. So depending on the weather we may hold another market at Lawson in June. Look out for an email message nearer the time.

We are busy propagating cuttings at the moment and seeds are still germinating, but volunteers will take a break for a couple of months although they will be on standby when needed. Thanks to all our customers who have made this a very successful season.

Sue Nicol
0457 140905

THREATENED FAUNA OF THE GREATER BLUE MOUNTAINS WORLD HERITAGE AREA

Brush-tailed Rock-wallaby (*Petrogale penicillata*)

The small Brush-tailed Rock-wallaby is characterised as much by its feet as its distinctive brushy tail. The relatively short hind feet have much reduced claws but the soles of the feet are equipped with outstandingly large granulated pads. It is as if this wallaby is born wearing a pair of volley sandshoes, ready to scale the cliffs and steep rocky areas it inhabits.



This wallaby forms small colonies and typically shelters by day in overhangs on north-facing cliffs and rocky slopes, moving out in the afternoon and evening to feed in nearby grassy areas. In the late 1800s it lived along the Nepean River.

At Jenolan Caves, Sid Bellingham, a local hunting guide, noted in 1899 that the Brush-tailed Rock-wallaby was *"at one time plentiful"*, *"the Grand Arch and other outside caves were simply the camping place of rock wallabies"* and *"afforded good lively shooting"*, but the species was declining by the late 1800s.

The Brush-tailed Rock-wallaby has suffered widespread population declines and extinctions and is now considered to be endangered in NSW and vulnerable at national level. In the WHA it is now a rare resident at the western edge of its current known range, it formerly extended into inland NSW. A stronghold for the species is northern Wollemi and Yengo NPs, where there is suitable habitat across the escarpment of the southern Hunter Valley.

Other recent locations in the WHA include north of Faulconbridge Point Lookout in Blue Mountains National Park, the Wollondilly River catchment in Nattai National Park and, as a result of careful management by the NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service, it still frequents the Jenolan area, including the main tourist precinct. Possibly it persists in Kanangra-Boyd National Park, where it was last sighted near Church Creek Caves in 1989.

In the early 1870s Brush-tailed Rock-wallabies were introduced to New Zealand from Australia and have since prospered, to the point of becoming a local pest. Recent molecular genetic studies indicate that these 'Kiwi' animals most likely originated from a population at Winmalee (probably from within what is now Blue Mountains NP). Given the sorry state of the Brush-tailed Rock-wallaby around Winmalee today, the naturalised New Zealand population represents a potentially valuable conservation resource for Australia.

© Judy Smith
BMCS Threatened Species Officer

Photo © Peter Smith
(note the big feet!)

ENVIRONMENTAL DEFENDERS OFFICE (EDO) WORKSHOP

A workshop on bushland and tree removal in the Blue Mountains

Are you alarmed by the significant loss of trees particularly in the Lower Blue Mountains?
Or maybe extensive bulldozing for a new development is occurring near you.

Saturday 14 July 2018 2pm - 4 pm
Mechanics Institute, Great Western Highway, Lawson

The workshop is FREE

Register: <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/edo-workshop-tickets-45420824910>

There have been a number of changes in the laws about land clearing, bushland removal and the cutting down of trees. These may apply differently in different areas. The EDO will be running a workshop to inform

The aim of the workshop will be to let each of us know what to do when either:

- Clearing is taking place and you suspect that it is not legal, or
- A development application is open for public comment and bushland removal is involved.

You will learn:

- Which government agency can or should be taking action (who has responsibility and can help) and how the process works
- What laws and regulations exist to protect bushland, or can be used to argue a case or to push for action



IS IT?

This image was found among a small collection of old photographs at a deceased estate sale many years ago. Written on the back are the words:

"This is the hut at Wentworth Falls"

Is this our Conservation Hut and if so, does anyone else have an early photo of it?

LET'S THINK ABOUT SAVING WILD RIVERS ...

IMAGINE yourself floating down a pristine wild river. Towering sandstone cliffs on either side, you haven't seen another human being for days. Fossicking platypus look for their next meal in the labyrinth of River Oak roots, unaware that you are passing through their 60-million-year-old home. Lyrebirds scuffle through the leaves of vulnerable Camden White Gums, attempting to outrun your progress down the cascading rapids. This is what the NSW Government wants to so mercilessly destroy – the pristine wild rivers of the Blue Mountains.

The southern Blue Mountains and its wild rivers were the birthplace of the Colong Foundation in 1968. The wild rivers that were inscribed on the World Heritage List in 2000. The wild rivers that are the heartbeat of the Blue Mountains, its bushwalkers and adventurers. The wild rivers that are home to hundreds of Australia's iconic plant and animal species.



Sometimes we need to remember why it is we want to protect these places. We often become so transfixed by what it is we are trying to stop that we forget what we are trying to save. Be it stopping coal mines, roads, logging or, dare I say, dam proposals, we don't passionately oppose such ideas because we don't believe the world should not change. We oppose them because they go about destroying the very places we love and cherish for future generations of Australians. So when people ask us why the focus on wild rivers – it's because we want (and need!) the public know the reason why we are fundamentally opposed to the raising of Warragamba Dam.

On that exciting note, I remind everyone of what Bob Brown said to conservationists on his visit to the mountains last month – **don't get depressed, GET ACTIVE!** No matter how you would like to get involved in the wild rivers campaign, be it through volunteering at campaign stalls and events, giving a talk to your local conservation group, or by sending us a few dollars – we need you!

Send an email to wildrivers@colongwilderness.org.au

© Harry Burkitt

THE PLASTICS REFORMATION

The Guardian recently asked novelist and poet Margaret Atwood which institution she would choose to reform. As a response she called for a plastics reformation. She explained: "Are plastics an institution? Not in the sense of having a pope, or even a small cabal of leaders. But they are surely the modern equivalent of a universal religion. We worship them, whether we admit it or not. Their centre is whatever you happen to be doing, their circumference is everywhere; they're as essential to our modern lives as the air we breathe, and they're killing us. They must be stopped".

Plastics are found in the water we drink, the food we eat and in the air we breathe. There have been many studies and reports on plastics in the ocean, the marine food chain, in wildlife and, more recently, microplastics have been found widely in sea salt and in tap water. Studies in Germany have found plastic fibres and fragments in honey and sugar, as well as the 24 different beer brands. As well as 'smothering ecosystems' microplastics are known to contain and absorb toxic chemicals and research shows they are released in the body.

It seems that washing clothes could be a "significant source" of plastic microfibrils in the ocean because polyester and acrylic clothing shed thousands of plastic fibres each time they are washed. 6kg of fabric can release 140,000 fibres from polyester-cotton blend, nearly half a million fibres from polyester and more than 700,000 fibres from acrylic.

A fascinating report on *Primary Microplastics in the Oceans: a Global Evaluation of Sources* written by Julien Boucher and Damien Friot for the International Union for Conservation of Nature is worth reading further on this. It is also important to consider the environmental impacts of other textiles – for example a kilogram of cotton requires tons of water.

Other bio-synthetics are available and gradually becoming more popular. Lyocell is a fibre made from trees, PLA fabric is made from fermented food waste and artificial vegan leather can be made from pineapple. Soybean-based plastic fibres and casein fibres, made from milk, have also been developed.

It is incumbent upon us as consumers to consider the impact of the choices we make when buying new clothes and the letters we might write to companies to urge them to address the impact of their textile choices. You might like to read more on the fashion industry and these issues in Greenpeace Germany's report '*Fashion at the Crossroads*'. And of course there is the matter of consumption in general: Prof Richard Blackburn, head of the sustainable materials research group at the University of Leeds says: "We are unsustainably addicted to consumption. I cannot emphasise enough how much of a step-change it would be for sustainability if we bought fewer items of clothing per year, wore them for longer and threw them away less often".

© **Clare Power**
BMCS Sustainability Officer

BLUE MOUNTAINS CONSERVATION SOCIETY

www.bluemountains.org.au

'Like' us on Facebook:

Blue Mountains
Conservation Society

BMCS NURSERY PLANT SALES

We offer the home gardener, landscaper or contractor a big variety of quality local native plants at economical prices. Tube stock \$3. Discounts for bulk orders.

Hugh Brougham 0407 955 028
or **Sue Nicol** 0457 140 905

MEMBERSHIP ENQUIRIES

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02 4739 2987 0418 462 576
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FERN-LEAVED BANKSIA

Earlier this year, I developed a webpage for the Blue Mountains Nature website on the nine Banksias that are found in the Greater Blue Mountains. I sought out each species and included images and information on how to identify them.



You can find the webpage here:
<https://bmnature.info/flora-banksias.shtml>

Identification is fairly straight forward as the nine Banksias divide neatly into triplets. Three have hooked styles, and of the remaining six with straight styles, three have leaves in regular whorls and three have leaves scattered along stems.

But Mother Nature doesn't like to be uniform and categorised - it's we who create these rigid categories and like everything to conform.

About a month ago, I was asked for the location of the Fern-leaved Banksia (*Banksia oblongifolia*) - which I duly gave. It was along

Mt Hay Rd about 2km into the Blue Mountains National Park.

A few days later I was advised by a learned friend - let's call her Margaret - that it was in fact a Swamp Banksia (*Banksia paludosa* subsp. *paludosa*) not a Fern-leaved Banksia.

These species are very similar and the Swamp Banksia can have leaves in regular whorls or leaves scattered along the stem. I could hear Mother Nature having a chuckle to herself.

This advice was good enough for me. But I now needed to find a Fern-leaved Banksia, not only to correct the web-page and to complete images of the set of nine Banksias - but to redeem myself. Fortunately we were in the middle of the flowering season for the Fern-leaved Banksia - but I wasn't hopeful as it is more usually found along the coast - plus the dry spell has meant a poor flowering season.



The NSW Royal Botanic Gardens' PlantNet to the rescue. It showed a Fern-leaved Banksia species recorded in North Lawson near Frederica Falls - but in 1961.

I parked at the end of Hughes Avenue and set off to walk the loop - North Lawson Trail to Frederica Falls, then back along a lesser trail to my car.

It wasn't until I was on the lesser trail that I started to see what I believed was my objective. Then when I was nearly back to my car I saw a Fern-leaved Banksia in flower - the image shown here. However, it was the second image (taken from above) that nailed its identification, as when I shared it with Margaret she commented on "the almost blue lower perianth sections of the flowers".

© Alan Page

A VOICE FROM THE COUNTRY

Louisa Atkinson (1834–1872) was a young botanist and writer who lived for a long time at Fernhurst in Kurrajong Heights. She collected specimens in the Blue Mountains for respected botanists William Woolls and Ferdinand Mueller and her nature writing appeared in a number of journals. Below is an extract from one of her articles which appeared in the Sydney Morning Herald of Thursday 20 March 1862.



A Rocky Waterhole attributed to Louisa Atkinson (Mitchell Library, SL NSW)

... Ascending the romantic and beautiful valley of the Grose, for about three miles above the crossing-place we found the mountains cleft by a tributary valley, which, as the mouth was so encumbered by rocks and timber as to afford no view, the stream which waters it even was divided in its course into two trickling streams. Crossing these to a sand beach surrounding a miniature bay in the Grose we alighted and partook of lunch.

... The rough entrance to Springwood led to the expectation that the task of exploring it would be an arduous one and so it proved, though the character changed considerably above the junction of the two mouths. The precipitous hills were clothed in the vegetation indicative of a sandstone formation; grass-trees, now in bloom, were plentiful; *Tristania* of a stunted growth struggled up through the loose boulders occupying the bed of the stream; there was a music of gurgling waters which rather added to than lessened the sense of silence, and re-called the somewhat peculiar explanation given me some time since by a person of whom I had enquired why a certain place was called *Silent Creek*? - "*because there are so many birds singing there.*"

Now my informant was not able to convey in more intelligent language that sense of isolation and far-ness from man which the note of birds, and the fall of waters, brings to the soul - particularly of the solitary wanderer.

MISS ATKINSON

From the known world, disappearing
To the wilds of sight and hearing
Nature's treasures, rarely viewed
Some perfume her solitude.
The many things that she looks upon
Fascinate Miss Atkinson.

Moss and fern in deep seclusion
Now revealed at her intrusion
Subjects for her drawing skills
Later paint, her paper fills
The many things that she looks upon
Fascinate Miss Atkinson.

The hand of God she sees in all things
Grateful for the bounty He brings
The wondrous hush at valley views
The lyrebird egg with ash brown hues.
The many things that she looks upon
Fascinate Miss Atkinson.

From the known world, disappearing
To the wilds of sight and hearing
Exploring in this ancient land
A land she tried to understand
The many things that she looks upon
Fascinate Miss Atkinson.



illustrations attributed to Louisa Atkinson
Mitchell Library - SL NSW



© **Jim Low**

lyrics written 22 August 2014

BMCS Planning & Development Resource Kit

Do you want to take action on an environmental issue in your neighbourhood or the Blue Mountains more broadly?

Do you want information about the laws and procedures relating to development and environmental protection?

Find out what **YOU** can do! Go to the Planning and Development Resource Kit

www.bluemountains.org.au/pdrk-welcome.shtml

A BEQUEST:

Please remember us in your Will.

The Law Society of NSW recommends the following wording: "I bequeath the sum of \$... to the Blue Mountains Conservation Society Inc. for its general purposes and declare that the receipt of the treasurer for the time being of the Blue Mountains Conservation Society shall be complete discharge to my executors in respect of any sum paid to the Blue Mountains Conservation Society".

BLUE TRAIL:

Natural and cultural experiences in the western Blue Mountains

© Don Morison.

This "Blue Trail" is a collective description for sites in the western Blue Mountains that arouse natural or cultural interest or both. Most are only a short walk from roads or vehicular tracks. One day, a high quality walking path may link them.

49. MISTLETOES IN THE MIST, Richlands District

The mistletoe plant is much more than a source of mischievous fun for Christmas revellers. The ABC Science website points out that mistletoes provide food and shelter to a vast range of birds, mammals and insects although they infest trees in plague proportions in some parts of Australia.



This botanical oddity sits comfortably in the grazier's territory (photo © Christine Davies)

In locations such as along the southern fringes of Blue Mountains National Park it is possible to sight plenty of mistletoe specimens, even though many mistletoe species adopt the characteristics of their host plant once they gain a toehold. ABC Science states that "the life of most mistletoes begins when a viscous, gluey seed drops onto a branch from the rear end of the brilliantly coloured, black, red and white Mistletoe Bird".

Some mistletoes continue to flower in drought or during winter when few other blossoms are available and they may be the only local source of nectar and pollen during hard times. Blue Mountains bird species which can gain good nutrition from mistletoes include Cuckoo Shrikes,

Ravens, Cockatoos, Shrike Thrushes and Bower Birds as well as the Mistletoe Bird itself.

There are researchers who think that even a large infestation of mistletoes is unlikely to kill a tree unless it is already sick and dying. On misty days in particular, mistletoes add to the forlorn visual enthrallment of New South Wales' high country.



Mistletoes in the mist near the National Park boundary. (photo © Christine Davies)



Mistletoe Bird by Neville Cayley

What Bird is That? A guide to the birds of Australia as on the Australian National Botanic Gardens website

BLUE MOUNTAINS CONSERVATION SOCIETY

Blue Mountains Conservation Society is a community organisation working to achieve the preservation and regeneration of the natural environment of the Greater Blue Mountains.

The Society believes that World Heritage status provides an opportunity for local community members to become custodians of the unique biodiversity and scenery of the Blue Mountains.

The Mission of the Society is to help conserve the natural environment of the Blue Mountains.

The Aims and Objectives of the Society are to:

- Disseminate and foster an understanding of the ideals of Conservation.
- Promote the need for ecological sustainability.
- Protect the natural environment—flora, fauna, habitat, water, land and air.
- Actively oppose those human activities which degrade or destroy the natural environment.
- Repair the adverse effects of human activities upon the environment.
- Encourage the love of the natural environment by conducting a regular program of bushwalks.
- Increase the pool of expert knowledge about the natural environment, through meetings, excursions, research and other activities.
- Provide information to the public on matters of Conservation, especially through the Conservation Hut at the Valley of the Waters, Wentworth Falls.

BRUCE

There was a bloke worked with us who once went for a walk,
In the bush – with some friends – just to have a good gawk
At the rocks, and the grass, and ants with fierce stings -
And the canyons, and trees, and parrots and things.

With his calf muscles bulging, he set out in the lead,
Till it came to the time when they needed a feed;
So they stopped by the river, Bruce sat down on a rock
While he scoffed a few sambos, and a small block of choc.

Now for two hundred years, a big gum tree grew there
Slowly pushing its boughs ever up in the air,
Till at last the old tree – figuring it was near dead
Decided to fall on some bushwalkers head.

The finger of fate, it's not hard to deduce
Was pointed at someone who's first name is Bruce;
But lucky for him the tree passed by his head
Pulverising his hip and his ankle instead.

Now this might seem a morbid account - I agree –
To tell of a bloke pulverised by a tree;
But with courage and time Bruce slowly did mend
Till finally, for work, he was fit to attend.

Back at the grind, Bruce applied himself well,
Questioning this, and then that, a list too long to tell
Till finally a workmate – most indelicately
Told him “Go for a walk – and sit under a tree”.

Now the odds of it happening again must be nil;
But when Bruce stops for lunch now, he sits on a hill;
With never a tree or a bush within reach
While he munches his sandwich, or biscuit, or peach.

© **Pete Drinkall**

OTHER BMCS ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIVITIES

See Activities on www.bluemountains.org.au
Plant Study Group
Thursday Interpretive Nature Group

GARDENS OF STONE VISITORS MAP

The Visitors Map is full of suggested walks and trips. It is in full colour and is 60 by 85 cm in size.

The map covers the entire Gardens of Stone region at a 1:100,000 scale, making it ideal for planning your next trip to the area. You can buy a map on the society's website at:

www.bluemountains.org.au/GoS_VisitorsMap.htm

SATURDAY WALKS:

Usually a full day longer walk at a faster pace. Bring morning tea, lunch and adequate water. If you are a new walker to Saturday walks, before attending contact the designated contact person or the Group Co-ordinator:
Harold Thompson harold.thompson@bigpond.com 6355 1762 or mobile 0409 010 737

Saturday Walks driver reimbursement: *In an effort to ensure that car drivers are adequately compensated for the use of their vehicles a driver reimbursement policy applies* (Check www.bluemountains.org.au Saturday Walks page for details)

June 9 - To the swing Bridge on 6ft Track. Leader: Alice & Lotti 47393086, meet Blackheath Stn. Car park, 8.30am 12km, GR2, Map, Katoomba & Hampton

June 16 - Jungabarra & the rock climbers steps. Some off Track. Leader: Emanuel 0419773906, 10km, GR4, Map Mt Wilson. Contact leader to book in.

June 23 - Twin Heads on Kangaroo Creek, . Leader: Hugh 0423309854 7km, Gr3 map, Cullen Bullen. Contact leader to book in.

June 30 -The Barnacles. Leader: Harold 0409010737 Meet Mt Vic stn. Car Park 8.30am 9km, Gr3/4 map, Mt Wilson. Contact leader to book in.

July 7 - Bell Pagodas. Leader: Mike 47573660 Meet Wentworth Falls Stn. Car park, 7.30am, 15km, Gr3, Map, Mt Wilson, Wollangambe

July 14 - Lambs Ck to Kangaroo Ck Leader: Harold 0409010737 Meet Mt Vic stn. Car Park 8.00am 9km, Gr3/4 map, Cullen Bullen. Contact leader to book in.

MONDAY LEISURE WALKS:

Short Day walks of 3-5 hours, suitable for walkers of an average fitness. Bring morning tea and lunch and adequate water. The Group Co-ordinator is Keith Dorrian: 4736 1010, 04111 62345 keithdor53@hotmail.com

June 4 - Little Switzerland Rd Wentworth Falls, Jamison Valley cliff top walk to Rocket Point and return via Chester Rd.Track. Approx 5Km Meet at Wentworth Falls Station Stockyard Car Park 8-45am.

Leaders: Dave and Barby 0416 109 141 Grade 2

June 11 - Mt Banks from Bells line of Rd. Approximately 7Km Meet at Mt Victoria Station 8-50 am Car Pool \$5 Leader: Eddie 4784 2691 Grade 3

June 18 - Watsons Bay to Bondi. This is the peak of whale migration, so hopefully some whale watching. Bring binoculars. Meet At Central Station Top of escalators 9-30. From there to Circular Quay for ferry to Watsons Bay Leader: Beth Rohrlach 0424 738 287 Grade 2

June 25 - Mt Solitary (long Day) Car pool to Golden Stairs then down stairs onto Solitary and return. Meet at Katoomba Station Car Park 8-30am Car Pool \$5 Leaders: Wayne and Mary Read Ph 0429 021 296 Grade 3/4

July 2 - Dargan Arch Short walk to explore spectacular arch and overhang near Bell. Meet at Mt Victoria Station 9.45am. Car Pool. \$5 Leader: Ros 0417 261 465. Grade 2 to top of arch. Grade 3 to climb down to overhang and back.

July 9 - Grand Canyon Walk from Medlow Bath Walk commences from the Rd after Katoomba Airstrip and down to the Canyon and along to Evans lookout. Meet at Medlow Bath Station Nth Side 8-35am Car Shuffle Leader: Tracy 0434 362 611 Grade 3

THURSDAY PLEASURE WALKS:

Walks 2-3 hours conducted at a leisurely pace to suit walkers on the day. Bring morning tea, adequate water and lunch if noted. Group Co-ordinator is Beverley Thompson, 4757 2076 denfenella12@bigpond.com

June 7 - Empire Pass, Lawson. Meet at Lawson Bowling Club 8.45am. Car pool. Take lunch. Leader Beverley 4757 2076 Grade 2

June 14 - Bus trip to Berowra. Book and pay \$12 Leader Tracy 0434 362 611. Take lunch Meet Springwood Car Park behind Westpac Bank 8am sharp. Pick up down the highway. Grade 2

June 21 - Elizabeth Point, off Narrow Neck. Meet Katoomba Station Car Park 9.30am. Leader Maurice 0402 402 783. Car pool, AWD preferred. Take lunch. Grade 2

June 28 - Part of Six Foot Track from Old Ford Reserve. Meet Blackheath Neighbourhood Centre 9.45am Leader Tracy 0434 362 611. Car pool, \$5. Take lunch. Grade 2

July 5 - Cockatoo Island, Sydney Harbour. Sydney's largest island. Explore this world heritage listed site of convict history. Harbour views. Meet top of escalators Central Station 9.30am Leader Keith 0411 162 345. Take lunch. Grade 1

July 12 - Bell Perimeter Trail. Meet Mount Victoria Station 9.50am. Leader Tracy 0434 362 611. Car pool \$5. Take lunch. Grade 2