

# HUT NEWS

"Nature Conservation Saves for Tomorrow's People"



## March General Meeting

The first part of our March General Meeting will be the Annual General Meeting — expected to take about 15 minutes. **Come along and have your say by voting for the people who are going to represent the Society for the next 12 months.** As well as the election of office bearers, there will be the receipt of the President's and Financial Reports.

Following the AGM, **our guest speaker will be Tom Widdup from the Colong Foundation, who will speak about WILDERNESS 2000** — a campaign jointly sponsored by the Colong Foundation for Wilderness, the Nature Conservation Council of NSW, North East Forest Alliance, Total Environment Centre, The Wilderness Society and the National Parks Association of NSW.

Wilderness 2000 aims to achieve the protection of areas such as the Chaelundi in northern NSW and Deua on the south coast and many others — native forests areas under threat from logging. Come and learn about these areas, and hear what needs to be done to save them for posterity.

The meeting will be held on Friday 31 March at the Conservation Hut, Fletcher Street, Wentworth Falls, commencing at 7.30 pm. Visitors are very welcome.

## B.M. Bushfire Risk

### Management Plan on Exhibition

The Blue Mountains Bushfire Risk Management Plan is on exhibition until 24 March at Katoomba Council Office and Springwood and Blaxland Libraries. Written submissions may be sent to the Executive Officer Blue Mountains Bushfire Management Committee, PO Box 189 Katoomba.

The plan looks at the potential fire behaviour, the natural and built assets at risk and ways of managing that risk — not just fuel management.

It is a strategic document so it is up to agencies and the community to implement risk management strategies. These include Planning and Development controls, permanent fuel free and fuel reduced zones (slashing), hazard reduction mosaic (burning), community education on property maintenance and bushfire preparedness, strategic fire control lines and fire trails, fire management plans for public lands, fire investigation, reduced vehicle access to bushland, fire bans, evacuation, suppression and patrolling.

**THE DEADLINE  
FOR THE NEXT ISSUE OF HUT NEWS IS  
FRIDAY 24 MARCH 2000**

## Somebody has been listening!

Congratulations to Pura milk, who are producing milk in 1-litre PET bottles.

The new bottle is recyclable and is designed with a blue plastic ring which is attached to the neck of the bottle and cannot be removed.

Blue rings on milk bottles are a danger to wildlife, especially male bower birds who are attracted to the colour. The ring can flip over the bird's head and the bird cannot feed and eventually starves. Other animals — reptiles, birds and small mammals — can become entangled in plastic rings (of any size or colour), causing serious injuries and death.

Milk companies such as Pura Milk were made aware of the problem. The idea of using "splitting rings" that snap on opening can be unreliable as the rings do not always split, and are not always used.

Pura's 2-litre plastic milk bottles are not recyclable. This new 1-litre bottle is a step in the right direction. Will a 2-litre recyclable bottle be produced with a similar design?

Other manufacturers are encouraged to follow Pura's example.

There is a short background paper on the risk management strategy for the southern urban bushland interface from Lapstone to Katoomba also on exhibition now.

## Great Gorse Gorse Walk 2000

### BMCS Projects:

After the success of the Society's participation in the NPWS Great Gorse week activities in 1999 we are continuing the trend and joining NPWS in two projects. Come out and help tackle the Gorse — we really made a difference last year and let's continue!

**Sunday 12 March 2000 — Days Crescent, Blackheath.** Primary work on mature gorse along creek on private property, remainder of Blackheath upper catchment infestation. Time: 9.30am-2.30pm. Environment: Cold water, rough terrain, thick fern along creek, possibility of wet feet. Morning tea provided. Meet 9.30am just past 33 Days Crescent, Blackheath. Attire:

Long pants, long sleeve shirt, bring lunch, water, hat etc.

**Sunday 19 March 2000 - Upper Bedford Creek, Wentworth Falls.**

This is the area that we were attacked last year — we want to continue to clear and make progress on these private/national park properties. Mapping and primary work on mature Gorse along creek on private property, remainder of Wentworth Falls upper catchment infestation. Time: 9.30am to 2.30pm. Environment: Cold water, steep terrain, wet feet likely.

Morning tea provided. Meet 9.30am corner of Queen Elizabeth Drive and Tablelands Road, Wentworth Falls. Attire: Long pants, long sleeve shirt, bring lunch, water, hat etc.

For more information contact Laura Hays, Bushcare Officer, 4782 7692 or Cath Ireland, NPWS 4787 8877.

### Other Autumn Activities:

Contact Cath Ireland, NPWS, on 4787.8877 to find out more about other half-day activities: 11 and 16 March, Braeside catchment, Blackheath; 15 March, Govetts Leap; 19 March, Centenary Reserve, Blackheath; 25 March, Popes Glen, Blackheath; 26 March, Minnehaha Reserve, Katoomba; (or more strenuous activities) 18 March, Henson Glen (long day); 19 March, Katoomba Creek (half or full day); 11-12 March, Lower Gorse walk downstream from Falconbridge Point (2 days); 18-20 March, Blue Gum Forest area (3 days).

### "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: Frances Love, Ph. 4757.2585

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

Land Use: Robin Mosman, Ph. 4757.1354;

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

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;

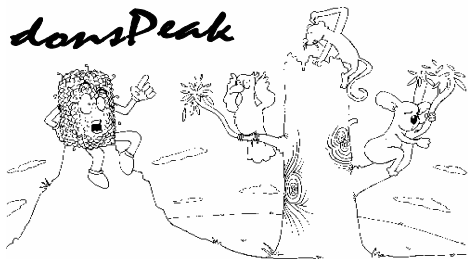
Helga Esamie, Ph:4787.7690, Email: [platypus@pnc.com.au](mailto:platypus@pnc.com.au)

Publicity: Position Vacant Bushcare: Laura Hays Ph:4782.7692, Email: [casahays@pnc.com.au](mailto:casahays@pnc.com.au)

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



### Chik Eschews a Choo Choo?

Liberal leader Kerry Chikarovski recently attended a rally opposing construction of a new rail line through a very small and already highly disturbed section of Lane Cove National Park. Addressing a group of highly disturbed North Shore residents, Kerry would not endorse a rail option for stations at North Ryde and UTS Ku-ring-gai. These stations would benefit the environment by cutting car pollution and reducing public transport travel times through greater Sydney.

### Weddings, Parties, Anything for 'Gilligans Islands'

National Parks director Brian Gilligan will probably take until later this year to release a document (previously leaked in draft form to the press) that discusses topics including the commercial use of clearings in National Parks. This allows me to fantasize as follows:

It's Sunday afternoon at Ingar Picnic Area. Thickwit has hired a large area for Grandma Ethel's 65th birthday bash. 150 rellies are crammed into a marquee and are spraying insect repellent into each other's eyes. Cousin Pleaseall has decided the 'ghetto blaster' will broadcast Barry Manilow and Silverchair alternately into the bush.

Couch Potato Fred's hammock is threatening premature death to two saplings while he tries to hear the radio football above the Manilow — he doesn't believe that 'Panthers' are an exotic species in the mountains. Pleaseall thought the five Rottweilers would be alright if they were left locked in the 4WD — too bad the window is broken.

The new Regional Parks Director, Dr Abacus Beancounter, probably should have declared a Park Fire Ban today, but then he would have to have told the guests to call off the whole roast pig. Nor has he enough Rangers to discover that Thickwit has organised an illegal fireworks display.

Before Mr Gilligan was in charge, Fred and his associates would never have been castaways in a National Park. That suited Fred and the Conservation movement just fine. — *Don Morison.*

### Welcome to New Members

Ann Babinard, Hazelbrook  
Peter and Shelagh Howard, Leura

### 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

The Ball Family, Wentworth Falls  
Kathy Pearce, Harbord

### Southern Bushfire Strategy

Back burning from the Northern Strategic Line is seen as a successful strategy to protect the residential area from a major fire burning in the Grose Valley (eg 1994). But there is no equivalent line on the southern side of the area.

Building construction and maintenance are the most important and effective ways of saving houses. Refer to Chapter 6 of "Living Near The Bush" for further information.

Bush fire would be generally uncontrollable on the southern urban interface on very high and extreme fire danger days. Loss of properties and life can be expected in a major fire, on the southern side, if current management of our backyards continues.

A consultant has now produced a draft strategy for bush fire protection on the southern side. The proposal consists of five parts. In order of priority these are:

- 1) A fire protection zone around each building extending 25 m to 100 m from the building wall. This would consist of a fuel free inner zone and fuel reduced outer zone. This means more open gardens and clearing and slashing of bushland.
- 2) A perimeter fire trail 170 km long from Narrow Neck to Lapstone. This would be a vehicle trail where practicable or a walking trail in constrained areas. It
- 3) Upgrading of certain major fire trails which run south west from the highway to provide safer places to back burn from and protect sets of villages.
- 4) Continued hazard reduction burning in the area between the houses and an outer line.
- 5) An outer perimeter. It would be the southern boundary of the hazard reduction mosaic but of limited usefulness for fire fighting (eg Glenbrook and Bedford Creeks).

All these activities would have to be planned and assessed under Part 5 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act. The environmental impact of the fire protection zone and fire trails is obviously enormous and would have to be managed. Building these works and managing the impacts will be very expensive.

If you want to talk about it contact Hugh Paterson, (phone/fax) 4751 2303 (email) goodbush@pnc.com.au.

### Queensland Clearing Controls at Risk

Indiscriminate clearing for agriculture in Queensland continues to be Australia's most urgent and massive environmental issue.

Clearing controls were put through the Queensland's state parliament late last year, thanks in part to pressure from people writing in from around the country. Although minimalist, providing strong protection for only existing threatened ecosystems, they can be

described as a "good start".

However, while the legislation has gone through parliament the controls have not yet been 'proclaimed' as needed for them to become law. Local reports indicate that massive panic clearing continued during this hiatus, and is continuing as you read this.

The Qld government is seeking significant funds from the Federal Government to assist with money for incentives and compensation moneys for landowners to help implement the laws. Over the last several weeks there has been a stand-off between (Labor) Premier Beattie and Federal (Liberal) Environment Minister Senator Hill. The Premier said he wouldn't implement the legislation without significant federal money. The Senator has said it is a state problem — despite writing to the Premier several months ago urging him to put in stronger clearing controls. Now the Federal Agriculture Minister, (National Party) Mr. Truss has entered the debate describing the controls themselves as unreasonable on farmers. Various farmers groups in Qld are organising a very aggressive campaign attacking the controls.

The net result of this set of party politics is that the Queensland Government is **now threatening to not proclaim the legislation at all**, due to lack of funding. The Qld Premier is meeting the Prime Minister shortly and will discuss the issue of funding.

Given the national scale of the clearing in Queensland, and the biodiversity, greenhouse, land degradation and salinity consequences of continued broad scale clearing the conservation groups working on the issue believe it is reasonable and appropriate for the federal government to assist with significant funding.

Messages to the Prime Minister (Parliament House, Canberra 2601) would be greatly appreciated at the moment pointing out to him the need to provide some funds to assist Queensland with implementing effective clearing controls — just a short message urging him to assist because of the national importance that clearing be controlled in Queensland. *Dr. Barry Traill, Australian Woodlands Conservancy, RMB 1207 Chiltern 3683, ph/fax: 0357 261885, email: woodland@albury.net.au*

### Rodriguez Pass Centenary Walk

It's a hundred years since the major valley track from Govetts Leap to Evans Lookout was completed. On Sunday 16 April 2000 there will be an informal re-enactment of the opening ceremony, at which 40 people walked the entire track and enjoyed a luncheon down on Govetts Creek. All walkers with reasonable fitness are invited to join in — the only condition is that you dress and equip yourself appropriately for the year 1900!

This event is being held by the Friends of Blue Gum Forest in conjunction with NPWS.

Contact NPWS (phone 4787.8877 or fax 4787.8514) for more information.

## A Remarkable Peninsula

On 17 February 2000, the Society's Thursday bushwalking group, in the company of Jim Smith, explored the Kings Tableland clifftop tracks. While we might not describe the walk in the exact language of the anonymous author of this newspaper article, published exactly 101 years earlier, the sentiments would be the same.

NEW WALKS ALONG KING'S TABLE LAND (Echo, 17 February 1899)

Those who have not taken a walk along this remarkable peninsular are strongly advised to exploit the winding tracks wisely undertaken by the reserve trust, and made by their indefatigable caretaker and overseer, Mr. P. Mulheran.

The most fertile imagination can picture nothing more fascinating and invigorating than such a walk on a cool day.

There is not the beauty of the limpid stream, cool grotto, spreading fern, delicate floss, nor any of the charms that nestle down in the depths of the romantic valley. The beauty and grandeur of the scene is of a totally different character, but never-the-less powerful and enthralling — teaching sublime lessons, appealing to man's better parts, and giving the reciprocative soul that rest from the humdrum of life that stands it in good stead amid the "common round of daily task".

This is one of the scenes after the contemplation of which is the inborn impulse to kneel and reverentially thank God that Australia has such a glorious heritage as the Blue Mountains, and the beholder feels he is indeed a favoured mortal to have the privilege of drinking in some of its grandeur.

In the delightful crispness of early spring or late autumn, with miles and miles of mount and valley, cliff and ravine with their thousand and one charms spread out like a panorama as clear as if one was near enough to touch them, the glorious spectacle stamps itself clearly upon the brain. ...

... there is a vantage point where a semi-circular rock has been built up near this edge of the cliff. This should certainly be worthy of a name, and that of the "Round Table" is here thrown out

as a suggestion.

Further along still is another vantage point, where the path winds around some weirdly worn rocks. ....

From the towering cliffs that bids defiance to comparison to any work of human hands to look down into the abysmal depths is awe-inspiring.

The expanse spread out before the vision gives one a sense of their own littleness. The valley walls are colossal. The dimensions of the valley itself bewildering.

Beyond the last bold bluff are evidences of the settlements of the wonderfully fertile Burragorang.

Still further, standing against the horizon, and often seemingly commingled with it are the bluffs and cliffs on the Picton side of the valley, Round Head standing out clearly.

Mount Solitary rears its lofty height in front, and spreads across the valley for miles and miles.

Ruined castle with the miners' cottages vary the scene.

Right below down in the depths is a charming and unique sight — that of the whole of the Vera Fall, the last of the twelve falls in the Valley of Waters — standing out clearly amid the green of the forest depths.

After a short rest and a contemplation of the scene of which this description is but a poor attempt to describe, the top path was chosen for the return. And King's Tableland was left behind with mingled feelings and with a wish to induce many more to enjoy its beauties.

## Redgum Park, Bullaburra

Redgum Park Reserve is a council reserve on the head-waters of the Bedford Creek catchment starting between the ridgelines of Boronia Road and Genevive Road. It is underlain by Narrabeen sandstones and supports Peppermint woodland (Eucalyptus piperita etc) and Hanging Swamps on the slopes, leading into lush rainforest stands in the gullies. The rare dwarf like conifer *Microstrobos fitzgeraldi* can be found amongst the hanging swamps. Further down the catchment it is bounded by Blue Mountains National Park. The valleys downstream have associations of Monkey gum (*Eucalyptus cypellocarpa*) and also Mountain Blue Gum (*E. deanei*) on the narrabeen shale influences. This reserve has been a popular spot for bushwalking and recreation by the local community.

Whilst the bushland at the centre of the reserve maintains good condition, impacts occur on both the perimeters and part of the creekline, causing weed invasion. Some of the main problems include Montbretia, honeysuckle, Coreopsis, broom and blackberry. Many of these plants have historically been used for gardens in this area. Being important for recreation, this reserve has a network of tracks throughout it which also require maintenance.

Since 1993, there has been an active bushcare group working in Redgum Park. Efforts have concentrated on bush regeneration, particularly on the entrances of

## Greenhouse Corner

### Carbon Sinks - Do They Work?

An agreement has recently been reached between an electricity generator in Japan and State Forests of NSW. Under the agreement State Forests will plant about 40,000 hectares of new timber, on land paid for by the electricity generator.



While this sounds like good news, consider this: It will take up to 20 years for the carbon released during planting (tilling and sowing) to be captured by the trees; State Forests intend to harvest the trees every 20 years!

So while the 40,000 hectares of trees will strip CO2 from the atmosphere and lock it up as wood, State Forests will then release it again when they harvest. This is a nice closed circle arrangement, but does nothing to mitigate CO2 released from electricity plants in Japan.

In short, a carbon sink only works if it is permanent. State Forests need to plant hardwood forests and leave them there for all time.

In order to battle salinity in the Murray Darling basin, billions of trees need to be planted in areas of high rainfall (over 600mm per year). These could also serve as carbon sinks, provided they are left in place permanently.

The current plan to burn forest 'wastes' in power stations would be a great way to reduce net carbon output, so long as the 'waste' comes from new plantations and is replaced with new plantings.

State Forests and the NSW Government appear to have got half the message about carbon sinks — why can't they catch the other half?

We would need to plant billions of trees on millions of hectares of land to strip from the atmosphere the carbon currently being released by burning of coal and oil. While I am all for planting trees, it would be far easier and far better to reduce burning of the coal and oil and switch to renewable (solar and wind) energy now.

— Ross Caster

### GANG-GANG COCKATOOS

Wow this tucker's good.

Wow this tucker's good.

Gang gang gang gang gang.

Gang gang gang gang gang.

Gang-gangs are dining in our Dogwood tree, rasping appreciation, keeping out of sight. That scarlet flower protruding from the leaves is a male bird's scraggly topknot, grey body hidden in the green. Now hush, hear a gentle patter on the ground, discarded segments of the strawberry fruits chewed by the hungry feasting birds. See, through the foliage, gleam of apricot, seashell opalescence, beetle wings - the breast of a female feeding within the tree.

Gang gang gang gang gang.

Gang gang gang gang gang.

Wow this tucker's good.

Wow this tucker's good.

Graham Alcorn

## Clean Up Australia Day

Sunday, 5 March.

**Katoomba Falls Reserve**, 9am-12noon, meet Katoomba Falls Reserve kiosk. Contact Kate Hamilton 4782.1440.

**Mitchell's Pass, Glenbrook**, 9am-12noon. Meet near the bridge, Mitchell's Pass. Contact Heather Hull 4739.1493.

Bring gardening gloves. Wear sturdy shoes and a hat.

## Weekend Camp

**Dunn' Swamp, 11-12 March, 2000.**

A beautiful area, camping beside a lake in the Cudgegong River, in Wollemi National Park — wonderful pagodas and rock formations, water birds and (if we are lucky to see them) platypus. Arrive Saturday for lunch. Phone Mary 4757.4133 or Christine 4787.7246 for more information.

## Buscare in Our Backyards

The bushcare training day was a great success. Even though it was a cool and rainy morning ten enthusiastic people attended and we had an interesting morning talking with Linda and two other bushcare workers. We went for a walk and we all shared an enthusiasm for looking after little bits of land close to our homes. There will be another training day in the lower mountains soon.

## Book Review

**Saving the Environment** — What It Will Take

I have just read a book with this impressive title, written by Dr Ted Trainer from the University of NSW.

Dr Trainer makes the point with conviction that we are not doing enough to save our planet from ourselves. He states that economic growth is an obsolete concept that must be discarded.

At present we consume about 10 times too much per capita for sustainability, and with growth in population and consumption this will get worse.

Recycling, organic farming, wilderness and forests campaigns, are just not enough to save the environment. What we need is a change in our lifestyles to one that eschews commuting for local employment, large shopping malls for local corner stores, high technology for living simply.

While I tend not to agree with all of Dr Trainer's assertions, the book makes fascinating reading and presents an array of raw facts that cannot be ignored. Highly recommended reading. 60 pages, available from UNSW press. *Ross Coster*.

### 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>MARCH</b>					<b>4 Bushwalk</b>	<b>5 CleanUp</b>
<b>6 LeisWalk</b>					<b>11-12 Dunns</b>	<b>Swamp Camp</b>
						<b>12 Bushcare</b>
<b>13LeisWalk</b>	<b>14 Bushcare</b>	<b>15 Bushcare</b>				<b>19 Bushwalk</b>
<b>20LeisWalk</b>					<b>25MCM</b>	<b>26 Bushwalk</b>
<b>27LeisWalk</b>				<b>31 AGM</b>		
<b>APRIL</b>						<b>2 Bushwalk</b>
<b>3 LeisWalk</b>						<b>9 Bushwalk</b>
<b>10LeisWalk</b>	<b>11 Bushcare</b>				<b>15 Bushwalk</b>	
<b>17LeisWalk</b>		<b>19 Bushcare</b>			<b>22 MCM</b>	
				<b>28 GenMeet</b>	<b>29 Bushwalk</b>	

### MARCH

- 05 (Sun) **Clean-Up Australia Day**. Details are on this page.
- 11-12 (Sat/Sun) **Weekend Camp at Dunns Swamp**. (Contact details are on this page).
- 25 (Sat) **Management Committee**, 9 am, Mid Mountains Community Centre.
- 31 (Fri) **Annual General Meeting**, 7.30 pm, at The Hut. Guest: **Tom Widdup, Colong Foundation — Wilderness 2000 Campaign**. (See Page 1)

### APRIL

- 22 (Sat) **Management Committee**, 9 am, Mid Mountains Community Centre.
- 28 (Fri) **General Meeting**, 7.30 pm, at The Hut. Special guest **Brian Fox**, cartographer and bushwalker.

### 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.)

### MARCH

- 12 (Sun) **Great Grose Gorse Walk 2000: Society Project — Days Crescent, Blackheath**. (Details are on Page 1)
- 14 (Tues) **Valley of the Waters Bushcare Group**. Contact Jessica 4757.2783 for the meeting place. (following Tuesday if wet).
- 15 (Wed) **Digger Cooper Reserve Bushcare Group**. Meet 9 am at the Reserve (GWH, West of Sorenson Bridge). Contact Ross Coster 4759.1247.
- 19 (Sun) **Great Grose Gorse Walk 2000: Society Project — Upper Bedford Creek, Wentworth Falls**. (Details are on Page 1).

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

### MARCH

- 04 (Sat) **Empire Pass**. Meet Lawson Bowling Club carpark 9.30 a.m. Contact Bill Tocher 4758.8545. **Medium. Many steps.**
- 11-12 **Dunn's Swamp Weekend** (see page 4).
- 19 (Sun) **Jungle Circuit**. Meet Blackheath railway carpark 10.15 a.m. Contact Denis Golding 4787.5412. **Medium. Slow steep ascent in shade.**
- 26 (Sun) **Ten Trees Walk**. Meet outside school, Grose Road, Faulconbridge, at 10 am. Contact Frank Winternitz 4751.2957. **Easy. Learn how to identify trees!**

### APRIL

- 02 (Sun) **Rodriguez Pass**. Meet Blackheath railway car park, 9 a.m. Contact Warwick Mosman 4757.1354. **Hard. Steep ascent.**
- 09 (Sun) **Phantom Cave**. Meet Katoomba railway (near Gearins Hotel) 9.30 a.m. Contact Jim Wallace 4784.3305. **Medium.**
- 15 (Sat) **Oaklands Falls**. Meet Hazelbrook Railway carpark 9.30 a.m. Contact Kate McManus 4758.7936. **Medium.** Do you know where this is?
- 29 (Sat) **Mystery Walk**. Meet Hazelbrook railway car park (south side), 9.30 a.m. Contact Kate McManus 4758.7936. **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.**

### MARCH (Meeting time now 9 a.m.)

- 06 (Mon) **Minna Ha Ha Falls**. Meet Gearins Hotel, 9 am. Contact Kees Putting 4759.1958. BBQ afterwards.
- 13 (Mon) **Inspiration Point**. Meet Fairmont Resort, lower carpark, 9 am. Contact Jan Cutler 4784.3079.
- 20 (Mon) **The Walls Lookout**. Meet Mount Victoria Station, 9 a.m. Contact Bill Graham 4759.1692.
- 25 (Sat) **End of Daylight Saving Twilight Barbeque at Mount Blackheath**. Meet at Blackheath Neighbourhood Centre at 5 P.M. BYO. Contact Jan Cutler 4784.3079.
- 27 (Mon) **The Tessellated Pavement**. Meet Mount Victoria Station 9 a.m. Contact Jan Cutler 4784.3079. Longer walk — take lunch.

### APRIL

- 03 (Mon) **Mount Banks**. Meet Mount Victoria Station 9 a.m. Contact Christina 4784.1101. BBQ afterwards.
- 10 (Mon) **South Lawson Waterfalls**. Meet Lawson War Memorial in Honour Avenue. Contact Lorna Bennie 4759.2368.
- 17 (Mon) **The Northern Sydney Harbour Foreshores Walk**. Meet at Lawson Bowling Club carpark 8 a.m. Limited number, so call Bill Graham 4759.1692 for car allocation.