

HUT NEWS

"Nature Conservation Saves for Tomorrow's People"



About Environmental Films

At our general meeting on Friday 29 May at the Conservation Hut, the guest speaker will be Gary Caganoff, organiser of Wild Spaces Environmental Film Festival.

Gary will be showing some historic, informative, exciting slides from his travels around the world that led him to his involvement with environmental films and discuss the importance of environmental films. The meeting starts at 7.30 pm. Visitors are welcome.

The Great Migration

Blue Mountains Bird Observers (late Feb 1998 newsletter), have called it "the greatest mass migration of Australian fauna (on land, anyway)".

"In the van are the familiar Red Wattlebirds, silent for once, flying purposefully north in groups of 15-20, always at tree height. Accompanying them are shoals of Silvereyes so high that only their chattering brings them to notice. Sometimes their flights occur at night, probably to frustrate waiting predators."

During April we have seen increasing numbers of Yellow-faced Honeyeaters flying over at tree top height, and calling to keep in touch as they fly northward.

A large flock of Silvereyes (over 50 birds) has taken up residence in Blackheath through April, their combined twittering like the tinkling of little bells. In another part of Blackheath a group of Red Wattlebirds has arrived, aggressively chasing each other and anything else in feathers including currawongs.

Resident birds are very active too. A flock of King Parrots flying around together is perhaps an indication of a good breeding season, and I saw a Willie Wagtail in the street, an unusual sighting for my part of Blackheath. - *Christine Davies*.

Kids' Club

(The Bush by Night)

As the Magpie and all the familiar creatures of the day-time find shelter from the night, the creatures of a secret hidden world awaken. There are insects who hide in the darkness or fly by the moon, owls and other birds, insect-eating bats, and marsupials, all of whom sleep all day and come out at night.

The next Kids' Club activity will be a **Night Prowl at Bonnie Doon on Friday 15 May**. Meet at the carpark near the Explorer's Tree at 6 pm. Bring a torch. More info: Jessica 4757.2783.

A Society Project: Digger Cooper Reserve

Trapped by a confluence of the railway and the highway at Leura is a piece of beautiful bushland. The area is bombarded with the pollutants of a modern world, discarded food wrappers, oily road runoff, road spoil, dumped cars and rubbish. Weeds infest the edge of the area and are slowly moving into the bush. And yet the site shows great promise with a large pocket of good bush supporting a community of bird species.

The Society has adopted this site as a project. We have officially named the site Digger Cooper Reserve through the Geographic Names Board, named in honour of a local Gundungurra man.

HG 'Digger' Cooper was born 25 Dec 1921 and died 20 Aug 1978. He married (Alethea) Joan Cooper of the Darug Tribe in 1946. Joan is still living, in Katoomba. Digger's family was forcibly removed from Megalong Valley in 1904, and again from Catalina Park in 1957. Digger fought in World War II in Borneo as a forward scout (AIF-NX113421), and yet on his return was refused service in the local hotels!

We need your help. Come and have a look at the reserve (turn in at the Leura end of the reserve after you pass the Sorensen Bridge, travelling west from Wentworth Falls) and join in the working bees held every month from now on on the Sunday following our general meeting, 9-12. (**The next working bee is on Sunday 26 April**). Ring me for more information. — *Ross Coster, 59.1247*.

Community Gardens Bushcare

The Blue Mountains Organic Community Gardens are located in Harold Hodgson Reserve in Victoria St, North Katoomba. The reserve is 6½ acres in size and includes cleared paddocks once used for keeping horses, surrounded by remnant bushland.

One aim of the Gardens Project is to demonstrate sustainable land use in the sensitive catchment areas of the upper mountains. As part of the management plan for the reserve, a bushcare group has been initiated. In consultation with Council bushcare officers, the group is developing strategies

like to join in this project, lend a hand or their experience — and there's the spoils of the gardens to share amongst the team. Contact Rob Allsop 4782.7386, or come along early on the day and share lunch and a cup of tea with other garden members.

N.P. Management Plans

Draft Plans of Management for Blue Mountains and Kanangra-Boyd National Parks have been released for public exhibition and comment until 26 June.

Copies of plans are at NPWS Heritage Centre Blackheath, Blue Mountains City Council, Katoomba, and in the foyer of the Conservation Hut.

An information forum will be held on Sunday 17 May. To register interest in attending, or to obtain copies of the plans, phone Information Line on 02.9294.0843.

"Hut News", the newsletter of Blue Mountains Conservation Society Inc.
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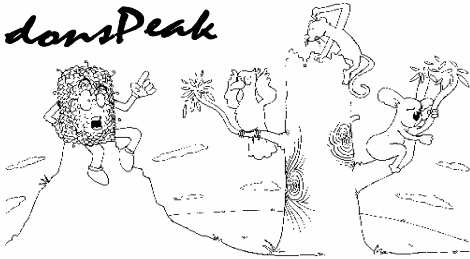
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donPeak



Behind the Noxious Noise (1)

Aircraft noise, whether it's over populated areas or bushland, is a serious pain in the earhole. Many members have been very concerned lately about increased helicopter activity over the Southern Blue Mountains wilderness, arising from tourist enterprises on both sides of the Cox's River.

The roar of jumbos over Sydney suburbs is a big worry for Blue Mountains conservationists too — especially since that problem is helping to push the Federal Government towards approving an airport at Badgery's Creek. In view of that, it was very disturbing to read a Sydney Morning Herald article stating that airlines and individual pilots were trying to avoid complying with the flight paths the Federal Government had stipulated.

Governments must decide where and at what height planes and helicopters can fly — and those decisions must be enforced. If civil disobedience is ever justified, it should be kept at ground level.

Behind the Noxious Noise (2)

Recently, yet another child was seriously hurt by a jet-ski. This time it happened on the Nepean River, nor far from the Blue Mountains National Park.

The system of gorges and flatlands around the Nepean River, Glenbrook Creek and Erskine Creek is one of the most beautiful and interesting parts of the Blue Mountains region. It includes a section which was left towering above its surrounds after a geological cataclysm produced the mighty Kurrajong fault — in spite of that, the creeks did not change course and cut spectacularly down into the sandstone to produce its present-day landscape.

Yet the area is infested with swarms of high-speed watercraft like the one that caused the recent injury. They also cause erosion of the river and creek banks plus damaging turbidity in the water. The whole of the Nepean system above Penrith Weir is too stressed and fragile for any high-speed watercraft to be allowed on it.

Lakes Grievances

Graffiti that has appeared lately suggests that a last-ditch campaign is underway to reduce the impact of the Penrith Lakes scheme on the Castlereagh-Cranebrook area. While the campaign appears to focus on built heritage concerns, it could have nature conservation implications. — *Don Morison.*

Membership Enquiries: The Society is keen to have new members who are concerned about the welfare of the Blue Mountains natural environment. Contact membership secretary, Ross Coster: Work (047)59.1247, Home 59.1837 FAX 59.1095, or write to P.O. Box 29, Wentworth Falls 2782.

Nature's Connections

Casuarinas and Cockatoos

Casuarinas and Allocasuarinas belong to an ancient and highly evolved family with no close relatives. They are wind-pollinated trees and male/female flowers can occur on the same or separate trees. These trees are well adapted to hot and dry conditions. Root hairs are nitrogen fixing which helps them to thrive on poor sites.

A beautifully haunting song is produced by the wind playing with the slender drooping branchlets. Insect galls from larvae of several bug species mimic the shape of the fruiting cones on casuarinas.

The trees often form dense groves in open eucalypt forests and woodlands. A combination of the shade in pure casuarina stands, together with a dense carpet of fallen branchlets and the inhibitory compounds produced by the trees, prevent development of other ground cover plants.

In this environment you might be alerted to a very special, generally rather uncommon bird, when the cracking sound of seed cones breaks the peaceful silence.

Here is the feeding ground of the Glossy Black Cockatoo which feeds almost exclusively on the cones of the Black She Oak (*Allocasuarina littoralis*) and the Forest She Oak (*A. torulosa*) and spends long periods in these trees, pecking off and chewing the cones to get to the shiny black winged seeds. This bird is present all year but occurs irregularly at different localities. It moves around within the region, in pairs or parties, and some of the sightings include areas along the Grose River, and the southern escarpment, such as the Megalong Valley, Mount Solitary and Woodford.

For nesting it prefers the hollow of a high, often dead, eucalypt and covers its nest with decayed debris. Commonly one white oval egg is laid during autumn-winter. Seeing the Glossy Black Cockatoo at short distance is a great experience on a bushwalk. — *Helga Esamie.*

"Local Native"

Why is it important? How local is "Local"?

Local character - be proud! The unique character of our landscape is largely provided by native vegetation. Any patch of bush, no matter how degraded, will be home to all sorts of creatures and surprising number of plant species. Many fauna species (such as hundreds of amazing invertebrates) are dependent on locally occurring native vegetation for habitat, and they can be very specific about which plants they need. When these are lost, the animals die. Revegetation using local native plants can help reverse this loss, and directly contribute to conservation of both plants and animals in your local area.

It is important to use the species that occur locally in your area. Pines and other exotics have many uses, but they do not provide the habitat for birds, insects, mammals and so on, that natives do.

On top of that, it is also important to use plants that are from the **local populations** of those species. Local natives will need less care in establishment as they are already adapted to the local soil and conditions.

Adaptation to specific local conditions has led to the evolution of local varieties of a species that may vary in plant form, flowering times, growth rates, frost and drought tolerance (and differ genetically). Populations of the same species that come from different areas are called provenances.

If we plant a species grown from seed from another area, we risk mixing the genes of different provenances. This could lead to the alteration of local gene pools (as the plants you have planted exchange pollen with the local plants), and over time the local genes are "watered down" producing plants which may not survive so well in the extremes of local conditions.

(Extract of an article by Anna Povey, co-ordinator of the Tasmanian Understorey Network. The Understorey Network encourages people to protect and plant local, native understorey - as well as canopy - vegetation.)

A Hidden World

The role of soil organisms and their interaction with agriculture are explained in a new booklet **Life in the Soil**, produced by the Cooperative Research Centre for Soil and Land Management. The publication explains the role of soil organisms, their interaction in the food web, and beneficial and detrimental interactions with agriculture. Practical methods for measuring two types of soil biota are provided. The book costs \$7, including postage, from NSW Agriculture, Locked Bag 21, Orange 2800.

For further information contact Novelle Hastings, NSW Agriculture 02 6391 3433.

European Wasps

These wasps have made their presence felt this summer in the upper mountains.

They are a declared pest under the Plant Diseases Act, and it is the responsibility of the owner of the land to destroy any nests.

In Katoomba, the wasps have been seen swarming in a *Eucalyptus stricta* mallee, thus preventing native insects and birds having access to pollen and nectar. They will also devour the fruit from a fruit tree in no time at all.

It is important to locate and destroy nests, usually in earth embankments, cracks in pavements and old tree stumps or similar places.

Phone the Department of Agriculture at Orange (Freecall 1800.675821) for a copy of their excellent fact sheet with information on how to locate nests, and recipes for baits to hang in fruit trees.

A Recycled Alternative

Boycott REFLEX — Buy Canon 100

Reflex, a product of Amcor Ltd, is made from 100% virgin eucalypt fibre mainly from native forests.

The Boycott Woodchipping Campaign is calling for people to buy recycled paper. Canon 100 (also known as Nautilus) is one of the best alternatives — it is 100% post-consumer recycled paper and is made in Australia.



Elsie Toseland

Elsie Toseland, a founding member of the Katoomba and District Wildlife Conservation Society, died on 26 March 1998 at the age of 97 years.

Elsie, who migrated to Australia and settled in Leura in 1960, joined the Good Neighbour Council to help other migrants to settle into their new homeland, and was a keen member of the Good Neighbour Choir, which started in 1967. Elsie was a stalwart supporter of the Leura branch of the Red Cross and has been nominated for years as their Patron.

Elsie's son Reg Toseland and wife Dulcie have been very active members of the Society, and Reg is our Public Officer.

The Next Frail Frontiers?

Democrats WA Senator Andrew Murray spoke in the Senate of the values of the Kimberley: "Regions like the Kimberley are rare on planet Earth at the end of the 20th century.. Its natural values — its myriad of landscapes, spectacular wetlands and escarpments, its coastline and its stunning, wild Fitzroy River — make the Kimberley a national treasure." WA Liberal Senator Alan Eggleston last year told the Senate that the Fitzroy River's massive volumes of water were "not utilised". This belief that water is "wasted" if it reaches the sea instead of supporting irrigation systems may sound the death knell for the river.

There are dozens of proposed resource projects in the Kimberley region which,

A Personal View:

A dreaming land, old and dry.

A dreaming people, a static people, belong.

A flight of sails, an action people, the innovators, arrive:

New food crops, new creatures, dynamic dreams.

Drive inland! Build, construct and work! work! work!

Rip the land apart in search of treasures, destroying greater!

Ride over the subtle beauties of native flora and sow anew:

Synthetic crops, synthetic soils, toxins!

But the land protests and deserts grow.

The skin of the earth powders, blows and wrinkles.

The veins of the earth are choked and salted.

Parrots, shrill in protest, watch over the death of silent fauna.

Aborigines see our people retreat to great coastal sanctuaries,

Gaze wistfully out to sea and travel home.

New arrivals cling to cities too - no village life here.

Aborigines, who understand this land,

Hope for its return

So they and it may take up their dreams

And live perhaps better than we.

A few of us have glimpsed this life in rambles.

(R. Goodwin 1998)

the Democrats believe, will jeopardise environmental, social, cultural and long-term economic well-being of the Kimberley region. And despite opposition from Aboriginal communities, the tourism industry, the pearling and fishing industries and many pastoralists, the WA Government is backing plans for a dam on one of Australia's last wild rivers - the Fitzroy.

If governments disregard the consequences of increased development in the region and the ecological and cultural disasters a Fitzroy dam would bring, the remote Kimberley may become another battleground in the fight to save our environment. (Source: *Eco-watch, Environment Journal of the Australian Democrats*)

In the Bush

March 22 sees us with 12 hours of daylight and 12 hours of night and we call it the equinox. The sun is at this time shining directly down on the equator. From then on of course as the sun moves further north our daylight hours lessen.

Now we are back on the old time we can for a while see the sun rise in the east and set in the west and at midday it will be north and have a shadow pointing south — which helps the wandering bushwalker.

I find it interesting to note that despite the warmest summer on record the exotic deciduous trees follow their normal pattern of colour and leaf drop. The migrant birds also depart around traditional dates. It seems the hours of sunlight are the determining factors in Nature's control tower. It stands to reason that Mother Nature would never in vital matters subject life form to the vagaries of temperature. The never failing cycle of the seasons set by the tilt of the earth on its axis is a much more reliable master control force.

Nevertheless prolonged warm weather has been responsible, some say, for the flying foxes extending their range into mountain areas which have rarely seen

them. They visited Lawson and I can vouch that Wentworth Falls had some visits. The unmistakable twitters and squeals and the plop of falling peaches at midnight gave ample proof of their presence.

My annoyance at their depredations was tempered somewhat by sympathy for the loss of so much of their food sources. Man has cleared vast acres of forest which once provided all the flying fox wants.

There is a great paucity of flowering plants in the bush at the moment (April 9). The only plant flowering profusely is *Helichrysum scorpioides* (p317 Fairley & Moore), not common in general but almost a weed when establishes. One of the sweetest bush scents now waiting to our nostrils proclaims the presence of *Woolisia pungens* (Rev.Dr. Woolls 1814-93, school teacher, clergyman and botanist Sydney area, *pungens* L. for piercing, referring to the sharp pointed leaves). It will become more obvious as the season advances. Strangely it is not listed for the upper Blue Mountains in the booklet accompanying Mountain Devil to

History of Our Walking Tracks

Part 3. (Extracts from Jim Smith's Draft Historical Report for the Walking Track Heritage Study. "A remarkable period of private track construction", continued.)

The Hydro-Majestic

Private track building reached a pinnacle of development in the Blue Mountains at Medlow Bath. Starting about 1893, William Hargraves' gardener, Murdo McLennan created possibly the most extensive and meticulously constructed network of private walking tracks in Australia. This network was extended by McLennan after Mark Foy bought the property in about 1901.

The aesthetic integration of bushwalking tracks with the landscape reaches its most impressive development at Medlow Bath. The vast amount of earth and stone moved, the length and height of the dry stone walling and the quality of the stone masonry is unsurpassed in the region. Only the Wentworth Falls tracks rival those of the Hydro Majestic in complexity. The most extraordinary dry stone walling structure in the region, the "collesium" survives intact as McLennan's finest creation.

Changes in land tenure have meant that parts of the Blue Mountains' private track system have passed into the public domain. In Medlow Bath, virtually the entire track system is intact. However, the land on which the hotel originally stood has been broken up and the hotel's owners now own only a portion of the track system. The multiplicity of owners of this track system makes the prognosis for its continuing survival intact a poor one. (Next Month: The reserve trusts.)

Mangrove.

I apologise to correspondent Dick Turner former District Forester who has protested about my description of Nangar N.P. A very dry year, a visit with the temperature at 100 degrees F and on a rough and lonely road in a light

car compounded to cause the visitor to view the surrounds with a somewhat jaundiced eye. I fully agree that an article describing the assets of the area would make good reading. How about it Dick?

— The Bunyip.

IN A MOUNTAIN GLEN

Deep in the grey green gorges
The sacred soft hues glow
Through lacey tessalations
On green velvet boulders below.
Rippling, tinkling coolness
Reflects the sparkling light
Weaving fairy patterns
Of fantasy's delight.
Songbirds shrill their happiness
Silence splits asunder
Calling all to see and hear
Nature's eternal wonder.

— Pauline Smith

Saving the Bush from Us

Part 6: Health in Bushland — Caring for the Canopy, Middle and Litter Layers

There is so much we can do and it is joyful, creative and imaginative and deeply satisfying to repair anything, and especially ecosystems. Of course, often we have no idea what has been lost, yet we can approach what we think it should be, from observation, and learning from others. There is no end to what we can learn from trying. We can begin with the canopy.

Canopy Care: Blue Mountains ecosystems are mostly Eucalyptus dominant which means they control light to the lower layers and give a special look to the landscape. Latitude, valleys to the north, south or west facing slopes will have different Eucalyptus species yet the really extraordinary thing is how quickly they change coming up to a ridge and down the other side. Outside my window as I write this I can see Eucalyptus oreades on the cooler wetter south and Eucalyptus radiata on the drier ridges over about 50 metres.

We can look at bushland, similar to ours, and do a count of the dominant Eucalyptus over a similar land area, and plant back approximately the right numbers and right species. Later, these will create conditions for the understory and the litter layer.

However first we can mimic Nature by planting (rather than seeding because the ants will get the seed) Acacia species which usually establish a modified microclimate, improve the soil for the next species, and provide shelter for the emerging dominants. Over the next few years, the Eucalyptus will overtake the Acacias, coming through to give a passing intriguing landscape.

Some nurseries are now offering a 'bundle' of species in proportions necessary for the final landscape. So for example, 10 Eucalyptus, 20 Acacia, 10 Grevillea, and so on, will reestablish the sense of the original ecosystem and meet some of the functions of each species whilst providing habitat for the wildlife. It is said, and I am sceptical, aren't you, although it is somewhat of a guide to planting numbers, that five large trees will provide for the needs in food and shelter for a pair of Magpies to rear enough offspring to replace themselves.

Middle Storey: This is the home of small birds that charm us. It also functions to control water erosion. A canopy height of one to two metres is the optimum to prevent rain washing away soils and to soften the fall of the water dripping through from the Eucalyptus. This storey is usually richly varied and some shrubs are almost impossible to grow in nurseries. For these, we are stumped. We can only set up the conditions for their growth. Plant tube stock closely and with diversity of species.

The Eucalyptus and Acacia will provide branches for birds and animals to drop seed (in a fertiliser bundle to help them grow). After that perhaps it is the amount of light, the humidity, the smoke, the temperature or combinations of these, however one day there is the small

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

MAY

- 15 (Fri) **Kids' Club — Night Prowl.** (Details on Page 1)
18 (Mon) **Valley of the Waters Bushcare Group, 9-12.** Meet at The Hut at 9 am. Contact Jessica Yuille 4757.2783. (Formerly Nature Track Bushcare)
21 (Thu) **Committee Meeting.** Mid Mountains Community Centre, 7 pm.
29 (Fri) **General Meeting** at The Hut, 7.30 pm. **Gary Caganoff** (See page 1)
31 (Sun) **Digger Cooper Reserve Bushcare Group, 9-12.** Contact Ross Coster 59.1247. (Story on page 1)

Leisure Walks:

- 04 (Mon) **Braeside Walk.** Meet 9.30 am, Blackheath Neighbourhood Centre. Contact Lee Tredinnick 4757.4030.
11 (Mon) **Lawson Waterfall Circuit, South Side.** Meet 9.30 am War Memorial, Honour Avenue, Lawson. Contact Anna Marie 4759.2353
18 (Mon) **Newnes Dry Canyon.** Easy. **Meet EARLY to see the kangaroos,** 8.30 am, Mt. Vic Station. Contact Kees Putting 4759.1958.
25 (Mon) **Lockyers's Line of Road.** Meet at Mount Victoria at 9.30. Contact Mervyn Bird 4787.7959. (Note: Walk previously advertised is in June)

Bushwalks (Weekends)

- 03 (Sun) **The Tessolated Pavement, Mount Irvine.** Meet 9.30 Mount Victoria Station. Contact Christine Davies 4787.7246.
16 (Sat) **Blue Gum Swamp to Grose Lookout.** Meet Cnr. Hawkesbury and White Cross Roads, Winmalee, at 9 am. Contact Ron Wheeler 4757.1526. (See how Blue Gum Swamp has regenerated after bushfire!)

JUNE

- 06 (Sat) **World Environment Day Celebrations.** Visit the Society's stall at the Springwood Civic Centre.
15 (Mon) **Valley of the Waters Bushcare Group, 9-12.** Meet at The Hut at 9 am. Contact Jessica Yuille 4757.2783.
18 (Thu) **Committee Meeting.** Mid Mountains Community Centre, 7 pm.
26 (Fri) **General Meeting** at The Hut, 7.30 pm.
28 (Sun) **Digger Cooper Reserve Bushcare Group, 9-12.** Contact Ross Coster.

Leisure Walks:

- 01 (Mon) **Wentworth Falls Lake.** BBQ (byo) afterwards. Meet Stockyard Car Park, Wentworth Falls, 9.30. Contact Helen Morgan 4757.3479. Easy!
15 (Mon) **Megalong Valley, Part of the Six-Foot Track.** Meet Blackheath Neighbourhood Centre 9.30 am. Contact Mervyn Bird 4787.7959. Easy.
22 (Mon) **Transit of Venus.** Meet Mount View Street, Hazelbrook 9.30 am. Contact Carolyn O'Neill 4757.3141. Medium grade.
29 (Mon) **Evans Crown** (near Tarana), Lunch at Tarana Pub. (Bus leaves Katoomba at 8 am). Contact Mervyn Bird 4787.7959.

Bushwalks (Weekends)

- 07 (Sun) **Road Builders and Lyrebirds (Lockyer's Line of Road, Cox's Road).** Meet 9.30 am Mount Victoria Station. Contact Christine Davies 4787.7246.
20 (Sat) **Walking Track to Euroka Clearing.** Meet at the National Park entrance, Glenbrook, at 9.30 am. (Walk from there). Contact Liz 4754.4966.

Persoonia. It's happened!

Littler Layer: It is difficult to create a good litter layer. We have to wait for the trees and shrubs to grow. We can plant grasses (there are some good workshops on these in the mountains) and ground covers, and orchids. Plants of local providence (rather than spectacular garden-centre varieties) will make a quiet contribution to the sense of integrity of the garden.

Seed, Sticks, Stones and Water:

Untidiness in the bush is pleasing because it forms patterns. Add some branches, some sticks, and stones for lizards to hide under. Leave containers of water placed to make sure there is a lookout for the pairs of birds that need to wash and drink several times a day. The container edge needs to be suitable for small clawed feet to grasp. Plant some tree climbing creepers.

Walk around often and admire what you have done. Pull out the odd weeds and wonder at the lack of need for water of small Aussie plants in a dry season when all else around you is wilting.

Now the difficult part — wait for it all to grow. Delight in new shoots of different colours and the first flowers. Enjoy the unexpected new immigrant and know that you have done some things right.

— Ro Morrow.

The Joys of Autumn

Autumn has arrived in the Mountains (at long last) with beautiful mountain mists, lovely days and brisk nights, spectacular displays of autumn leaves, and honeyeaters!

Recently I helped a friend move house — what a job, packing, moving furniture. We accumulate so much stuff which is necessary to make our life comfortable. And a tiny bird wakes up one morning and decides to fly thousands of kilometres to the north, stays there for four months, and then decides to fly all the way back again.

Keith's brother Brodie, born as the great southern migration started, is eight months old. He can crawl, walks around furniture, smiles a lot and watches the birds. His attention is drawn to the bird sound and he follows the flight. I am sure that one of his early words will be Currawong or King Parrot.

It seems that every year the display of autumn leaves in the streets of Blackheath is more spectacular. The bush is more subtle in its seasonal changes with a procession of flowering Eucalypts and myriad tiny flowers. Waratahs are already forming buds to bloom in the springtime.

— Christine Davies.