

# HUT NEWS

"Nature Conservation Saves for Tomorrow's People"



## Bob Debus at The Hut

Our speaker in October will be Bob Debus, our local member, and (in addition to other portfolios) Minister for the Environment. Bob will be talking about issues that will be important to all conservationists. There will be opportunity for questions.

The meeting will be held on Friday 29 October 1999 at the Conservation Hut, Fletcher Street, Wentworth Falls, commencing at 7.30 pm. As always, visitors are very welcome.

## Money for the Environment

At its September meeting the Management Committee approved two payments from the Society's Public Gift Fund.

\$1000 will be given to Blue Mountains WIRES to assist them with the printing of new brochures. These brochures will be used to promote the work performed by WIRES, to educate the public, and to assist in the recruitment of new members and carers for WIRES.

\$2000 will be given to the Hawkesbury Nepean Catchment Management Trust to assist in the Watercourse Buffers project. This project (now renamed "The Riparian Corridors Project") has as its objective the preparation of a paper that can be used by all the Local Governments in the Hawkesbury Nepean Catchment to incorporate a hierarchy of watercourse buffers (oops, sorry, Riparian Corridors) within their various planning instruments.

The Public Gift Fund contains donations received from members and is there to enable the society to underwrite projects that have a direct benefit to the environment. Gifts of \$2 and over are tax deductible.

## Koala at Springwood

A koala has been found in an area which feeds into Springwood Creek and Birdwood Gully. The young male, weighing 7½ kg and aged 3½-4 years, is in prime breeding condition. Breeding time is NOW and he was probably out looking for a female, either in his own territory, or looking for new territory.

Blue Mountains WIRES received a call about a koala found sitting on a stump in the middle of a hedge, probably having taken refuge there from the resident dogs who had been

## Ask Senator Hill, How?

The Badgerys Creek EIS process inched forward on September 3 as Senator Hill completed his "review" of the EIS.

Predictably he was of the opinion that "there is no insurmountable environmental issue that would prevent the project proceeding".

"In the event of Government approval of the project," however, "the cumulative impacts will require careful environmental management."

As if we didn't already know! The last thing an EIS is designed to do (and no EIS — not one! — has ever done) is knock a proposal on the head. Its primary purpose is to rubber stamp a government decision and detail areas in need of environmental management.

And who'll be doing the managing? Long after the proposal's perpetrators, whether consultants or bureaucrats or politicians, have retired far from the scene of their crime, doctors and nurses will be left to manage the increased incidence of respiratory disease, chemists to manage noise-induced sleeplessness, and teachers to manage distracted students.

I'll let Senator Hill have the final word on our own patch: "The construction and operation of the airport should occur in such a way as to minimise adverse impacts (if any) on the World Heritage values of the Blue Mountains Area."

Ask him how! (The address is Parliament House, Canberra 2600.) And by the way, still no sign of a decision. *Colin Anderson, Mountains Against Badgerys Creek Airport (MABCA)*

barking at something during the night.

WIRES collected the koala and took it into care because it was close to a road and might have been in danger, also they wanted to check its DNA to see if it had the same DNA as "Clancy", the koala who was picked up at Lapstone last year.

When Clancy was found he was in poor condition, with sore feet, and had been walking for some time. This young male was in excellent condition, and it was obvious that he had not travelled far.

Since an article appeared in the Blue Mountains Gazette, WIRES have had a phone call from a man who reported having seen a colony of koalas 15 years

ago, behind St Columbas. Mick Dark said that a koala was reported in a backyard at Springwood in the late 80s or early 90s.

Blue Mountains WIRES spokesperson Sonia Stanvic said that a survey needs to be done into the area. Koalas are not seen often in the Blue Mountains. It is possible that they have a very large home range. Koala sightings, past and present, should be reported to Blue Mountains WIRES 4754.2946 or National Parks and Wildlife Service 4787.8877.

PS: Clancy was released and observed for nine months. He had been fitted with a collar which revealed his where-



abouts. He settled happily into his new patch of bushland, but come mating season he slipped his collar and vanished into the bush.

## Native Plant Sale

The Society's Nursery will hold a native plant sale outside the Conservation Hut, at the end of Fletcher Street, Wentworth Falls, on Saturday 23 October, between 9 am and 12 noon.

There will be a great variety of local natives, and some from other States. Treepots (tubestock) \$2; 125mm pots \$4.

Tell your friends. All welcome!  
(David Coleby 4784.1395)

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

P.O. Box 29, Wentworth Falls, 2782. Phone 4757 1872. Fax 4757 1753

Email [bmcs@pnc.com.au](mailto:bmcs@pnc.com.au) Web page: <http://www.pnc.com.au/~bmcs>

President: Imre Gahl, Ph:4784-3286 Second Vice President: Meredith Brownhill, Ph:4782.4823

First Vice President: Heather Coster, {Ph:Work 4759-1247, Home 4759.1837

Membership Secretary: Ross Coster {Fax 4759-1095, Email: [haytech@pnc.com.au](mailto:haytech@pnc.com.au)

Correspondence Secretary: Anne Merton, Ph:4757-1220 Email [amerton@ozemail.com.au](mailto:amerton@ozemail.com.au)

Meetings Secretary: Heather Hull, Ph:4739.1493 Email [heatherhull40@hotmail.com](mailto:heatherhull40@hotmail.com)

Land Use: Robin Mosman, Ph. 4757.1354; Treasurer: Ivica Buc

Bushwalks: Jim Wallace, Ph:4784-3305 Plant Nursery Manager: David Coleby, Ph/Fax:4784-

1395 Projects: Marion Hawley, Ph:4784-1933; Kathy Gott, Ph:4739-8124;

Helga Esamie, Ph:4787.7690, Email: [platypus@pnc.com.au](mailto:platypus@pnc.com.au)

Publicity: Les Coyne, Ph:4757.3327, Fax:4757.2820, Email: [coyne@pnc.com.au](mailto:coyne@pnc.com.au)

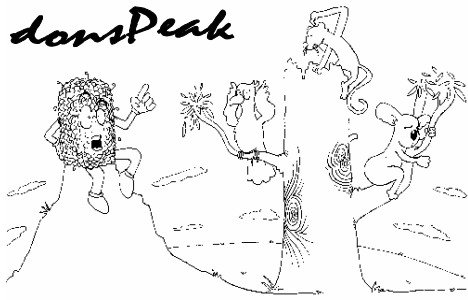
Bushcare: Laura Hays Ph:4782.7692, Email: [laurah@percival.com.au](mailto:laurah@percival.com.au)

Education: Catriona Gillies Ph:4782-1235, Email: [echocho@hermes.net.au](mailto:echocho@hermes.net.au)

Bushfire Rep: Hugh Paterson, Ph:4751-2303, Email: [goodbush@pnc.com.au](mailto:goodbush@pnc.com.au)

Newsletter: Christine Davies, Phone 4787-7246 Fax 4787-7777 Email: [hutnews@pnc.com.au](mailto:hutnews@pnc.com.au)

THE DEADLINE  
FOR THE NEXT ISSUE OF HUT NEWS IS  
WEDNESDAY 20 OCTOBER 1999



**Building Bridges**

What do the upgraders of the Great Western Highway and environmentalists have in common? Both of them would benefit from a highway that frees the flow of traffic, minimises new traffic lights and discourages further talk of by-passes through the National Park. This would also reduce the number of accidents and the spillage of fuel or dispersion of fumes into roadside ecosystems.

During the life of the newly elected BMCC, there will be opportunities to create at least three new grade separations (bridges), carrying local traffic under the highway and furthering the above aims. The potential sites near Railway Parade (Medlow Bath), Valley Road (Katoomba) and Charles Street (Lawson) will be watched closely by all those interested in an eco-friendly highway.

**A Spiritually Satisfactory Outcome?**

A spokesperson for the Catholic Church has stated that any money raised by selling the St Columbas (Winnmalee) bushland for housing blocks will be used to do 'the work of the church'. Of course we live in a pluralistic society and some of us feel very spiritually inspired by the works of nature already being performed within that bushland.

The Church is entitled to the same rights as other profit-seeking Commercial developers. However, any effort to resolve the bushland's fate by appeal to theological principles is bound to create an ungodly dispute.

**Walk With Me**

Many thanks to members of BMCS and the Scripture Union bushwalkers who are accompanying me on a delightful five-day walk from the Nepean River to Mount Victoria as I write this — a full report next issue. *Don Morison.*

**Welcome to New Members**

John and Carol Holman, Springwood  
Krista Tomas and Robert Hurren,  
Hazelbrook  
Mr and Mrs Steain, Springwood  
Kathleen Phelps, Hazelbrook  
Peter Geelan-Small, Blaxland  
Lyn Rafferty, Wentworth Falls  
Romola Martin, Lawson  
David Turner, Katoomba

Liz Vesely, Woodford  
**October Workshop**

**"Meeting with the Gundungerra".**

An informal afternoon get-together to be held Saturday 9 October, 2 pm, at the Lawson Community Hall.

Bill Hardy, an elder from the tribal council is coming along to talk about Native Title and the rights and interests of Aboriginal people living in an occupied land.

The workshop is an opportunity to listen and learn of Aboriginal perspectives on life in the Blue Mountains. (*Meredith 4782.4823 a.h.*)

**A Promising Partnership**

Private property owners in Wentworth Falls who have sensitive vegetation and BMCS recently forged a new and promising partnership as part of the NPWS Great Gorse Week activities. The common enemy was the most threatening terrestrial weed in the Blue Mountains — **Gorse (*Ulex europaeus*)**.

We thought we should put our hands up when it comes to fighting this pernicious weed. Unfortunately, Gorse has got into Bedford Creek catchment and Wentworth Falls in very sensitive vegetation. The creek flows into the Blue Mountains National Park. The bush is owned by private landholders and we thought we should get together and give them a hand.

In these sensitive vegetation areas like hanging swamps and shrub swamps, spraying is not the way to go. Spraying can be very effective but there are a number of pitfalls. You can accidentally spray the native plants, open up the creekline, and expose the creek to more weeds and the chemicals can seriously affect aquatic life in the creeks especially around hanging swamps.

Gorse has a 30 year seed bank which can create a problem with the spraying method. We chose to use the "cut and paint" technique or manually pull out the small plants. In doing this we found roots travelling horizontal for metres through the creek beds. Spraying that had been done in the past on one property had already started to come back.

It was an overall successful event with 75 per cent containment fulfilled. This means that one more hit of the area should take care of the problem.

All the landowners received our book 'Living in the Bush' which will further educate them into weed eradication and bushcare.

It showed to the conservationists as well as the private landowners that everyone can work together to achieve a common goal and help protect our National Park. It was a very successful and fulfilling event which we will be repeating next year.

We have also discovered another private land problem in Blackheath that may become another BMCS and Owners project in the coming months. Stay tuned in this newsletter and at the general meeting.

*Laura Hays, Bushcare Officer.*

**B.M. Environment Centre**

The Blue Mountains Human Rights and Environment Centre has been operating since December 1998. The Centre has been involved in many local community events and has supported local groups such as Forest Activist Network, Jabiluka Action Group, reconciliation events, Timbarra Action Group, and many more.

The Centre receives no government funding. Its main source of revenue comes from memberships and its ethical gift shop which is committed to providing quality, affordable, low-packaged goods. The gift shop stocks a wide range of local craft and products including clothing and accessories, gift and writing paper, candles, incense, jewellery, hemp products, and environmental products for the home. We also hold 100% post-consumer waste recycled office paper and a wide selection of books covering environmental and human rights topics.

We are located at 71 Waratah Street, Katoomba. Feel free to pop in and browse, to ask for advice or information, or just for a chat.

*Emily Minter. E.C. Shop Co-ordinator.*

**Nursery Notes**

Now that Winter is behind us our enthusiastic team of volunteers is busy planting seeds and cuttings of local natives.

The nursery operates from 9 am till 12 noon on Tuesdays. You'll find us at the bottom of Govett's Leap Road at Blackheath, in the NPWS workshop compound, behind the Heritage Centre.

Why not call in and familiarise yourself with the range of plants available. You'll be welcome.

(David Coleby 4784.1395)

**Living With Our Wildlife**

**Using Snail Baits**

Some manufacturers may have made snail baits which are not appealing to dogs and cats. But baits can be eaten by possums and birds, or poisoned snails can be eaten by birds and blue-tongue lizards.

If you do use snail baits, put the bait inside a plastic pipe, or under an upside-down terracotta pot. Empty out dead snails and put them into the garbage bin.

**Alternatives**

Sprinkle sawdust around seedlings to keep snails at bay.

Go out at night with a torch and squash the snails.

**Snails love Beer!** Bury a small jar into the soil up to its rim and half fill with beer. Periodically remove bodies and replenish the beer.

*Other suggestions from "green" gardeners would be welcome!*

**Society's Bushcare Groups**

Valley of the Waters Bushcare Group now meets on the second Tuesday of the month.

Digger Cooper Reserve Bushcare Group meets on the third Wednesday of the month. More helpers would be very welcome!

(Details are in Dates for your Diary.)

**Membership Enquiries**  
Contact Ross Coster  
(Phone - Work) 02 4759.1247  
(Phone - Home) 02 4759.1837  
(Fax) 02 4759.1095  
(Email) haytech@pnc.com.au  
(Post) PO Box 29, Wentworth Falls 2782

## Looking Back ....

From Newsletter No 19, December 1974

### Two New Birds for the Mountains

After our statement in the last issue that Rainbow Birds have not been seen in the Blue Mountains, Mick Dark produced a photo of one he took at Euroka, in the National Park, at Glenbrook. Ranger John Buhr told him they breed there.

In pastel shades of green, blue and orange, with a long beak and two wire-like feathers projecting beyond the tail, these beautiful birds belong to an Old World family of Bee-eaters. They build their nest at the end of a tunnel dug in a

soft bank.

A second new bird was shown me by the redoubtable Mick Dark — a White-throated Nightjar, Eurostopodus mystacalis.

These birds, beautifully mottled black, grey and brown, are rarely seen. They hunt insects on the wing at night. Nightjars — there are over 60 species throughout the world — are almost perfect examples of protective colouration. This species generally roosts on the ground during the daytime, where it blends perfectly with the dead leaves, rocks, sticks, etc. The single egg is laid on the ground, without a nest, usually on a dry ridge.

The White-throated Nightjar is confined to the East coast of Australia, also New Guinea and the Solomon Islands. It has a weird cackling call and is sometimes called the Laughing Owl.

Our bird was found in the backyard of a house on a bushy ridge in Blaxland in late October. The bird seemed dazed. Mick's kind neighbours tried to save it by force feeding it and keeping it on their verandah. A vet could find nothing wrong with it. Eventually it died and the body was given to the Australian Museum. \*Graham Alcorn\*

### Bushcare at Pippas Pass

The one and only Bushcare group in Blaxland is at the trackhead of Pippas Pass — a wonderful walk that can lead you through beautiful lower mountains bushland to Glenbrook Creek and Warrimoo.

The Pippas Pass group are a patient and steady working bunch, with a great sense of humour and love for afternoon teas!

This is a lucky thing for this bit of bush, as it has been heavily impacted upon by highway runoff. The level of degradation is intense in places, the focus being a huge Privet infestation.

The group has been confronting this challenge for three years now. They have gained a couple of grants to help them deal with the issues that face the site. The first from the Blue Mountains Catchment Management Committee, which led to the development of a concept plan to rehabilitate the drainage line. The second was from the Natural Heritage Trust that has provided the funds to implement the rehabilitation plan. The first step is to install a Gross Pollutant Trap, and this should be in place over the coming month. Still ahead is lots of weed removal, erosion control and planting.

If you live in the lower mountains and really want to help out the bush, then the Pippas Pass Bushcare Group will warmly embrace you. The group has been well supported by Blue Mountains City Council, and together they are confident the site can be restored to a rich mixture of local plants and animals.

Call Chris Dewhurst at Blue Mountains City Council (4780 5623) or

## Greenhouse Corner

### Greenhouse Transport

Transport generates about 14% of our greenhouse gas emissions. What can you do to save greenhouse gas emissions from your transport use?

**Use alternatives to cars.** Each kilometre saved means less fuel is burnt, reducing greenhouse gas emissions: a family car generates up to a third of a kilogram of greenhouse gas. Can a phone call, fax or letter replace a car trip?

*Walking, bikes and public transport generate less greenhouse gas than cars.*

**Choose a less polluting car.** Buy a fuel efficient car: save up to 20 tonnes over its life. Fuel consumption of similar cars can vary by 30% depending on brand and options.

**Use cars efficiently.** Every litre of petrol saved reduces greenhouse gas emissions by 2.5 kilograms and saves about 75 cents. *Drive smoothly and avoid stop-start traffic: save up to 30% of greenhouse emissions.* Keep the engine tuned: save up to 15% of greenhouse gases.

A car generates around 40% more greenhouse gas per kilometre when its engine is cold. Avoid short car trips by using a bike, walking or combining several tasks into one longer trip.

*Car pool for travel to work, school, and on social trips. Carry four people instead of one while generating the same amount of greenhouse gas - and have a fun trip!*

Ensure tyres have maximum recommended air pressure so they roll more easily. Remove unnecessary weight from the car — 50 kilograms less weight decreases greenhouse gas emissions by nearly 2%. Removing roof racks and external sun visors when not required can save hundreds of kilograms per year.

**Switch from petrol.** Convert to LPG: cut greenhouse gas emissions by about 20% and reduce fuel costs by around a half.

**Consider holiday destinations.** Air travel generates lots of greenhouse gas. A plane flying a return trip to London generates more than 5 tonnes per passenger!

**CFCs** Leaks from car air-conditioners may also be substantial contributors to global warming.

### Danish Wind Electricity

Denmark has embarked on an ambitious program to get half its electricity from offshore wind farms by 2030. The Danish government has given the go-ahead to a plan to erect 2,000 wind turbines in the North and Baltic Seas by 2008, after the performance of offshore prototypes exceeded expectations.

Denmark plans to export some of the power from wind to Germany, Sweden and Norway and has already signed agreements with these countries. The offshore wind farms will be based on turbines with 60 metre diameter blades on towers rising 56 metres from the sea bed.

*Ross Coster, Membership Secretary*



### Maybanke Anderson must have walked in the Blue Mountains!

Maybanke Susannah Anderson (1845-1927) was a remarkable personality who contributed much to Australia's social history. Although it seems that she left no written record of having done so, one can speculate that she was among those who walked (from the 1890s onwards) down the recently so well restored (in 1996-1997) Federal Pass track. This track begins within 100 metres of the scenic T-intersection of Merriwa Street and Cliff Drive, Katoomba. It passes through such beauty spots as Fern Bower, Linda Falls, Lady Carrington's Dining Room and the Leura Forest. She may have also walked along the nearby Prince Henry Cliff Walk. These and other walks in the Blue Mountains may have particularly inspired Verses 4 and 5 of the following poem of hers. — Denis Rice.

### AUSTRALIA FAIR

Maybanke Anderson (1902)

Australia fair, I love thee,  
The dear land of my birth;  
To me thou art the sweetest,  
The brightest spot on earth.

I love thy golden sunshine,  
Thy sky of peerless hue,  
The soft greys of the distance,  
The hills' faint tints of blue.

I love thy yellow beaches,  
The clear waves tipped with foam,  
The capes that stand like bulwarks  
To guard my native home.

I love the leafy gullies,  
Where palm and tree fern hide,  
The tall, grey gums that clamber  
On every steep hill-side.

I love the ferny pathways,  
Where wattle blossoms fall,  
While in the leafy distance  
The bell-bird rings his call.

I love the old slab homesteads,  
Each peach and lemon tree,  
The paddocks and the slip-rails  
They speak of home to me.

Dear Southern Land, Australia,  
Wherever I may roam  
My heart will turn for ever  
To thee, my native home.

*This poem appeared in the book Maybanke Anderson: Sex, suffrage & social reform, written by Jan Roberts and published in 1993 by Hale and Iremonger, Sydney.*

the group coordinators Peter and Sandy on 4739 8697 for more information, or just turn up at a workday on the 1st Saturday of each month at 1 pm — we meet in the Blaxland Library Carpark.

## Toddler Bush Walks

Bush walks for parents/grandparents with toddlers, on the first Wednesday and third Friday of the month. Walks are about one hour duration, and we try to meet in a playground or other safe area.

We are testing walks for suitability for “darting” four year olds and parents carrying children in backpacks.

On Friday 15 October, meet at Leura Cascades carpark at 10.30 am. Contact Jasmine Payget 4759.3783.

## Time to Reflect

A broken big toe and a foot in a cast does slow one down a bit, but what better time and place for enforced idleness than early Spring in the upper Blue Mountains.

It is lovely to sit in the garden and bask in the morning sun, a clear blue sky overhead, a gentle breeze stirring the leaves....

Two of the wattles I planted, *Acacia longifolia*, originally tiny tube stock from the Society's nursery, are 10 ft. tall and flowering gloriously. It is interesting to watch the life which teems on the wattles. Every twig of every branch has leaves which have been chewed from without or sucked from within. There are spiders, flies, ladybeetles, caterpillars, ants, native bees, feral bees, and other tiny flying and crawling creatures.

We usually think of flies as things that annoy — carrying germs to our food, sitting on us, tickling, biting, buzzing in the house. On the wattles are several types of fly, some pretty little creatures, with delicate wings and shiny jewels for bodies which reflect the sun. Tiny caterpillars sometimes drop from the branches on silken threads and then slowly haul themselves up again. Once they reach the leaves they are impossible to find.....

Honeyeaters are migrating south, thousands of them, flying overhead at tree top height, in small groups, calling to each other as they fly. A pair of resident Eastern Spinebills chase each other through the garden, occasionally singing pretty songs. Other birds visit — New Holland honeyeaters, bower birds, thornbills, wattle birds, crimson rosellas, a grey thrush....

It can all make one wonder what one is usually so busy doing that is so important! *Christine Davies, Sept. '99.*

Bushwalks have been graded:

**Easy** — Relatively easy grades and good surfaces. Suited to most people.

**Medium** — Mostly good surfaces, but some rough or steep sections. Suited to people of average fitness.

**Medium/Hard** — includes rough or steep sections some of which may require clambering over natural obstacles.

**Hard** — Strenuous walks involving steep ascents or descents over rougher terrain. Suited to fit and experienced walkers.

**If this is your first walk**, or you are in any doubt, contact the leader or Bushwalks Convener Jim Wallace 4784.3305.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
<b>OCTOBER</b>					<b>2 Macquarie Marshes</b>	
					<b>9 Bushwalk 9 Workshop</b>	
<b>11 LeisWalk</b>	<b>12 Bushcare</b>			<b>15 Toddler 15 Bushwalk</b>		<b>17 Bushwalk</b>
<b>18 LeisWalk</b>		<b>20 Bushcare</b>			<b>23 MCMeet 23 PlantSale</b>	<b>24 Bushwalk</b>
<b>25 LeisWalk</b>				<b>29 GenMeet</b>		<b>31 Bushwalk</b>
<b>NOVEMBER</b>						
<b>1 LeisWalk</b>					<b>6 Bushwalk</b>	
<b>8 Leis Walk</b>	<b>9 Bushcare</b>				<b>13 Bushwalk</b>	
<b>15 LeisWalk</b>		<b>17 Bushcare</b>			<b>20 MCMeet 20 Bushwalk</b>	<b>21 BusTrip</b>
<b>22 LeisWalk</b>				<b>26 GenMeet</b>		<b>28 Bushwalk</b>
<b>29 LeisWalk</b>						

### OCTOBER

- 09 (Sat) **October Workshop: “Meeting with the Gundungerra”.** 2 pm, Lawson Community Hall. (See Page 1 for more information.)
- 23 (Sat) **Native Plant Sale**, Conservation Hut, 9am to 12 noon. (See Page 1)
- 23 (Sat) **Management Committee**, 9 am, Mid Mountains Community Centre.
- 29 (Fri) **General Meeting.** Guest speaker will be Bob Debus. (See Page 1.)

### NOVEMBER

- 26 (Fri) **General Meeting**, 7.30 pm, at the Hut. Guest: Ian Brown, “Antarctica”.

### KIDS' CLUB

**Activities for Under 16s are in the Kids' Club Newsletter.** Phone Ross Coster 4759.1247 for a copy of the newsletter. Contact Jessica 4757.2783 for more info.

**BUSHCARE** (Tools provided — bring morning tea and gloves.)

### OCTOBER

- 12 (Tues) **Valley of the Waters Bushcare Group.** We will be tackling a bit patch of Broom as part of Weedbusters' Week. Contact Jessica 4757.2783 for the meeting place. (following Tuesday if wet).
- 20 (Wed) **Digger Cooper Reserve Bushcare Group.** Meet 9 am at the Reserve (GWH, West of Sorenson Bridge). Contact Ross Coster 4759.1247.

**BUSHWALKS** (Usually day walks — bring lunch and **minimum 1 litre water.**)

**OCTOBER \*\* Please read notes on grading of walks)**

- 02 (Sat) **Weekend Trip to Macquarie Marshes.** Contact Jan Craney 4787.1734.
- 09 (Sat) **Terrace Falls.** Meet Hazelbrook Station carpark (south side) 9.30. Contact Bill Tocher 4758.8454. **Medium.**
- 15 (Fri) **Toddler Bush Walk.** Meet at Leura Cascades carpark 10.30 am. Contact Jasmine Payget 4759.3783. (See adjacent column.)
- 17 (Sun) **Mystery Walk, Lower Mountains.** Meet Springwood Railway Station 9.30 am. Contact Mike Purtell 4751.2143. **Medium.**
- 24 (Sun) **Wattle Tree Reserve.** Meet Cnr Wattle Tree Road and Third Avenue, North Katoomba, 9.30 am. Contact Lyndal Sullival 4782.1635. **Easy/Medium. Half-day walk.**

### NOVEMBER

- 06 (Sat) **Glastonbell.** Visit this beautiful place at Bell. Lovely views, cool rainforest, colourful rocks, caves, the beginning of the Pagoda country. Meet Mt Vic Station 9.30. Contact June Baxter 4787.7312. **Medium.**
- 13 (Sat) **Porter's Pass.** Meet Blackheath Commuter carpark at 9.30. Contact Kees Putting 4759.1958. **Medium.**
- 20 (Sat) **Mystery Moonlight Walk.** Meet Mt Vic Station. Bring food/drink for moonlight snack. Contact Karen Roberts 4739.5425. **Easy.**
- 21 (Sun) **Bus Excursion to Long Neck Lagoon.** Departs 9 am, Katoomba; pick up along the way. Contact Christine Davies 4787.7246 to book a seat. Cost \$8. **Easy.** (This trip was advertised for August but cancelled then).
- 28 (Sun) **Clifftop Track, Govetts Leap to Pulpit Rock.** Meet Blackheath Commuter Carpark 9.30. Contact Rod Ravenswood 4782.4801. Panoramic views of Grose Valley. **Medium.**

**LEISURE WALKS** (Usually morning walks — bring a drink and morning tea.)

**\*\*Slippery and uneven surfaces. Please wear shoes with a good tread.**

**If this is your first Leisure walk with the Society please contact the leader.**

- OCTOBER LEISURE WALKS START AT 8.30 A.M. DURING DAYLIGHT SAVING.**
- 11 (Mon) **Leura Forest.** Many steps going down, ride up Scenic Railway(cost \$3). Meet 9 am Leura Station. Contact Kees Putting 4759.1958. BBQ after.
- 18 (Mon) **Dargin's Creek.** Meet Mount Victoria Station 9 am. **Easy.** Contact Gillian Janus 4787.6181.
- 25 (Mon) **Lawson Waterfalls.** Meet War Memorial, Honour Avenue Lawson, **8.30** Contact Bill Graham 4759.1692. **Medium.**
- NOVEMBER LEISURE WALKS START AT 8.30 A.M. DURING DAYLIGHT SAVING.**
- 01 (Mon) **Clifftop Walk, Echo Point to Scenic Railway.** Meet Gearins Hotel, Katoomba, 8.30 am. Contact Mervyn Bird 4787.7959. **Easy.**
- 08 (Mon) **Clifftop Walk, Gordon Falls to Leura Cascades.** Meet Leura Station 8.30. Contact Christina Jones 4784.1101. **Easy/Medium.** BBQ after.
- 15 (Mon) **Mount Wilson.**
- 22 (Mon) **Kanimbla Valley and Cox's River.**
- 29 (Mon) **Euroka Clearing to Nepean River.**