

We acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land, the Darug and Gundungurra people, and pay respect to their elders past, present and emerging.

# After a 20 year campaign, new protection for the Gardens of Stone.

Madi Maclean

Cheers, tears and a storm of emails erupted in celebration within the Society when, on Saturday 13 November, the NSW government at last announced the creation of a new Gardens of Stone State Conservation Area (SCA).

The announcement came in a joint media release from the Premier, Dominic Perrottet, Environment Minister and Treasurer, Matt Kean and Deputy Premier and local MP, Paul Toole.

The decision transfers this spectacular area of pagoda landscapes, cliffs, waterfalls, woodlands and flowering swamps into the national park estate. The new State Conservation Area is made up of most of three state forests (Newnes, Ben Bullen and Wolgan) plus Crown reserve land near Mount Piper. There will also be small additions to the adjoining Gardens of Stone and Wollemi National Parks. The whole area is a combined total of 31,500 hectares.

The existing Gardens of Stone National Park lies immediately north of the new SCA. This park, created in 1994, was an early campaign success. However this left the three state forests unprotected because of active coal mining leases. In 2006 a campaign launched the Gardens of Stone Stage 2 Proposal and this has been the foundation document until today. In 2001 the 3,500 ha Mugii Murum-ban SCA further north was created.

#### The Campaign

This has been a long campaign going back to Myles Dunphy's vision for the Greater Blue Mountains in 1932. The name, "Gardens of Stone", was first used by renowned environmentalist, Haydn Washington.

The Society has been involved in the campaign for over twenty years. The Gardens of Stone Alliance, made up of founding members Colong Foundation for Wilderness, Lithgow Environment Group and Blue Mountains Conservation Society, has been the organising force of the campaign. Nature Conservation Council boosted the campaign when it joined in 2020 and the Blue Mountains World Heritage Institute joined more recently. We also acknowledge the long-term support of National Parks Association.

The Society in particular thanks Keith Muir from Colong Foundation and Julie Favell, Chris Jonkers and Richard Stiles from Lithgow Environment Group for their incredible persistence and conviction in achieving recognition for the Gardens of Stone

The Society also wishes to thank all our members and supporters. You have helped make this happen through raising awareness, signing petitions, submissions, letters to government and supporting our public events.



Photo: Henry Gold

We recognise some key Society members: Ian Brown, Brian Marshall, Karen McLaughlin, Peter Green, Janine Kitson, Yuri Bolotin, Joel Robinson, Thomas Ebersoll, Tara Cameron and Madi Maclean.

We also thank the many volunteers who contributed by helping plan, organise or run events, such as trips, giant banner drops, tours, stalls, MP tours, film nights, talks and exhibitions, particularly the Gardens of Stone In Focus photo competition and two day exhibition; by publicising and promoting the beauty of Gardens of Stone on facebook and other platforms. We also recognise the film makers who produced glorious and moving videos.

It is difficult to acknowledge everyone in one short article. It has been a long campaign with multiple contributions.

A few highlights that stand out for me in the last eight years are:

• The Planning Assessment hearings for the Coalpac open-cut mine proposal where in 2012

the Independent Planning Commission found that "the highest and best use of the area was for conservation purposes". The mining proposal was refused.

•In mid 2019, Destination Pagoda, the visitor management plan written by Ian Brown, was launched in Lithgow, Katoomba and Sydney. It showed that the SCA could function and support conservation values as well as promote nature-based tourism and diversify the local economy of Lithgow. Destination Pagoda became a new focus in the local

campaign, promoted through social media and gaining local support.

• There were a number of rallies in the Gardens of Stone and in Lithgow and they lifted our spirits.

We also thank the parliamentarians who drove this proposal:

- Environment Minister, Matt Kean, for getting it over the line;
- Trish Doyle, our local member, for her long term support and for ensuring the Labor Party added protection of the Gardens of Stone into its platform at the last state election;
- Cate Faehrmann, Greens MLC
- Catherine Cusack, Liberal MLC.

#### **Next steps**

The next step is the establishment of the new SCA with professional park management of the area and consultation on the proposals.

The Society will publish more information about the new SCA as it becomes available. Watch our website and Facebook page

# Report on the Management Committee meeting of 20 November 2021

The following is a summary of matters discussed or decisions made:

- Citizen Science program, Flora Connections, threatened species - to be followed up
- Society to be included in club of the month list by the Bushwalking Federation, mentioning our 60th anniversary
- Meeting to be held with NPWS about lease for the Hut, given changes following end of current lease for cafe.
- NCC Conservation Movement Leaders Spring Forum open to interested parties
- Warragamba Dam campaign funding of \$1500 approved

- Sustainability Officer is working with Macquarie Alliance
- Penrith Helipad now subject of interest by the Katoomba Airfield campaign team
- RAWSA using our Council candidates questionnaire
- Approved \$1500 for planning day implementation
- National Parks amendment bill. Concern raised about ministerial powers to override plans of management
- Varuna has suggested Alexis Wright for the Mick Dark Talk next year.

The planning day preceded the meeting and a report on the outcomes will be made available.

#### Welcome to new members

The Society welcomes the following 26 new members and thanks them for joining us:

Lois Holland Michael Frankel Karen Rosenfield Erika Fedotovs Stephen Cannings Amanda Carr Iimmi Carr

Lorraine Shannon Sophie Davis

Freedom Wilson

Anthony Bourke

Julie Martin

Felicity Wade

Lyndon Schneiders

Kevin Mclauchlan

Stephen McKay

Sally McKay

Julie Clark

Caroline Giniunas

Maureen Fitzpatrick

Robert Bradley

Ondine Evans Astrid Evans Teilo Oakley- Evans Callisto Oakley- Evans

There are currently 908 members.

#### Administration Officer needed.

Unfortunately Caroline Druce will not continue most of her duties after the AGM next year and we are looking for someone to replace her. Caroline will still be able to help with some duties but won't continue to manage the Society's emails and phone calls. The Administration Officer is part of the Management Committee.

If interested please contact Tara Cameron. See her contact details on page 12.

## Australia's shame

#### Clare Power

On the final day of the climate talks in Glasgow, Britain's COP 26 President Alok Sharma apologised for the way that COP 26 unfolded as the urgent calls to phase out coal were reduced to 'phasing down' coal. There were many failings of the summit.

It didn't reach sufficient agreement on targets to achieve only 1.5 degrees of warming. Moreover, the \$100 billion per year to pay for clean energy in developing countries will not be activated for another two years, and the loss and damage fund for poor and vulnerable countries experiencing climate destruction was not finalised. UN Secretary-General, Antonio Guterres, pointed out 'we are still knocking on the door of climate catastrophe' and Greta Thunberg described the talks as achieving nothing but 'blah, blah, blah'.

However, there were some breakthroughs as many countries committed to strengthening their climate action goals. Jennifer Morgan, executive director of Greenpeace, claims that a signal coming out of this COP, is that 'the era of coal is ending'. The US and China released a joint declaration promising cooperation on emissions reductions, 140 countries lifted their pollution targets and 103 countries made substantial cuts to methane production. COP 26 agreed that global carbon dioxide emissions need to decrease to 45% by 2030. Countries such as Australia, which did not increase their targets, are being requested to address this and return to a summit in 2022 with revised goals.

Australia arrived in Glasgow as the worst performing developed country in terms of reducing emissions and fossil fuel reliance. The Australian Government received the 'colossal fossil' award for its 'appalling performance' at the COP26 conference in Glasgow. The award was created by the global organisation Climate Activist Network (CAN) to draw attention to countries that lack ambitious climate targets and policies.

Despite the government's recent climate <u>announcements</u>, Australia's 2030 target <u>remains the same (https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/NDCStaging/Pages/All.aspx)</u> as in 2015.

If all countries <u>adopted such</u> low near-term targets, global temperature rise would be on track for up to 3°C. Australia was one of the few countries at the summit to not increase its short-term pledge – formally known as a nationally determined contribution (NDC).

Jo Dodds - President of Bushfire Survivors for Climate Action stated: 'It's an eye-watering irony that our nation, still reeling from the most catastrophic bushfires we've ever faced, warned that we'll be facing even worse as the climate continues to heat, is STILL embracing coal, still investing OUR TAXES in new gas projects, still asking communities like mine to be more 'resilient' in the face of ever growing danger.'

Ray Minniecon, Indigenous Peoples Organisation Australia said 'We leave COP26 deeply ashamed and embarrassed by the Australian Government's behaviour and attitudes to the deep concerns we have about the climate crisis.'

Simon Bradshaw at the Climate Council claims that 'the sooner the Australian Government steps up with a plan to drive down emissions this decade, the sooner we can start unlocking Australia's unrivalled opportunities for new jobs and prosperity through renewable energy and clean industries, start repairing our international reputation, and start protecting Australians and communities everywhere from the ravages of climate change.'

UN Secretary-General, Antonio Guterres, described the COP26 outcome as a 'compromise, reflecting the interests, contradictions and state of political will in the world today'. It's an important step, but it's not enough. It's time to go into emergency mode. The climate battle is the fight of our lives and that fight must be won.

There are many ways to respond to this emergency, and one of them is through our votes in the upcoming Federal election. This is an opportunity to pressure the government for ambitious, meaningful emissions reductions. Don't underestimate your electoral power.

# Halting deforestation, a global and local challenge

Don Morison



This tree, in unprotected Megalong bushland, is hundreds of years old and is a keystone structure - disproportionally providing resources crucial for other species. Photo: Christine Davies

Some of the agreements Australia signed at the November 2021 COP26 Conference in Glasgow pose as many questions as they answer. 'The Conversation' states that 'As a signatory to this new declaration (referring to the resolution against deforestation), Australia must strengthen land clearing laws, end native forest logging, and restore degraded ecosystems – just planting new trees will not get us there. Australia has the potential to restore large areas of degraded land. Experts have proposed how this could be done for relatively little investment.'

Internationally, there is quite rightly a focus on large scale industries that have engaged in forest clearing for corporate gain in numerous countries. As members of a conservation society with an area of interest very close to Australia's densest concentration of population, we are trying to be the custodians of hundreds of kilometres of frontiers between urban land use and forest land, heathland and swamps. Most of these natural areas are World Heritage classified.

In our east, the Cumberland Plain and Nepean River catchment are subject to multiple pressures to reduce vegetation, a phenomenon often called the tyranny of small decisions. Many square kilometres will be cleared of plants that could be home to birds threatening "bird strike" against flights from Badgerys Creek. More native flora will be lost if the dam wall is raised. There are some tree planting projects afoot but these are woefully inadequate and a steep rise in average temperatures in many Western Sydney suburbs looks inevitable.

The declaration of a new State Conservation Area stretching north from Newnes Plateau is welcome, but there will be large inholdings and areas outside the protected lands still threatened by uses involving loss of tree cover. On the outskirts of Katoomba, new plans for The Gully, vital to the indigenous heritage of the mountains, and for the former Katoomba golf course, offer hope that the native vegetation at these sites can be part of the future. But there are many other areas of forest, heath and swamp on the mountains urban fringes whose protection is much less certain.

What Australia signed in Glasgow should be an inspiration for us all to question all projects that require alienating small or large patches of vegetation.

# Ramblings

#### Alan Page

#### **Snakes alive**

Our nine month old Westie (Aberdeen) bailed up a Red-bellied Black Snake in our garden in early November. That's the first adult snake I've seen in our backyard.

Aberdeen's bark was continual and unchanging. It quickly reminded me of our Gracie's\* bark at several Blotched Blue-tongue Lizards over the years.

And this is what I expected when I went to investigate. Boy, did my heart quicken when I saw the black length of snake and the tell-tale crimson scales at the bottom edge of its body. I couldn't see its head but guessed it was a good metre in length.

By the time I picked up Aberdeen and popped her inside, the snake was gone.

I was grateful that all was well, and that it was a Red-bellied Black as they tend to beat a retreat when confronted by humans.

WIRES confirmed this and said it would be long gone before they arrived. But they also said that snakes would be interested in compost bins, especially ones with food scraps, because they are looking for rats. So that was good advice. We also have an apple tree that the rats frequent so I need to think about that as it's not a good apple tree. We've caught and evicted several Black Rats (*Rattus rattus*) over the years.

\* Gracie's our 11 year old Westie.

#### **Elements**

I noted, while I was watching a nature documentary recently, that mention was made of the six essential elements for life.

Various scientific websites have four, five, six and seven elements required. The consensus though



Above: A magnificent example of a Red-bellied Black snake. Photo: Phoebe Coster

seems to be six - carbon, hydrogen, nitrogen, oxygen, phosphorus and sulphur (CHNOPS). I'm puzzled why calcium isn't one of them. I must bone up on that.

I also noticed a list of seven elements of nature - nature, water, fire, earth, light, darkness and spirit.

Nature, to me, means more than fauna and flora. It includes mountains, swamps, rivers and oceans, glaciers and deserts, wind and rain. Light and dark, day and night, full moon, new moon. Spirit, instinct, belief, empathy, being.

#### Communion

I'm finding I am now "going bush" and often not taking my camera out of my backpack. I'm enjoying regular stops, looking around, being in the moment. The quest for new wildflowers and plants has waned, and has been replaced by a closer connection with nature. A communion perhaps.

# Passionate about Pagodas ...

### Memories of Olive and John Noble

#### Margaret Baker

November 2021 will be remembered for the outstanding conservation win, the declaration of the 30,000ha Gardens of Stone State Conservation Area. Since then some of us have been reminiscing about our early encounters with this fabulous place of pagodas and canyons, rocky heaths of rare plants and the unique life of upland swamps. I've also been thinking about the people I've shared 'pagoda country' with and at the top of my list are Olive and John Noble.

Arriving in Australia from England in 1967, with two year old David, John and Olive worked in the Victorian Alps, then Queensland before settling in Blackheath in 1980. They quickly set about walking the wilder places in the Coxs River valley, then they discovered the Newnes Plateau and beyond – the Wollangambe, Wolgan and Wollemi. Every special place found was shared with friends in the UBMCS (Upper Blue Mountains Conservation Society) and later, the Woody Pears.

The Society's excellent newsletter archive traces the family's exploits while leading bush adventures. Their first walk was on 7th April 1984 to the isolated Gibraltar Rocks. Then in October 1984, Olive, John and David led a 20km "ramble" along the Six Foot Track from Black Range to the Coxs River. The relative newcomers clearly impressed with their trademark meticulous planning:

The walk's convenors would like to commend the conscientious way the Nobles researched the area and so enabled a walk, which could have been difficult and confusing, appear quite easy.

In March 1985 Olive and John became the Society's walk convenors and northern Blue Mountains locations were a regular part of their programs. In July, David led the first of several Wollangambe canyon adventures, promising "interesting rock formations". From 1986 to 1989 Olive and John presented: "Newnes Plateau Area Pinnacles ... new territory", "dry canyons and rainforest gullies", Bungleboori River, Deep Pass, Glow Worm Tunnel and Waratah Ridge. John retired as co-convenor in 1989 while Olive continued until 1993. Many in the

Society are indebted to them for opening their hearts and minds to the wonders of what was to become the Gardens of Stone (GoS).

In 1989 Olive encouraged mates to join my TAFE 'community outreach' class and we spent Thursdays investigating all things Blue Mountains. In 1990, after the course had finished, Olive organised for the class of retired outdoor adventurers to continue their bush studies. The group later adopted the name, the Woody Pears, after an excited encounter with the unusual fruit of *Xylomelum pyriforme*.

As Woody Pears we spent years in some amazing Blue Mountains places. Always a team, John and Olive put much preparation into each day. Olive developed the program with full itinerary and commentaries, and John quietly and capably led the way. We would follow them anywhere. Their passion for pagodas often saw us on the Newnes Plateau. I remember my first jaw-dropping sights of the Lost City, negotiating the maze of the Temples of Doom (a tragically prophetic name), and being lowered on a rope to see two rare Southern Sassafras trees. One day we walked a circuitous route through formational sequences of pagodas, where I also had my first encounter with Banksia penicillata, and on to the secret Noble's Dry Canyon. How could I not fall in love with pagoda country?

The following years brought change. In 1994 my job became full-time and I missed many Woody Pear adventures. In that same year David discovered the legendary Wollemi Pine; John faded away just 10 months later. Olive continued to lead the group well into the new century. When I retired I joined her and fellow Woody Pear, Heather, for many lunches full of reminiscences, conservation issues and Newnes Plateau stories. We would have had a very interesting conversation about the GoS declaration.

Vale dear friend Olive Noble, who died 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2021, aged 97.



Above: Olive Noble at a Woody Pear Christmas 1996 at Gordon Falls Reserve

Below left: Woody Pears and UBMCS members with Olive (centre) and John Noble (right) forming a pagoda on Narrow Neck

Below right: Woody Pears with Olive (2nd from far end) having morning tea on the trek to the end of Narrow Neck 22/8/91 (photo near fire tower)

Photos supplied by fellow Woody Pear, Heather Bray





# A virtual interpretive bushwalk to share

Christine Davies

During the long COVID lockdown, members of the Society's TING (Thursday Interpretive Nature Group) were not isolated from nature or from one another, even though we couldn't physically walk together.

We held a Virtual Interpretive Bushwalk which inspired us and kept us in touch with our friends. Present and past members of the group shared



their nature observations, in words and photographs, by email. We all enjoyed it so much that I began to collect them in a document. We distributed sections of the document to the BMCS bushwalking coordinator, Doug Nicholls, who forwarded them to the Society's other bushwalking groups.

The document grew to a 40 page booklet. It is online and we want to share it with other Society members. The link is <a href="https://nealemorison.com/tingvib/">https://nealemorison.com/tingvib/</a>

Christine Davies can be contacted at (davica@bigpond.net.au)

Above: (On the road to Martins Lookout, Springwood) "Rounding a bend, a young lady waving, trying to attract my attention. She told me she had just seen a baby HEDGEHOG. ECHIDNA, I replied. She was happy to show me where it was. How big? – about 15 centimetres. The lady said she cried when she saw it. That was rather nice, made me smile." Photo and quote from Ron Hyslop.

# Gardens of Stone Visitors Map

The Visitors Map is full of suggested walks and trips. It is in full colour, 60 by 85 cm in size, and 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 <a href="https://www.bluemountains.org.au/sales-map.shtml">https://www.bluemountains.org.au/sales-map.shtml</a>

# Are you concerned about environmental damage or a development activity in your neighbourhood but don't know who to contact?

The Society's Planning & Development Resource Kit may help you.

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

## Poet's Corner

#### Paean

Lois Holland (copyright)

The blue mountains sing to me – on ridge tops or forest floor among ferns, moss and vines I am renewed.

I gaze into the depths or climb from the valley past huge sculpted rocks and tortured trees rugged ramparts with banded cliffs, and am awed.

Ironstone frills, profuse wildflowers stands of tall trees, fragrant bush paths beckon.

By tumbling cascades and rocky creeks, cool plunge pools with plashing waterfalls I am refreshed.

Weathered caves with dripping overhangs tell old stories; insects drum, eagles soar, creatures rustle, birds flute praise.

Westerly winds or furious downpours pierce the gullies and heights, echoing storms with a skirmish of clouds precede the rainbow.

The capricious hot breath of a bushfire blasts warnings and threats; wreathing mist with droplets of moisture enfold and obscure the world.

Crisp air and brisk breezes invigorate, blue skies above and blue swathes below breathe tranquillity.

The dizzy valley and haze of blue ridges melding with the distant horizon dwarf me.

I am drawn to this place where I lose myself in ancient landscape.

### Nature's call

Georgia Croke (aged 12)

The mountains.

As I look upon the landscape, blue gums scattered across the valley,

There is a slight scent of eucalyptus, mixed in with the crumbling rocks.

The soft wind blows up from the valley, planting kisses on my cheek and brushing its hands through my hair. Subtle drips of water nourishing the hanging swamps on the cliff side.

The psithurism.
The trees sway to the wind's song,
Butterflies drift past,
landing on nearby flowers.
In my soul, there is a growing sense of peace.

The ataraxy.

Slight sun rays peeking through the trees.

Calls of birds, acrobats in the sky.

Surrounded by peace and tranquillity, I feel that I could let my wings out and fly.

Nature lives in harmony, for you, and for I.

### Take a moment

Ross Bridle

Our life slips by in moments -Just like this moment now. And although we'd like to slow them down, They just escape somehow.

Most get lost in thoughts or dreams, We are seldom ever present -Passing through, but seeing nought, All precious moments but misspent.

So, take your time when on the track-Be in the moment - Find that plant -Like Waratah or Xanthorrhoea -It may respond by waving back!

# Walks program December/January 2021/2022

The three month walks program appears on our web page: <a href="https://www.bluemountains.org.au/bushwalking.shtml">https://www.bluemountains.org.au/bushwalking.shtml</a>.

#### Saturday walks

Saturday walks are usually a full day, longer walk at a faster pace. Bring morning tea, lunch and adequate water. Coordinator Harold Thompson. Phone 0409 010737. Email

### harold.thompson@bigpond.com December 11

Megalong Cemetery to Bowtells Swing Bridge, 12.6km. Map, Hampton. Leader Alice 0425738766. Meet at Blackheath station CP at 8.30 am. Grade 3.

#### December 18

Christmas Lunch at Lawson Bowling Club. Meet 12.00 for 12.30 Contact Harold 0409010737 or Alice 0425738766 to Book.

#### December 25

No walk

#### January 1st to February 8th.

Summer program where walkers select walk and leader on the day. Meet at Wentworth Falls Stn Car Park at 8.00am

#### Monday walks

Short Day walks of 3-5 hours, Suitable for walkers of average fitness. Bring morning tea, lunch and adequate water. The Group Coordinator is Keith Dorrian 0411 162 345 keithdor53@hotmail.com

#### December 6

Baltzer Lookout, Blackheath. Meet at Blackheath Neighbourhood Centre. 8.45 am. Car pool. Tracy 0434 362611. Grade 2

#### December 13

Martins Lookout Loop, Springwood. Steep descent to Glenbrook Creek, then walks past pools and waterfalls, return to starting point. Meet at Westpac car park, Springwood. 8.50 am. Car pool. Colin Ford 0421 502954. Grade 2-3

#### December 20

Christmas get together at Wentworth Falls Lake. Meet at Wentworth Falls Station Stockyard car park.

#### December 27. No walk

#### January 3

Water nymph Dell and Wentworth Falls Lake. 7km. Meet at Wentworth Falls Station north side car park  $9.20~\mathrm{am}$ . Ros King 0417~261465

#### January 10

Norman Lindsay Gallery via Springwood Creek and Birdwood Gully. Meet at Springwood Station, north car park. 8.50 am. Colin Ford 0421 502954

#### January 17

Empire Pass, Lawson. Walk to Frederick Falls, Dante's Glen, Fairy Falls, Echo Bluff, return to Lawson Station. Meet at Lawson Bowling Club car park. 8.40 am. Lyn Bevington 0432 352850

#### January 24

Yondell Ave., Springwood via Wiggins Track, Sassafras Gully, Glenbrook Creek, Magdala Gully then new track. Meet at Springwood Westpac car park. 8.50 am. Car pool. Colin Ford 0421 502954

#### January 31

Pippas Pass and Florabella Pass. Ending at Warrimoo Station. 8km. Meet at Blaxland Station car park, north side. 9.15 am. Barbara Crighton, 0428 962460

#### February 7

Lockyer Track Head Walk, Mount Victoria. Meet at Mount Victoria Station car park. 8.50 am. Tracy 0434 362611.

#### Tuesday walks

Medium day walks of 3-5 hours. Suitable for walkers of average fitness. Bring morning tea, lunch and adequate water. Coordinator Susan Nicholls, phone 4754 1516. Email <a href="mailto:suerosn@bigpond.net.au">suerosn@bigpond.net.au</a>

#### December 7

Florabella Pass to Pippas Pass, 7 km, medium grade 3. Climb 330 m down and 280 m up. Meet at Warrimoo Station 9.01 am, finish at Blaxland. Roger Blanc 0449 902774.

#### December 14

Three Gullies track, Jelly Bean Pool, station. 7km, medium grade 2. Meet at Glenbrook Station car park, 9.00 am. Marek Bowman 0412 347478

#### December 15

Christmas lunch at the Carrington (maybe). Please contact Judith Dyer 0419 780640, if interested.

#### December 21

Singles Ridge Road, Yellow Rock, Fitzgerald Creek overlook. Grade 2, medium 5.5 km. Maurice Kerkham 0402 402783 No programmed walk for 28 December. None sent for January. See the website

#### Thursday walks

Thursday walks take 2-3 hours and are conducted at a leisurely pace. Bring morning tea and lunch. Coordinator Beverley Thompson. Phone 4757 2076. Email <u>denfenella12@bigpond.com</u>

#### December 2

Part of Six Foot Track, Megalong Valley. Meet at Blackheath Neighbourhood Centre. 9.45 am. Car pool. Tracy 0434 362611. Grade 2

#### December 9

Cathedral of Ferns and Wynnes Lookout, Mount Wilson. Meet at Mount Victoria Station, 9.50 am, car pool \$5. Tracy 0434 362611.

#### December 16

Christmas Party, venue TBA. Maybe meet at Blackheath Memorial Garden. Any suggestions? No walks for the rest of December. None sent for January. See the website.

## About us

The Blue Mountains Conservation Society (BMCS) is an incorporated voluntary group of more than 900 members helping to conserve the World Heritage Blue Mountains region. It was originally the Katoomba and District Wildlife Conservation Society in 1961.

We are governed by a management committee and much of our conservation work is undertaken by subcommittees and campaigns. We also have a native plant nursery, several bushwalking groups and a Bushcare group.

#### Contact us

- Call the Membership Secretary, Ross Coster on 0418 462576
- By mail at PO Box 29, Wentworth Falls, NSW 2782
- By phone at 02 4757 1872 (leave a message)
- By emailing <a href="mailto:bmcs@bluemountains.org.au">bmcs@bluemountains.org.au</a>

#### Visit us

www.bluemountains.org.au.
Facebook: Blue Mountains
Conservation Society
Twitter: bmcsnsw
Instagram: https://
www.instagram.com/
blue mts conservation society/

#### Become a member

You can become a member by

 Contacting our Membership Secretary, Ross Coster on 0418 462576

Emailing Ross at <a href="mailto:membership@bluemountains.org.au">membership@bluemountains.org.au</a>

 https:// www.bluemountains.org.au/ joining.shtml or scan this with your mobile:



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